

March Meeting

When: 7:00 pm
Monday, March 6, 2017

Where: Griffin School
5001 Evans Avenue

Note: HPNA meetings usually take place on the first Monday of each month.

HPNA General Meeting Agenda for March 6

- Discussion: Possible Closure of Ridgetop Elementary School
- Vote: Resolution regarding Ridgetop Elementary School
- Update: Austin Pilot Program to Measure Noise from Downtown Music Venues
- Vote: Letter to the Parole Board concerning Pearl Moen
- Vote: Resolution regarding Flooding
- Vote: Letter to Mayor Adler concerning CodeNEXT
- Announcements

See You There!

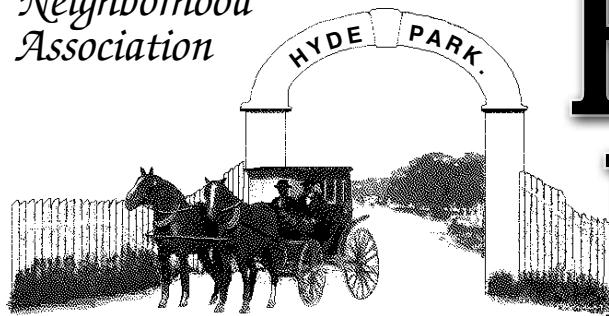
Exploring Hyde Park North of 45th Street

Almost everyone has heard the basic facts about the history of Hyde Park south of 45th Street: founded in 1891 by Colonel Monroe Shipe and serviced by the Austin Trolley System, Hyde Park began as an exclusive community but developed later into more of a middle class neighborhood. It went through a period of decline, but revived and was designated as a local historic district in 2010.

What do we know, however, about the history of Hyde Park north of 45th Street? It was founded later than lower Hyde Park and is far more diverse. It was not one subdivision, but a series of subdivisions and additions: the Hyde Park Annex; Patterson Heights; the Hegman, Staehely, Mueller, and Theodora subdivisions; the Worley addition; Ramsey Place; and parts of the Highlands addition and Ridgetop Annex. Each, of course, has its own history. Let's look at several of those areas.

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*The Hyde Park
Neighborhood
Association*



Pecan Press

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Senator Kirk Watson's Vision for ASH

Editor's Note: At the February HPNA meeting, Senator Watson presented his vision for ASH and answered questions. We thank Sarah Cook for her detailed summary of his presentation.

Kevin Heyburn introduced Senator Kirk Watson and the Senator's legislative director, Sandy Guzman. Senator Watson opened his remarks by describing the next day's work in the Texas Senate: a vote on the sanctuary cities bill and three ethics bills.

With regard to the Austin State Hospital (ASH) redesign, the Senator expressed his belief that there is momentum behind it that will make the redevelopment happen. Three catalytic events have occurred that are driving the work:

1. In September, 2011, Senator Watson launched his 10-in-10 initiative plan; the ten initiatives included improving the health care in Travis County: adding a medical school, adding a 21st century teaching hospital, and establishing and ensuring uniquely Austin clinics.

The item of mental health was included in the 10-in-10 plan; the Senator asked a local stakeholder group of providers what they thought needed to be done to improve mental health. That group then provided him a list of pricey, but impactful, initiatives that would make a difference in community mental health, focused around building out the continuum of care.

Some of these stakeholder-generated initiatives were funded by the Central Health election in September, 2012 that increased property taxes. That money was used through the 1115 Medicaid Waiver and its DSRIP (Delivery System Reform Incentive Program) program

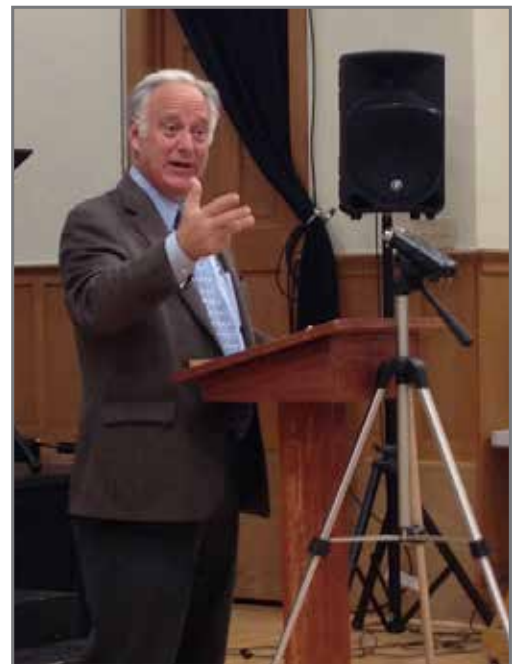


Photo by Kevin Heyburn

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From the Desk of the Co-Presidents



Spring is fast approaching. The temperatures are beginning to rise, but the issues around the neighborhood are not slowing down. In fact, given the presence of our biennial guests under the Pink Dome, the HPNA will need to focus on more than just wild flowers and fire flies as April arrives.

At our February meeting, we had the honor of hosting our neighbor, State Senator Kirk Watson. Senator Watson discussed his plan to transform the Austin State Hospital (ASH) into a state-of-the-art mental health facility. While this transformation will take time and require the approval of the Legislature, the proposed modernization would make Austin and specifically our neighborhood a center for modern mental health care in the country. The modernization is something that we as a neighborhood should continue to monitor and encourage, as it will provide a great community benefit for both Austin and the State as a whole.

Also at the February meeting, the membership approved a resolution calling on the Austin Independent School District (AISD) to retain the Baker property. As our neighborhood and the central Austin area increases in density and area schools become more crowded, it is important for AISD to keep

properties that can be converted into schools to ease the overcrowding. As anyone who has recently tried to purchase a home in the central city knows, land is difficult to come by and obtaining new land that can be used as a school will be very difficult. HPNA's membership felt it was important to encourage AISD to take the cautious path and maintain the Baker property for use by the school district.

At our March meeting, we will hear about the possible closure of Ridgetop Elementary and vote on a resolution that calls for the maintenance of this site as a school. We are hoping to have individuals with the school as well as our local AISD board trustee come talk to us about Ridgetop's future. If the Baker property is sold and Ridgetop is closed, the neighborhood would no longer have an active AISD facility within its boundaries. As the City of Austin seeks to build more compacted and connected communities, removing and eliminating neighborhood schools seems to run counter to that goal and would make our neighborhood less connected and less walkable. As we have noted before, our neighborhood plan calls for the retention of both Baker and Ridgetop as schools.

Also at the March meeting, we are planning to have an update on the new temporary noise ordinance governing the curfew for music in the Red River Street entertainment district. We will learn how we as a neighborhood can provide feedback during the curfew's trial period. We encourage anyone interested in how the noise ordinance

will impact the neighborhood to come to the meeting and share his or her thoughts.

In addition to the resolution regarding Ridgetop Elementary, the Steering Committee is asking the membership to vote on three other items. The first resolution calls on the Austin City Council to implement the recommendations of the Flood Mitigation Task Force. The

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Pecan Press

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Resolutions for Vote at the March Meeting

The following resolutions will be discussed and voted on at the March meeting.

Resolution Concerning Flooding

WHEREAS, Hyde Park, like many other neighborhoods in Austin, has suffered from flooding, some of it severe; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin appointed a Flood Mitigation Task Force to examine the issue of flooding throughout the city and in May, 2016 the final report of the Task Force specified a set of recommendations for flood control, mitigation, and prevention;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association requests that Austin City Council adopt the recommendations of the Flood Mitigation Task Force and put them into effect immediately in order to protect the citizens and property of the City of Austin:

1. City Council should adopt a city-wide flood mitigation prioritization policy based on loss of life, general health and safety, and property damage. All subsequent city council policy and budget decisions should be made through this framework. Before increasing fees or calling bond elections, Council should undertake a review of the entire City budget, specifically items related to priorities to keep the citizens of Austin safe, and make difficult decisions about how we prioritize spending and fund the projects we must do to keep our residents safe.

2. Funding large capital projects should be accomplished through bonds and available grants, not through the Drainage Utility Fee (DUF). The DUF should only be used for smaller capital improvement projects that are less critical and can be accomplished within a reasonable time frame. Further, only capital

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Resolution Concerning Ridgetop Elementary School

WHEREAS, Ridgetop Elementary School is an Austin Independent School District (AISD) campus located within the boundaries of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association and serves a vital role for many students and families in our community; and

WHEREAS, Ridgetop provides a rigorous, enriched education for students and enjoys strong parental and community involvement, yet AISD consultants recently placed this high-performing campus on a list for possible closure or consolidation; and

WHEREAS, Ridgetop has earned Exemplary ratings in eight key areas measured by the state, has met all state Performance Standards and has been awarded a Distinction recognition for student progress; and

WHEREAS, Ridgetop has also served as a highly successful pilot school for AISD's acclaimed two-way dual language program and enjoys strong support from nearly a score of local community partners including the Paramount Theater, Latinitas, Proyecto Teatro, Ballet Austin and many others; and

WHEREAS, Research shows that school closures have resulted in diminished support for public education generally, that economies of scale realized in closing smaller campuses were often overstated, that some districts actually lost money through school closures, and that many student outcome measures were optimized in schools with 300-500 students, such as Ridgetop; and

WHEREAS, The Hyde Park Neighborhood Plan, approved by the City of Austin, states as an Action

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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.
- 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.austinyhydepark.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@grandecom.net.
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

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HYDE PARK AREA: YTD SALES IN REVIEW

	2014	2015	2016
NUMBER OF HOMES SOLD	21	29	24
AVERAGE SALES PRICE	\$470,419	\$570,905	\$578,158
AVERAGE SQ FT	1,582SF	1,549SF	1,927SF
AVERAGE SOLD \$/SQ FT	\$321.75	\$376.47	\$361.16
MEDIAN DAYS ON MARKET	14 DAYS	7 DAYS	7 DAYS

All statistics & square footage are from Austin MLS for Single Family Residence taken 10/04/2016 from the Austin MLS. For detailed market information about your home, contact Sam Archer, Broker.



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Senator Watson Talks... ...cont'd from page 1

to fund projects including the psychology education program at Brackenridge.

2. Now that the medical school is here, it's able to do new things; indeed, its motto is "rethink everything." The build out of the medical school departments includes a psychiatric department, with Chair Steve Strakowski, that is thinking hard about what community mental health needs.
3. Two sessions ago, the lege decided to look at the state of the public mental health hospitals (state hospitals) in Texas. The Cannon Report that resulted called for many of them to be redone because they were either a) decrepit and structurally unsound or b) too old to provide updated care. Five of the 10 statewide are unsalvageable. ASH is in the top 2 or 3 of the worst.

ASH is in such bad shape that it becomes an opportunity - because something has to be done! These three catalytic events have created a situation within which we can think big, where we can create the MD Anderson of the Brain. At the site, we can expand what's offered and provide the full continuum of behavioral healthcare, from peer counseling to hospitalizations.

Currently, there's an epidemiological study taking place in the 39-county ASH catchment area to understand what the needs are in the area. That study is funded by Seton Central Health, Integral Care (formerly Austin Travis County Integral Care), and the Meadows Foundation. That study will allow us to build the plan for the Texas Brain Health Center at ASH.

The goal in this budget is to get planning money, which would then lead to operationalizing the plan in the next lege. The session will be tough to find money. But in the Senate base budget there's \$1B set aside for state facilities upkeep. There may be an opportunity in that line to fund some of this work. There's also interest on the House side. Speaker Strauss has appointed Representative Four Price from Amarillo to lead the committee on mental health. Representative Price toured ASH with Senator Watson and Senator Nickols, who represents Rusk State Hospital, which is number one on the Cannon Report's list of state hospitals that need intervention.

Now, to questions:

Question: I'm grateful for the focus on mental health at the site; that's what belongs there. How does your work relate to the conversations we always return to about different uses for the site, like housing and retail and so forth?

Senator Watson: Great question. In tough budgets, we always have to think about state-owned property in Austin. Having been mayor, and now in the Senate, I realize that I likely have the most state-owned land subject to development of any senator. My approach,

Monthly Calendar March

- 2 — *Literary Soiree with Lisa Olstein and Edward Carey at the Ney*
- 3 — *Recycling Pickup*
- 4 — *Camera Photo Photography at the Ney*
- 6 — *HPNA General Meeting*
- 9 — *DRC Meeting*
- 11 — *Camera Photo Photography at the Ney*
- 13 — *Steering Committee Meeting*
- 17 — *Recycling Pickup*
- 25 — *Camera Photo Photography at the Ney*
- 28 — *Two Guys on Your Head featuring Article by Edmund Montgomery*
- 31 — *Recycling Pickup*

as a general rule, is to keep that land public - I think neighborhoods and communities grow up around and rely on public land. It's not fair just on a whim to do something that's disruptive. Keeping it public - if even with a more dense use - is the first goal. If the land is sold, the development should be under local zoning laws. In fact, I passed a law to extend to the Texas Facilities Communion the General Land Office protection, which states that if the state doesn't like the local zoning that's applied to a state-owned tract, it has right to appeal the zoning to a 5-person board comprised of the mayor and county judge from the land's location and three gubernatorial or Attorney General (AG) appointments. While the gubernatorial or AG appointees aren't always likely to see eye to eye with the locality, it's a start.

In the case of ASH specifically, the cost of moving or combining ASH is enormous, which makes the redevelopment a much more likely option.

Question: What about the historic core, including the 15 buildings that Preservation Austin deems historically significant?

Senator Watson: This planning process should easily incorporate how to use the old buildings on the site; there's a commitment to preserving those buildings.

Question: What are you doing about SB2?

Senator Watson: Senator Betancourt introduced this bill to cap local government property tax increases at 4% without election. Truth is, it wouldn't do that much - previous analysis shows it might save maybe \$38 to \$43 per household in Austin. The real thing to do is to fix the school funding. The average Austin property tax owner spends \$1300 to 1400 on recapture that doesn't go to AISD. Since 70% of city budget goes to public safety, it's not trusting local officials and voters. SB2 will pass the senate, though; it's a priority of the Lieutenant Governor.

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Hyde Park Neighborhood Planning Contact Team Meeting Minutes: January 23, 2017

Eleven attendees were present, including Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo. In the absence of a secretary, Sarah Cook took notes of the meeting. In the absence of the Chair, Mity Myhr called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Because there was no meeting in October, 2016, any vote held tonight would be open to attendees of the July or April meeting.

Item from the Floor

Lorre Weidlich suggested that HPCT send a letter to council refuting the findings in the City Auditor's report on neighborhood contact teams. She stated that while many neighborhood contact teams might have problems, HPNPCT has always been open and provided public notice of meetings, operated democratically, and followed strict parliamentary procedure.

Lorre made a motion to send a letter; Kathy Lawrence seconded. Mity invited discussion.

During the discussion, MPT Tovo noted that she has received emails critical of contact teams that cited the auditor's study.

Lisa Harris suggested that the City provide more support and guidance to NPCTs.

Susan Moffett noted that the city didn't set up parameters for bylaws or provide guidance on best practice; the City-provided, non-mandatory bylaws

template was not an ideal tool. The City has been top down on the establishment of the committees, but didn't make enough resource available to the committees themselves.

MPT Tovo noted that CM Renteria attempted to make bylaws even across the city. Some of the issues are going to be resolved in the coming months. Speaking to the content of the audit, MPT Tovo also noted that the suggestion that NPCTs are exclusive was based on single examples and do not reflect the entirety of the NPCTs.

After discussion, Lorre called the question to vote to send a letter to Council refuting the auditor's study. The vote was 7 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Discussion of Baker School

There was a discussion of the agenda item, "Would the neighborhood like to draft and vote on a resolution about the preservation of the Baker School?"

HPNA will vote on a resolution in February; Mity read sections of the proposed resolution.

Karen McGraw suggested that we emphasize the school's role as a contributing structure within the historical district that was established in 2010.

Susan Moffett wants the building to be maintained as a civic structure and not transformed into housing. Speaking to some misinformation offered on rules that would govern a transfer between governmental entities (that is, between AISD and City of Austin) Susan explained rules governing such a transfer (272.001 subsection L) require that if the receiving agency doesn't use the donated building as required by the transfer, the building will revert back to the donating agency.

Susan then emphasized that any resolution from the contact team should quote the neighborhood plan. She also pointed out that the building is at full use - it is not empty or idle but supports various administrative functions for the school district.

Karen and Susan discussed whether citing the lack of a school in Hyde Park is important and decided that it would not add to the letter's impact. Susan noted that sale of the property might not be in AISD's best interest and the contribution to AISD's coffers would be immaterial (total AISD budget \$1B; highest bid from Houston developers to convert building to housing is \$15M).

Continued on following page



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The Contact Team will adapt the HPNA letter and will add to it to include the following: the preference that the building be retained for civic use, the historic nature of the building and the fact that it is a contributing structure to the historic district, and any other salient points from the neighborhood plan that discuss the Baker School.

Karen McGraw moved a vote and Lorre Weidlich seconded it. The vote was 7 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

CodeNEXT

CodeNEXT will be released online on January 30. There will be a public presentation at Palmer Special Events Center on February 1, 4 to 6 pm, followed by a meeting of the CodeNEXT CAG from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

Susan discussed what might be included in the plan and how comments and criticisms will be accepted.

Karen suggested that the most pressing question is whether NCCDs will still be in the plan. She also stated that June 7 is the deadline for comments to be included in the draft that will be sent to Planning Commission and ZAP.

The next HPNCT meeting is on the fourth Monday in April - April 24, 2017. The City will release maps to go with new code on April 18, so there should be enough time to review the maps before the meeting.

There is a joint HPNA/HPNPCT CodeNEXT committee that should be reinstated. It was suggested that a meeting be held in mid-February and that the meeting be open to everyone.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

— Sarah Cook for the HPNPCT



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HPNA General Meeting Minutes: February 6, 2017

Reid Long called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Talk by Senator Watson

Kevin Heyburn introduced Senator Kirk Watson and the Senator's legislative director, Sandy Guzman. Senator Watson opened his remarks by describing the next day's work in the Texas Senate: a vote on the Sanctuary Cities Bill and three ethics bills. The Senator discussed the work being done to transform the Austin State Hospital (ASH) site into a comprehensive regional site for brain health services and took questions on the subject as well as other matters in this biennium's legislative session.

Baker School Resolution

The resolution on the Baker School, presented

to membership from the Steering Committee, was opened for questions and discussion. Reid read the "resolved" sections of the resolution from the *Pecan Press*, after which Susan Moffett moved to accept the motion, Kevin Heyburn seconded, and no discussion occurred. A vote was taken: 30 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstentions. Kevin Heyburn thanked Susan Moffett for her work on the issue.

Announcements

Reid thanked Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo for attending the meeting and reminded the assembly that the HPNA Steering Committee meets Monday, February 13 and DRC meets Thursday, February 9.

It's My Park! Day will take place on March 4, 9 am to noon. Sign up online and bring your garden gloves and your favorite landscaping tool! There will be treats and music.

Ken Webster from Hyde Park Theater was recognized at the meeting; Frontera Fest continues for another week at the neighborhood theater and others in town.

Six new members attended the meeting and introduced themselves.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.

— Submitted by Sarah Cook
for Artie Gold and Susan Marshall,
Co-secretaries, HPNA



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Around & About the Avenues

CultureMap Reports ASH History.

Austin CultureMap recently reported an interesting piece of history about the Austin State Hospital. Originally, when an ASH patient died and was not claimed for burial by family members, his or her body was interred near the main ASH building at 41st and Guadalupe Street. However, over time the ASH facility needed that land and so sought out a new location for a cemetery, two miles away at 200 W. 51st Street. The bodies from the original cemetery were moved to that location. Not only patients but some staff members were buried there. The most famous inhabitant of the cemetery is John Neely Bryan, the founder of Dallas, who spent time at ASH due to problems with alcohol and mental impairment. In 2002, Texas State Historical Commission conferred historical status on the cemetery. To read the complete article, by writer Shelley Bueche, go to <http://austin.culturemap.com/news/city-life/02-15-17-changing-landscape-of-austin-column-state-hospital-cemetery/>.



Shipe Pool History. The attic at the William and Valerie Mansbendel-Williams house seems to be a treasure trove of Hyde Park historical information. Owner David Conner recently turned up a beautiful vintage photo of Shipe Pool in use. The view seems to be from the northwest to the southeast. Can anyone take a guess at the year?



Looking Forward to the Egg Scramble. Mark your calendar for the Fifth Annual Hyde Park Egg Scramble at Shipe Park on Saturday, April 15, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. This HPNA event, sponsored by Grande Communications, includes popcorn, snow cones, and cotton candy as well as fun activities like egg hunts, a bounce house, and a balloon twister – all free to Hyde Parkers who attend the event. Once again, the Egg Scramble Bunny will be attending, and you can have your picture taken with him at the photo booth. If your child is going to participate in the egg hunt festivities, please drop off one dozen plastic eggs filled with age appropriate treats any time between Saturday, April 8 and Friday, April 14 in the bins marked by age group (0-2, 3-4, and 5-8) on the front porch at either 4307 Avenue F or 4402 Avenue F. Please, no confetti eggs. We're also looking for volunteers. Sign up at [SignUp.com](http://signup.com/go/DihZA8) at <http://signup.com/go/DihZA8>.



Co-Presidents' Letter...

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Task Force proposed a lengthy list of recommendations and their proposals can be found at <http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=254319>. The second resolution will be in support of a letter to Mayor Adler, thanking him for his commitment to a "grand Austin bargain" which supports and protects neighborhood cores. It is important that HPNA show its support when elected officials stand up for us. The third resolution asks the membership to support a letter to the State Parole Board regarding the perpetrator in the stabbing case in Hyde Park last year. We were encouraged to write this letter by both the crime victim and the district attorney, in order to provide the neighborhood's insight and perspective on the case.

With all of these issues on the March agenda, we encourage everyone to attend and make your voice heard. Our organization is strongest when participation is high. If you have other issues which you would like the HPNA to consider, please feel free to let us know.

– Kevin Heyburn & Reid Long
HPNA Co-Presidents

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Senator Watson Talks...

...cont'd from page 5

Question: With your vision for ASH, do you know if patient and personnel numbers would increase and by how much?

Senator Watson: I don't know and don't want to jump to conclusions. An epidemiological study will help show what the volume is. But I anticipate that the volume will go up. However, as Dr. Strakowski thinks about our entire regional need for mental health care, investments in telepsych and other treatment modalities may push services out towards where people live.



Photo by Kevin Heyburn

Question: How does this tie into other hospitals and their planning process?

Senator Watson: It can proceed on its own. Rusk is first on the list. We need to come up with the funding, but it can proceed in parallel.

Question: Any appetite in the lege to revisit school funding formulas?

Senator Watson: They act like there is an appetite: Senator Nelson, chair of finance, created two working

groups - one on healthcare, one on school finance. So there is conversation, but it's unclear if anything will really happen this session. I don't think there's time between now and the end of the session to do something, but perhaps it lays the foundation for change in a special session or the next session.

Question: California has passed the most comprehensive mandatory vaccination bill. What's happening at the lege? A number of bills have been entered about that.

Senator Watson: This is a hot, controversial topic right now. You're not going to have something so sweeping like you had in California. It will be slower, if anything.

Question: It's going to take years to get there; how do we keep ASH as hospital grounds in the forefront of people's minds, so that we don't have to revisit this?

Senator Watson: We have momentum; we have support from the right people. If we come out of the session with planning money and a plan to fund repairs, I think that takes care of a lot of that talking. One of the things I'm proud of in my public service is that I stay after it to get it done. And I'll do that.

Question: Some of us are concerned with the legislature taking over things that Austin has controlled before, stripping local control for such issues STRs and ride-sharing. What is happening with local control?

Senator Watson: The old days of talking about local control are gone. The theory is that the state grants cities power and so the state has to be in control. I'm an old mayor at heart.

Word Find Answers

- 1)FANTASIA 2)VERTIGO 3)REAR WINDOW
- 4)CASABLANCA 5)CHINATOWN 6)HIGH NOON
- 7)PATTON 8)STAR WARS 9)TAXI DRIVER 10)CITIZEN KANE
- 11)FARGO 12)UNFORGIVEN 13)BEN-HUR
- 14)PSYCHO 15)STAGECOACH 16)ALL ABOUT EVE
- 17)AMADEUS 18)KING KONG 19)THE GODFATHER
- 20)SHANE

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 CHERAMARNACHOKCI
 HRULENVIALTHECAT
 OILSETHEATSSORER
 PANICCENAHSPRITE
 ELEVENEVIGROFNUV

Hyde Park: N. of 45th St. ...

...cont'd from page 1

The Hyde Park Annex

The Hyde Park Annex is bounded by Avenue B and 45th, 47th, and Duval Streets.

Col. Monroe Shipe, founder of Hyde Park, platted the Hyde Park Annex in 1898. In 1899, his advertisement for the Annex stated, "The prices range from \$60 to \$100 [per] lot. This you can pay for at the rate of 5 cents per day, or \$1.50 per month, only the cost of a glass of beer each day. Two lots would cost less than one glass of whiskey each day."



Wells-LaRue House

The Hyde Park Annex includes one Austin Historic Landmark, the Wells-LaRue House at 4524 Avenue F.

The Hegman Subdivision

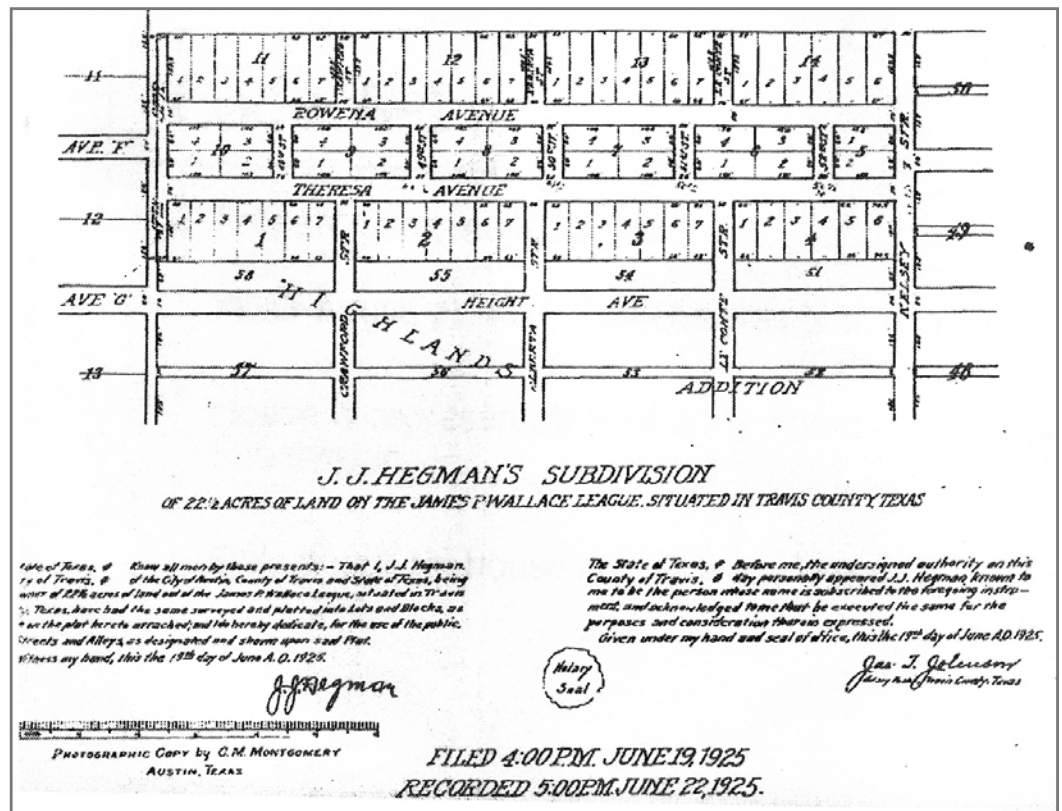
Jay J. Hegman was born in Galveston in 1883. The 1910 Census lists a John J. Hegman, his wife Mary, and two children, Elmo and Theresa, as living in Dallas County; however, other records refer to Jay J. Hegman and his wife Elizabeth Marie.

Jay J. Hegman was a pioneer in the theatre business. He came to Austin in 1915 and opened the Queen Theatre in downtown Austin, believed to be the first theatre in Austin devoted to showing motion pictures. He eventually sold his interest in the Queen Theatre and returned to his birthplace, Galveston, to run the Grand Opera House there. Official records conflict

about when he returned to Austin: 1929, according to his obituary, but as early as 1924, according to the *Austin City Directory*. The directory indicates that in 1927 he had a real estate business on Congress Avenue and his wife Elizabeth was proprietor of the Star and Crescent Theatres. He opened the Ritz Theatre on E. 6th Street in 1929.

Hegman purchased and subdivided the property that became known as the Hegman Subdivision in 1925. The original avenue names for the Hegman subdivision were Rowena and Theresa, Rowena Avenue perhaps named for Rowena Hegman, the daughter of J.J. Hegman's brother Ben; and Theresa Avenue named for J.J. and Elizabeth Hegman's daughter. Theresa Avenue was eventually renamed to Avenue F, to correspond to the street names in Hyde Park south of 45th Street.

Again, according to the city directory, Hegman lived on Avenue F in the subdivision in 1927 and continued to live in the subdivision, at several different addresses, until 1948. The actual Hegman house is not totally clear; however, according to the 1930 Census, Hegman's house was



Hegman Subdivision



Worley House

The area is named after W.T. Caswell, a prominent cotton merchant and owner of the Austin Cotton Gin on Chicon Street, who plated the Ridgetop Annex in 1910. At the time, it was just outside the Austin city limits. *The Texas Magazine*, Vol. 5 (November, 1911 to April, 1912) described it this way: "There is no prettier place in Texas for a home, overlooking as it does the entire city to the South, the beautiful mountains and wooded hills to the west, the magnificent new suburban homes on all sides and the rolling prairies and substantial country homes in the distance to the north and east."

Between 1900 and 1960, the Caswell area developed from a small residential enclave to a suburban neighborhood typical of the early-to-middle Twentieth Century. The earliest development, in the area of 45th Street, used Classical Revival and Queen Anne detailing.

valued at \$10,000, an expensive house for its era. That fact suggests that it is the two-story brick house at 108 E. 48th Street. In that era, the area that included the subdivision was rural and north of the city limits, so records are questionable. City directories of the early 1930s list Hegman's address as 4805 Avenue F, on the other side of the street from the two-story brick house; but city building permits indicate that the house at 4805 Avenue F was not built until 1937. On the other hand, the 1935 Sanborn map shows the house at 108 E. 48th Street as a two-story brick-veneered house, which it is today.

Jay J. Hegman died in 1953 at the age of 69.

The Caswell Area

The Caswell area is roughly bounded by Duval, Red River, 45th, and 49th Streets. It includes Patterson Heights; the Staehely, Worley, and Theodora subdivisions; and the Ridgetop Annex.



Morrison-Smith House

As the Twentieth Century progressed, bungalows, generally modest in size, became prevalent. The small amounts of ornamentation they displayed were primarily American Arts and Crafts style. The heaviest development in the area took place during the period from the 1940s through the 1960s. Pre-modern houses appeared prior to World War II, and Ranch style houses appeared after the war. After 1960, the influence of the automobile became apparent in residences that featured front carports and substituted parking areas for front yards.

The Caswell area includes three historic landmarks: the John M. Patterson House at 604 E. 47th Street, the Worley House at 802 E. 47th Street, and the Morrison-Smith house at 4615 Caswell Avenue.



Patterson House

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News from the Ney

At 7 pm on Thursday, March 2, the Elisabet Ney Museum will launch its literary season with a wonderful and sweet soiree. Join Lisa Olstein, the Elisabet Ney Museum 2017 Writer in Residence, and her friend, Austin author Edward Carey, in an event celebrating art and text. There will be visual art from both authors on display, much of it featuring the written word. Among the pieces, both authors will read from works and talk about intersections – of process, subject, and so forth – between sources, forms, mediums, and kinds of content. For Edward, illustration and written composition are an intertwined process from start to finish, through publication. Lisa’s interest is in hybrid forms and cross-genre or cross-medium sources that inform her work. It’s certain to be an illuminating evening.



At 10 am on Saturday, March 4, the Ney will be reprising the popular Saturday Morning Salons, only this time, you’ll be using your phone to make the images! After all, everyone can take beautiful photos with smart phones. Austin photographer Shelley Wood and the Elisabet Ney Museum will show you how. Each camera phone photography demonstration will begin with a discussion covering shooting tips and an assignment to capture images around the grounds – wildflowers, pollinators, water, sky, architecture and more. After photographing, Shelley will demo image enhancement from her smart phone – and yours – with her favorite free photo editing apps for iPhone and Android. Adults, tweens, and teens are welcome to attend. Space is limited. Prompt arrival is a must to ensure the full experience. Come with your phone fully charged. Like the Drawing Salons, the class is free, but note, to make the most of your time, be sure to download these free apps prior to coming: iResize and PhotoMarker for iPhone and PicsArt and Snapseed for Android and iPhone. This class will also take place on Saturday, March 11 and 25.

Finally, on Tuesday, March 28, join the Ney and KUT Radio for a special Two Guys on Your Head presentation entitled “Are Two Guys Conscious Automata?” The brilliant and informative duo of Dr. Art Markman and Dr. Bob Duke, UT professors who explore different aspects of human behavior and the brain on Fridays with NPR’s Morning Edition, will host a discussion at the Cactus Café on the UT Campus based on Edmund Montgomery’s famous essay, “Are We Conscious Automata,” written in 1896. Edmund, of course, was Elisabet’s husband and “dear friend” from their wedding in 1863 until Elisabet’s death in 1907. This is a very special and unique offering and the museum is proud to work with KUT on this wonderful collaboration.

On April 2, the museum will host the 2nd annual Austin Short Short Festival! Keep an eye open for more info about that, coming soon!

Ridgetop Resolution... ...cont’d from page 3

Item: “Maintain Ridgetop and Robert E. Lee [renamed Russell Lee in 2016] schools for public educational and community uses” and further includes objectives to preserve the network of civic life, specifically including schools, and to enhance the child friendliness of the neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the city of Austin is promoting walkable communities as part of its strategy to manage growth and attain its goals of sustainability, social equity, and economic opportunity, closing smaller neighborhood schools runs counter to these objectives;

WHEREAS, The 2014 final report of the School and Family Work Group, appointed by Joint Subcommittees of the AISD Trustees, Austin City Council, and Travis County Commissioner’s Court, states: “An ample body of research clearly demonstrates the vital role that families and schools play in the life of a city, affecting such key areas as job growth, the environment, civic engagement and the local economy.... retaining families and strong public schools in every neighborhood is critical to Austin’s continued economic growth, sustainability and overall vibrancy;” now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association strongly supports the continuance of Ridgetop Elementary as an active campus community serving the children and families of Austin, and respectfully requests the AISD Board of Trustees and staff to remove this successful and beloved campus from consideration for closure or consolidation.

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Flooding Resolution...

...cont'd from page 3

projects that are identified as mitigating life and safety issues should be funded initially. In other words, nuisance flooding (flooding that only impacts streets and yards) needs to be tolerated in light of the expansive and expensive list of capital projects already identified by the Watershed Protection Department.

3. Bonds should be let starting in 2016. Drainage bonds have not been funded since 2006.

4. The Watershed Protection Department's Operations and Maintenance budget should be funded to a sufficient level so as to provide necessary resources for maintenance, including regular clearing and cleaning of creeks and streams PLUS providing necessary personnel and resources during flood events that arise.

5. Complete Lower Onion Creek and Williamson Buyouts as soon as possible and include targeted property buyouts in Upper Onion Creek.

6. Create partnerships with other jurisdictions (local, state, and federal) to solve common flooding issues. For example, create a Flood Control District through a partnership with Travis, Blanco, and Hays Counties and other local municipalities to address flooding along Onion Creek.

Continued on following page

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7. All redevelopment should have to meet drainage criteria assuming an undeveloped condition, reducing runoff leaving the site to "greenfield" conditions.

8. City Council should conduct a periodic (e.g., every 5 years) financial and organizational audit of the Watershed Protection Department to evaluate staffing resource allocations, program effectiveness, and the successful implementation of master plan goals and objectives.

9. Initiate Public Education & Outreach Program to ensure that Austin residents and visitors understand and prepare for floods to minimize impacts.

10. Work with city, state, and county authorities to continue to restrain development in 100-year floodplains.

11. The City should not grant variances for development or redevelopment that may lead to future flooding or annex property that may already be a flood concern.

12. The City should only use buyouts when absolutely necessary. The buyout process is a very emotional event for both the property owner and the neighborhood, appears to generally affect persons already struggling with Austin's affordability issues, and can destroy communities.

13. Ensure accountability and effectiveness of Regional Stormwater Management Program.

14. Integrate green storm water infrastructure with standard capital improvement program (CIP) solutions (gray infrastructure), where appropriate.

15. Regulatory recommendations that are identified in the report should be implemented as soon as administratively possible (i.e. do not wait for CodeNEXT).

16. Immediately expand the scope of the Onion Creek Flood Study to include the Centex quarries and all other Onion Creek options upstream to further quantify possible approaches and potential mitigation solutions for Onion Creek.

17. Be aggressive in implementing these recommendations – do what can be done as soon as it can be done. Many suggestions can be started immediately with no new funding. Other recommendations can be accomplished by shifting citywide priorities.

18. Expand the Flood Early Warning System to a regional scale.

19. Make permanent the Flood Mitigation Task Force for oversight of the above detailed recommendation.

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Random Musings
on a Rainy Day

Time is on my side until it isn't,
God willin' and the creek don't rise,
An adage a day may keep the muse away
Or maybe incite a new one,

As the year comes to an end
I feel compelled to prioritize
Everything – my goals, my needs, my thoughts,
The idea of a New Year's resolution
Seems indulgent in light of
Aleppo
Angola
Ohio State
Louisiana
Floods
Droughts
Fires
Quakes (California?)

I just want everyone to be happy
World peace (please)
These trite wishes mean the same thing
We all want to be warm and loved
It's raining and the delayed onset of fall,
Let alone winter, is shading all with gray,

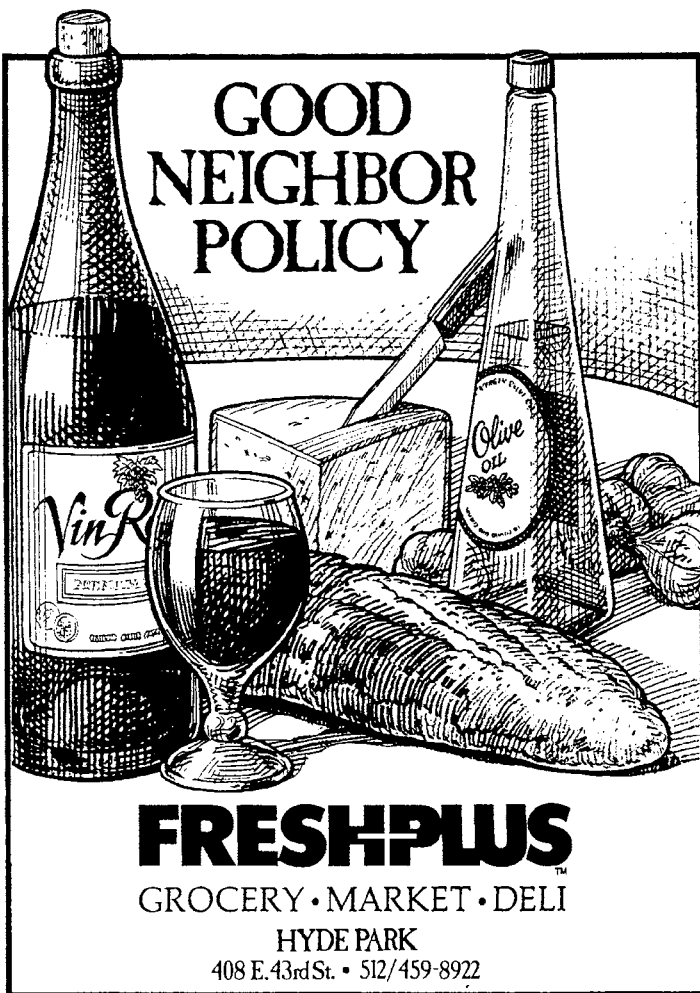
The easy way out, for me
Is to watch a "bedlam" football game
Complete a 5 star Sudoku
With my left hand, and try
To write poetry, a little focus
Would go a long way, here,
Try to tie together
World peace and the weather,
Warmth and love and rain
Football, puzzles, and poems,
Wars across globe
Stealing children's lives
The need to prioritize
Opens a Pandora's box,
I feel as shallow as a wading pool
And as deep as the Mariana trench.

Herzele, 12/3/2017

Autocracy in America

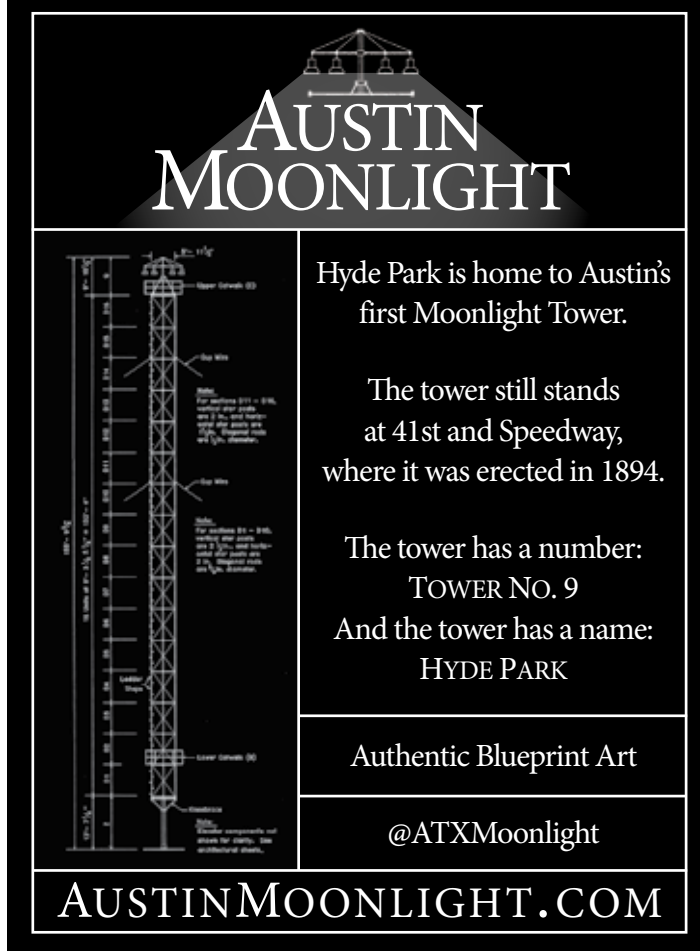
His lies get bigger.
Why am I amazed? So sad.
Sad I am amazed.

— Fred Florence



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Word Find: Some Great Films

by der Brat

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

[The numbers in parentheses refer to the number of letters in the answers]

1. Mickey is magical and hippos dance. (8)
2. Jimmy Stewart gets dizzy in Frisco. (7)
3. Jimmy Stewart keeps an eye on the neighbors. (4,6)
4. Start of a beautiful friendship in Morocco? (10)
5. Jack slaps Faye around. (9) _____
6. Grace does not forsake her darling, Gary. (4,4)
7. George refuses Oscar for title role. (6) _____
8. Quite a force in movieland ... and space? (4,4)
9. Robert saves Jodie ... off the meter. (4,6)
10. Rosebud ... 'nuff said. (7,4) _____
11. Wood chipper makes rare cameo appearance. (5)
12. Clint avenges Morgan; Gene doesn't finish roof. (10)
13. Charlton races 'round the Coliseum. (3-3) _____
14. Infamous shower scene. (6) _____
15. The Duke plays Ringo out west. (10)
16. Bette gets conned by namesake of first woman. (3,5,3)
17. Salieri takes out Wolfgang? (7) _____
18. Faye Wray finds new way to top of Empire State Building. (4,4) _____
19. Offer you can't refuse. (3,9)
20. Brandon wants Alan to come back. (5) _____

Answers page 11

June Fun!

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June 12-16
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9a-Noon

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Charming renovated 1930s duplex available for immediate move-in! Adorable downstairs unit has hardwoods, screened porch, 2 BR, 1 BA, 1 LIV, 1 DIN. Appliances provided.
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4809 AVENUE H

Two adorable homes on one lot. Main house is 3 BR, 2 BA, with new kitchen & baths. One-story guest house has 1 BR, 1 BA. Ideal for rental or extended family.
Listed at \$669,000



821 HARRIS AVENUE

1930s storybook cottage just steps from Lee Elementary. 3 BR, 2 BA, 2 LIV, formal dining. Upstairs master suite. Stone patio, pergola, private gardens. Detached workshop.
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