

# T H E H E I G H T S

Newsletter of the Houston Heights Association



Volume 38, Number Twelve, December 2012

## Carols by Candlelight

### Holiday Home Tour

“Carols by Candlelight,” the 2012 Houston Heights Association Holiday Home Tour, is set for Friday, November 30, and Saturday, December 1. Six Houston Heights families will welcome visitors into their homes that will be all decorated for the holidays. The experience will be complete with the joyous sounds of carolers at each home and at the Heights Fire Station, where local food trucks will be available for visitors to enjoy.

On Friday, the tour will run from 6:00 PM to 9:30 PM. On Saturday, the hours will be from 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

Free shuttle buses will operate during the tour on both Friday and Saturday. Patrons may board the shuttle buses at the Holiday Home Tour Headquarters, where parking is available, and at each home.

Holiday Home Tour Headquarters will again be the Houston Heights City Hall & Fire Station, 107 W. 12th Street at Yale. Ticket sales, parking, the shuttle stop, and food trucks will be located there, in addition to entertainment by neighborhood carolers.

Tickets are available at Buchanan’s Nursery, Davis Hardware, Jubilee, and Another Place In Time. Tickets will also be available during tour hours at the Holiday Home Tour Headquarters and at each Holiday Home Tour home. Tickets are \$25 for all six homes on tour days. \$5 per-home tickets can also be purchased during tour hours at those particular homes.



## General Meeting

### Celebration in the Heights!

Celebrate a wonderful year in the Heights at the December 10 General Meeting.

Please join us to enjoy musical guests, refreshments, and revelry. Everyone is invited at 7:00 PM (doors open at 6:30) in the Heights Fire Station at 12th and Yale Streets.

For inspiration on being Santa, you can visit him at various locations in and around the Heights. See page 6 for two such opportunities.

*The Houston Heights Association gratefully acknowledges the support of our 2012-2013 Platinum Sponsor:*



## Election Results

The following results of the HHA Board election were announced at the November General Meeting.

### Elected to serve three-year terms:

Bill Baldwin  
 Bill Davis  
 Leann Mueller  
 Bill Pellerin  
 Addie Ann Spicer

### Elected to serve one-year terms:

Becky Standridge  
 Mark Williamson

## Departing Directors

Our thanks to the HHA Directors whose terms expire at the end of this year who did not choose to run for another term.

Lindsey Lee, 2012 President  
 Gilbert Joseph Perez  
 Bart Truxillo

Thank you all for your service during your terms on the Board.

## Constable Statistics

	Sept	Oct
Total Arrests	41	14
Citizen Assists	2	4
Citizen Contacts	55	42
Vacation Watches	76	41
Court Citations	91	61
Alarm Responses	12	8
Suspicious Vehicles	94	48
Park Checks	107	95
Disturbances	11	4
Major Accidents	0	1
Criminal Offenses	10	17
Miles patrolled	5,286	2,838

The Houston Heights Association gratefully acknowledges the support of the following Winter 2012-2013 Sponsors:

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## CIA Nominations

Once again, it is time to look around the neighborhood and see who has been improving it. The nomination form for the 2012 Community Improvement Awards with the rule sheet on the reverse is included in this issue. Nominees and winners will be announced at the annual Volunteer Appreciation and Awards Dinner on February 24.

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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## Holiday Home Tour Artist: Anne Reese Hernandez

Anne Reese Hernandez, noted Houston artist, may be shy about promoting her work, but she's a generous member of our Heights community. When asked about creating an original piece of work to be used as the focal point for a limited edition Holiday ornament, to be sold during the Holiday Home Tour, Anne immediately said yes.



Anne's watercolor, using a detailed pointillism technique, brings the 1914 Houston Heights City Hall and Fire Station to life, while harkening to a time gone by when streetcars rumbled up and down Heights Blvd and garden parties were the social events of the season. In fact, Anne lives in the 1906 Upchurch Cottage, featured in Historian Anne Sloan's published chronicle of Houston Heights. "When I think of the Heights," said Anne, "and what it means to my art, I think of Mr. Huey Long of the Inkspots, whom I met when I moved to the Heights. I think of romance and that little extra touch that went into the older architecture and that gentle way that people treated each other."

With an extensive number of works located in private and corporate collections, Anne once created a mural of the Chicago World's Fair for the Museum of Printing History. She's done a series on both the Rice and Shamrock Hotels, and continues to paint Heights' area historic buildings and homes. Anne displays and sells her art at Grace Hart Antiques on 19th Street.

Gilbert Perez, owner of Bungalow Revival and Bespoke on 19th Street, is a big fan of Anne's work. "I like to commission a painting of a home I've just completed to give to the homeowners. And they are always thrilled to have an original work of art by Anne."

25 signed and numbered limited edition prints of Anne's rendition of the Fire Station will be on sale during the Home Tour at the Fire Station and at Davis Hardware on Studewood through December. Ornaments will be available at Jubilee on 19th Street. All proceeds benefit the HHA. For private commissions, Anne may be reached at 713-869-8446.

*Ornaments with the design at right, based on the original work above by Anne Reese Hernandez, will be available for purchase during the Holiday Home Tour at the Fire Station, the Reed home, and the Wise home. This boxed Limited Edition will be offered at \$12 each, tax included.*

## Houston Heights Featured In December Issue Of *Texas Highways*

Fort Worth writer (for *Texas Monthly*) June Naylor, who loves to explore Texas' small towns and big cities, recently discovered that Houston Heights offers elements of both, with a "good blend of arts, interesting food, history and grit" (Ryan Pera, Revival Market).

Ms. Naylor set up a home base at Sara's Bed and Breakfast Inn for two full days, where she found she could devour the neighborhood in "bite-size pieces" with plentiful stops for sustenance between antiques shops, boutiques, galleries, and strolling the side streets.

Be sure to pick up the latest issue of *Texas Highways* to read Ms. Naylor's article, Houston Heights Delights. You can also read the article online at <http://www.texashighways.com/component/content/article?id=6579:houston-heights-delights>,



## January General Meeting

### Urban Animals in the Heights

Come, Sit, Speak – at HHA’s January 14 General Meeting at the Houston Heights City Hall & Fire Station, 107 W. 12th Street (at Yale). The doors open at 6:30, and food and refreshments will be served. Humans may accompany their socialized, vaccinated, and leashed pups for an evening featuring companion-animal-related giveaways and treats at booths by local business members and organizations that are both informative and fun. We’ll have a couple of speakers from the area’s animal welfare and rescue groups to talk briefly about how you may help with efforts to control animal overpopulation and end the abuse and neglect.

We hope to see you and yours at this very special meeting. Meeting hosts are Kelly Simmons, Angie Hasara, and Laura Finkeldey.

## Transportation Study Coming To The Heights Area

For the past year, the Transportation Master Plan Committee of the Greater Heights Super Neighborhood Council (GHSNC) has been involved in surveying our area streets and sidewalks, collecting information on traffic volumes, shared-use hike/bike paths, and public transport as well as identifying and codifying issues of concern that currently affect the movement of traffic throughout all the civic association areas that comprise the GHSNC. Up to 50 local volunteers have been involved in this process. It was initiated to prepare our neighborhoods for the inevitable impact of increases in commuter and local traffic over the next decades and to build consensus on what the neighborhoods would prefer in terms of transportation movement patterns in advance of decisions being made by local and state governmental entities.

Now, after GHSNC representatives initiated a series of meetings with Houston City Council Members Cohen and Gonzalez, senior City of Houston staff, and staff of the Houston-Galveston Area Council, the city has agreed, as a priority, to fund a multi-modal transportation study for our area. This is currently being negotiated and should commence in the near future. The work of the volunteers of the Transportation Master Plan Committee and survey information collected will now become valuable input to the city’s transportation study as will the active participation of the GHSNC, all its component civic associations, and the 47,000 residents of our neighborhoods.

The Houston Heights Association is one of about a dozen civic organizations that are stakeholder members of the Greater Heights Super Neighborhood Council. HHA Delegate Mark Williamson is GHSNC Secretary and participated in the meetings.

## Spread Some Cheer: Help With Holiday Food Baskets

The Heights Rotary Club and the Houston Heights Association annually underwrite, prepare, and distribute food baskets to local families in need. These families are chosen by area charities. You can help assemble and distribute the goodies on December 11 and 12. One hundred baskets (actually sets of six bags) will be assembled on the first floor of the Fire Station on the evening of Tuesday, December 11, starting at 5:00 PM. Volunteers will be sorting bulk groceries among the baskets for about two hours; come by whenever you can. This is a great opportunity for the entire family to give back to the community.

Delivery starts after lunch (approximately 11:30-12:00 noon) on Wednesday, December 12. Come by the Fire Station to pick up a set of bags and the name and address of a family to receive them; if you have a large car or van, pick up several! Delivery should be completed that afternoon. If you are interested in lunch, BBQ plates are available for \$10 (cash only) beginning at 11:00 AM. Typically, delivering three baskets takes an hour to an hour and a half.

This is a great way for the whole family to volunteer some time to a very worthy cause. Previous participants can assure you, the smile and sometimes joyous tears on the recipients’ faces make the meaning of this holiday season truly memorable.

...continues on page 6

## Donations

Our thanks to the following donors for their generous support of the programs of the Houston Heights Association.

Another Place in Time –  
Boulevard  
Pam & Todd August –  
Parks, Boulevard/Flower  
Gardens, Fire Station  
Restoration  
Cathy Bauguss – Boulevard  
Katie & Mike Beirne &  
Family  
Robert & Louella Bergeron –  
Fire Station Restoration,  
Flower Gardens  
Ashley & Jeff Day – Parks  
Charlie & Leigh Duke  
– Boulevard/Flower  
Gardens  
Jeffrey & Louise Goetz –  
Parks  
John & Lisa Harrison  
Clarence & Jane Holland –  
Boulevard  
April & Randy Johnson –  
Flower Gardens, Fire  
Station Restoration  
Rita Johnson & Jennifer  
Smart – Boulevard  
Mohammed Khudairi  
Lauren & Lee Lindsay –  
Donovan Park Playground  
McIntyre + Robinowitz  
Architects – Boulevard  
Matt Menger & Sam Steph –  
Boulevard  
Eva Neufeld  
Erik Norris  
Nicole & John Ridgway –  
Boulevard  
Clay & Barb Robinson

*...continues on page 6*

## New Members

Please welcome the following new members to the Houston Heights Association.

Greg & Janel Atwood  
Katie & Mike Beirne &  
Family  
Bruno Brady  
Ghislain Breton  
Billy Bronikowski  
Earl & Lynn Brown  
Butter Catering,  
Graham Gemoets  
Nancy J. Carpenter  
Culturally Creative Travel,  
Kathy Burns  
Reena & Tanmay Desai  
Jones & Cindy Devlin  
Betsy Dillard  
Charlie & Leigh Duke  
Angela Lane & Nick Eoff  
Michael & Grace Freeman  
Marybeth & Matt Gebhauer  
Todd Green &  
Cindy Hutchinson  
Ashlyn & Lyle Hall  
Len Harris  
John & Lisa Harrison  
Larry Hartman &  
Amy Degeest  
Kenneth Hauptman  
Meron & Ivan Henry  
Heritage Oaks School,  
Brenda Gilmore  
George & Sharon Jacobs  
Monica Jiminez  
Julie O'Neill, Realtor Assoc.,  
Martha Turner Properties  
Mohammed Khudairi  
Jill & Lee Kile  
Barbara & Walter Kogut  
Legalshield, Neil McGlone

Michelle & David Liner  
Richard & Trudi Lyon  
Stephen Machorro  
Diane Manning  
Lauren & Pascal Martin  
Eva Neufeld  
Erik Norris  
Paige Martin,  
Broker Associate,  
Keller Williams Properties  
PartayGarage, Paul Reinhardt  
Robert & Linda Peche'  
Molly & Miguel Pena  
Jon & Virginia Pruet  
Kevin Prufer & Mary Hallab  
John & Carolyn Redfield  
Clay & Barb Robinson  
Nichole & Michael Rosburg  
Jamie & Kris Sava  
Laura Rowley & Clint Sepdio  
Christen & Stephen Siegel  
Kathy & Rick Silkworth  
Sharon & T. Smith  
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Kyle & Amy Ward  
Stefanie Weber &  
Stefan Jander  
Jay Wentworth & Joel Brown  
Reed Wingate  
Stephanie Willinger  
Philip & Holly Wright  
Marc Ziegler, Realtor,  
John Daugherty

## Woman's Club Victorian Tea

In just five years, the annual Victorian Tea has become the signature event for the Houston Heights Woman's Club. Held at the historic clubhouse at 1846 Harvard, this event boasts beautiful tablescapes, fancy dress, and homemade savory and sweet treats. The event is a sell-out every year!

The program for the 2012 Victorian Tea, to be held Sunday, December 16, 3:00-5:00 PM, will be a talk from Ars Lyrica's Grammy award winning Musical Director, Matthew Dirst. Mr. Dirst will discuss Baroque music and possibly play a little for attendees.

Tickets are on sale for HHWC members for \$35, for non-members at \$40. Ticket purchases are limited to two per person.

Read *Tea In Texas Magazine's* article about the 5th Annual Victorian Tea at <http://teaintexas.com/2012/01/victorian-tea-celebrated-in-historic-heights/>.

Questions can be directed to Victorian Tea Chairperson Lizz Martin at [HHWC.Tea@gmail.com](mailto:HHWC.Tea@gmail.com). To reserve a spot, send your check to Houston Heights Woman's Club, Victorian Tea, P.O. Box 7782, Houston, TX 77270.

## Santa At The Woman's Club

The Houston Heights Woman's Club is thrilled to invite local families and friends to visit Santa at the Clubhouse (1846 Harvard) on Saturday, December 1, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.

This is a FREE event. Bring your own camera to take photos with Santa. There will be holiday refreshments, a quilt raffle, a small craft to help pass the time, and lots of holiday cheer!

The HHWC will also be collecting non-perishable food items for the Heights Interfaith Ministries Food Pantry at this event. Please consider bringing a can or two to help our neighbors in need this holiday season.



### Donations from page 5

Evin Thayer – Boulevard/  
Flower Gardens, Land  
Use

Donna Thomas  
Reed Wingate – Flower  
Gardens, Donovan Park  
Playground

Lorri White & Karl Ittmann  
– Donovan Park  
Playground, Boulevard

## Santa In Donovan Park

### **Free Photos with Santa**

Marc Zeigler and Mark Holland of John Daugherty, Realtors and the Houston Heights Association are once again hosting Photos with Santa on December 1 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM in Donovan Park. Families are invited to visit with Santa and have their photo taken for free. Each family will be provided with a number and password so that they may download their images from John Daugherty, Realtors' internet site by December 3 – plenty of time to use them for their Holiday Cards. What a fun and friendly way to celebrate the holidays!

### Holiday Food Baskets from page 4

Please help us make the holidays brighter for local families in need. If you are interested in volunteering a couple of hours of time or would like to learn more about this project, contact Scott Lester at 281-894-3270 or email him at [scott.lester@allegiancebktx.com](mailto:scott.lester@allegiancebktx.com).

Happy Holidays!

## Calendar (continued from back cover)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>	January 1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3 - <i>garbage and recycling</i>	4	5 <i>Deadline for next newsletter</i>
6	7 HHA Land Use 6:30 PM Fire Station	8	9	10 - <i>garbage</i>	11	12
13	14 HHA General "Urban Animals" 7:00 PM Fire Station	15 Greater Heights SNC (SN15) 6:30 PM Fire Station	16	17 - <i>garbage and recycling</i>	18	19 <i>electronics recycling, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Center at Harvard</i>
20	21 <i>MLK Day</i> HHA Board 6:30 PM Fire Station	22	23	24 - <i>garbage</i>	25	26
27	28 HHA Education 6:30 PM Fire Station	29	30	31	February 1	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i>

## Community Calendar

*Events planned by other community organizations.*

Every Saturday, 7:00 AM, Heights Running Club meets on the Heights Blvd jogging trail at 7th Street.

Third Tuesdays, 7:00–9:00 PM, Houston Storytellers Guild meets at St. Andrew's House, 1811 Heights Blvd, for a monthly story swap. Anyone is welcome to come listen to or share stories. For more information, [www.houstonstorytellers.org](http://www.houstonstorytellers.org) or 713-643-8478.

December 1–16, 2:00 PM on Saturdays and Sundays, Upstage Theatre hosts *Santa's Magic Timepiece*. See [www.upstagetheatre.org](http://www.upstagetheatre.org).

December 6–22, 8:00 PM on Thursdays through Saturdays, Obsidian Art Space hosts "NSFW: The Office Plays" a series of shorts presented by Big Head Productions, For more information, [www.obsidianartspace.org/nsfw-the-office-plays.html](http://www.obsidianartspace.org/nsfw-the-office-plays.html).

December 9, 7:00 PM, Dr. John Lienhard will speak at 14 Pews about Oscar winner for best foreign film in 1956, *The Burmese Harp*, which will be shown after his presentation. For more information, [www.14pews.com](http://www.14pews.com) or 281-888-9677.

January 24, 8:00 PM, Mercury presents Bach's *Double Concerto* at Gallery M Squared. For more information, please call the Mercury office at 713-533-0080 or visit [www.MercuryHouston.org](http://www.MercuryHouston.org).

## Heavy Trash Notes

December is a "Junk Waste" month; January is a "Tree Waste Only" month. For dates in your immediate area, visit the City Solid Waste site [www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/treewaste.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/treewaste.html).

## Future History

2013:

February 24, Awards Dinner  
April 5–7, Spring Home Tour  
June 1, Heights Fun Run  
October 6, Bicycle Rally  
December 6–7, Holiday Home Tour  
December 9–11, Holiday Food Baskets [tentative dates]

## At The Properties

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

Heights Tai Chi Association meets Saturdays 9:00 AM and Wednesdays at 7:00 PM in Marmion Park, Heights at 18th.

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## Last-Minute Volunteer Opportunity

If you act fast, you may be able to earn a free ticket to the Holiday Home Tour by being a docent at one of the homes on tour or helping elsewhere. Contact Leann Mueller at [holidaytour@houstonheights.org](mailto:holidaytour@houstonheights.org) to see if there are still openings available.

## Calendar of Events for December 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2		(Nov. 29) Holiday Pre-Tour 5:00 PM, Patron Party 7:00 PM	(Nov. 30) HHA Holiday Home Tour 6:00–9:30 PM	1 HHA Holiday Home Tour 3:00–9:00 PM
2	3 HHA Land Use 6:30 PM Fire Station	4 HHA 2013 Board Organizational Meeting 6:30 PM	5 <i>Deadline for next newsletter</i>	6 - <i>garbage and recycling</i>	7	8
9 <i>Hanukkah begins</i>	10 HHA General “Celebration” 7:00 PM Fire Station	11 Holiday Food Basket Preparation, 5:00-7:00, Fire Station. See article, page 4.	12 Holiday Food Basket Distribution, 11:30 AM, Fire Station. See article, page 4.	13 - <i>garbage</i>	14	15 <i>electronics recycling, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Center at Harvard</i>
16	17 no HHA Board meeting in December	18 Greater Heights SNC (SN15) 6:30 PM Fire Station	19	20 - <i>garbage and recycling</i>	21	22
23	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	26 <i>Kwanzaa begins</i>	27 - <i>garbage</i>	28	29 <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>>