

September Meeting

When: 7:00 pm
Monday, September 11, 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 September 11

- Announcements
- HPNA Co-Presidents: Baker School RFP Update
- HPNA Search Committee: Announcement of candidates for open officer and Steering Committee positions
- Dusty Harshman, Member, and Cherylann Campbell, Tri-Chair, AISD FABPAC: Presentation on the Upcoming AISD Bond Proposal as it relates to FABPAC recommendations
- Brigid Shea, Travis County Commissioner: County update

See You There!

The Arts in Hyde Park

Festival Favorite STUMPED Heading to Austin: A Conversation with Director Robin Berghaus

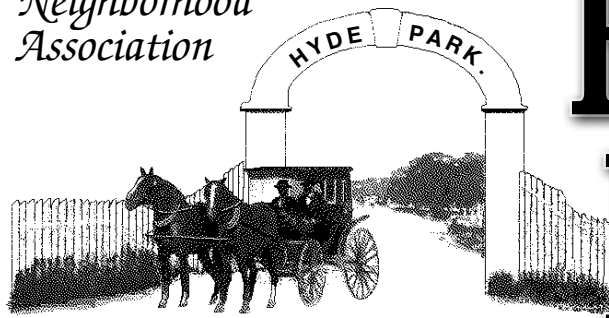
Only two days into his new job teaching filmmaking at Montana State University, Will Lautzenheiser visited the hospital for an excruciating pain. Assuming that he had pulled a muscle while lifting boxes during his cross-country move, Will did not realize how much that visit to the hospital would change his life. The pain Will was experiencing was being caused by a life-threatening bacterial infection.

When Will's organs shut down and his limbs began dying, his doctors were forced to amputate his arms and legs to save him. In an instant, Will's life was derailed.

Most of us could hardly imagine how we would react to such a dramatic change in our own lives. Will's response? Stand-up comedy.

If this story sounds familiar, you probably heard about it on

*The Hyde Park
Neighborhood
Association*



Pecan Press

September 2017 • National Register District Neighborhood • Vol. 43, No. 9

Changes Coming to Baker Center

Alamo Drafthouse is working with AISD to purchase the Baker School, located at the gateway of the Hyde Park Local Historic District. Alamo's goal is to transform the Baker School into a community cultural center. The property will serve as the corporate headquarters for Alamo Drafthouse Cinema and will also extend and amplify existing community outreach efforts.

Alamo envisions the redevelopment of the Baker School as a creative campus, fostering and supporting Austin's creative community while building the infrastructure and training facilities to spur Austin's creative growth in partnership with the City of Austin and AISD. The proposed plan includes preserving and repurposing the existing building into a vibrant community of artist studios, graphic design and video editing facilities, community and nonprofit event spaces, art galleries, culinary training facilities, non-profit offices, and headquarters for Alamo Drafthouse Cinema. In addition, the plan contemplates the inclusion of onsite affordable housing targeted to AISD employees.

The Baker School was built in 1911 and is an unzoned property. Alamo Drafthouse Cinema is working with the neighborhood to come up with a vision and zoning for the property that will fit in with the character of the Hyde Park Historic District, will provide opportunities to house Alamo Drafthouse Cinema Headquarters and other creative endeavors, and will allow for the development of housing that complements the existing facilities and the neighborhood and serves the need for affordable housing in this district.

— Richard Weiss, AIA
President, Weiss Architecture

NPR or on another national news outlet. In 2014, Will became the third patient to undergo an experimental, double-arm transplant at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Will's incredible story is the subject of the award-winning documentary, *STUMPED*, directed by Robin Berghaus, a neighbor here in Hyde Park.

STUMPED will premiere in Austin at the AFS Cinema on September 24. After the screening, Robin will be joined by Dr. Richard Freeman, a veteran transplant surgeon and Dell Medical School's Vice Dean of Clinical Affairs, to discuss the issues involved in experimental medicine. The event is part of Science on Screen, a film

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From the Desk of the Co-Presidents



We are not sure when Shipe Pool will re-open. We don't know how CodeNEXT will affect Hyde Park. However, we are beginning to get a better idea of what will happen to the Baker Center, the former Baker School, on Avenue B and 39th Street.

If you haven't heard, the Baker School will likely be the new home of the corporate headquarters for Alamo Draft House. It appears that Alamo's bid to purchase the property has been selected by staff of the Austin Independent School District, the current owner of the property, as the finalist. Hyde Park film buffs might be disappointed that Alamo has no plans to open a cinema on the property. However, many neighbors will be happy that Alamo intends to preserve the current school building, add, on the back field, a residential housing structure that will conform to the scale and architecture of surrounding buildings, and provide sufficient parking for its employees and future tenants.

When we last wrote about the Baker School, it was to note that in February the HPNA membership passed a resolution calling on AISD to retain the property. HPNA members hoped that Baker would someday be used again to educate children; however, it

appears that AISD is going in a different direction. The good news is that Alamo's architect has assured us that Alamo intends to have a community component in its new plan and that Alamo is open to getting the old school building zoned historic (see article, page 1). Furthermore, the new residential construction will have an affordable housing component so that AISD teachers and staff will be able to live there.

Alamo's plans for the Baker School are still being developed, and there is not complete certainty that Alamo's purchase will go forward. However, Alamo's representatives have shown a sincere willingness to work with HPNA on a design that will work for everyone. Much more news about the Baker School's future will appear in upcoming issues of the *Pecan Press*, and Alamo's representatives are planning to speak to the membership at HPNA's October meeting.

Now what about some of the other ongoing projects of concern to the neighborhood, such as Shipe Pool and CodeNEXT? Work on a renovated Shipe Pool is expected to begin this Fall, with the hope of a projected completion date in the Summer of 2018. Stay tuned for more complete information from the Friends of Shipe Park soon in the *Pecan Press* and on the Friends of Shipe Park Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/friendsofshipepark/>).

As for CodeNEXT, a second draft of the City's proposed new zoning code will be released on

September 15. Various City commissions and members of the public will provide their comments, resulting in a revised third and final draft around November 28. City staff will then schedule two public hearings on the final draft in December. The City Council vote on CodeNEXT is expected in February, 2018, with a new city code enacted as early as April, 2018. We have been informed

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Hyde Park Neighborhood Association

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

— HPNA Officers & Steering Committee —

Co-Presidents

- Kevin Heyburn kmheyburn@gmail.com
- Reid Long reid.long@gmail.com

Co-Vice Presidents

- Kathy Lawrence mail@kathylawrence.com
- Betsy Clubine betsyclubine@gmail.com

Co-Secretaries • Artie Gold • Susan Marshall

Treasurer • PO Box 49427, Austin, TX 78765

- Susanna Walker suzwalkercpa@gmail.com

Additional Steering Committee Members:

- Sharon Brown • Joan Burnham • Sarah Cook • Mark Fishman • Paula Rhodes • Dorothy Richter • Lorre Weidlich • Karin Wilkins •

— HPNA Committees & Task Forces —

AISD • Anne Hebert, anne@annehebert.com

Alley Coordinator • Carol Burton, sky2wash@austin.rr.com

ASH (joint HPNA-CT committee) • John Williams, jawilli@grandecom.net

Austin Neighborhoods Council Rep. • Lorre Weidlich

Beautification • Robin Burch, robinburch@gmail.com
 (903) 780-5275

Church-Neighborhood Liaison • Kathy Lawrence, mail@kathylawrence.com

CodeNEXT (joint HPNA-CT committee) • (unfilled)

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 • (unfilled)

Graffiti Patrol • Lisa Harris, ljharris@yahoo.com
 420-0652

Homes Tour • Carolyn Grimes, cgrimes@cunited.com

Membership • Sharon Brown, donsharon4213@sbcglobal.net
 • Karen Saadeh, kdmatthis@gmail.com

Neighborhood Planning • Karen McGraw, mcgrawka@earthlink.net

Neighborhood Outreach & Communications • Sharon Brown, donsharon4213@sbcglobal.net

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

Social • Sarah Cook, cooksicle@gmail.com

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

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

Website • Michael Crider, online@austinhypark.org

Zoning • Dorothy Richter, 3901 Ave. G 452-5117

Pecan Press

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

Editorial deadline: 10th of the month preceding publication.

Editor

Lorre Weidlich lweidlich@grandecom.net

Poetry Editor

Charlotte Herzele herzele@gmail.com

Photo Editor

Lizzie Chen

Puzzle Editor

Steve Bratteng

Kid's Corner

(unfilled)

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

• Joanna Fitzgerald joannafitzgerald@icloud.com

S of 45th/E of Speedway

• Martha Campbell 452-2815



Exploring Lives

Karl Herbert Schlessinger: Sharing a Century of Life

During a summer morning at the end of July, 2017, at Hyde Park Christian Church (HPCC), Gloria E. Avila, David Campbell, Ken Toon, David Avillalba Pratter, Bird Holmquist, and Trevida Trevino, parishioners from diverse backgrounds, gathered around Karl H. Schlessinger, of French, Jewish, and German ascendancy, to hear his stories and views on life. Rev. Dr. Jacqueline Baker Hammett and her assistants, Jessica and Aria, facilitated the gathering.

Our pleasant encounter with Karl's century of life in Germany and the United States is a privilege to share, to help enrich lives and encourage leadership in the always interesting multicultural society in which we live.



Karl Herbert Schlessinger

The Beginning in Germany

Karl was born in March, 1918, in a town outside of Stuttgart, Germany. He was an only child. One day, he went sledding on a hill across town, and his father came along. The sledding track was a road up the hill that made several sharp turns; on the downhill side of the road was a steep drop-off. Karl has a clear memory of sliding off the road, going over the edge, and being completely buried in the snowdrift below. Seeing only the tips of the runners, his father dug out the sled and found the boy still attached. Back home, the mother was not amused. He remembers vividly this German town where he lived his first years.

The Transition from Europe to the US

Karl's father had an uncle who immigrated to New Jersey decades before Karl was born. Every few years, the uncle visited Germany, and when Karl was seven this uncle sponsored Karl's father to bring his

family to Newark, where Karl's father had a job arranged at a printing shop. Karl's father moved next to South Carolina and then to Ohio for better jobs. In 1936, Karl graduated from a vocational high school in a class of over 1,200 students. The school had its own foundry and machine shop; Karl made technical drawings for a reduced-scale aircraft engine that other students used to make a working engine that powered a motorcycle.

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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.austinhypark.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

Name _____	Phone _____
Address _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Notify me by email of HPNA meetings & events _____	
Dues per Person	<input type="checkbox"/> Standard - \$5/yr. <input type="checkbox"/> Check
	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior - \$1/yr. <input type="checkbox"/> Cash
<input type="checkbox"/> New Member	Date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewing Member	Amount _____
Mailing Address: HPNA Membership P.O. Box 49427 Austin, Texas 78765 Make checks payable to HPNA.	

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HYDE PARK AREA: YTD SALES IN REVIEW

	2015	2016	2017
NUMBER OF HOMES SOLD	20	18	19
AVERAGE SALES PRICE	\$564,709	\$532,583	\$615,250
AVERAGE SQ FT	1,508	1,912	1,661
AVERAGE SOLD \$/SQ FT	\$376.77	\$340.44	\$389.16
MEDIAN DAYS ON MARKET	37 DAYS	40 DAYS	44 DAYS

All statistics & square footage are from Austin MLS for Single Family Residence taken 08/10/2017 from the Austin MLS. For detailed market information about your home, contact Sam Archer, Broker.



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Forty, Funky, and Fabulous: Celebrating 40 Years of the Historic Hyde Park Homes Tour!

On Sunday, November 12, 2017, seven local homeowners will welcome visitors into their homes to honor historic renovations, modern updates, glorious gardens, and classic hospitality! This year, the 40th Historic Hyde Park Homes Tour celebrates the funky and the fabulous homes that make up our beloved neighborhood.

The annual walking tour serves as a fund- and FUNraiser for the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association, as it draws visitors from across the city and neighboring towns. Former residents of homes on the tour often return to share memories of growing up in Hyde Park when streetcars ran up the Avenues and the moonlight tower was the only guiding light during dark nights.

Of the seven homes on the tour this year, four are historic landmarks with ties to prominent Austinites of yesteryear and more recent times. Several of the homes boast unique gardens that increase living spaces and include homes for goats and chickens. Come explore houses you might have pondered from the outside and discover hidden histories and features.

The homes tour is planned and conducted by volunteers and your help is needed to support the tour. On the day of the tour, volunteer docents greet and guide visitors through homes, while providing important information about the homes' histories, designs, and architectural details. In return for a two-hour docent shift, volunteers receive a free ticket to the tour. Check the homes tour website (www.hydeparkhometour.org) to learn more and sign up to be a volunteer docent! A house captain will be in touch in early October with more details.

If you are interested in volunteering in a more behind-the-scenes way, volunteers are needed in the weeks before the tour to prepare materials, deliver signs, and more! Check the website and Facebook page in the coming weeks to learn more and to sign up!

Tour Information

When: Sunday, November 12, 2017,
from 11 am to 5 pm

Tickets: \$25 per person. Wristbands and tour booklets are available for pick up the day of the tour from 11 am to 4 pm.
Online ticket sales starting soon!

Website and Facebook pages:

- www.hydeparkhometour.org
- www.facebook.com/austinhyparkhometour/

— Ellie Hanlon

Monthly Calendar September

- 1 — Recycling Pickup
- 4 — Happy Labor Day!
- 7 — Opening of Dana Younger Exhibit at the Ney
- 11 — HPNA Meeting
- 12 or 13 — Steering Committee Meeting
(final date will be announced)
- 14 — DRC Meeting
- 15 — Recycling Pickup
- 17 — Portraiture in the Park: Who Are you Anyways?
at the Ney
- 24 — STUMPED Premiers at AFS Cinema
- 29 — Recycling Pickup
- 30 — Back Outside Open Mic at 4902 Duval Street

Letters Dept.

Letter to the Editor

While it is widely believed that somehow ball moss harms trees, there is little evidence to support that notion. Some basic facts about the plants involved: the lower branches of many trees naturally die off due to inadequate light. Ball moss thrives in the lower intensity light on lower branches and is not especially tolerant of high light levels. The only situation where ball moss has been shown to interfere with host trees is when the trees are growing in places with reduced light levels, thus allowing ball moss to grow where it might crowd the host plant.

To the author's credit (July 2017 *Pecan Press*), the report did point out that ball moss is an epiphyte and not a parasite, but the claim that this removal was beneficial to the trees seems misguided. Removal of ball moss is a matter of aesthetics and not of health of the host trees. Some folks actually like the appearance of trees with epiphytic ball moss clumps.

— Steve Bratteng



The Arts in Hyde Park... ...cont'd from page 1

series sponsored by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and Coolidge Corner Theatre.

In anticipation of the Austin premiere, Reid Long, HPNA co-President, sat down with Robin to discuss *STUMPED* and her experiences as a filmmaker in Austin.

Reid Long: How did you meet Will?

Robin Berghaus: Before moving to Austin, I worked as a video producer for Boston University, where I directed, produced, filmed, and edited short documentaries. Will is a BU alumnus, and when a colleague informed me what had happened to him, I produced a story about Will for the alumni magazine and news website. After I left my job to move to Austin, I began directing a short documentary about Will's early rehab and his first comedy show. The short, also called *STUMPED*, won ten awards and screened at dozens of international film festivals throughout 2014 and 2015.

RL: What drew you to Will, and how did the project evolve into a feature documentary?

RB: I was drawn to Will due to his tenacious spirit and the positive way he dealt with trauma. After his arms were amputated, Will lost his independence and relied on others to help with the basics: dressing, eating, and bathing. He had to put his filmmaking career on hold to focus on rehab. During that time, he found a new therapeutic and creative outlet in comedy.

Will's sense of humor helped to break the ice with medical staff and friends who visited him in the hospital. Later, Will began performing stand-up at ImprovBoston. Comedy was cathartic for him, and it became a gateway for Will to engage audiences about what it's like to live with severe disabilities.

When surgeons at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston approved Will for a double-arm transplant, I knew there would be strong material for a feature documentary. I imagined the narrative would be structured around Will's physical and spiritual transformation. I shared the short documentary with the Brigham, and they loved it. The hospital signed on to participate in the



At a press conference after Will Lautzenheiser's double-arm transplantation, Will hugs his partner Angel Gonzalez. Photo courtesy of Brigham and Women's Hospital

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feature documentary, granting me access to film Will's appointments and to work with his medical teams.

Over time, I met Will's family and his partner, Angel, who were instrumental in his recovery. I realized that Will's losses affected everyone and that the emotional impact would be important to address in the film. Will's identical twin brother Tom Lautzenheiser suffered from guilt and a shattered identity. After Will's amputations, Angel Gonzalez became Will's romantic partner and primary caregiver. Together, Will and Angel had to navigate new roles in an evolving relationship.

In addition to the compelling human interest story, I was fascinated by the science behind it. In 1954, surgeons at Brigham and Women's Hospital performed the world's first successful human organ transplant—a kidney between identical twins. Decades later, the Brigham continues to pioneer the field by performing full-face and arm transplants that are transforming patients' lives. As these things are new medical territory, I imagined that audiences would want answers to the same questions on my mind: How are arm transplants performed, and what are the risks and potential rewards of this experimental surgery?

RL: What is "Science on Screen" and what's in store for the Austin screening of *STUMPED*?

RB: Science on Screen is a film series sponsored by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and Coolidge Corner Theatre. It's presented by 57 theaters nationwide, among them AFS Cinema run by the Austin Film Society. Each theater creatively pairs "current, classic, and documentary films with lively discussions about the world of science, technology and medicine." Guests and topics run the gamut. In June, AFS Cinema screened *The Uncanny*, a 1977 horror movie about misbehaving and demonic cats. Following the film, specialists from Austin Pets Alive! and Cat Hospital of Austin hosted a hilarious yet informative discussion on the real science of feline behaviorism.

STUMPED will screen as part of the series. After the film, Dr. Richard Freeman will join me to speak with audiences about the risks, rewards, and ethics of experimental medicine.

Freeman is the perfect fit as guest expert. An innovator in healthcare delivery and redesign, he currently leads Dell Medical School's initiative to "create a model healthy city and community." A veteran transplant surgeon, Freeman spent two decades practicing in Boston. While Will's surgeons were developing protocols for face and arm transplants, Freeman was part of the medical community that evaluated the ethics of these experimental surgeries.

They addressed a host of questions. Who would be responsible to pay for the research, surgeries, and medications? Is it right to subject patients to life-long immunosuppression for non-life-saving organs?

Every time a new surgery is developed, a brave patient must be willing to be the first and to risk his or her life to undergo it. Would you? Two and half years later, the answer is clear for Will, who can now feed himself, embrace his partner Angel, and feel the wind on his newly-transplanted arms.

RL: Where has *STUMPED* screened? And how are audiences responding?

RB: Since March, *STUMPED* has screened at several

international film festivals. *STUMPED* won the Global Health Competition at Cleveland International Film Festival. As the Opening Night Film at Independent Film Festival Boston, *STUMPED* packed a 900-seat theatre and received a standing ovation.

It's heartwarming to see how deeply people are connecting with the story. One mother said that *STUMPED* has inspired her 13-year-old daughter to become an occupational therapist. Audience members have registered to become organ donors, and one tweeted: "It took three minutes to sign up...three minutes to change someone's world."

RL: Describe your experiences as a filmmaker in Austin.

RB: *STUMPED* is my debut feature documentary. I have learned a lot throughout the process, in particular about the business of filmmaking. Production started in 2012 and post-production wrapped this year. During that period, I built a team from the ground up. The Austin film community came through for me, offering feedback on cuts and advice from production through distribution. Our team worked with a local crew for post-production services, including original music, color grading, motion graphics, editing, and sound design. Friends made very generous donations. Our producer, Bryan Davies, teaches and runs a research lab for UT's Department of Molecular Biosciences. His support was critical in completing our film.

Early on in the project, I joined Austin Film Society, the nucleus of our film community here in Austin. AFS was founded in 1985 by Richard Linklater (*Boyhood*) and his friends who wanted to see independent films that weren't available at mainstream cinemas. Today, AFS has nearly 2,000 members, provides grants to Texas filmmakers, operates a 20-acre production facility, offers social events and educational workshops, and screens hundreds of repertory and new independent films every year at the AFS Cinema.

The strength of Austin's film community, in large part, is due to the support, leadership, and innovation of AFS. Throughout our project, AFS has served as our fiscal sponsor, so we can accept tax-deductible donations. AFS provided mentorship and grants for production and post-production, and I have met many friends and collaborators through AFS.

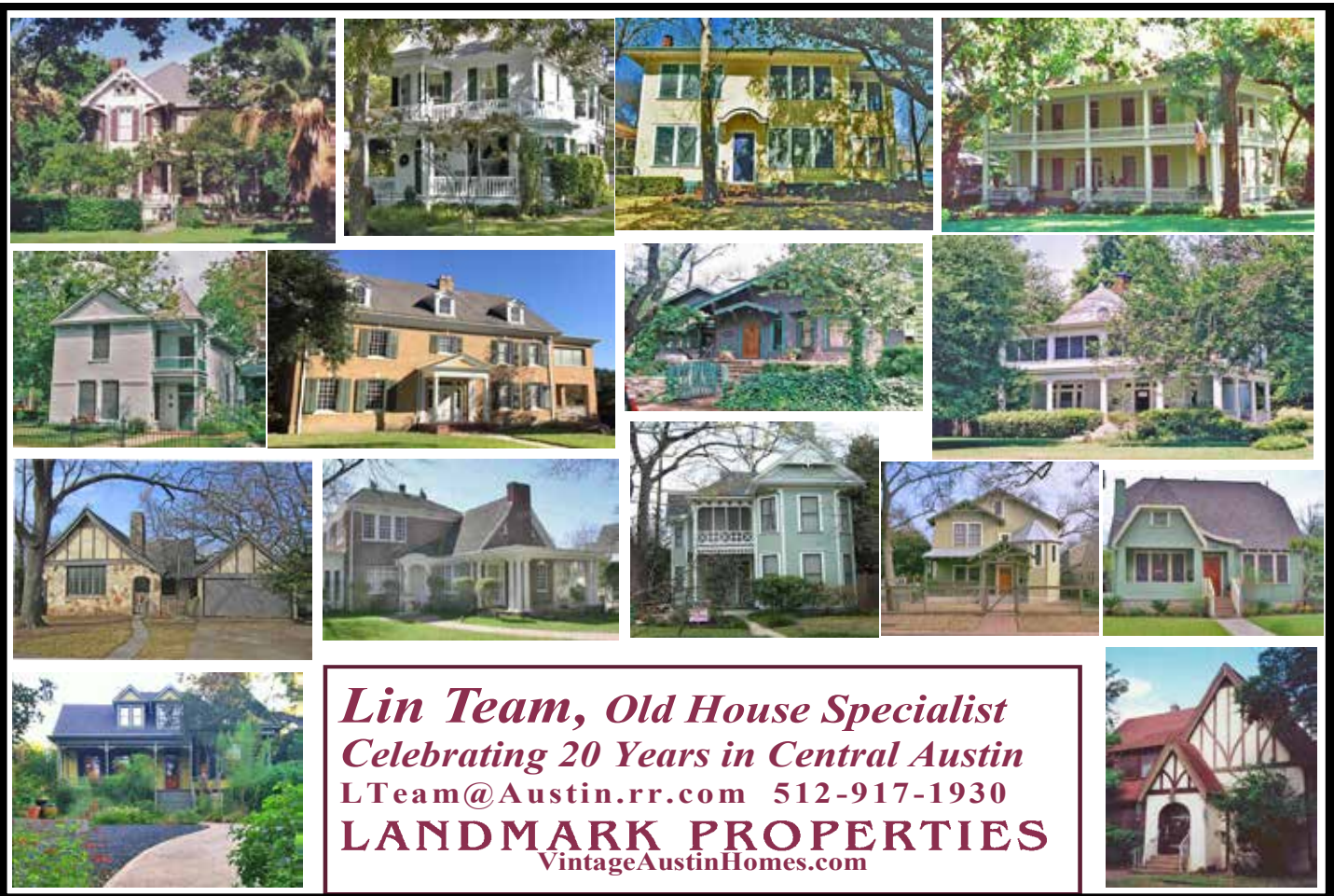
RL: How can we see *STUMPED* in Austin? And how can we stay informed?

RB: *STUMPED* screens on Sunday, September 24 at 2 pm at the AFS Cinema, ten minutes from Hyde Park. Tickets are available at www.austinfilm.org/screening/stumped. AFS Cinema is located at 6406 N IH 35 Frontage Road, Suite 3100 (south end of the Linc, facing Middle Fiskville Road and the ACC Highland campus).

We would love to connect and share updates with our neighbors. Please follow *STUMPED* on Facebook and Twitter @*STUMPEDtheMovie*, sign up for our newsletter at *STUMPEDtheMovie.com*, and email us at stumpedthemovie@gmail.com.

— Reid Long





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Around & About the Avenues

Remarks by Hyde Park Resident Selected as Austin Monitor Quote of the Day. Karen McGraw, Planning Commission member and Hyde Park resident, addressed the subject of historic neighborhoods during a city meeting devoted to CodeNEXT on July 27, 2017: “Some of these Council members who represent the suburbs, they don’t know anything about historic neighborhoods, they just think it’s old.” Her words were reported in an *Austin Monitor* article the following day and selected for the Quote of the Day. Thank you, Karen.

Quote of the Day

“Some of these Council members who represent the suburbs, they don’t know anything about historic neighborhoods, they just think it’s old.”

— Karen McGraw, on CodeNEXT



Hyde Park Is Third Toughest Place in Austin to Build a New Home. On July 20, 2017, *BuildZoom.com*, a website that matches people with building contractors, reported the top ten toughest ZIP codes in Austin for building a new home. According to *BuildZoom.com*, “The extent to which American metro area are tough-to-build is closely related to their ability and tendency to expand their developed footprint and to densify within that footprint.”

Issi Romem, chief economist at *BuildZoom.com* and writer of the article, made several interesting observations about the rankings: “The toughest places to build are not downtown. It is expected and accepted that U.S. downtowns be dense, and once density is accepted in an area it is easy to build more there. The toughest-to-build places tend to be in the inner suburbs. ... Because the inner suburbs have been around longer than more distant suburbs, the inner suburbs are more likely to have depleted their supply of vacant lots, leaving no room for ‘acceptable’ new construction. ... The toughest-to-build places are often in gentrifying neighborhoods. While the process of gentrification is in progress, neighborhoods experience sharp housing price appreciation. However, because gentrification is often closely tied to the neighborhood’s physical charm, housing price appreciation is rarely met by equally large increases in the rate of new construction.”

In Austin, 78751 – Hyde Park and North Loop – was third behind 78702 and 78705. In the years between 2000 and 2015, it increased its housing units by 5.7%, an increase of 439 units. To read the data and methodology behind the study, see www.buildzoom.com/blog/the-toughest-places-to-build-behind-the-scenes-of-a-wall-street-journal-analysis.



Shipe Park Post Oak Tweeted. Hyde Parkers and Shipe Park users are not the only people who will miss the post oak slated for removal this fall. On July 30, ATXWalks tweeted a photo-



graph of walkers saying goodbye to the post oak. The tweet stated, “One of the more poignant moments from yesterday’s #ATX #Walks: #HydePark...saying goodbye to the glorious Post Oak tree in #Shipe Park.”



First Hyde Park Open Mic Set for September. The first Hyde Park Back Outside Open Mic (BOOM) will take place on September 30, 6:30 to 9 pm, at 4902 Duval Street. BOOM welcomes musicians (solo acts, duos, trios, and so forth), poetry, and short sketches or skits. Each act will have time to perform two songs or around six minutes of spoken material. Performers are encouraged to sign up in advance, but there should be availability if you sign up at the door. There is no cover charge. Viewers should bring a chair or blanket. Children are welcome, but parents should be aware that, because this is an open mic, content will not be censored! Arrive at 6:30 to grab a spot in the yard and to sign up, performances will take place between 7 and 8:30 pm, and everyone is encouraged to mingle until 9 pm. When you arrive, head under the carport to the back yard.

The event is organized by Hyde Park singer and songwriter Kayla Ludy, who says, “As a singer and songwriter, I want to meet other musicians and get behind a microphone to put my music out there. I don’t want to drive downtown to do it and thought it would be nice if there were an open mic right here in Hyde Park. If I could create an event in the ‘hood and invite other musicians to it, they might be inspired to perform when they wouldn’t otherwise.” For information or to sign up in advance, email boomopenmic@gmail.com.



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Hyde Park Crime Alert

The Hyde Park Neighborhood Association wants to make sure that residents in Hyde Park are aware of several incidents that have occurred over the last couple of months.

On July 27, a woman reported that she found a naked man standing in front of her window at her residence in the area of 44th and Speedway. After sharing the information on Reddit to warn her neighbors, she started hearing similar stories from others. APD did respond to the 911 call but did not find the man. Police are asking that you call them if you see a suspicious person.

Police are searching for a man who, they say, has grabbed and groped women at least six times in the Hyde Park neighborhood in the past couple of months. Women jogging and walking through the neighborhood have reported the suspect is a white or Hispanic man in his 20s or 30s, thin, with an athletic build, and wearing a dark shirt, basketball shorts, and dark shoes. No arrests have been made. Anyone who is a victim, knows a victim, or has information about the case can call police at 512-974-5095. The latest incident happened around midnight on July 30, while the victim while walking down 43rd Street. The victim says that "he was a skinny white guy around 5'10" with short brown hair."

Austin police offered several tips to stay safe when walking or jogging in the neighborhood: keep

earbud volume low (or keep one ear free), keep your hands free, and carry a self-defense item like pepper spray with you. If someone tries to grab you, yell or scream, do anything to draw attention to the attack. Avoid running or walking at night if possible. Limit your distractions and keep your head up and not buried in a phone. Let a friend or family member know your route.

The last incident to report was an armed robbery at Walgreen's at 45th Street and Guadalupe. The suspect has targeted five separate pharmacies, demanding controlled drugs. The suspect has been armed with a handgun in all cases. The suspect is described as a white male in his 20s or 30s with black hair. Police say he is about 5'8" and has recently shaved off a mustache. APD is asking the public to call the robbery tip line at 512-974-5092 with any information.

Neighbors, please stay alert and report any suspicious behavior as soon as possible. Most crimes are crimes of opportunity. Stay safe!

– Carol J. Welder & Kristen Remeza
HPNA Crime & Safety co-Chairs



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Karl Schlessinger...

...cont'd from page 3

Living in the US

After graduation, Karl went to work at the same print shop as his father. Father and son made \$20 and \$4 per week, respectively, in an era when a loaf of bread or a quart of milk cost 10 to 15 cents. Karl worked until he was drafted in February, 1942, his term of service being "for the duration." He was inducted into the Army and began basic training.

At the end of basic training, a chance event shaped the rest of his life. Neglecting to read the bulletin board in his barracks one night, he got up next morning and walked out the wrong door, inadvertently joining a group of soldiers headed for training in aircraft maintenance in Dallas.

Coming to Texas

While in training there, he went to Saturday night dances at the USO Club. "After the first dance with a lady named Pat, I decided I was going to marry her," he said. He went for one dance that night, for two dances the next Saturday night, and asked her for a date. "I don't go out with soldiers," she told him. She was adamant about it. Still, he managed to get her to tell him where she went to church and the time of the services, and her best female friend was on Karl's side. Their Sunday school teacher hoped Karl would come back the following week. "Oh, he'll be here," the friend chimed in. Pat later told Karl she was furious about her friend's comment. Eventually, Karl asked Pat to marry him. She was two years older, and in the culture of that time, her seniority was frowned on. He kept asking until she said, "Well, all right. Yes."

Karl's primary Army assignment was in Newfoundland, where he worked on instrumentation and hydraulic systems for transport planes. In December, 1945, Karl was one of numerous GIs the US Army no longer needed. He stuffed his unread discharge papers in a pocket and got on a train headed for the post where he would be discharged. Karl's stories communicate the bureaucratic, disorganized nature of the military. Karl, an enlisted man, described making friends with an injured officer on the train, their sharing of a room in a sleeping car, and the officer's intervening on Karl's behalf when a sergeant was about to put Karl off the train because his discharge papers were problematic. He said to himself, "I'm on my way to be discharged; they don't have to worry about me trying to escape."

Learnings from Life

Karl's father moved to Austin in 1943; Karl and Pat came in 1957. "We bought a house near Burnet and Koenig for \$15,000. I won't tell you what it sold for, but that and Social Security are what I'm living on." Pat and Karl were married 62 years, blessed with a daughter and two sons, grands, greats, and great-greats. "We had our ups and downs, but it was a good marriage. If either of us did something, the other person had to be OK with it. Once I accidently called her by her middle name," and she was very angry afterwards.

"I worked for three printing companies here in Austin. One time I was doing a job for *Texas Parade*. I'd run about 5,000 copies when somebody noticed the 'e' was left off 'Parade.' The boss called me in about it. 'I don't read 'em, I just print 'em,' I said. Once a customer came in while his job was running. He picked up a sheet and decided one photo was fine, but the other one on the same page should be redder. I had to explain to him that if we fixed the one photo as he wanted, it would make the other one too red." Karl retired from lithographic printing in 1985, after 45 years in the business.

Karl has an accommodating relationship with religion. His attraction to Pat brought him into church; he had not previously read the Bible. He said to himself, "These people believe this stuff?" After a period of time in the Hyde Park Christian Church, the board told him they wanted him to teach Sunday school. "No way. Yes way." They compromised: he'd do it for a month. He did it for 20 years. A fellow church member asked him on one occasion if he recommended the book she saw him reading, and he did. When she read the first line, "Life is a bitch and then you die," she was scandalized.

Pat died in 2005. "She was in the hospital for her gall bladder. Then it burst and she stopped eating. I told her, you have to eat so you can get better and go home. She said 'This is it. I'm not going home.' She did not eat for over 40 days. She was in a coma. Our daughter Karla and I and some other relatives were gathered around her bedside. We went out to eat, and when we came back, Karla said to me, 'Daddy, tell her it's OK for her to leave.' I told her, and one or two minutes later she was gone."

How does Karl feel about the increasing possibility that he will live to be a hundred? "I want to have my faculties, mental and physical, as I have them now. I don't want to go to a nursing home. When I can't take care of myself, it'll be time to shut it off and go into hospice. Stop taking medicine. No dialysis. If an angel tells me one morning, 'This is your last day,' I'll live it like normal, just let it happen. I have no fear of dying, no fear of the unknown. Do I have faith in the Lord? I'm hoping that's the way it'll happen. My son and daughters know my wishes and agree."

After two and a half hours, our gathering with Karl came to a relaxed, natural conclusion. We all stood up together, and Karl was the first one out of the room. He walked around the corner to the thermostat and turned off the air conditioning on our way out.

Karl's story is inspiring and uplifting: to go through life happily, aiming at what we would like to be and have, contributing to families and communities along the way. To life and health!

— Gloria E. Avila
David Campbell
Ken Toon
David Avillalba Pratter
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News from The Ney

One of Elisabet Ney's greatest artistic strengths was her renowned skill at portraiture, a practice that makes up the majority of her life's work. She considered the marble bust or figure akin to what we call a "biopic" – one of those grand movies that convey the notable moments of a remarkable life story. Though her pieces were essentially static, they were meant to convey those tales or the impacts, good and bad, of those tales, in their expressions, postures, or props. She hoped her viewers would be inspired by these subtleties to find the greatness in themselves and realize that they too can accomplish extraordinary things.

In that spirit, every September, the Ney presents Portraiture in the Park: Who Are You Anyways?! This super fun family event is designed to help children, families, adults, and everyone in between learn how to tell stories through portraiture, particularly self-portraiture. If a child is asked to depict his or her face with collaged cut-outs from magazines, he or she has to make many decisions, and the result is fascinating. One child might use truck tires for his or her eyes, while another borrows his or hers from a photo of a cat. And what does that say about the child? What can the child learn about him- or herself through that effort?

Then take that a further step back and ask, "What makes a portrait anyway?" Does it have to be a picture or a sculpture? Can it be a song? Can it be an assembly of data? Can it be a mobile suspended from the ceiling? Can it be a scent? Can it be a face-painting of a bird or a superhero?

On Sunday, September 17, from noon to 4 pm, Portraiture in the Park: Who Are You Anyways?! will examine all of those options and more. Part of Austin Museum Day, the event is free and will bring all sorts of artists and activities together to help folks playfully find themselves in art! As usual, there will be food trucks, music, and other activities as well.

Also, in connection with the event, the Ney will feature a special indoor exhibition of the work of Austin sculptor Dana Younger. One of the founders of Austin's famed Blue Genie, Dana has been sculpting for years, usually with an eye towards storytelling through the figure. Dana's work will be in the museum's Reception Room Gallery and will feature portraits from his #Solidfriends series as well as from other bodies of work. In addition, there will be a special opening for Dana's exhibition on the evening of Thursday, September 7, from 6 to 8 pm. If you cannot make the opening, don't worry – his work will be on display through the month of September.

Next month: The Fourth First Annual POLKA-POCALYPSE!

Nominating Committee Invitation

Would you like to invest yourself in building a deeper sense of community within your neighborhood? If so, the Nominating Committee is seeking your involvement!

We have several experienced community leaders shifting into new roles on the HPNA Steering Committee this year and a few new people joining the committee too. We are seeking new volunteers who would like to join Steering Committee, get involved in the work of the neighborhood association in other ways, or both.

Applicants should be eager to engage in respectful and compassionate dialogue on the complex issues facing our community. These dialogues can be wonderful opportunities to provide relevant information on a variety of issues, listen to neighbors' concerns, and seek a broad consensus about how we can address them in a way that is best for all. People committed to that kind of community dialogue process are strongly encouraged to apply for a position on the HPNA Steering Committee.

To express your interest in a seat on the Steering Committee, just email any one of the members of the Nominating Committee as soon as possible. Thank you for your involvement and engagement in our neighborhood! We deeply appreciate interest from neighbors who would like to get involved in the fulfilling work of leading this community!

- Kevin Heyburn, kmheyburn@gmail.com
 - Kathy Lawrence, klawrencetexas@yahoo.com
 - John Williams, jawilli@grandecom.net
 - Adam Wilson, adam@griffinschool.org
- HPNA Nominating Committee

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RUBY'S B.B.Q

The Hyde Park Contact Team Minutes: July 24th

Adrian Skinner called the meeting to order at 7 pm at Trinity United Methodist Church, 4001 Speedway, Austin, TX 78751.

1. Bylaws Updates and Vote

The City of Austin recommended and requested changes to the Contact Team bylaws template. Adrian read through the requested and recommended changes to the bylaws and lead the discussion.

The bylaws under discussion are posted on the HPNPCT Yahoo page.

The members present voted 8 to 0 to accept the required changes. The members also voted unanimously to accept the recommended changes, with a few changes to the wording. The wording changes address consistency and cohesiveness but also simplify the responsibility of the secretary to perform the posting of member attendance. The membership feared that the way the suggested edit was originally worded would prevent most people from volunteering to perform as HPNPCT secretary.

Beginning this meeting, an updated roster will be posted along with the minutes to the HPNPCT Yahoo site. Members of the Contact Team can check the roster prior to a meeting to find out their voting statuses.

2. CodeNEXT Update from the HPNA-HPNPCT Joint Committee

Kevin Heyburn then updated the committee on matters related to CodeNEXT. Members involved in City committees shared related updates as well. The City is currently working on revisions to CodeNEXT.

The HPNPCT thanked Lorre Weidlich for drafting a white paper to the City expressing concerns about the impact of CodeNEXT on the neighborhood. Because HPNPCT did not formally approve the white paper, it was not a formal statement of the Contact Team.

The next HPNPCT meeting will be on Monday, October 23, 7 pm, at Trinity United Methodist Church. All are welcome. An agenda will be posted prior to the meeting.

– Mity Myhr
Acting Contact Team Secretary

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Around & About the Avenues

...cont'd from page 9

Save the Date for Halloween Movie Night. Save the evening of October 21, 2017! The Friends of Shipe Park will be presenting a free movie in Shipe Park to celebrate Halloween. The movie will start at dusk (7:08 pm), but activities begin at 6:15. Bring a blanket or chairs and enjoy the costume contest, food truck, and popcorn.



Save the Date for the Hyde Park Fire Station Festival. The annual Fire Station Festival, sponsored by the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association, will be held on Sunday, October 22, 2017, from 4 to 6 pm. The festival celebrates the preservation of the historic Hyde Park Fire Station with a Halloween parade, costume contest, kid-friendly games, food, music, and more.



Save the Date for National Night Out. After a highly successful 2016 National Night Out, the Towne Park HOA will sponsor the event here in Hyde Park again this year. Everyone is invited to attend. Look forward to a potluck, beautiful fall weather, and socializing with friends from around the neighborhood. Join the party on the evening of Tuesday, October 3, 7 to 9 pm, on the grassy lawn on Avenue H between 39th Street and 40th Street.



Co-Presidents'...

...cont'd from page 2

that the proposed changes in the upcoming draft of CodeNEXT will likely not have a negative impact on Hyde Park, but we will have to wait and see.

The CodeNEXT timeline will probably be adjusted, just as the schedule for construction of Shipe Pool is likely to change. And the future of the Baker School, while a bit clearer now, is still not certain. But what in life is certain? Last month – after a period of dry, hot weather – we had to cancel our annual Ice Cream Social due to a huge rain storm! In some ways, this cancellation has become the annual tradition. The surprise deluge of rain was inconvenient and at times a little scary, yet we welcomed the rain. Like the unexpected August storms, HPNA must prepare for the uncertain future facing our neighborhood and work with patience and diligent effort to assure that whatever change the future brings will be welcome.

– Reid Long & Kevin Heyburn
HPNA Co-Presidents

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4211 AVENUE F

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3502 RED RIVER STREET

Tucked away down a private drive, this traditional style luxury townhome has 3,186 SF with 3-4 BR, 3 BA, 2 LIV, 2-car attached garage. Hardwoods, fireplace, two decks.

Listed at \$649,000



4506 AVENUE C

1910 Folk Victorian with many recent updates— foundation, roof, plumbing, wiring. 2 BR, 1 BA plus detached 1 BR/ 1BA casita/guest house.

Listed at \$459,000



103 WEST 32ND STREET

1930s Colonial Revival with guest house and swimming pool. Main house has 3,064 SF with 4 BR, 4 BA, 2 LIV, 2 DIN. Beautifully updated kitchen & baths. 1-car garage.

Listed at \$1,045,000



2311 SHOAL CREEK BLVD.

Former home of Gov. Ann Richards. 1949 Mid-century modern architecture near Caswell Tennis Courts. 3,000 SF 3 BR, 2 BA, open floor plan, beautiful yard, .384 acre lot.

Listed at \$989,000



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 \$649,000



4009 AVENUE D

Classic 1925 Hyde Park bungalow in heart of historic district. 2 BR, 1 BA, updated kitchen and hall bath, utility porch. Wood floors throughout. One-car garage.

Listed at \$529,000



4202 AVENUE C

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