



# East End Historical District Association's NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Vol. 39 No. 5

Margaret Hand, Editor

[www.eastendhistoricaldistrict.org](http://www.eastendhistoricaldistrict.org)

May 2012

## On the Calendar

**EEHDA Neighborhood Meeting**  
**May 3rd (Thursday)**  
Refreshments at 5:30, meeting at 6:00  
at The Cottage 1501 Postoffice

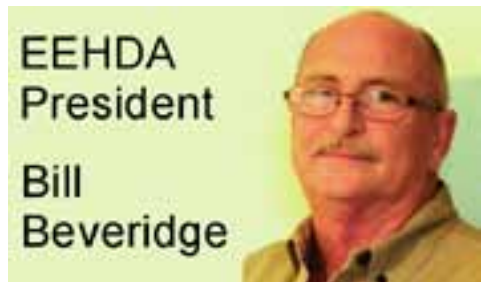
***BLOCK PARTY***  
**May 10th (Thursday)**  
At The Cottage  
Starts at 5:30  
Honoring Casino Night Donors and Volunteers

**Special Coffee at the Cottage**  
**Just for Voting Day**  
May 12th  
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Vote, then stop in for a donut

**2012 GHF Homes Tour**  
**Two Weekends**  
**May 5th & 6th and May 12th & 13th**  
See the article in this newsletter for all  
the homes being presented

***MAH JONG AT THE COTTAGE***  
**Every Monday**  
1-4 p.m.  
Everyone is welcome

The first Block Party of the year was a success! We met a few new members as well as a lot of regular members. Thanks to all who helped in setting up, and taking down,



Thanks also go out to Lizette for her organizing of the Block Parties. The May Block Party will be at the Cottage and we will be honoring the Donors and Volunteers that helped at Casino Night. Be sure to attend, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm.

Karl and Sandy did a wonderful job planting the flower beds at the Cottage. Looks great guys!! It's just in time for the Homes Tour. The featured homes are listed in this issue.

Plants grown in containers, ranging from ordinary pots to decorative tubs, present an effective method of cultivating flowers, herbs, vegetables or fruits in difficult or impossible situations, such as on balconies, terraces, decks or suspended from arbors, lamp posts etc. They are also useful to maintain small gardens in peak condition, since as soon as one set of plants passes from flower they can be immediately be replaced by others.

The most important preliminaries to success are a good growing mixture, or compost, which in most instances needs changing annually; provision for drainage; adequate watering and the regular removal of dead leaves and spent flowers.

Hanging baskets provide bright spots of color in unorthodox situations, such as the corners of buildings, hanging from porches or lamp posts. One kind of basket which is semi-circular, and flat on one side, can be mounted on walls etc. Baskets are not suitable for hard winters, so plant your baskets in late spring. Wire baskets look best, and when lined with Sphagnum moss do very well. Sometimes in summer they may need watering twice a day

Suitable plants for baskets are trailing Lobelias and Nasturtiums, ivy leaved geraniums, begonias, petunias and most house plants.



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- *I vote for improvements to our neighborhoods*
- *I sponsored funding for local parks from 4B sales tax*
- *I'm working for a regional solution to our public housing issues*

**PUTTING GALVESTON FIRST**



Old friends Burke Evans and Paul Evans at the April 2011 block party honoring Dr. Evans.



Rededication of Darragh Park, 2009

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The E. B. Evans Pavilion in Darragh Park is named in honor of Dr. E. Burke Evans

# In Memoriam

## A Tribute to Dr. E. Burke Evans

By Lynette Haaga and Paul Evans

The East End Historical District Association bids a heartfelt farewell to our friend and neighbor, **Dr. E. Burke Evans**. Dr. Evans passed away on Thursday, April 12, 2012, and will be deeply missed in our neighborhood and in our organization.

Dr. Evans was well-known and respected as a physician, researcher, and professor not only here in Galveston at the University of Texas Medical Branch, but also far beyond the reaches of our community. His distinguished medical career brought advances in orthopaedic surgery, particularly for burn patients, that will leave an ongoing legacy of caring and healing for future generations.

Our dear friend leaves a legacy of another kind here in the East End. Among his many and varied interests, Dr. Evans was a strong supporter of historic preservation. Back in the early days of the East End Historical District Association in the 1970s, he made a purchase of the property at 1501 Postoffice Street, deeding it to EEHDA. This property was the former location of the Cordray Drugstore, and in fact had also been the site of long-ago slave auctions. The Victor Gustafson cottage was later purchased and moved from its original location at 620 Market to the Postoffice Street property to serve as the community center for the East End. It became affectionately known as "The Cottage".

The back alley neighbor to The Cottage was the magnificent John L. Darragh house, a Greek revival beauty on the verge of restoration when arsonists brought it to the ground in 1990. All that remained after the fire was an ornate cast iron fence.

It was this fence that would be the inspiration to bring the property back to life. Dr. Evans saw opportunity in the broken, rusty metal and stepped forward again, this time leading the effort to finance the purchase of the Darragh property for EEHDA. He contracted for the restoration of the fence while East End members began landscaping for a park. When both projects were completed, the Darragh house site was once again a beautiful centerpiece for the neighborhood. Seven years after the initial fence restoration, Dr. Evans underwrote the costs of repair and repainting when it began to show the inevitable signs of weathering.

In early 2007, Dr. Evans approached EEHDA

with a new idea to bring a fresh dimension to Darragh Park. He would commission iron artisan, Doug McClean, to design and build a pavilion that would reflect the architectural highlights of the great home that once stood in that location. Like the beautiful fence outlining the park, the structure would be of iron. The design of its frame would be a reminder of the octagonal tower with the sweeping "witch's hat" roof that once stood at the north end of the Darragh mansion.

Dr. Evans' vision became a reality, and the E. Burke Evans Pavilion graces Darragh Park as a permanent reminder of the kindness and generosity of our friend and neighbor. His dedication to the East End Historical District will never be forgotten, and his warm smile and friendly ways will always be remembered in our neighborhood.



Dr. E. Burke Evans, April 2011

## REMEMBERING DR. BURKE EVANS

### A VIGNETTE

By Dr. Kevin Barrett

I remember Dr. Burke Evans as a gentleman, scholar, teacher, and favorite of medical students. My first rotation in the "clinical sciences" was in orthopaedics with Dr. Evans and Marty Ivey as the senior resident. A particularly poignant memory for me is when in surgery, I attempted to reposition a very lethal looking Gelpi retractor and ended up stabbing Dr. Evans in the hand. Ever the gentleman, he "broke scrub", scrubbed his hands, regowned, and calmly resumed surgery. Not a word was said in rebuke. To me, this exemplified Dr. Evans as a gentleman and educator.

# April 2012 Block Party Highlights

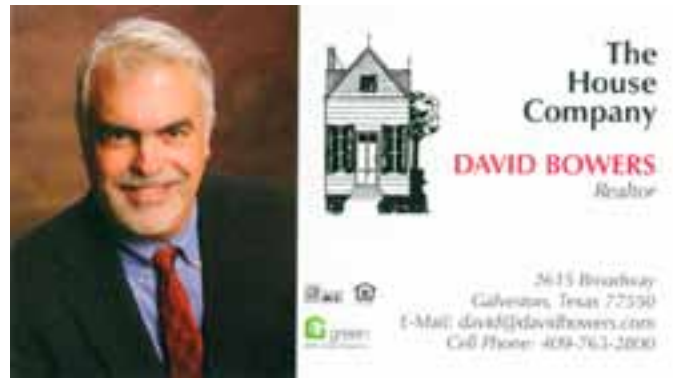
By Lizette Gaudin

Our first Block Party of 2012, held in honor of *Party CZAR, Carlos Guerguin* and hosted by *Emmy Morrison & Chris Robbian in the 1200 block of Sealy* was a resounding success. This was the first Block Party in several years to be held back in the neighborhood. Over 100 neighbors came out, on this Good Friday, to celebrate both Carlos and the beginning of the 2012 Block Party Season. FUN was had by all!

*Carlos Guerguin* moved from Houston to Galveston in 1985 and settled into his home in the 1200 block of Sealy. In Houston, Carlos had a reputation for hosting very festive and exciting parties and everyone coveted a “Carlos” invitation. He brought his charming hosting abilities with him to Galveston’s East End and transformed the then loose East End Block Parties into a monthly Galveston treasured social event. Carlos would write up an invitation, “mimeograph” it, and personally hand it out not only to East Enders, but to anyone else he knew. He soon became known as the East End Block *Party CZAR*. Carlos can also be credited with securing a life-long “special-rate” from the city for closing off our streets for our block parties. Before Carlos retired as Block Party Czar, he was always the first to arrive and last to leave, and made sure that everyone donated to the cause. He would walk around in his funny hat, with his collection bucket, his hand out, and with a “smart” comment. In fact this is my first memory of Carlos, when I attended my first block party in 2002. After introductions, he left my side in his funny hat, with a “charmingly smart” comment, and with more dollars in his bucket. Thank you Carlos for all you have given to the East End!

THANKS to VOLUNTEERS Kay Schwartz, greeter; Jerry Hite, bartender; Martin Kelly, photographer; and “setter-uppers” and “taker-downers” Chris Robbian, Emmy Morrison, David Collins, Jerry Hite, Jim Cantrell, George Najarian and Al Pressman.

AND SPEAKING OF VOLUNTEERS I want to remind all of you that our **Thursday, May 10 Block Party will be honoring the Volunteers and Donors of our annual Casino Night Fundraiser**. Be sure to mark your calendars – Thursday, May 10, starting 5:30, at the Cottage at Postoffice and 15<sup>th</sup>. Bring a Pot-Luck dish to share, a chair, and a donation. The East End will provide drinks and plates, etc.



Carlos Guerguin, guest of honor at the April block party



Turnout for the party, held in the 1200 block of Sealy was phenomenal

## Membership Update

By Emmy Morrison

The EEHDA has 3 new memberships as a direct result of the April Block Party in the 1200 block of Sealy.

**Liz & Ken Kuntz** reside in Houston and will retire to 1217 Sealy St. in the near future.

**Diane & Thomas Brown** reside in Atlanta, GA, and own a home at 3715 Ave. N1/2.

**Lynda & Lewis Hodnett** reside in Bellaire and own the cottage at 1103 Ball. He is a professional photographer and you can see some of his work at lewishodnett.com.

Let's all welcome these new members!

## Neighborhood Notes

By Jonathan Tromm

Former Mayor Barbara Crews presented the Downtown Redevelopment Plan to the GAIN monthly Board of Directors meeting. The plan can be viewed at <http://www.downtowngalveston.org> in the "business development" section. Residents of the East End are encouraged to visit the website and study the plan.

The GAIN candidate forums were a success with 253 people attending the second forum. GAIN anticipates holding an additional candidate forum for any runoff elections. Video of the forums can be found on youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O1EhBRvZCX0>

The Spanish Grant neighborhood has free ranging chickens available to the public. Interested persons and coyotes have to come find and trap them.

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- Maintain and improve our quality of life by fostering business development and growth
- Working for continued safer neighborhoods
- A cleaner island with a proven recycling plan
- Sustained improvement of the City's infrastructure

This is a promise we can fulfill if we have the people willing to take a positive look forward and believe we can do better.

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## A Note From Nature About Hummingbirds

By Lixette Gaudin

Put your Hummingbird Feeders out – the hummers are coming through NOW, arriving in our Galveston backyards on their North/West Spring Migration to Canada. Hummingbirds are found only in North, Central and South America. They eat insects and spiders for protein and fat and devour sugar water and flower nectar for energy.

### Feeding tips:

1. Use hummingbird feeders with red adornments, because red is the color of most nectar producing plants.
2. Fill feeders with a sugar-water solution: dissolve one (1) part REAL sugar into four (4) parts clear water, let cool, pour into feeder. **AVOID RED DYE.**
3. Replenish sugar water every two or three days to keep it from fermenting.
4. Scrub feeders once a week with plain hot water.
5. Remove bee guards that may damage a hummer's thin beak.

## Community Garden

If you would be interested in participating in a community garden, give Floyd Pollock a call at (713) 202-5756. He's willing to organize if there is enough interest.



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## 2012 ELISSA Plankowners' Fundraiser

By Deanna Johnson

Galveston Historical Foundation's 2012 Plankowners' Syndicate Party and Auction benefiting the 1877 Tall Ship ELISSA gets underway at the Texas Seaport Museum on Saturday, June 2 at Pier 21.

Galveston Historical Foundation is one of the nation's largest local preservation organizations, and its mission encompasses community revitalization, museum education, maritime preservation and stewardship of historic properties. One of GHF's major projects has been the rescue and restoration of the 1877 Tall Ship ELISSA.



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## GHF Homes Tour 2012

The Galveston Historical Foundation has announced the homes for this year's Historic Homes Tour. Tour weekends are May 5th & 6th and May 12th & 13th. Tickets are \$15 for Galveston Historical Foundation members and \$20 for non-members before May 4 and are available for purchase online at [www.galvestonhistory.org](http://www.galvestonhistory.org) and at all area Kroger Food Stores. Tickets are \$25 for non-members after May 4.

In addition to the numerous land based offerings, this year's tour will also give one lucky ticket holder an experience at sea. Ticket purchasers to this year's Homes Tour are allowed free entry in a giveaway for a cruise on any cruise line out of Galveston Island, at any time of the year and for any destination.

### 2012 HOMES ON TOUR

#### **Louis and Margaret Wenzel Cottage, 1870 - 2002 Ave. N ½**

Originally owned by Louis and Margaret Wenzel, early German immigrants to Galveston, this 1870s vernacular cottage has been moved twice. In 1959, the house was moved from the front of the lot on Broadway, to the back, making room for a street-front commercial bicycle shop.

#### **John L. Darragh Tenant House, 1886 - 1510 Church St.**

Originally located in the 1800 block of Postoffice Street, this double gallery, side hall Victorian was one of three identical structures built by John L. Darragh in 1886 as rental property after a fire in 1885 destroyed more than 40 blocks of homes, creating a housing shortage.

#### **Restoration In Progress: McKinney-McDonald House, 1890 - 926 Winnie**

GHF purchased this formidable Victorian residence in January 2011 in order to save it from the threat of demolition. Built in 1890 for Liberty S. and Annie McKinney, the commanding 2½ story frame house was vacant since sustaining fire damage in 1993.

#### **Christian Wolfer Tenant Cottage, 1891 - 3101 Ave Q**

Built in 1891 by German carpenter Christian L. Wolfer, this Victorian gable-front cottage was donated to GHF by the owners with the condition that the building be relocated. Moved by GHF in February, 2010, this Hurricane Ike



ravaged structure was renovated by GHF and has received local, state and national awards.

#### **Robert and Carrie Palliser House, 1895 - 1904 Ave M**

Prominent local contractor, Robert Palliser, built this raised three-bay, two-story house with double verandas in 1895 for his residence. An English immigrant, Palliser's works included Galveston's Grand Hotel and Opera House, the First National Bank Building and City Hall (demolished).

#### **August J. Henck Cottage, 1897 - 1412 Sealy**

In 1897, prominent German real estate broker and builder August J. Henck built this raised Victorian five-bay-wide cottage for his residence. The L-shape structure features a projecting chamfered bay, crowned by a gabled roof, with dove tail shingles and ornamental brackets at the cornice level.

#### **Charles F. Rhode Co., Island City Cigar Factory, 1898 - 2001 Postoffice**

German immigrant Charles Rhode built this two-story, two-part commercial building in 1898, to house his business, the Island City Cigar Factory. The first floor features double storefronts featuring display windows and double door entries.

#### **Josephine Drouet House, 1898 - 1409 Ave M**

Built by French immigrant Josephine Chambord Drouet after the death of her husband, Sebastian. Saved from demolition by GHF in 2004, the house was moved to 1409 Avenue M.

#### **Oscar and Laurence Hoecker House, 1916 - 3315 Ave O**

This two-story Craftsman with porte-cochere was built by Oscar Rudolph Hoecker and his wife, Laurence Eugenia. 1916 and insurance records indicate construction was completed in 20 days.

#### **Louis and Anita Runge House, 1916 - 1301 Market St**

Architect Anton F. Korn designed this Italian villa for prominent German businessman Louis H. Runge and his wife, Anita. Built in 1916, the house remained in the Runge family until 1988 when it was sold to the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB).

Visit [www.galvestonhistory.org](http://www.galvestonhistory.org).



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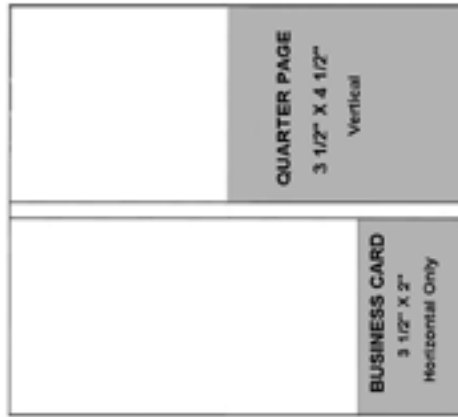
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- Ads must be paid for in advance.
- Ad deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.
- Political ads are limited to 1/4 page.

Ads must be camera ready and proportional to dimensions listed above.



The EEHDA Newsletter reports news and events related to The East End Historical District Association, and is distributed monthly to approximately 300 members, libraries and civic organizations in Galveston.

Make check payable to:

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Consider becoming an EEHDA Sustaining Member for \$100 per year.  
 Contact our Membership Chair at [membership@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org](mailto:membership@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org).

I would be interested in donating to the EEHDA Casino Night Fundraiser

(Office use only: Amount paid: \_\_\_\_\_)

## Join the East End Historical District Association

Membership is open to everyone but only residents of the district are allowed to hold office or vote at meetings. Your membership supports a wide variety of services and programs dedicated to neighborhood improvement and historic preservation. Our Board of Directors holds regular neighborhood meetings at The Cottage, 1501 Postoffice Street at 6:00PM on the first Thursday of every month.

Meetings are open to all members and visitors to the district. The East End Historical District Association, Inc., is exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to the EEHDA are deductible in the manner and to the extent provided by Section 170 of the IRS code. Rates are effective as of 10/1/2011.

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