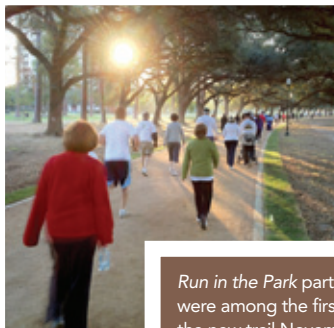


PARKSIDE

HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY NEWSLETTER

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in the park



Run in the Park participants were among the first to enjoy the new trail November 5.

Happy Trails to You!

The Hermann Park pedestrian trail is now open following fantastic improvements completed this fall. The renovation of the two-mile trail, which loops around the Hermann Park Golf Course, was accomplished thanks to a federal grant administered by the Texas Department of Transportation. Mayor Annise Parker officiated the ribbon-cutting ceremony opening the trail on November 5, 2011.

To the delight of neighborhood runners and walkers, the trail now features a new decomposed granite surface with concrete curbs, lighting, and drainage. The trail route was adjusted to avoid close proximity to roads wherever possible. As a result, runners and walkers can take in scenic views of tranquil park life and enjoy the cooling shade of historic Live Oaks lining much of the trail on both sides. The entire two-mile path is uninterrupted by driveways except in two places, both of which are parking lot entrances that do not usually experience high traffic.

Not just beneficial for runners, the amenities offered by the renovated trail will be enjoyed by all who use it simply to get from one

place to another within the Park and by all who visit early in the morning or in the evening when the new lights keep the path well lit. New light posts have also been added along the pedestrian trail beside Fannin and will be particularly appreciated by Miller Outdoor Theatre patrons who come to evening performances by METRORail.

This project is just one of many taking place to improve connections to neighborhoods and accessibility within Hermann Park. The Bill Coats Bike Bridge, which will connect bicycle and walking trails on both sides of Brays Bayou, and a pedestrian underpass under North and South MacGregor, will further achieve this goal. They are scheduled to open this spring.

MISSION

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



www.hermannpark.org

from the executive director

Can you imagine Hermann Park without its trees? Hit with the most devastating drought in recorded history this summer, Hermann Park's trees, plants, and wildlife faced an unprecedented challenge.



Volunteers of all ages helped plant trees on Arbor Day!



Conservancy board chair Ann Kennedy, Mayor Parker, and Doreen Stoller at Run in the Park

In response, neighbors, families, and friends near and far offered their financial and volunteer support to keep our trees healthy and strong. Many cited their grandchildren as inspiration, hoping that they could help keep the trees alive so future generations would know their beauty and be able to sit under their shade. Self-professed "Live Oak lovers" Laurie and Reed Morian deserve special thanks for helping mobilize the critical fundraising effort.

To date the Park has lost over 400 trees due to the drought, whose effects will be seen over the next few years. While we are deeply saddened by the loss, we are thankful to have been able to limit the devastation to 4% of the Park's tree count, a low number by comparison in the region. This is due to our conservation team, which went on alert starting in April; our dedicated volunteers who helped hand water trees all summer; and of course our Save Our Stressed Trees donors who funded additional water tanks when they were most critical.

We are grateful to the community for its ongoing support. *Run in the Park*, a civic celebration of Hermann Park, attracted more than 700 participants on November 5, while Arbor Day on January 21 drew more than 100 volunteers who planted 250 new trees. We will continue planting new trees where they are most needed, and will perform deadwood pruning and fertilization of the Live Oaks throughout the Park thanks to the Save Our Stressed Trees Fund. Because of your help, our grandchildren will grow up to know and love Hermann Park as we have. Thank you.

See you in the Park,

Doreen

Doreen Stoller
Executive Director



DONORS

Grand Gateway

\$100,000-\$249,999

The Elkins Foundation

\$10,000-\$24,999

Marvy Finger Family Foundation

\$1,000-\$4,999

Sharon and Cecil Griffin

H. Joe Nelson III

Save Our Stressed Trees

Special thanks to Laurie and Reed Morian

\$50,000-\$99,999

The Baxter Trust

\$10,000-\$24,999

Shell Oil Company

\$5,000-\$9,999

BBVA Compass

The Jacob and Terese Hershey Foundation

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Laurie and Reed Morian

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Cynthia and Anthony Petrello

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Leticia and Stephen M. Trauber

Kim and Dan Tutchter

Linda and Steve Webster

Meg and Dick Weekley

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Rosalie and William Hitchcock

Kay and Ned Holmes

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Josephine and Philip John

Ann and Tom Kelsey

Butch and Carmen Mach

Nancy Manderson – In memory of Bill Coats

Gary Mercer

Denise Monteleone

Barbara E. Murray

HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY

Run in the Park

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Erin Gregory Neale
Ralph S. O'Connor
The Chris Reichert Family – In memory
of Rev. David M. Reichert
Johnny Steele
Rachael and Jason Volz – In memory of
Karen Ivey Volz
Randa and K.C. Weiner
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Stephanie and Isaac Arnold –
In memory of Jim Elkins
Jim F. Avant
Sue Bleakie – In honor of
Robert Maxwell Bleakie
Linda and Robert Bloss
Judy and Elliott Bouillion
Sissy and Gene Boyd
Kristy and Chris Bradshaw
Susan and Major Bradshaw
Marsha and Jim Braniff
Catherine and Gary Brock – In honor of
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Robin and Richard Brooks
Lee and Ted Brown
Sharon and Chip Bryan
Jenny Calaway
Ginny and Bill Camfield
Kathleen and Ramsay Camp
Marilyn and Larry Chapman, Jr.
Susie and Sanford Criner
Julie B. Crosswell
Claire and John Curtin
Sara Dodd-Spickelmier and
Keith Spickelmier
Colin Patrick Donovan – In memory of
Patrick Michael Donovan
Frances MacDonald Donovan – In
memory of Patrick Michael Donovan
Timothy John Donovan – In memory of
Patrick Michael Donovan
Susan M. Edwards
Clayton and Sheldon Erikson
Nanette and Jerry Finger
The Fordyce Family
Helen Winkler Fosdick – In memory of
Bill Coats
Cece and Mack Fowler – In honor of
Sanford Criner
Anne and Robin French
John Friedman
Vesta and Pedro Frommer
Nancy and Jim Gordon
Judy and Peter Harding
Susan and Robert Hawkins
Monica McKnight Heal and
Steven Heal
Julia and Jay Hellums
William L. Hixon
Houston Endowment Inc.
Fredericka Hunter and Ian Glennie
Jerry Jeanmard
Jill and Dunham Jewett
Sis Johnson – In honor of Marley Lott
Marilyn Jones and Brad Morris –
In memory of Bill Coats
Lisa and Sanjay Kalavar – In memory
of Robert Hervey, a tree lover



And they're off! Mayor Parker shoots the gun to start the race.

On Saturday, November 5, 2011, youngsters, families, and serious runners took their places in Molly Ann Smith Plaza for *Run in the Park*. For the first time in the Run's history, the program took place entirely in Hermann Park. Morning events included a five-mile run, two-mile family walk, 1K kids' run, and post-race party.

Mayor Annise Parker kicked off the morning's activities by shooting the gun to begin the five-mile run and the family walk. After winding around the Park along the renovated trail, runners and walkers made their way to the finish line back at Molly Ann Smith Plaza between the Jones Reflection Pool and McGovern Lake. The kids' run followed, taking children by Miller Outdoor Theatre and the Jones Reflection Pool. All together, over 700 participants enjoyed a healthy jaunt around the Park!

The post-race party included tasty treats from bagels to beer, massage therapists for runners, music, and more. The Plaza

was packed with Park neighbors and friends cheering for runners at the finish line, families and corporate teams bonding in their matching Run t-shirts, and proud kids' run participants smiling for their parents' cameras.

Run in the Park is a valuable community effort that raises funding to keep the Conservancy's efforts going strong. It raised over \$40,000 this year and was a big success thanks to Run coordinator Mindy Campbell, race chair Scott Dorfman, race director Jack McClintic, and the many community sponsors who helped fund the event and provide for the post-race party.

Pinewood Cafe is Now Open!



Pinewood Cafe is the newest addition to Hermann Park. Located in Lake Plaza next to Kinder Station, the Cafe has received rave reviews since opening in November. Food critics and online reviewers have praised its delicious, fresh fare, and affordable pricing.



The Pinewood Cafe menu includes chef-inspired salads, wraps, and burgers, as well as a fun and delicious build-your-own grilled cheese section. Go

ahead and try ham and brie with apples on French bread, or perhaps grilled chicken and pepper jack cheese with avocado on jalapeno cheddar bread. The helpful staff will be happy to suggest their favorite custom grilled cheese combos.

Meanwhile smoothies, s'mores, and other sweet treats are also available, and the children's menu will delight parents and kids alike with its simple, healthy choices.

Just beyond the Cafe's doors, the dining terrace overlooking McGovern Lake gives Pinewood patrons an unbeatable spot to enjoy their meal. The terrace is dog friendly, so canine friends are welcome! Pinewood owners Olivia and Sean Blair have some great plans for the future including happy hours on the terrace, Sunday brunches, and picnic baskets for Miller Outdoor Theatre performances.

Visit Pinewood Cafe today! A portion of proceeds support Hermann Park Conservancy. Cafe hours are 11am to 6pm, seven days a week. Want to place your order over the phone? Call **713-429-5238**.

In Memoriam

Hermann Park experienced a great loss with the passing of esteemed Japanese landscape architect **Mr. Terunobu Nakai** on January 1, 2012. Mr. Nakai guided the renovation of the Park's Japanese Garden over the last six years. He has left behind fond memories among those who worked under his guidance and the legacy of a beautiful, serene, and authentic Japanese Garden in Hermann Park. For his contribution to Hermann Park, October 27, 2011, was declared Terunobu Nakai Day in the City of Houston.

Mr. Nakai's design assistant Aya Nakamura Hashimoto and venerable Japanese landscape gardener Hiroshi Iwasaki visited from Japan in early February to continue his vision.



DONORS

Save Our Stressed Trees

\$100-\$499 (cont'd.)

Brian J. Kelly
 Ruth Chow Kneese
 Anne and Vivek Kushwaha
 Eden Lacro – In honor of Pogi Lacro
 Joyce and Larry Lander
 Harriet and Truett Latimer
 Maria and Brendan Lee
 Rich Levy – In memory of
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 Diann and Mike Lewter
 Kathy and Tom Lord – In memory of
 Forrester Lord
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 Miriam and John Meyers
 Carol and Bob Miller
 Carol and Roland Miller
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 Doreen Stoller
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 Diane and Charles Ofner
 Deb Parks and Mark Bouzek
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 In memory of Jack Mitchell
 Helena and Brennan Reilly
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 Beth and Joe Weikerth – In honor of
 Andee Campbell
 Lea Weingarten – In honor of
 Fredericka Hunter
 Don Weissman
 Andrea and Bill White
 Brian Witt
 Geri Wood – In memory of
 Martin LoBiondo, Sr.

Harris Wooten – In memory of
Christmas, Celia and Marti
Sallie and Bob Wright
V. Gerald Wright – In honor of
Huberta Nunn Wright
Lois and Steve Zamora – In memory of
Forrester Lord
Susan Zarate and Kathryn Crowder

Plant a Tree**\$500-\$999**

Dixie Hire

\$100-\$499

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Kate Criner Bellin – In honor of
Sanford Criner
Jane and Don Burney
Jennifer and Leo Chen
Sally and Philip Edmundson –
In honor of Mary Criner
Edna G. Houston – In honor of
David, Eric, and Matthew Houston
Deb Parks and Mark Bouzek
Ann and Don Short – In memory of
Betty Brown
Louis H. Skidmore, Jr. – In memory of
Margaret C. Skidmore
Judy Viebig – In memory of
Charles Floyd and David Boyd

Tree Conservancy Fund**\$1,000-\$4,999**Terry Murphree – In memory of
Mary Murphree**\$500-\$999**Bruce G. Garrison – In honor of
Chris Knapp
Lynn and Michael Smith**\$100-\$499**

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Kate Criner Bellin – In honor of
Andrew, Matthew, and Rebecca Woods
Patricia and Ian Butler
Suzanne and Peter Day
Stephanie Fox/Botanica L.S.
Leslie and Tom Kutac
Macey and Harry Reasoner
Linda and Bob Walker

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Shirley Bludau and Mike Grimes

Centennial Campaign**\$1,000-\$4,999**

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\$100-\$499Richard W. Burr
Heather and Lee McIntyre**Centennial Gardens****\$1,000-\$4,999**The Anchorage Foundation, Inc. –
In memory of Claire Schlumberger**Japanese Garden****\$10,000-\$24,999**The Japan-America Society of
Houston, Inc.**In Kind**

Greenleaf Nursery Company

Urban Green's *The Green Gatsby*

Glamorous guests took a backstage pass to the Roaring '20s on November 17, 2011, for Urban Green's *The Green Gatsby*. The cool fall weather was ideal for the open-air event, which gave attendees a rare opportunity to admire Hermann Park from the Miller Outdoor Theatre stage. Chairs Lindley Arnoldy, Georgea Pappas, Elizabeth Spradling, and Annina Stefanelli set the tone in sequined headbands, mile-long strings of pearls, and fringed dresses.

Benefiting Hermann Park Conservancy, the young professionals' event drew a crowd of 300 enthusiastic attendees who danced across the stage, nibbled on light bites, and sipped era-appropriate themed drinks. The 1974 film adaptation of *The Great Gatsby* played against the Theatre's backdrop, while elegant white floral arrangements with feather plumes in tall silver vases helped seal the swanky '20s feel.



Chairs Elizabeth Spradling, Annina Stefanelli, Lindley Arnoldy, and Georgea Pappas

The evening was a huge success thanks to the hard work of the chairs, the Urban Green steering committee led by Brittany Sakowitz, and the numerous sponsors who generously donated to the event.

Celebrate with us!



Did you know Hermann Park will be 100 years old in 2014?

In anticipation of the occasion, Hermann Park Conservancy has been hard at work garnering support and building community awareness for its Centennial Campaign. This effort aims to complete major improvements in the Park, including the renovation of the historic main entrance known as the Grand Gateway and the transformation of the Garden Center, to be called the Centennial Gardens. These are the last key projects left to be completed according to the Park's master plan, which was commissioned by the Conservancy in 1992.

Centennial Campaign support will also fund community events to commemorate the historic year. From temporary art installations to a family kite day, special events all year long in 2014 will bring the community together and give visitors young and old memories that will last a lifetime. The Centennial Celebration will be a citywide effort, with many museums and cultural institutions partnering with the Conservancy on special programs, from lectures to musical performances.

Be a part of the once-in-a-lifetime celebration of Hermann Park. To learn more, please contact **Eliza Wright**, marketing manager, at 713-524-5876 ext. 335 or ewright@hermannpark.org.

Upcoming Events

Courtesy of Houston Arts Alliance



Ai Weiwei Temporary Public Art Exhibition

March through June 2012

Hats in the Park Luncheon

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Chaired by Donna Bruni
Honoring Ernest H. Cockrell

Japan Festival

Saturday, March 31 and
Sunday, April 1, 2012

Open to the public



Keep up with the Conservancy on Facebook and Twitter!

Find us at www.facebook.com/HermannPark
and www.twitter.com/HermannPark



Shop at Saks Houston for Hermann Park Conservancy

Saks Fifth Avenue has designated Hermann Park Conservancy to receive 5% of purchases made with a registered Saks credit card by our supporters in February 2012.* If you have shopping to do, please go to Saks and

choose Hermann Park Conservancy as the beneficiary of your purchases. You can make your designation at the register when you check out and it will apply to all of your purchases for the entire month of February. So get out there, shop Saks and support Hermann Park Conservancy!

*APPLICABLE SAKS FIFTH AVENUE CREDIT CARD PURCHASES. PURCHASES AT LOUIS VUITTON AND FUR SALON ARE EXCLUDED. PARTICIPANTS MUST BE REGISTERED SAKS CARD HOLDERS AND SELECT FROM ONE OF THE PARTNERING CHARITIES. CUSTOMERS ENROLLMENT AND DESIGNATION IS FINAL. SPEND WILL BE CAPTURED FROM 2/1/12 - 2/29/12 AUTOMATICALLY AND ALL SPEND DURING THIS PERIOD WILL COUNT FOR THE PROMOTION REGARDLESS OF ENROLLMENT DATE. HSBC IS NOT INVOLVED WITH THE SELECTION OF THE CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS. PROGRAM COMMENCES AS OF THE DATE FEBRUARY 1, 2012 AND SHALL END FEBRUARY 29, 2012.

Evening in the Park Gala



Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Chaired by Ileana and Michael Treviño, Susan Krohn and Patrick Gehm
Honoring Rice University

Student Performance Series

Check www.hermannpark.org for a list of upcoming performances by Houston area students.

Second Saturdays

Members of Hermann Park Conservancy are welcome to ride the Hermann Park Railroad for free from 9am to 10am on the second Saturday of every month.

Visit

www.hermannpark.org for up-to-date event details.

DONORS

Community Outreach

\$1,000-\$4,999
Doreen Stoller and Dan Piette

Run in the Park

\$5,000-\$9,999
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Texas Children's Hospital
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Urban Green's Green Gatsby

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Annina Elizabeth Stefanelli
\$100-\$499
Todd G. Amdor and Matthew Stone
Heather M. Ardeel
Harrison Bolling
Avery Burns
Adrea Chow and Sergio Leal
Courtland Crosswell
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Fuddruckers
Gardner Landry
GIGI'S Asian Bistro and Dumpling Bar
Hamilton Shirts
Hermann Park Golf Course
Houston Ballet
Houston Grand Opera
The Impeccable Pig
Galleria/St. Martin's Jazzercise
Jenni's Noodle House
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Main Street Theatre
Mosaic on Hermann Park
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Shyn Salon
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Snap Kitchen
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Vintage Lounge
Wish Boutique Houston
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William Streng
Linda and Dick Sylvan
Mardy and James Thomas
Michael Townsend
Gail and Thomas Viele
Rachael and Jason Volz
Dan Wolterman

Runners, Walkers, and Joggers Memorial

\$1,000-\$4,999

Ann and Don Short – In memory of
Marvin Taylor, Jr.

\$500-\$999

The Chris Reichert Family

\$100-\$499

Robin and Richard Brooks
Margaret and John Burns
Jane Anderson Curtis and Bill Curtis –
In memory of Bill Coats
Cece and Mack Fowler
Steppie and Robert Holsclaw
Ann Kennedy and Geoffrey Walker
Margaret L. Kripke and Isaiah J. Fidler
June and Tommy Lott
Phoebe and Bobby Tudor
Keith Watson Wade
John E. Walsh, Jr.
Maryn and Herbert Yuan

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Kathrine G. McGovern
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Foundation

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Sheila and Isaac Heim binder
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Brenda Farrell and
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Executive Director
doreen@hermannpark.org

Lynne Donoghue
Accounting Manager
ldonoghue@hermannpark.org

Barbara Jo Harwell
Conservation Director
barbara_jo@hermannpark.org

Derrick Jackson
Maintenance Coordinator
djackson@hermannpark.org

Mike Johnson
Project Manager
mjohnson@hermannpark.org

Diane Kerr
Manager of Volunteer Programs
dkerr@hermannpark.org

Meghan Miller
Director of Development
mmiller@hermannpark.org

Ron Misrack
Director, Visitor Services
rmisrack@hermannpark.org

LaTonya Scott
Assistant Manager, Visitor Services
lscott@hermannpark.org

Caroline Urquhart
Development Assistant
curquhart@hermannpark.org

Eliza Wright
Marketing Manager
ewright@hermannpark.org