The site of the McGovern Centennial Gardens and Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion is located on the plot of land formerly occupied by the Houston Garden Center between Hermann Park Drive and Hermann Drive and bordered by Caroline Street on the west and the Hermann Park Golf Course on the east. Workers have made significant progress on the site since construction began on September 18, 2013. Among the first things to happen were the demolition of the previous Garden Center structure and the moving of the Chinese Pavilion. The Chinese Pavilion, donated by the Houston-Taipei Society in 1976, was relocated from its previous site to a temporary location in the parking lot along Hermann Park Drive where it will remain until it is sited in its new home in the McGovern Centennial Gardens. The delicate 37-year old structure was skillfully moved by Expert House Movers inch-by-inch to its temporary resting place.
Happy 2014! We are excited that Hermann Park’s centennial year is finally here. I can’t imagine a better way to kick off the celebration than with Patrick Dougherty’s “stickwork” Boogie Woogie — the first sculpture to come to Hermann Park as part of Art in the Park. Half hedge maze and half bird’s nest, Boogie Woogie was constructed over three weeks in January with the artist working side-by-side with Conservancy volunteers. The work started with harvesting truckloads of invasive tallow saplings from Generation Park—a commercial site about to undergo development. Each day Patrick and his team of volunteers worked for eight hours (at least!) bending and weaving saplings into sculpture in front of a live audience of curious Park-goers and passersby — some of whom jumped in to bend sticks themselves! Over 150 volunteers came from across Houston to help: from the neighborhoods surrounding the Park to Tomball, Stafford, Cypress, Friendswood, Missouri City, Port Arthur, and Spring. Volunteers became so personally engaged in the project they often returned again and again throughout the three-week long building process to help even when they weren’t signed up for shifts. The piece took 3 days of stick gathering, 10 truckloads of saplings, 15 building days, and nearly 1,200 volunteer hours to complete. Despite the organic nature of the material, the work will stand in Hermann Park for two to five years. It is already a favorite of visitors who glimpse unique views of the Park framed by the work’s doors and windows as they follow the sculpture’s twists and turns.

The success of Boogie Woogie is a microcosm of the success of the renaissance of Hermann Park itself. Community engagement—through donations and volunteer hours — has been crucial to making an extraordinary Master Plan come to life. Thank you for your part in making Hermann Park’s centennial worth celebrating (see the calendar of events on page 10). We hope you will join us to wish Hermann Park a “Happy Birthday!”

See you in the Park,

Doreen Stoller, Executive Director

Join Hermann Park Conservancy Today!

Join Hermann Park Conservancy today to help support Hermann Park in its centennial year. Members receive invitations to special events, discounts in the gift shop and cafe, train and boat tickets, and more! Centennial-level members and above receive commemorative merchandise including a t-shirt, tote bag, hat, and new book, Hermann Park: A Century of Community, depending on the level. Membership supports daily operations critical to the care and maintenance of Hermann Park. Please consider joining – or renewing – your membership today to be a part of this exciting year in Hermann Park’s history!

Visit www.hermannpark.org/membership for more information.

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McGovern Centennial Gardens
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Lisa and Mark Cox
Barbara and Rudy Duarte
Bevin and Dan Dubrowski
Jennie and Robert Duffy
Andrea and David Faulkinberry
Fran and Mike Feltovich
McGovern Centennial Gardens
and Grand Gateway Construction

*Continued from page 1*

On the other end of the site, the 30-foot
garden mount is rising 9-inch layer by
9-inch layer using cement-stabilized sand.
The 9-inch lifts are raised in sections like
a layer cake, then tamped and hardened
before moving up to the next layer, spiraling
toward the peak. After the mount is built
the sand will be covered with soil and
planted with low-maintenance greenery.
The mount will feature an ADA-accessible
concrete path to the top where visitors
will be rewarded with a site-specific artwork
and fantastic views of the Gardens below.
The McGovern Centennial Gardens is set
to open in October of 2014.

Construction on the Grand Gateway,
the historic main entrance to the Park,
is ongoing under the supervision of
landscape architects SWA Group. This
joint project with TxDOT will see the
historic main entrance of the Park from
the Mecom Fountain to the Sam Houston
Statue updated with limestone planters,
new landscaping and seasonal plantings,
and a perch from which one can take
posed photos with the landmark Mecom
Fountain in the background. The esplanade
that runs between Main and Fannin Streets
will also receive a facelift courtesy of this
nearly $5 million project. Irrigation will
be added to preserve the historic live oaks
along Main as well as the addition of new
lighting, bike racks, benches, and multi-use
paths. The Grand Gateway project is
scheduled to be completed in May of 2014.

New Book Celebrates Hermann Park’s
First 100 Years

_Hermann Park: A Century of Community_

is a magnificent new book highlighting the
first 100 years of Hermann Park’s history.
Commissioned by the Conservancy in
honor of the Park’s centennial year, this
beautifully-illustrated gem is a must-have
for anyone with fond memories of Hermann
Park or newcomers that want to learn
about this historic Park.

Author and historian Barrie Scardino
Bradley traces the Park’s history from the
vision of the Park’s founders through its
metamorphosis into a vibrant community
resource. She sets the history of Hermann
Park in the context of the City Beautiful
Movement of the early 20th century, as
well as the history of Houston.

The hardcover book costs $45 and includes
plans, maps, and photographs that tell
the story of the Park’s first century.

Purchase it in the Hermann Park Conservancy
Gift Shop, the Museum of Fine Arts,
Houston, Barnes and Noble, Houston
Museum of Natural Science, River Oaks
Book Store, and other locations.
10th Annual Run in the Park

On Saturday, November 9, 2013, 788 enthusiastic runners, joggers, and walkers took part in Hermann Park’s 10th annual Run in the Park.

The family-friendly event, benefiting the Conservancy, featured a 5K Run/Walk and a 1K Kids’ Fun Run. The scenic 5K course twisted and turned around the Park along the carriage trails in the shade of historic live oaks.

Serious runners kicked off the race followed by those participating in the 5K Walk. The Kids’ Run was a big hit with the little ones who enjoyed the 1K course. The top overall male and female winners were Sean Wade and Becky Wade, who each claimed a prize of two United Airlines tickets.

Hundreds gathered to cheer on their favorite runner or walker and all were invited to stay for the post-race party around the Pioneer Memorial obelisk in Molly Ann Smith Plaza. Radio partner Sunny 99.1 kept the party going with great tunes while participants and friends enjoyed food and drinks provided by Run in the Park sponsors.


Enthusiastic runners and walkers strive for the finish line.

Girl Scout Daisy Troop #25353 lends a hand at a water stop.

Advisory board member Jennifer Daly with her children William (age 6) and Catherine (age 5) after the 1K Kids’ Fun Run.
In 2013, REI, Inc. awarded the Conservancy $10,000 as part of their national grant program to support the restoration of recreational trails and native habitats. On September 28, 2013, National Public Lands Day—the nation’s largest single-day volunteer effort for public lands—nearly 100 volunteers met at Hermann Park to restore sections of trail in the Park’s urban educational forest in Bayou Parkland. The day started with a t-shirt presentation from REI representative, Diane Acker, to Conservation Director, Barbara Jo Harwell. Volunteers then went to work relining and edging sections of trail with fabric, laying decomposed granite gravel, clearing fallen branches, and cutting back overgrowth. Heavy rain poured down on volunteers, but that did not stop them from completing the day’s tasks.

Eighty-acre Bayou Parkland, located on the Brays Bayou side of Hermann Park, is a unique area offering winding trails and providing a serene place to explore. Funds remaining from the grant will be used to add additional waste and recycling containers along the Park’s bayou trails and to purchase equipment for volunteer programs.

Mr. Kunio Minami Receives Prestigious Mayor’s Award

Conservancy board member, Kunio Minami, was recognized by Keep Houston Beautiful’s Mayor’s Proud Partner Beautification Award for his work in Hermann Park’s Japanese Garden. Over the past seven years, Mr. Minami has played a significant role in the renovation and improvement of the Japanese Garden. His participation has included preparation and facilitation of the landscaping team from Japan for their annual working visit, interpreting for the team while in Houston, follow up and participation in performing “homework” tasks, as well as promoting and assisting with Garden volunteer projects.

Mayor Annise Parker presented Mr. Minami with the well-deserved award at the 29th Annual Mayor’s Proud Partners Luncheon at the Hilton Americas-Houston Hotel on October 28, 2013. Congratulations Mr. Minami and thanks for your hard work!
Art in the Park Exhibits Delight Park Visitors

Hermann Park Conservancy’s Centennial Art Project, Art in the Park, kicked off in January with famed “stickwork” artist Patrick Dougherty. Dougherty is best known for creating whirling quasi-architectural sculptures from locally-harvested saplings. The project started with Dougherty and his team of Conservancy volunteers gathering branches, twigs, and invasive Chinese tallow at the future home of master-planned enterprise park, Generation Park, in northeast Houston. Volunteers then went to work in Hermann Park stripping leaves off of the saplings and weaving and bending the sticks into the final form, a “glyph maze” inspired by the nearby Japanese Garden. The project required over 150 volunteers and more than 1,200 volunteer hours to complete. In creating the work, Dougherty makes a number of sketches in his notebook, but he does not fully work out the design until after the sapling harvest so he can assess the materials. He uses garden hoses and extension cords to create the basic flow of the design on the ground. The volunteers help dig holes two feet deep to anchor the trees that will be the upright supports. The team bends the rest of the branches around them.

The work Wind Waves by Mexican sculptor Yvonne Domenge was also installed in the Park in January. Wind Waves is a 13-foot tall Ferrari-red steel orb weighing close to 6 tons. Recently introduced to American audiences, Domenge is influenced by mathematics, physics, the natural world, and the traditional art of Mexico. Her work has been exhibited widely internationally, and was recently shown at Millennium Park in Chicago and in the Vancouver Biennale. Wind Waves is sited on a grassy island near the Sam Houston Monument close to the entrance to the Park and is on loan to the Conservancy for one year.

Both works were celebrated at a reception with the artists on Friday, January 24. For more information on Art in the Park, visit www.hermannpark.org/artinthepark.

Photos by Megan Badger Photography, Jared Kudabeck Photography, Weingarten Art Group, and Hermann Park Conservancy.
HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY
Urban Green Member Celebrates Birthday with Volunteer Project

Richard Tran, a member of Hermann Park Conservancy’s young professionals group, Urban Green, was looking for a unique way to celebrate his birthday last October. Having attended an Urban Green volunteer day in Hermann Park earlier in the year, he had the idea of inviting his friends to do a volunteer project in the Park for his birthday. On the morning of Saturday, October 19, Tran and nine of his friends gathered in Hermann Park to get to work. He provided breakfast and beverages for motivation, and then they jumped right in at the Park’s Whistlestop Prairie. They pulled out and hauled off invasive prairie grasses, some of which were, according to Tran, taller than he is. He and his group of friends had a great time while improving the Park.

Are you interested in getting more involved at Hermann Park? The Conservancy offers volunteer opportunities through our volunteer program and Urban Green. To find out more, email volunteer@hermannpark.org or visit www.hermannpark.org/urbangreen.

Urban Green’s Ski the Green

Houston’s young professionals pulled out their finest Aspen attire for Urban Green’s Ski the Green on November 21, 2013. Chairs Paula Whitten-Doolin and Oliver Doolin, Eve French, and Courtney Carlson Siegmund and Brandon Siegmund, along with the Urban Green Steering Committee, chaired by Catherine Bradley, transformed the Historic Clubhouse in Hermann Park into a welcoming ski lodge complete with hot chocolate from The Chocolate Bar, brews from Saint Arnold Brewing Company, rum apple cider, animal trophies, wreaths, and lanterns. Guests enjoyed making s’mores by the fire and dined on fare from local restaurants. The party included a fabulous silent auction where the hot item was a trip, including United Airlines tickets, to Telluride, Colorado! This après-ski themed party drew hundreds of young people to the Park for this fun night, raising over $20,000 for general operations. Urban Green is the Conservancy’s young professionals’ group and proceeds from the event benefit Hermann Park Conservancy. Learn more about Urban Green and sign up for Urban Green emails at www.hermannpark.org/urbangreen.
**Hermann Park Happenings**

**PINEWOOD CAFE**

**Pinewood Cafe Now Offering Beer and Wine**

Pinewood Cafe is pleased to announce the addition of beer and wine to our beverage assortment. No glass is allowed in the Park, so all of our beers are offered in 12 oz. cans and can be consumed at the Cafe or in the Park. Our beer assortment includes a variety of domestic, import and local craft beers. We are especially happy to feature three beers from Houston’s own Karbach Brewery. Our wine is offered in single serve plastic bottles and can be enjoyed anywhere in the Park. This spring come enjoy the nice weather by McGovern Lake and take in the view of the Park around you.

**Kids Enjoy a Holiday Party in Hermann Park**

On the second Saturday in December, Conservancy members and Park guests enjoyed the Hermann Park Holiday Party in Kinder Station. The Conservancy offered a number of arts and crafts projects with a holiday theme. Children made ornaments from Popsicle sticks, decorated miniature Christmas trees with glitter, and created yummy chocolate donut reindeers.

**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 and be a lasting part of Hermann Park’s legacy. 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 713-524-5876 x339 or development@hermannpark.org.
Save the Dates! Hermann Park Conservancy 2014 Calendar of Events

This is an exciting time in Hermann Park! Please mark your calendar for these upcoming events!

Tai Chi in the Park
(Lykes Grove)
Every Saturday in March
9 a.m.

Hats in the Park Luncheon
Tuesday, March 4, 11:30 a.m.

Trenton Doyle Hancock
Art in the Park Opening
Thursday, March 6

Orly Genger
Art in the Park Opening
March

Ugo Rondinone
Art in the Park Opening
March

Sharon Engelstein
Art in the Park Opening
March

Hermann Park Kite Festival
Saturday, March 29
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Hermann Park Dog Walk
Presented by the Houston Rockets
Saturday, April 5

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

Visit www.hermannpark.org/calendar for details on Hermann Park Conservancy events

Cassie Detering
Anne Eubank
Jessica and Chris Grizzaffi
Nicole Haagensen
Rachel and Ben Hancock
Nikki and Robert Hanley
Amy and David Hargis
William Hixon
Joshua House
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Rashida Lee
Mandi Lewis
Stephanie and Thomas Miles
Jason Murtle
Sharon Noel
Sarah and David Noffsinger
Cheryl Nolan and Scott Looper
Mary and Weston O’Black
David Rassin
Cati and Samuel Rines
Amanda Shaw and Thomas Sowers
Syrinda and Jeremy Sheng
Courtney Carlson Siegmund and Brandon Siegmund
Holly A. N. Smith
Michelle Stair
Douglas Steimle
Rebekah and William Stowe
Lynn and James Wilson

In Kind
Adair Kitchen
Alley Theatre
Anytime Fitness
Beirne, Maynard & Parsons, L.L.P.
Bliss on 19th
Butter & Company
Mindy Campbell – Rodan + Fields
Consultant
Chipotle Mexican Grill
The Chocolate Bar
Copydotcom, Inc.
DEFINE Body & Mind
Eaton Corporation
The Spa at Four Seasons Houston
Jason Griffin
The Grove
Hardcore Pilates
HFG Wealth Management
Hotel Icon
Houston B-cycle
Houston IMG Sports Marketing
Houston Zoo, Inc.
The Houstonian Hotel, Club, and Spa
Imperium Crossfit
Inprint Houston
Langford Market
Lucky Strike Lanes and Lounge – Houston
Luminis Transportation
McDonald Land Services, Inc.
MMAR Medical Group Inc.
The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Mary Nichols Handbags
The Peaks Resort
Paul Petronella
Pisco Porton
Proof Bar + Patio
Raising Cane’s
Revival Market
Roadrunner Cleaning and Errands

DONORS

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Lynn Hargrove
Donna Shepherd – In memory of Jane Richardson Schorre
Nita and Don Waterman – In honor of Paul and May Chu

Japanese Garden
$10,000 – $24,999
The Japan-America Society of Houston, Inc.
$100 – $499
Shirley Bludau and Mike Grimes
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Michael Dooley
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Margie and Bill Hanwell
The Il Palazzo Condominium Association – In memory of Joseph Curtis
Alicia Kowalchuk and Benjamin Saldana – In honor of Enzo Carol and Dan Price – In honor of Mrs. Rex Shanks, Jr.
Carol and Dan Price – In honor of Josie and Michael Jones
Carol and Dan Price – In honor of Stephanie and Kirby Shanks
Carol and Dan Price – In honor of Katherine Dodd
Kitty and Peter Quinn – In memory of Jane Schorre
Gabriele and Heinrich Taegtmeyer

Reforestation and Maintenance
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The Clayton Fund, Inc.
$1,000 – $4,999
John P. McGovern Foundation

Habitat Conservancy
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Kar in Knapp – In honor of Marathon Oil Corporation
Missy Priest and Eric Raun
In memory of Jane Schorre

Tree Conservancy
$500 – $999
Suzanne and Peter Day – In memory of Mark Folkes

Volunteer Programs
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BHP Billiton
$100 – $499
Boy Scouts of America Troop #825

In Kind
Optum – United Healthcare Service

Dog Park
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Cynthia Birdwell and Ian Laski – In honor of Levi Birdwell

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May Shelmire Duncan
Steppie and Robert Holscaw
David Langworthy
Jackie and Malcolm Mazow
Laur a and Brad McWilliams
Terrylin G. Neale

In memory of Dr. Robert M. Battle
Mr. and Mrs. William A. Camfield

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 July 1 and December 31, 2013, as well as all George Hermann Society members. Gifts to the H ats in the Park luncheon and Evening in the Park gala will be recognized in subsequent issues. 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.