

December Meeting

When: 7:00 pm
Monday, December 5, 2016

Where: Griffin School
5001 Evans Avenue

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

HPNA General Meeting Agenda for December 5

- Presentation: Recommendations by the Flood Mitigation Task Force to the City of Austin, Elloa Matthews, District 9 Representative on the Task Force
- Presentation and vote on development of 4004, 4006, and 4008 Avenue C
- Presentation and vote on HPNA budget for 2017
- Announcements

See You There!

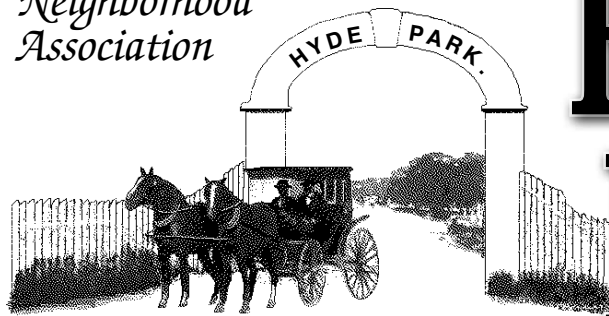
A Festive Welcome to the Holiday Season!

In true Hyde Park tradition, HPNA will get a jump-start on the season with our annual holiday event – a fun, festive neighborhood party, held at the Elisabet Ney Museum again this year. Like last year, we will once again entertain guests with after-dinner champagne, wine, cookies and sweet treats, and cocoa, all served outside. Hyde Park families will have a chance to visit with their neighbors at the Museum, where glittering luminarias will surround the grounds, helping to make the site a festive place to behold.

Neighbors and friends are invited once again to decorate the ever-popular Wish Tree with personalized wishes for the New Year. There will be tags for everyone to write their good wishes for the

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*The Hyde Park
Neighborhood
Association*



Pecan Press

December 2016 • National Register District Neighborhood • Vol. 42, No. 12

ProjectConnect

Editor's Note: At the November meeting of the HPNA, Javier Arguello, Director of Long Range Planning and Transit Oriented Development from Capital Metro, spoke to the membership about ProjectConnect. Following are excerpts from his talk.

Let me start with a question: How many of you know, what is ProjectConnect? ProjectConnect was actually an initiative that was adopted in 2012, a partnership made by four agencies: CTMRA, Lone Star Rail District, Capital Metro, and the City of Austin. And we also have contributing agencies: Texas Department of Transportation and other agencies in other cities. The original ProjectConnect called for different corridors, priority corridors – you have the north corridor, the south corridor, the east corridor, the west corridor – and so ProjectConnect moved forward with more analysis on those particular projects.

Unfortunately, the result was a kind of a segmented approach, and did not represent the community, what they wanted to see. The only project, the only priority corridor that was developed, was actually north corridor, and we had some projects, but they were only projects addressing that particular corridor.

The next corridor to move forward was what we called central corridor, better known as urban rail, Proposition 1, 2014. And that prompts me to give you an example of why the community wasn't happy, because at that time they didn't focus on resolving the

central corridor. So one project came and that was the urban rail and it was a nine-mile segment addressing some of the needs of the core, downtown Austin. The major criticism that we heard from the community was that it didn't show the entire picture. It was around \$1.4 million and it only addressed nine miles of light rail and it

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From the Desk of the Co-Presidents



In our last column, we urged you all to go out and vote on Election Day. Now we can give our condolences to all of you whose candidate or candidates did not win, and our congratulations to those of you whose candidate or candidates did win. While we suspect many in Hyde Park might have been disappointed with some of the election returns, we urge everyone to focus on the work ahead and continue to speak up about the issues about which you are passionate. As we see it, our goals as a neighborhood association are to build a vibrant community, preserve tradition, encourage innovation, and hold our elected leaders accountable when their policies adversely affect our neighbors or our neighborhood. While we might not always agree on a particular issue, we believe that these characteristics are what make our community strong.

If you have ideas about how the HPNA can better reach its goals, please come to the neighborhood association meeting on December 5, where we will be discussing and voting on the HPNA budget for the coming year. Our budget is the blueprint of what the HPNA Steering Committee thinks are the neighborhood's priorities. We will need and value your input.

Also in December is the annual HPNA Holiday Party. Once again Oliver Franklin and his team at the Elisabet Ney Museum have opened their doors for what is always a fun event for everyone in Hyde Park. We hope to see you at the Holiday Party on Sunday, December 11, at 6 p.m. Children are welcome and encouraged to come.

Speaking of the Elisabet Ney Museum, Kevin attended a community outreach event at the museum on November 15. The Ney staff discussed with attendees ideas on how the Ney can better serve the greater Austin community. The creation of a new Friends of the Ney organization was discussed. Given the importance of the Ney to Hyde Park identity, we plan to explain in future columns how all of us in Hyde Park can help the Ney continue the pursuit of its mission.

We hope to see you at the HPNA meeting on Monday, December 5 and the Holiday Party on Sunday, December 11. However, if we don't see you, we wish you a very happy and safe holiday season.

— Kevin Heyburn
Reid Long
HPNA Co-Presidents



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. • (unfilled)

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 pecanpress@austinhypark.org

Poetry Editor

Charlotte Herzele herzele@gmail.com

Photo Editor

Lizzie Chen

Puzzle Editor

Steve Bratteng

Kid's Corner

Jessica Charbeneau ppkidscorner@yahoo.com

Production Manager & Advertising Director

Robert M. Farr, 731-0617, bobfarr@austin.rr.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



Resolution for Vote at the December Meeting

Resolution

The Hyde Park Neighborhood Association supports the request for a Certificate of Appropriateness for the development at 4004, 4006, and 4008 Avenue C, as presented at its December, 2016 general meeting.

Three adjacent multifamily properties on Avenue C (4004, 4006, and 4008) are slated to be remodeled with additions in early 2017. Each of these properties has a front structure that is contributing to the Hyde Park Historic District, so the architects have been working closely with the Historic Preservation Office at the city and the HPNA Design Review Committee (DRC) to ensure the changes to the contributing structures and the planned rear additions coordinate with the character of the neighborhood.

The existing structures on all three properties are in exceedingly poor condition. The owner and architect's goal is to rehabilitate these properties so that they maintain their historic character, while improving their structural integrity and relationship to the neighborhood. To achieve these goals, the front elevations of the front houses will be repaired where needed, repainted, but largely unchanged. The side elevations will maintain the character of the existing homes even when altered.

In the rear, each property will have a two-story addition that uses the same symmetrical-pitch gable roof and window type and proportions as the front houses. In keeping with the city's request, the siding will play off of the front houses but will not match. The intent is to keep these additions simple and subtle so that they create a backdrop for the historic homes in front.

Monthly Calendar December

- 5 — HPNA General Meeting
- 6 — Handel's Messiah at HPBC
- 9 — Recycling Pickup
- 9 — Young Adult Christmas Party at HPBC
- 10 — ARTSWAP at the Ney
- 11 — HPNA Holiday Party
- 12 — Steering Committee Meeting
- 23 — Recycling Pickup
- 24 — Christmas Eve Service at HPBC
- 31 — Happy New Year's Eve!

Hyde Park Christian Church



Sunday mornings
at 10:30 a.m.
Christmas Eve
at 6:00 p.m.

610 E. 45th Street

hydeparkcc.org

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.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@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.
- Send your contributions to Kid's Corner to Jessica Charbeneau at ppkidscorner@yahoo.com.

Hyde Park Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Notify me by email of HPNA meetings & events _____

Dues per Person Standard - \$5/yr. Check
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 Renewing Member Amount _____

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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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HPNA General Meeting Minutes: November 7, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm by co-President Reid Long at the Griffin School, 5001 Evans Avenue.

The meeting began with self-introductions by new meeting attendees.

The first agenda item was a presentation on Cap Metro's ProjectConnect initiative by planning manager Javier Arguello. This is a long-term regional transportation initiative that produced much planning and few results in the past and is now being revived as part of CodeNEXT. The complete study area is the five contiguous counties surrounding Austin, with the goal of identifying commuter corridors for high-capacity mass transit that could travel on express lanes. This presentation addressed primarily the central Austin transit area that includes Hyde Park. ProjectConnect will identify connector corridors used for short-distance trips in the central Austin area using buses with dedicated lanes as a way to increase traffic mobility. In downtown Austin, ProjectConnect will use east-west circulation corridors to link bus and rail lines to work and entertainment activity centers; these will require very high frequency service to be effective. ProjectConnect will also identify enhancement projects that will focus on improving existing infrastructure, such as developing park-and-ride and transfer locations. The presentation reviewed the planning process and the time frame for its completion. The first phase of identifying corridors will end early in 2017 with a public workshop at the Bullock State History Museum. To follow the progress of ProjectConnect or to research ways to participate, go to the website at www.projectconnect.com.

The second agenda item was a report by Social Chair Sarah Cook. The annual Fire Station Festival held in October was very successful. It was attended by over five hundred neighbors consisting of roughly equal numbers of adults and children and staffed by a large number of volunteers. New activities included a cookie decorating table hosted by Quackenbush bakery and a children's fishing booth. Links to photos of the event are posted on the Hyde Park listserv. Our annual holiday party is scheduled for December 11 (6-8 pm) at the Ney Museum. Desserts and drinks for all ages will be served. To volunteer, contact Sarah at cooksickle@gmail.com.

The third agenda item was co-Vice President Betsy Clubine's review of the origins of the Austin Flood Mitigation Committee. After numerous serious flooding incidents in recent years, the City of Austin established a Flood Mitigation Task Force consisting of two representatives from each district. Its report was completed in May, 2016. One of our district's Task Force members will address an upcoming HPNA meeting to talk about its proposed recommendations.

The meeting concluded with announcements for the month. These included the *Pecan Press* deadline, November Steering Committee and Development Review Committee meetings, and the Ney Museum's first annual Community Engagement Salon.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

– Submitted by Susan Marshall
Co-Secretary, HPNA

News from the Ney

The Elisabet Ney Museum and its staff are eager to wish you all the very best wishes for the coming weeks. The season, of course, is in full swing, and the Museum will be recognizing that in two terrific ways.

On Saturday, December 10, the museum will have its second ARTSWAP! This event, like the one held in July, will host numerous artists working in all sorts of media presenting their work for trade – not for sale – for items and services of all kinds! If the artist needs a lawnmower and you have one (or, for that matter, choose to mow the artist's lawn yourself), see if you can strike a deal! July's art trades ranged from china to deck carpentry to a weekend retreat rental in Dripping Springs, and everyone went home with something. The event is coproduced with Big Medium, the folks who bring you the EAST and WEST studio tours, so you know word gets around. It's a truly unique way to score the best and most interesting gifts in the most unusual (and budget-friendly) way!

The annual HPNA and Ney Museum's Open House will take place on Sunday, December 11! The event will reprise the beloved Wish Tree tradition, launched at the first HPNA-Ney holiday Open House. By the time you read this, the Wish Tree will be ready for you. The Wish Tree is a fascinating, funny, and often moving representation of the thoughts on visitors' minds no matter where they are from. If you don't make it to the Open House, be sure to come some other time and add your thoughts. Either way, visit frequently, as the Wish Tree constantly changes till the day it gets put away and stored for the next year's festivities.

Remember, in January the museum will once again feature its Saturday Morning Drawing Salons, in which visitors are provided with all the tools and guidance they need to produce lovely art based on the sculptures within the building, so put that on your calendar. Other exciting events follow throughout the Spring, so keep an eye out and in the meantime, have a super sweet holiday season.

Around & About the Avenues

Save the Date. Please mark your calendar for the Fifth Annual Hyde Park Egg Scramble at Shipe Park on Saturday April 15, 2017, 10:30 - 12:30. This HPNA event, sponsored by Grande Communications, is open to everyone in the neighborhood! There will be popcorn, snow cones, and cotton candy as well as many fun activities including egg hunts, a bounce house, and a balloon twister - all free to Hyde Parkers who attend the event!

For those of you who are new to the neighborhood or who have not participated in the past, an egg scramble is basically a traditional Easter egg hunt. The egg hunt will start at 10:45 and be divided into three age groups: 0 - 2 year olds, 3 - 4 year olds, and 5 - 8 year olds. You provide the eggs for your child's age group. If your child is going to participate, drop off a 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 on the front porch at either 4307 Avenue F or 4402 Avenue F. Please no confetti eggs!



Fire Station Festival Followup. Anne-Marie Griger, who coordinated the book collection at the Fire Station Festival, reported that over 700 books were donated to Book Spring. To all of you who donated books this year, thank you!

We also thank the team who put on such a wonderful festival: (seated) Ann-Marie Griger; (standing from left) Linda van Bavel, Ashley Aarons, Liz Locke, Senator Kirk Watson, Judy Gurgiolo, Sarah Cook, Matt Ott; (not pictured) Jen Berbas, Deaton Bednar, Joan Yamini, Mary LaTouf, Michael Crider, Joanna Fitzgerald, Leigh Ann McGehee.



A Busy Month at the Ney Museum. No rain at this year's Polkapocalypse! The weather was beautiful and the event even better. The dance floor was occupied by everything from



couples in dirndls and lederhosen to people carrying babies. Off the floor, the action was equally entertaining: people playing with



hula hoops and riding unicycles while juggling. Halloween costumes were everywhere, including on dogs. Whether it was traditional conjunto a la the Texmaniacs or off-the-wall chicken dancing with Brave Combo, the music was wonderful.

On November 15, the Ney held its first Community Engagement Salon. Those who attended had the opportunity to provide input for what they would like to see in the museum and on its grounds, including art classes and a farmers' market. Director Oliver Franklin talked about plans to form a museum support group, Friends of the Ney. There will be another salon early in 2017, so plan to attend and provide your feedback.



Historic Dedication of Hancock Golf Course. On November 3, Hancock Golf Course and Recreation Center was dedicated as a Texas Historic Landmark. According to the city of Austin website, “The designation honors former Austin mayor, Louis Hancock, who became interested in golf while visiting Scotland. On January 10, 1900, Mayor Hancock and other founders filed Articles of Incorporation for the Hancock Country Club which became home to Texas’



first golf course....Hancock Golf Course is a treasured site for the neighborhood, Austin residents, and visitors alike. Notably, Harvey Penick began his professional golfing career on the Hancock Golf Course in 1932. City officials, the



Travis County Historical Commission, and the Hancock Neighborhood Association worked together to ensure the preservation of the Charles H. Page, Jr designed building, as well as the golf course.” Speakers at the dedication ceremony, in Hancock Recreation Center, included Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo and former Hancock Neighborhood Association President Carolyn Palaima. The audience included, besides Hancock and Hyde Park residents, Council Member Ora Houston. A ribbon-cutting ceremony revealed the plaque in front of the Recreation Center.



Hyde Park Authors’ Books Are Now Available. Two Hyde Park authors now have newly published books available for

purchase right in time for the holidays. Both authors and their work were featured in the *Pecan Press* this past year.

Dr. Kate Musemeche’s book, *Hurt: The Inspiring, Untold Story of Trauma Care*, is available at BookPeople, Book Woman, and Barnes & Noble.

Carlotta Stankiewicz’s book *Austin Haiku* is available at BookPeople, Atown (on Burnet Road), Blanton Museum Gift Shop, Wild About Music, Austin Rocks, Austin Visitors Center, Whole Earth Provisions, Malvern Books, and Book Woman. Carlotta also sells books, cards, and t-shirts related to her haikus at <http://www.haikuaustin.com>.



Holiday Events at the Hyde Park Baptist Church. On December 6, Hyde Park Baptist Church (HPBC) at 3901 Speedway is once again hosting the Austin Symphony’s presentation of *Handel’s Messiah*, accompanied by Chorus Austin, in the Worship Center. HPBC has great parking and plenty of superb seating. To purchase tickets go to www.austinsymphony.org/events/handels-messiah. On December 9, HPBC invites everyone for an evening of fun at their annual Young Adult Christmas Party, with a catered dinner, a photo booth, door prizes, fun games, and entertainment. Finally, on December 24, HPBC holds its Annual Christmas Eve Service at 6 pm in the Worship Center, with the great songs of Christmas, a brief Christmas message by the Senior Pastor, and its annual candle lighting while all who attend sing Silent Night together.



Pecan Press Advertising Rates

(Effective September, 2015)

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Hyde Park Halloween 2016

From ghoulies and ghosties



And long-legged beasts

*And things that go bump
in the night,*



Good Lord, deliver us!

ProjectConnect... ...cont'd from page 1

didn't show what else is coming. It was a very difficult proposition to pass and it failed.

Unfortunately for all the transit agencies, the community thought at that time ProjectConnect as a vision plan was basically dead because it failed on Proposition 1 in 2014. Well, that's not necessarily true. ProjectConnect is alive and continues to be our adopted regional vision plan, so we are revisiting with the community what we need to do to move forward and get the project to what is required.

I also know that everybody is tired of planning; I am tired of planning. I joined Capitol Metro three years ago and I've been amazed at the number of studies this region has developed in order to address our transit needs. And I also want to tell you that it's pretty sad that we really don't have too much to show from all those efforts.

So, our approach this time is very different. We are basically compressing the planning effort. And for the people that work in downtown and the neighborhoods around downtown, we have to also find solutions on how we better circulate in the city, the

district. So that's where we are, that's the approach that we are having, and we want to work with the community so that we can present to you everything that has been studied, and with your help we will select the corridors that actually make sense for the community, that can resolve the regional, the central, and the circulator components of what we consider to be a complete solution for the region.

So when we started the soft launch of ProjectConnect again, in the beginning of this year, in March, we were trying to see what the community wanted to study this time, and talking with our stakeholders and partners, the first question was, what is ProjectConnect? Even some of the agencies forgot about ProjectConnect. ProjectConnect is our central regional adopted high capacity transit plan. It's made out of the five counties. We are using CAMPO money over a metropolitan area, but we are looking at the commuter trips that are generated by the region looking to land in the focal central area of this region.

We are trying to refine ProjectConnect so that we can select new transit solutions for access into, out of, and within central Austin. The study area again is a five-county metropolitan statistical area. And we are

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ProjectConnect... ...cont'd from page 9

looking at all of the cities that are experiencing rapid growth. You are familiar with that. All of them come into the focal center part of the region which is Austin, and then the focus area is bounded by 183 on the north and the east, 71-290 on the south, Mopac on the west. The boundaries are very flexible, they are not rigid. They are just a way for the team to find a better way to manage all the information we are receiving. Nothing is in concrete. We haven't made any decisions today. We are trying to work with the community so that we come to a plan that actually can be implemented and can be supported by you. Those are the boundaries. And why the focal area? Because this is an activity center, continues to be the engine of a lot of activities that are happening here. Business, education, health care, entertainment, social services are happening in big amounts, big areas in this focal area.

But that's not enough. Even within the focal area we have another issue that we have to resolve. And for the people that work in downtown and the neighborhoods around downtown, we have to also find

solutions on how we better circulate in the city, the district. So the highest development density of course is in downtown, the high volume of short-distance trips also centered in downtown, and that's all recorded. So we need a way to resolve those trips.

How many of you have been able to ride the Redline, the Metro Redline? What happened when you got to downtown station, if you work on the west side of town? It was very difficult to get there, because the station is on the east side of downtown. So either you have to hop on a bicycle or in a bus or something to find your way around, so those are the last mile connections that we are trying to resolve within the central business district. We are trying to use the grid and we are trying to focus on the infrastructure that we already have available.

We are very simplifying this process, collapsing many, many years of a study into a very simple way to approach this so that you guys don't get tired of us.

We have three phases and we call (the first one) Big Ideas, Bold Stuff. So we want your big ideas. Everything works. We're basing our big ideas on all the professional studies we have that have been done. We're not trying to reinvent the wheel. And now we

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SMILE!

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can handle it**

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**YOST
AUTOMOTIVE**

Word Find: Primates

by der Brat

T H E P R I M A T E S A R E U S
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 G O N E T O E A R B A G S E N S
 A N O N Y T O O T N O B B I G R
 B A B O O N G O I N G R A T T A
 I B S O M E T H I N G S P A S T

(The numbers in parentheses refer to the number of letters in the answers.)

1. They come in Old World and New World varieties. (6)

2. Our closest cousins. (10) _____
3. Leaps around in Madagascar? (5)

4. My what big eyes you have! (7)

5. The kinder, gentler examples of #2. (6)

6. Type of #1 who makes a lot of noise. (6)

7. Lesser ape? What a swinger! (6)

8. A #1 named after an arachnid. (6)

9. Sounds like youngster in W's family. (8)

10. New World #1 that's an anagram of "rat memos." (8)

11. The type of #1 from which we get Rh factor. (6)

12. Any member of our primate family. (7)

13. World's largest monkey; name is like a shop tool. (8)

14. Big ape that's vegetarian. (7) _____
15. Asian ape whose name starts like its color. (9)

16. A large Old World monkey. (7)

17. Wide-spread type of monkey that includes #11. (7)

18. Monkey on Gibraltar. (7,3) _____
19. A #1 with a big schnoz. (9) _____
20. A #1 named after a rodent. (8)

Answers on page 19

Kid's Corner: Featuring (your name here!)

Welcome to the Pecan Press Kid's Corner, where you can find out about kid happenings in Hyde Park. Feel free to submit anything kid related, including event info, kid's drawings, stories, comics, songs, poems, what have you! ppkidscorner@yahoo.com

The Pecan Press Kid's Corner is looking to feature a neighborhood kid, tween or teen each month! Please send nominations to ppkidscorner@yahoo.com. Include a brief description of the cool stuff your kiddo is up to and we will follow up with you to get the complete scoop.

We are looking for kids like these:

1. Have unique hobbies or interests.
2. Show an interest in volunteering and/or working with people in the community.
3. Show dedication to their sport, art, or academic studies.
4. Have overcome challenging situations in their lives.
5. Have something they'd like the neighborhood to know.

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ProjectConnect...

...cont'd from page 10


start moving forward. We are going to work with these corridors and with these projects we have already, to work with you to help us define what it is that you are really serious about and you will support in the future, because at the end we have to pay for it. There are many different mechanisms to do that but without your support we do not move forward.

The first phase, we'll talk about corridors - you know, MoKan corridor, I35 corridor, Guadalupe-Lamar corridor. And we are leaving the mode on the side for a little bit, because why? Because it creates a lot of controversy. We don't know what's really feasible in each one of these corridors. So in phase one, we're going to work with you to select what are the best corridors. And in phase number two, Real Solutions for Real Problems, we will be here to work with you about what is the best mode.

The third (phase), we will get into the technical evaluation and we'll work with you to tell you, if this is what you want in this corridor, this is how much it's going to cost and these are the right-of-way implications, these are the traffic implications, and these are the environmental issues that we have to clear.

The third phase is basically the Path for Implementation. Once all of you decide, what is the right corridor we need to define, how are we going to pay for it? Part of the thing in Capitol Metro right now is looking at what is financially possible. What is Capitol Metro's capacity for funding some of these initiatives with just Capitol Metro along? The big commitment is not the capital investment; it is the operation of whatever we decide is going to be run, because that is a life-term commitment. Capitol Metro has that obligation to run the trains, the gondolas, the system, whatever, the boats, whatever. We have that commitment and we have to really be sure that Capitol Metro revenue and all sources of revenue are enough to support the operations of those systems.

This timeline for this study, we are running on 6, 7 months. And again we had a soft launch because we wanted to get to all the stakeholders, departmental agencies, for what was the best approach, and at the same time because of all the initiatives that the city is moving forward, we didn't want to create any controversy or conflict. And the other thing is, we already know that the community is, you guys are, sick of all this planning effort and the same questions are coming to you - what do you want, what do you do, again and again. We're not going to have that intense public involvement, we're going to have very few but very focal issues, very focused on trying to find the right solutions. So we are already developing a purpose and it's going to be posted on our website - there is a project planning website, so all the analysis



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Explosive growth – and I don't have to ask you questions about that, you guys know what exactly is happening here: limited ability to build more roads. We don't have enough right of way. I 35 – the biggest challenge is in order to increase its capacity, they need additional lanes, additional right of way that we don't have. So we are seriously stuck. And everybody knows that just road infrastructure is not going to get us out of the current situation when we have the rate of growth of this situation. It's incredible, it's really incredible. I had the opportunity to work in big cities – LA, New York – and the growth that we have here I've never seen before. It's just very, very dramatic.

Because of that, people can't afford to live in the core and they are moving out and of course zoning is another big issue. With cost of living in Austin, taxes are eating us alive and they continue to go up, and we don't have the right transportation to connect the outside where there is probably a little more affordable housing to the inside and maintain labor forces being able to come to the center and continue to work. And then of course we don't have a complete transit system.

The goals of the project – we have 5 goals. Improve customer experience. Capitol Metro is doing a lot in trying to improve our services. Connection 2025 is a response to that. Improve reliability, and believe me that is a big challenge for Capitol Metro. It's very difficult to be reliable when we're dealing with the congestion scenario that we have in the city. Promote sustainability, incorporate land use. We want more high density in the city so we can have better service. Develop solutions for implementation and continue operations. We want to be sure that everything that we implement has a long-term life and will be useful for everybody.

In order to manage all the planning studies that had to be done, we created some different buckets, to put each planning study in kind of an order so that the team can analyze and work with you and give you a kind of definition and information about it. So this is really again very simple methodology that we are following. All the previous studies that were related to high capacity move to these two major buckets: enhancement projects and investment corridors. We have two types of projects – investment corridors and draft enhancement projects. The investment corridors – what is an investment corridor? It is roadway or railroad corridor that can support high capacity transit – may require alternative or federal funding.

Basically investment corridors are big infrastructure. And those are what we call also commuter corridors – the long corridors that actually begin in Georgetown and San Marcos, and east to west, and they are passing by our activity center downtown. And basically this is everything that came out of what we have already studied. The purpose of our

methodology is to identify these corridors that have been studied and recommended for a transit solution. And again, we don't have to rebuild the wheel. We divided into three different sections all the investment corridors, and we have three additional buckets. So investment corridors are the big bucket, and then the three different silos that we have – commuter corridors – and those are again what I was telling you, the ones that are really used for commuter activities. We have the connector corridors in the focal area – the greenlines – and we have the circulator corridors. I'm going to go again to the commuter corridors. We identified 33 corridors. Actually, there is a big table that we have with all of the information about how we arrived at the conclusion that these corridors would be part of the study.

How many of you know that Capitol Metro runs a freight service on the rail corridors that we have? We want to explore converting those rail freight services into commuter rail services. So those are assets that we are talking here also.

And then we have the circulator corridors and that is the third-scale level that we want to address. This is what's happening in downtown. We don't have really specific routes but we have areas based on the information that we collected. The core, the

Continued on page 17

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Festive Holidays... ...cont'd from page 1

holiday season and the New Year and hang them on the tree. Those who cannot attend the event can take a few minutes to come to the Ney during the previous week to help adorn the tree, now a traditional part of the annual celebration.

In keeping with the spirit of the season, all party goers are invited to bring an unwrapped gift for the children at the Helping Hand Home for Children. This wonderful facility provides children who have suffered abuse and neglect with treatment and housing in a nurturing and healing setting. Gift cards from Target, Wal-Mart, and Toys "R" Us are always welcome presents, as are board games, small LEGO sets, toy cars, Play Doh, Perler beads, science kits, and My Generation dolls and clothing. Books are always popular, including children's books; sketch books; coloring books; and art and craft books with directions or materials for making things like paper airplanes, Origami creations, or paper animals. Please don't donate weapons of any kind (including Nerf guns), sharp metal items, and glass or ceramic items. If you are unable to attend but still would like to contribute, please make arrangements with Linda Pennington, our Helping Hands representative, to deliver the items to her house (512-451-2027, plinda512@gmail.com).

Additionally, we recognize and honor at this wonderful annual celebration the many volunteers that have contributed so generously to our neighborhood in so many ways throughout 2016.

As usual, it will be a very special occasion for neighbors and friends to relax, socialize, and enjoy our very special Hyde Park community. If you haven't already done so, please take the time to join or renew your membership in the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association at the HPNA table at the event.

For more information, email Joan Burnham (jgiburnham@gmail.com) or Sarah Cook (cooksicle@gmail.com). We welcome additional volunteers to help us with this celebration; get in touch with Sarah Cook to sign up.

When and where: Sunday, December 11, 6:00 to 8:00 pm, Elisabet Ney Museum, 44th and Avenue H (across from Shipe Park)

If it rains, the party will be moved to the Griffin School, 5001 Evans Avenue.

— Joan Burnham

HYDE PARK

Hyde Park Poets —

Haiku

There's just enough light
Leaking through the window shades
To fold the laundry


— Adam Callaway



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ProjectConnect...

...cont'd from page 13

central city – there is a lot of development happening on the east side of downtown. We have a new medical school. We have the South Congress area, which was also highlighted by the community. And so we want to study this to provide circulators. Circulators are very high frequency all day long. They are expensive to implement but we believe that that is required in downtown and they are basically to help us connect and close the gap and do the last mile connection service that is required.

In addition, we look into another level – projects that also have been studied and require less planning. They are basically ready to go. And so we want to present those projects because those projects are focused on improving the existing infrastructure. The list of projects has the potential to be locally funded. We can get all the money locally and get them approved. Then, as I mentioned, is improving existing infrastructure, metrorail, metrorapid, metroexpress, downtown entry ways and mobility hubs. Mobility hubs are transit centers.

Some of our stations need to be upgraded. In order to move forward with the full capacity of the redline we have to finish building the station. We only run 4 vehicles during the day – very, very limited service. And so we want to run more vehicles so that we can carry more people. Better amenities of the station – a lot of people complained that the canopies that we have on the bus stops are not necessarily protecting from weather. And then metroexpress. We are working on park-and-ride facilities. We are increasing the parking capacity on metro redline. We're working with all the other five counties trying to resolve, where can we build this strategically. Hopefully, when the first MoPac managed lanes are open and the buses are traveling pretty fast on managed lanes, and they arrive to downtown, all that last part of the trip also is expedited. We don't want to dump the buses out of Mopac and then get a stop on Cesar Chavez, for example, or 5th street, and have another 15-20 minutes there, so we are being sure that the trip is complete and it has the quality of being an express service, not only on the Mopac managed lanes but also the city grid. So we're working with the city trying to manage what are best treatments on any specific city street to allow those express services to get to their final destinations.



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Hyde Park Poets —

(It only takes) Three Good Days

Three days of gorgeosity make it hard to remember
That only three days ago we were clenched in the fist of
winter

Who, or what, was sitting on my chest
Turning every breath into a prayer against a fit of
coughing
Coughing that threatened to unloose the fabric of my
lungs?

Who, or what, was sprinkling the air with non-fairy dust
That piqued a tickle in my throat or worse, my eye
My fat eye, raw throat, constricted chest
Turning every morning into a nightmare (even in the
morning)?

Now that the mystery, unwanted guests are gone,
The sun is shining and warming the earth
The fiends may be lurking
Waiting to afflict unwelcome attentions, but,
I see them not, and out of mind, as they say...

A short memory is often a wonderful thing to possess,
One does not wish to dwell in error, or as my friend says,
“Would have, Should have, Could have”, or, as I say,
“Moving forward...let the past stay in the past.”

This is as beautiful a day as one could wish for
There may be the odd freeze ahead – it is only the
beginning of winter, after all,
Whoever, or whatever wanted me to close down shop,
Turning my joie d' vivre into a soggy pile of tissue,
Is gone. I am respectful but choose to shut the door.

— *Herzele*
01/18/15



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Forget-Me-Nots

My mother played the piano
in a room full of light,
her hands fluttering over the keys.
I hear every note with abandon,
turning the pages of a coloring book
and fondling the crayons
that I brought home from school.

The rays of the sun come in
through the windows.
The air is so fragrant in the afternoon
with flowers inside and outside the house.
As I sit on the edge of a stool
I smile for no reason at all,
thinking I hear steps down the hall.

I look at all this through a lens of emotion,
for the piano is silent,
the crayons are gone with the coloring book.
All the flowers are gone with their fragrance,
the roses, geraniums and forget-me-nots.
And my mother, my mother is gone,
but my memories still live on and on.

— Miguel Gonzalez-Gerth
June 22, 2016

Answers to Word Find: Primates

Answers: 1-MONKEY; 2-CHIMPANZEE; 3-LEMUR; 4-TARSIER; 5-BONOBO; 6-HOWLER; 7-GIBBON; 8-SPIDER; 9-BUSHBABY; 10-MARMOSET; 11-RHESUS; 12-HOMINID; 13-MANDRILL; 14-GORILLA; 15-ORANGUTAN; 16-BABOON; 17-MACAQUE; 18-BARBARY APE; 19-PROBOSCIS; 20-SQUIRREL

THE PRIMATES ARE US
GRAZYDUDE SHAHOPO
THOMINID INGONYOU
MEINHERRAWADBOI
ASIMONKEYL TEUAIR
CUBARRIDEURSURER
ASONGAERG JHIMBYE
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