



East End Historical District Association's NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Vol. 40 No. 2

Margaret Hand, Editor

www.eastendhistoricaldistrict.org

February 2013

On the Calendar

EEHDA Neighborhood Meeting
February 7th (Thursday)
Refreshments at 5:30, meeting at 6:00
at The Cottage 1501 Postoffice

Mardi Gras Brunch
February 9th (Saturday)
10:00 a. m. - 1:00 p.m.
At The Cottage

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Congratulations on the end to 2012, a year that will go in the history books as a very interesting year.



And a productive

year it was! As always the EEHDA volunteers did an incredible job of performing the tasks we've all come to expect. You know EEHDA events require a tremendous amount of effort and are responsible for 100 % of the fun and 50% of our budgeted income. The group of super stars responsible for the success of these events and the Newsletter in 2012 include: Casino Night: Ralph McMorris and Fran Kelly; Block Parties: Lizette Gaudin; Garden Tour: Fran Kelly; Christmas Homes Tour: Deanna Johnson; and Newsletter: Margaret Hand and David Collins. Governance duties don't fall into a "let's have fun" category; however, the leadership of your Board and effective committee work has been responsible for facilitating the activities necessary to have a successful 2012.

As we go into 2013 we can move beyond some of the distractions that occupied our thoughts and emotions and join together to find new members, reengage current members we haven't seen in a while, fill the shoes of our newsletter editor who is moving away, expand use of the EEHDA web site, update the EEHD walking tour guide and expand community action activities designed to help city government focus on and fund projects that identify and highlight the EEHD as a destination for Galveston visitors and tourist to see and enjoy. It is going to be a great year!



EEHDA 2013 Board of Directors

Seated: Larry Wygant, Tom Green, Mike Box, Floyd Pollock, Larry Stanley
 Standing: Jim Cantrell, Beth DeKeyser, Jane Chance, Pam Gilbert, Mary LeFlore, Bill Beveridge, Anne Hecht, David Fortenberry, Leonard LaMagna, (not pictured Emmy Morrison)

New EEHDA Board Elected

At its annual general membership meeting in January, residents of the East End elected the Board of Directors for 2013. David Fortenberry was elected President to replace Bill Beveridge, who remains on the board as Past President.

Other officers include Jim Cantrell, Vice President; Emmy Morrison, Secretary; and Floyd Pollock, Treasurer.

New two-year board members include Jane Chance, Tom Green, Anne Hecht, Mary Leflore, Pam Gilbert, Larry Wygant, and Pam Gilbert.

Mike Box, Larry Stanley, and Leonard LaMagna begin serving the second of their two-year terms.

The board was elected unanimously from an uncontested slate. Our thanks to the Nominating Committee for selecting this fine group of volunteers to lead the EEHDA in 2013.

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Outgoing President Bill Beveridge congratulates our new President David Fortenberry.

Planning to Hold Hearings on Land Development Regulations

by Jonathan Tromm

The Planning Commission will have a series of 6 workshop meetings, every Tuesday starting Jan. 22, concerning the proposed Land Development Regulations (LDR). The public is not allowed to comment at workshops. The public may comment in writing either by email to planningcounter@cityofgalveston.org or letter delivered to the Planning department.

On Feb. 12, from 1 to 5 pm, the Workshop will cover Article 11 - Historic Preservation. Please attend to show your concern. On March 5th, the Planning Commission will hold the first of two Public Hearings to make recommendations concerning the proposed LDR. This will be presented to the City Council for their consideration and action.

What the proposed LDR can mean in our neighborhood is this. Within Article 11 "Design Standards" under "Historic Resources," Section 108 "Demolition," a building that is a "Galveston Landmark" or a "contributor" in a Historic District, shall not be demolished unless the Landmark Commission determines preventing demolition would cause economic hardship upon the owner. Under subsection D, an owner may appeal a denial of demolition by proving that: a. He cannot realize a *reasonable rate of return* on the property unless the demolition is allowed...; Income producing property is specifically mentioned. This means that investors can buy rundown historic properties, then apply to tear them down to build something else, so they can get a "reasonable rate of return."

City staff or consultants have claimed that the economic hardship intent concerns low income owners but there is *no* reference to that in the proposed LDR. "Reasonable Rate of Return" is also not defined. Please Let the Planning Commission know you are concerned about demolition for investment within our historic district.

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MARDI GRAS BRUNCH

This year's Mardi Gras brunch will be held on February 9th, the second Saturday of the month and the second weekend of Mardi Gras. It will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Cottage, 1501 Postoffice, after which people will be heading down to watch the parades. We will be serving the usual Mimosas and coffee. Anyone wishing to bring a brunch dish please contact Fran Kelly at 409-370-2306 or you may send an email to kellyfran@aol.com. We will also be serving King cake as part of Mardi Gras festivities. Hope to see you all there!!!!!! Watch our for the Baby.

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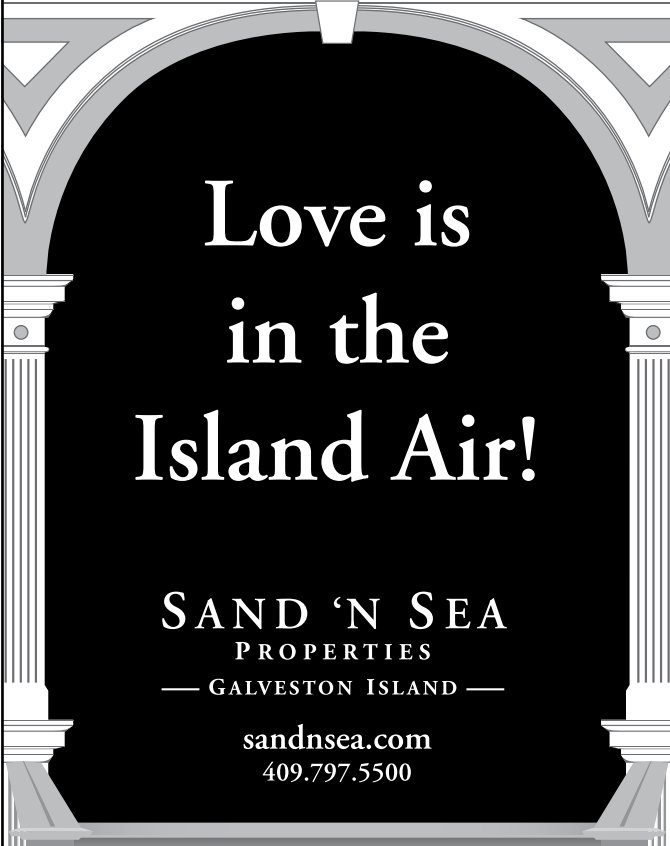
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