

April Meeting

HPNA General Meeting Agenda for April 5

- Welcome
- May Ballot Initiatives
- IH-35 Information and Resources
- Philanthropy Spotlight: Hyde Park Theatre
- Vote: Deed Restriction Proposition
- Vote: Replanting Traffic Circle on Speedway
- Announcements

Not a member? No problem!
You can attend anyway.

Join Zoom meeting at 7 pm at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82897122797?pwd=dDJ2QUJlcmZkbXhTTjY4R0V0CeGsvUT09>

Meeting ID: 828 9712 2797

Passcode: 068740

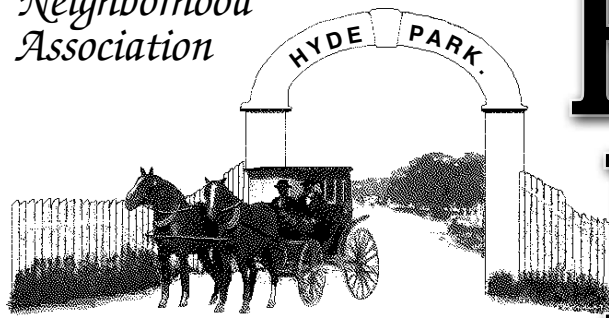
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The Hyde Park
Neighborhood
Association



Pecan Press

April 2021 • National Register District Neighborhood • Vol. 47, No. 04

Shipe Park to Get Improvements as Part of I-35 Updates

Proposals for additional and unexpected changes to Shipe Park were presented recently at the monthly meeting of the HPNA Development Review Committee. Details of a courtesy visit by a team of planners from the Texas Department of Transportation were provided by a committee member who asked to remain unidentified as she is not authorized to speak to the media.

The TxDOT team laid out a vision of improvements that will be offered to the neighborhood as part of a remediation effort accompanying the construction of the recently proposed addition to the I-35 update project: a 45th Street Crosstown Expressway. The six-lane freeway will

connect I-35 and MoPac, with on-off ramps at Guadalupe and Burnet Road.

Grover Benson, senior planner for TxDOT, said the expressway will rise almost 50 feet above street level, thus leaving the park and the houses along 45th Street relatively undisturbed. HPNA is free to come up with its own suggestions for remediation, but Benson offered a local example. Since the expressway will block the sunlight, the predominantly residential area between Burnet Road and Bull Creek Road, has opted for installation of long-lasting Evr-Green™ turf and shrubs.

“There was some initial grumbling among the neighbors there who were attached to their lawns and shrubs,” he said. “But the exceptional attractiveness of the artificial shrubs and turf – and the fact that they require no water and virtually no maintenance except for occasional dusting – finally won everyone over.”

Continued on page 14

The Easter Bunny and Friends Will Be Hopping Down Avenue G!

Join us at 10 am on Saturday, April 3, along the parade route on Avenue G from 51st Street to 40th Street as the Easter Bunny cruises slowly down the street in the bunny truck, accompanied by hit kid’s music. The Easter Bunny’s fully vaccinated and masked helpers will hand out Easter goodies for the children along the route! The bunny truck will then turn west down 40th Street and continue the parade until Baker School.

In the interest of public health, we recommend all attendees maintain social distancing and mask compliance as necessary.



From the Desk of the Co-Presidents



On the Saturday after the Big Snow, Kevin took a walk through the neighborhood. After a week of freezing white cold, the sun was out again, blazing brightly in a clear blue sky. Welcome warm weather had melted the snow and golfers were playing on the Hancock Golf Course, where just four days before bobsledders were gliding down Hancock's hills.

Over at the Duval Center, many of the shops had reopened. Kevin walked into Julio's and asked Stella and Bobbie how things were going. After Bobbie told him that everything was available on their menu that evening, Kevin said, "Well I am glad things are getting back to normal." Stella responded, "What's normal?" And Stella had a point. Stella, Bobbie, and Kevin were chatting in an empty restaurant while wearing surgical masks. How can that be normal?

Over the past twelve months, we have all been trying to figure out what's "normal." The pandemic changed the way we work, play, take care of our children, and interact with our friends. Big plans have been deferred, and folks have lost their livelihoods and dealt with illness and death. It has been a tough year. Yet, as we write this letter, there are positive signs that what we usually describe as "normal life" is on its way back.

With the growing availability of vaccines, we might soon be able to remove our masks; fully open our schools and businesses; and celebrate with our family, friends, and community. In Hyde Park, we might never completely get back to our normal pre-pandemic routines. But, as soon as it is safe, HPNA wants to bring back its neighborhood traditions. So please get the vaccine. And then, with your help and as soon as it is safe, we want to bring back the Homes Tour, It's My Park Day, the Fire Station Festival, and the winter holiday party. We already have something planned for Easter weekend!

We would also like to hear from you about your experiences helping or being helped during and after February's snow storm. We welcome your ideas about how we can work together during a natural disaster and want you to let us know if there are neighbors still struggling after the storm damage who might need neighbors to assist them.

Perhaps the recent snow storm might prove to be a metaphor for our experience with the pandemic. The "snowdemic" was a period

of misery, confusion, and isolation. Eventually, though, the snow and ice melted, the sun came out, and we were warm again.

– Michele Greishaber
Lisa Harris
Kevin Heyburn
Co-Presidents

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Back Cover	7.5" X 10"	400.00
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Hyde Park Neighborhood Association

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

– HPNA Officers & Steering Committee –

Co-Presidents

- Michele Grieshaber..... mgrasshopper001@gmail.com
- Lisa Harris ljharrisus@yahoo.com
- Kevin Heyburn..... kmheyburn@gmail.com

Co-Vice Presidents

- Kathy Jackson
- Paul Smith

Secretary • Ben Reid ben.reid@austin.utexas.edu

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

- Susanna Walker..... suzwalkercpa@gmail.com
- Lorre Weidlich..... lweidlich@mail2sevens.com

Additional Steering Committee Members:

- Betsy Clubine • Sarah Cook • Stephen Gonzales • Sumit Guha
- Syema Muzaffar • Marsha Riti • Elena Rojo

– HPNA Committees & Task Forces –

ASH (joint HPNA-CT committee)

- John Williams jawilli@grandecom.net

Austin Neighborhoods Council Rep.

- Lorre Weidlich..... lweidlich@mail2sevens.com

Church-Neighborhood Liaison

- Phil Seibert..... phil.seibert@gmail.com

Crime & Safety • Carol Welder, cjwelder@msn.com

- Kristen Remeza, kremeza@yahoo.com

Development Review • David Conner, daypaycon@yahoo.com

Finance • David Conner, daypaycon@yahoo.com

Flooding • Kevin Heyburn, kmheyburn@gmail.com

Graffiti Patrol • Lisa Harris, ljharrisus@yahoo.com

Historic Preservation • Joan Burnham, jgiburnham@gmail.com

Homes Tour • Kip Dollar, kipdollar@aol.com

- Chad Crow, chad@secondlabelwine.com

Membership • Sharon Brown, donsharon4213@sbcglobal.net

- Karen Saadeh, kdmatthis@gmail.com

Neighborhood Planning • Karen McGraw, mcgrawka@earthlink.net

Nominating • Adam Wilson adam@griffinschool.org

Parks & Public Space • Mark Fishman, mlfishman@gmail.com

Social Events Coordinator • Sarah Cook, cooksicle@gmail.com

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

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

Website • Graham Kunze, grahamkunze@gmail.com



Pecan Press

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Editor

Lorre Weidlich lweidlich@mail2sevens.com

Poetry Editor

Charlotte Herzele herzele@gmail.com

Puzzle Editor

Steve Bratteng

Production Manager & Advertising Director

Robert M. Farr, 731-0617, rudeboy.robbo@gmail.com

Payments for Ads

HPNA, P.O. Box 49427, Austin, TX 78765

Distribution Coordinator

Rimas Remeza, 4105 Ave. F, 371-3158, rimasx@yahoo.com

Area Coordinators

N of 45th/W of Duval

- Rosa Maria Lopez Reed elsalvadorchrist@yahoo.com

N of 45th/E of Duval

- Jay Gerard & Carrie Laughlin 371-1546

S of 45th/W of Speedway

- Betsy Clubine.....betsyclubine@gmail.com

S of 45th/E of Speedway

- Martha Campbell.....452-2815

APD District Representative for Hyde Park

Darrell Grayson.....512-974-5242
Darrell.Grayson@austintexas.gov

Update on Deed Restriction Removal Bills

Note: For a list of links to the bills mentioned in this article and information related to this article, access the HPNA website at <http://austinhdepark.org/>.

Senator Royce West has filed a bill, SB 30, which would put in place a process by which owners can remove illegal racially discriminatory provisions from real property instruments that affect their property. Senator Byron Hughes filed a bill, SB 222, that is a duplicate of this.

The process outlined in SB 30 and SB 222 has similarities to Property Code Chapter 201, the process that would currently be required in order to amend the restrictive covenants that affect Hyde Park, but is a much simpler and less expensive process. Rather than requiring that a petition to the County Clerk be filed by all of the owners of 75% of the affected land as calculated by three different metrics (75% of lot owners, 75% of affected tracts of land, and 75% of the affected area), any owner of a tract to which the racially discriminatory provision applied could submit a request to the County Clerk. The current process requires that petitioners publish notice of the petition in a newspaper for two weeks and send notice by certified mail to the owners of land to which the racially discriminatory provisions applied; the new process would not require this.

All 31 state senators have joined SB 30 as co-authors and this bill was referred to the State Affairs committee of the Senate on March 9. Lieutenant Governor Patrick included SB 30 in his list of 31 priority items for the 2021 Legislative Session.

— Lisa Harris

A Resolution to Support Easing the Process of Removal of Racist Restrictions on Property Deeds

Whereas, one of the purposes for the formation of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association was the improvement of the Hyde Park community, and

Whereas, multiple subdivisions within Austin including those in the Hyde Park planning area have racially exclusionary restrictions attached to property deeds, which, while not enforceable, are abhorrent and remain harmful, and

Whereas removal of this racist language from a subdivision's real property records currently requires multiple cumbersome steps, as outlined in the Texas Property Code, including the following: a petition must be filed by the owners of 75% of the lots, 75% of the tracts, and 75% of the square footage in the subdivision; if a property has more than one record owner, each owner must sign for that property to be included; and a newly formed petition committee for the subdivision must give notice of the petition to all owners of property in the subdivision, both by publication and by certified mail to each owner, and

Whereas Senator Whitmire and Representative Wu of Houston have each filed a bill (SB 214 and HB 485) to make it easier to formally eliminate racial deed restrictions, which would require action only by an individual property owner and require no associated fees, and

Whereas Senator West has filed a bill (SB 30) that would allow an owner of property or an interest in real property to request that the County Clerk of a county in which the property is located remove racially

Continued on page 15

Membership Information

- Membership in HPNA is open to all residents 18 years or older residing within the boundaries of Hyde Park or within 300 feet of its boundaries.
- University students are free.
- All memberships expire on September 30th of each year.
- New members and members who lapse in dues for over six months are eligible to vote at HPNA meetings 30 days after receipt of dues.
- Membership dues can be paid in several ways: By signing up at an HPNA meeting or event, by mailing in the membership form, or by joining online using PayPal. To pay online, go to www.austinhdepark.org and click on the **Join Now** button. Dues paid online are \$6.

Submission Information

- Send your articles, letters, and photos by the 10th of each month to Lorre Weidlich at lweidlich@mail2sevens.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.

Hyde Park Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Notify me by email of HPNA meetings & events _____

Dues per Person Standard - \$5/yr. Check

Senior - \$1/yr. Cash

Student - Free

New Member Date _____

Renewing Member Amount _____

Mailing Address:
HPNA Membership
P.O. Box 49427
Austin, Texas 78765
Make checks payable to HPNA.



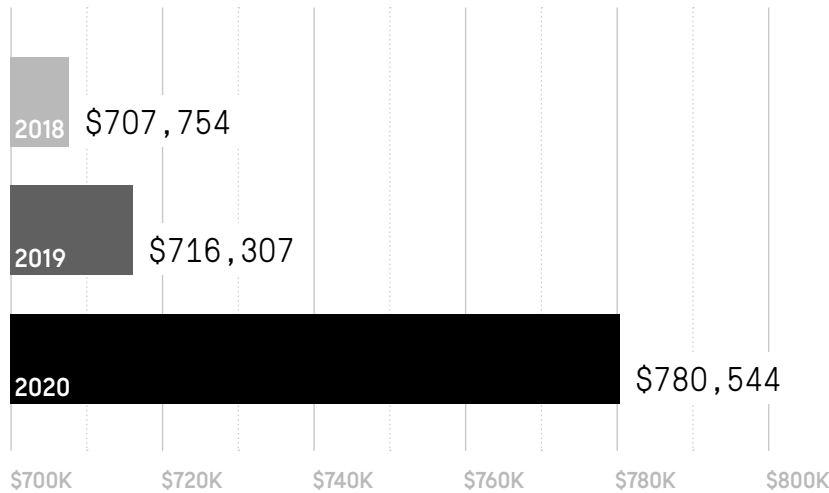
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Average Sales Price: 2018–2020



4211 Ave D Seller Representation



3904 Ave C Buyer Representation

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All YTD data is pulled from Austin MLS for single family residences.



Hyde Park Resident Founds Organization to Offer Material Support and Compassion to Those Experiencing Homelessness

“We have a choice. We can embrace our humanness, which means embracing our broken natures and the compassion that remains our best hope for healing. Or we can deny our brokenness, forswear compassion, and, as a result, deny our own humanity.”

— Bryan Stevenson, *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*

Michelle Joseph, founder of Drive by Howdy, has chosen to embrace humanness through her compassionate volunteer outreach with people experiencing homelessness in central Austin. Joseph, a Hyde Park resident, recently returned to Austin after spending nine years in Europe and quickly developed a unique approach to offering targeted and individualized support to those living on the streets. Her philosophy might sound simple but it belies the deep connection and relationship-building she believes is essential to reaching those often left unseen and unheard.

At its most basic, her work rests on a simple truth: “No one should ever feel like no one cares about them.” From this starting point, Joseph has built a network of neighbors willing to assist through donations of food, clothes, supplies, and money as well by showing up to serve food, distribute goods, and connect with people to let them know the community cares about them.

In the words of a recent contact, “I can take being hungry; I just can’t take the loneliness.” Joseph responded that she was “more than happy to listen to him and to extend some love and kindness.” She also noted “she’ll be keeping tabs on him” to continue to provide support.

In addition to providing hope through a human connection to those living on the streets, Joseph and her volunteers are helping those transitioning out of homelessness. The group recently helped a young couple who had been living on the streets for over a year to secure a new apartment through raising money for security deposit, electric charges, and other financials associated with a new lease. The generosity continued with donated furniture, kitchen basics, and pantry supplies.

Another example of how the community has grown to take care of those in need is the help provided to a family displaced by the winter storm. After pipes burst in their apartment, the family was temporarily relocated to a hotel by FEMA. As the FEMA-provided assistance waned, an area church collected money to extend the hotel stay and neighbors contributed additional funds.

The generosity continued as one neighbor, Kristen, arranged to purchase a cartful of groceries that the family was able to receive via curbside service.

She described her assistance this way: “I was happy to spend some money to feed them for a couple of weeks while they avoided homelessness. I don’t have the means to totally save them economically, but I was able to contribute. It gave me hope during these trying times with such economic hardship.” She credits Michelle with “being the boots on the ground” and allowing others access to ways of helping and to being a part of making a difference.

As one volunteer stated, “You might think the whole world is cruel and crazy and then you see what can happen when neighbors help neighbors. I selfishly need to do something positive in my community to combat all this chaos. It felt good and gives me hope. We could all use some hope.”

Are you interested in getting involved and learning more about how you can join the efforts? Several ideas are listed below but the possibilities are endless.

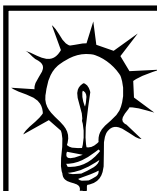
- Pick-up and drop-off donations
- Create a supply drive from Scout groups, sports teams, after-school clubs
- Collect books from your book club members
- Volunteer at campsites to secure tents or cut firewood
- Serve food and distribute supplies during meal distributions
- Set up or clean up during meal distributions

There is something for everyone to do!

Joseph invites you to reach out through Nextdoor or Facebook or connect through these other links:

- Nextdoor group Without Walls: <https://nextdoor.com/g/wyzqhlhpbg/>
- Facebook Drive by Howdy: <https://www.facebook.com/Drive-by-Howdy-340535970618646>
- Multiple Links for Donations and Information: <https://linktr.ee/DriveByHowdy>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/drivebyhowdy>

— Ellie Hanlon

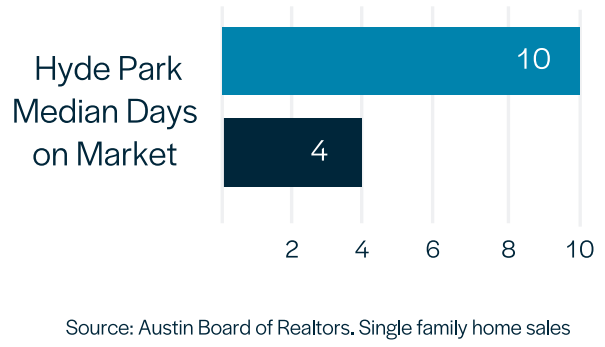
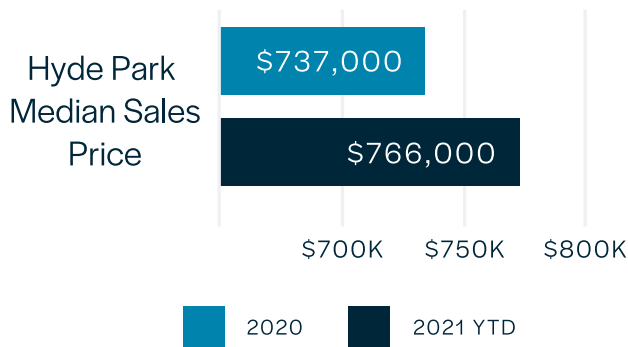


Pecan Press is online at
www.austinhdepark.org



YOUR HYDE PARK NEIGHBOR

Jen has lived, worked, and invested in Hyde Park for over 20 years. She understands historic homes and what makes our neighborhood special. If you are looking for a trustworthy real estate advisor, reach out to Jen. Whether you are simply curious about the market or need a market analysis for your home, she is happy to help!



Source: Austin Board of Realtors. Single family home sales

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News from the Ney

Hey folks!

First of all, the Elisabet Ney Museum and its staff must thank the Friends of the Elisabet Ney Museum for their great efforts at Amplify Austin this year! As many of you already know, Amplify Austin is an opportunity for many not-for-profit organizations to assemble to raise funds for their chosen causes. This year, the Friends of the Ney very thoughtfully suggested that Elisabet's inclination would be for donations go to those in need after the snowstorm first, so the I Live Here I Give Here relief fund was suggested as a strong choice for patronage. Even so, many of you and your neighbors chose to donate a very robust \$4000 to the Ney to pay for future programming and education efforts. The Ney is extremely grateful for the Friends' efforts and the support of donors all over the city and the region in this effort. #Sursum, all!

Speaking of the snowstorm, the Museum itself survived the event unscathed. Only a few limbs in the landscape were brought down by the ice, and Spring is finally upon us.

One effort that the snowstorm did stall, however, was the installation of Jade Walker's sculpture installation Mire + Mend, which will appear in the northwest corner of the museum's property, with installation starting on April 7. On Saturday, April 17, the piece will officially open. The Museum will post details on social media and elsewhere with details. It is an interactive piece, and all the information you will need to help celebrate this effort to make 2021 a great year will be there for you.

Also keep an eye out for landscape interpretive panels, which are finally coming! A beta version will be installed in April, with more final products in May.

Finally, online programming continues, mainly with our Virtual Studio program. Sharpen your creative wits with museum staff and other artists in this online forum to come up with creative mind-opening exercises. The events will be held on Thursday, April 8 and Thursday, April 22 from 6:30 to 8 pm. Check out our Facebook page for details.

Thank you again to everyone for your contributions to Amplify Austin! Have a lovely April!

Capital
PROPERTIES

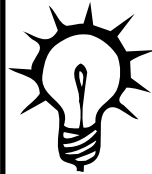
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Monthly Calendar

April

- 3 — Easter Bunny Parade
- 4 — Happy Easter!
- 5 — HPNA Meeting
- 8 — DRC Meeting
- 8 — Virtual Studio at Ney Museum (online)
- 9 — Recycling Pickup
- 9 — Final Day of I-35 Public Scoping Meeting
- 12 — Steering Committee Meeting
- 17 — Opening of Mire + Mend at Ney Museum
- 19 — Contact Team Meeting
- 22 — Virtual Studio at Ney Museum (online)
- 23 — Recycling Pickup



Pecan Press is online at
www.austinhypark.org

Around & About the Avenues

Healthy Street Display. On the morning of Saturday, March 6, walkers on Hyde Park's Healthy Street, Avenue G, were greeted by an installation at 46th Street: colorful barrels topped by plants, a picnic table with an umbrella, and a



bench. There was also a container of chalk markers for kids to use to decorate the street. This was an effort by a committed group of neighbors to imagine more pleasing ways to control traffic along the Healthy Street. The display remained in place until 8 pm.



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HPNA General Meeting Minutes: March 1, 2021

Michele Grieshaber facilitated the meeting, welcomed everyone, and outlined the agenda.

Michele made an announcement: Every month the co-Presidents write a President's Letter in the *Pecan Press*. The March *Pecan Press* letter was written long before the most recent weather incident, so that event was not reflected in the March *Pecan Press* President's letter.

Julia Spann, co-CEO of SAFE Austin, gave a presentation on her organization:

- Julia lives in the neighborhood near Duval and 38th Street and loves the Hyde Park neighborhood. She also loves her organization, the SAFE Alliance. SafePlace and Austin Children's Shelter merged to form the SAFE Alliance.
- SAFE offers prevention programs, parenting assistance programs, and teen assistance programs. They offer crisis work, foster and adoption programs, family violence shelters, and many other related services.
- During times like a pandemic, abuse increases and the SAFE Alliance can help. They also provide post-rape forensic exams, housing assistance, and legal services.
- If you know someone who needs help, they have a 24-hour hotline, 512-267-SAFE (7233). Their website can be found at www.safeaustin.org.
- The most important thing we can all do: if we see something that seems wrong, start a conversation.
- The SAFE Alliance has a location on Grove Boulevard and another location on Manor Road near the Mueller development.
- The SAFE Alliance offers volunteer opportunities. They host drives for goods and can always use help with these drives.

Susan Moffat gave a presentation about the Project Connect Orange Line, which will run down Guadalupe Street, adjacent to Hyde Park:

- Susan is a former co-President and very active in the neighborhood. She is serving on the Cap Metro working group related to the new rail line. Hyde Park is also represented on the working group by Karen McGraw and business owners on Guadalupe Street.
- Project Connect planning has started, including the orange line that will run down Guadalupe.
- Guadalupe is a relatively narrow street with a small right of way, so it will be important to understand how planners incorporate these challenges into the planning process.
- Cap Metro hopes to have 15% of the plan ready to share by June.
- This project is currently in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) phase that involves a number of agencies and working groups. NEPA is an environmental study for all aspects of the area (physical, cultural, and so forth).

Continued on page 10

Word Find: Born in April

by der Brat

THEYREAPRILFOLKS
SWOMODRANOELYIDW
FRINERLEAHPARLEO
KILLORBRANDOOMMR
OCTOLEAPSINNEAAR
LOTZXIVELAYERSWA
MRSAGIEOPE TSAZID
TEETHEHNRSHYEVLO
THEREEREAELOLLR
ETHNIEIARLLKIWI
NAILIBIILWSTARAS
ROLLBLFSEDDOHHMD
UIGERAPGALLONISA
BODYAREAKNAPECKY
ANOTSRAEHEDOGGIE
NANNAIFOKCLANCYS

[Numbers in parentheses = number of letters in answers]

- Oscar-winning Renee from Katy, TX. (9)

- Ear-tugging Carol from San Antonio. (7)

- Pride of Abbott, TX. (6,6) _____
- El Paso-born, she was unsinkable as Molly (and mom to Leia). (6,8) _____
- Tom who gave us Jack Ryan. (6) _____
- Oft-quoted bard of Avon. (11)

- It. polymath, known to kids as the blue-clad TMNT. (8) _____
- It. artist, aka red-clad TMNT. (7) _____
- Inspiration for Citizen Kane. (6) _____
- Charlie, The Little Tramp. (7) _____
- Billie Dee from Star Wars. (8) _____
- Que sera, sera singer. (5,3) _____
- Sad Lady Day. (6,7) _____
- He was Ahab, then Atticus. (4) _____
- Ghanaian UN Sec. Gen. (4,5)

- Ella! (10) _____
- Clarence of "Scopes" fame. (6) _____
- Egyptian who played Dr. Zhivago. (4,6)

- Marlon from Omaha. (6) _____
- Mrs. M.L. King [nee Scott]. (7) _____

Answers on page 15

March Meeting Minutes... ...cont'd from page 9

- The next planning meeting will be in late April or early May.
- The final planning period will be in 2023-2024. Construction could begin in 2024, and some parts of the rail system could be operational by 2029.
- One of the aspects the working groups are examining is the vertical profile of the rail line that will run through our area – options are at-grade, below-grade, or above-grade. Each option has tradeoffs.
- The width of a standard roadway travel lane ranges from 10' to 12.5'. An at-grade rail line would need a width of 28'. The Guadalupe Street right of way is approximately 80' wide, but the road itself is only about 55' wide.
- The working group is encouraging the city to push west rather than east due to the historical structures located on the east side of Guadalupe Street.
- Guadalupe business owners are very concerned about the potential loss of customer parking during and after construction.
- The working group has made Cap Metro aware of the ongoing flood mitigation activities on Avenue A; Cap Metro plans to coordinate its efforts with the city.
- Utility lines might have to be relocated.
- Project Connect, once complete, is expected to cut commute times in half in some parts of the city. Daily ridership is estimated to be between 54,000 and 74,000.

- Some north-south rail lines are shown crossing the river. Project leadership is not yet sure how Project Connect will travel under the river; that is still an unknown.
- A raised rail line doesn't necessarily save space because of the structure that is used to hold it up. In addition, it creates disability access issues because disabled users would need to be able to get up to a rail stop.
- The Cap Metro website has much more information available. The scoping period has been extended; access <https://www.capmetroengage.org/en/orangeline> for a self-guided public scoping meeting.

Adam Sparks gave a presentation on the Hancock Conservancy.

- Adam is a Cherrywood resident. He believes we have the opportunity to create a new park and envisions a park that is open to everyone.
- The Hancock Conservancy website is www.imagine-hancockpark.org
- Austin requires that golf courses generate their own funds. The National Golf Foundation recently did a study of Hancock and reported that it is unable to be self-sustaining and needs major work (\$700,000).
- Adam covered the three options proposed in the Golf Foundation report. (These have been discussed at previous HPNA meetings.) The 3 proposed options are as follows:
 - A passive park.
 - Invest in the Hancock Golf Course to attract more golfers.
 - A public/private partnership.

Continued on page 12

Dearest Neighbors,

We love this historic neighborhood and are committed to purchasing and restoring homes in this area.

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Lettuce Recycle!

by Dena Houston



Buy Nothing: Junk Day on Juniper Street

When I was younger, one of my favorite books was *Junk Day on Juniper Street* by Lillian Moore. It told the story of how neighbors decided to put the stuff they no longer wanted out to the curb on a designated Saturday and hire the junk man to come by at the end of the day to haul everything away. One neighbor loved a lamp someone set out and took it. Another neighbor saw a table he liked and took it. By the end of the day, the only thing left was an old rocking chair. The junk man looked at it with tired, loving eyes, and sat down in it to rest. He took it home. To me this is the best recycling!

The Buy Nothing Project is a global network of community groups that encourages giving away (without selling or bartering) consumer goods and services rather than throwing things away. It is accessed through Facebook and organized by neighborhoods. It is a modern-day version of *Junk Day on Juniper Street*.



For more information on the project, go to <https://buynothingproject.org/>. The Facebook page is a private group but is easy to join. Just search "Buy Nothing."

My first experience using Buy Nothing was when a neighbor needed a computer keyboard. I had been waiting for the Recycle & Reuse Drop-Off Center to reopen to take an old computer and its components (including the old keyboard). I gave it to my neighbor. He was so happy to get it. I was so happy that it found a real home.

I have been very impressed with this project. During our February winter storm, neighbors were reaching out on Buy Nothing to offer food, clothing, charging stations, and many other things someone

would need during this stressful event. Buy Nothing makes it feel like the old days when neighbors reached out to help each other.

Questions from Our Readers

Is cellophane recyclable? Cellophane is not recyclable. It must go into the trash cart. There is no recycling market for cellophane.

How clean does aluminum foil have to be to be recycled? Recycling contamination is an important concern. Therefore, aluminum foil must be clean and dry to be recycled in the blue bin. Clean means no visible food or grease on the foil. Please be sure to have at least a 2-inch ball of foil before placing it in your blue bin.

**PLEASE REMEMBER -
WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT!**

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
recycling@hpbwba.org.

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March Meeting Minutes... ...cont'd from page 10

- Adding a driving range could add revenue, but that would come with bright stadium lighting.
- Hancock Conservancy believes a park is the best option. The city is only looking at golf options, but many people are against making this a golf learning center and are interested in creating a park. There is a petition on the Hancock Conservancy website where you can show your support for the creation of a park.
- The conservancy model proposed by Hancock Conservancy can be supported through philanthropy.
- The Hancock Conservancy would like to add a trail to Waller Creek, great lawns, woodland areas, and a blackland prairie restoration area.
- The City of Austin has not researched the cost of a park but Hancock Conservancy is working on this now.
- Hancock Conservancy needs more time and wants the opportunity to ask everyone in the community if they want a park.
- There are 4 things Hancock Conservancy is requesting: 1) more time, 2) no driving range (which would come with stadium lights) 3) A request for information (RFI) rather than a request for proposal (RFP) from the city, and 4) a restoration of Waller Creek (it's currently mowed down to the bank and needs a trail).

Kevin McKinney, Mike Wong, and Rich Garza gave a presentation on the Hancock Golf Conservancy and discussed how to keep golf as part of the solution:

- Kevin is a homeowner in Hancock and his home overlooks the golf course. Kevin, Mike, and Rich are not golf nuts, they don't want a privatized golf course, and they don't want a driving range.
- The Hancock Golf Conservancy wants to preserve Hancock Golf Course as it is, because they believe that it works as a park and a golf course already.
- The Hancock Golf Conservancy website is www.hancock-golfcourseconservancy.org.
- Hancock Golf Course is expected to be profitable this year if things stay on track. Expenses are going down. Even in a normal (non-COVID 19) year, the course could break even.
- The city pays \$500,000 to UT each year to rent the Lyons Municipal Golf Course space. Golf made \$1.8 million last year.
- Hancock Golf Course already has a full spectrum of uses, unlike any other golf course. Of its 51 acres, 6 acres are already dedicated to park space.
- The plan to go to a passive park cuts out one group of people (golfers) to allow another group of people to use the space.
- There has been a lot of discussion about the fact that golf courses are not sustainable. However, there are many unsustainable things in the park system (chlorinated pools, ACL at Zilker Park, thousands of cars lined up at the Trail of Lights, impervious cover caused by tennis courts and skate parks). Golf courses have worked hard to become more sustainable.

Continued on page 15

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Update on the I-35 Project

Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) is continuing its work on the project to update Interstate Highway 35 in the Austin metropolitan area to ensure that it meets current design standards for highways and adequately serves current and future travel demand. (Please see the January issue of the *Pecan Press* for a summary of this.) The public participation process to define the scope of this project is still underway; the public is invited to comment on how alternatives will be analyzed, the coordination plan and schedule, the project purpose and need, and the range of alternatives. The second virtual public scoping meeting began on March 11 and continues through Friday, April 9. You can view a presentation and project information at My35CapEx.com.

If you submit comments by April 9, your comments will be included in the official record. The ways to submit a comment are as follows:

- Email comments to capexcentral@txdot.gov.
- Leave a voicemail at (512)651-2948.
- Mail comments to I-35 Capital Express Central Project Team, 1608 W. 6th Street, Austin, TX 78703.
- Click through the presentation on the *My35CapEx.com* website, at the end of which you will be invited to submit comments and questions.

— Lisa Harris

WINTER STORM URI IN HYDE PARK

Hyde Parker residents who lived through winter storm Uri during the week of February 15 will never forget it: lack of heat, lack of water, broken pipes, dead plants, and the shock of discovering just how ill-prepared the state of Texas was to cope with extreme winter weather. Paul Smith got out his camera to document the event. Poet Lisa Fox did it with her pen.



Photos by Paul Smith



Crime of Nature

I opened the door
To absolute
Frigid
stillness
A scary silence
Save the sound of splintering ice
as trees try to breathe.
Mother Nature
can be cruel
In her beauty
Ice
And snow
shroud everything in sight
Arctic air
And single digit weather for days
Trees bowed to the ground
heavy with winter cover
Crack and
Fall to the ground
with a heavy thud of death
echoing into the night
Nnnnnnnnoooooooooo
I groan from my bed
Anxious for days
I anticipate the next fall
And the next
Some say its natures way of weeding
out weak for new growth
I say it's a crime of Nature.

— Lisa Fox
(during the
freeze)

Shipe Park/I-35 Improvements... ...cont'd from page 1

Due to the centrality of Shipe Park in the life of the neighborhood, Benson said, TxDot planners focused their attention on ways to improve it. The freeway itself will cover the northern third of the park, including the tennis courts and Waller Creek.

Illumination has long been problematic for tennis players at Shipe, with blinding sun by day and shadowy lighting by night. Under the proposed plan, daylight will be carried by fiber optic cable from the overpass, bathing the courts in cool, even illumination. "At noon you will be playing in total shade," he said.

Night lighting will be nearly three times brighter than the current lighting and more evenly distributed. And since nothing will grow under the freeway, a third tennis court, turned 90 degrees from the others, will be added between the existing courts and Avenue F. "Shipe Park will become a mecca for serious tennis players," Benson predicted, "especially at night."

Daisy Collingwood said she was concerned that the highway would "divide and destroy" Hyde Park, and that the noise would seriously degrade the tranquility of the neighborhood. Benson said the point of the raised freeway was to save the park: "What would destroy it is to have condemned enough land on both sides of 45th Street through eminent domain for a six-lane freeway."

As for noise, Benson said it was part of modern city life. "Standing under the freeway won't be as noisy as living two doors down from a leaf blower," he said. He added that he lived only a half mile from Highway 183, and at night it sounded "a lot like the surf at Port Aransas."

South of Waller Creek would see the addition of several more picnic tables and benches. Benson added that "the elderly do love their bocce," so at least one bocce court will also be included, probably between the basketball court and the creek.

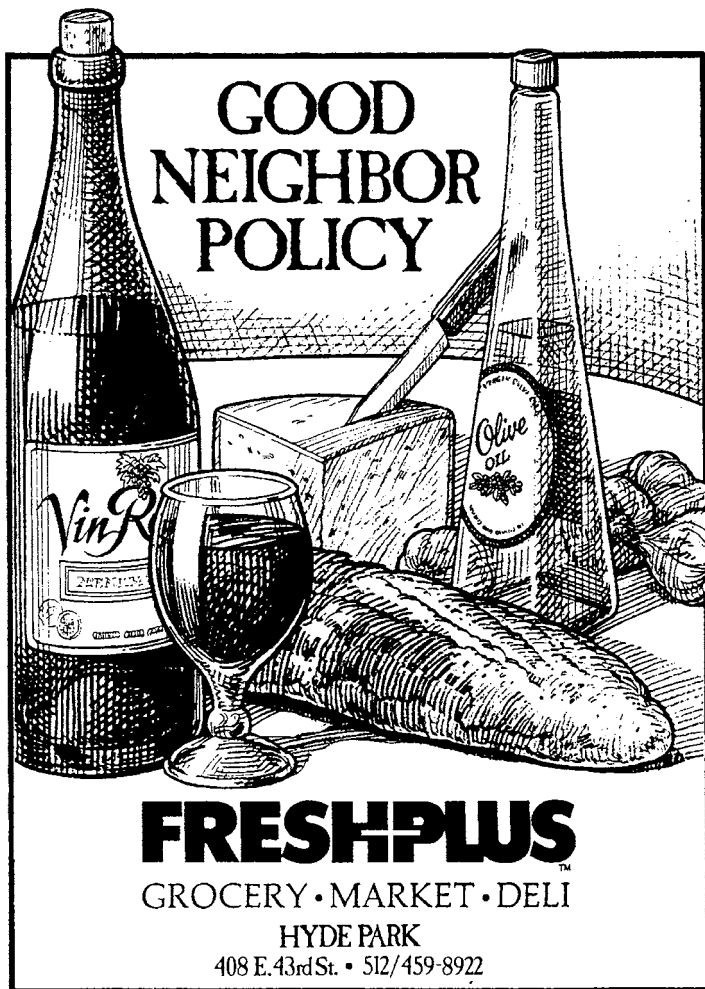
Dale Rutkowski took sharp exception to Benson's remark. He said he was "sick and tired of people assuming older folks were a bunch of drooling, doddering, weaklings." He said he was 71 and could bench press more than most 30-somethings in Hyde Park and he would fight any man in the room who said it wasn't so.

Benson apologized; after a brief discussion it was decided to henceforth refer to older Hyde Parkers as "oldsters."

Committee chair Dale Conner moved that the committee accept TxDot's preliminary plan; it passed 6 to 1. Benson said designers would have more detailed plans, complete with drawings, in time for the June HPNA meeting when the final proposal will be voted on by the members.

The meeting was adjourned.

— Rollo Treadway



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March Meeting Minutes... ...cont'd from page 12

- Hancock Golf Conservancy consists of parks people who want to close the gap to make sure Hancock is cash positive for the city.
- Hancock Golf Conservancy wants to have a park and a golf course coexist.

Kevin Gomillion, Division Manager for Golf Operations with the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARC), gave a brief response to the two presentations:

- PARC is giving more time to this process and wants to enlarge the engagement process.
- PARC is being very cautious: neither conservancy is recognized by the City, but PARC appreciates that both of these groups are fighting for Hancock.
- Hancock is a public course: anyone willing to pay the fee can use it.
- PARC has not taken anything off the table because that's not PARC's call; it belongs to City Council.
- Although the weather has slowed things down, a survey is coming shortly.
- PARC appreciates that people don't want a driving range and understands that people don't want stadium lights.
- PARC is listening.

Announcements

Michele thanked all of the guest speakers for attending.

The neighborhood bikeway for 46th Street has been approved. The project is moving forward and construction installation should start this spring. For 46th and 47th Street bikeway update, see <https://data.austintexas.gov/stories/s/46th-47th-Streets-and-Bennett-Clarkson-Middle-Fisk/bb5t-6y5z>.

Members provided links and resources for assistance organizations helping with the severe freeze recovery:

- Austin Amplify giving day, March 4-5, matched to storm recovery: <https://www.amplifyatx.org/organizations/illhigh-amplify-disaster-relief-fund>
- Austin Disaster Recovery Network: <https://adrn.org>
- Austin Area Urban League, #LoveThyNeighborTX campaign, storm recovery urgent donations drive: <https://aaul.org>
- Blanket Drive: <https://frontsteps.org/get-involved/annual-blanket-drive/>
- Communities in Schools of Central Texas providing emergency aid to families in crisis: <https://ciscentraltexas.org/donation/>
- Blood drive (area blood banks are running low due to the storm): <https://weareblood.org/donate-blood/donation-locations/>
- Austin Diaper Bank: austindiapers.org






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who you are,
who you love,
what you believe
or don't believe...

Please join us for an online Easter Sunday!

April 4 at 11:00am
www.trinitychurchofaustin.org



A Resolution... ...cont'd from page 3

discriminatory provisions from deeds which conveyed the property, require that the Attorney General develop a form for this purpose, and require that each County Clerk's office make this form available on their website;

Therefore, be it hereby resolved that the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association will do the following:

Support the passage of HB 485, SB 214, and SB 30 during the 87th Session of the Texas Legislature;

Direct HPNA leadership to convey this resolution to all members of the Austin state delegation as well as the bills' sponsors and to reach out to other Austin neighborhood associations and similar groups to encourage their support of bill's passage;

And, in the case that either of these bills becomes law in 2021, direct HPNA leadership to develop and execute a plan to inform property owners of the change and make property owners aware of the new process to request that the County Clerk remove racially discriminatory restrictions from past deeds conveying their property.

Word Find Answers from page 9

- 1)ZELLWEGER; 2)BURNETT;
- 3)WILLIE NELSON; 4)DEB-BIE REYNOLDS; 5)CLANCY; 6) SHAKSPEARE; 7)LEONARDO; 8) RAPHAEL; 9)HEARST; 10)CHAP-LIN; 11)WILLIAMS; 12)DORIS DAY;
- 13)BILLIE HOLIDAY; 14)PECK; 15) KOFI ANNAN; 16)FITZGERALD;
- 17)DARROW; 18)OMAR SHARIF;
- 19)BRANDO; 20)CORETTA



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901 WEST 22ND STREET

Available now for short term lease at discounted rate. Charming 2 BR, 2 BA condo at Preservation Square. Ground level unit with adjacent parking. Walking distance to U.T.

Listed at \$1,695/mo.



4214 SPEEDWAY

Exquisite renovation of 1939 Hyde Park bungalow. Many upgrades and custom finishes. 3 BR, 3 BA. Two screened in porches, greenhouse, hot tub, garage/workshop.

Listed at \$1,195,000



3512 RED RIVER STREET

White stone traditional style custom built home with 4 BR, 3.5 BA, 2 LIV. Open floor plan, updated kitchen, fabulous master suite on ground level. Two-car garage plus carports.

Listed at \$1,195,000



3306 HARRIS PARK AVE.

Upstairs unit of 1930s brick duplex with 2 BR, 1 BA. Updated with new appliances, refinished floors, screened porch. Looks out on tree-tops. Walking distance to U.T.

Listed at 2,100/mo.



3501 WOODROW ST.

Stately 1933 brick American Four Square home with 4BR, 2BA, 2LIV plus guest house. Park-like yard with pool on half-acre lot. Fun fact: Childhood home of QB Drew Brees!

Listed at \$1,695,000

Hyde Park & North University homes continue to be in high demand! Call your neighborhood expert today for a complimentary market analysis and customized marketing plan for your property. Check out new listings for sale on [Instagram](#) @hydeparkrealtor .

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