



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Fifth Annual Lyons Avenue Renaissance Festival: Celebrates Hurricane Harvey Heroes**

*Free, Family Event with Parade Honoring Harvey Heroes, Live Music and the Urban Helicopter Egg Drop*

(HOUSTON) – Houston’s Fifth Ward residents are still in the process of recovering from the devastation of Hurricane Harvey. As the rebuilding efforts continue, [Fifth Ward Community Redevelopment Corporation \(FWCRC\)](#) and **Vice Mayor Pro-Tem, Jerry Davis, Houston City Council, District B**, wanted to make sure local heroes are honored during the [Fifth Annual Lyons Avenue Renaissance Festival](#), on **Saturday, March 24, 2018 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** The theme for this free, family friendly event, is “Houston Strong & Nickle Proud.” Twenty “Harvey Heroes” will be honored during the parade that kicks off the festival, taking place in the 3800 to 4000 block of Lyons Avenue.

“In addition to our dedicated to hurricane recovery efforts, this year’s event highlights those who go above and beyond to support the growth of the community,” says Kathy Flanagan Payton, President and CEO of FWCRC. The 20 “Harvey Heroes” being honored not only helped here in the Fifth Ward, but across Houston and throughout the metro area. Without the actions of these women and men, many hurricane victims would not have been helped,” says Payton.

In partnership with families and students in Fifth Ward and beyond, we are expanding our festival kickoff parade to support the "March for Our Lives" event. On March 24, the kids and families of “March for Our Lives” will take to the streets of Washington DC to demand that their lives and safety become a priority and that we end gun violence and mass shootings in our schools today.

Locally, we invite children and families to meet at the DeLuxe Theater and march as participants in the festival parade in solidarity. Line-up for the parade begins at 11:30 a.m. and the parade begins at noon.

The annual festival was an enormous success in 2017, attracting over 5000 visitors. This year’s event offers a wider variety of entertainment for the whole family. Those include the following:

- Houston’s Ultimate Egg Drop with 50,000 goodie-stuffed eggs
- Three Stages of Live Music and Dance
- Three-on-Three Basketball Tournament
- Kid’s Zone
- Fifth Ward Market featuring food, art and retail vendors
- Housing and Community Service Providers

“The festival was designed to celebrate the tradition of Fifth Ward while highlighting new developments taking place in the community,” says Jerry Davis, Houston City Council, District B. “The DeLuxe Theater is once again a thriving place for entertainment and community gatherings. Young Men’s Preparatory Academy Houston is in their new building and Legacy Community Health, cut the ribbon on a new facility this past summer. We’re proud of the revitalization that has taken place and look forward to future development, while preserving the history and culture of the Fifth Ward,” says Davis.

Sponsors and community partners are helping to bring this a free festival. For sponsorship opportunities, contact Kim Stoilis at [kstoilis@fwrcr.org](mailto:kstoilis@fwrcr.org).

For more information about the **Fifth Annual Lyons Avenue Renaissance Festival**, please visit [LyonsAvenueFestival.com](http://LyonsAvenueFestival.com) or call the FWCRC at 713-674-0175.

**About Fifth Ward Community Redevelopment Corporation:** The non-profit 501(c) 3 organization was started in April of 1989. The organization was started by educators, clergy, residents and business owners. For more than 25 years FWCRC has built and sold homes, provided affordable housing, and worked to make the community a great place to live, work and play.

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