2017 Spring Home & Garden Tour
“Heights Hidden Beauties”

Discover Houston Heights’ Hidden Beauties at the annual Houston Heights Association Spring Home & Garden Tour. Kicking off with its Candlelight Dinner & Auction on April 7 [see page 3], the weekend-long home and garden tour is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, April 8th and 9th, showcasing six renovated historic and recently constructed homes in the Houston Heights.

Spring Home & Garden Tour

The tour runs from 12:00 to 6:00 PM on both Saturday and Sunday, April 8 and 9, and includes homes displaying a diverse mix of architectural styles and inviting gardens. In keeping with the theme of this year’s tour, Heights Hidden Beauties, each of the homes will amaze guests with beautiful architecture, interior décor, and other aspects that lay hidden behind their front doors. Be prepared for breathtaking splendor when stepping inside and experiencing each home’s hidden beauty.

Home Tour Tickets

Advance tickets are $20 and are available online now at www.houstonheights.org and from Houston Heights retailers Buchanan’s Native Plants at 611 E. 11th St., Joshua’s Native Plants & Garden, 502 W. 18th St., Jubilee at 325 W. 19th St., and August Antiques at 803 Heights Blvd. Tickets purchased on the days of the tour are $25 and will be available at the Houston Heights Fire Station at 107 W. 12th St. (at the corner of Yale) and all the pre-sale ticket locations. Tickets will not be available for purchase at the individual homes. Shuttle buses will be available at the Fire Station to take you to the homes.
Bicycles
Accommodations will be made for tour-goers who choose to ride their bicycles from house to house. Bicycle racks will be available at each home, and a “bicycle valet” will be on hand to assist with parking and securing bikes while the home is being toured.

Contacts
For more event information e-mail springtour@houstonheights.org. If you would like to volunteer to work during the tour please email volunteer@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:
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Home Tour from page 1

Silver

Bronze

Platinum

Gold

The Houston Heights Association gratefully acknowledges the support of our Spring 2017 Sponsors:
**Monthly Meetings from page 1**

outside of New York City. Meet Heights-area fine artists at a one-night-only curated art show at the Fire Station.

Liz Conces Spencer, artist and local Heights resident, has curated a showing of Heights Artists from Archway Gallery and the Boulevard Sculpture project.

**June 12: “Meet our Heights Super Heroes - Safety and Security”**

The Houston Heights Association is pleased to host an evening with our crime fighting professionals. Learn about crime statistics, tips to be safe, and membership in the HHA’s Constable Patrol Program. Officers from the Precinct 1 Constable’s Office, Houston Police Department, and Harris County Sheriff’s Office will be there.

**July 10: “Heights Great American Pie Contest”**

Bring your fresh baked pies to compete for prizes awarded by a panel of celebrity judges. Feast on the entries on this crowd-pleasing night of indulgence.

Watch for updates by email, on Facebook, and in the newsletter.

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**Candlelight Dinner and Auction**

Get your dancing shoes ready! Our entertainment for the evening of the Candlelight Dinner and Auction is Cap City Band, a high-energy dance band based out of Austin. They play a great mix of Motown, soul, 80s, 90s, 00s, country, and today’s top 40. They are sure to keep the party going all night long!

The Candlelight Dinner and Auction on Friday, April 7 kicks off the home tour weekend festivities. Dinner ticket holders can enjoy an exclusive preview of the six beautiful homes on this year’s Spring Home & Garden Tour from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. If ticket holders do not get the opportunity to tour the homes on Friday evening, their tickets are also valid on Saturday and Sunday, April 8 and 9 from 12:00 to 6:00 PM both days.

The Dinner will be held at Silver Street Studios from 7:00 to 11:00 PM. Guests will enjoy delectable passed hors d’oeuvres and a seated buffet dinner by Jim Benton of Houston featuring a spring field green salad, slow cooked short ribs in a rich red wine sauce, mushroom bourguignon, and roasted asparagus followed by a medley of miniature desserts.

Also on the menu, a refreshing specialty drink, The Fountain of Youth, generously provided by Heights Liquor on 11th, and beer, courtesy of St. Arnold’s Brewing Company.

The live auction will feature a painting from our famous local artist, John Ross Palmer, along with at least one sculpture from the Trail of Art along Heights Boulevard. Keep checking our website for an updated list of live auction items.

In keeping with this year’s home tour theme, Heights Hidden Beauties, we invite guests to don colorful cocktail attire and wear your fanciest dancing shoes. Be prepared for some hidden surprises as the evening unfolds!

Visit the HHA website for additional details and purchase tickets online at [www.houstonheights.org](http://www.houstonheights.org).

We look forward to spending a colorful and entertaining evening with you!
Heights Garden Club
April Yard of the Month — 1648 Cortlandt

In Tim Fischer and Jonathan Russell’s yard you would never guess we had those several days of hard frost. The fence is bordered with beautiful pink Belinda’s Dream roses that have a fragrance that takes over. Inside the fence, there are two Yaupon trees full of berries flanking the entry, boxwood, and Fiddle Head fern both in the front landscaping and in two pretty urns that are full of trailing ivy and pink dianthus. Dusty Miller and pansies set off the boxwood and many other shrubs. It is the perfect spring garden. Thanks to Zone 9 Tropicals for providing the gift certificate for this month.

April 8, 10:00 AM: Tour the Art Compound, 1901 West 14th St.

The property of prominent artist Dixie Friend Gay (who has created murals for George Bush Intercontinental Airport, Indianapolis International Airport, and other sites around the country), this garden is an ongoing project by the owner and her son. The garden, house, and art studios are located on an acre of land off a tributary of White Oak Bayou in the Clark Pines neighborhood, built by the artist in 1992. The garden is a collection of native and tropical plants intermixed with beautifully placed art and found objects. Features of the garden include a beautiful mixed-media gate by the artist, artfully designed meandering plant beds, and a goldfish pond.

May 13, 10:00 AM: Tour Donald Burger’s Garden 702 Mosby Circle

This location in the Heights exemplifies a Southern garden full of heirloom, native, and perennial plants that provides a habitat for birds, butterflies, and bees. The house is a Queen Anne style painted lady. Along with over 100 antique and modern roses, the backyard garden includes a vegetable and herb garden, a rose-covered arbor, citrus and fruit trees, a cactus garden, bee hives, and an outdoor garden railroad. All this is in addition to a pond with a natural gravel bottom, waterfall, and bog. The pond contains water lilies and goldfish. A skimmer and bog garden keep the water crystal clear with minimal maintenance.

For more information on the Heights Garden Club please check out their website at www.heightsgardenclub.com and their Facebook page.

Fun Run to Include 10K Race This Year!
Registration Now Open

June is right around the corner, and so is the Annual Heights Fun Run on Saturday, June 3. Now in its 32nd year, The Heights Fun Run is considered one of Houston’s fastest and friendliest races. The event features a 1K Kids race, the 5K run or walk and, new this year, the addition of a 10K timed & certified race!

Join hundreds of Houstonians for an exciting run or walk along Heights Boulevard starting and finishing at beautiful Marmion Park and celebrate your achievement at the After-Race Party in the Park.

Online registration is open now https://runsignup.com/Race/TX/houston/Height5KRun

The 5K Fun Run & Walk is only $25 through May 27, the 10K race is $30 and the Kids 1K race is just $15. Registration fees increase after May 27.

Participants who register by May 15 will receive a commemorative t-shirt, with additional shirts available on a first-come basis thereafter. Medals will be awarded to the top three finishers in each age/gender category. Everyone is invited to the After-Race Party in the Park!

Keep up with the race and help spread the word by liking and sharing on Facebook, www.facebook.com/HeightsFunRun.

If you’d like to volunteer to help with this fun event on and around race day, email volunteer@houstonheights.org. Businesses wishing to participate in the event can e-mail race director Damian Ogier at funrun@houstonheights.org.
Updates Coming To Cohen Plaza

Already a beloved stop along the Boulevard, Melvalene & Carl Cohen Plaza at 11th Street will soon be expanded and beautified through a series of projects funded by proceeds from the “Friends of the Yale Bridge Bricks” campaign to preserve the historic buffalo brick of the former Yale Street Bridge. HHA President and Chair of “Friends of the Yale Bridge Bricks” Bill Baldwin conceived the project after successfully negotiating the sale of a majority of the bricks to include keeping several thousand bricks within the Heights last year.

The expansion and beautification will entail:

- Redesigning the plaza to be a circle surrounding the Lombard Lamp (from Hamburg, Germany), envisioned, acquired, and installed under Melvalene Cohen’s leadership as a nod to the German heritage of Houston Heights.
- Repaving an expanded area of the plaza with historic Yale Street Bridge buffalo brick (ca. 1931).
- Replacing the existing benches around the circle and replacing the garbage receptacles with ones that are truer to the historic design of the plaza.
- Partnering with the city’s Mini Mural program and Mayor’s Office of Cultural Affairs (MOCA) to create a public art piece out of the utility box near the plaza.
- Installing a replacement 4-in-1 drinking fountain that will now feature a water bottle filler, pet fountain, and accessible fountain.
- Replanting trees around the expanded plaza.

Baldwin expresses that expanding the highly visible plaza, which is adjacent to a major artery connecting Houston Heights with other Greater Heights neighborhoods, would be the best way to use the bricks for the enjoyment of the widest number of residents and visitors. After presenting the project plan to Melvalene Cohen and the HHA Board, Baldwin reports that the initiative has enjoyed wide support.

Tied to this project is the renewal of the operating agreement over Heights Boulevard between HHA and Houston Parks and Recreation Department (HPARD). This partnership has given way to constant improvements to the esplanade including mile markers along the Paul Carr Jogging Trail and the annual series of public art installations that continues with “Art Trek” this month.

In addition to MOCA and HPARD, Baldwin will have the support and participation of the Heights Garden Club, the HHA Boulevard committee, and the Houston Heights Woman’s Club. Volunteers and any other involvement from residents, businesses, and community organizations are very welcome to join the effort by contacting Bill Baldwin at bill@yourblvd.com.

...continues on page 6
Cohen Plaza from page 5

Private contractors under the direct supervision of Bill Baldwin will complete the work at no cost to the HHA or to the City of Houston.
Community Improvement Awards

Commercial New Construction
John Nash, Anglo Shipping – 128 W. 17th

Commercial Renovation
Southern Goods – 632 W. 19th

Residential New Construction
P&G Homes – 1511 Ashland

Residential Renovation
Bobby & Elizabeth Poirrier – 215 W 16th

Project Bulldog at Heights High School

A group of Heights/Reagan alumni and friends is supporting a SPARK project to celebrate the school’s 90th birthday in 2016. Since 1983, the nationally recognized SPARK program has created over 200 public parks on school grounds. The project here will consist of a large steel mascot situated in a proposed outdoor learning center near the southeast corner of the building.

Visit www.sparkpark.org for information about SPARK Parks or to contribute. For questions about this project, contact Gus Kopriva (Class of 1966) at gakopriva@aol.com or 713-854-4246.
Donations

Our thanks to these donors for their generous support of the projects of the Houston Heights Association.
Chevron Matching Employee Funds — Katie Pearson
Jones & Cindy Devlin — Boulevard
Maggie & Charles Dunham — Donovan Playground
Pat & Jerry Eversole
Frizzell Group International LLC — Boulevard
Charles Krenzler — Boulevard
Brian & Rose Mulroney — Boulevard
Elsa Muguerza — Rose Garden
Gail Rosenthal — Boulevard, Fire Station Restoration
Holly Saffold — Flower Gardens, Boulevard
Bethel & Scott Sticklus
Texas State Optical — Boulevard

New Members

Please welcome these members to the Houston Heights Association.
Dean Burke
Maria Heckendorn
Wayne & Vanessa Huff
Christie Mathis
Kelsey Morott & Brian Tinch
Holly Saffold
John & Terry Schultz
Simmons and Fletcher, P.C.,
Paul Cannon
Sissy Deane, Realtor,
Martha Turner Sothebys
Bethel & Scott Sticklus
Tessari Family

“Art Trek” Now on Heights Boulevard

The art pieces for the 2017 Heights Boulevard sculpture project Art Trek were installed in March. If you haven’t been to see them, go if you can. Several pieces incorporate special lighting; visit at night, too! If you can’t see them in person, here’s a peek in a photo collage.

Left column:
Yuliya Lanina, “Humpty Dumpty”, 2016
James Ciosek, “Opalescent Order #24”, 2017
Dylan Conner, “Texas Horny Toad”, 2017

Middle column:
Jon Clark, “Mollusca”, 2017
Zak Miano, “Knot Cubed”, 2016
(entrance sign at I-10)
Nicola Parente “Flower of Life”, 2016

Right column:
Randall Mosman, “Above the Muddy Water”, 2017

Photo collage by Rich Anhorn
### 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.hatds.org/index.php?page=ecd](http://www.hatds.org/index.php?page=ecd)

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).

September 29 through October 7, Opera in the Heights presents Donizetti’s *La Fille du Régiment* (*The Daughter of the Regiment*) at 1703 Heights Blvd. For more information or tickets, call 713-861-5303 or visit [www.operaintheheights.org](http://www.operaintheheights.org).

November 10–18, Opera in the Heights presents Mozart’s *The Magic Flute* at 1703 Heights Blvd. For more information or tickets, call 713-861-5303 or visit [www.operaintheheights.org](http://www.operaintheheights.org).

February 16–24, 2018, Opera in the Heights presents Verdi’s *Un Ballo in Maschera* (*Masked Ball*) at 1703 Heights Blvd. For more information or tickets, call 713-861-5303 or visit [www.operaintheheights.org](http://www.operaintheheights.org).

April 13–21, 2018, Opera in the Heights presents Bernstein’s *Candide* 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...**

October 1, Bicycle Rally & Scavenger Hunt

December 1–2, Holiday Home Tour [tentative dates]

December 12–13, Holiday Food Baskets

February 25, 2018, Awards Dinner

April 6–8, 2018, Spring Home & Garden Tour weekend [tentative dates]

June 2, 2018, Fun Run [tentative date]

### 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 April 2017

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<thead>
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<th>Sunday</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 2</td>
<td>3 HHA Land Use 6:30 PM Fire Station</td>
<td>4 PIP meeting 7:00 PM 1602 State Street</td>
<td>5 Deadline for next newsletter</td>
<td>6 - garbage and recycling</td>
<td>7 Candlelight Dinner &amp; Auction 7:00–11:00 PM</td>
<td>8 Garden Club 10:00 AM; Spring Home &amp; Garden Tour 12:00–6:00 PM</td>
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<td>9 Spring Home &amp; Garden Tour 12:00–6:00 PM</td>
<td>10 HHA General “Design Guidelines,” 7:00 PM Fire Station</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13 - garbage</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>17 HHA Board 6:30 PM Fire Station</td>
<td>18 Tax Day</td>
<td>19 - heavy trash (junk waste in even months)</td>
<td>20 - 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>