



The East End Historical District Association

Galveston Island, Texas January 2016

# Neighborhood News



[www.eastendhistoricdistrict.org](http://www.eastendhistoricdistrict.org)

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Read about the rebirth of the 1893 J.S. Waters house at 1116 Church, a new jewel for the Island's East End. Page 4-5. Photo by David Canright

## Membership Vote January 7

The EEHDA membership will meet at 6 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 7, to vote on nominees for our officers and board members for 2016. The meeting will be held at The Cottage, 1501 Postoffice.

**It's important.** Please come and participate in the election. It's necessary to have a quorum to verify the vote. To vote, you must be a paid in full member residing within the boundaries of the East End Historical District. All neighbors and members are welcome to attend.

## President's Column

# What's Next For The East End?

By Julia Muncaster,  
EEHDA President



### Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Happy 2016! A sincere THANK YOU to all the members and supporters of the East End Historical District Association who have all helped to create a stronger, financially stable, focused and friendly neighborhood support system. It's been a wonderful year.

Neighborhood groups, like ours, help to create safe, livable neighborhoods. Our goal is to make it easy for residents to get to know each other and to work together to improve the place we all call home.

Here are some of the East End's key achievements last year, and some of the projects that are upcoming in 2016.

**More Light.** This year we worked with the city using neighborhood funding to install Victorian-style street lamps on Postoffice. In 2016, more lights will be placed on Church and Sealy Avenues. This program will continue until the entire neighborhood glows with these charming lights.

**We debuted our Theater-in-the Park** with director Rebecca Walker. A standing-room only audience saw the spirited rendition of 'The Odd Couple.' The next theatrical offering in Daraugh Park, 'Mischievous in the Magnolias', is set for April 2.

**We updated landscaping** in Daraugh Park with new sprinkler heads, new plantings, and an Oak tree honoring a special friend, Andrew McMorris.

**Walking.** We are still taking applications for the sidewalk project. To participate in having the city pay a portion of a replacement or new sidewalk, contact or ask David Fortenberry for more information.

**We hosted four block parties**, a National Night Out gathering, and a neighborhood Thanksgiving dinner that raised \$750 to benefit the Salvation Army in Galveston. We helped SA provide food, clothing, shelter, counseling, financial assistance for those in need.

**Our paid membership is up**, and we have more advertisers than ever for our EEHDA newsletter.

We had our most successful East End Garden Tour ever with hundreds touring a half dozen gardens.

**Our Christmas Victorian Homes** tours was also a record breaker. Almost every ticket was sold; the houses were beautiful; and the participants seemed to enjoy the evening. The tour was featured in the Houston Chronicle.

**We established a new fund raising** committee led by the enthusiastic, organized Connie Patterson. We now have fabulous retail items: t-shirts, mugs, totes, and the incredibly popular flags.

We have never been more stable financially.

**What's Coming in 2016?** For 2016, there's more in the works. We plan to hold our spring and summer block parties throughout the East End so more neighbors will participate, meet each other, and want to get involved.

In February, there will be a Mardi Gras Brunch and in March or April, a Progressive Brunch in East End neighborhood homes. We'll have our police officers and fire fighters at our October meeting for National Night Out and we'll celebrate Thanksgiving again.

If you have a suggestion for the next nonprofit recipient for our Thanksgiving funds, please contact me with your ideas.

Plan to attend the full membership meeting on Thursday, January 7, when members will vote for a new slate of officers and board members.

If you don't know if you are up-to-date on your dues, look at the mailing label on your EEHDA newsletter. It tells you when your membership dues are due.

**Remember, you are also welcome to contact me with your ideas and suggestions, (409) 789-1739.**

Best wishes for 2016,

Julia

# Victorian Christmas Brings Hundreds To East End Houses

By Deanna Johnson

**The 2015 “A Victorian Christmas” homes tour was a big success!** With the help of East End residents, neighbors and friends, we raised over \$11,000 to support the EEHDA’s continued efforts to preserve, protect and maintain the historic and architectural value of our neighborhood and historical sites.

Thank you to all who volunteered your time, and thank you to the generous homeowners who opened your homes to our 650 event guests. The homeowners who will receive the 2015 homes tour plaques are **Amy Adams, John Ener and Stephen Sands, Jeff and Connie Patterson, and Bob and Ronna Stultz.**

Kudos to the Homes Tour Committee--Deanna Johnson, Chair; Rebecca Walker, Musical Coordinator; Fran Kelly, Volunteer Coordinator; Terry Johnson, Logistics Coordinator, and Marketing Distributors, Lynn Barrett and Sandy Fortenberry.

Special thanks go to Jennifer Salyer and the *Members and Friends of the First Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir*, and *Joyful Noise Children’s Choir*, who all volunteered their time to provide holiday music for our event.

The nearly 80 volunteers who helped make this event a success are listed on this page. Anyone interested in volunteering a house for the 2016 EEHDA “A Victorian Christmas” homes tour may contact Deanna Johnson ([dljohnson28@gmail.com](mailto:dljohnson28@gmail.com)) or Fran Kelly ([kellyfran@aol.com](mailto:kellyfran@aol.com)).



Merrymaking on Victorian Christmas Homes Tour are (from left) Mary Llewelyn, Kevin Barrett, Deanna and Terry Johnson

## Thank You Volunteers!

- |                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Karen Acker                      | Lucy Kim                        |
| John Allums                      | Danette Kirstens                |
| Terry Baird                      | Cris Langley                    |
| Lynn and Kevin Barrett           | Karl Lewis and Sandy Hardin     |
| Kathy and Tom Bass               | Kyle and Jack Lewis             |
| Bill Beveridge                   | Mary and David Llewelyn         |
| Brent Blackett                   | Paul Lyle and Frey Reggio       |
| Laurie and Scott Boeh            | Laura Mailyann                  |
| Mike Box                         | Lyn McMorris                    |
| John and Johnsie Bryan           | Emmy Morrison and Chris Robbian |
| Linda Byrd                       | George Parsons                  |
| Jim Cantrell                     | Velmanel Petty                  |
| Jane Chance                      | Jill and Robert Peveto          |
| Curt Cormier                     | Sandra and Floyd Pollock        |
| Beth DeKeyser                    | Georganna Ruyle                 |
| Kristy Donaldson                 | Ann and George Schaumburg       |
| Elizabeth England                | Laura Slutterbeck               |
| Shirley Espinoza                 | Will Stager                     |
| Sandy and David Fortenberry      | Jonathan Tromm                  |
| Pam Gilbert                      | Melody Van Kay                  |
| Kellye Graham                    | Jeri and Bujo Waddell           |
| Wanda Grunwell                   | Jane and David Walker           |
| Melissa Gryska                   | Rebecca and Ken Walker          |
| Matt Hannon                      | Jamie White                     |
| Anne Hecht                       | Tammy Willner                   |
| Shirley Hill                     | Terri Wright                    |
| Susan Dingle Hill and David Hill | Larry Wygant                    |
| Jerry Hite                       |                                 |
| Sylvia and Andy Horn             |                                 |
| Deanna and Terry Johnson         |                                 |
| Fran, Martin, and David Kelly    |                                 |

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# Waters Home: What's Old Is New Again

**The restoration of the 1893 James S. Waters House – now in its final stages – is wonderful to behold.**

The house at 1116 Church Avenue will be completed by Spring, according to Kelli Anderson, who owns the home with her husband Michael.

At some point in the future, it will be open for public viewing.

The couple, who reside in Houston, have an admirable and passionate commitment to the house and its rebirth. It will be their private home and they plan to spend a portion of their time here and eventually relocate to Galveston. She is a Registered

Nurse and he is an oil executive.

The painstaking renovation, supervised by Armand Bastien, is a top to toe restoration including the roof's turret, six original fireplaces, the original tin ceilings in the library and upstairs guest room, and many more features of this elegant home that was owned by one family for more than 120 years.

"When I involve myself, I give more than 100 percent," Kelli said.

What could not be restored was replaced. An elaborate plaster ceiling for the dining room was purchased in Chicago.

General contractor Bastien admits that he is in love with the house.

"I've been in this business for 50 years, and it's my favorite restoration so far," he said.

The Andersons are not new to the island. They began looking for a home to buy here in 2012. They made two offers on the Trube Castle and negotiated for the McKinney-McDonald House, fostered by the Galveston Historical Foundation. Neither project came to fruition.

"I was heartbroken and didn't return to the island for nearly a year," Kelli said.

When she came to an Easter brunch, at the demand of her mother, she decided to look at the Waters Home.



Kelli did five walk-throughs before she was ready to put her heart on the line again.

There were a few hitches in the negotiation; it was emotional because the house was important to the family members who had many special memories here.

Finally, in order to close on the agreed-date – Kelli and a girlfriend had a late night drive to Louisiana to pick up the paperwork, while Michael worked to extend the title work and closing, waiting for their return. In the end, Kelli met the members of the Waters Family and they have all become close friends and an adopted family, she said. They all share a love for the house.

Kelli was delighted to have a double lot because she loves to garden. She also has a love for dogs and the lot is plenty large for their Giant Schnauzer and two Miniature Schnauzers to run freely.

**The Galveston Historical Foundation has nominated the house for a Texas Historic Designation. The following history is a summary of a more detailed document prepared by Matthew Pelz.**

Henry Collier Cooke designed The Waters House, 1116 Church. He trained in England and Italy before immigrating to Iowa. He came to Galveston in 1891 and later settled in Houston.

James Stephen Waters was born February 13, 1854 in New Orleans to Charles M. Waters and Ann Moore. By 1872, he was living in Galveston, working for cotton brokers and later entered a partnership selling fire and marine insurance.

**In 1886, he was elected treasurer of Galveston County, an office he would hold for 16 years.** He also held the offices of assistant secretary, secretary, and then manager of the Texas National Loan and Investment Company from 1891 to 1902.

Waters served as president of the Santa Fe Investment and Loan Company (1895-1904), as treasurer and secretary of the Galveston Trading Company (1901-1902), and as treasurer of the Galveston Investment Company (1903-1904).

Near the turn of the century, he became involved in the growing oil and gas industry and served as president of the U.S. Gas Saving Company (1896-1898), and held other prominent positions. In 1889, he married Violet Hinkle, a native of Maryland. They had three sons, James Jr., William, and Fenelon.

**Waters purchased the lot in 1891.** The house designed for 1116 Church is the most prominent building on the block and has elements that were popular at the time of its construction, such as the curved porches and inset front entrance.

An addition was built in 1899 after Waters bought a neighboring lot from the Fordtran Homestead. The current carriage house was part of the Fordtran House next door and predates the Waters House. The Fordtran House was torn down in the 1960's to build a small apartment complex.

James Sr. died of chronic nephritis in 1923. Violet continued to live in the house with sons, William and Fenelon. Violet and Fenelon shared the house through the 1930s, and were joined by Fenelon's wife, Constance in 1932. In 1945, Fenelon and Constance moved out and William and his wife Haydee moved in to share the house with Violet. William Alpheus Waters was born in 1899, married Haydee Marie de Lassus, and had two children, William Alpheus Jr. and Haydee Marie.



**Above, exterior and interior shots of the house around 1900. The designer built several house models for Mrs. Waters to choose from. The family still has the dollhouse version of the house selected. Photos courtesy of Kelli Anderson.**

William Sr. worked for Standard Dredging Corporation, becoming vice president. In the mid-20th century, he had the turret removed due to rain leaking inside.

Violet died in 1955; William Sr. in 1983. Haydee lived in the home until Hurricane Ike of 2008. The house was sold to Michael and Kelli in 2014.

If you would like to follow the Waters house restoration online, see: if [www.jswaterhome.com](http://www.jswaterhome.com) or [www.facebook.com/thewatershome](http://www.facebook.com/thewatershome)

## 'Mischief In The Magnolias' Opens April 2

A one-time performance of 'Mischief in the Magnolias' or 'Weed 'Em and Reap' will be held at 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 2, in Daraugh Park at the corner of Church and 15<sup>th</sup> St.

The neighborhood production tells the story of the Sweetwater family, proud owners of the dilapidated Clover Leaf Mansion. There's a truly lovely daughter, Truly, with parents Beauregard and Merry May; a rascal, Hadley Heartburne; a butler who holds it all together, and a handsome hero too.

Admission is free. Come join the fun. Rebecca Walker directs.

## How Many Visitors Come To Galveston?

A new study from the Park Board of Trustees puts numbers on how much traffic patterns change between the tourism season and the winter offseason.

Traffic in Galveston is based on the number of car crossing the causeway onto the island and can swing wildly. The number of vehicles per day can be as low as 15,500 on a Tuesday in January, to 54,500 on the Friday of Memorial Day weekend.

As locals know, counts are even higher on major holiday weekends. The 2014 Memorial Day weekend saw 214,000 cars cross the causeway over three days, an average of more than 71,000 per day. Big weekends like the Fourth of July and the Lone Star Rally, saw vehicle counts of 194,000, and Labor Day weekend saw 140,000 vehicles cross the bridge. -


**Galveston Daily News**



## 1895 Clarke-Jockusch House,

at 1728 Sealy, is looking fresh and striking with new paint and repairs. This large Victorian masonry mansion is raised on a brick foundation that is stuccoed and rusticated to resemble stone. The house was built in 1895 by Captain Charles Clarke, a prominent figure in the Galveston shipping industry.

In 1928 the house was purchased by grain exporter Julius W. Jockusch, who served as consul in Belgium and later consul in Germany. Constructed with double brick walls, the house withstood the 1900 storm and other hurricanes, serving many times as a shelter for friends and neighbors. First recorded as a Texas Historic Landmark in 1965.

  
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# Yard Of The Month Is Neat, Colorful

Congratulations to East Enders Patricia and Travis Shackelford for earning 'The Yard of the Month' designation for their colorful, trimmed garden at 714 17<sup>th</sup> St.

"We moved to the East End about a year and a half ago from Kingswood, near Houston, because we wanted to buy and restore a Victorian house," Patricia said.

The house they settled on was lacking in landscape with only one rubber tree and one banana tree, along with a lot of weeds, she said.

The Shackelfords – both of them work in the yard - added knockout roses, ferns, azaleas, hibiscus, oleanders and Mexican petunias. They plan on more flowers. She's eager for Spring when the plants will have taken hold and show their colors.

They used salvaged brick to build walkway.

"We love the whole neighborhood. The neighbors are friendly and everyone has an interest in restoring an old home. There are also a lot of activities going on. It's a great place to live," she said.



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# January 2016 Events Calendar

## Friday 1st

**Heavenly Night Hike. 5:30-6:30 p.m.**, Galveston Island State Park, 14901 FM 3005. Do you know your stars?. Join Ranger Lisa on an evening night hike and learn about our connection to the stars overhead. Dress warm. Hot cocoa will be available. Starts at the Nature Center. Reconnect with the night and join us for a great evening adventure into the unknown. Free with \$5 park entry fee.  
[Lisa.Reznicek@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Lisa.Reznicek@tpwd.texas.gov). (409)737-1222.

**Townes Van Zandt Wake. 9 p.m.** Old Quarter Acoustic Café, 413 20<sup>th</sup> St. All Townes songs all night. This celebration of our beloved Townes is one of the few tributes that has kept it's momentum. We'll have an open-microphone format where amateurs and pros share the stage to honor a personal friend, a great poet and a gentleman. **For reservations, email: [wrecks@wt.net](mailto:wrecks@wt.net) or call 409-762-9199 or 409-795-7777.**

## Saturday 2nd

**5/10K Fun Run, 8:30-11 a.m.**, Galveston Island State Park, FM 3005. Work off holiday sweets while enjoying the prairies, bay views, and trails of this award winning state park. Fee is \$20 for early registration; \$25 day of the run. See [fogisp@aol.com](mailto:fogisp@aol.com). Register at [tickets.destinationnext.com](http://tickets.destinationnext.com) or at **Fit Tri Run, 528 23<sup>rd</sup> St.**

**Beachcombing 101. 10 - 11 a.m.** Galveston Island State Park, 14901 FM 3005. Join Ranger Lisa for a shell workshop and expedition. Winter is the best time for beach combing, but dress for the weather. We begin at The Nature Center. Bring park permit; water bottle; camera; and a bucket for collecting. Free with \$5 park entry fee. Contact [Lisa.Reznicek@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Lisa.Reznicek@tpwd.texas.gov). (409)737-1222.

**Jerry Jeff Walker. 8 p.m.** The 1894 Grand Opera House, 2020 Postoffice. Jerry Jeff delivers another memorable evening of heart-tugging ballads and down-home fun. Tickets range from \$35 to \$85. (409) 765-1894. [www.thegrad.com](http://www.thegrad.com).

## Sunday 3rd

**Farmer's Market, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**, 2508 Postoffice.  
[www.galvestonsownfarmersmarket.com](http://www.galvestonsownfarmersmarket.com)

**Christmas Concert at Moody Mansion. 6-8 p.m.** 2618 Broadway. The Galveston's Heritage Chorale under the direction of Izola Collins will perform Christmas carols. Some of the selections performed will include original compositions by Ms. Collins, an award-winning choir director and author who founded the Heritage Chorale in 1992. Free. Refreshments. Call (409) 789-3227.

## Monday 5<sup>th</sup>

**Street Cleaning.** If you want the street swept in front of your house, and you live on the north or east side of the street, today is the day to move your car. Cleaning for even addresses is first Monday of the month.

## Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>

**12th Night of Christmas. 6 p.m.**, Moody Mansion, 2618 Broadway. Enjoy an evening of King Cake, wassail and music as the traditional finale for the Christmas season. No charge. Call (409) 762-7668.



## Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>

**EEHDA Membership Meeting. 6 p.m.** 1501 Postoffice. Voting for new officers, board. Neighbors and members are welcome to attend.

## Friday 8<sup>th</sup>

**Heavenly Night Hike. 5:30-6:30 p.m.**, Galveston Island State Park, 14901 FM 3005. Free with \$5 park entry fee. For information, call (409) 737-1222. [Lisa.Reznicek@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Lisa.Reznicek@tpwd.texas.gov).

## Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>

**The 5th Annual Galveston Restaurant Week** will be held January 9-23. Restaurant Week is an event in which participating restaurants on Galveston Island offer special lunches and / or dinners. These entrees are specially prepared and priced for this event, in attractive price points of \$10, \$15, \$20, \$25, \$30, \$35, and \$40. **For information, see <http://www.celebratedelicious.com/>**

**Birding 101. 9-11 a.m.** Moody Gardens, 1 Hope blvd. Presented by Moody Gardens and Galveston Island Nature Tourism Council, this series of free classes educates people about bird life on the Island. Meet at the Aquarium Pyramid lobby. (800) 582-4673.

**Bishop's Palace Basement to Attic Tour. 11-12:30 p.m.**, 1402 Broadway. The Basement to Attic tour of the 1892 Bishop's Palace offers you a rare look to areas of the home normally off limits. By reservation. \$40 per person. [www.galvestonhistory.org](http://www.galvestonhistory.org).

**ArtWalk. 6-9 p.m.** Enjoy walking in downtown Galveston to see works by artists in a variety of galleries and other spaces. Sponsored by the Galveston Arts Center, 2501 Market St.  
[www.contemporaryartgalveston.org](http://www.contemporaryartgalveston.org).



## Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>

**Olympia Dukaskis in Rose. 8 p.m. 1894 Grand Opera House, 2020 Postoffice.** . The Oscar-winning star of Moonstruck and Steel Magnolias will capture your heart in this portrait of a woman who survives the Warsaw Ghetto and builds an amazing life in America. This one-woman show, based on a true story, is a moving tribute to the human spirit. Tickets range from \$22 to \$98. **(409) 765-1894. [www.thegrand.com](http://www.thegrand.com)**

**Live Music: Ruthie Foster. 9 p.m.** Old Quarter Acoustic Café, 413 20<sup>th</sup> St. Cover charge. Foster just won the 2015 Koko Taylor Award -- traditional blues female -- at the 36th annual Blues Music Awards. (409) 762-9199.

## Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>

**Winter Texas Reception at the Grand. 10 a.m. 1894 Grand Opera House, 2020 Postoffice.** Join other visitors to learn about exciting opportunities in Galveston for dining, entertainment, education, and culture. For information, **(800) 821-1894.**

## Friday 15<sup>th</sup>

**Winter Beach Cleanup. 3-4 p.m. Galveston Island State Park, FM 3005 W.** Last year, more than 3 miles of Texas beach were cleaned with 8,000lbs of debris removed! This year, you're invited to clean the beach with Ranger Lisa. Meet us at the Nature Center for a brief safety orientation, then we'll drive to the beach to keep Texas beautiful!. Bring: Park permit, Camera (for those great ocean shots), and Work gloves and bucket (or borrow ours). Contact [Lisa.Reznicek@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Lisa.Reznicek@tpwd.texas.gov). **(409)737-1222.**

**Theater Opening: Small Engine Repair. 8 p.m.,** ETC Theater, 2317 Mechanic. Smart and funny, Small Engine Repair takes you through a whirlwind of emotions. Production recommended for mature audiences only. A portion of the proceeds from this production will be donated to another local non-profit organization. Performances are January 15, 16, 22, and 23 \$25 for students and senior citizens and \$30 for adults. **409-762-3556.**

**7th Annual Chili Quest & Beer Fest. 8-10 p.m. Kick off Party. 23<sup>rd</sup> and Strand.** Yaga's annual festival includes Chili & Craft Beer tasting; live music; a 5K Fun Run/Walk, a washer pitching tournament, a jackpot margarita contest, vendors. Tickets range from #12 for tasting sampler and up to \$55 for VIP with beer. Continues all day Saturday. See a schedule of events at [www.yagaschiliquest.com/](http://www.yagaschiliquest.com/)

## Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>

**Birding 201. 9-11 a.m.** Moody Gardens, 1 Hope Blvd. Presented by Moody Gardens and Galveston Island Nature Tourism Council, this is the second of two free classes is designed to educate people about bird life on the Island. Meet at the Aquarium Pyramid lobby. **(800) 582-4673.**

**Beachcombing 101. 10 – 11 a.m.** Galveston Island State Park, 14901 FM 3005. Join Ranger Lisa for a shell workshop and expedition. Winter is the best time for beach combing, but dress for the weather and be ready to get wet. We begin at The Nature Center to review basics and use the restroom before we go to the beach. Bring your park permit; water bottle; camera; and a bucket for collecting. Free with \$5 park entry fee; no charge for under age 13. Contact [Lisa.Reznicek@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Lisa.Reznicek@tpwd.texas.gov). **(409)737-1222.**



**MUSICAL: The Producers. 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 17,** at the 1894 Grand Opera House, 2020 Postoffice. A scheming producer and his mousy accountant aim to produce the biggest flop on Broadway in Mel Brooks' comedy film turned Broadway musical. Winner of 12 Tony Awards. Tickets \$25 to \$98. Call **(409) 765-1894** or buy online at [www.thegrand.com](http://www.thegrand.com) .

## Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>

**Galveston Symphony Orchestra. 7 p.m.** 1894 Grand Opera House, 2020 Postoffice. A dance program. \$20 for students; \$30 adults. For more information please call Michael Hughes (409-763-2481) or Sparky Koerner (409-933-8347). Tickets are available at **The Grand (409) 765-1894. <http://www.thegrand.com>**

## Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>

**Bay Walk. 3-4 p.m.** Galveston Island State Park, 14901 FM 3005. Meet at the end of the Bay side road at Lake Como and begin by talking about the grasses that live in the salt marsh. We will then look at the fiddler crab holes and talk about the crabs. We will see lots of birds and try to identify them. Looking in the marsh, we will see what we discover there - marsh periwinkles and mussels. Free with Park Entry Fee \$5; Contact [Lisa.Reznicek@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Lisa.Reznicek@tpwd.texas.gov)

## Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>

**Lakshmi Voeler: Chair Yoga. 12-1 p.m.,** Osher Lifelong Living Institute Campus, 4700 Broadway. Instructor Jim Turner offers introduction to this type of chair yoga. Allows participants to benefit without having to get on the floor. It's idea for those who are looking to improve range of motion, increase circulation and build strength. Turner is a certified instructor. Participants will learn a type of meditation practiced for thousands of years. Free. **To learn more about this and other OLLI programs, call (409) 763-5604.**

**Bay Walk. 3-4 p.m.** Galveston Island State Park, 14901 FM 3005. Meet at the end of the Bay side road at Lake Como and begin by talking about the grasses that live in the salt marsh. We will then look at the fiddler crab holes and talk about the crabs. We will see lots of birds and try to identify them. Looking in the marsh, we will see what we discover there - marsh periwinkles and mussels. Free with Park Entry Fee \$5; Contact [Lisa.Reznicek@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:Lisa.Reznicek@tpwd.texas.gov).



## Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>

**The Oak Ridge Boys.** 7:30 p.m. 1894 Grand Opera House, 2020 Postoffice. Also appearing at 3 p.m. on Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup>. Few Country music groups have had the enduring popularity and crossover success of the Oak Ridge Boys. The 1981 rise of "Elivra" to the top of the Country and Pop charts brought them one of their five Grammy® Awards. They are members of the Grand Ole Opry and the newest inductees into the Country Music Hall of Fame. Tickets \$35 to \$65. (409) 765-1894. [www.thegrand.com](http://www.thegrand.com)

**6<sup>th</sup> Annual Galveston Bridal Show.** The Lyceum, 2401 Winnie. Features the area's top wedding professionals including photographers, caterers, cakes, florists, wedding planners, DJ's, beauty, gowns, and formal wear. There will be door prizes, give a-ways, entertainment, cake & catering samples, tablescapes, a "Tour de Tents" Tent Display. Be among the first 100 Brides and receive a Magazine & VIP Tote from "The Knot" filled with samples, discounts. Brides may pre-register at [www.galvestonweddingconnection.com](http://www.galvestonweddingconnection.com)



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**STATE OF THE ART DENTAL CARE**

## Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>

**Children's Literacy and Literature Brown Bag.** 12 - 1:30 p.m. Rosenberg Library, 2310 Sealy. Elizabeth Turner presents information on children's picture books as a powerful art form, combining colorful images, melodic language, and simple wisdom. Explore one hundred children's books during this hands-on session with the founder of SMART Family Literacy. This Galveston-based nonprofit that has given 42,000 books during 11 years of reading to kids. Find out which words are the most commonly used in the English language, what makes a crowd pleaser, why reading to babies is important, and tips for reading aloud to children. No charge. Bring your own brown bag lunch if you wish. For information, call: (409)765-8854 Ext. 125.



## Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>

### Galveston Mardi Gras Begins

Three parades and multiple parties will launch the 2016 Mardi Gras celebration in Galveston.

**The opening night parades are:** the 7 p.m. George Mitchell Parade; the 8 p.m. Funky Umbrella Brigade; and at 10 p.m. the Krewe de Yaga.

Mardi Gras is the traditional festival of feasting and merrymaking that precedes the season of Lent. It was first observed in 1867 on Galveston Island. Mardi Gras Galveston was revived in 1985 by Galveston-born preservationist George P. Mitchell, and it is the largest celebration of its kind in Texas and the third largest in the nation.

Mardi Gras Galveston brings the island's streets to life with parades, bands, and parties for two weeks through Feb. 9. For details on parades, parties, passes: [www.mardigrasgalveston.com](http://www.mardigrasgalveston.com)

# Contacts

**Do you have questions about living in an historic district or do you want to report a violation?** Contact Catherine Gorman, Historic Preservation Officer, [409-797-3665](tel:409-797-3665).

**Galveston Police:** Non-emergency number is (409) 765-3702. For emergencies, call 911.

**Constable Wayne Brown**  
(409) 766-2240; cell: (409) 771-4668.

**Galveston Mayor:** Jim Yarborough,  
([jimyarborough@cityofgalveston.org](mailto:jimyarborough@cityofgalveston.org))  
(409) 797-3509.

**City Council** member Ralph McMorris.  
Represents District 3. (409)765-5666 X706.  
Email is [ralphmcmorris@cityofgalveston.org](mailto:ralphmcmorris@cityofgalveston.org)


**EEHDA President:** Julia Muncaster. (409) 789-1739.

**Storm drain problems:** Call 409-797-3630 or report problems on line at:  
<http://www.publicworks@cityofgalveston.org>

**To report streetlight outages,** contact Center Point Energy at 800 332-7143. The exact location, address and six-digit pole number are helpful when reporting a problem. Report online at  
<http://www.centerpointenergy.com>

**Potholes and manhole covers.** If you would like to report a pothole or a missing or damaged grate, call (409) 797-3630.

**Galveston County Mosquito Control,** (800) 842-5622



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# Less Crime, Higher Water Bills Top GAIN Discussion

By Jonathon Tromm

Capt. Byron Franklin, Commander of Operations for the Galveston Police Department and Lt. Pedro Alcocer, who oversees the East End area, talked about crime statistics, trends and prevention advice at the November 18 meeting of the Galveston Alliance of Island Neighborhoods (GAIN).

**Violent crimes are way down.** Property crimes such as burglary, theft and car burglary are slightly up, partly due to seasonal trends and to crimes of opportunity. Prevention can be improved by not leaving valuables where they can be seen or accessed from public areas or in cars. Gates to alleys should be locked, garage doors closed, and lighting in yards should eliminate shadows.

**My Galveston Ccampaign.** Liz Alvarado of the Galveston Regional Chamber of Commerce and Kathy Thomas of Community Strategies gave a presentation on the "My Galveston" campaign. It was started by the Chamber's C-Crewe and seeks to increase the number of people living here by enhancing positive perceptions of the island. A key feature will be a website: [www.mygalveston.com](http://www.mygalveston.com) and [www.facebook.com/MyGalveston](http://www.facebook.com/MyGalveston).

Those interested in helping to develop material about the EEHD should contact Jonathon Tromm at [webmaster@eehda.org](mailto:webmaster@eehda.org)

**Water Price Increase.** At the December 16 meeting, discussion centered on the city's substantial increase in water rates for sprinkler systems due to a 30 percent price increase for water from the Gulf Coast Water Authority where we get our water. New rates favor actual usage and small over large amounts.

**LED Lighting.** Members also talked about the city replacing street lights with LED lights for savings in future energy consumption. There was great concern about whether the lights would be a "bright white" color causing a daylight appearance all night long with negative affects to plant and animal circadian rhythms instead of having the "warmer" light as is currently and traditionally used. Send concerns to the City Manager at [Maxwellbri@cityofgalveston.org](mailto:Maxwellbri@cityofgalveston.org) or Council member Ralph McMorris.

There is concern that there may not be adequate implementation of the city's lighting ordinance in


regard to placement and fixtures types in new construction. Such lighting may have a negative effect on neighboring properties and the view of the night sky.

**GAIN meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 1501 Postoffice. EEHDA members are welcome to attend.** <https://www.gaingalveston.com/>

**Jonathon Tromm**  
Real Estate Broker  
and Consultant




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# 199 Years Ago: Jean Lafitte in the East End

Over six feet tall, wavy-haired, literate and wily, Jean Laffite, the romantic privateer of the Gulf Coast, was already a legend when he sailed into Galveston Bay 199 years ago.

"Laffite is popularly called the most romantic figure in American history," said R. Dale Olson, author of the essay, "French Pirates and Privateers in Texas."

As one of the first and certainly legendary homeowners, Laffite was not your average neighbor. He was a sailor, a smuggler, a spy, a commander of men and ships, and a hero of the 1815 Battle of New Orleans. When he arrived here at age 37, he had two decades of adventurous living in his wake.

Laffite arrived in Galveston early in 1817 and by April of that year, he was in command. He was excellent fodder for storytellers but what do we know of the man apart from the myth?

## Myth or Fact?

### 1. Laffite's vast reserve of Spanish gold was buried on Galveston Island near 'Three Trees.'

**Not true.** This is probably the number one myth about Laffite in Galveston. Experts agree: It's highly unlikely that Laffite left any treasure on the island for several common sense reasons: When Laffite left Galveston in the spring of 1820, he couldn't be certain it would be feasible to return.

It's doubtful that a man as intelligent as Laffite would leave behind valuables on a barrier island devoid of topographical landmarks and prone to being struck by tropical storms.

### 2. As the Prince of the Pirates, Laffite commanded up to 100 ships and a 1,000 men during his rein in the Golden Age of Pirates in the Gulf and Caribbean.

**Not true.** Laffite may have been a prince of a fellow, but he would have vehemently denied that he was ever a pirate. His marauding was carried out, for the most part, under a letter of marque.



This means that a country at war with another nation might officially authorize privateers to attack and plunder the ships of their enemies. This was a common practice until it was banned in 1859.

As for the numbers of ships and men, a better guess is up to seven ships, depending on what he was able to capture as prizes at sea, and maybe 150 men at Baratavia Bay; and fewer in the Galveston headquarters.

The Golden Age of Pirates was 1560 to 1730 and spawned such famous cutthroats as Blackbeard, Black Bart and Captain Kidd. This era was long over before Laffite was born.

### 3. Laffite was a notorious ladies' man who married twice and had a vast number of children and many descendants.

**Unclear.** Laffite never married, nor had children, at least as far as scholars have been able to determine. Pierre Laffite did. Researchers say a 60-year-old woman living in Tennessee has a solid claim as a descendant of Pierre Laffite.

### 4. Laffite established a luxurious lifestyle at his new home, the Maison Rouge, in the settlement called Campeache on Galveston Island.

**Partly True.** He did establish a new operational base here but calling it a luxury lifestyle is a stretch. The appearance of the original Maison Rouge is unknown but its probable site was 1417 Avenue A. It has been described as a two-story fortress. Construction of the building was likely overseen by Barthelemy Lafon, a friend of Laffite from New Orleans.

Laffite's house was certainly the largest one in the small settlement on the eastern tip of the island. Most structures were one-story frame buildings, according to Texas historian Henderson Yoakum. There was also an arsenal and a dockyard for repairing vessels. The little group did prosper for the first year but after a hurricane struck in September 1818, they never fully recovered. – Marsha Canright

# Advertise in the East End Newsletter

Your advertising sponsorship not only helps support the East End neighborhood but it helps you reach an interested audience for your product or service.

Each month approximately 250 copies of The East End Neighborhood News are produced. These newsletters are mailed in a custom envelope to each of our paid member subscribers, with the balance of issues distributed to new residents of the East End, City of Galveston Council Members, Managers of City of Galveston Departments, Galveston area Civic Associations as well as Galveston's Rosenberg Library.

Here are descriptions and prices for our advertising opportunities with an ordering form. Let us hear from you. You'll be glad you did. If you have any questions or concerns, contact me at any time. My cell number is 713-291-7043 and my home is 409-770-0612. Or you can reach me via email at [advertising@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org](mailto:advertising@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org). I look forward to working with you. – Julia Muncaster, EEHDA President

## Types of Ads

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### Events Calendar

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A marquee advertisement on our popular Events Calendar Section is likely to be viewed over and over each month. \$600 for twelve issues

### Business Card (1/8th page) Advertisement

3" w X 2" h  
\$215 for twelve issues

### Quarter Page Advertisement

3 6" w X 4 6" h  
\$325 for twelve issues



## We encourage our members to shop local.

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- Events Calendar Sponsorship: twelve issues for \$600 total
- Quarter Page Ad: twelve issues for \$325 total
- Business Card (1/8th Page): twelve issues for \$215 total
- I would like to be recognized as an East End Benefactor: \$1,500+

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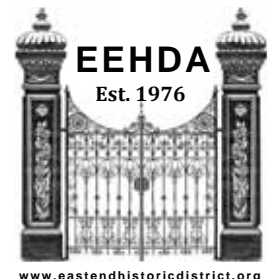
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[www.eastendhistoricaldistrict.org](http://www.eastendhistoricaldistrict.org)

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Thank you.

# Membership In The East End Historical Association Is Important And Fun!

*“EEHDA is a diverse community of people who share a passion for our neighborhood’s rich heritage. We look forward to you joining us.” – Julia Muncaster, President*

Become a member of The East End Historical District Association. Your membership supports a wide variety of services and programs dedicated to neighborhood improvement and historic preservation. Without your active membership and participation The EEHDA cannot grow or survive.

Our Board of Directors holds regular neighborhood meetings at The Cottage, 1501 Postoffice, beginning at 6 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month. No meetings in July or August. Meetings are open to all

Membership is open to everyone but only resident EEHDA members are allowed to hold office or vote at meetings.

The East End Historical District Association Inc. is exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501 C (3) of the Internal Revenue code. Contributions to The EEHDA are deductible to the extent provided by Section 170 of the code.



## East End Historical District Association

### MEMBERSHIP FORM

**To join, fill out this form and send, with a payment, to: EEHDA, PO Box 2424. Galveston, Texas 77553**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

If family, other member name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

### Select an annual membership type:

Individual \$35

Family \$40

Senior (65 plus) \$25

Senior family \$30

Sustaining \$125

Business \$150 (New!)

Benefactor \$1,500



**East End Historical  
District Association**

P.O. Box 2424, Galveston,  
TX 77553

Telephone: 409.763.5928

The mission of The East  
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Association is to preserve, restore and protect its  
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education, community activism, fellowship,  
neighborhood awareness and cultural tourism.

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## **Plan To Attend Our East End Mardi Gras Brunch**

Mardi Gras comes early this year, beginning January 29  
through February 9.

The EEHDA will host our annual Mardi Brunch from 10 a.m.  
until noon on Saturday, Feb. 6, at the Cottage, 1501 Postoffice.

We'll have breakfast casseroles, mimosas, and champagne  
along with some traditional Mardi Gras goodies to fortify us  
for the parties and parades later in the day.

There's no admission charge, but if you can help by bringing  
one of your favorite homemade dishes please contact Fran  
Kelly ([kellyfran@aol.com](mailto:kellyfran@aol.com)).

Come on out – visit with old friends and meet some new ones!  
Mardi Gras committee members are Fran Kelly, Lynn Barrett,  
Lyn McMorris, Sandy Fortenberry, and Mike Box.