

# September Meeting

## HPNA General Meeting Agenda for September 13

- Presentation: Matthew Hinsley, Executive Director of Austin Classical Guitar
- Update: Project Connect
- Update: Hancock Golf Course
- Update I-35 Project
- Call for Volunteers for October Shippe Park Party

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

Join Zoom Meeting at 7 pm at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87253871765?pwd=ZGRTWUk5S2c2bm9VNTVsaWhIRHBZUT09>

Meeting ID: 872 5387 1765

Passcode: 084021

One tap mobile:

+13462487799,,87253871765#,,,,\*084021# US (Houston)

Dial by your location:

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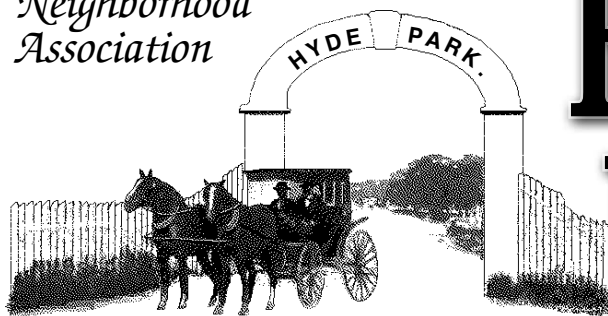
## Light Rail Update: Proposed Changes to Guadalupe

Light rail is coming and bringing changes to Guadalupe. In late July, neighbors got a first look at how this might play out when Cap Metro and the Project Connect team released preliminary plans (the so-called 15% design) for the Orange Line.

Unfortunately, due to very constrained right of way (ROW) along much of Guadalupe, there are no perfect solutions for inserting light rail into this busy corridor. In short, it's all about tradeoffs from here on in.

Continued on page 3

The Hyde Park  
Neighborhood  
Association



# Pecan Press

September 2021 • National Register District Neighborhood • Vol. 47, No. 09

## Exploring Hyde Park The Sears-King House

This classic example of a Victorian cottage at 209 West 39th Street, the one surviving Victorian building on this block, was a key contributing structure in the designation of Hyde Park as a Historic District. Its significance is not only architectural but historical, because of its connection with one of early Austin's prominent religious leaders.

In 1896, Reverend Henry Sears moved to Austin from Tennessee to serve as Presiding Elder of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Austin District, Texas Conference. The following years, he and his wife Jennie purchased a lot from Dr. Samuel Weisiger, State Lunatic Asylum Superintendent, and built a house. During Rev. Sears' distinguished career, he served as Chaplain of the State Lunatic Asylum from 1909 to 1915 and Chaplain of the Texas State Senate from 1905 to 1915.

In 1915, Rev. Sears deeded the house to Florence Sears, "my beloved adopted daughter." About 1924, Florence Sears married Frank W. King, who shared the house with her until his death in 1961. Florence continued to live there until 1975, two years before her death. In her later life, Florence Sears King was declared incompetent and Minna Bel Oland, Frank King's daughter, was appointed her guardian. (Records are unclear as to whether Minna was also Florence's daughter.)

After a ten year period (1976-1986) of serving as a rental property, the house was purchased by Lawrence Mueller, a professor of architecture, and Margaret Cevin Cathel, a screenwriter, who restored the house to its Victorian charm. The improvement process was continued by its present owners, Steve Wechsler, a professor of linguistics and Marie Carmel, a landscape architect, who purchased the property in 1993. Steve and Marie expanded the original modest cottage with an addition planned around both privacy and spaciousness. The addition, designed by architects Mell Lawrence and Gregory Thomas, contains the bedrooms and a living area. While sleekly modern, its design echoes the scale and massing of the original structure, including window proportion, gables, and roof design.

The home has been designated a Historic Landmark, and as its historic register nomination states, "...this house is one of the neighborhood's finest examples of late-Victorian architecture....Apart from its architectural significance, the Sears House also represents development efforts in Hyde Park....the dwelling typifies the affordable suburban house that early promoters heralded as an alternative to urban living arrangements."



Fall is here! Schools are open, college students are back in town, and we are all looking forward, eventually, to cooler weather.

HPNA is hoping to get back to celebrating some of its traditions, including the Historic Homes Tour in November and the Winter Party in December; and in October, in lieu of the Fire Station Festival, we want to have a big Movie Night in Shipe Park. Holding these events will depend on how well our city, state, and nation combats the coronavirus. When Austin recently declared that it was again at stage 5 in dealing with the virus, we decided to postpone our August Ice Cream Social. We have also decided to continue to hold

our general meetings and steering committee meetings online.

We all want things to get back to normal. However, when we start to celebrate our traditional neighborhood events, we need to make sure everyone will be safe.

We welcome your input on how we can achieve this. We will also need your help to make these events happen.

Meanwhile important things are happening that will affect Hyde Park. For example, there is the ongoing planning of the new train (known as the Orange Line) that will be part of Cap Metro and Project Connect's massive revamping of Guadalupe and the Drag, on the western edge of Hyde Park.

## Monthly Calendar September

- 6 — Happy Labor Day
- 10 — Recycling Pickup
- 13 — HPNA Meeting
- 16 — DRC Meeting
- 19 — Austin Museum Day! at the Ney Museum
- 20 — Steering Committee Meeting
- 24 — Recycling Pickup
- 25 — Portraiture in the Park: Who Are You Anyways?! at the Ney Museum

In this issue you will find Susan Moffat's article on a recent virtual meeting that she and other Hyde Park neighbors attended. In that meeting, City contractors described the initial plan for a two-track rail system to run down Lamar, onto Guadalupe, and then into downtown. Under the current plan, car traffic on Guadalupe will be reduced to one lane each way on each side of the train, and train platforms will be erected, one just north and one just south of 38th Street. There will also be a train stop at the Triangle. The effect the Orange Line will have on the Hyde Park businesses bordering Hyde Park and on Hyde Park itself has yet to be determined.

If there is any more news about the Orange Line and Project Connect, we plan to let you know at this month's General Meeting. We also plan to cover any new developments regarding the Hancock Golf Course and the redesign of I-35. We hope to see you at the meeting.

— Michele Grieshaber  
Lisa Harris  
Kevin Heyburn  
HPNA Co-Presidents



## Hyde Park Neighborhood Association

P. O. Box 49427 • Austin, TX 78765  
[www.austinhdepark.org](http://www.austinhdepark.org)

— HPNA Officers & Steering Committee —

### Co-Presidents

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- Paul Smith

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### Additional Steering Committee Members:

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- Peniel Joseph • Marsha Rite • Elena Rojo •

### — HPNA Committees & Task Forces —

#### ASH (joint HPNA-CT committee)

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## Pecan Press

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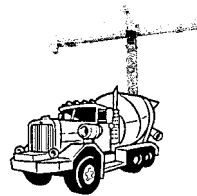
# Light Rail Update...

## ...cont'd from page 1

Below is a brief summary of some of the proposed changes for Guadalupe contained in the 15% design. Bear in mind that the elements outlined below are only proposed at this stage and might shift as the project progresses.

- Light rail tracks would run down the middle of Guadalupe. The closest stops to Hyde Park would be at the Triangle and at 37th and 39th Streets. The latter would be a split station with the southbound stop at 37th and the northbound stop at 39th.
- Vehicle lanes would be reduced to one northbound lane and one southbound lane on Guadalupe. In heavy traffic, emergency vehicles would need to hop the curb into the bike and pedestrian area or onto the tracks if no train is present.
- Train tracks would be at-grade but separated from the street by a curb. Left turns into or out of the neighborhood would be limited to signalized intersections (38th, 41st, 45th, and so forth). Light rail would have priority at all signalized intersections.
- Cap Metro is working with the Austin State Hospital to increase the ROW on the west side of Guadalupe to allow a bit more room to accommodate trains, bikes, pedestrians, and vehicles in that area. On many stretches of Guadalupe, bikes and pedestrians would need to use a shared path due to ROW constraints.

- Guadalupe would be reconfigured between approximately Hemphill and 30th Street, taking out several current businesses on the east side of the street. 30th Street would be realigned so that the intersection would no longer be offset, removing El Patio. Project Connect will work with all affected businesses on a case-by-case basis.
- Two of the three options proposed for the Drag would divert car traffic onto some combination of Nueces and San Antonio streets, with San Antonio becoming a two-way street. Under these proposals, the Drag area would become a pedestrian-bike-transit mall. A third option would preserve a lane for cars northbound and southbound on the Drag, but that option would require a shared bike-pedestrian path rather than separate areas for bikes and pedestrians.
- A new east-west street would be cut through the current block at Dean Keeton, just south of the Hole in the Wall, to connect vehicular traffic on Dean Keeton to San Antonio Street. The businesses currently located where the new street would go are Moody's Kitchen & Bar and Kokodak, a Korean restaurant. As previously noted, Project Connect will work with any affected businesses on a case-by-case basis.
- Trains would go underground at approximately 21st Street and continue underground through downtown and under the river via a tunnel.



Continued on page 10

### Membership Information

- Membership in HPNA is open to all residents 18 years or older residing within the boundaries of Hyde Park or within 300 feet of its boundaries.
- University students are free.
- All memberships expire on September 30th of each year.
- New members and members who lapse in dues for over six months are eligible to vote at HPNA meetings 30 days after receipt of dues.
- Membership dues can be paid in several ways: By signing up at an HPNA meeting or event, by mailing in the membership form, or by joining online using PayPal. To pay online, go to [www.austinydepark.org](http://www.austinydepark.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@mail2sevenses.com](mailto:lweidlich@mail2sevenses.com).  
*Opinion articles & letters to the editor must not exceed 500 words.*
- Send your poems to Charlotte Herzele at [herzele@gmail.com](mailto:herzele@gmail.com).  
*All poems, even if written under a pen name, must include a name and contact information for identification and verification purposes.*

### Hyde Park Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Notify me by email of HPNA meetings & events \_\_\_\_\_

Dues per Person  Standard - \$5/yr.

Senior - \$1/yr.  Check

Student - Free  Cash

New Member Date \_\_\_\_\_

Renewing Member Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:

HPNA Membership

P.O. Box 49427

Austin, Texas 78765

*Make checks payable to HPNA.*



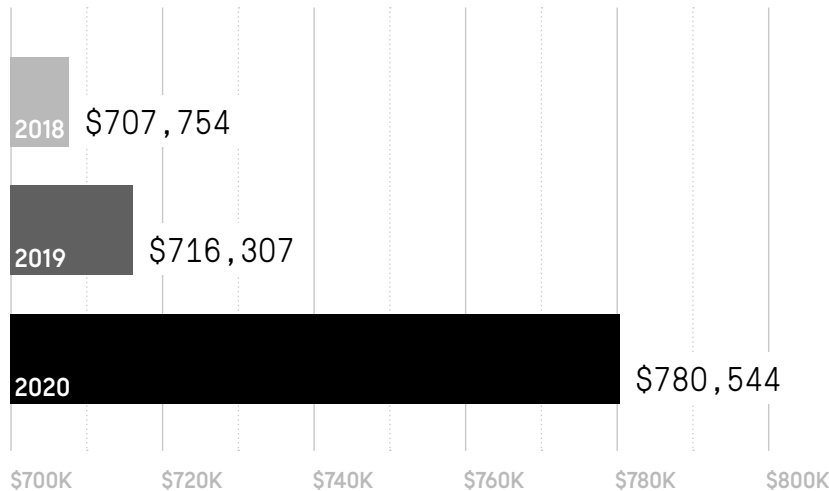
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# The Hyde Park Specialist

Sam Archer, Juice Real Estate Group  
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Every house in Hyde Park has a story. I have lived and invested in Hyde Park for nearly 20 years. I love this neighborhood and that connection makes a difference. Whether you are buying or selling, I will help you with incomparable professional experience and personal commitment that goes beyond the transaction.

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4211 Ave D Seller Representation



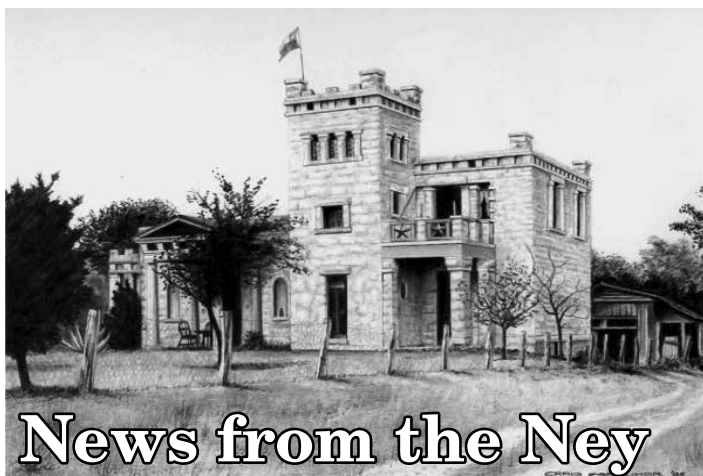
3904 Ave C Buyer Representation

For more detailed market information about your home contact Sam Archer, Broker Associate.  
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All YTD data is pulled from Austin MLS for single family residences.





**A**s always, September kicks off the Ney's Fall program season for 2021-2022! The museum's staff is excited to be able to welcome visitors as the building remains open and programming begins. That said, because of the current community health situation, the museum's programs for September will largely remain outdoors and have a hybrid virtual element as well.

The first event will be the museum's offering for the annual Austin Museum Day! For this citywide festival of free museum programming on Sunday, September 19 from noon to 5 pm, you and your family can visit the Ney and enjoy free art supply kits with everything you need to create your very own "disarmed slingshots" inspired by Jade Walker's indoor installation work, *Birdsong*, also viewable at <https://www.theney.org/birdsong>. Bring the kids, a blanket, and a picnic; hang out in the shady grass and create! Museum staff will be nearby to guide you. Or watch Jade's inspiring and helpful videos if you bring the art kit home. There will also be tours indoors and a chance to weave more into Jade's beautiful outdoor piece, *Mire + Mend*. For more information on Museum Day, visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/903113517283260>. Don't forget to tag your photos with #ATXMuseumDay2021 and #atxmuseums!

The museum's other annual September program is Portraiture in the Park: Who Are You Anyways?! This year, on Saturday, September 25, from noon to 4 pm, the museum will offer visitors art supply kits that contain the materials to create *giant* face masks! When they are done, they will be displayed outside the museum, on the grounds, for all to see. Again, bring a picnic and blanket, spread out amongst the grounds, and chill. The museum will also, of course, be open, so visitors can go on tours or browse on their own, taking in Elisabet's marvelous work as well as *Birdsong* and *Mire + Mend*.

Continued on page 10

## Word Find: Born in September

by der Brat

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

[Numbers in parentheses = number of letters in answers]

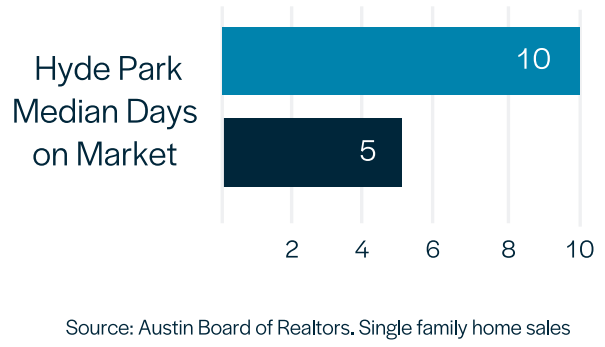
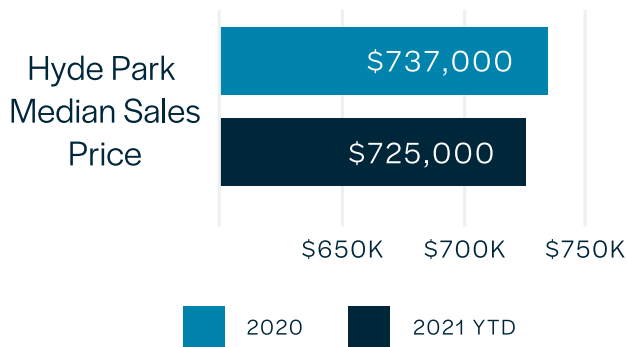
1. She's a tennis star from Houston (6,8)  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Gave us "Cats" (1,1,5) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Named his guitar "Lucille" (1,1,4) \_\_\_\_\_
4. Ms. Knowles from Houston. (7) \_\_\_\_\_
5. *In Cold Blood* (6,6) \_\_\_\_\_
6. Texas boy who had a hit singing "Rudolf" (4,5)  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Ed, whose theater now occupied by Stephen Colbert (8)  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Agatha, who wrote some books. (8) \_\_\_\_\_
9. Marquis who helped our revolution (9)  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Folk artist; lived to 101. (7,5)  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. King of *Cujo* and *Carrie*. (8) \_\_\_\_\_
12. He had "Georgia on My Mind" (3,7)  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. Original Muppet man. (3,6)  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. Christa who died on Challenger. (9)  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. His three golds irked Adolf (5,5)  
\_\_\_\_\_
16. Born Larkin; with The Blackhearts (4,4)  
\_\_\_\_\_
17. "Chances Are" you know Johnny if you were around in the '50s (6) \_\_\_\_\_
18. Real name Porter; lived & wrote in ATX (1,5)  
\_\_\_\_\_
19. Harland of KFC (7) \_\_\_\_\_
20. Otis from the dock of the bay. (7)  
\_\_\_\_\_
21. Lubbock boy who knew Peggy Sue (5,5)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Answers on page 11



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



Source: Austin Board of Realtors. Single family home sales

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## Sunflowers

Sunflowers abound in the backyard  
 Bright light of hope after mourning the loss of elder tree  
 Sun grows flowers and brings the bees  
 The dance begins with pollen on a bloom  
 Bees become golden collecting pollen  
 Beautiful and nourishing to see

— Deaton Bednar

## Sentiment

A purple flower  
 I do not know its name  
 Handed to me thru the car window  
 By my Father  
 As we drove away  
 From our stay at his home.  
 No words  
 As we looked at each other  
 And smiled.  
 The flower said it all  
 As I placed it behind my ear  
 And wore it  
 With him in mind  
 And Heart.

— Lisa Fox

## Haikus

Walk along the path  
 Me and dog and your shadow  
 Full moon in the sky.

Moss Pine Arbutus  
 Hiking Oyster Trail for miles  
 Sea views and tide pools

Bird's nests in birch trees  
 Crutched bare limbs crisp leaves below  
 Smells Fall to Winter.

— Lisa Fox

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1/2 Page.....	(7.5" X 5") .....	190.00
1/4 Page.....	(3.63" X 5") .....	100.00
1/6 Page.....	(3.63" X 3.25") .....	80.00
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1/12 Page.....	(3.63" X 1.63") .....	50.00



505 E 40th St. • \$1,650,000  
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2621 Pembroke Trl. • \$1,275,000  
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5406 Avenue H • \$830,000  
4 beds • 3 baths • 2,056 sq. ft.

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403 W Odell St. • \$750,000  
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SOLD



920 E 49th 1/2 St. • \$595,000  
2 beds • 2 baths • 1,164 sq. ft.



925 E 49th St. • \$495,000  
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SOLD

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## REAL ESTATE BY THE NUMBERS

Austin Board of Realtors, MLS data shown is for Austin area addresses June, 2021



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# Around & About the Avenues

**Hyde Park Resident among Volunteers Recognized by City.** Thanks to the efforts of Council Member Greg Casar, Thursday, July 1 was proclaimed Austin Needs Water Day! in recognition of Austin Needs Water, the grassroots collaboration between the Austin Firefighters Association, United Professional Organizers, local breweries, and volunteers who delivered nearly a quarter of a million gallons of drinking



Jim Ellinger, back row, third from left

water to Austinites in need during winter storm URI. One of those volunteers was Hyde Parker Jim Ellinger.



**Tiny New Hyde Park Neighbors.** Hyde Park neighbors Chelsea and Stephen Gonzalez of Avenue H added a pair of twins to the neighborhood on August 10. Please welcome Felix and Owen Gonzalez!



**Ney Exhibit Reviewed in Austin Chronicle.** Jade Walker's *Reweave: 2021*, the subject of several "News from the Ney" columns, was reviewed in the July 23 issue of the *Austin Chronicle* in the article "A Fork in the Road." Reviewer Robert Faires states, "Like Robert Frost's poem 'The Road Not Taken,' Jade Walker's art installation *Birdsong* brings us to a place where one path splits into two and a choice must be made about which way to go.... Walker has constructed *Birdsong* so that viewers will see the side that points to a future of ruin but will only stand on the side that points to a future of recovery.... if we wish to move from the barren side to the 'yellow wood,' we need to act." Read the entire review at <https://www.austinchronicle.com/arts/2021-07-23/reweave-2021/>.



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## News from the Ney... ...cont'd from page 5

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Of note, balcony reconstruction, as described in last month's *Pecan Press*, will likely be taking place through much of September, so be aware that the balcony section of the 44th Street facade might be blocked off for safety.

Finally, POLKAPOCALYPSE! is on the horizon! Museum staff hopes to stage a live event on Sunday, October 24, with Brave Combo in attendance! The museum's staff will certainly keep everyone posted as the day looms larger.

And as always, staff says "Thank you!" and reminds everyone of Elisabet's motto: Sursum! Stay safe folks!



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## Light Rail Update... ...cont'd from page 3

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Again, these are just a few highlights of the current 15% plan and are subject to change. For a fuller look, visit <https://capmetro.org/get-involved> and click on the link for Orange Line Virtual Open House. At that link, you'll see a bar with arrows just below the graphic heading; slide the bar over until you see "North Guad" and click on that to watch the video presentation. Hyde Park residents might also want to review proposed changes to the Drag, which can be found at the same link.

### Weighing In and Next Steps

The deadline for public comments on the 15% design plan was officially August 27, but the Project Connect team is still accepting emailed comments at [orangeline@capmetro.org](mailto:orangeline@capmetro.org). Planners will consider this community feedback in developing the 30% design plan, expected in the summer of 2022. The final design phase will take place in 2023 and 2024, with construction slated for 2024 to 2028. If all goes well, the Orange Line should be up and running from Route 183 to Stassney Lane by 2028 or 2029.

If you'd like to be more involved in the design process, consider signing up for an area Working Group at this link: <https://www.capmetro.org/project-connect/groups>.

The Project Connect team also plans to host some online community design workshops later this fall, so stay tuned for updates.

— Susan Moffat

A detailed black and white illustration of a still life featuring a bottle of wine, a glass of wine, a wedge of cheese, a loaf of bread, and a bottle of olive oil.

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# Lettuce Recycle!

by Dena Houston



## RECYCLING CHALLENGES

A study done by the City of Austin found that 44% of all items that end up in the City's landfill could have been recycled. There are many reasons we don't recycle. In our hearts, most of us want to help maintain the health of our planet by recycling. We know it's the right thing to do, but our lives are busy and it's not always easy. Some challenges to recycling are as follows:

- It's inconvenient to collect items at home.
- Some jars are difficult to clean out.
- You don't know how to recycle unusual items.

### Suggestions to Make Home Collection More Convenient

- *For curbside recycling pick-up:* Put small containers in the areas where recycling accumulates, such as the kitchen and office.
- *For curbside compost collection:* Keep a collection container on the kitchen counter, lined with a compostable bag.
- *For plastic bags that go to collection bins at the grocery store:* Place a bag somewhere convenient to collect plastic bags, bubble wrap, and so forth. When it's full, take it to the plastic bag recycling bin.
- *For items that need to go to the Recycling and Reuse Drop-Off Center:* Keep boxes in the garage for items headed for the RRDOC.

### Suggestions for Cleaning Out Problem Containers

We need to rinse our jars and bottles so that jars that might get broken in the recycling trucks don't contaminate paper with food product and make the paper unable to be recycled.

The City of Austin recommends a light rinse to the jars, but has anyone ever "lightly rinsed" a peanut butter jar? Here's what works: Add some detergent and very hot water to the jar, shake well, and that's good enough. This also works with mayonnaise jars.

## Recycling Various Items Is Confusing

It's difficult to know or remember which items go into which cart or to which location. The following City of Austin website is a great resource to learn where various items should go: [www.austintexas.gov/what-do-i-do](http://www.austintexas.gov/what-do-i-do).

I will research any recycling questions you have. Just email your recycling questions to [recycling@hpwbana.org](mailto:recycling@hpwbana.org).

### Fluff - Don't Stuff

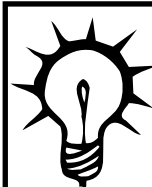
Recently, I noticed that a compost collection truck's automatic arm kept shaking a green can. Finally, the driver set the can down, got out of the truck, reached into the can, and pulled out pizza boxes that had been stuffed in it. He then was able to re-engage the auto arm and empty the can. Please don't stuff things into any of your cans.



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

Remember the City of Austin recycling website: <http://www.austintexas.gov/what-do-i-do>.

Stay tuned for future tips for creative ways to recycle or reuse. If you have any questions or recycling ideas, please send them to [recycling@hpwbana.org](mailto:recycling@hpwbana.org).



**Pecan Press is online at**  
[www.austinhydepark.org](http://www.austinhydepark.org)

### Word Find Answers from page 5

- SERENA WILLIAMS ; 2) T S ELIOT; 3) B B KING; 4) BEYONCE;
- TRUMAN CAPOTE; 6) GENE AUTRY; 7) SULLIVAN; 8) CHRISTIE; 9) LAFAYETTE; 10) GRANDMA MOSES;
- STEPHEN; 12) RAY CHARLES; 13) JIM HENSON; 14) MCAULIFFE; 15) JESSE OWENS; 16) JOAN JETT; 17) MATHIS; 18) O HENRY; 19) SANDERS; 20) REDDING; 21) BUDDY HOLLY

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