

Southside Fire Truck Park Fund
501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization

The Park Press

6309 Edloe Avenue ♦ Houston, TX 77005

November 2016 Fall/Winter Edition

Friends and Neighbors,

We've been hard at work getting ready for our 5th Annual Southside Place Winter Wonderland Carnival! Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 3rd from 10am - 2pm, rain or shine! Join us on the Clubhouse grounds for our 5th



annual carnival, featuring games, inflatables, a mechanical bull, a rock climbing wall, face painting, a balloon artist and confetti eggs! A special thanks to John Daugherty Realtors who will be taking photos with Santa and don't forget to bring your gloves or mittens to play in the huge pile of SNOW! Enjoy coffee and donuts, Chick-fil-a, pizza,

and drinks while you visit with your friends and neighbors.

Come bid on amazing silent auction items and grab some great finds at the shopping bazaar featuring local small businesses. The Southside Police and Fire Departments will also be on the scene collecting for their annual toy drive.

All proceeds fund improvements to Fire Truck Park and surrounding park land through the Southside Fire Truck



Park Fund. Come out and have fun for a great cause!

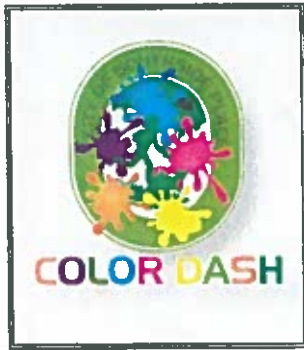
Please consider volunteering for a 1 hour time slot to help out the day of the carnival! It's also a great way



for teens to earn community service hours - it's a great time for adults and kids alike! Go to signupgenius.com, click "Find a SignUp", and search for "SouthsideFTPF@gmail.com". Thank you!

We're so thankful for the amazing support of our wonderful community each year to make the Southside Winter Wonderland Carnival a huge success! Please contact Melissa Byers at (917-375-0001) or Alyson Haas (512-423-8328) with any questions.

Southside Place Inaugural Color Dash



The first ever Southside Color Dash was held on October 8th! Around 250 participants and volunteers (and even 2 news vans) gathered at the Southside City Hall on the beautiful fall morning.

The event was sponsored by Kristen Martinez of John Daugherty Realtors. The participants went through the 2-mile course around the city while being showered with colored powder.



At the end of the course, the participants joined a DJ color dance. There was a countdown and then everybody was showered with even more powder. After the powder shower, the Southside Firemen showered the willing participants with water from the Southside Fire Truck. Most of the kids were wet and colorful and happy. Thanks to all for helping the Color Dash raise over \$4,000 for the Fire Truck Park Fund!



Mindy Rippstein and JC Al-Uqdah will be organizing next year's run. If you want to be part of the planning, please contact JC or Mindy. We can't wait to see you again.

Pool Update From the City

Dear Southside Place Residents,

Fromberg Construction was recently awarded the pool, pool house, and associated landscaping contract by Southside Place. Fromberg Construction and the subcontractors began mobilizing the week of October 10. Sewer and electrical disconnects were handled first followed by the pool shell/decking and pool house demolition.

The pool and pool house construction site are located within a fenced area extending from the pool east to Lew Hill Street. The clubhouse, park, tennis courts, and baseball/sporting green area will not be affected by the construction activity.

Construction parking will be limited around the park. The municipal sewer plant will be utilized as a parking and construction area also for the duration of the project. Pool construction working hours include: Mon-Sat 7:30 AM - 7:30 PM

Residents will be notified as to any Saturday construction working hours. Demolition is scheduled for completion by mid-November, at which point the sitework will start. Pool and pool house construction is set to begin in December. Weather permitting, the opening of the new pool and pool house is expected to take place in mid-May, 2017.

City staff and public safety personnel are more than happy to discuss and answer questions about the project throughout the construction duration. (713) 668-2341.

Blues Night Dinner & Dance



“Blues Night” in Southside on Sunday, September 25 honored our first responders for their dedicated service -- and friendship. “With all that has happened on the streets in the past months, now seemed like the right time to recognize our own public safety personnel,” says Kris Holt who organized the event on behalf of the city and its residents. “Our community truly treasures its police, fire and dispatch departments, and it’s important they, and their families, know that we appreciate what they do to keep our city safe.”

A lively meet-and-greet (and eat), under the tent by the Clubhouse invited residents to mingle with police, fire and dispatch and their families. A dinner menu of ice cream sundaes, burgers and hot dogs proved as big of a draw as the live music by the Milton Hopkins Hit City Blues Band, which featured resident Mike Stone (formerly of the Retreads), and award-winning blues guitarist Milton Hopkins, who has toured with BB King and a host of other legendary greats. Fire trucks were on display for children to enjoy.



More than 200 residents and friends dined, danced and introduced themselves to our public safety personnel and their families, just hours before Monday’s shocking shooting spree near Wesleyan Plaza. “Southside Place has a tradition of community spirit,” says Holt, “and the event could not have come at a better time.”

Southside Place Community Garden News



On October 23, garden members and supporters met up for the third annual Outstanding Dinner in the Garden. We set one long table for 68 guests outside in the vacant lot next to the garden. Guests were greeted under the pergola with a grapefruit/champagne cocktail and prosecco. Waitresses served bruschetta goat cheese and shaved radish. Then the party moved to the vacant lot, which becomes a wall-less dining room. A string of white paper lanterns illuminated the table set in white linens. Chef Soren Pedersen and his crew served a tomato-pepper confit salad, paired with a Pinot Grigio, followed by chilled avocado soup paired with a Petit Syrah. Main courses were beef, chicken, and fish served family-style with root vegetables and Hasselback potatoes, all paired with a Cabernet Sauvignon. Finally, dessert of spiked chocolate cake and apple-marzipan tart was paired with a sweet Moscato d’Asti. Houston Wine Merchant paired the wines for each course and donated some wine, to boot.

Our first Outstanding Dinner in the Garden set the standard for this outdoor event. We were so delighted with Chef Soren Pedersen’s farm-to-table cuisine that we hired him for three years running. Our second dinner party was hit by Hurricane Patricia, which forced us to move inside the fire station, which was interesting but less picturesque. This year’s party was stunning, with perfect weather, terrific food and service, free-flowing wine, and lively conversation. Being shortly before the presidential election, there was no shortage of passionate conversation. But two things upon which both Democrats and Republicans can agree, the Southside Place Community Garden is an asset to the community and our annual Outstanding Dinner in the Garden is the party of the year not to be missed.

Southside Place Fire Truck Park Winter Wonderland Carnival

Benefitting Southside Place Fire Truck Park

- ❄ Snow
- ❄ Carnival Games
- ❄ Inflatables
- ❄ Mechanical Bull
- ❄ Climbing Wall
- ❄ Shopping Bazaar
- ❄ Silent Auction
- ❄ Food & Drinks
- ❄ Snow Cone Truck

Saturday
December 3, 2016
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
at Southside Place
Clubhouse
3743 Garnet St.



Community Quick Reminders

November 18, 2016
Movie Night
Southside Park
7:00 - 9:00 PM

December 3, 2016
Winter Wonderland
Southside Clubhouse & Park
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

December 4, 2016
Holiday Dinner
Southside Clubhouse
5:30 - 7:30PM

Fire Truck Park Fund

The Fire Truck Park Fund is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that helps raise funds for the asset improvements of parks and green spaces in our neighborhood. The Park Press is a quarterly newsletter put out by the Fire Truck Park Fund. The volunteers that make up the 2016 board of directors are Melissa Byers (President), JC Al-Uqdah and Mindy Rippstein (Co-Heads of Development), Gina Luther (Treasurer), Sue Sim (Secretary), Andy Chan (Communications), and Jeremy Monthy (Board Member).