

T H E H E I G H T S

Newsletter of the Houston Heights Association

Volume 42, Number Two, February 2016



2016 Awards Dinner

Celebrating the Houston Heights

Celebrating volunteers and recognizing community improvements are great reasons to party, so let's do it! Get ready for the Houston Heights Association's annual Volunteer Appreciation & Awards Dinner on Sunday, February 28, at the Fire Station.

The evening will begin with a "BYOB Mix-N-Mingle Hour" starting at 5:00 PM. Dinner will be served at 6:00 PM, and the evening will continue with the recognition of volunteers. The prestigious awards for 2015 Citizen of the Year, Corporate Citizen of the Year, and the Marcella Perry Award will be announced.

Also on the program are announcements of the 2015 Community Improvement Awards, consisting of Residential Renovation, Commercial Renovation, Residential New Construction, and Commercial New Construction.

The theme for the evening will be "Building a Sustainable Future." Attire will be dressy casual.

Perpetual co-chairs Bill Baldwin and Andrea Sharp recommend that you purchase tickets for this fun event as soon as possible, as seating is limited. Tickets, which are \$30 per person or \$240 for a reserved table of eight, are available at stores.houstonheightsstore.org/events.

See you there!



Angela DeWree was named 2014 Citizen of the Year at last year's Awards Dinner. Who will be next?

MONTHLY MEETING & HAPPY HOUR

Attendees at the January general meeting heard from home improvement gurus and two groups trying to improve the neighborhood.

Monday, February 8

The Houston Heights Association loves its members and our neighborhood! We will "Show the Love" at the February 8 General Meeting. The meeting begins at 7:00 PM; doors open at 6:30 PM. Refreshments will be served. Plus, you might be the winner of a lovely door prize!

Learn more about 2016 committee plans and Association events. Visit with Committee Chairs who will share their love and enthusiasm about their projects in our neighborhood and maybe find something that you'd love to get involved in - Home Tours, Constable Patrol, Boulevard Beautification, Bike Rally, Education, and more! We look forward to seeing you at the Houston Heights City

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Heights Garden Club

On February 13 at 10:00 AM, the Heights Garden Club will be having a tour of a Plant It Forward Farm at their University of St Thomas location, 1318 Sul Ross Street. Plant It Forward partners with several organizations to help refugees who settle here in Houston who come from farming backgrounds. They provide land, tools, and training (both farming and business assistance to help them sell their produce) for these refugees to become contributing citizens of Houston by growing fresh, locally grown food and then selling it through farmer's markets, their farm stands, and other locales. The University of St. Thomas location has a Farm Stand most Saturdays 10:00-2:00.

Go green on St. Patrick's Day with the Heights Garden Club! Join us for our annual Plant and Seed Swap - 7:00 PM Thursday, March 17 at the Heights Fire Station. Bring plants and seeds for the swap or just come for some St. Patrick's Day socializing with your fellow gardeners.

For more information, visit the Garden Club website, www.heightsgardenclub.com or email info@heightsgardenclub.com or gardenclub@houstonheights.org.

The Houston Heights Association gratefully acknowledges the support of our Winter 2015–2016 Sponsors:

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Monthly Meeting from page 1

Hall & Fire Station, 107 W. 12th Street (at Yale) on February 8 and sharing the love of our neighborhood!

Event Postponed

Heights Urban Forestry Day, "Gift of Trees" with Trees for Houston, previously announced for this month, has been postponed until September. Watch future issues for a specific date and other details.

Bungalow Sought

We'd love to have another Heights bungalow on this year's Spring Home & Garden Tour. If you would like to be on the tour, or know someone who might, please contact springtour@houstonheights.org.

The Heights is published monthly by the Houston Heights Association, Inc. Its purpose is to acknowledge achievements and to inform HHA members of events.

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Newsletter inquiries, suggestions, or submissions should be directed to: Editor, *The Heights*, 107 W. 12th Street, Houston, TX 77008-6907, email editor@houstonheights.org, or leave a message on 713-861-4002. Editor Mark R. Williamson Assistant Editor Kathleen S. Williamson February contributors:

Donna Bennett, Stacey Courville, Angela DeWree, Lauriel Hindman, Laura Menefee, Andrea Sharp, Kathryn Terazoff.

2016 Spring Home & Garden Tour and Candlelight Dinner & Auction

“Harmony: Blending Past & Present”

Save The Dates!

Candlelight Dinner & Auction – April 1

Spring Home & Garden Tour – April 2 & 3

Our talented committee chairs are busy planning for a fun-filled 2016 Spring Home & Garden Tour weekend! For now, they have announced the theme “Harmony: Blending Past & Present” and are keeping their plans under wraps, but you’ll want to mark your calendar so you don’t miss the fun!

Candlelight Dinner & Auction

The weekend kicks off with the much anticipated Candlelight Dinner & Auction, our annual HHA fundraising gala, on Friday, April 1. Ticketholders will enjoy an exclusive preview of the fabulous homes on this year’s Spring Home & Garden Tour before the Dinner & Auction.

Dinner chairs Heather Williams and Laura Parkan are working on a fabulous evening which will include delectable passed *hors d’oeuvres*, beverages, and a delicious dinner. Silent Auction chair Janet Buchheit and her enthusiastic, dedicated auction committee are collecting a wide variety of fantastic items, including donations of contemporary art created by our talented local artists, neighborhood parties, and items from our generous local businesses in categories like family, pets, dining, entertainment, getaways, health, beauty, home and garden, clothing and accessories, and jewelry. Chair Bill Baldwin is planning the always lively and exciting Live Auction.

Spring Home & Garden Tour

Home Tour co-chairs Ashley Day and Kathleen Williamson are working with their team to select a terrific blend of featured homes. Spring Home & Garden Tour goers will enjoy visiting a mix of beautiful homes graciously opened by our featured homeowners from noon to 6:00 PM on Saturday, April 2, and Sunday, April 3. In addition to touring wonderfully unique homes, ticket holders can explore the historic Houston Heights Fire Station & City Hall, which serves as Tour Headquarters for ticket pick-up and sales and where they can board a shuttle to proceed on the tour.

Look for more details in the March newsletter and on the website www.houstonheights.org. Online ticket sales for the events will open on March 8.

Home Tour Weekend: So Many Ways You Can Help!

A crew of fantastic volunteers is hard at work creating the Candlelight Dinner & Auction and the Spring Home & Garden Tour, and we would love your help!

You can help by donating a special item or gift certificate to the Silent Auction. In addition to your kind generosity and helping hand, you will receive acknowledgment in the event’s gala program, on the bid sheets accompanying your donation, and in the wrap-up newsletter article. We also encourage our volunteers and Dinner guests to support the businesses and artists who contribute to this event.

In addition, we are looking for volunteers for both events. You can help by working a 3-hour docent shift at one of our featured homes or as a ticket seller at the Fire Station on Saturday or Sunday during the Tour. You can also be a part of the Silent Auction Committee and solicit and collect donations and help organize, set up, and design the silent auction on the day of the event. Besides helping the neighborhood and meeting new friends, each volunteer receives a complimentary ticket to the Spring Home Tour.

To make a donation, please email auction@houstonheights.org. To volunteer, please email volunteer@houstonheights.org. Thank you in advance for your help in making this HHA fundraising weekend a huge success for our neighborhood!

New Rule For HHA Properties

In support of its mission “to create a sense of community among the diverse segments of the neighborhood” and in response to a change in the law, the Houston Heights Association is banning the open carry of handguns on its properties. The signage required by Texas Penal Code 30.07 is currently posted at Donovan Park and will soon be posted at Marmion Park and the Heights Fire Station.

In addressing Section 30.06 (concealed carry), the HHA Board has decided to take no action at this time but may visit this again.

2016 Committee Chairs

President Stacey Courville reported at the annual Organizational Meeting that the Board had the following Committee Chair commitments and openings.

Archives – Ashley Day

Auction – Janet Buchheit (silent auction). Bill Baldwin (live auction)

Awards Dinner – Andrea Sharp, Bill Baldwin

Bicycle Rally – Hannah & Bill White

Bike Trails – Donna Bennett

Boulevard Beautification – Jim Bennett

Candlelight Dinner – Heather Williams & Laura Parkan

Community Improvement Awards – Brie Kelman

Constable Patrol Program – Lanna vonBaden

Education – Anne Sloan & Emily Cole

Election – Robert Woods

Finance – Matt Bedingfield

Fun Run – Damian Ogier

Heights Garden Club – Dee Melancon, Brenda Eskelson

Holiday Food Baskets – Mark Williamson

Holiday Home Tour – Open

Holiday Party – Marianne & Kenny Terrell

Land Use – Bill Pellerin

Membership – Donna Bennett

Newsletter – Mark Williamson

Programs – Angela DeWree

Property Management – John Baldwin

Property Scheduling – Lauriel Hindman

Restoration/Historical – Mark Williamson

Social Networks – Bill Baldwin

Sponsorships – Matt Bedingfield

Spring Home & Garden Tour – Ashley Day, Kathleen Williamson

Super Neighborhood Delegate – Mark Williamson

Urban Forestry – Angela DeWree

Urbanites – Kenny Terrell

Volunteer Coordinator – Laura Menefee

Webmaster – Richard McCarley

2016 Officers

*President: Stacey Courville

*Secretary: Ashley Day

*Treasurer: Matt Bedingfield

*President Elect: Bill Baldwin

VP Communications:

Mark Williamson

VP Fundraising & Special

Events: Janet Buchheit

VP Community Relations:

Laura Menefee

VP Community Affairs:

Bill Pellerin

VP Finance & Operations:

Bill Baldwin

VP Properties: Jim Bennett

Directors

Rich Anhorn (2018)

*Bill Baldwin (2018)

*Matt Bedingfield (2017)

Janet Buchheit (2016)

Neal Cannon (2016)

*Stacey Courville (2016)

*Sharon Dearman (2018)

Angela DeWree (2018)

Laura Menefee (2017)

Damian Ogier (2018)

Bill Pellerin (2016)

*Kenny Terrell (2017)

Carol Welter (2017)

Mark Williamson (2016)

Robert Woods (2016)

The year each Director's term expires is shown in parentheses.

* Asterisks indicate members of the Executive Committee.

Urban Forestry News – Yale Green Corridor Volunteers Needed

The Yale Green Corridor project needs volunteers to help make contact with owners of commercial properties in the proposed corridor. [See our December issue for information about the project.] To volunteer, contact urbanforest@houstonheights.org.

The letter below was sent to owners of commercial properties in the proposed Yale Green Corridor.



The Story of Your Yale Trees

In the 1980s neighborhood volunteers sponsored by the Heights Chamber of Commerce and Trees for Houston raised \$90,000 for Trees along Yale. Heights volunteers planted and nurtured approximately 500 trees on Yale between 110 and 610. Over the past 30 years these trees have matured into the beautiful Live Oak canopy we enjoy today.

In 2008, the City proposed to widen Yale street. This would have resulted in the destruction of over 190 mature trees. The objection of the community and work of dedicated Heights volunteers caused the City to abandon the widening plan. Yale street was subsequently resurfaced and the trees saved.

Today, some of the original trees have been destroyed or, with permits from the City's Parks and Recreation Department, replaced by smaller caliper trees. The Green Corridor designation would place more protection on our beautiful tree canopy on Yale for now & future enjoyment.

IT TAKES TIME
FOR HEIGHTS
TREES TO
REACH THEIR
PRIME



With Your support Yale will become Houston's First Green Corridor.

Yale Street bisects our Heights neighborhood of legacy historic architecture and new construction.

The corridor of trees along both sides of Yale provides a green buffer from traffic and significantly contributes to the tree cover which is such an important asset to the character of the Heights. The street is in transition and the future of these trees, is threatened by increasing traffic & development.

The Urban Forestry Committee of the Houston Heights Association is applying to the City of Houston to designate some two miles on Yale as a Green Corridor. This would afford additional protection for your trees in the right of way and up to the building line on both sides of the street & the city would give priority for city monetary contributions for street tree planting.

Petition of Support:

As an owner of property abutting Yale, support additional protection for our trees with the designation of a GREEN CORRIDOR under Sec.33-104 of the Houston Code of Ordinances

https://www.houstontx.gov/planning/DevelopRegs/docs_pdfs/GreenCorridor.pdf

Simply complete and sign the enclosed form, and return in the stamped self-addressed envelope.



Questions about the Yale Green Corridor:

email: urbanforest@houstonheights.org

Donations

Our thanks to these donors for their generous support of the projects of the Houston Heights Association.

Albemarle Foundation Matching Gift of Robert Weber -
Boulevard
John & Terri Arnold - Boulevard
Katy & John Childs - Flower Gardens
Melvalene Cohen - Fire Station Restoration
Charles Dalton & Patricia Cavanaugh - Flower Gardens
Josh & Lisa Ecroyd
Andrea L. Farr
Aimee & Tyler Flood - Flower Gardens
Beth Gallagher - Boulevard
Ed Gibbon
Nick & Ellisa Gole - Donovan Playground, Boulevard
Joan Kerr - Boulevard
Rose Kimbrough & Greg Goodrich - Flower Gardens
Alex Loddoch & Maisha Amaru - Donovan Playground
Debbie & Michael Loreman - Flower Gardens
Jordan & Emily Marye - Parks, Boulevard, Flower Gardens,
Fire Station Restoration
Kyle & Emily Miller - Donovan Playground, Boulevard
Anne Rodgers - Boulevard
Kelly Simmons & Keith Crane - Donovan Playground
Angela & Michael Tedone - Flower Gardens

New Members

Please welcome these new members to the Houston Heights Association.

Paul Coons
Barbara & Gregory Crowe
Lisa Dobson & Joe Panarello
Ed Gibbon
Green Swallow Creations
David Hamilton
David Johnson
Mazzarino Construction &
Development
Doug Oppman
Tracy & Edward Porter
Kelly Proch
Redbud Gallery,
Gus & Sharon Kopriva
Colby Remsing
Andrea & Matthew Richards
Johnathan Schmaltz &
Kathryn Marietta
The Barking Pig,
Kristen Powell

Calling All Volunteers

To volunteer for any of the opportunities listed below, please contact: volunteer@houstonheights.org.

- Volunteers are needed for 2016 Awards Dinner that will take place on Sunday, February 28 to set up and tear down.

Many volunteers are needed in many positions for the Spring Home & Garden Tour and the Candlelight Dinner & Auction. Volunteers receive a free ticket to the Home Tour and have lots of fun!

- Docents are needed for homes, shuttles, and bicycles. Work a three-hour shift from either 12:00-3:00 PM or 3:00-6:00 PM on Saturday, April 2 or Sunday, April 3.
- The Silent Auction Committee needs volunteers now to gather donations and also for set up and take down March 31 - April 2.
- The Candlelight Dinner needs volunteers to check in guests Friday evening, April 1.
- Ticket sellers are needed at the Fire Station on April 2 and 3. The shifts there are 11:30-2:30 PM and 2:30-5:30 PM.

Houston Heights Historic Districts Design Guidelines Meetings

The City of Houston Planning & Development Department invites you to participate in the development of design guidelines for the three Houston Heights Historic Districts (East, West, and South). All remaining meetings will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 PM on Tuesdays: February 16, April 26, June 21, August 16, and October 25 at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 1819 Heights Blvd.

Calendar (continued from back cover)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 6 <i>Deadline for next newsletter</i>	7 HHA Land Use 6:30 PM Fire Station	8	9	10 - <i>garbage and recycling</i>	11	12
13 <i>Daylight Saving Time begins</i>	14 HHA General Topic TBA 7:00 PM Fire Station	15	16 - <i>heavy trash (tree waste in odd months)</i>	17 - <i>garbage St. Patrick's Day Plant and Seed Swap, 7:00 PM</i> Fire Station	18	19
20	21 HHA Board 6:30 PM Fire Station	22	23	24 - <i>garbage and recycling</i>	25	26
27 <i>Easter</i>	28	29	30	31 - <i>garbage</i>	April 1 HHA Candle-light Dinner & Auction	2 HHA Spring Home & Garden Tour 12:00-6:00 PM

Community Calendar

Events planned by other community organizations

Every Saturday, 8:00 AM, Heights Running Club will meet on the Heights Boulevard jogging trail at 7th Street. To be added to the weekly distribution list, contact Meghan.olds@gmail.com.

First and third Thursdays, 7:30 PM, English Country Dancing in the Heights. For more information, email injbloom@gmail.com or visit <http://www.hatds.org/index.php?page=ecd>

February 5-13, Opera in the Heights presents Rossini's *La Cenerentola* at Lambert Hall, 1703 Heights Boulevard. For more information, visit operaintheheights.org or call 713-861-5303.

February 11 through March 5, Obsidian Theater presents a reinterpretation of Euripides' *The Trojan Women* at 3522 White Oak. For more information, visit www.obsidiantheater.org/coming-events.html.

April 8-16, Opera in the Heights presents Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice* at Lambert Hall, 1703 Heights Boulevard. For more information, visit operaintheheights.org or call 713-861-5303.

At The Properties

Events at the Houston Heights City Hall & Fire Station, Donovan Park, and Marmion Park

February 16, 6:30 PM, Greater Heights Super Neighborhood Council (GHSNC) annual meeting and election of officers at the Fire Station.

Future History

Beyond the calendar grid...

June 4, Fun Run

October 2, Bicycle Rally

December 2-3, Holiday Home Tour

December 13-14, Holiday Food Baskets [*tentative dates*]

February 26, 2017, Awards Dinner

March 31 & April 1-2, 2017,

Spring Home & Garden Tour weekend [*tentative dates*]

Heavy Trash Notes

The heavy trash pickup date is the third Wednesday for most of the HHA coverage area. Service schedules, including collection dates and information, tree waste and junk waste collection, and the Neighborhood Service Maps page has been moved (again!) to http://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/service_schedules.html

HOUSTON HEIGHTS ASSOCIATION
 107 W. 12TH ST.
 HOUSTON, TX 77008-6907

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Calendar of Events for February 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 HHA Land Use 6:30 PM Fire Station	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i> PIP meeting 7:00 PM 1602 State Street	3	4 - <i>garbage</i>	5 <i>Deadline for next newsletter</i>	6
7	8 HHA General "Committees" 7:00 PM Fire Station	9 <i>Mardi Gras</i>	10	11 - <i>garbage and recycling</i>	12	13 Heights Garden Club 10:00 AM 1318 Sul Ross
14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15 <i>Presidents' Day</i> HHA Board 6:30 PM Fire Station	16 GHSNC Annual Meeting 6:30 PM Fire Station	17 - <i>heavy trash (junk waste in even months)</i>	18 - <i>garbage</i>	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 - <i>garbage and recycling</i>	26	27
28 HHA Awards Dinner 5:00-8:00 PM Fire Station	29	March 1 PIP Meeting 7:00 PM 1602 State Street	2	3 - <i>garbage</i>	4	5 <i>continued within</i>

HHA headquarters: The Fire Station is on the corner of Yale and 12th Streets.

HHA web site: <<http://www.houstonheights.org>>