

May Meeting

HPNA General Meeting Agenda for May 6

Hybrid Meeting: In person at Griffin School
(5001 Evans Avenue) and on Zoom

Meeting Topic: Guadalupe Street Flood Risk
Reduction and HOME Phase 2 Rezoning Ordinance

- Introduction of Moogie Pilates, a new business in Hyde Park
- Update on Guadalupe Street Flood Risk Reduction Project from Austin Watershed Protection Department
- Discussion and Possible Vote on HPNA Response to the City's Proposed HOME Phase 2 Rezoning Ordinance
- Update on Celebration of HPNA's 50th Anniversary
- Announcements

We hope to see you at the meeting!

Not an HPNA member?

You're welcome to join the meeting anyway!

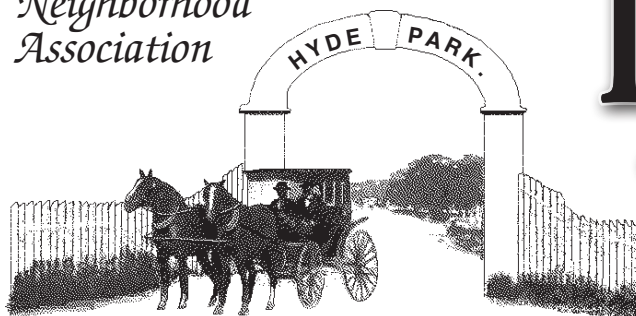
Join Zoom Meeting at 7 pm:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4738130850?pwd=V3h1KzhLVGx1VTNqVCtVTHVZeVZYUT09>

Meeting ID: 473 813 0850

Passcode: 728004

The Hyde Park
Neighborhood
Association



Pecan Press

May 2024 • National Register District Neighborhood • Vol. 50, No. 5

Bunny Parade a Hopping Success

The 4th annual HPNA Bunny Parade broke records in both attendance and funds raised for our local Hope Food Pantry. A large crowd of neighbors turned out to walk and dance with the Easter Bunny as the SPJST float motored through Hyde Park. After the float docked, local singer-songwriter Staci Gray entertained kids and adults with

music (and a bubble machine).

Thanks to 159 raffle tickets purchased and

a \$500 matching fund, \$2,440 was raised for the Pantry. The donation was presented to Hope Food Pantry Executive Director Stephanie Humphreys at the HPNA April meeting. Stephanie noted that with this donation the Pantry can buy five weeks of food to fill gaps when sources are not able to provide items that shoppers need.

HPNA and the Hope Food Pantry would like to thank our generous partners, the SPJST and the National Slovak Society of the USA for their outstanding contributions to the success of the event. Both fraternal benefit societies have been helping and enhancing community involvement for over 100 years.

HPNA and the Food Pantry also thank donors who kindly provided the raffle awards: All Day Pizza, Central Market, Fairweather Cider, Fortress Shoes, Franklin BBQ, Hyde Park Bar and Grill, Julio's Café, Ninja Nation, and Whole Foods.

Finally, special thanks to HPNA Social Events Coordinator Stephen Gonzalez, who organized the event.

— Katie Vignery



Hope Food Pantry Executive Director Stephanie Humphreys Accepts Contribution from Stephen Gonzalez

Are you an artist?
Make Hyde Park a new logo!

Entries due June 30th

Send to: hydeparkna@gmail.com

Winner will be announced in August.

Go to: austinhydepark.org/logo for the rules

\$100 Jerry's Artarama gift card goes to the winner



The City of Austin is proceeding towards phase two of its HOME zoning ordinance, with one of the intended goals being to incentivize property owners and developers to build more private housing close to downtown.

The city's proposed changes to the Land Development Code would affect how your property or properties near you may be developed or used in the future. A few weeks ago, you should have received a lavender postcard from the city providing notification of the proposed zoning changes. According to that notice, the proposed changes would do the following:

- Revise regulations that apply to lots with one housing unit and regulations that apply to flag lots.

- Create regulations that allow properties to be used for charging electric vehicles.
- Revise height, building placement, and other related regulations that are in addition to a property's base zoning regulations (also known as *compatibility standards*).

By the time you read this letter, the city will have held two open houses and two public hearings on the new proposed zoning changes. The City Council meets on May 16, 2024 at 10:00 am to vote on the new zoning ordinance. For more information from the city about its plans, please visit SpeakUpAustin.org/LDCupdates. At that site you will learn how to register to speak at the relevant city meetings, submit a written protest, and provide feedback.

Some of you also may have heard from the group Community not Commodity (CNC), which has stated that City Council's proposed actions will reduce compatibility

in more than 1,000 properties in new, high-density transit districts. "Compatibility" is a zoning term that refers to the height, scale, mass, and bulk of structures relative to other structures. CNC argues that the City Council's proposed new compatibility standards would allow buildings as tall as 10 stories next to single family homes in some areas of the city. CNC is also concerned that the Council's amendments to the Land Development Code will end single-family zoning throughout Austin and cause property taxes to rise higher. You can learn more about CNC's concerns at the website <https://communitynotcommodity.com/>.

Continued on page 17

Hyde Park Neighborhood Association

P. O. Box 49427 • Austin, TX 78765
www.austinhypark.org

– HPNA Officers & Steering Committee –

President

• Kevin Heyburn.....kmheyburn@gmail.com

Co-Vice Presidents

• Kathy Jackson
 • Paul Smith

Co-Secretaries

• Kelsey Brownkelseyelizabethbrown@gmail.com
 • Katie Vignery.....vigneryk@gmail.com

Co-Treasurers • PO Box 49427, Austin, TX 78765

• Ann Duncan.....slomm3@gmail.com
 • Lorre Weidlich.....lweidlich@mail2sevenseas.com

Additional Steering Committee Members:

• Sharon Brown • Stephen Gonzalez • Holly Granato •
 • Lisa Harris • Marsha Riti • Katie Turner •

– HPNA Committees & Task Forces –

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• John Williams jawilli@grandecom.net

Austin Neighborhoods Council Rep.

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• Stephen Gonzalez, stephen.gonzalez.sd@gmail.com

• Katie Turner, katieturner050@gmail.com)

Social Media Coordinator • Ellie Hanlon, ellie.hanlon@gmail.com

Technical Coordinator • Chris Wooster, chriswooster@gmail.com

Tree Preservation • John Walewski, jwalewski@civil.tamu.edu



HPNA Business Members

Woodeye Construction and Design

Suzanne Pringle, Realtor

JET of Texas: Carport, Patio, and Pool Shade Cover

Chris Wooster Creative

Onella Home Care

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Pecan Press

The *Pecan Press* is published monthly by the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association in Austin, Texas. Advertising deadline: 15th of the month preceding publication. Editorial deadline: 10th of the month preceding publication.

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APD Representative for Hyde Park

- Phillip Sparkman
For the Baker District, call..... 512-974-5340

Submissions to Pecan Press

- Send your articles, letters, and photos by the 10th of each month to Lorre Weidlich at lweidlich@mail2sevenseas.com.

Opinion articles & letters to the editor must not exceed 500 words.

- Send your poems to Charlotte Herzele at herzele@gmail.com.

All poems, even if written under a pen name, must include a name and contact information for identification and verification purposes.

Letter to Austin Mayor and City Council

Editor's Note: At the upcoming General Membership meeting, the membership will have the opportunity to discuss, amend, and vote on the following letter.

Dear Mayor Watson and City Council:

Having spent the last half century caring for the historic Hyde Park neighborhood, the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association (HPNA) is disturbed to see that the City of Austin intends to allow an additional 60' of height on all sites currently zoned multi-family and/or commercial in the Hyde Park Neighborhood Conservation Combining Districts (NCCDs). After decades of work, funds, and collaboration between neighborhood volunteers and the City of Austin, this proposed action is completely contrary to the purposes of an NCCD as well as to the processes that were required to achieve this level of thoughtful planning. Throughout its history, HPNA has entertained new developments in specific locations and supported many changes, but this broad-brush approach to undermine all Hyde Park planning is inappropriate.

Despite decades of notices, meetings, and collaboration with property owners, HPNA has not heard anything from the city about this intent to remove conservation provisions that will clearly modify this livable neighborhood. Our concern is that speculators will choose sites of their liking and place inappropriate new development alongside homes and other compatible neighborhood uses. This is all to be approved by the City Council in May with only minimal public hearings. This is not collaborative planning, which has been the standard practice in Hyde Park for decades.

We ask that the city begin anew with a process of participation with our neighborhood to discuss the need for this approach and what the city is expecting. It is only fair to hundreds of residents and property owners to be open about this massive change rather than dropping it a few weeks before implementation. This certainly is not the way HPNA has worked with residents and city staff in the past.

HPNA is ready and willing to provide notice, meeting space, and additional information to our neighbors if only city officials who have crafted these proposals will agree to provide their time and assistance for appropriate discussion.

Thank you for your consideration.

— *Kevin Heyburn*
President
Hyde Park Neighborhood Association

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- Join for multiple years

Residents 18 or older living within the boundaries of Hyde Park are welcome to join. Current members may vote on HPNA resolutions concerning issues facing our community. New and lapsed members (over six months) must wait 30 days after dues payment to vote on HPNA resolutions.

Learn more about membership options and policies at austinhypark.org/join or join us at a general meeting.

HPNA does not share, sell, or publish any contact information; it's only used for membership administration.

Questions? Email hydeparkna@gmail.com.

To receive reminders about HPNA events, email subscribe+hpna-notice@googlegroups.com.

Need to join by mail?

Complete and mail this form with cash or check (payable to HPNA) to
HPNA, P.O. Box 49427, Austin, TX 78765.

Name: _____

Email (required): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

New Member Renewing Member

Membership Types (choose one):

- Individual, resident: \$5/year
- Individual, non-resident (non-voting): \$5/year
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Sam helped my wife and I find our home in Austin and was amazingly helpful throughout the process. His deep knowledge of the area and his strong network helped us make a deal that would have been impossible without him on our side.



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Around & About the Avenues

Save the Date for the Shipe Pool Opening Party. Time to find your bathing suit; the pool days of summer are just around the corner! The Annual Pool Opening Party, sponsored by the Friends of Shipe Park, is set for Saturday, June 15, 5 to 8 pm. As always, the event is free and everyone is invited. There will be free swimming, music, food trucks, refreshments, and lots of fun activities for all ages. Friends of Shipe Park T-shirts will also be available for a donation. If you'd like to be a sponsor, please email jill@jillnokes.com. All donations go toward keeping the park healthy and safe for the whole community. The pool will be open to the public this year on June 3 and the hours can be found at <https://www.austintexas.gov/department/shipe-pool>. More details can be found on the Friends of Shipe Park Facebook page. We look forward to seeing everyone there!



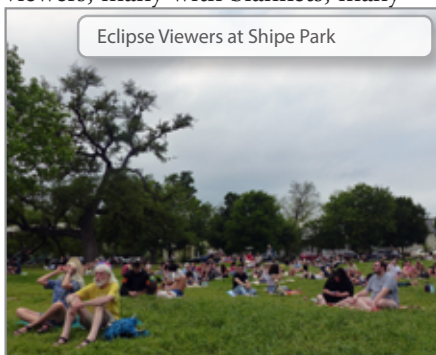
Towne Park Green Hosts Free Concert. On Saturday, April 13, Hyde Park residents gathered at Towne Park green on Avenue H for a free concert with the Boxcar Preachers. For two hours, they danced, nibbled snacks, and enjoyed the bluegrass rock music.



The concert was organized by Lee Ingham, resident of the Towne Park condos. Thank you, Towne Park residents, for organizing the event and inviting the neighborhood.



Eclipse Viewers Gather at Shipe Park. Shipe Park was filled on April 8 with eclipse viewers, many with blankets, many lying flat on their backs while wearing eclipse safety glasses. Despite the cloudy sky, the eclipse was a once-in-a-lifetime experience – and another opportunity for Hyde Parkers to socialize with each other.



New Business at the Former Post Office Site. Moogie Pilates, a contemporary Pilates studio, is the newest addition to the former post office site at 4300 Speedway. Located on the north side of the building in suite 105, behind First Light Books, Moogie specializes in private clientele, duets, and small groups with clients of all ages and movement backgrounds. Owner Olivia Hockaday states, “We are delighted to be a part of such a vibrant neighborhood in Austin and we are honored to serve you. You are welcome to book online with us at moogiepilates.com/pilatecizeme or email us at olivia@moogiepilates.com. We look forward to meeting you!”



Continued on page 16

Monthly Calendar May

- 3 — Recycling Pickup
- 4 — Election for Travis County Central Appraisal District Board of Directors
- 4 — Naturalists at the Ney: Mushroom Walk at the Ney
- 6 — General Membership Meeting
- 13 — Steering Committee Meeting
- 15 — Pecan Press Deadline
- 17 — Recycling Pickup
- 25 — Ney Day at the Ney
- 31 — Recycling Pickup

June

- 15 — Shipe Pool Opening Party



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Hyde Park Poets

Early Evening Sound Bites

A quarter to six in the afternoon,
 The birds are having bigtime conversations,
 Recording them: white-winged dove, Northern Cardinal
 House Sparrow, Great-tailed grackle,
 Northern mockingbird, American Robin,
 A new one: Brown Thrasher, and always,
 The Carolina Wren, and another newbie,
 Eastern Towhee. There are Cedar waxwings,
 And Couches Kingbirds. Who are they?
 Whoever they are, they are having a time of it.
 What are they talking about? Are they discussing dinner?
 Plenty of flying bugs, if that's on their menu.
 A house sparrow just showed up and the American
 Robin
 Piped in. They certainly are rowdy, and, for the first
 time,
 I heard a chickadee – a bird whose song sounds like its
 name,
 And there was a yellow-rumped warbler, one day,
 Warbler is a good name for that bird.

Different birds come out at different times of the year,
 In the summer, it's usually the doves and grackles and,
 The occasional robin but, this is a very early spring,
 It is only February, the end, with an extra day, this year,
 And all the birdies are celebrating, I think. It sure
 Sound like a party. Wouldn't it be fun to join in?
 Wouldn't it?

– *Herzele*
 02/27/2024



Pecan Press Advertising Rates

(Effective September, 2015)

Size	(width X height)	Price
Back Cover.....	(7.5" X 10")	400.00
Full Page.....	(7.5" X 10")	300.00
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1/6 Page.....	(3.63" X 3.25")	80.00
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State Mottos

Word Find by der Brat

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 F L I B E R T Y S I N N A R Y T
 R O I N D U S T R Y O U C A N T
 I N N V O W I S D O M U S T E R
 E V E R E A D Y A C H T I C X T
 N U X S O F T U F T H U N X C S
 D A R E D E R U N G S E I O E U
 S F E E T A T E I N D O R A L R
 H O P E K U O R E N D O F F S T
 I R M A R A L R E O Y E O W I E
 P W E E D A S P S P R R I N O W
 R A L L U T E L L S E D W A R D
 O R U Q H D E A R V O X I P S O
 B D E G N O T E E V E R E E D G
 A L I I A A I R M A L E C R A N
 L R U N I T N O R T H E E N D I

[Numbers in parentheses = number of letters in answers]

- TX: camaraderie? (10) _____
- CA: stolen from Archimedes? (6)

- DE: Liberty and _?_ (12)

- UT: opposite of idleness. (8) _____
- AK: North to the _?_. (6) _____
- FL: also on money. (2,3,2,5)

- AL: we dare to maintain our _?_. (6)

- GA: _?_, justice and moderation. Smart. (6)

- ID: let it be another word for perpetual. (7)

- IN: _?_ of America; intersection? (10)

- MN: star of the _?_. (5) _____
- MT: gold and silver in Latin. (3,1,5)

- NH: liberty or death? (4,4,2,3)

- NJ: _?_ and prosperity ... something from 13. (7)

- NY: going up! (9) _____
- OK: _?_ conquers all; not love but work. (5)

- RI: what was left in Pandora's box. (4)

- VA: Sic semper _?_. (8) _____
- WI: moving ahead! (7) _____
- WY: makes sense for first state allowing women to
vote. (5,6) _____

Answers on page 18



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SOLD

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SOLD

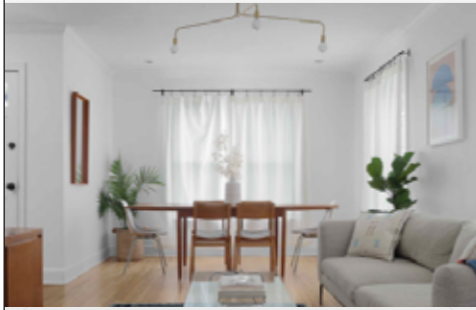


4521 Red River Ave. · \$1,250,000
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208 E 33rd St. · \$795,000
2 beds · 2 baths · 1,183 sq. ft.

SOLD



1006 Ellingson Ln. · \$695,000
2 beds · 1 baths · 1,104 sq. ft.



1017 E 43rd · \$625,000
4 beds · 2 bath · 1,426 sq. ft.



3400 Duval St. · \$6,500/mo
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REAL ESTATE BY THE NUMBERS

Austin Board of Realtors, MLS data shown is for Austin area addresses March 2024



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Spring is a magical time at the Elisabet Ney Museum. Our new landscape team, Sam Hodges and Marsha Riti, have worked tirelessly to nurture our wild historic landscape and add new ecological programming to the museum's annual events calendar.

to our guest presenters Jacquelyn Delin McDonald, Jelena Claire Fally, Renee Lai, and moderator Kit Belgium for sharing Ney's story to a new audience from around the world. In addition, the museum also shared Ney's artwork with over 500 students at the Bob Bullock Museum for their annual Homeschool Day. Our team presented hands-on art activities and stories of our beloved Elisabet Ney.

The Friends of the Elisabet Ney Museum have been busy working on raising matching funds for a Stillwater Grant that will help fund the landscape rehabilitation plan. Please join us at our 10th annual Ney Day on May 25 to see the preliminary ideas produced by Ten Eyck Landscape Architects and Co'Design. Thanks to the many neighborhood supporters that have helped the museum reach these important goals!

You can find out more about the Elisabet Ney Museum at the following locations:

Website: austintexas.gov/ney

Website for the Friends of the Elisabet Ney: <https://www.theney.org/>

Instagram: [@friendsofelisabetneymuseum](https://www.instagram.com/friendsofelisabetneymuseum)

Facebook: [@Elisabet Ney Museum](https://www.facebook.com/ElisabetNeyMuseum) and

[@Friends of Elisabet Ney Museum](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfElisabetNeyMuseum)



Naturalists at the Ney, a monthly program taking place the first Saturday of the month in partnership with a community non-profit, debuted on April 6 with over 40 guests. The program focused on natural dyes and partnered with the Refugee Collective (formerly the Multicultural Refugee Coalition) to create a dye using collected materials from the Ney landscape and another created at their organic garden. The results were lovely! Join us next month as we partner with Central Texas Mycological Society for a Mushroom Walk. Mark your calendars for May 4, 10 am to 12 pm, and sign up on Eventbrite through the museum's Facebook.

The museum staff was excited to present the life and work of Miss Ney at the Society for German-American Studies 48th Annual Symposium at The University of Texas at Austin this month. Thanks



Celebrating the



Float Crew David & Melanie Zavodny of SPJST, photo: Kevin Heyburn



The HPNA Banner Leads the Parade



Kevin Heyburn & Katie Vignery Conduct the Raffle



Parade Followers, photo: Sandy Zimmerman.



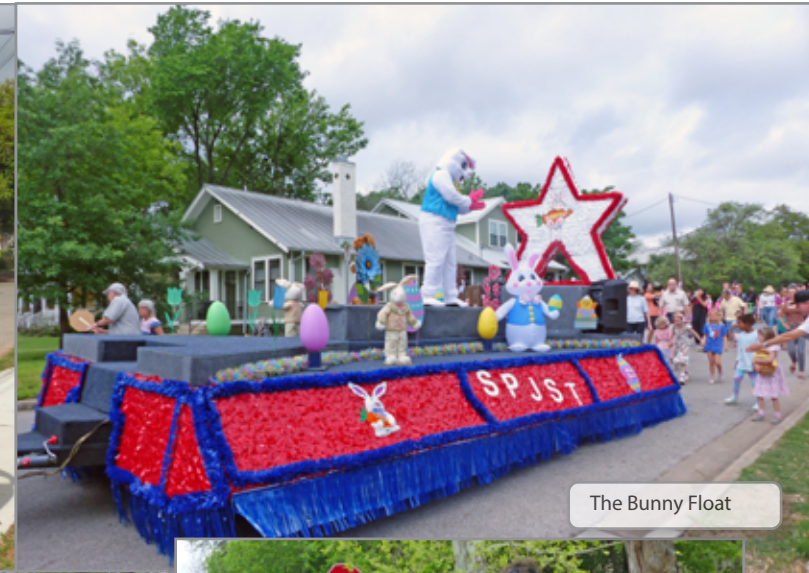
Parade Followers, photo: Sandy Zimmerman.



Betsy Clubine & Ann Graham Look after the Raffle Prizes



Bunny Parade



The Bunny Float



Rosa Gonzalez Serves Quack's Lemonade, photo: Kevin Heyburn



Watching the Bunny



Staci Gray Performs at the Log Cabin



Hancock Recreation Center Volunteers Rosa Ramirez, Jay Heinrich, & Rick Kocian, photo: Kevin Heyburn



Exploring the Float

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Lettuce Recycle!

by Dena Houston



100 Editions of Lettuce Recycle! Let the Celebration Begin!

My first edition of "Lettuce Recycle" was in March of 2016. I wrote it for our neighborhood newsletter. Today, it appears in



Hyde Park's *Pecan Press*, Allandale and Brentwood newsletters, and in *Stroll* magazine. My goal is recycling and composting education. I am very blessed to have this opportunity

to share this information with my Austin community.

Recycling Updates

- Aerosol cans – These cans go into the blue recycling bin if they are *completely empty*. Cans that have *anything* in them are fire hazards at the recycling facility. Cans that are not completely empty go to the Recycle & Reuse Drop-Off Center or into the trash can.
- Black Plastic – Optical scanning has been upgraded at Balcones Resources so that black plastic with a recycling symbol can now be recycled. This is the facility that receives recyclables north of Lady Bird Lake.

My Favorite Articles

Below is a list of some of my favorite articles. If you would like a copy of any of them, email me at denahouston3309@gmail.com and I will email them to you.

- I Love My Coffee
- Plastics, The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly
- Recycling Journeys
- The Circle of Soil
- The Lonely Mailbox
- The Recycled Orchestra
- Weird Recycling
- Wishcycling

"Buy Nothing" Personal Story

I was recently faced with a recycling challenge. We had lots of lumber we needed to get rid of. None of it could be reused because it was rotten or very well used. My only option seemed to be the landfill. THEN, on Buy Nothing a posting suddenly appeared from a member who needed any kind of lumber to fill her raised garden bed before top filling with dirt. She was

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our landfill savior. She filled the back of her SUV with all the used lumber. Nothing went to the landfill; all went to her garden to grow lovely plants.

The Most Important Things I Want My Readers to Know about Recycling and Composting

- Balcones Resources and Texas Disposal Systems are the two companies that collect and recycle materials for the City of Austin. They have reliable markets for these materials. There were two very challenging times for these companies. The first was when China stopped accepting the world's contaminated recycling materials. The second was during Covid, when some of the markets had to shut down. Both Balcones Resources and Texas Disposal Systems anticipated these situations and planned ahead so that they could continue to have strong markets.
- Recycling can be confusing. Markets change and there are no rules governing the recycling labeling of products. Some products (like toothpaste tubes) are marked as recyclable but they are not recyclable in our markets. These items go into the trash cans.
- The City of Austin's composting facility is Organics by Gosh. It is completely organic; it uses only time, water, and heat to compost – no chemicals. This is why it is so important to use only BPI certified plastic bags and containers to avoid compost contamination.
- We should all try the best we can to recycle and compost properly, but it should also be convenient and easy to do. It might seem counterintuitive but, when in doubt, please throw it out. Do this rather than contaminating the recycling and composting streams. I am available as a resource for any questions or concerns.
- I get many questions relating to articles declaring that all recycling picked up ends up in the landfill. There are also people who say plastics picked up for recycling all go to the landfill. *None of this is true about recycling in Austin.* All items picked up for recycling go to the recycling facilities. Any non-recyclables are pulled out and sent to the landfill. Everything else is sold to recyclers around the country. The main thing to know is that recycling is a for-profit business. Sending items to the landfill does not produce income.

Most Asked Questions

Every week, I get recycling and composting questions. I always answer them personally and often include the questions and answers in a future newsletter.

Following are the most frequently asked questions:

- *Why can't I bag my recyclables?* Never bag your recyclables. The recycling facility is not set up to open these bags. These bags end up going to the landfill.

- *What do I do with lids from plastic and glass bottles?* All glass bottles and jars need to have their lids removed. All plastic jars and bottles need to have their lids and caps left on. Any lid that is removed and is smaller than a credit card must go into the trash can.
- *Why can't pizza boxes go into the blue recycling bin?* Even if a pizza box looks clean, it has absorbed grease that is not visible. This grease makes the cardboard unable to be processed properly for recycling. All pizza boxes can go into the green curbside compost collection bin or the trash can.
- *Do plastic containers have to have a recycling symbol?* Plastic bottles and containers must have a recycling symbol to be recycled. If they do not, the items go into the trash can.
- *How do I recycle shredded paper?* Shredded paper cannot go into your blue recycling bin, even if it is in a paper bag. These bags tend to come apart and leave a mess of shredded paper in their wake. Please put shredded paper into your green compost cart. Be sure it is in a paper bag or compostable bag. Please do not include shredded plastic credit cards.

Recycling Questions through the Years

I created a document called "I was wondering about...!"

This document lists over 100 items and how to recycle them properly. If you would like to receive this document, email me at denahouston3309@gmail.com and I will email it to you.

A special thank you to all the wonderful editors who publish "Lettuce Recycle" in their newsletters and magazines. You help me and our community to recycle and compost better.



Please Remember:

- Do Not Bag Recyclables
 - When in Doubt, Throw it Out! Recycling and composting contamination is a huge problem. If you have exhausted all reuse possibilities and are still unsure, put the item into the trash can.
 - Nothing Smaller than a Credit Card in the Blue Bin.
 - Remember the City of Austin Recycling Website: <http://www.austintexas.gov/what-do-i-do>.
- Stay tuned for future tips for creative ways to recycle or reuse. If you have any questions or recycling ideas, please send them to denahouston3309@gmail.com.

HPNA General Meeting Minutes: April 1, 2024

Kevin Heyburn opened the meeting at 7:05 pm. Kevin announced that Council Member Zo Quadri was unable to attend the meeting as scheduled due to a family emergency and that he will reschedule for a future meeting.

Kevin then introduced Mary Ellen Lewis from Helping Hand Home. She shared that Helping Hand Home is a 101 year old organization, founded in Austin and operating in Hyde Park on Avenue B. They are a home of healing and restoration for children who have experienced trauma and have a clinical team to provide counseling services. They provide residential care for children ages 4 through 13 and facilitate adoptions for children ages 0 to 18. They also facilitate and train foster parents. Mary Ellen shared a video highlighting the story of a couple who have gone through the Helping Hand Home training process and happily adopted five children.


Following Mary's presentation, Kevin introduced Stephen Gonzales and thanked him for his significant role in organizing the HPNA Bunny Parade, which benefited Hope Food Pantry. Stephen shared that the event surpassed what was raised last year and presented a \$2440 donation to Stephanie Humphreys with Hope Food Pantry. Stephanie provided more information on Hope Food Pantry, whose mission is to alleviate hunger in the Austin community with healthy food options. Last year they served over 500 households experiencing food insecurity. She

acknowledged many of the Hyde Park neighbors who are active in the organization and thanked HPNA for the food and fund drives that help boost their inventory.

Kevin thanked the presenters from the organizations and noted their importance to Hyde Park and to the city of Austin. He then introduced Andy Jones, HPNA's new Crime & Safety Chair. Andy has lived in Hyde Park for over 30 years and has been attending the Community Police Academy since January, so he is able to get details on local crime directly from the Austin Police Department. He provided an update on crime statistics so far this year and is able to be reached for any additional questions or reports through his contact information in the *Pecan Press*.

Lisa Harris and David Connor presented an update on HPNA's graffiti abatement work. This group of volunteers gets together every second or third Saturday of the month to remove graffiti on public property without damaging surfaces or paint. Any graffiti unable to be removed safely is reported to the city through the 311 app. While it is difficult to prevent graffiti from happening, quick removal is one of the best deterrents. Anyone wishing to get involved can reach out to Lisa Harris through her email address in the *Pecan Press*. Volunteers should bring their own gloves. All other supplies are provided.

Brendan Wittstruck, who chairs the North Central I-35 Neighborhood Coalition, provided an update on Austin's I-35 expansion project. TXDOT is moving forward with widening I-35 to 20 lanes and preconstruction work has begun. The project is expected to officially start in late spring or early summer, and the Hyde Park area will experience the majority of construction between 2026 and 2032. Brendan will continue to be a conduit between neighborhood associations and their council members. He emphasized the importance of community engagement to influence the project and mitigate impacts to neighborhoods, particularly as the cap and stitch program is developed and as decisions are made regarding raising Airport Boulevard along the I-35 intersection. TXDOT and the City of Austin will be conducting a public engagement process for community input on how the project is implemented. Brendan will provide more information on these public engagement sessions as they are scheduled.



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Following Brendan's update, Kevin shared that HPNA is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. The neighborhood association was founded in 1974 with the impetus to save Hyde Park's Fire Station #9. HPNA welcomes ideas for creative ways to celebrate this anniversary and to continue building our neighborhood community.

Kevin concluded the meeting with announcements:

- Chris Wooster shared that the Waymo autonomous vehicle company has been testing in Hyde Park for the last ten years and is entering a new phase of testing the use of these vehicles as taxis. Waymo approached HPNA to get input from neighbors prior to this next stage and will hold a remote meeting April 11 to present information and answer questions.
- Kevin updated attendees on the Nuts & Bolts Open House for the city's new Equity-Based Preservation Plan. He talked to some organizers at the event and would like to have them speak to us, along with other historic districts, in an upcoming General Meeting. The Equity-Based Preservation Plan is still in progress and presents an opportunity to preserve housing while meeting the city's desire to build more housing.
- Susan Moffat noted the recent city mailer regarding HOME Phase 2 and the apparent disconnect between staff statements and the draft ordinance regarding impervious cover increase. This does not appear to consider the flooding risks or impacts. Susan also noted the city's delay in

implementing the detention pond behind the Baker School, which has been on hold since Project Connect was scaled back to terminate at 38th Street. The HOME Phase 2 mailer has information on dates for public hearings and the project appears to be moving quickly.

- Kevin reminded HPNA of the Travis County election on May 4 for the Central Appraisal District Board of Directors. This was also noted in his recent President's Letter on important issues as this will have a significant impact on tax appraisals and how the tax appraisal district is run.
- Brendan recognized Susan and the press from KUT on commemorating the history of the *Austin Chronicle* building, one of the many casualties of the I-35 expansion.

Kevin adjourned the meeting at 8:18 pm.

– Kelsey Brown
Co-Secretary





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Wednesday
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Hyde Park Poets

Invisible

You can't always see pain,
A wrinkled brow, pursed lips,
Furtive eyes, they all suggest,
Maybe, not all is OK,
But, mostly, short of starvation,
And devastation of war,
Day-to-day we do not see pain,
Most try to keep it hid,
Part of denial that might work,
We don't really want to see,
The pain of others,
We say, "Why didn't you say something?"
But we know that if you did say something,
We might not want to hear it,
Personally, I fear a floodgate breaking,
Out of sight, out of mind,
Stays invisible.

— Herzele
04/02/23



Around & About the Avenues ...cont'd from page 5

Hyde Park Business Closes. The Parlor, long time Hyde Park pizza parlor at 4301 Guadalupe Street, will be closing at the end of April. The property landlord recently passed away and the owners of the Parlor were not able to purchase the property themselves. The owners ask, "If you have had any memorable experiences at The Parlor, please consider taking a look at the link (<https://www.facebook.com/TheParlorAustin>) and sharing your experiences on our page by tagging us....It's been 24 years of serving the most hardcore caring community, and we remember every step of the journey!"



Oops Department. In the April issue, the article "City of Austin Un-Saves Hyde Park" referred readers to the HPNA website to read a series of articles entitled "History of Hyde Park." While the website includes a number of features devoted to the history of the neighborhood, it does not include this series of articles as a separate feature. To read the articles, go to previous issues of the *Pecan Press* (June through November, 2019 and July, 2023), which are on the website.



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To-do (Happiness) List

Hyde Park Owners Open Time Capsule in Closing Austin Chronicle Building. On March 29, KUT reporter Olivia Aldridge reported that owners of the Austin Chronicle building, Hyde Parkers Nick Barbaro and Susan Moffat, opened a time capsule buried in the building in 1999 (“Austin Chronicle opens time capsule before I-35 edges out historic building”). Opening the time capsule was a last hurrah for current and former employees before the building is demolished as part of the expansion of I-35. Susan expressed her regret at the loss of the building and stated, ““When we were buying it, the inspector came and said the foundation was such that you could put a 30-story structure on top of it, and in the event of nuclear war, this was where he was coming. They’re going to have a hard time taking it down.” See the complete article at <https://www.tpr.org/news/2024-03-29/austin-chronicle-opens-time-capsule-before-i-35-edges-out-historic-building>.



The sun cordially invited my eyes to close
A sorbet haze draped across my face
I wish I had a spoon
The wind whispered sweet, silky nothings across my skin
Deep breath in
Release
“Living the dream” she said, unconvincingly
“Living the dream” I thought while enjoying my coffee with cream and vulnerability;
coffee made sugary with companionship
Music in one ear and out the other
and back again, a boomerang
Bluebonnets
Texas mountain laurels
Yellow wood sorrel plush beneath my bare feet
You.
The rise and fall of the tide of cars seducing you to sleep
My skin whispering sweet, silky nothings across your skin

— Erika Allen-Walsh



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Naturalists at the Ney

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President's Letter...

...cont'd from page 2

We will have a discussion of the city's proposed zoning changes at HPNA's May 6 General Meeting and have a possible vote on a response to those proposed changes. A draft of HPNA's proposed response is published in this issue of the *Pecan Press*. Also at the General Meeting we will get updates on the city's flood mitigation efforts on Guadalupe and on HPNA's plans for its 50th birthday party.

Please don't forget to vote in the May 4, 2024 election for members of the Travis County Central Appraisal District Board of Directors. This is likely to be a low turn-out election, so every vote counts. Early voting started on April 22, 2024. I discussed this important election in my President's Letter in the April *Pecan Press*. The General Meeting minutes in the April issue have an excellent summary of the presentation by two of the candidates running for the Board. Use this link to an *Austin Chronicle* article with more information about the election: <https://www.austinchronicle.com/news/2024-04-05/first-ever-appraisal-district-election-is-small-battle-in-gop-dem-war-over-taxation-in-texas/>.

Before I close, I want to thank neighbor Stephen Gonzalez and all the neighborhood volunteers for their work on this year's Bunny Parade on Easter weekend. We had a great turn out of neighborhood kids and grownups for the parade and the raffle and raised \$2,440 for the Hope Food Pantry. A special thank you to Hancock Recreation Staff members Rick Kocian, Jay Heinrich, and Rosa Ramirez for helping with the parade, and a big thank you to the Slavonic Benevolent Order of the State of Texas (SPJST) and SPJST Vice President Melanie Zavodny and her husband David for once again providing SPJST's beautiful float for the parade. Thank you to Quack's (quacks43rd.com) for the lemonade and to Austin-famous musician Staci Gray (<https://www.instagram.com/stacigraymusic/?next=%2F&ref=imgum.net>) for her show. And thanks to all of our generous raffle sponsors:

- Allday Pizza (allday.pizza)
- Central Market (<https://www.centralmarket.com>)
- Fairweather Cider (<https://www.fairweathercider.com>)
- Fortress Shoes (<https://fortress.shoes>)
- Franklin BBQ (<https://franklinbbq.com>)
- Hyde Park Bar and Grill (<https://hpbng.com>)
- Ninja Nation (<https://www.austin.ninjanation.com>)
- Julio's Cafe (<https://juliosaustin.com>)
- Whole Foods (<https://www.wholefoodsmarket.com>)

We hope to see you at HPNA's General Meeting on May 6!

— Kevin Heyburn
HPNA President

Hyde Park Poets

Aging King of a Dying Empire

Aging king of dying empire,
Oh, how can I? I can relate,
In my personal domain,
Age has entered,
Pushing aside hearing,
Among other things,

I have come to a high school reunion,
We are all of a certain age,
At least, we can all not hear together,
I ask myself – “How could I forget
The charger for my hearing aids?
And my allergy pills, and my
Beloved Celebrex?”

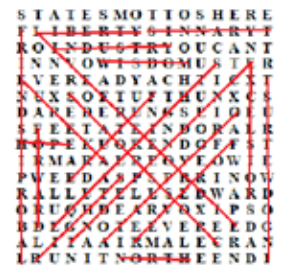
Charles, now king, is my contemporary,
He is not wearing visible hearing aids,
Maybe he does not want to hear,
All the buzz about being an old guy,
Who had to wait f-o-r-e-v-e-r to be King
Of what is now most certainly, a
Dying empire.

It is Cinco de Mayo,
Charles is being coronated,
It's my 58th High School reunion,
And it's raining.

— Herzele
05/05/23

Word Find Answers from page 7

- ANSWERS: 1) FRIENDSHIP;
2) EUREKA; 3) INDEPENDENCE;
4) INDUSTRY; 5) FUTURE;
6) IN GOD WE TRUST; 7) RIGHTS;
8) WISDOM; 9) FOREVER;
10) CROSSROADS; 11) NORTH;
12) ORO Y PLATA; 13) LIVE FREE
OR DIE; 14) LIBERTY;
15) EXCELSIOR; 16) LABOR;
17) HOPE; 18) TYRANNIS;
19) FORWARD; 20) EQUAL RIGHTS



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Quintessential 1917 Craftsman bungalow located in the heart of Hyde Park's historic district. Main house features 3BR/2BA, spacious formal living and dining rooms. Detached guest house with 1BR/1BA plus oversized garage with workshop. Located at 4004 Avenue H. List price: \$1,400,000

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