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HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY NEWSLETTER

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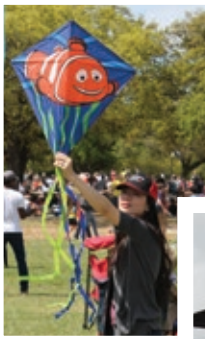
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Kites Fill the Sky at Second Annual Hermann Park Kite Festival

Thousands enjoy breezy day for kite flying.



Soaring sharks, mighty superheroes and even a few princesses could be seen high above Hermann Park during the second annual *Hermann Park Kite Festival* on Sunday, March 29. Thousands flocked to Miller Hill and the Jones Reflection Pool to test their kite-flying skills and just to have fun. The free event brought friends and family together on a perfect, breezy day in Hermann Park.



HATS IN THE PARK
see pages 4-5

MISSION
Hermann Park Conservancy is a citizens' organization dedicated to the stewardship and improvement of Hermann Park—today and for generations to come.

Some brought their favorite kite along while others piloted free kites handed out by H-E-B and United Airlines. For those looking to buy a new one, Captain Rick of S.H.A.R.K. offered a fantastic array of kites in all shapes and sizes. When taking a break from kite flying, kids could try their hand at kite making with the help of the Orange Show Center for Visionary Art. Youngsters were delighted

to dance to party music amid floating bubbles provided by Bubble Parties Texas. Face painting was a big hit with the little ones, as well. Stilt walkers dressed in spectacular, colorful costumes posed for pictures with festival-goers throughout the day as a DJ provided music.

Continued on page 3

Spring is in the air in Hermann Park! Cherry blossoms, vibrant azaleas and delicate wisteria blossoms have brought an explosion of color to the Japanese Garden. Daffodils and tulips were some of the first blooms to welcome the season in the McGovern Centennial Gardens. Smiles are everywhere as visitors explore the new Gardens and snap photos in front of the fountains. Watching a little boy take his first wobbly steps on the Centennial Green and seeing a child mesmerized by the water cascading down The Mount are sights to remember.

2014 was an extraordinary year of centennial celebrations and 2015 is shaping up to be another special year at the Park. Sweethearts enjoyed our romantic Valentine's Day "Dinner and a Cruise" and even dogs had their day during the Hermann Park Dog Walk on April 4. In late March, moms, dads and children watched with delight as their kites soared high above the Park during the *Hermann Park Kite Festival*. It was a perfect day for families to make memories.

The Conservancy's annual *Hats in the Park* fundraiser on March 3 took place in the McGovern Centennial Gardens for the first time. Almost 400 guests in magnificent hats gathered to support the Conservancy's programs and to honor a great friend and long-time Park neighbor, Kathrine G. McGovern. Mrs. McGovern and the John P. McGovern Foundation have been generous supporters of capital projects, reforestation programs and special events in Hermann Park. We are grateful for her commitment to the Park and are thankful to everyone who supported *Hats in the Park*.

Hats in the Park honoree, Kathrine McGovern, with Doreen Stoller.



Priscilla Dilsen Photography

The Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion and the Celebration Garden are becoming important settings for family occasions. Two new event coordinators, Melissa Clark and Lavada Varner, have joined the Conservancy team to assist venue manager, Linda Black, during events. With the waterfall spilling playfully down the front of The Mount and the beautiful fountains and flower gardens as a backdrop, it's a new era for entertaining in our city.

I hope that each of you will experience the joy of spring in Hermann Park whether you discover a new favorite place in the McGovern Centennial Gardens, enjoy dinner on Pinewood Cafe's terrace or pedal a boat across McGovern Lake.

We look forward to seeing you in the Park!

Doreen

Doreen Stoller, Executive Director



DONORS

McGovern Centennial Gardens

\$10,000 – \$24,999

Isabel and Danny David
Margaret L. Kripke and Isaiah J. Fidler –

In honor of our 40th anniversary
The Radoff Family Foundation
William Schull

\$5,000 – \$9,999

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\$1,000 – \$4,999

Johnny Steele – In honor of
Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion

In Kind

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United Airlines

Centennial Campaign

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Japanese Garden

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The Baxter Trust

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Akemi Saitoh – In honor of
Mr. Kunio Minami

In Kind

Greenleaf Nursery Company

Kite Festival

\$15,000 – \$24,999

H-E-B

\$2,500 – \$4,999

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Lorie Sheffey

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David R. Swenson
Gail Taber
Nancy and Peter Thompson

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John Middleton

Gold (\$250 – \$499)

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Louise and Larry Glenn
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Laura and Andrew Malek
Mary Lynn and Steve Marks
Norbert Choucroun Trust
Hinda Simon
Alicia Smith and Henry Flores
Christine and David M. Underwood, Jr.

Centennial \$100 – \$249

Anonymous (2)

Charles E. Armstrong – In honor of
Houston's Gay (GLBTQ) Community
Mary F. Baker
Karen and Howard Batt
Louise and Charles Berry



continued from page 1

Riders on the Hermann Park train got a unique look at the high-flying kites as they rode the rails through the festival site. Even pedal boaters afloat on McGovern Lake got a glimpse of the kite-filled sky overhead. Many in the crowd enjoyed delicious treats from six food trucks while some families set up their own grills. On the performance stage, lively entertainment ranged from magic acts to mariachi music.

Chairs Morgan Garvey and Paul-David Van Atta created a magical day for Houstonians. We are grateful to Morgan and Paul-David as well as the festival host committee and sponsors H-E-B, United Airlines and Waste Management. We appreciate the dedication of Mindy Campbell who coordinated the event for the Conservancy. Thank you to the Saint Arnold Brewing Company and to all who were a part of this special day in Hermann Park.

Joining the Conservancy is a Win-Win for Hermann Park and Members



Each Hermann Park Conservancy member is part of a team who believes this Park is a treasure for all Houstonians. People join for different reasons. Some want to support urban conservation and wildlife habitat preservation while others join to share the joy they had as children playing in Hermann Park with their own children. Support from all of our members provides vital operating funds which keep the Conservancy's operations and maintenance programs going strong and helps to buy trees, supplies like gloves and tools, and other equipment needed to care for the Park on a daily basis.

Members also have fun! Benefits include free train and pedal boat tickets and access to Member Express Lines for boarding. Free, unlimited train rides for members and their families on the second Saturday of every month please children of all ages. To see the full list of membership levels and benefits, visit hermannpark.org/membership. Or, call us at **713-524-5876** to find out more about membership.

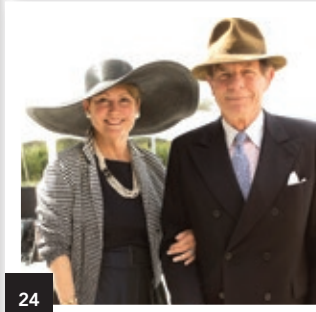
Hats in the Park Set Amid McGovern Centennial Garden Scenery

On March 3, the McGovern Centennial Gardens and Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion filled with nearly 400 guests in stunning spring hats and frocks that were perfectly suited for the beautiful new surroundings. Thanks to the hard work of co-chairs Estela Cockrell and Denise Monteleone, and honorary chair Cherie Flores, the event was the most successful *Hats in the Park* to date raising over \$360,000—exceeding the goal by over \$120,000. The event honored the Gardens' namesake, Kathrine McGovern, for her extraordinary support of not only the Centennial Gardens project, but every major improvement and stewardship program in the Park.

A short program, led by Conservancy board chair Danny David, highlighted the amazing achievements of the Conservancy, while chairs Estela Cockrell and Denise Monteleone, honoree Kathrine McGovern, and Mayor Annise Parker all shared heartwarming stories about the Park. Conservancy executive director Doreen Stoller presented Mrs. McGovern with a tree that will be planted in the Gardens in her honor.

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the luncheon.

Photos by Jenny Antill Photography



HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY



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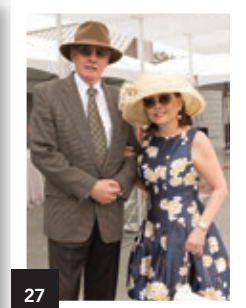


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1 Honorary chair Cherie Flores and chairs Estela Cockrell and Denise Monteleone 2 2016 chairs Joella Mach, Blakely Griggs, and Michelle Futch 3 Honoree Kathrine G. McGovern and Mayor Annise Parker 4 Ann Kennedy, Phoebe Tudor, and Linda Hunsaker 5 Olivia Flores and Cherie Flores 6 Lynn Wyatt and Cynthia Petrello 7 Gracie Cavnar and Susie Criner 8 Kim Tutcher, Kay Watson, Gaye Kelsey 9 Lisanne Rogers, Nancy Littlejohn, and Vallette Windham 10 Laurie Morian and Sima Ladjevardian 11 Mindy Hildebrand and Kate Gibson 12 Mary D'Andrea and Gina Bhatia 13 Traci Young and Molly Khalil 14 Liz Stepanian and Bobbie Nau 15 Morgan Garvey, Melissa Juneau, and Ting Bresnahan 16 Karen Mayell and Diane Lokey Farb 17 Sarah Lamb Larned, Henrietta Alexander, and Jennifer Frazier 18 Ernest and Janet Cockrell and Estela and David Cockrell 19 Susan Dunwoody, Kathleen Clarke, and Diane Ofner 20 Linsay Radcliffe, Danny David, and Allison Thacker 21 Jennifer Dolman, Claire Thielke, and Divya Brown 22 Leigh Smith and Leticia Loya 23 Isabel and Danny David 24 Cece and Mack Fowler 25 Rebecca Mark-Jusbasche, Mary Faye Way, and Kristen Nix 26 Holly Smith and Ashley Appling 27 Rini and Edward Ziegler



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Dogs and owners enjoy a fun trek in the Park.

Houston Rockets Sponsor Third Annual Dog Walk



Hundreds of furry paws padded alongside their owner's feet as the Hermann Park Dog Walk wound around

McGovern Lake and the Jones Reflection Pool. The third annual walk, sponsored by the Houston Rockets, kicked off at 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 4 after the original March date was rained out. Dogs ranging from Chihuahuas to Great Danes sported red bandanas handed out by the Rockets.

Owners received a commemorative T-shirt and a ticket to a Rockets game.

As participants gathered on Lake Plaza, Rockets mascot Clutch posed for photos with dogs and owners. People mingled among booths sponsored by local groups bringing awareness to dog-related issues including rescues and adoptions. Once returning to Lake Plaza, participants enjoyed a post-walk party. A portion of the proceeds from the dog walk will benefit Hermann Park Conservancy.



DONORS

Membership, continued

Centennial \$100 – \$249

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\$100 – \$499
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Tree Conservancy Fund

\$100 – \$499
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Reforestation and Maintenance

In Kind
 Apache Corporation
 CenterPoint Energy

Volunteer Programs

In Kind
 BP America

Hats in the Park Luncheon

All gifts in honor of
Kathrine G. McGovern, honoree,
and chairs Estela M. S. Cockrell and
Denise Monteleone, and honorary
chair Cherie Flores.

\$25,000 – \$49,999

The Cockrell Foundation/
Denise Monteleone
Cherie Flores
Kathrine G. McGovern/
McGovern Foundation

\$10,000 – \$24,999

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Kate Gibson
Palmetto Partners, Ltd./The Robert and
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Phoebe and Bobby Tudor
Randa Weiner

\$5,000 – \$9,999

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Susie and Sanford Criner/
Cece and Mack Fowler
Jenny Elkins
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Gracie Cavnar
Cathy and Joe Cleary
Sylvie Crum
Veronica Curran
Valerie Palmquist Dieterich
Sara Paschall Dodd
Cullen K. Geiselman
Celina Hellmund
Barbara and Gerald D. Hines
Sharon-Marie Hogge
Demaris and Hank Hudspeth –
In honor of Helen and
Jose G. Flores
Gaye and John Kelsey
Margaret Kripke
Harriet Latimer
Martha Adger Madget



Centennial Campaign Donor Wall

Don't miss your chance to be a part of Hermann Park's history! Join other Conservancy donors for a once-a-century recognition opportunity on the Centennial Campaign Donor Wall in Lake Plaza at Kinder Station.

This special donor wall, which has been on temporary display since 2009, consists of Conservancy donors whose cumulative giving for any purpose totals \$50,000 or more. Want to learn more about the donor wall or just how close you are to qualifying for listing? Contact mmiller@hermannpark.org or **713-524-5876**, ext. **339**. Deadline to be included on the wall is 12/31/15.

Sculptor Frank Teich's Hermann Park Legacy

Stand under the massive Texas granite arch holding the Sam Houston Monument aloft in Hermann Park and you will gain an appreciation for the artistry and strength of sculptor Frank Teich's monuments. Teich (1856–1939), a German immigrant, created the base for the Park's iconic statue. Look straight across the Jones Reflection Pool and you will see another of Teich's creations, the towering Pioneer Monument. A third artwork, a marble statue of Confederate

soldier Dick Dowling, shows a different side of his work.

Before leaving Germany, Teich studied at the University of Nuremberg and served as an apprentice to noted German sculptor, Johannes Schilling. He honed his skills with impressive projects in several U.S. cities including the Cook County Court House in Chicago, the San Antonio City Hall, the San Antonio National Bank, and the capital building in Austin.

Frank Teich purchased a granite quarry near

Llano, Texas and founded the Teich Monument Works in 1885. Over the years, he created monuments displayed across Texas and throughout the South; many were tributes to Confederate soldiers.

Teich was commissioned by Enrico Filiberto Cerracchio, the sculptor of Hermann Park's Sam Houston Monument, to create the grand arch that now holds the horse and rider. The monument, made of granite from his Llano quarry, was dedicated in the Park on August 16, 1925. Teich's impressive Pioneer Monument is an obelisk standing tall at the south end of the Jones Reflection Pool. Its dedication in Hermann Park on August 30, 1936, was part of a 100th birthday celebration for the City of Houston. Frank Teich's marble statue of Dick Dowling, "The Hero of Sabine Pass," can be seen on Cambridge Street at MacGregor Way. The statue, dedicated on St. Patrick's Day in 1905, was first located in front of City Hall. It was moved to Sam Houston Park in 1939, and in 1958, found its home in Hermann Park.

Frank Teich's lifelong work brought him the title, "Father of the Texas Granite Industry." His legacy lives on in Hermann Park with each visitor who pauses to gaze up and admire his monumental creations.

Thank you to Susan Teich for her assistance with this article.



Improvements Planned Ahead of Japanese Garden's 25th Anniversary



The Japanese Garden will celebrate its 25th year in 2017.



The annual spring visit to Hermann Park's Japanese Garden by the landscape team from Japan marked the beginning of things to come as we gear up for the garden's 25th anniversary in 2017. While the garden has always been a beloved and popular destination in Hermann Park, improvements are planned to make it more accessible and add more authentic Japanese-style garden features. A campaign is under way by the Conservancy and the Japanese Garden Advisory Committee to raise funds for an exciting, large-scale restoration project. In addition, the City of Houston has committed over \$800,000 to infrastructure projects.

In the early 1990s, the non-profit Japanese Garden, Inc., raised approximately \$1.7 million to supplement City of Houston funds to make the garden a reality. In 1992, Houston's first public Japanese Garden opened in Hermann Park. The 5½-acre garden was designed by renowned Japanese landscape architect, Ken Nakajima. Mr. Nakajima sought to combine existing mature pine and oak trees reflecting the garden's

Texas heritage while representing Japanese influence with large boulders, a waterfall and ponds, flowering shrubs, trees, lotus, stone lanterns and koi.

Now, with the Japanese Garden's 25th anniversary in sight, the Conservancy is planning to build an additional entrance from the Fannin Street side of the Park near METRORail's Hermann Park/Rice U stop, making the garden more accessible from the west side. A "dry stream" garden has been designed to add a new dimension to the Japanese Garden. Dry landscape gardening is a classic Japanese tradition dating back centuries and features stones, sand, boulders, and waterless "water features." The planned beautification projects and infrastructure improvements will further enhance the beauty of this enchanting garden.

Would you like to make a contribution to the Japanese Garden renovation project? Go to hermannpark.org/japanese-garden or call 713-524-5876.

DONORS

Hats in the Park Luncheon, continued

- \$1,000 – \$4,999**
 Martha Turner Sotheby's
 International Realty
 Laura McCullough
 Brew G. McKenna
 Ginni Mithoff
 Laurie Morian
 Emily L. Reaser
 Regina Rogers
 Scurlock Foundation
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 Amanda Hellmann
 Kay S. Holmes
 Steppie Holsclaw
 Courtney Hopson
 Heather Houston
 Leslie Hull

McGOVERN CENTENNIAL GARDENS

featured plant

- Linda Crooker Hunsaker
- Kathleen Jennings
- Rosemarie Johnson
- Sis Johnson
- Marianne Jones
- Lisa Kalavar
- Tracy Kapiloff
- Nicole Katz
- Kelly Kayem
- Ann Kelsey – In honor of
Gaye L. Kelsey
- Ann Kennedy
- Tama Brooks Klosek
- Sima Ladjevardian
- Renee Lewis
- Lucinda Loya
- Joella Mach
- Rita Madden
- Danielle Magdol
- Sultana Mangalji/
Westmont Hospitality Group
- Lisa Mathis
- Jackie Wolens Mazow
- Kristen McDaniel
- Gretchen McFarland
- Anne C. Mendelsohn
- Rachael Mickette
- Melissa Mithoff
- Beth Sanders Moore
- Terrylin G. Neale – In memory of
Erin and Lamar Neale
- H. Joe Nelson III
- Katy Nelson
- Maggie Nicholson
- Judy Nyquist
- Andrea Osborne
- Pamela Ott
- Cabrina Owsley
- Mary Tere B. Perusquia
- Bette Pesikoff
- Elizabeth Petersen
- Katherine Phelps
- Linsay Radcliffe
- Barbara M. Robertson – In honor of
Laura Wheless
- Laura Robertson
- Carson Seeligson
- Ann Short
- Sue Sim
- Hinda Simon
- Sarah Snyder
- Kristina H. Somerville
- Liz Stepanian
- Doreen Stoller
- Y. Ping Sun
- Betty G. Tapick
- Allison and Troy Thacker
- Rebecca Thomas
- Melicia Tjoa
- Sharron E. Tomlin
- Sarah Underwood
- Astrid Van Dyke
- Maggie Vermillion
- Rachael Volz/A Fare Extraordinaire
- Vicky Wight
- Karen Wildenstein
- Robin Wombwell
- Tiffany Wong
- Traci Young
- Beth Zdeblick



Peggy Martin Roses bloom brilliantly in the Rose Garden.

Peggy Martin Rose

Our featured plant was the first rose in the new Rose Garden to hit its stride and break out in full bloom. The Peggy Martin Rose is a climber which can be found on the central arbors in the south side of the garden. It is thornless with bright green foliage and covered with clusters of bright pink blooms. The Peggy Martin Rose has a compelling history. A found rose from New Orleans, it was the only rose which survived Hurricane Katrina and two weeks of salt water inundation in

Peggy Martin's garden in Plaquemines Parish along the Mississippi River. Peggy Martin herself suffered enormous losses during the storm, both personal and professional, and only this rose and one crinum survived from her garden. Named for Peggy as a tribute to her tenacity throughout the ordeal, the Peggy Martin Rose has been marketed to help raise funds to restore historic gardens of New Orleans.

Pinewood Cafe is Proud to Support Local Businesses



Hermann Park's Pinewood Cafe is known for its tasty build-your-own grilled cheese sandwiches and refreshing smoothies, but you may not know that the cafe serves many items from Houston area businesses. Pinewood's menu includes buns made by Sheila Partin's bakery, fresh brewed coffee and iced tea from Katz Coffee, several flavors of gelato



pops from Trentino Gelato and craft beer offerings from Karbach and Saint Arnold. Support Hermann Park Conservancy and these local businesses while enjoying a delicious meal or treat here in the Park. The cafe is located on Lake Plaza near Kinder Train Station and serves daily from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.



Save the Dates!

Please mark your calendar for these upcoming events!



**Urban Green's
Spring on the Green**
McGovern Centennial Gardens
Thursday, May 7, 2015
7-10 p.m.







Park to Port Bike Ride
Bill Coats Bike Bridge
Saturday, October 3, 2015



Run in the Park
Hermann Park
Saturday, November 14, 2015

Details at
hermannpark.org

-  [facebook.com/HermannPark](https://www.facebook.com/HermannPark)
-  [instagram.com/HermannPark](https://www.instagram.com/HermannPark)
-  twitter.com/HermannPark
-  hermannparkhouston.wordpress.com

Dates and times are subject to change; where date and time not listed, exact time is TBD.

McGovern Centennial Gardens Ambassador Program



Our new McGovern Centennial Gardens ambassadors offer garden visitors a friendly face and helpful information. Part of our volunteer program, ambassadors greet guests, give directions, share garden etiquette and answer questions about the Gardens. The ambassador program helps to create an enjoyable atmosphere for guests and supports the ongoing care of the beautiful, yet fragile new garden beds.

The ambassadors receive orientation and training to build their knowledge of the Gardens. For anyone interested in becoming a McGovern Centennial Garden ambassador, email volunteer coordinator **Kimina Jamison** at kjamison@hermannpark.org. Weekend and limited weekday shifts are available and no gardening experience is necessary.

DONORS

Hats in the Park Luncheon, continued

- \$100 – \$499**
 Marcella Abramowicz
 Suzanne and Brian Adams
 Francine Ballard
 Karina Barbieri
 Gayle Bentsen
 Helen Berger and David Benson
 Kristen Berger
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David Langworthy
Jackie and Malcolm Mazow
Laura and Brad McWilliams
Terrylin G. Neale
Mark B. Ryan
Megan and Jason Ryan
Doreen Stoller and Dan Piette
John E. Walsh, Jr.
†deceased

The George Hermann Society recognizes donors who have provided for the future of Hermann Park through bequests or life income gifts to Hermann Park Conservancy.

The names listed above and on the preceding pages include donors who made gifts or pledges of \$100 or more between January 1 and February 28, 2015, as well as all *Hats in the Park* luncheon donors, Kite Festival donors, and George Hermann Society members. Gifts to the *Evening in the Park* gala will be recognized in the next issue. In compliance with IRS standards, commitments paid over time in installments are recognized once in full at the time of the pledge. Please contact the Conservancy if we inadvertently have not included your name or if you would like to be listed differently in future publications.



Thank You to Some Special Friends of the Conservancy

The McGovern Centennial Gardens are not the only recent addition in Hermann Park. The Conservancy has moved to a new building at 1700 Hermann Drive. We would like to thank some friends who were instrumental during our move. Volunteer Farzanah Gangjee spent months helping us clean out the old office to prepare for the move. She coordinated moving logistics and helped us get organized in our new space. We also

want to thank DeAndre Sam for providing packing and moving services through his company, A-Rocket Moving and Storage. Thanks also go to Glen Ragland of Versona Systems who set up our phone and Internet service in the new office. We appreciate technical support from Thomas Klettke and the assistance of furniture dealership Debner+Company. We are grateful for the time and services donated by each of them.

Volunteers Make Repairs to Patrick Dougherty's Artwork, *Boogie Woogie*

Students from Yes Prep Southwest lend a hand to restore *Boogie Woogie*.



Boogie Woogie, the whimsical stickwork hut designed and built by artist Patrick Dougherty with many volunteers in January 2014, was in need of some tender loving care. Our first Art in the Park installation has suffered from the effects of time, weather, and its own popularity. Diane Kerr, the Conservancy's director of volunteer programs, led a restoration project in March to bring the fairy tale hut back into top shape. Staff and volunteers persevered in rainy, cold and muddy

conditions to harvest new sticks and begin to reinforce the structure. On one nice spring day, students from Yes Prep Southwest were on hand to trim and weave the sticks into the structure. Khadijah Birch, one of the student volunteers, remarked while looking up at the artwork, "The ability to build such a structure out of sticks is amazing." The refurbished *Boogie Woogie* will continue to delight Park visitors for a second year.

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