

The Faces of Houston

Bill White

Mayor, City of Houston

As he wraps up his third (and last) term serving the fourth-largest city in the country, Mayor Bill White is busy fighting carcinogenic benzene emissions, increasing solar energy initiatives, prepping for his upcoming senate race, even squeezing in a spare moment to update his Twitter and Facebook accounts.

"The Rockets need to maintain the run," he Tweets, one spring evening from the Toyota Center. "Yao has 6 points, 3 boards. Oden cannot handle him. ... Hotdog break."

It's the kind of laid-back accessibility that has made the former U.S. Deputy Secretary of Energy so popular among residents. "My personal life, I suppose is pretty dull," White says. "I've seen the people who post about the wild parties they go to. I just don't have any good material there!"

Not buying that dull story? You shouldn't. After all, this is the guy that cut the city's energy consumption by 6 percent, led the expansion of the city's Metro light rail system, and helped make downtown's beloved 12-acre Discovery Green park

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a reality. So, as Mayor White preps to pass the city torch in January, one thing is certain: The next Houston leader will have big, green shoes to fill.

Cheryl McCallum

Director of Education, Children's Museum of Houston

On a typical summer day, it wouldn't be uncommon for 3,000 kids—birth to 12 years old—to spend the day exploring Cheryl McCallum's workplace.

"When I first walked in, my jaw dropped," McCallum says of her first encounter with the Children's Museum of Houston. "My first thought was, 'What a great place to work!'"

That was nearly 16 years ago, and McCallum, the museum's director of education, is still smitten. "There are children's museums around the country that I love and admire, but this is the one for me," she says.

McCallum's seen a lot change over the years, including a \$35 million expansion completed earlier this year.

"The facility we built here in 1992 was built to serve 350,000 people in a year and we were serving 600,000 people annually," she says. "We needed to meet the demand of the community."

The additional 39,000 square feet made room for seven new, permanent exhibitions including a design-minded workshop called Invention Convention, the three-story exercise adventure PowerPlay, and Kidropolis, USA, a town where kids can earn mock money on an ATM-like Kid Card by working at pretend jobs such as veterinarian

"It's an exciting place to be," McCallum says. "We have a lot of community support and a very entrepreneurial and culturally diverse city."

Brock Wagner

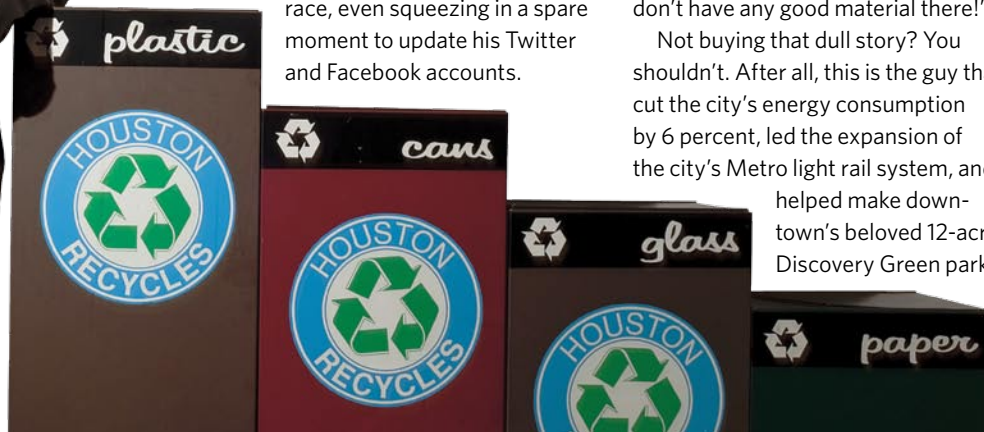
Co-Founder, Saint Arnold Brewing Company

The business concept for Texas's oldest craft brewery has come a long way since its humble beginnings inside a Rice University dorm room. "I started

home-brewing there," says Brock Wagner, co-founder of Saint Arnold Brewing Company. "I actually ran a little pub out of my room senior year. I had a refrigerator and Guinness on draft—the University did not condone this."

Now, the 15-year-old biz is gearing up for a move this month from the warehouse district in northwest Houston to historic (and spacious) quarters north of downtown at 2000 Lyons Ave. Saint Arnold's new, three-story digs will feature beer-making equipment purchased from a now-defunct brewery in a Bavarian monastery, a Biergärten-style event space, and killer downtown views—and of course, its signature Saint Arnold Amber Ale. In the future, visitors will be able to tour the \$6 million space.

"People actually see us doing something we like," Wagner says. "We're not going, 'What does our demographic think? What would appeal to them?' No! We want to do what we think is fun."



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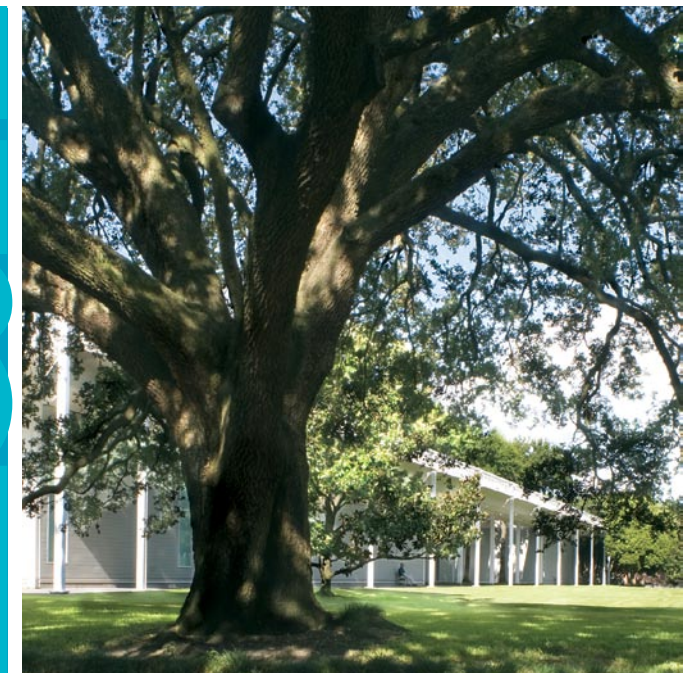
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