2016 Holiday Patron Party
7:00–10:00 PM, Thursday, December 1
Heights Fire Station

Don your 1950’s themed or Holiday attire and join us for live music and gourmet hors d’oeuvres and desserts as we kick off this year’s Holiday Home Tour: Jingle Bell Block! This year the event is BYOB, but we will have all your favorite mixers. Tickets include admission to the Holiday Home Tour and a special limited edition HHA Holiday ornament (only available with a patron party ticket!). This party is a delightful way to kick-off the holiday season while supporting the HHA!

For tickets or more information, visit www.houstonheights.org/html/holiday_party.html

2016 Holiday Home Tour
“Jingle Bell Block”

This year’s HHA Holiday Home Tour will feature six beautiful homes on the 1300 block of Cortlandt bedecked for the holidays with musicians, carolers, and special treats adding to the festivities. Tour hours are 6:00–9:00 PM on Friday, December 2; 3:00–9:00 PM on Saturday, December 3.

Tickets to the Holiday Home Tour will be $20 in advance, $25 on the days of the tour. Tickets will be available through tour days at three Heights-area locations: Buchanan’s Native Plants, 611 E. 11th; Jubilee, 325 W. 19th; and August Antiques, 803 Heights Boulevard. Tickets may also be ordered online through our website until 5:00 PM on December 1 and picked up at the “will call” table at the Houston Heights Fire Station, 107 West 12th Street, beginning one hour before tour time on both Friday and Saturday. ...continues on page 3

MONTHLY MEETING & HAPPY HOUR

Meet new neighbors and friends on the second Monday of the month at the historic Heights Fire Station at 12th and Yale. The socializing starts at 6:30 PM; the meeting begins at 7:00 PM.

Attendees at the November 14 meeting heard from a number of HHA business members, many of whom offered door prizes. HHA election results were reported. (Election results appear on page 2.)

December 12: Holiday Fun
Join us for our annual free celebration of the holiday season.

January 9: Heights School Fair
The Education Committee is inviting principals from area schools to tell us about their programs and how the community can assist them in achieving their goals at our January meeting. (See page 3 for more from the Education Committee.)
Election Results

At the November general meeting, the Election Committee announced the results of the HHA election of Directors to serve starting in 2017. Neal Cannon, Kevin Chenevert, Danae Stephenson, Heather Williams, and Mark Williamson will serve three-year terms. Robert Woods will serve a one-year term.

Our thanks go to all the candidates, and to each of our current Directors continuing their terms into 2017, for their willingness to serve. Our appreciation also goes to Janet Buchheit, Stacey Courville, and Bill Pellerin as they complete their current terms of service this year and rotate off of the Board.

The Houston Heights Association gratefully acknowledges the support of our Winter 2016-2017 Sponsors:

Platinum

2017 HHA Board

Bill Baldwin (2018)
Matt Bedingfield (2017)
Neal Cannon (2019)
Kevin Chenevert (2019)
Sharon Dearman (2018)
Angela Dewree (2018)
Laura Menefee (2017)
Damian Ogier (2018)
Danae Stephenson (2019)
Kenny Terrell (2017)
Carol Welter (2017)
Heather Williams (2019)
Mark Williamson (2019)
Robert Woods (2017)

(Number in parentheses indicates the end of the director's term.)

The 2017 Board will elect the 2017 officers and set 2017 meeting dates at its Organizing Meeting.
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 13 and 14.

One hundred baskets (actually sets of six bags) will be assembled on the first floor of the Fire Station (12th & Yale) on the evening of Tuesday, December 13, 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 AM) on Wednesday, December 14. 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, plates are available for $10 (cash only) beginning at 11:00 AM. Typically, delivering three baskets (to three families) takes an hour.

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

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@allegiancebank.com.

Happy Holidays!

Notes From The Education Committee

by Anne Sloan and Emily Cole, Co-Chairs of the Education Committee.

Christmas greetings from HHA’s Education Committee. We want to update HHA members on what has been accomplished during the Fall of 2016. HHA has given our area schools the following: books for their libraries, instruments for middle school and high school bands, and funding for elementary school literacy, science, nutrition, and music programs. HHA’s contributions totaled $13,000 for Fall 2016.

The schools thank HHA for their generous funding of these programs and needed items. At the January 9 General Meeting, we will welcome the principals of these schools to present their schools’ goals for 2017. Please come and meet and greet these dedicated educators and learn about their schools’ programs and how they feel our community can assist them in achieving their goals.

Holiday Home Tour from page 1

Tickets will also be sold at the Fire Station on tour days. No tickets will be sold at the homes. Tickets will not be mailed.

Tour headquarters will be the Fire Station. Visitors can explore the renovated 100-year-old building and board a shuttle for the short ride to the Jingle Bell Block. Because parking can be limited at the homes, we encourage you to park at or near the Fire Station and ride the shuttle.

For more information, email holidaytour@houstonheights.org, visit www.houstonheights.org/html/holiday_tour.html, or call 713-861-4002 and select option 6.
Community Improvement Awards
Submit your nomination here!
by Brie Kelman, Community Improvement Award Chair

Greetings from your Community Improvement Award chair! I now have one year under my belt chairing this award, which is quite the honor. My 99-year-old grandmother always said: “The only things certain in life are death, taxes, and change.” While not all changes are necessarily good, I am proud to help celebrate the many improvements to our neighborhood, made by our fellow friends and neighbors.

This is where we need your help: please take a look around and send in a nomination when you think “Wow, look at that new/renovated house or business — it makes the Houston Heights an even better place than it was before.” The 4 categories are: Commercial New Construction, Commercial Renovation, Residential New Construction, and Residential Renovation.

We will be accepting nominations through January 12, 2017. The Nomination Form is in the print edition of this newsletter and on the HHA website at www.houstonheights.org/pdf/16CIAform.pdf. New this year, we are also accepting online submissions; visit www.houstonheights.org/html/com_community.html for the new electronic submission option!

Finalists will be selected based on the Nomination Form and before and after exterior photographs. The judges will personally view all the Finalist properties, and the winners will be selected. All Finalists will be invited to the HHA Volunteer Appreciation and Awards Dinner in February, where the winners will be announced. Reminder: the judges can only consider exterior improvements!

Next time you see a special home or business that was recently renovated or constructed, one that makes you slow down and say, “Now that’s a nice change!” please send it in. We look forward to hearing from you and continuing to celebrate the great things that our neighbors are doing to make the Heights an even better place to live!

Photo Book Launched

Houston Heights historian and author Anne Sloan signed copies of her new book Houston Heights (Images of Modern America) during a celebration Sunday, November 13 at the Fire Station. Many long-time Heights residents attended, including HHA founding member Melvalene Cohen.

The book features photos from the HHA archives and from many generous neighbors, with accompanying text by Anne. Copies will be available for purchase at the Fire Station for $22 on the days of the Holiday Home Tour. The book is also available on the HHA website at www.houstonheights.org for $25, which includes postage and handling.

The Houston Heights Association thanks Anne for her generosity in supporting our neighborhood projects and programs through the sale of this book! Proceeds from all book sales will benefit the Houston Heights Association, with those sold through HHA and neighborhood signings providing even greater proceeds for our neighborhood.

Melvalene Cohen and Anne Sloan photos by Chris Daigle

Author Anne Sloan during the signing
Yale Green Corridor Recognized

The Houston Heights Association’s Urban Forestry Committee was recognized last month for its efforts spearheading the nomination process to establish Yale Street between 6th and 19th Streets as the City of Houston’s first Green Corridor. The project received a Certificate of Recognition at the 32nd Mayor’s Proud Partner Luncheon, put on by Keep Houston Beautiful. Two members of the steering committee attended the luncheon to receive the certificate.

The principal honoree at the November 3 event was Jim (Mattress Mack) McIngvale of Gallery Furniture. Closer to our area, Garden Oaks Montessori received a Proud Partner Award for “Urban Harvest @ Garden Oaks Montessori,” Friends of Woodland Park received a Certificate of Recognition for “Connecting the Past to the Present – An Historic Replica Trolley at Woodland Park,” and First Ward Civic Council was recognized for “Houston Ave Neighborhood Mosaic Wall.”

Keep Houston Beautiful is the city’s leading organization in beautification, litter reduction, and recycling education. For over 35 years, Keep Houston Beautiful has been reaching out to all segments of our community to educate and empower individuals to take greater responsibility for beautifying and enhancing Houston’s environment. Every year’s successes have created a cleaner and healthier city for all Houstonians.

News From The City of Houston

Next Historic District Design Guidelines Meeting — December 1

The City of Houston’s ongoing Historic District Design Guidelines project continues Thursday, December 1, with a community workshop from 6:00 to 8:30 PM at the United Way Community Resource Center, 50 Waugh Drive, Houston, Texas.

This will be the second workshop conducted by consultants from Winter & Company, who are currently developing guidelines for seven historic districts: Houston Heights East, Houston Heights West, Houston Heights South, Freeland, Old Sixth Ward, Norhill, and Woodland Heights. All property owners in these seven historic districts are welcome and encouraged to attend.

This workshop will help property owners prepare to give informed, meaningful feedback on a Visual Preference Survey, which every property owner will receive in January 2017. Consultants from Winter & Company will explain the various design tools that might be used to achieve the goals for each district, as well as the factors that make additions and new construction compatible with existing buildings. All information will be presented in an easy-to-understand way, and reference materials will be available online prior to the meeting. The workshop will also include one or two exercises designed to help the consultants further understand what the property owners in each district feel are compatible with their specific district. The workshop exercises will be made available online for those who are not able to attend.

Please visit the project webpage before the meeting to find links to the informative materials, and again after the meeting to find links to the online exercises. More information about the project and previous activities can also be found on the project webpage, [www.houstontx.gov/planning/HistoricPres/Design-Guidelines-Heights.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/planning/HistoricPres/Design-Guidelines-Heights.html).
Donations

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

Paul & Stephanie Babb — Parks, Boulevard, Flower Gardens, Fire Station Restoration
Jane Bryant — Parks, Boulevard, Flower Gardens
Merin & William Guthrie — Flower Gardens
Karl Ittmann & Lorri White — Donovan Playground
Elizabeth & Ross King — Parks, Boulevard
Jim & Doris Murdock — Boulevard
Cliff Nash & Lee Bar-Eli — Donovan Playground, Boulevard
Tomas & Rachel Paez — Flower Gardens
John & Carolyn Redfield — Boulevard
Noelle & Eric Reed — Donovan Playground, Boulevard
John Ridgway — Boulevard
Karen Selmo — Parks
Jennifer Smart — Flower Gardens
Meredith & Matt Villere — Donovan Playground
Loring P. White & Susan Guidry — Boulevard
Heather & Glenn Williams — Donovan Playground, Flower Gardens
Blair Woodall & Henry Pogorzelski — Parks, Boulevard, Flower Gardens, Fire Station Restoration

New Members

Please welcome these members to the Houston Heights Association.

Kelsey & William Bigelow
Brett Zamore Design
Bonnie Chan & Yann Fischer
Annamarie Dober
Double H Quilts, Janet Haughey
Ray Drexler & Stephanie St. Jean
Houston Area Youth Council on Service
I.T. Results, llc, Sam Bass
Natalie & Vincent Jaywardene
Cecilia Kenneally & Luke McCosker
Leading Ladies
R. W. McKinney, II
Jayme & Kevin Reuter
Kinan & Bahar Romman
Grant & Christina Sovereign
Maggie & Greg Sheridan
Sigmon Law, PLLC, Dustin Sanchez
Mary & Keith Thompson
Urban Jungle Self Defense, Michelle Torres-Aponte
Scott & Karin Williams

Constable Patrol

Sign-Up Time

While you have your checkbook out or your browser open to buy Holiday Home Tour or Holiday Party tickets or a photo book, think about signing up for the 2017 Constable Patrol Program. Remember, the additional patrolling is only made available because of funding through subscribers.

Paid subscribers have a direct phone contact with the Precinct 1 dispatcher for a quicker response time to any calls or reports of suspicious activity, either by the deputy on patrol or a nearby deputy. A paid subscription also comes with vacation watch services, special watches for unusual circumstances, and free home security inspections.

Visit www.houstonheights.org/html/constable.html to get more information and sign up. A subscription form was included in the paper edition of the November issue.

Work on the new Yale Street bridge over White Oak Bayou is proceeding. Thanks to Rich Anhorn for this photo of reinforcing rods laid down in mid-November.
**Calendar (continued from back cover)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 1, 2017</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5 - garbage</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Years Day</td>
<td>HHA Land Use</td>
<td>PIP Meeting</td>
<td>Deadline for next newsletter</td>
<td>- garbage</td>
<td>Heights Garden Club</td>
<td>- heavy trash (tree waste in odd months)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>HHA Land Use</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Fire Station</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>1602 State Street</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>HHA General “School Fair”</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Fire Station</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>1602 State Street</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>12 - garbage and recycling</td>
<td>19 - garbage</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>HHA Board</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Fire Station (tentative date)</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>1602 State Street</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>18 - heavy trash (tree waste in odd months)</td>
<td>19 - garbage</td>
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**Community Calendar**

*Events planned by other community organizations*

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

December 10, 6:30–9:00 PM, Woodland Heights Civic Association presents Lights In The Heights on Bayland and Woodland Avenues betwen Studewood and Beauchamp. For more information, visit [www.woodland-heights.org](http://www.woodland-heights.org).

December 16–18, Opera in the Heights presents Concierto de Invierno at 1703 Heights Blvd. For more information or tickets, call 713-861-5303 or visit [www.operaintheheights.org](http://www.operaintheheights.org).

February 3–11, Opera in the Heights presents Bizet’s Les Pêcheurs de Perles at 1703 Heights Blvd. For more information or tickets, call 713-861-5303 or visit [www.operaintheheights.org](http://www.operaintheheights.org).

March 31–April 8, Opera in the Heights presents Adamo’s Little Women at 1703 Heights Blvd. For more information or tickets, call 713-861-5303 or visit [www.operaintheheights.org](http://www.operaintheheights.org).

**Future History**

*Beyond the calendar grid...*

February 26, 2017, Awards Dinner
April 7–9, 2017, Spring Home & Garden Tour weekend
June 3, 2017, Fun Run
October 1, 2017, Bicycle Rally & Scavenger Hunt
December 1–2, 2017, Holiday Home Tour [tentative dates]
December 12-13, 2017, Holiday Food Baskets [tentative dates]

**At The Properties**

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

**Photos with Santa**

December 3, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, John Daugherty, Realtors and the Houston Heights Association are once again hosting Photos with Santa in Donovan Park.

**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 can be viewed at [www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/service_schedules.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/service_schedules.html)
## Calendar of Events for December 2016

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<td>1 - garbage and recycling HHA Holiday Patron Party 7:00 PM, F.S.</td>
<td>2 - HHA Holiday Home Tour 6:00–9:00 PM 1300 block of Cortlandt</td>
<td>3 - HHA Holiday Home Tour 3:00–9:00 PM 1300 block of Cortlandt</td>
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<td>NO Heights Garden Club</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>15 - garbage and recycling</td>
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<td></td>
<td>HHA General “Holiday Fun” 7:00 PM Fire Station</td>
<td>Holiday Food Basket Assembly, 5:00 PM Fire Station</td>
<td>Holiday Food Basket Distribution, 11:00 AM Fire Station</td>
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<td>18</td>
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<td>22 - garbage</td>
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<td></td>
<td>No HHA Board meeting this month</td>
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<td>- heavy trash (junk waste in even months) Winter Solstice</td>
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<td>Christmas Eve</td>
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<td>25 Christmas Day</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>29 - garbage and recycling</td>
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HHA headquarters: The Fire Station is on the corner of Yale and 12th Streets. 
HHA web site: <http://www.houstonheights.org>