

LINKED

*A Publication of the
Greater Heights Area Chamber of Commerce*

*Volume 10 Number 1
January 2018*



CHAIRMAN

Dee Farino
Third Coast Impressions

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRPERSON

Cindy Reibenstein
Reibenstein & Associates

VICE CHAIR

Teresa Nicolas-Briggs
Houston Highway Credit Union

TREASURER

Amy Ritter
Allegiance Bank

SECRETARY

Taylor Woodard
Raymond James

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tony Allman
PrimeWay Federal Credit Union

Craig Atkinson
Houston Highway Credit Union

Bill Ballew
CPA

Hector Castellanos
Allegiance Bank

Brian Gilbert
Members Trust of the SW Federal Credit Union

Rick Hurst
CenterPoint Energy

Susan Jadowski
Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital

Matthew Kelly
Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital

Lindsey Pollock
Garden Oaks Montessori Magnet School

Nadia Troutenko
Troutenko Insurance Services

STAFF

Jacob Millwee
President

Jill Johnston
Director of Events & Operations

Larry Plasek
Director of Communications

Tiffany Salinas
Director of Member Services

Joni Simpson-Gomez
Office Administrator

ADVISORY DIRECTORS

Norman Adams

Scott Lester

**City Council Member,
Ellen Cohen, District C**

Alan Rosen
Harris County Constable, Precinct One

GREATER HEIGHTS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2050 North Loop West, Suite 203 • Houston, TX 77018
Phone: 713.861.6735 • Fax: 713.861.9310
www.HeightsChamber.org

- 4 Economic Forecast Luncheon January 25
- 5 Crawfish Festival, Parade & Idol of the Heights
- 8 Familiar Face at Orientations
- 9 Spotlight on Non-Profit
- 11 Scholarship Deadline for Applications
- 12 New Members

THE TIME HAS COME!

Earning Credit on your new

ACCOUNT ANALYSIS CHECKING

- Real Estate Loans up to 25 year
- Competitive Fixed Rate Loans
- Construction Loans
- SBA Loans
- Lines of Credit
- Debt Consolidation

Contact our experienced Business Team at 713.799.6525. We're an SBA Approved Lender!

www.primevayfcu.com/business 713.799.6200

Federally Insured by the NCUA



Dear Members,

There is something wonderfully invigorating about the first week of January. Even if we have plans in place it feels like the whole world has a clean slate. The palate is cleansed and ready for a fresh start. As always we feel a drive to try new things and break the mold of our past commitments. This is beneficial and I encourage you all to try something new in 2018, but I feel that there is a greater opportunity present: an opportunity to revisit tried and true activities with clean perspective.

For example, I have often started the New Year with a resolution to bike through my neighborhood, ostensibly three times a week. Now in the past my motivation has been based on exercise. So each morning for the whole four weeks I actually keep my resolution I lumber onto my bike and think about sweating and calories and how many Oreos I can now get away with. But this year, while essentially keeping the same resolution, I am telling myself that I am riding my bike to observe the neighborhood and organize my thoughts for the week.

I'm still pedaling away and sweat is still involved, but all of a sudden my entire attitude about riding my bike has changed. I'm no longer riding for a period of time or for a set distance – I'm simply riding until I feel mentally balanced, until I've seen my neighbors and how high the creek is today. The activity remains, but my experience and my expectations are new.

As always we have big things planned for 2018, and are starting out with the annual Economic Forecast Luncheon. Then in March we will have our famous Crawfish Festival and Parade, followed by a Food Truck Festival in April, and our Education Luncheon in May

Even though many of you have attended these events before I encourage you to look at them with fresh eyes, from that clean slate perspective. Think about new ways you can benefit, fresh approaches to networking, and find expectations you never had considered previously.

It's a new year folks, and like every year before the world is our oyster. But it is our attitude and our perspective that will empower success in this brave new world of 2018, more so than our actions or resolutions. Here's to the future.

Sincerely,

Jacob Millwee
Your Chamber President



2018 Annual Membership Directory Released

The Chamber's Annual Membership Directory has been wrapped up and will be mailed to members. The directory includes information that enables member names and member business classifications to be quickly found. The colorful directory includes advertising to keep business and service providers highly visible to members and other readers. In addition, the directory includes information about the Chamber and its many activities. The new directory is another value provided to Chamber members as well as a valuable resource for Greater Heights-area residents," said Chamber President **Jacob Millwee**. The directory's online version will be available 24/7 on the Chamber website, www.heightschamber.org.

LEARN THE UPSIDES AND ANY DOWNSIDES OF THE 2018 ECONOMY AT THE ANNUAL ECONOMIC FORECAST LUNCHEON



On January 25 you will not want to miss hearing how the Houston economy will fair in 2018 and in the years ahead. Which considerations should your business make based on local, state, U.S. and global economics? Join the Heights Chamber of Commerce at the annual Economic Forecast Luncheon to hear **Dr. Bill Gilmer**, Director of the Institute for Regional Forecasting in the University of Houston's Bauer College of Business. **Melissa Correa** of KHOU-TV and Channel 11 will serve as emcee.

His presentation will address the future of Houston business, employment, and interest rates, all of which are being impacted by the energy market. What impact will rising crude oil prices have on Houston? Dr. Gilmer is one of the nation's leading economists. He served as the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas Chairman for 23 years, retiring as a senior economist and Vice President. His work on the Texas economy has been recognized by publications including *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Economist* and *Forbes*.

Reserve your table today as space is limited. Event sponsorships are available as a way to increase your visibility among Chamber members as well as numerous guests. Sponsorships are still available.

Platinum: \$2,500 – Includes table of 8, recognition and logo in the event program, preferred table placement, logo in LINKED and on the Chamber website, and product placement at each table.

Gold: \$1,100 – Includes table of 8, recognition in the event program, preferred table placement and recognition in LINKED.

Silver: Members – \$575 and non-members are \$750. Includes a table of 8 and recognition in the event program.

Individual Seat – Members - \$80 and non-members are \$95.

To purchase tickets or to sponsor this event, contact **Jill Johnston** at 713-861-6735 or email events@heightschamber.org. Payments may be made on line to <https://heightschamber.org/event/economic-forecast-luncheon>.

THE CHAMBER IS GRATEFUL TO THESE GENEROUS SPONSORS:

- PLATINUM**
-  MEMBERS TRUST
- GOLD**
- ALLEGIANCE BANK
- MEMORIAL HERMANN GREATER HEIGHTS HOSPITAL
- SPIRIT OF TEXAS BANK
- SILVER**
- FROST BANK • HOUSTON HIGHWAY CREDIT UNION • LANE PROPERTY TAX ADVOCATES
- THE MAY GROUP • MEMBERS TRUST OF THE SW FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
- RETIREMENT CENTER MANAGEMENT • TOMMIE VAUGHN FORD








Crawfish Festival to Offer Food and Parade Fun for All on March 3

Talk about being bigger and better, that's the mantra for this year's annual Heights Crawfish Festival. What makes it bigger and better? Well, for starters, there is a colorful parade, led by **Grand Marshall Jim (Mattress Mac) Mcingvale** that will meander down 20th street and wind its way into the Crawfish Festival location at 411 West 20th Street. Melissa Correa of KHOU-TV and Channel 11 will serve as MC. The activities will be more numerous. In short, this promises to be a fun-filled day for the entire family. The Festival begins at 10:00 a.m. and doesn't end till sundown

Take it from Committee Chair **Teresa Briggs**, "Crawfish consumers will be happy because there will be plenty of mudbugs to eat." Couple that with some ice cold beverages and what more could a person want? If you don't fancy crawfish and the fixings, there are plenty of other foods available like hot pizza from Papa Murphy's. No reason to leave the kids at home. There will be numerous Kids' Zone activities for them to enjoy.

Astute shoppers will find the shopper's paradise right up their alley. Vendors will be promoting products of all types, so you are sure to find the unusual and "must have" items available for sale. Oh, and did we mention the cheerleaders, musical groups and other entertaining activities? You don't want to miss this fun event. Please mark your calendar for March 3 and plan on having a wonderful time at the Greater Heights Area Chamber's Crawfish Festival.

Sponsorships are available for this terrific event. Consider having your company as a sponsor and receive publicity and recognition among over 7,000 – 10,000 expected visitors. Complete sponsorship information will be available on the Chamber website at www.heightschamber.org, or contact **Jill Johnston** at 713-861-6735 for sponsorships, display spaces or to volunteer.

SPONSORS TO DATE INCLUDE:

UNDERWRITER





\$5,000



\$2,500



Idol of the Heights Contestants to Compete for Top Prize of \$1,500

You will want to cheer on the Idol of the Heights Finalists at the Crawfish Festival to be held on March 3. The festival provides an opportunity to watch and hear the finalists in the "Idol of the Heights" singing contest make their final performances on stage to win cash prizes of \$1,500, \$700 and \$300. The initial competition begins at Dan Electros Guitar Bar on February 9. All events are staged from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The second preliminary will be on February 16 at McIntyre's. The semi-finals will be on February 23 at Karbach Brewing Company. Competition is open to anyone 18-21 years and older and contestants may register at www.heightschamber.com. The cost of pre-registration is \$30 and it will be \$40 at the door the nights of the competition. A panel of judges with audience participation will select the winners.

Proud sponsors of the Idol of the Heights are: Dan Electros Guitar Bar (Preliminary 1), Hampton Inn & Suites, Hartz Krispy Chicken on Pinemont, Jan Stephenson Graphic Design, McIntyre's (Preliminary 2), Karbach Brewing Company (Semi-finals), Memorial Hermann Greater Heights, Silver Eagle Distributors, Taylor Woodard of Raymond James.

Chamber Open House Proved Popular



To celebrate the new offices and the holiday season, the Chamber hosted an open house on December 7. Members and guests had a first-hand look at the offices located at 2050 North Loop West, #203. Holiday punches, prepared by **Jacob Millwee**, and other beverages along with tasty tidbits were served along with some impressive baking done by **Tiffany Salinas**. According to the staff, one of the most impressive things about their new home is "WINDOWS!" Yes, for the first time staffers can see the outside world. Although often a taken for granted thing we know, it did offer a pleasant change along with brand new "digs." Thanks to everyone who came, and an open invitation is always extended for those would like to come.



Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital Appoints New Chief Nursing Officer

Ann Szapor, MBA, BSN, RN, NEA-BC, has been named Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) at Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital. As CNO, Szapor has executive oversight of regulatory standards, compliance, patient satisfaction, patient safety, quality of patient care, and employee engagement.

"We are excited to have Ann lead our nursing team. Her extensive background in team building and leadership is supported by a collaborative mentality that elevates patient care," said **Susan Jadowski**, Senior Vice President and CEO of Memorial Hermann Greater Heights. "Ann has a track record of improving patient experience within multi-campus health care systems, like Memorial Hermann Health System, and she will be an excellent addition to our team." "I am proud to join the nursing team at Memorial Hermann Greater Heights. They have already proven their dedication to excellence and high-quality patient care by becoming a Magnet designated facility, and I am energized by the opportunity to lead them," said Szapor.

SUPPORT COOPERATION TRUST ADVICE COMMUNITY SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE

Does your financial institution value these same ideals?

Houston Highway Credit Union is a member-owned, not-for-profit financial co-operative that provides savings, credit and other financial services. With a strong belief in the credit union philosophy of *people helping people*, Houston Highway Credit Union has helped thousands reach their financial goal, and we promise to continue to search for innovative ways to improve our number one priority: *excellent service*.

Highway
your road to financial success

(713) 864-4438 | www.houstonhighwaycu.com

8120 Washington Ave.

Bank Visitor CU Member

Follow Us On: f t i

LEADER

NCUA

Familiar Faces Gaye Jackson

Well, time to recognize another native Houstonian. Gaye Jackson, owner of Gaye Jackson's Flowers in the Heights, grew up in Spring Branch, graduated and set out for Texas A & M University where she majored in Psychology. Beginning her ultimate floral career, she first worked at a friend's flower show and totally enjoyed the experience.

Following college, Gaye spent some time doing marketing and in real estate. No doubt furthering her business experience, and soon-to-be, floral profession. However, feeling the urge to become her own boss, this dynamic lady "bit the bullet" and went into business on her own. Or as she says, "If it didn't work, I would get a real job!" Wow, did it work, because her real job these days is satisfying customers and bringing joy into lives. At one time she had 3 stores.



Was she good at it? Being named "Very Best" Wedding Florist for 9 straight years, and coupled with being in the "Top 100

Fastest Growing Businesses in Houston" proved that point. Joining the Chamber, Gaye recognized it for its business-building capabilities and appreciated its commitment to enhancing the entire community.

Spare time finds her involved in the River Oaks Business Women's Exchange Club and finding time to travel. With her son, Jackson, born to a proud mother at age 50, they have been to China and are planning an extended stay in Kauai in July of this year. On November 11th, she celebrated her 40th year in the floral business, certainly a major milestone in her life. Always smiling, Gaye Jackson is a Chamber

member representative of living life to the fullest, and a beautiful flower that continues to bloom!

Gold Patron Profile Spirit of Texas Bank



This month we salute another Gold Patron member of the Chamber, Spirit of Texas Bank. This progressive organization joined the Chamber in January of 2010, and has been totally supportive of the Chamber.

This month we salute another Gold Patron member of the Chamber, Spirit of Texas Bank. This progressive organization joined the Chamber in January of 2010, and has been totally supportive of the Chamber.

The institution was established in November of 2008 through the acquisition of First Bank of Snook, (for the uninitiated, that's in Texas). A group of seasoned bankers and investors led by Dean Bass established the commercial bank which emphasizes small to middle market commercial lending and all related products and services.

A fast growing institution, today the bank does business from fourteen offices including 720 North Post Oak, Suite 101 in Houston. Additional Texas locations include College Station, Clear Lake, Ft Bend, Magnolia, Snook, Tomball, the Woodlands, Conroe and four in the Dallas/Fort Worth

Metroplex. Perhaps their fast growth has to do with their exemplary mission statement: "Texans helping Texans. Born in the Heart of Texas and raised on Texas values."

In addition, Spirit of Texas Bank understands the needs of its customers and provides those means in keeping with today's fast-changing business world. The bank started with \$30 million in assets and has grown to over \$800 million.

Gina Tipps is the bank's Chamber representative at Spirit of Texas Bank and she can be reached at 713-613-1100. To learn more about the bank, go to www.spiritoftexasbank.com. The Chamber appreciates the contributions and on-going support of Spirit of Texas Bank, and proudly recognizes it as a valued organization helping fellow members and the communities it serves.

Spotlight on Non-Profit The Periwinkle Foundation



This month we are spotlighting The Periwinkle Foundation, one of our newer Chamber members and a local pediatric cancer non-profit. Periwinkle is a Community of Healing through camps, arts and survivor programs, which are provided at no cost to children and families affected by cancer and other life-threatening illnesses who are cared for at Texas Children's Hospital.

Each year more than 14,000 children, teens and families are touched by Periwinkle programs, including Camp Periwinkle, Camp YOLO, Periwinkle Family Camp, Periwinkle Day Camp, Camp Days at Texas Children's Hospital, the Long Term Survivor Program and the Periwinkle Arts In Medicine Program, which culminates each year in a traveling exhibition of art by children touched by cancer and blood disorders. Through camping, recreational and arts programming, and a collaborative community of over 20,000 supporters, The Periwinkle Foundation provides opportunities for these special children and their families to heal emotionally, lead fuller lives and become stronger survivors.

For additional information, please contact **Mary Rosenstein**, Development Coordinator, at mrosenstein@periwinklefoundation.org or (713)807-0191. Learn more at www.periwinklefoundation.org.

RIBBON CUTTINGS



Christie Gunter welcomed members and guests to her ribbon cutting at China Baroque. The outstanding store is located at 879 Frostwood Drive and features jewelry made from original china pieces plus many more gift ideas.



Maria Garza, owner of Athas Florist which was a business established since 1949 held her ribbon cutting at the facility located at 2210 Ella Boulevard. She invites everyone to see her gift selections and learn about her floral services.



Kimberly Taurins and the team at Four Dragons Institute hosted a ribbon cutting at their 427 West 20th Street, Suite 602 location. This institute offers Yoga, Daoism, Tai Chi and Q1 Gong. Kimberly invites you to consider "Spirituality has infinite expressions, how will you express yours?"



Brad Baldwin of Baldwin Wellness Center hosted a ribbon cutting at his Center to celebrate Chamber membership. His location is 2885 Magnum Road, Suite A433. Call to learn more about his healthcare and wellness services for enhances a patient's well-being.



Kelsey Kosen of Yoga Balance had her ribbon cutting with members and guests and explained all the options available to take advantage of her instruction. Unique to Kelsey is the fact that she comes to clients instead of having a studio. Mobile yoga, yes!



Shawn Manderscheid of the Shawn Manderscheid Team held a ribbon cutting at their impressive new offices located at 638 Heights Boulevard. Featuring realty experience and specialized knowledge sets this organization apart from others.

BE AN OWNER,
NOT A CUSTOMER

MONEY TALKS AND WE'RE LISTENING

Switch to Members Trust, where our member-owners share in the profit. We offer you the same products and services, with lower rates and fewer fees.

Personal and Business Services
Auto and Home Loans
Credit Cards and Personal Loans
Free Checking
Free Online & Mobile Banking

Experience the **CREDIT UNION** difference.



MEMBERS TRUST
OF THE SOUTHWEST
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

www.MTFCU.coop

2315 Mangum Road
Houston, TX 77092
800 683-6455




events

1.10
Ribbon Cutting
Wicklow Heights
1027 West 19th Street
4:00 p.m.

1.11
Breakfast Connection
Sheraton Houston
Brookhollow Hotel
3000 North Loop West
7:00 – 8:30 a.m.
Program: CV Rao
Sponsor: **Farmers Insurance**
Susan Rash Agency

1.11
Ribbon Cutting
Q Clothier
242 Yale Street, Ste. B
4:00 p.m.

1.16
Ribbon Cutting
Eric Albora State Farm
8100 Washington Ave., Ste. 240
4:00 p.m.

1.17
Ribbon Cutting
Crom Rehabilitation
946 N. Shepherd Drive, Ste. A
4:00 p.m.

1.18
Business After Hours
Frost Bank
4606 N. Shepherd Drive
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

1.19
Ribbon Cutting
Lucy's Boutique
946 N. Shepherd Drive, Ste. F
4:00 p.m.

1.23
Ribbon Cutting
Sian Therapeutics
4822 Fulton St., Ste. B
11:00 a.m.

1.24
Ribbon Cutting
The Barking Pig
2307 Ella Blvd.
4:00 p.m.

1.25
Economic Forecast Luncheon
Sheraton Houston
Brookhollow Hotel
3000 North Loop West
11:00 – 1:30 p.m.

1.30
Ribbon Cutting
Plucked and More
811 Heights Blvd.
11:00 a.m.

1.31
Chamber Orientation
Village of the Heights
1407 Studewood Street
11:45 – 1:15 p.m.

1.31
Ribbon Cutting
Sandler Training
2000 N. Loop West, Ste. 200
4:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY
2.01 HYP
2.06 Noontime Networking
2.08 Breakfast Connection
2.09 1st Idol Preliminary
2.12 Ribbon Cutting
2.13 Ribbon Cutting
2.16 2nd Idol Preliminary
2.15 Business After Hours
2.22 Ribbon Cutting
2.23 Idol Semi-Finals
2.28 Orientation

NOTE: Changes may occur in this calendar after publishing, see www.heightschamber.org for confirmations.

The What, When and Where of Chamber Orientations



As new members begin their journey within the Chamber, and for prospective members, the monthly Chamber Orientation can be extremely beneficial. By attending one of these sessions, individuals can get an overview of Chamber activities, programs, sponsorships, community events, and so much more.

Typically held the last Wednesday of each month, please check the Chamber website for the location since it has changed from the Chase Bank location. Orientation sessions span the lunch hour so every attendee's time is minimized. Lunch is provided for the sessions. Open seating ensures that you are likely to obtain new business contacts, meet some Ambassadors, and potentially open the door for future business contacts from fellow attendees.

Complete Chamber informational packets are distributed and each of the major topics are addressed during the meeting. You will have the opportunity to learn about major events like the Crawfish Festival and Parade (coming up on March 3); the Chamber Celebration (typically held in September) and more. Insights into the monthly Breakfast Connection and Business After Hours events are presented and you will learn about low or no-cost publicity and advertising opportunities for your business on the Chamber Website, (www.heightschamber.org).

Tiffany Salinas, Director of Member Services hosts the Orientations and she conducts the sessions in an open and friendly manner. Everyone is introduced and can identify their businesses with a short statement for the benefit of the group. Questions are encouraged and Tiffany even provides a fun quiz at the end of the session for a prize winner. Orientations enable individuals new to the Chamber to quickly identify how their membership offers immediate value and maximum benefits thru active participation and the many networking occasions. Sponsorship of an Orientation is only \$150. esTo make a reservation to attend the next Orientation, please contact info@heightschamber.org.

PLAQUE PRESENTATIONS



Ambassador **Neil McGlone** of LegalShield gave a new member plaque to **Janie Garza, Susan Rash** and **Henry Eversole** of Farmers Insurance – **Susan Rash Agency**.



Chase and Kyle McIntyre accepted their new membership plaque from Ambassador **Natalie Coyle** of Shooting Star Promotions. McIntyre's is located at 1230 West 20th Street.



Ambassador **John Frels** of Fairway Mortgage delivered a new member plaque to **Brian Kreps** of Q Clothier located at 642 Yale Street, Suite B.



Klaus Franza of Krisp Bird and Batter accepted a new member plaque from Ambassador **Willie Diefenbach-Jones** of SendOutCards.



Scholarship Committee Invites Applications before March 1 Deadline

The Chamber's Scholarship Committee is currently accepting applications from students of Heights High, Waltrip, Scarborough, Northside, Booker T. Washington, Lutheran North, St. Pius X, New Heights Christian Academy, Heights Charter, St. Thomas, Memorial Hall, Harmony and YES Central Campus and Kipp Central. Applications are on the chamber website.

With the ever increasing cost of education, many families cannot send their children to college without financial assistance. Chamber members have supported this valuable program by being a single donor of \$2,000, or co-sponsorships can be arranged with contributions in amounts combining up to \$2,000. More than \$350,000 in scholarships has been awarded by the Chamber. The scholarships will be presented May 21, 2018 at the annual Education Luncheon.

Your generous support will be appreciated. To donate or learn more about the Scholarship Program, please email Cindy Reibenstein at creibenstein@aol.com. Please note that this is a Community Fund Activity, which is a 501.c3 and deductible as a charitable organization.



Bobby Meehan with the Houston Dynamo accepted his new member plaque from Ambassador **Bonnie Sheeren** of Houston Health Advocacy.



Ambassador **Glenda Clerc** of Village of the Heights presented a new member plaque to **Kara Ward** and **Melissa Tello** of BEYOGA.



Ambassador **Carole Pickel** of OneHouston Financial presented a new member plaque to **Jen Christopher** of Cyberiad Solutions.



Proudly displaying their new member plaque were **Jessica Edwards, Katelyn Day** and **Karl Heim** of KH Studios.



Ambassador **John Frels** of Fairway Mortgage presented a new member plaque to **Lindsey Kimbell** of Re/Max Inner Loop.



Ambassador **MaryBeth Wegner** of SendOutCards presented a new member plaque to **Sean Bednarz** of Great Heights Brewing Company.



Ambassador **Lyndsey Markos** of My House Fitness presented a new member plaque to **Phillip Huynh** of S Home Décor.



Ambassador **John Hill** of Harco Insurance/ Financial Services presented a new member plaque to representatives of **Nightlight Pediatric Urgent Care** located at 4208 Ella Boulevard.



Ambassador **MaryBeth Wegner** of SendOutCards presented a new member plaque to **Dave Manning** of BMP Partners, Inc.



Ambassador **Carole Pickel** of OneHouston Financial delivered a new member plaque to **Kristen Powell** of The Barking Pig.



Ambassador **MaryBeth Wegner** of SendOutCards delivered a new member plaque to **Stan Terry** of CGT Global.



Ambassador **MaryBeth Wegner** of SendOutCards presented a new member plaque to **Keith Doyle** of Wicklow Heights.



Ambassador **Anne Bell** of Insurance & Benefits Advisors presented a new member plaque to **Jackie Sanders** owner of **Lucy's Boutique & Gifts** located at 915 F on North Shepherd Drive.



Sai Daoheuang and the staff of **Siam Therapeutics Massage** accepted their new member plaque from Ambassador **Carole Pickel** of OneHouston Financial.



Business partners **Shannon & Derek Groenewold, Eric Jones, John Mortensen, Danny Nelson** and **Kimberly Calhoun** of **Stuttgarden Tavern Heights** proudly accepted their membership plaque from Ambassador **Neil McGlone** of LegalShield.



REMINDER:

The Chamber has relocated its offices, the new address is:
2050 North Loop West, #203
Houston, TX 77018



BESPOKE HTX

Andy Sommer
714 Yale St Ste 1Z, 77007
713-814-8198
andy@bespokehtx.com
bespokehtx.com
Bespoke HTX is a local artisan, handmade goods store that puts the emphasis on local makers in Houston as well as Texas. We provide a unique retail experience that focuses on the story behind the product to connect the customer and the maker.

ERIC ALBORA STATE FARM

Eric Albora
8100 Washington Ave Ste 240, 77007
832-804-6010
eric@houstonautohome.com
houstonautohome.com
I help customers with managing the risks of everyday life. Specializing in auto, home, business, and life insurance.

HARMONY SCIENCE ACADEMY OF HOUSTON

Kara Willis
9303 W Sam Houston Pkwy Ste 100, 77099
832-531-5219
kwillis@harmonytx.org
harmonytx.org
The faculty and staff at Harmony Science Academy diligently work to mold responsive, productive, and civic-minded individuals. The 1:12 faculty-student ratio ensures a “hands on approach” with attention placed on the details. Because there are no more than 24 students per class, each class has an opportunity to become a prolific community.

IDENTITY PLUS LLC

Rachel Cevallos
1133 E 11th St , 77009
832-797-7402
Rachel@identityplusllc.com
Identityplusllc.com
We are a Minority/Woman Owned Screen Printing and Embroidery shop.

KAHUNAS

Vicki Loper
5005 Happy Hollow, 77018
281-658-8277
vicki@kahunasusa.com
kahunasusa.com
We do marketing plans, marketing plan fulfillment, commercials, video for the web, and photography

KELLY SIMON PROPERTIES

Kelly Simon
711 W 17th St, 77008
713-880-2939
kellysimonproperties@gmail.com
kellysimon.com
Kelly Simon Properties provides a wide-range of real estate services. Consumers continue to find value in having a real estate professional help them through the home buying and selling process. Referred by: **Carole Pickel**, One-Houston Financial

THE KENWORTHY SCHOOL

Jennifer Johnson
880 West 28th St, 77008
713-999-8028
Jennifer@kenworthyschool.com
Kenworthyschool.com
The Kenworthy school partners with families in an educational pre-school community to instill a love of learning, cultivate resilience and embrace joy. We are enrolling 6 weeks thru 5 years old.

PLUCKED AND MORE

Tamara Harris
811 Heights Blvd Ste 3, 77007
832-449-6528
pluckedandmore@gmail.com
pluckedandmore.com
Plucked and More is a full body waxing, threading, and skincare boutique. We use high quality waxing products and feature the Dermalogica brand for your skincare needs. Our intimate setting is relaxing and tranquil, providing you with PRIVACY, COMFORT, and a Liberating experience. Referred By: **Christina Martinez**, The Leader Newspaper

SWEET CUP

Jasmine Chida
3444 Ella Blvd Ste B, 77018
832-260-2564
info@sweetcupgealto.com
sweetcupgelato.com
We are a local shop that makes gelato and sorbet from scratch in Houston in small batches with a Texas flair on our flavors.

SIAM THERAPEUTICS MASSAGE

Siam Daoheuang
4822 Fulton St #B, 77009
832-804-9484
281-684-867- cell
Saids106@yahoo.com
Siamtherapeuticsmassage.com
Our spa offers innovative therapies and a holistic environment. The search for good health and beauty through massage and the use of natural herbal remedies is an ancient tradition in Thailand.

Our therapists will tailor treatments to your individual needs. Come discover the pleasure and benefits of therapies based on traditional Thai and modern Western techniques.

URBAN FLOAT

Ben Lancaster
250 West 19th St Ste D, 77008
281-929-0190
Ben.lancaster@urbanfloat.com
Urbanfloat.com
We are a hydrotherapy flotation spa. Providing recovery, sensory deprivation and wellness services.



EDUCATION CORNER – January

Yes, Education in the Greater Heights is up and going well with new leadership at some schools, Hamilton Middle, Heights High, Northside High, Clifton Middle, Sinclair Elementary and Arabic Immersion! Our students are doing well and are so involved in the community in many ways. The Chamber members are stepping up to the plate and helping! The American Legion Post is buying books for Katherine Smith Elementary! That Chicken Man Channel on You Tube will be up and running; Naro Mak will be wanting your stories of teachers, students, events with a cause so he can put them on his You Tube Channel! Let’s be a beacon of good and spread how wonderful our Greater Heights Community is and let’s have this showcase full of positive energy!

We are thankful that Washington High School will be able to give their students a means to help under-served areas of United States and Puerto Rico as they did not make their Zimbabwe trip (it would have been during the coup!); HCC Northeast Campus has registration going on and Kenworthy, a new Chamber member and school, is reaching out to all of us as they serve 6 week old infants to 5 years of age—it is a school, not a day care.... So the little ones are learning from an early age! HITS Theatre will present Shrek this spring and at Miller Outdoor Theatre—sponsorships are welcome!

Houston Heights High needs business sponsors for the building of their own outdoor basketball court! The Women of Waltrip are having new experiences including camping! Garden Oaks Montessori will be moving in their new building in the spring and the students are raising funds for their trip to Camp Cullen and D.C. St. Pius X opened a KEY Club and will be taking seniors to D. C. in January. The Academic Rally is early February and all middle schools are encouraged to participate! Harmony School has their Multi-Cultural Festival and their Latin America Leadership Summit in February. We have several schools and organizations already signed up to be in the Chamber Crawfish Festival and the Parade on March 3, 2018. Get your organization signed up! Celebrate Harvey’s Heroes. See you January 11, 2018 at Baptist Temple at 10 am!

Cindy Reibenstein, Education Chair.



QUALITY CARE FOR WOMEN, DELIVERED DAILY IN THE HEIGHTS.

Our family-centered approach focuses on making your childbirth experience as memorable and positive as possible. From the time you learn you are pregnant until your child is born, you and your baby benefit from specialized medical care delivered by our highly skilled affiliated physicians and nurses. Our Level II Neonatal Intensive Care Unit provides advanced care for preemies and babies with special medical needs. And we provide the added reassurance of expedited access to a higher level of care when needed at Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital in the Texas Medical Center.

To schedule a tour or obtain a physician referral, call 713.222.CARE.

memorialhermann.org/heights

Located at Loop 610 and Ella Boulevard



ADVANCING HEALTH



height lights



1. **Belinda Rossiter** of the Houston Show Choir and **Annette Eakes Ponnie**, intern for the Chamber.

2. Ambassador **MaryBeth Wegner** of SendOutCards and **Robert Alvarez** of TransAct Title.

3. **Richard Mikeska** of Resource One Credit Union, **Willie Diefenbach-Jones** and **Laurie Murphy** of Laurie Interior Interiors.

4. Board Member **Brian Gilbert** of Members Trust of the SW Federal Credit Union and **Matthew Hogue** of Lanson B. Jones.

5. Board Chair **Dee Farino** of Third Coast Impressions and Ambassador **Natalie Coyle** of Shooting Star Promotions.

6. **Laura van der Pol**, **Kathryn van der Pol** of Adolf Hoepfl Garage and **Kathy Saccone** of Power in the Cup.

7. **Sue Sharma** of Sign-Ups and Banners and **Sharon Lusk** of OneHouston Financial.

8. **Maria Govea** of Reynolds & Associates and Board Member **Cindy Reibenstein** of Reibenstein & Associates.

9. **Gaye Jackson** of Gaye Jackson in the Heights, Ambassador **Carole Pickel** of OneHouston Financial and **Kelsey Konsen** of Yoga Balance.

10. Ambassador **Neil McGlone** of LegalShield and **Aldric McCardell** of Houston Gym.

11. Board Member **Amy Ritter** of Allegiance Bank and **Jeremy Eackles** of TransGlobal Payment Systems.

12. **Roger Busch** of the U.S. Small Business Administration, Ambassador **Willie Diefenbach-Jones** of SendOutCards and **Jack Van Pelt** of JVP Jewelry.

13. **Phil Collins** of Kelly Simon Properties and **Parrish Warren** of Salon in the Heights.

14. **Shelly Kalra** of Spa810 and Ambassador **Neil McGlone** of LegalShield..

15. **Richard Gomelsky** of The Flying Locksmiths and **Martha Pietsch** of Gateway Academy.

16. Ambassador **Carole Pickel** of OneHouston Financial and **Claudia DeVelasco** of A Day to Remember.

17. Speaker **Samantha Hernandez**, Social Enterprise Director for Elijah Rising briefed the audience on the organizations goals and actions taken against sex trafficking.

18. Board Chair **Dee Farino** of Third Coast Impressions, **Ed Schutheis** of Embark Tree & Landscape, and Board Member **Cindy Reibenstein** of Reibenstein & Associates.

19. **Liz Castro** of Dignity Memorial was the December Breakfast Sponsor and briefed the audience on the benefits of Pre-Need funeral services. Thank you Liz.



2050 North Loop West, Suite 203
Houston, Texas 77018

PRSR
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
HOUSTON TX.
PERMIT 542

LEADERSHIP LEVELS

The Leadership Levels, which includes, Gem, Platinum, Gold and Silver represent the most prestigious designation for member firms.

Without their financial support we would not be able to offer the wide variety of benefits to all of our members and our community.

GEM LEVEL PARTNERSHIPS

DIAMOND PATRONS



GOLD PATRONS

Adams Insurance Service, Inc.
Lockwood & Jones, PLLC
C & D Scrap Metal Recyclers, Co., Inc
Central Care Integrated Health Services.
CenterPoint Energy
Cokinos, Bosien & Young
The Flying Locksmiths of Houston
Heights Medical Tower, Ltd.
IntegraNet

Mach Industrial Group
Marek Family of Companies
Merchandise Pickup Services, Inc.
Shiplely Do-Nuts
St. Joseph Medical Center
in the Heights
Spirit of Texas Bank
Tommie Vaughn Ford
Westside Lexus

RUBY PATRON
Allegiance Bank

SILVER PATRONS

Elan Heights
Elan Memorial Park
Fred Haas Toyota
Grifols Biomat
Northside Lexus
Reynolds & Associates, PLLC
Thai Spice Asian Cuisine

SAPPHIRE PATRONS
Silver Eagle Distributors

Happy Anniversary!

MORE THAN 25 YEARS

North Loop Auto Supply

MORE THAN 10 YEARS

Allegiance Bank
Herring Construction

MORE THAN 5 YEARS

Houston Show Choir
Fidelity National Title

5 YEARS

St. Joseph Medical Center
in The Heights*

MORE THAN 1 YEAR

IntegraNet*
J.G. Hollins Builders
Sport Clips Haircuts
Continental Tool & Supply Co.
Ralph & Ralph, P.C.
Cesar Martinez of Blue Roof Real Estate
HealthFit Pharmacy

1 YEAR

1/2 Price Boxes Houston, Heights
The S Davis Law Group
A 2nd Cup
Moon Cosmetic Dentistry
NiaMoves
Blink Collective Photography
Branche' Boutique
ATypical Space LLC
Lazybrook Baptist Church

*Gold Patron