

# NewsLetter

SUMMER 2012

## 36th Annual Home & Garden Tour Sunday, Sept. 9 from 1-6 p.m.

### Featuring Centennial Houses and Photographs

Would you like to see what Central Gardens looked like 100 years ago? Then come to the 2012 Home & Garden Tour which will feature six fine houses built during or before 1912, years that comprise the golden age of American architecture. All of the tour houses have beautifully preserved early 20th century exteriors and interiors combined with creative modern renovations that blend the old with the new to create lovely houses that are quite livable by our 21st century standards.

Around 1900, American architects began designing custom-built houses for middle-class families in suburban neighborhoods like Central Gardens. A number of these houses were photographed for magazines such as *House Beautiful*, *Ladies' Home Journal* and *The Architectural Record*. Likewise, the Gravure

Illustration Company of Chicago sent their photographers — considered to be the best in the business — to locate and photograph the finest architecture in noteworthy cities. In 1912 Gravure photographers arrived in Memphis and the same year published the *Art Work of Memphis*, a nine-volume architectural portfolio that featured buildings, churches, the six houses on this year's tour, and 35 other houses in the Central Gardens Historic District.

The first exhibition of the 1912 Gravure photographs of all 41 Central Gardens houses will be held at ANF (Askew Nixon Ferguson Architects) at 1500 Union Ave., with the opening on Friday, Aug. 17 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and continuing through Aug. 31 on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. During the home tour on Sept. 9, the exhibit will be displayed in the University Club ballroom at 1346 Central. The beautiful photographs have been matted and framed courtesy of Café 1912 and 1910 Frame Works.

Central Gardens Association wishes to thank our 2012 Home & Garden Tour sponsors: Lexus of Memphis, Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare, Hobson Realtors, Eclectic Eye, Dr. Allison Stiles, and Drs. Amy and John Huber.



*“Architecture  
is a visual art,  
and the buildings  
speak for  
themselves.”*

—Julia Morgan



1649 Central Avenue

Please visit our website: [www.centralgardens.org](http://www.centralgardens.org).

# The Six Tour Homes are:

## 1962 Peabody Avenue

### Mayor E. H. "Boss" Crump House, 1909

This distinctive red brick Colonial Revival house was completed the first year of the first term that Mr.

Crump served as mayor of Memphis. It is one of only three known classically inspired Memphis



houses designed by architect Neander Montgomery Woods. Homeowners Sarah and Niel Prosser have completed many restoration and renovation projects since purchasing the house in 2000. The two have added a den and powder room to the first floor, and two bathrooms with restored original fixtures to the second floor. The beautiful backyard garden now includes a pool, pergola and garage.

## 267 South Belvedere Boulevard

### Charles H. Boyle House, 1909

Built by one of the developers of Belvedere, this house was intended to serve as an example of the quality of house that the

developers envisioned for the boulevard with the "beautiful view." Henry T. Winkelman purchased the Mission and Prairie style influenced



house in 1912. Since 2009, it has proved to be the perfect home for Marybeth and Art Huggins, along with their children. They particularly enjoy the butler's pantry, and have recently restored the lovely art glass so that their windows will be preserved for another 100 years.

## 1555 Vinton Avenue

### Mrs. Jennie Casey House, 1912

With its dramatic diagonal porte cochere of polished stone and fine front porch, this architect-designed house

retains many of its original details. Of particular interest are the Art Nouveau



influenced light fixtures, brass hardware and art glass windows. Alice and George Burruss have lived here since 1986. Six years ago the couple combined and renovated the existing kitchen and the 1980s den addition by first knocking out the wall between the two rooms; the end result is a delightful sunny family room with kitchen.

## 1449 Harbert Avenue

### Archibald Y. Allen House, 1912

Kerriann and Michael Axt purchased this handsome Arts & Crafts house last year, after they and their children moved to Memphis from Atlanta. The brick and stucco

house with notable front and side porches has a commanding presence at the corner of Harbert and Melrose. In addition to



renovating the kitchen, the Axt family has made it their mission to fill their house with Arts & Crafts furnishings similar to what could have been found in the house when the original owner built it.

## 1542 Harbert Avenue

### R. Walker Balch House, 1909

Praised by author Eugene J. Johnson in *Memphis, An Architectural Guide* as having “an orgy of texture and pattern” and “a half-timber pattern that knits the whole together magically,” this stone, stucco and wood house was



home to Lewis T. Kavanaugh in 1912. Today it belongs to Denise and Philip Bollheimer. They have taken great care to preserve the many floral art glass windows and the original tile roof on their fine Arts & Crafts house designed by architect Neander Montgomery Woods. Upstairs, the two have created a spacious master suite complete with bath and dressing rooms.

## 1649 Central Avenue

### Rhea P. Cary House, 1905

With its elegant two-story entry porch quite common to plantation houses of the South, it's no wonder that the author of *Memphis, An Architectural Guide* wrote, “A cool Colonial

Revival nicely sited to dominate the end of Rozelle Street, which intersects Central across the way.” In 2001, Peggy and LaVerne Lovell



purchased the brick house designed by Memphis architects Walk Jones, Sr. and Max Furbringer. Though they have added a garage, greenhouse and pergola in the rear, their most recent project has been a new, also very cool, kitchen in the existing space of the old one.

## Get Your Tour Tickets Today!

Tour tickets are available via several convenient options. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 the day of the tour.

- **Become a Patron CGA member.** Join the Central Gardens Association for 2012-13 at the Patron level and receive two free tickets. Go online to join or renew your membership via [www.CentralGardens.org](http://www.CentralGardens.org) website.
- **Go online.** Purchase your tickets online via [www.CentralGardens.org](http://www.CentralGardens.org) website.
- **Visit one of the advance sale locations.**
- **Purchase on the day of the tour** for \$15 at any of the tour homes.

### Tickets are now available at the following convenient locations:

- Babcock Gifts, 4626 Poplar Avenue
  - The Booksellers at Laurelwood, 387 Perkins Rd. Ext.
  - Burke's Book Store, 936 S. Cooper Street
  - Las Savell Jewelry, 61 S. McLean Boulevard
  - Market Central, 2215 Central Avenue
  - Miss Cordelia's Grocery, 737 Harbor Bend Rd.
  - 1910 Frame Works, 2029 Union Avenue
  - Otherlands Coffee Bar & Exotic Gifts, 641 S. Cooper Street
  - Palladio Antiques & Art, 2169 Central Avenue
  - Wiles-Smith Drug Store, 1635 Union Avenue
  - Woman's Exchange, 88 Racine Street
  - Kroger\*, 1761 Union Avenue
- \*Only on Saturday, Sept. 8 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## Yard of the Month

The Central Gardeners Club has recognized these lovely gardens this summer:

- June**
  - Becky & Jim Mercer, 1381 Vinton
  - Dan Reid, 1536 Linden
- July**
  - Marsha & Ja Hayes, 1730 Harbert (Shown below)
  - Arlene & Alan Kleiman, 1614 Vance



**Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal School Admissions Open Houses**



- Thursday, Oct. 18, 8:30-10 a.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 20, 9-10:30 a.m.
- Anchor Center, 250 Lemaster

Tour the school and learn more about their exceptional program and excellent outcomes! 278-0200 or [www.gslschool.org](http://www.gslschool.org) for more info.

**Co-ed. Episcopal. PK-8th Grade.**

*Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal School...An Anchor for Life*

**New Central Christian Church Minister Wants to “Rekindle the Fires”**

When W.A. Graves built his home at 1794 Linden Avenue in the 1920s, he had no idea generations later his grandson Bill Russell would be installed as the new minister at Central Christian Church this July. Bill grew up in that house, as did his mother. He was a Boy Scout at Central Christian and attended Idlewild Elementary School.

Bill comes well prepared to lead Central Christian Church with a Master of Divinity and over 40 years of ministry. Bill has a special interest in music and the arts. He is on the board of Creative Aging Mid-South, an organization that provides access to the arts to older adults where they live and meet.

When asked about his hopes for Central



Christian Church, Bill explained that he would like to see the church go back to being a true neighborhood church—a part of the Central Gardens community, active in the challenges and promise of the neighborhood.

*Bill Russell*

**Immaculate Conception Cathedral School Kicks Off 90th Year**

*By June LaPorta, ICCS Advancement & Communications Director*

Immaculate Conception Cathedral School, a Central Gardens landmark institution since 1922, ushered in the new school year on August 16th by commemorating its 90th anniversary. Students in the Pre-K – 12th school were greeted at entranceways lined with 90 blue and white balloons. Special events for alumni and students are planned throughout the year.

The school’s anniversary comes just a year after its parish, The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, celebrated its 90th anniversary. “Moving towards our century mark is an exciting thing to celebrate,” Cathedral rector Msg. Val Handwerker said. “God has blessed our campus so profoundly over the past 90 years, and our celebration is in many ways an offering of thanksgiving to Him.”

Recognized as one the most diverse private schools in Memphis, ICCS is also one of the city’s oldest existing schools. The Sisters of Mercy founded the elementary school in 1922, and the following year added a co-ed high school that later became an all-girl school. The schools were housed with the original Immaculate Conception Church in the three-story building on the corner of Rozelle and Central Avenue that today houses only the elementary school. The Cathedral assumed responsibility for the school in 1990.



*ICCS students on the first day of school*

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## Halloween Night Out Safety Training Program

*Sponsored by the folks on Carr between Cleveland and Melrose.*

**Sept. 13 at 6:30 p.m.**  
**Home of Matt Domas,**  
**Chair of the Central Gardens Safety Committee, at 1348 Carr**

There is a way to have a safe and happy Halloween for both trick-or-treaters and residents. The residents of Carr Ave will share how they worked with the police and Central Gardens Patrol operated by Phelps Security to be extra vigilant in watching over the children and homeowners on their block on Halloween nights past. To reserve a spot, call Jim Mertzluft of the Safety Committee, at (901) 833-5980.

## Mark Your Calendar

- **Opening reception** of 41 photographs at ANF (formerly known as Askew Nixon Ferguson Architects), at 1500 Union Avenue- Friday, Aug. 17 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Exhibit open through Aug. 31 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **36th Annual Home and Garden Tour**  
 Sunday, Sept. 9 from 1 to 6 p.m.
- **Exhibit.** The University Club of Memphis, 1346 Central, will house an exhibit open to all ticket holders in the ballroom displaying 41 of the photographs from the 1912 Art Work of Memphis portfolio produced by Gravure Studio of Chicago.  
 Sunday, Sept. 9 during home tour hours.
- **Halloween Night Out Safety Training Program.** Contact Jim Mertzluft of the Safety Committee, at (901) 833-5980. Thursday, Sept. 13 at 6:30 p.m.
- **Admissions Open Houses** at Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal School
  - Thursday, Oct. 18, 8:30 - 10 a.m.
  - Saturday, Oct. 20, 9 - 10:30 a.m.
- **Central Gardeners Club monthly meeting**  
 on Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. Contact Sandra Stevens for more info at sandrastevens100@gmail.com.

# Our Patriotic Hearts Beat Red, White and Blue

By Susie Jabbour, Parade Chair 2012



*The photographer's beautiful daughter,  
Eliza Jean Easley*

The residents of Central Gardens beat the 100-degree heat on Independence Day with plenty of watermelon, lemonade and snow-cones at the annual neighborhood parade! Led by the Boy Scout and Cub Scout troops from Grace-St. Luke's, the costumed children, decorated bikes, trikes, wagons and strollers—and even a canoe on wheels—entertained the folks along Carr Avenue. Our fine Union Avenue Station police officers brought up the rear before the ceremony and costume judging began.

Judge Karen Williams, accompanied by Bill Phillips, sang our national anthem and the scouts led the Pledge of Allegiance. Congressman Steve Cohen reflected on his childhood memories at the corner of Carr and Rozelle. Casey and Collin Hall assisted master of ceremonies, Mike Synk as he gathered the contest entrants for the judges. Meg and Mike McCord and Jimmy Hartley coordinated the tallying of votes of judges Karen Keeler, Stephen King, Amanda Meredith, John Viser and Diane Youree. All of the contestants were terrific and there were squeals of delight as ribbons were distributed for nine categories:

## **Best Costumed Group**

- 1st Logan Guleff, Joe Gray, Lily Gray
- 2nd Eddie Ferguson, Nolan Domas, Anna Caroline Domas
- 3rd Ginger, Lyla, and Eden Wilkerson

## **Best Costumed Pet**

- 1st Lulu Tosi
- 2nd Leanne Burton
- 3rd (tie) Bolt Goode, Rachel the Rat

## **Best Decorated Stroller**

- 1st Emerson Tosi
- 2nd Ellison Stilwell
- 3rd Nolan Domas, Anna Caroline Domas, Eddie Ferguson

## **Best Decorated Trike/Bike (7 and under)**

- 1st Noland Brown
- 2nd Chloe Brown
- 3rd Logan Surber

## **Best Decorated Bike (8 and older)**

- 1st Emeline Campbell
- 2nd Anna Margaret Burnett
- 3rd Anna Deason

## **Most Patriotic Costume (7 and younger)**

- 1st Katherine Morgan
- 2nd Margo Burbank
- 3rd Pepper Hughes

## **Most Patriotic Costume (8 and older)**

- 1st Rylie Duke
- 2nd Isabella Shaw & Friday
- 3rd (tie) Emeline Campbell, Logan Guleff, Joe Gray, Lily Gray

## **Best Other Vehicle**

- 1st Evie Grace Goode
- 2nd Ruby Liles
- 3rd Jake Seidman

## **Most Patriotic**

- 1st Noland Brown
- 2nd Isabella Shaw & Friday
- 3rd Logan Surber



*A canoe on wheels...  
Only in Central Gardens!*

Interspersed with the judging, the crowd enjoyed singing patriotic favorites like *America the Beautiful* and *Yankee Doodle Dandy* and laughing at Mike's corny patriotic jokes! They also devoured hot dogs grilled by Will Keeler and his expert helpers Matthew Keeler, Justin Jabbour and Alex Ward, toured two fire trucks from Fire Station 11, and drank plenty of ice cold Coca-Cola!

Porch parties, reunited old friends, patriotic memories and love for our country abounded all morning. It was another wonderful Fourth of July in Central Gardens made possible by the participation of devoted volunteers and residents. Special thanks to Yvonne and Lawrence Madlock for once again opening their front yard for the ceremony and to Charlie Lawing from Memphis Sound Lab for donating his time, talents and equipment every year. Thanks also go out to the Carr Avenue families, the Fourth of July Committee and volunteers, CGA board members and all of the families who participated.

*Editor's note: There are more than 10 fabulous photos of the event on the online Commercial Appeal dated July 4 and 15. Check it out!*



The Statue of Liberty was an award-winning costume.



Two CGA board members, Libby and Ruth



Grace-St. Lukes Cub Scouts well represented



Yum, refreshing Sno-Kones!



Congressman Cohen made an appearance.



Youngest winner in the costume contest.



After all...it is an election year!

# HOME SALE INFORMATION

ADDRESS	SPECS	STYLE	AGE	SALE PRICE	\$ PER SF
<b>May</b>					
1731 Glenwood	4 BR, 3 BA	Traditional	c. 1908	\$520,000.00	\$129.00
1379 Carr	4 BR, 3 BA	Traditional	c. 1902	\$399,000.00	\$147.00
1864 Peabody Green	3 BR, 3 BA	Traditional	c. 2005	\$350,000.00	\$109.00
1573 Peabody	4 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c. 1910	\$345,000.00	\$116.00
1594 Goodbar	3 BR, 2 BA	Bungalow	c. 1922	\$265,000.00	\$99.00
182 Belvedere	4 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c. 1921	\$285,888.00	\$104.00
649 Rozelle	3 BR, 1 BA	Bungalow	c. 1910	\$172,000.00	\$95.00
667 Melrose	3 BR, 1 BA	Bungalow	c. 1925	\$178,000.00	\$120.00
1823 York	3 BR, 2 BA	Traditonal	c. 1933	\$155,000.00	\$103.00
1863 Cowden	5 BR, 4 BA	Traditional	c. 1911	\$115,000.00	\$27.00
1488 Harbert	3 BR, 3 BA	Bungalow	c. 1912	\$158,000.00	\$71.00
<b>June</b>					
1776 Harbert	4 BR, 3 BA	Traditional	c.1925	\$510,000.00	\$149.00
1640 Linden	3 BR, 1 BA	Traditional	c.1910	\$59,000.00	\$28.00
<b>July</b>					
653 Rozell	4 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c. 1910	\$255,000.00	\$107.00
1589 Vance	3 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c. 1921	\$165,000.00	\$78.00
1585 Linden	3 BR, 1 BA	Bungalow	c. 1922	\$149,500.00	\$90.00
1741 Peabody	2 BR, 2 BA	Ranch	c. 1958	\$150,000.00	\$100.00

Information deemed reliable but not warranted.

Leigh Martin, Central Gardens resident for six years, is a Life Member of the Memphis Area Association of Realtors Multi-Million Dollar Club. Leigh has also been a real estate agent with Sowell and Company for thirteen years. If you need to contact Leigh, please call 901.351.3877 or email her at martlei@aol.com.



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The *Central Gardens Association Newsletter* is published quarterly. **Please visit our website:** [www.centralgardens.org](http://www.centralgardens.org). Neighborhood events or articles of interest may be submitted for consideration in the newsletter to barbsysak@gmail.com

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