

# T H E H E I G H T S

Newsletter of the Houston Heights Association



Volume 42, Number Six, July 2015

## For the young, in age and spirit



Conversation. Connection. Community.

After a brief hiatus, the Houston Heights Urbanites is back. Board member Kenny Terrell, who is young in age and spirit, is the new committee chair and has planned the 2015 Urbanites Summer Kickoff for Thursday, July 9th, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the historic Heights Fire Station at 12th and Yale streets.

The gathering for the social group of young professionals and the young at heart will include complimentary hot dogs and libations (while supplies last). Attendees can also BYOB their favorite beverage. Food trucks will set up in the parking lot to offer desserts. There will also be summertime lawn games such as washers and cornhole.

At this time, Kenny and President-Elect Stacey Courville are in the process of updating the Urbanites website and Facebook. Please check there for additional information and future events.

## Getting ready for the Holiday Home Tour



We are still in the planning phase for this year's Holiday Home Tour! We'd like to invite any interested individuals or potential volunteers to our planning meeting Sunday, July 19th, 4 p.m. at the Fire Station. We'd love to hear your ideas! Or, if you know of a home that would like to be featured we still have some spots open. Contact Kenny Terrell for more information: [kenny@yourblvd.com](mailto:kenny@yourblvd.com) or 713-515-1379.

### Monthly Meeting & Happy Hour

All at the June meeting that featured a Bridal Showcase had a wonderful time. Special thanks to Candy Massoud of Massoud Catering for the incredible buffet that was as gorgeous as it was delicious. Krystal Kirksey and team at Jubilee pulled out all the stops for his and her gifts. Thanks also to "Weddings in Houston" for their gracious hospitality and to Dwayne Ross who displayed his genius as an event planner.

The July mixer and meeting is themed Summer Chills and will be held on Monday, July 13. Kaboom books in the Heights, which carries more than 8,000 titles, as well as Heights Library manager Jennifer Meyers and her team, will be on hand to discuss mysteries, thrillers and great summer reading possibilities.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the program starts at 7 p.m. The FREE monthly mixers and meetings are open to everyone.

## New rates for Constable Program for July-December

The Heights Constable program is a supplemental police force of deputies hired to patrol the greater Heights area. The Houston Heights Association is renewing subscriptions for the program for July 1 through December 31, 2015 and seeking new subscribers. All residents and business owners are strongly encouraged to participate, as the program, which benefits the entire neighborhood, is funded solely by paid subscriptions.

To read more and sign up for the Constable Program, go to: <http://www.houstonheights.org/html/constable.html>

## Fire Station brick orders accepted through July 30

A few more people have requested a personalized brick in the brick courtyard at the Heights Fire Station, but we need a minimum of 20 for the engraver to work his magic. So, we're planning to have another engraving for purchases of new bricks made by July 30th.

Consider for a special tribute for a birth date, wedding or anniversary, memorials for a loved one, date you moved into the Houston Heights, a beloved pet, or a listing of family members.

In addition to creating a lasting tribute, your brick purchase helps support the many neighborhood projects and programs of the Houston Heights Association. Thank you for your order!

More information about the brick project is available at: <http://www.houstonheights.org/html/bricks.html>



*The Houston Heights Association gratefully acknowledges the support of our Summer 2015 Sponsors:*

### Platinum



### Bronze



*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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## Heights Garden Club



As summer heats up the Heights Garden Club promises to take people to visit cool yards.

### July 11, 10am: Shirey Home Garden at 1447 Allston

Mark and John have created a cottage-style garden that flows around the entire house and is reminiscent of the type of garden that would have been planted when their bungalow was new.



Shirey Home Garden

There are annuals, tender perennials, roses and several unique trees along with a foundation of shrubs. It is also a collector's garden with interesting plants tucked in here and there. The brick patio and driveway on the 14th Street side of the house are made from bricks reclaimed from the streets of Galveston.



Shirey Home Garden

### June Yard of the Month – 345 W 16th Street

Congratulations to Melanee Hamilton who has a true green thumb. In her garden you can tell. With limited space she has created a beautiful garden retreat. Along the fence are Aztec grass, boxwoods and a single climbing rose intertwined among the rails. The beds in front of the porch include Indian Hawthornes, Carolina Cherry Laurels, and a cottage-garden mixture of Agapanthus, Knockout roses, Plumbago, Vinca, and Scareola, among others, and Cuban gold Duranta, which really sets off the blooms she has incorporated in the mix. You can see her working in her garden on any given day. No wonder it's as beautiful as it is.

We want to thank Joshua's for donating a gift certificate for the Yard of the Month Award.



June Yard of the Month

A reminder to start collecting seed and dividing plants for the Heights Garden Club Plant and Seed Swap on Thursday, August 6th at 7 p.m. at the Heights Fire Station. As always our events are free and open to all.

## Update, Update, Update

Bill Pellerin, HHA Board member and VP of Community Affairs, forwarded the following City update on the 2014-2015 Historic Preservation Ordinance review. Thanks, Bill, for keeping the community informed about this important matter.

*“After a long period of constant communication regarding the Historic Preservation Ordinance Review Committee discussion, the past month (May) must have seemed quiet to you. In reality, it has been extremely busy for staff as we have spent many hours converting the committee’s recommendations into draft language. It has taken longer than we ever expected.*

*Today, we are within sight of our goal. All of the big recommendations have been drafted and staff is currently reviewing the changes with a fine-toothed comb. We are being very deliberate in this because it is so important that we get it right.*

*Once the draft is made available, we will provide approximately one month’s time for the public to review it and provide comment. If you have any questions, please contact the Planning and Development Department at [historic.ordinance@houstontx.gov](mailto:historic.ordinance@houstontx.gov) or 832-393-6556.”*

# It's a Wrap

After weeks of seemingly endless rainfall and record flooding in the area the sky was clear on Saturday, June 6th for our 30th annual Heights Fun Run. We hosted almost 1,200 runners, plus their supporting family and friends and a host of local businesses that all enjoyed one of Houston's fastest official 5K races and a fun and flavorful after-party in Marmion Park.



Race start

Our local Kroger store at Shepherd and 11th Street continued to be a great neighborhood partner this year, providing almost all of the hundreds of gallons of water needed for the event and Luke's Locker came through with invaluable advice and support. They not only hosted our volunteers for two days at their West Gray store, but also



Runners starting out

provided us with their inflatable start and finish lines.

After-party food donors included:

- Katz Coffee provided the early morning essentials ... hot and iced coffees
- Happy Fatz served breakfast tacos
- Family Fresh Co-op provided a truckload of fresh fruit
- Chloe's Soft Serve Fruit Co. handed out gourmet healthy frozen treats
- PDQ brought out their Food Truck and served their signature hand-breaded chicken tenders



Kids run start

Other local businesses represented included:

- Platinum Sponsors Boulevard Realty and Circa Realty
- Bronze Sponsors Studio Fitness, Alexan Heights and Texas Childrens Pediatrics
- Bungalow Fitness, Sports Clips, District Dental, Massage Heights, Heights of Health, Select Physical Therapy and 2nd to Last resale shop.



Constable Rosen hands out badges

The Run is only possible through the help of countless volunteers, including;

- Packet stuffing: Bill & Hannah White, Laura Menefee, Janet Buchheit, Kelly Kelly, Karen Kayes
- Packet Pick-up: Danae Stephenson, Chris Silkwood, Rita Blanchard, Karen Kayes, Colleen Futz, Stacey Courville, David Leavell, Donna Bennett, Joann Alanis, Andrea Sharp, Diane Easley, Martin Pike, Tim Daponte, Leeann Thierry, Gabriel Thierry, Kathleen Lasco

- Race-Day Set-up & Operations support; Simon Eyles, Mike Easley, Martin Pike, Brian Tamplen, Keith Crane, Matt Bedingfield, Byron Pettit



A runner in a duck costume

- Water Stations: Linda Eyles Design team, Stacey & Mark Courville, Carol & Buddy Welter, Don Chevalier, Bob Weber, Kevin Chenevert, John Taylor, Amanda George, Soraya Bodorff
- Finish line water and kids medals: Bill & Hannah White and their team from Village Heights



One of the race winners

Chairman Damian Ogier offers special thanks to:

- Janet Buchheit, Laura Menefee, Julie Pettit, Angie Hasara, Lauriel Hindman and Stasi Ogier for working their magic behind the scenes
- Kelly Kelly for coordinating vendors and donors on race day and securing incredible donations and door prizes



One of the race winners

- Danae Stephenson for managing Packet Pickup & Race-Day Registration
- Marianne Terrell for managing Race-Day Volunteers
- Simon Eyles for wrangling a raucous crew of muscled men who pitched tents and tables, picked up and delivered water and supplies to the course, and left the park spotless by 10:30 a.m.

For professional photos taken during the event, go to:

[www.raceshots.net](http://www.raceshots.net)



Fun Run volunteers

*Editor's Note: It's no easy task to organize an event the size and complexity of the Heights Fun Run, especially for a volunteer who has a full-time job and a family. Thanks to Damian Ogier for his time and talents in organizing this fundraising event for our community!*

## City offers program to repair sidewalks

On April 15, 2015, the City of Houston took a major step forward in improving sidewalks by establishing a homeowner assistance program. Two approved contractors have agreed to do the work at a set price, thereby eliminating the normal hassles and concerns associated with locating a reputable contractor. While homeowners still have to pay the cost of sidewalk replacement, the City of Houston is going to waive the normal permitting fee. The whole process should make it easier and more affordable for Heightsites to complete much-needed repairs to the public sidewalks.

For more information contact the City of Houston.

## Heights Neighborhood Library Events

There's more than reading going on for adults, children and babies at the Heights branch of the Houston Public Library at the corner of Heights Boulevard and 13th Street.

Activities include baby yoga, laughter yoga for adults, interactive story time, Newbery Book Club for tweens, make and take a craft for teens, just to name a few.

To learn more about the events at the Heights Neighborhood Library, visit <http://houstonlibrary.org/learn-explore/library-events>.

## New Members

*Please welcome these new members to the Houston Heights Association*

Margaret Ferenz  
Ofelia Fernandez & Luisa Parra  
Gina Freeman  
Jonathan & Margaret Humphreys  
Kevin Kenning  
Steve & Jamie Martins  
John Wiley



June Yard of the Month

## Donations

Donna Aversano & Debra Tabor, M.D. - Parks & Boulevard  
Nick Bedford - Boulevard  
Justin & Sita Feinberg - Donovan Playground  
Ofelia Fernandez & Luisa Parra - Flower Gardens  
Suzanne & Paul Haines - Parks, Boulevard, Flower Gardens & Fire Station Restoration  
Judy Hauser - Flower Gardens  
Ken Hoge - Boulevard in honor of Jim Bennett  
Tandy & Ellen Lofland - Flower Gardens  
Daniel & Kelly Mathena - Boulevard  
Clark & Eileen McClellan - Fire Station Restoration  
Jenifer & Mike Moore - Parks & Boulevard  
Simon & Carlotta Pedroza - Parks & Boulevard  
Agustin & Veronica Presas - Donovan Playground & Boulevard  
Sharee & Dana Robertson - Flower Gardens  
William & Deborah Schroeter - Boulevard  
Bob Weber & Elida Phillips - Boulevard  
Janet Younker - Parks

## 10th Annual Bicycle Rally & Scavenger Hunt scheduled

We are excited to announce that Bill White will be chairing the 10th annual Bicycle Rally & Scavenger Hunt. This year's event will take place on Sunday, October 4.



The rally is open to riders of all ages and designed as a casual, self-paced ride. Entrants can choose between a 20-mile course through the Heights and near-by neighborhoods, or a shorter five-mile ride designed for kids and their adult companions—OR DO BOTH—starting and finishing at Marmion Park, 18th Street and Heights Boulevard.

After completing the ride, participants can celebrate at Marmion Park for the Post Ride Party and Awards Ceremony with entertainment, fabulous door prizes, and great refreshments including picnic fare, beverages and more!

Mark your calendars. Have your bicycle checked to make sure it is in good condition. Purchase a new helmet, if necessary. And get ready to have fun!



# Calendar of Events for August 2015 (continued from back cover)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
August						1
2	3 HHA Land Use 6:30 PM Fire Station	4 PIP meeting 7:00 PM 1602 State Street	5	6 - garbage Heights Garden Plant/Seed Swap 7:00 PM Fire Station	7 Deadline for next newsletter	8
9	10 HHA General 7:00 PM Fire Station	11	12- heavy trash	13 - garbage and recycling	14	15
16	17 HHA Board 6:30 PM Fire Station	18	19	20- garbage	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 - garbage and recycling	28	29
30	31					

## Community Calendar

*Events planned by other community organizations*

Every Saturday, 7:00AM, Heights Running Club will meet on the Heights Boulevard jogging trail at 7th Street. The club will continue its summer hours through August. To be added to the weekly distribution list contact [Meghan.olds@gmail.com](mailto:Meghan.olds@gmail.com).

First and third Thursdays, 7:30 PM, English Country Dancing in the Heights, dances taught and called. For more information, email [jnjbloom@gmail.com](mailto:jnjbloom@gmail.com) or visit <http://www.hatds.org/index.php?page=ecd>



## 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 has been moved to [www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/serviceschedulesandneighborhoodservice-maps](http://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/serviceschedulesandneighborhoodservice-maps)

## Future History

October 4, Bicycle Ride & Scavenger Hunt

December 4-5, Holiday Home Tour

December 15-16, Holiday Food Baskets [tentative dates]

February 28, 2016, Awards Dinner

June 4, 2016, Fun Run [tentative date]

## At The Properties

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

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

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## Calendar of Events for July 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July			1	2 - garbage and recycling	3	4 Independence Day
5	6 HHA Land Use 6:30 PM Fire Station	7 PIP meeting 7:00 PM 1602 State Street	8	9 - garbage HH Urbanites 5:30 PM Fire Station	10 Deadline for next newsletter	11 Heights Garden Club 10:00 AM 1447 Allston St
12	13 HHA General 7:00 PM Fire Station Summer Chills	14	15	16 - garbage and recycling	17	18
19 Home Tour Mtg 4:00 PM Fire Station	20 HHA Board 6:30 PM Fire Station	21	22- tree waste	23 - garbage	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 - garbage and recycling Brick Engraving Deadline	31	continued within

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

HHA web site: [www.houstonheights.org](http://www.houstonheights.org)