

T H E H E I G H T S

Newsletter of the Houston Heights Association



Volume 42, Number Nine, September 2015

Gearing up for the Bike Rally



Bill White, committee chair for the 10th Annual Bike Rally & Scavenger hunt, along with his committee, are working hard to get ready for this year's event that will take place on Sunday, Oct. 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!

Labor Day Weekend Fun

Chill with Cool Music and a Cold One!

Celebrate Labor Day early with a free concert at beautiful Marmion Park, located on Heights Boulevard at 18th Street, complete with a complimentary "cold one" - ice cream that is - on Sunday, September 6!

The Houston Heights Association will host a Concert/Ice Cream Social from 6-8 p.m. Music will feature the pop/folk sounds of the Heights' own Bruce Hansen and The Racket.

We'll have a variety of ice cream treats, along with water and lemonade, for you. Plus, you're welcome to bring a cooler with your own beverages. Don't forget your blankets and lawn chairs!

It will be a great time to relax and chill in the 'hood, meet your neighbors, and enjoy one of the special places in our neighbor-

...continues on page 2

MONTHLY MEETING & HAPPY HOUR

Back to School

Attendees at the August 10 general meeting enjoyed listening to an informative program. that provided the 411 on bicycles. The speakers discussed trails, security, safety and more.

The September 14 Happy Hour begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Heights Fire Station. You can mingle and meet before the program starts at 7 p.m. School will just have started, and you'll have the opportunity to meet area school principals. This program is being coordinated by the Education Committee.

The FREE monthly mixers and meetings are open to everyone. As always, you can learn about the Houston Heights Association projects and parks at the Welcome Table.

Labor Day Weekend from page 1 hood that your HHA membership dues and our neighborhood fundraising support.

Bring your family and friends to this fun event!

August Garden of the Month –

619 E. 16th Street

Stephanie and David Boram strive to provide a garden that is welcoming to bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. The garden contains Plumbago, as well as Lantana, Sages, ornamental grasses, and several flowering vines, and shrubs. The calliandra (powder puff) is currently flowering profusely. A Dutchman’s Pipevine and Passion vine are



August Garden of the Month



August Garden of the Month

planted which attract the Swallowtail and Gulf Coast Fritillary butterflies, respectively.

The Borams, in addition to having a lovely garden, are environmentally conscious and have installed a rainwater collection system that sustains the garden by drip watering.

Congratulations to David and Stephanie for creating such a beautiful flowering garden sustained on low water usage.

The Garden Club would like to thank Buchanan’s Native Plants for donating a gift certificate for the August Yard of the Month Award.

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

Platinum

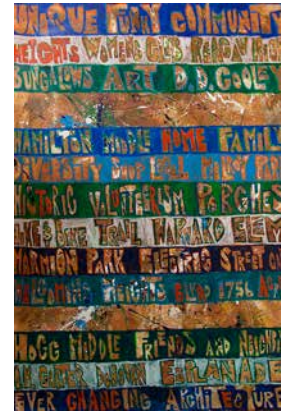


Diamond



Very Special, Very Limited Prints!

Taft McWhorter, the 2015 Spring Home Tour artist, is allowing HHA to sell 10 unframed limited edition signed and numbered prints of his original artwork that was sold at the 2015 Candlelight Dinner & Auction. Each will be sold for \$350, with the total sales price going to HHA. Please email auction@houstonheights.org.



“The Heights”
by Taft McWhorter

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

Copyright © 2015, the Houston Heights Association and/or the authors unless otherwise noted.

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.

VP of Communications..... Julie Pettit
Editor..... Julie Pettit
Design & Layout..... Kate Cairoli
Web Layout..... Caroline Truong

July contributors:

Stacey Courville, Angela DeWree, Lauriel Hindman, Bill Pellerin, Julie Pettit, Kathy Tarazoff, Bill White, Mark Williamson

Heights Garden Club



The next scheduled meeting of the Garden Club is on Saturday, September 12, 10 a.m. at the Butler Home and Garden Tour located at 435 W 18th Street. This gathering is free and open to everyone.

Denise Butler's garden scape was designed by Jeff Law of Kabloom Landscaping and was recently featured on KHOU's Debra Duncan show. Jeff's challenge was to convert a small backyard dominated by an unattractive hot tub into an eye-catching and personal outdoor living space that he accomplished with his unique flare.

The spa, which could not be removed, was incorporated into a multi-level seating arrangement. The outdoor kitchen repurposes unique pieces that Denise's grandmother collected and there are shelves designed for displaying Denise's geode and fossil collection.

Jeff will be there to give a short talk with tips about how to personalize your garden space.

The meeting on October 10 will be at the M.D. Anderson Prairie

Garden, which is a native prairie reconstruction located at the southeast corner of Holcombe and Fannin in the heart of the Texas Medical Center. The project is led by M.D. Anderson Cancer Center with project support from Katy Prairie Conservancy and other conservation groups.

The prairie is a living nursery, wildlife habitat, and a peaceful respite for both caregivers and families undergoing cancer treatment. Additionally, the prairie serves as an urban ecology station where ecologists are tracking wildlife colonizing this pocket of nature.



MD Anderson Prairie

Jaime Gonzalez, Conservation Education Director for the Katy Prairie Conservancy, will lead this tour of the prairie garden. Please join us to learn how these pocket prairies benefit our urban landscapes and our own gardens.

Because of parking challenges in the Medical Center we will plan to carpool from the Heights. There will be some parking available of which we will have more details in the next newsletter. The Dryden/TMC light rail stop is also nearby.

For more information about the

garden club, go to:
www.heightsgardenclub.com

You can also email:
info@heightsgardenclub.com or
gardenclub@houstonheights.org

Update on Historic District Ordinance By Bill Pellerin, chair, Houston Heights Land Use Committee

Recommended changes to the City of Houston Historic Preservation ordinance were presented in a public meeting on July 22, 2015 at the City Hall Annex. Some citizens from the Heights area were able to attend that meeting, and the video of that meeting (74 minutes) is now available online at:

<http://houstontx.swagit.com/play/07232015-1005>

The meeting began with a presentation by Margaret Wallace-Brown, Deputy Director of the City of Houston Planning and Development department. She reviewed the changes proposed to the ordinance resulting from 13 public meetings of the special committee, addressing more than 20 issues. You can find a link to the summary of the changes, as well as a redline document with the details of the changes here:
<http://houstontx.gov/planning/historic-preservation/Historic-Preservation-Ordinance-Review>

The revisions are to be considered by City Council in September, although the date for a vote by Council has not been determined.

At the Heights Library

Heights Neighborhood Library will be closed on Monday, September 7 in observance of Labor Day.



Did you know that free online tutoring services are available on the Houston Public Library (HPL) at www.houstonlibrary.org? Live Online Homework Help is available for kindergarten to adult learners. Get help with science, math, writing, social studies, reading and much more. Live tutor chat help is available Monday - Sunday, 2-11p.m.. All other services are available 24/7. Services can be accessed through library computers, at home, or anywhere remotely with an Internet connection. A valid HPL MY Link Library Card is required.

Our neighborhood Heights library offers programs for children, teens and adults on various topics. For a complete list of September activities and events, go to: www.houstonlibrary.org

Director Election Schedule

For a complete list of the current directors see the August issue of "The Heights." Remove the list of directors on pages 5 & 6.

Five of the fifteen positions on the HHA Board of Directors will be filled by election over the next few months. See the right column for a list of current Directors.

The schedule for the election of Directors to serve terms starting in 2016 will be as follows, in accordance with the By-Laws and Policies of the Association.

- September 14 at the General Meeting, the floor will be opened for nominations to the Board of Directors. Nominators and nominees must be current members of the Association. Nominators may speak for two minutes. Please be sure before you nominate someone that your nominee will commit to serve. Individuals may not nominate themselves, nor may nominees speak on their own behalf at this meeting. Seconding speeches are no longer necessary.

- By Wednesday, September 16, the Election Committee will distribute to nominees election packets containing bylaws, policies, articles of incorporation, committee responsibility list, detailed election schedule, and a statement confirming that the nominee has read the bylaws and policies and agrees to serve in accordance with them if elected.

- By 5:00 PM on the Friday following the General Meeting (September 18), signed statements from nominees are due, as well as a 50-word (maximum) statement from each nominee for publication in the October newsletter and on the website. Statements longer than 50 words (as counted by Microsoft Word) will be truncated after the fiftieth word when published.

- October 12 at the General Meeting, nominees or their representatives may speak on their qualifications for three minutes. They will also draw for ballot positions at the beginning of the meeting.

- By the Friday following the General Meeting (October 16) the Election Committee will mail a ballot with a control number to each member in good standing whose dues are currently paid as of October 1. (Members invoiced by August 15 and not paid by October 1 are deemed not in good standing.)

- Ballots must be received by Saturday, November 7, at the close of the U. S. Post Office, with control numbers intact.

- November 9, before the General Meeting, polls will be open for secret balloting in person from 6-7 p.m. sharp.

The Election Committee, which is chaired by Robert Woods, will tabulate ballots and announce the results during the meeting. The results will also be published in the December newsletter.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Bicycle Rally and Scavenger Hunt

The 10th annual Heights Bicycle Rally & Scavenger Hunt will take place on Sunday, Oct. 4.

Volunteers are needed to help on ride day with:

- check in
- packet pickup
- staffing the water stations
- assist with scoring and prizes at the Rally Party

Volunteer shifts are 3 hours between 7:45 am - 4:45 pm.

To volunteer please email volunteer@houstonheights.org.

Newsletter Layout

The editor is looking for a new volunteer to do the monthly layout. If you are interested and have experience with InDesign, please contact Julie Pettit: editor@houstonheights.org

Reading Tutors Needed

Have you been trying to find something to do with your Tuesday and Thursday mornings during the school year? Do you want to give back to the community? Well, there is something you can do with your time that is both rewarding and beneficial to others.

Volunteers are needed to tutor 1st graders who require additional help in reading at Harvard Elementary here in the Heights. The program is called "Project Read." All the instructional materials are provided for the tutors.

You can commit to tutoring one morning or both mornings per week between 8-10 a.m. If you are interested, please contact Joyce Worthington, 713-862-4647.

Urbanites



The large number of Urbanites gathered at John Palmer Art Gallery & Studio on Heights Boulevard before White Linen Night on Saturday, August 1. If you're interested in finding out more about the Urbanites, join them on September 6 at the free concert in Marmion Park. For more information, see the related article "Labor Day Weekend Fun" on page 3 of this newsletter. Be sure to bring your blanket or lawn chair! Remember that the Urbanites are people young in age and heart!



Opera in the Heights

By Carol Brejt



Opera in the Heights (Oh!) kicks off its 20th anniversary season with Leoncavallo's *I Pagliacci* (The Clowns) on Sept. 18, one of several inspired works in the company's 2015 -2016 repertoire. *I Pagliacci* runs Sept. 18, 24 and 26 at 7:30 p.m. and Sept. 20 at 2 p.m. and is an enduring tale of jealousy and rage between lovers in a comedy troupe. Art imitates life with fatal results in this iconic tragedy, featuring the famous tenor aria, *Vesti la giubba* ("Put on the costume").

To create additional excitement for the new season, on Sept. 10 Oh! will host *Overture!*, a fund raiser/cocktail reception from 6 - 8 p.m. at Tommie Vaughn Ford, 1201 N. Shepherd Dr., which is open to members of the community, with tickets starting at \$40. (Funds will help support Opera in the Heights community programs.) Guests will mingle with Oh! conductor Eiki Isomura, take in performances by some of the company's rising stars and enjoy beverages and appetizers.

New Members

Please welcome new members to the Houston Heights Association

Barron & Adler, LLP
Ike Akanu & Linda Martinez
Enrique & Alessandra Albin
Amanda & Rich Anhorn, Greenwood King Properties
Sami & Kenia Artuk
Azaria & Christina Azene
Braden Realty, Juston Braden
Laura Brasher
Dara Browning
Steve & Eva Burke
John & Neda Campbell
Charlotte Christman
Mark & Joanna Covington
Chad & Jean Cross
Amanda & Scott Dayer
Veronica DeHoyos
Kathleen & Jeremy DeLaHoussaye
Dawn & Richard Denne
Scott & Rhianna Disch
Tricia Farris & Thomas Parger
Hatti & Malcolm Finlayson
Tim Fischer & Jonathan Russell
Henry Flores & Alicia Smith
Edward & Rachel Folse
Kate & Stephen Fowler
Timothy & Kim Gandler
Carol Gardner & Miguel Mednez
Goosehead Insurance-The Heights Agency, Matt Colby
Jennifer Grove
Michelle Harris
Shawn, Tom, Amanda Haynes
David Heck
Heights AC & Heating, Thomas & Sarah Perez
Allison Heinen
Lauren & Michael Herrera
Irma Y. Jalifi
John R. Bonica, PC
Richard Johnston
Amy Jones & Julio Gomez
Chris Jones
Kellie & Jeremy Jordan
Tuesday Kaasch & Fernando Diego
Julia Kenyon
Priti & Michael Kerby
Kim & John Kilbride
Daniel Kinsey
Megan Koudelka
Kathy R. Lami

Raoul & Deborah LeBlanc
David & Michelle Liner
Clayton & Abigail Luskie
Andrea Marcogliese
David & Cecilia Martinez
Chris & Lacey McCafferty
Tim McGhee
Carlos Moran
Georgia & Robert Morgan
Mike Morrison
Scott & Leigh Murphy
Michael & Andrea Oholendt
Arzu Ozoguz
Tomas & Rachel Paez
Sarah Peck
Rachel & Chris Powers
Alisha Praznik
Shawna Reagin
Sarah J. Salisbury
Greg & Becky Sandberg
Erynn & Thomas Scollard
Ketria Scott
Irgan & Amanda Shaikh
Sedef & Jason Smith
Viktoria Soto
Stephanie McClimon, Realtor
Kim Stilwell & Charles Johnson
Richard & Julie Strouse
The Mouer Law Firm, Andy Mouer
David Thorley
John & Kim Tipton
Christine & Matteo Trucco
Jena & Reese Turner
United Sales & Services, Michael Przechalski
Amanda & Max van Adrichem
Egon van der Hoeven & Hedwig Jacobs
Eliseo Venecia
Matt & Meredith Villere
Ian & Lisa Vollers
Denise & Robert Wall
Nancy Webb
Peter Weidler & Diana Galindo
Kelly White
Sally Willcox
Christopher Williams & Jillian Mann
Inga Zaretskiy

Donations

Enrique & Alessandra Albin
Donna & Mike Andrich - Parks
Sara & Charles Bonario - Boulevard
Steve & Eva Burke - Fire Station Restoration
John & Neda Campbell - Boulevard
Maura & Craig Cannon - Boulevard

CenterPoint Energy for volunteer Janet Buchheit - Fire Station Restoration
Dawn & Richard Denne
Dramatika - Parks, Boulevard, Flower Gardens, & Fire Station Restoration
Tim Fischer & Jonathan Russell - Boulevard
Henry Flores & Alicia Smith - Fire Station Restoration
Walt Foody & Judy Irvine - Parks & Boulevard
Javier Garcia, Jr. & Patrick Nguyen - Boulevard
Carol Gardner & Miguel Mednez - Boulevard
Caroline & Jeff Gardner - Flower Gardens
Carvel Glenn - Boulevard
Shawn, Tom, Amanda Haynes
Richard Johnston - Boulevard
Chris Jones - Boulevard
Kathy R. Lami - Boulevard
Chris LaRue - Flower Gardens
Raoul & Deborah LeBlanc - Flower Gardens
Tim McGhee
Tom & Dana Nelson - Donovan Playground
Michael & Andrea Oholendt - Donovan Playground
Tomas & Rachel Paez - Donovan Playground
Katie Pearson & Chevron Matching Employee Fund - Donovan Playground
Sarah Peck
Les Shirman & Vickie Longwill - Parks & Boulevard
Ashleigh & Donald Rickertsen - Parks
Craig Shumaker - Parks, Boulevard, Flower Gardens, Fire Station Restoration
Kate & Rich Smith - Parks, Boulevard
Taft Broadcasting Co., LLC - Boulevard
Curt Taylor - Parks & Boulevard
Greg & Mary Beth Thomas - Boulevard
John & Kim Tipton - Boulevard
Eliseo Venecia - Donovan Playground
Maggi Walker - Boulevard in memory of Rita Johnson
Darrell & Sondra Warner - Flower Gardens
Nancy & Phil Wedemeyer - Donovan Playground
Sally Willcox
David & Joyce Worthington - Flower Gardens
Inga Zaretskiy - Donovan Playground

Calendar of Events for October 2015 (continued from back cover)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October				1 - garbage	2 Deadline for next newsletter	3
4 Bicycle Ride & Scavenger Hunt	5 HHA Land Use 6:30 PM Fire Station	6 PIP meeting 7:00 PM 1602 State Street	7	8 - garbage and recycling	9	10 Heights Garden Club 10:00 AM MD Anderson
11	12 HHA General 7:00 PM Fire Station	13	14	15 - garbage	16	17 Annual Gift of Trees Fire Station
18	19 HHA Board 6:30 PM Fire Station	20	21 - heavy trash	22- garbage and recycling	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 - garbage	30	31

Community Calendar

Events planned by other community organizations

Every Saturday, 7:00 AM, Heights Running Club will meet on the Heights Boulevard jogging trail at 7th Street. The club will continue its summer hours through September. 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, dances taught and called. For more information, email jnjbloom@gmail.com or visit <http://www.hatds.org/index.php?page=ecd>

Opera in the Heights will be starting a new season with I Pagliacci, which runs Sept. 18, 24 and 26 at 7:30 p.m. and Sept. 20 at 2 p.m. On Sept. 10 Oh! will host Overture!, a fund raiser/cocktail reception from 6 - 8 p.m. at Tommie Vaughn Ford, 1201 N. Shepherd Dr.



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/serviceschedules-and-neighborhood-service-maps

Future History

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.

Mark Your Calendars

The Urban Forestry Committee will present the Heights Annual Gift of Trees on Saturday, October 17 at Historic Heights Fire Station. More information will be available in next month's newsletter.

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

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
 US POSTAGE PAID
 HOUSTON, TX
 PERMIT NO 2995

Return Service Requested

Calendar of Events for September 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September		1 PIP meeting 7:00 PM 1602 State Street	2	3 - garbage	4 Deadline for next newsletter	5
6 Concert & Ice Cream Social 6:00 PM Marmion Park	7 HHA Land Use 6:30 PM Fire Station	8	9	10 - garbage and recycling	11	12 Heights Garden Club 10:00 AM 435 W 18th St
13	14 HHA General 7:00 PM Fire Station <i>Back to School</i>	15	16 - tree waste	17 - garbage	18	19
20	21 HHA Board 6:30 PM Fire Station	22	23	24 - garbage and recycling	25	26
27	28	29	30			

continued within

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

HHA web site: www.houstonheights.org