

Lindale Park

The Hidden Jewel



Lindale Park Civic Club

THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE LINDALE PARK CIVIC CLUB
CELEBRATING 47 YEARS OF CIVIC PRIDE, 1979 - 2026

LINDALE PARK NEWSLETTER
GRADUATE EDITION / JUNE 2026

Member & Volunteer Spotlight

Meet Ethan Melville

When Ethan Melville and his wife, Sara, met in Houston in 2015, they quickly discovered they shared more than careers in geology—they also shared a love for the natural world through gardening and building native landscapes.

Sara, originally from Fresno, Calif., moved to Houston in 2014 after earning bachelor's and master's degrees in geology from Texas A&M University. She purchased a home on Gale Street that same year.



Ethan and Sara Melville

Ethan grew up in Seattle, earned his geology degree from the University of Colorado, completed graduate studies at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology and relocated to Houston in 2015.

Together, in their Gale Street home, they transformed what was once a simple lawn into a thriving landscape of native trees, gardens and raised vegetable beds.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, they spent more time walking around the neighborhood and working outside. While picking up litter one afternoon, Ethan and Sara met neighbor Jane Strohm, who was excited to see someone taking the initiative to care for the neighborhood.

That chance encounter led to conversations with Jane, Sara, Nate Mack, Sara Eakens and other neighbors, eventually growing into the community cleanup group now known as Love Lindale Park.

Ethan's passion for planting trees began in childhood after being involved in volunteer plantings at his mother's company.

After learning about Trees for Houston, he saw an opportunity to bring more trees to Lindale Park.

Since organizing our neighborhood's first tree giveaway in 2021, Ethan has helped bring more than 500 trees to homes in the neighborhood.

His goal is to reach 1,000 trees, while making the giveaway an annual neighborhood tradition. He also hopes to add educational events that help residents care for their trees as they mature.

For Ethan, the benefits extend beyond beautifying the neighborhood. They are an investment for Lindale's future generations and support wildlife, like the distinctive yellow-crowned night herons that reside in Lindale Park.

When asked what he loves most about Lindale Park, the answer comes easily.

"It's the people," he says. "The friendliness of the neighborhood and the willingness of residents to work together. That's what makes Lindale Park special."

"There's a real can-do attitude here," Ethan continues. "I love seeing people come together to get things done."

- Richard Aleman, Woodard Street

Save the Date!

Third Quarterly Meeting + 2026 Board Elections!
Tuesday, August 25 / 7 – 8 P.M. / 218 Joyce St.

Board Elections: During the Quarterly Meeting, we will hold board elections where we will elect five (5) board members to serve two-year terms (August 31, 2026 - August 31, 2028). All current civic club members are eligible to vote.

Nominate yourself or someone else by sending a message to info@lindalepark.org.

Congratulations to our amazing Lindale Park scholars! We wish them well on their next journey.



David Andrew Cano

David Andrew Cano, of English Street, graduated magna cum laude from the University of Houston-Downtown, earning a bachelor's degree in social sciences.

David achieved Dean's List honors and maintained a strong commitment to excellence throughout his academic journey.

He plans to continue building his professional and academic career in the Houston area, while exploring new opportunities. His family is incredibly proud of his accomplishments and excited to celebrate this significant milestone with the Lindale Park community. - *Lorie Zepeda Cano*

Carolina Gallardo, of Eleanor Street, graduated June 6 from Carnegie Vanguard High School (CVHS).

While at CVHS, she participated and was a cabinet member of various clubs including Students for Refugees, Foster Care System Awareness and Medical Awareness.

This fall, Carolina will be attending Northeastern University where she will pursue a degree in Business Administration. Go Huskies! - *Aime Gallardo*



Carolina Gallardo



4th of July Parade Moved to September 5

While this year would have marked our 25th Annual 4th of July Parade, the Lindale Park Parade Committee has made the difficult decision to reschedule the parade to **10 a.m. Saturday, September 5, along Irvington Boulevard.**

With Houston hosting FIFA World Cup matches this summer, the City of Houston is unable to provide the safety personnel needed to support the parade on its original date. As always, the safety of our community comes first.

With that said, we're still celebrating and keeping the excitement alive for this milestone year! Registration has just started. Go to www.lindalepark.org to register or share with others who may be interested.

- Parade Committee, LindaleParkParade@gmail.com

New Neighborhood Walk & Run Club Advocacy People with a Walking Problem

Would you like to walk or run, while pitching in to make our neighborhood and surrounding areas better? Join your neighbors for a flexible walking and running club! Participate as often as once a week or as little as once a month, whatever fits your schedule. Each session will last one to two hours.

Denise Marlowe of Sue Street is starting this group. Proposed routes will go to or from the University of Houston-Downtown to Moody Park; other routes will include Irvington Park, Hennessy Park, Earl Henderson Park and Castillo Park.

Ready to lace up your sneakers?

Register here: <https://form.jotform.com/261697985294075>.

Questions? Send email to dpmycos37@gmail.com.

Fresh Ideas Bring Fresh Funds

The Lindale Park Fundraising Committee has been busy the last few months coordinating creative ways to raise money for the neighborhood.

Our new community sponsorship program features Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze and Supporter levels. Your partnership will fund year-round neighborhood programming, events, local initiatives and community engagement—all anchored by our milestone 25th Annual Lindale Park Parade.

LINDALE PARK CIVIC CLUB COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



By becoming a 2026 Community Sponsor, you are supporting the Lindale Park Civic Club's year-round programming. Including signature events, neighborhood initiatives, and community engagement efforts—anchored by the beloved 25th Annual Lindale Park Parade.

 PLATINUM SPONSOR \$1,200 - Annual Civic Club Membership - Name and Logo Listed on LPCC Website with website link - Name, Logo and Link included in email marketing - Name and Logo on Parade and event marketing materials - Preferred Parade Placement - Social Media Thanks and Recognition - Event Shares Monthly - Thank you in LPCC Newsletter (print + digital) - Advertisement o LPCC Newsletter (print+digital)	 GOLD SPONSOR \$800 - Annual Civic Club Membership - Name and Logo Listed on LPCC Website with website link - Name, and Logo included in email marketing - Name and Logo on Parade and event marketing materials - Preferred Parade Placement - Social Media Thanks and Recognition - Event Shares Quarterly - Thank you in LPCC Newsletter (print + digital) - Advertisement o LPCC Newsletter (print+digital)	 SILVER SPONSOR \$500 - Annual Civic Club Membership - Name and Logo Listed on LPCC Website with website link - Name, and Logo included in email marketing - Name on Parade and event marketing materials - Preferred Parade Placement - Social Media Thanks and Recognition - Event Shares Bi-Annually - Thank you in LPCC Newsletter (print + digital) - Advertisement o LPCC Newsletter (print+digital)
 BRONZE SPONSOR \$300 - Annual Civic Club Membership - Name and Logo Listed on LPCC Website - Name included in email marketing - Name and Logo on Parade and event marketing materials - Social Media Thanks and Recognition - Thank you in LPCC Newsletter (print + digital)		 SUPPORTER \$100 - Annual Civic Club Membership - Name and Logo Listed on LPCC Website - Name included in email marketing - Social Media Thanks and Recognition - Thank you in LPCC Newsletter (print + digital)



TOGETHER, WE STRENGTHEN
OUR COMMUNITY.
Thank you for your support!

Learn more or become a sponsor:
www.lindaleparkcivicclub.org
info@lindaleparkcivicclub.org

Our April 30 fundraiser and raffle at Tepatitlán Mexican Grill on Main Street had a great turnout from the community. Board member and event organizer Norma Martinez reported that 105 raffle tickets were sold, totaling \$954.26 plus \$466.57 from the restaurant sales for a grand total of \$1,420.83.

The top raffle prize, a one-day rental of the Community Center, went to Aide Benavides.

"A heartfelt thank you to everyone who sold raffle tickets

and came out to support us at the restaurant," Norma says. "We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Councilman Mario Castillo for generously donating zoo tickets, as well as to Celia Valles and Heights Discount Store for contributing such wonderful raffle prizes."

Next up, our Civic Club organized the May 30 Community Garage Sale where participants had an option to donate a portion of their garage sale earnings back to Lindale Park. Board President Michael Brown donated \$220 from his own sale on Woodard Street, and Lindale Park received an additional \$100 from garage sale donors.

The Lindale Littles also are joining in the fundraising efforts, through a partnership with Jubilee's Milk.

"For every two milk cartons purchased, Jubilee's will donate \$1 to the Lindale Park Civic Club," says Lindale mom Allie McLaughlin, adding that Jubilee's is available for purchase at H-E-B and Target. "You can scan the QR code to get a buy-one-get-one-free deal, and Jubilee's will donate \$1 for that purchase to the Civic Club." Email alliermclaughlin@gmail.com with questions.

- Editor Camille Webb, English Street



Get a FREE box of Jubilee's

target

In the coolers at the front





\$1 donated to Lindale for every carton redeemed

AMERICA'S
starcopier

Star Copier is a full-service print and copy shop specializing in all types of printed marketing collateral, vinyl banners, signs, copier sales & repair and more!

1701 Durham Drive | Houston, TX 77007
 Phone 713-802-0794 | Fax 713-802-0388
info@starcopierinc.com



TRANSFORM
YOUR SPACE
And make a Home!

**HARVARD HEIGHTS
CONSTRUCTION**

harvardheights.com

713-880-8090

A special thank you to **Harvard Heights Construction** for sponsoring the printing of this newsletter!

If you would like to donate an ad space or promote your business, contact camille.webb@gmail.com for ad rates.

ICYMI: The Buzz from Our Socials

Love Lindale Park extends a huge thank you to our neighbors, **Susan Graham** and **Jason and Jen Shaver**, for generously donating plants toward our beautification efforts in the neighborhood!

Susan (*right*) generously donated a variety of plants from her own beautiful garden, which were planted on the esplanade in early June, just in time for the rain.

The Shavers on Fairbanks Street donated three beautiful Red Sister plants. All three plants found new homes at our Community Center.

We're grateful for our neighbors and donors who help make Lindale Park the great neighborhood it is!



Anastasia's Pet Services



Anastasia Fennel
Pet Care Specialist
Drop Ins
Pet Sitting
Dog Walking
(281) 901-1206

Near Northside
Greater Heights
Garden Oaks/Oak Forest

IG: Anastasia's Pet Services
anastasiaspetservices.com



4930 Fulton St.
Houston, Texas 77009
346.571.7217
lindaleautorepair@yahoo.com

What's Coming Up?

Love Lindale Park Cleanup
Saturday, July 11 / 8 a.m.

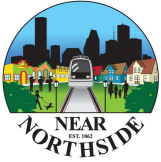
Lindale Littles Summer Splash Party
Celebrate summer with a trip to the YMCA pool!
Refreshments provided! FREE entry for non-members!
Saturday, July 18 / 10 a.m.-noon
M.D. Anderson Family YMCA
705 Cavalcade St.

Quarterly Meeting & Board Elections
Tuesday, August 25 / 7-8 p.m.

Lindale Park 25th Annual Parade
Saturday, September 5 / 10 a.m.

Love Lindale Park Cleanup
Saturday, September 12

Proud To Be



Lindale Park

The Hidden Jewel



Lindale Park Civic Club

THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE LINDALE PARK CIVIC CLUB
CELEBRATING 47 YEARS OF CIVIC PRIDE, 1979 - 2026

LINDALE PARK NEWSLETTER
WINTER & SPRING ISSUE / FEBRUARY 2026

Introducing Every Shelter to Lindale Park

Editor's Note: Longtime Lindale Park resident Diana Lerma Pfeifer recently sat down with neighbor Scott Key, chief executive officer and co-founder of Every Shelter, to learn more about the organization's mission and its new office along the METRO light rail corridor. Below is what she learned from her conversation with Scott.

Founded in 2011 while Scott was in graduate school at Rice University, Every Shelter grew out of a sobering realization: refugee displacement often lasts decades, not months. After learning of Syrian refugees freezing at night, Scott and his co-founder began asking how thoughtful design could help families survive—and ultimately rebuild—their lives. Their answer combined architecture and material science to improve shelter conditions for displaced families around the world.

The organization's first major project was an insulated, modular flooring system made from expanded polypropylene, a durable foam material that creates a clean, warm surface inside temporary shelters. Over nine years, this solution supported approximately 35,000 Syrian refugees.

Today, Every Shelter's work primarily is focused on Uganda, serving refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo. Many of the families they work alongside—nearly 90 percent women and children—are widows rebuilding their lives after conflict.

Partnering closely with local communities, the organization helps families construct durable homes using locally available materials, such as mud brick and repurposed vinyl for roofing. With the right tools and training, families can build a permanent home in as little as two weeks.

The Lindale Park office serves as the administrative hub for this international work. For Scott, the space represents an opportunity to restore a building that sat vacant for nearly a decade and contribute positively to the neighborhood's ongoing renewal.

A Lindale Park resident since 2014, Scott shared that being able to walk to work in his own neighborhood feels especially meaningful.

To foster connection, Every Shelter will host a community open house at Wolfsmiths from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. March 26, inviting neighbors to learn more about the organization's work, ask questions and meet the team.

- Diana Lerma Pfeifer, Joyce Street



MEET EVERY SHELTER

Thursday, March 26th
4:30 - 6:30 PM
Wolfsmiths - Cafe,
Restaurant & Bar
201 Woodard St,
Houston, TX 77009

Learn about our work and our new home in Lindale Park.

Kick Off 2026 With Your Neighbors!

📅 **Q1 Quarterly Meeting**

📅 **Tuesday, February 24**

🕒 **7 – 8 P.M.**

📍 **218 Joyce St. –**

Our Community Center

Join **Lindale Park Civic Club's FIRST Quarterly Meeting of 2026** to meet your neighbors, hear important updates, share your ideas and get involved in what's ahead for 2026! It's just one hour, and together, we can make big impacts for the neighborhood we call home! 🎉

New Method for Heavy Trash Coming Soon

The City of Houston is rolling out a new process for heavy trash pickup with a tentative start date of March 2. The new method would have residents call 311 to request heavy trash collection, instead of scheduled collection days.

This process comes at a time when both heavy trash and yard waste can sit on the streets for months at a time, as the Solid Waste Management Department deals with pickup delays and staff shortages.

According to Solid Waste, the new method starts with residents making a 311 call to request heavy trash collection. This is followed up with a scheduled appointment, set up through a phone call or email. Heavy trash collection would be completed within five working days of the scheduled appointment date.

Residents may request up to four heavy trash collections per calendar year, according to Solid Waste.

Get your questions answered by a Solid Waste representative and receive the latest updates on the new heavy trash pickup method at Lindale Park's February 24 Quarterly Meeting!

- Editor Camille Webb, English Street

Shining the Spotlight on Local Businesses

Johnny Ritas



Johnny Ritas Cocina y Cantina is the completely new Mexican restaurant at 5602 Fulton St., right at the corner of Fairbanks and Fulton Streets. They tastefully serve a combination of Tex Mex, traditional Mexican dishes from the Oaxaca region and seafood dishes from Baja.

Owner Chico Ramirez has been in the restaurant business in and around Houston his entire professional life. He

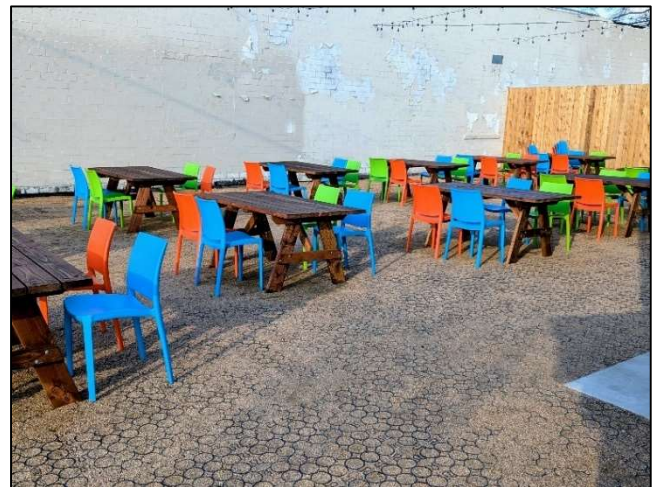
owned restaurants in different parts of Houston and sold a good portion of them to his partners.

He feels very fortunate for the opportunity to build his restaurant from the ground up in Lindale Park. Chico boasts that Johnny Ritas is a family venture as Chico oversaw construction, and his wife, a professional designer, designed the building's interior.

The restaurant seats 62 inside at tables, booths or at the bar. The interior is very well lit, given its large windows.

Although Johnny Rita's is next to the METRO light rail, you can't hear it going by unless someone opens the door.

The outside patios seat about the same number as inside, 60 plus. The front patio is traditional concrete, but the north patio base is comprised of special tiles and stone aggregate that is solid to walk on, but interestingly allows rainwater to penetrate, making it environmentally friendly. Both patios are dog-friendly.



Johnny Ritas was built by a family FOR families. Even the names, "Johnny" and "Rita" are family oriented as they are the owner's grandparents' names. It's a great addition to the Lindale Park area, and I suggest you give it a try! They're open from 3-10 p.m. Monday-Friday and from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. for brunch and 2-10 p.m. for regular menu, Saturday-Sunday. Find menus here: www.johnnyritas.com.

Chico has kindly offered to provide dinner for two on a visit to Johnny Ritas, including non-alcoholic drinks, a \$75 value. To be entered in the February 24 drawing, just before the LPCC Q1 Quarterly Meeting, email your name, address and phone number to lp.contest@zohomail.com.

Writer Mike Bowlin is a Lindale Park resident, regular contributor to the Lindale Park newsletter and broker/owner of Lindale Park Realty. Please call him for all your real estate needs at 713.539.2034 or email LindaleParkRealty@gmail.com.

Transforming Our Esplanade A Year of Growth and Community



Our neighborhood has been working on something new. Over the past year, volunteers have been planting and caring for native Texas plants along our esplanade. The goal was simple: create a greener space that works with our climate instead of against it.

This matters because Irvington Boulevard is the introduction to Lindale Park for many people. When drivers pass our stone sign, the esplanade is what they see first. A well-maintained, attractive entrance sets the tone for the entire neighborhood. The esplanade project makes that first impression count.

We chose plants that complement the existing dwarf yaupon hollies already established along the esplanade. Pink muhly grasses add soft, feathery texture and those beautiful pink plumes in fall. Lantana brings bright blooms that pollinators love. Purple heart provides ground coverage with its distinctive violet foliage. Creeping rosemary fills edges with fragrant greenery. Together, these plants create layers of color and texture throughout the year.

Native species made sense for several reasons. They need less water once established. They attract local wildlife like butterflies and birds. And, they're designed to handle Houston's unpredictable weather.

Getting the plants in the ground was just the start. The real challenge came during the summer months. When temperatures soared and rain disappeared, volunteers showed up regularly with hoses, watering cans and gloves. They watered thirsty plants, pulled competing weeds, trimmed overgrowth and propagated cuttings to fill in bare spots. Consistent care made a difference. The muhly grasses developed strong root systems, and the lantana kept blooming despite the heat.

It took approximately 100 hours of volunteer work to maintain the plants during this initial establishment period. That dedication paid off in more ways than one. The esplanade looks better, and we've been able to eliminate a monthly civic club landscaping expense of \$2,500 per year. The money saved can now go toward other neighborhood improvements.

Then, winter brought its own test. Those unexpected freezes can damage even established plants. Fortunately, our native species can handle cold temperatures, going dormant when needed and will bounce back when warmer weather returns.

But, maintaining this progress takes ongoing work. That's why we're planning a spring fundraiser, and every contribution will go directly toward materials and plants, along our esplanade.

Keep an eye on your email and our website for more information. Whether you can donate, volunteer to water or simply spread the word, there are ways to help.

- Tom Reeves, Fairbanks Street

Neighborhood Tree Giveaway!

Join us for our fourth annual neighborhood tree planting and giveaway, courtesy of local nonprofit Trees for Houston from **8-11 a.m. Saturday, April 4 at the Lindale Park Community Center at 218 Joyce St.**

Pick out your native Texas tree to plant in your front yard, providing beneficial shade and beauty for the street and your home. **Trees are first come first served**, so arrive early to get your favorite species. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please send email to lovelindalepark@gmail.com. Looking forward to seeing you there!



Star Copier is a full-service print and copy shop specializing in all types of printed marketing collateral, vinyl banners, signs, copier sales & repair and more!

1701 Durham Drive | Houston, TX 77007
Phone 713-802-0794 | Fax 713-802-0388 |
info@starcopierinc.com

Love Lindale Park Cleanups Return

Love Lindale Park is proud to announce the revival of our community cleanup efforts!



Neighbors gather November 8, 2025, to clean the streets.

Our mission always has been to enhance the appearance, health and overall pride of our great neighborhood. With renewed energy and community support, we are bringing back regular cleanup events focused on litter removal, landscaping improvements and restoring shared spaces, so they can be enjoyed by everyone.

We also are expanding our impact through tree planting initiatives. Planting trees not only beautifies our streets and green spaces, but it also supports environmental sustainability, improves air quality and provides long-term benefits for future generations.

Join us for our **next cleanup at 9 a.m. Saturday, February 28**, as we work together to create a cleaner, greener and more vibrant community.

- Richard Aleman, Woodard Street



Lindale Park's 2026 Events to Know

Q1 Quarterly Meeting
Tuesday, February 24 / 7-8 p.m.
218 Joyce St.

Lindale Park Love Your Neighbor Happy Hour
Thursday, February 26 / 5:30 p.m.
Monkey's Tail
All the family is invited! (Kids OK until 8 p.m.)

Love Lindale Community Center Cleanup
Saturday, February 28 / 9 a.m.
218 Joyce St.

Lindale Park Littles New Mom Stroller Walks
Saturday, March 7

Love Lindale Park Cleanup
Saturday, March 21

Spring into Play
Saturday, March 21
A fundraiser playdate to support re-mulching and refreshing the St. Alban's playground!

Rivers, Lakes, Bays N' Bayous Trash Bash
Saturday, March 28 / 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
Moody Park

Neighborhood Tree Planting
Saturday, April 4 / 8-11 a.m.
218 Joyce St.

Lindale Park Littles Easter Egg Hunt
Late March or Early April (TBD)

Lemonade and Kid Makers' Market
Late April or Early May (TBD)
St. Alban's

Love Lindale Park Cleanup
Saturday, May 9

Q2 Quarterly Meeting
Tuesday, May 26 / 7-8 p.m.
218 Joyce St.