## September Meeting

When: 7:00 p.m.

Monday, September 10, 2007

Where: Hyde Park United Methodist Church 4001 Speedway

Who: YOU and your neighbors

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

#### HPNA General Meeting Agenda for August 6<sup>th</sup>

- → Jill Nokes Presents Plan for using Austin Energy funds for landscaping at Shipe Park & the Ney Museum (possible vote)
- Vanguard Design and Build presents the Willie Kocurek law office project (possible vote)
- Austin Partners in Education discusses programs and volunteer opportunities

See you there!

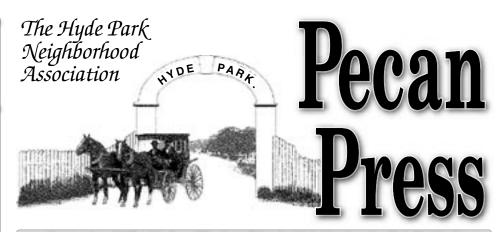
## Come Back to School with Austin Partners in Education!

A ustin Partners in Education is joining us for our September meeting. They will be discussing programs APIE offers and specific ways to volunteer.

I have been personally involved as an APIE mentor since 2001 and it has been a rewarding experience. The student I have worked with for six years is now in middle school. We are looking forward to high school and college, discussing strategies for success from high school study skills to the college application process. The time commitment is manageable at one hour a week, and the rewards are tremendous.

It takes the whole community to ensure that every student is on the path to graduate from high school college-ready. With your help, APIE programs can ensure that all second-graders are reading on grade level, that middle school

Continued on Page 3



September, 2007 · National Register District Neighborhood · Vol. 33, No. 9

## Contra Dancing: Geometry in Motion

Swing that neighbor! Ladies cross and swing your own.

Nervous giggles erupted when the 15 or so members of Austin's Hill Country Explorers club took their first awkward steps. Their August 8 outing had brought them to the Hancock Recreation Center for lessons in contra dancing, a new experience for most of them. Joining them were 8 or 10 regulars, who moved through caller Chuck Roth's steps with ease and enthusiasm.

Contra dancers have gathered at the Recreation Center every week for 25 or 30 years (the details are lost in the haze of oral history), says Allendale resident Dale Rempert, who has led the group for 17 years. He's been an enthusiast since the moment he was persuaded to join a session 30 years ago and has been a caller (selftaught) for 23 years.



Contra Dancers Doing Their Thing at Hancock Recreation Center (photo by Dale Rempert)

### Long line go forward and back!

Picture square dancing and you'll have a basic idea of contra dancing. The difference, Rempert explains, lies in the formations. Square dancers organize in groups of four and move in, well, squares. But in contra dancing, couples face each other in opposing, or contrary, lines, which can be as long as the room allows. As the dance pro-

gresses, each couple interacts with many others. Here's another visual aid: The country dance scenes in a movie adaptation of a Jane Austen novel.

The experience is very social, which is a big part of its appeal, Rempert notes. It's also highly energetic. Live music is a must, so the dance is always accompanied by a fiddler and other musicians from the Austin Friends of Traditional Music.

Continued on Page 5

### From the President's Desk:

#### Let's Mind Our Own Businesses!

**T**ow often have you been traveling and someone will say, "You can go there, but that's not where the lof L cals go."? So, where do the locals go? What are these mysterious places? Well, we have an abundance of them right here in our neighborhood. I'm not sure exactly how many

businesses we have in Hyde Park, but I started a list today and so far have come up with over 35 local businesses off the top of my head.

Most of us do not go to the LBJ Library, the Capitol or the Bob Bullock Museum unless we have friends or family in town. The same can probably be said about many of the businesses in our community. It's easy to take them for granted since we see them every day.

For those of us who fall into this category, here are a few updates that you might have missed:

• NeWorlDeli, in the Hyde Park Marketplace at 41st and Gua-

### Pecan Press

The Pecan Press is published monthly by the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association in Austin, Texas.

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Note: Each month's ad and editorial deadline is the 15th of month preceding publication.

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#### Contributors

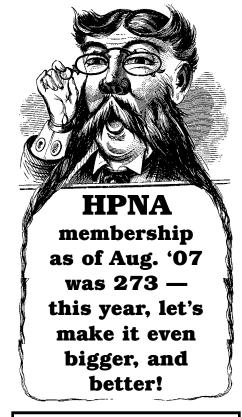
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- Dolce Vita at 43d and Duval is now serving breakfast and lunch. They also offer live music several nights a week.
- Dharma Yoga moved into the Hyde Park Marketplace and offers at least twenty classes a week.
- ASTI Trattoria at 43d and Duval just celebrated their 7th anniversary.
- Blue Moon Glassworks, on 43d just west of the post office, offers classes for stained glass and glass beads. This "mom and pop" store also sells glass works by Austin artists and creates custom stained glass pieces for clients.
- Austin Aqua Sports on Guadalupe is participating in the Lake Travis Underwater Cleanup on Sept. 9th from 8:30 am to 11:00 am. Stop by the shop to register for either the scuba or the ground crew clean-up. Volunteers get a free lunch and a t-shirt.
- Mother's Café has started to repair the extensive fire damage they suffered, and to rebuild their restaurant. Hopefully, we won't have to wait much longer before we can order a Bueno Burger with
- Hyde Park Bar & Grill now offers a frequent diner program.

So, pretend that you're on vacation, and take the time to enjoy these and other worthy businesses in our area!

Elaine Meenehan HPNA President <elaine.meenehan@gmail.com>





#### **Hyde Park Neighborhood Association** P. O Box 49427 • Austin, TX 78765 http://www.austinhydepark.org

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Tree Preservation • JP Moore, johnpaulmoore@austin.rr.com789-7025
Triangle Development • Cathy Echols, 4002 Ave. C206-0729
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### **Austin Partners...**

### ...cont'd from page 1

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Greatest need: Partners in Reading and Compañeros en Lectura (Grade 2 regular and Spanish bilingual classes), Partners in Math (Grades 6-10), College Readiness (Grades 11-12)

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#### **Time Commitment:**

50 minutes per week for semester or school year (25-30 sessions/year) for most programs. Locations and times vary. Visit <www.austinpartners.org> for more information or contact Meg Robinson: <mrobinson@austinpartners.org> or 637-0900.

Sign up to volunteer today in schools near the Hyde Park area and around Austin!

Jennifer Berbas
 HPNA Vice-President

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#### **Hyde Park Neighborhood Association Enrollment** 2007-08 Membership Name Address\_ Make checks payable ☐ I wish to be notified via email of HPNA meetings and events. to HPNA. Bring to HPNA meeting, Membership Type: ☐ New Member ☐ Renewal or send to: Eileen & Jim Genevro Individual: ☐ \$1/year Couple or Family: ☐ **\$2**/year **HPNA** Dues paid by: ☐ Check ☐ Cash Date 4608 Caswell All memberships expire on September 30th of each year. Austin, TX 78751

#### **HPNA Membership Info**

All memberships expire on September 30th of each year.

•‡•

Membership in HPNA is open to all residents aged 18 years or older who reside within the boundaries of Hyde Park or within 300 feet of the designated boundaries.

•‡•

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.

### We Welcome Your Submissions to Pecan Press

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<hgthomas@youthlaunch.org>

\*Send your poems to:

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<nancy@creativitymoms.com>

Note: The *Pecan Press* will not publish unsigned/unattributed poetry. All poems (even if written under a pen name) must carry a name and address or phone number for identification and verification purposes.

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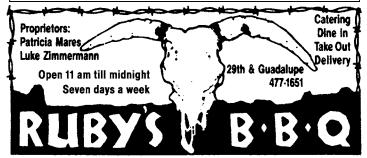
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## Hancock Recreation Center Offers Something for Everybody

With its large footprint at the southeast corner of Hyde Park, the Hancock Golf Course is easy to find. Not so the Hancock Recreation Center, which is mostly hidden from view at the end of a steep driveway on  $41^{\rm st}$  near Red River.

The charming building was constructed in 1934 as the clubhouse of the Austin Country Club, founded in 1899 by former mayor Lewis Hancock and said to be the first golf club in Texas. A replacement for a humbler structure that burnt down, the building features materials salvaged from UT's Old Main. The building and property were sold to the city in 1946 and became part of the Parks Department in 1951.



More Contra Dancers Doing Their Thing at Hancock Recreation Center (photo by Dale Rempert)

Today the recreation center hosts numerous activities for youth and adults, says program supervisor Kate Tanguis, who began working there in 1989 as a preschool teacher. A standout feature is the large ballroom, whose hardwood floors make it perfect for dancing. The property also has three classrooms, a basketball court, a small sports field, a playground and picnic tables.

Some of the dance groups have been meeting at the center "forever," Tanguis says. The senior dance group dates to 1954, the international folk dancers to 1967. The ballroom also is used for performances, weddings and other special events.

The children's programs are packed, she says, but the adult programs are less well-known. That's a shame, because they are intriguingly diverse. Physical activity prevails, with aikido, aerobics, yoga and many types of dance. The center also welcomes the Austin Writers League, a weight loss support group and, with its abundant windows and excellent light, a drawing studio.

See <www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/hancock.htm> for a schedule of activities.

Jaime Shimkus
 'jfshimkus@sbcglobal.net>

### Contra Dance Group...

...cont'd from page 1

#### Couples circle left. Now pass through and do-si-do!

The dancers come from all over the city. Their ages range from 20s to 60s, although the average is about 45. Most do not arrive in couples, and even when they do, everybody is encouraged to change partners for every dance.

Women often slightly outnumbered the men, but male participation has been increasing, Rempert says. He finds that this style of dance is popular in areas with high-tech jobs and attracts men who are mathematically oriented. (He himself is a recently retired computer engineer now pursuing his passion for photography.)

Whether neophyte or old-timer, no dancer needs worry about knowing the steps. Beginners receive a brief lesson at the start of the session, then the caller runs through each dance beforehand and calls the movements step by step. Even the giggling Explorers Club dancers were twirling confidently in no time.

The contra dance group meets Wednesdays at 7:30 pm. A \$3 donation is requested (it is given to the recreation center).

> Jaime Shimkus <ifshimkus@sbcglobal.net>

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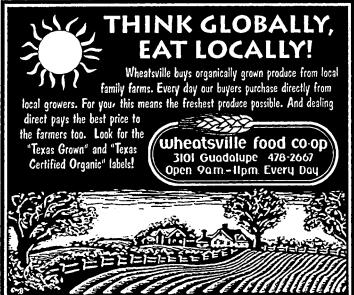


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## Crime Report



by Carol Welder

#### **Neighborhood Watch Recruits Captains**

Since the August HPNA social, we have 28 volunteer Block Captains signed up for the Neighborhood Watch Program. I have listed them below so that you know who they are and how to contact them with questions or concerns that you may have. If you live on one of the blocks where a Block Captain has responsibility, please give them your contact information including names of household members, address and phone numbers. The Watch Program encourages neighbors to get to know one another and having a block contact list and social get togethers, helps with that process.

It appears that neighbors are becoming more aware of suspicious activity and are reporting incidents to the police. I have noticed more police cars patrolling the area and hear that arrests are being made. Keep up the good work The Hyde Park APD District Representative is Officer Rick Vargas. His number is 974-5801.

#### **Block Captains:**

Ave B (4000 block)	Kelly Schaub
Ave C (4200 block)	Maureen O'Conno
Ave F (3800-3900 blocks)	John Mayfield
Ave F (4000-4100 blocks)	Carol Welder
Ave F (4000-4100 blocks)	Grant Thomas
Ave F (4200 block)	John Kerr
Ave F (4500 block)	Lisa Harris
Ave F (4800 block)	Janet Risovi
Ave F (4900 block)	Traci Laird
Ave F (5000 block)	Cy Megnin <
Ave G (3800-3900 blocks)	Sharon Majors
Ave G (4000-4100 blocks)	Carol Jackson
Ave G (4000-4100 blocks)	Deaton Bednar
Ave G (4500-4600 blocks)	William Dewberry
Ave G (4500-4600 blocks)	Stan Kozinsky
Ave G (4800 block)	Thomas Chamberl
Ave H (3800-3900 blocks)	Charlotte Herzele
Ave H (4100 block)	Michele Grieshabe
Ave H (4900 block)	Suzanne Hurley
Ave H/Duval (Town Park Trails)	Herb Dickson
Ave H/Duval (Town Park Trails)	Jerry Vernon
Ave H/Duval (4100 blocks)	Elaine Meenehan
Speedway (4500 block)	Eric Oyler
46th-47th St/Evans/Eilers	Tracy Sabel/Mark I
Caswell Ave (4600 block)	Jim Genevro
Caswell Ave (4600 block)	Pam Whittington
Red River (4500 block)	Denise Girard
Red River (4600 block)	Claire deYoung

<kellyschaub@gmail.com> <mo@digitalcorsair.com> <jmmayfield@usa.net> <cjwelder@msn.com> <hgthomas@youthlaunch.org> <ifkerr@yahoo.com> ljharrisus@yahoo.com> <janetrisovi@hotmail.com> <me@tracilaird.com> cy@onecallpropertyservices.com> <sharonmajors@gandecom.net> <caroljackson@austin.rr.com> <deatonbednar@grandecom.net> <w\_dewberry@hotmail.com> <kozinsky@swbell.net> lain <tomas13.geo@yahoo.com> <herzele@austin.rr.com> er <mmgrieshaber@yahoo.com> <suzannehurley@austin.rr.com> <hrdsvd@austin.rr.com> <jerryandnancy.vernon@att.net> <elaine.meenehan@gmail.com> <ericoyler@hotmail.com> <tsabel@sbcglobal.net> <jgenevro@earthlink.net> <ppwhittington@yahoo.com> <girard.d@att.net>

<laberta183@yahoo.com>

If you are interested in volunteering for your block, please email me at <cjwelder@msn.com>.

Carol Welder 459-6205 <cjwelder@msn.com>

## **August Meeting Minutes**

o-Treasurers Catherine Moore and Denise Girard -called the August HPNA meeting to order at approximately 7 p.m. The first order of business was flavor. After a brief and heated debate regarding possible options, Celeste C. proposed a simple vanilla which was seconded by Wanda P. The merits of chocolate chip and strawberry were discussed, during which Lorre W. articulated a serious chocolate counterproposal, at which point neighbors on Avenue B strongly voiced their support. After a prolonged period of discussion, Nick B. asked that the group lay the motion on the table since all of the ice cream was melting. This was seconded by Dorothy R. The vote was unanimous and ice cream and cake were served. The meeting adjourned at 9:00.

Thanks to Catherine Moore and Denise Girard for organizing this event. It was a great success and we will continue to have more social events in the future.

> Elaine M. Substitute Secretary





Phyllis Nuñez (Sharoo) has returned to Gaitan's Barbershop! 43<sup>rd</sup> and Duval

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## Letters Dept.



I spent my childhood 1944-1959 living at 306 West 44th. I had the opportunity this past weekend to revisit Hyde Park. Three of my oldest friends, all lived in Hyde Park, met me for a trip down memory lane. The owners of Ave. B grocery store were the Struska's ,and then for most of my childhood, the Stefka's. Thanks to Ross I was able to call Libby Stefka from the store and she did remember me. Linda (Daniels) Clynch lived 2 doors to the north from the store. The owners of the two houses were very



gracious and invited us in to walk thru the rooms of our childhood. What a thrill to giggle like girls at where we used to practice the piano or hang pictures of Ricky Nelson and Pat Boone. We are all grandmothers now and we took many pictures to show and tell our grandchildren what life was like as little girls back then.

Ross gave me a copy of the <u>Pecan Press</u> and I thought you might like these pictures for your files. Left to right: Linda (Daniels) Clynch, Sarah (Scott) Howard, Patti (Wade) Brown and Mary (Kauffman) Brggs.

Take care of the neighborhood, it is very special to me.

Sincerely,Sarah Scott Howard



"Where Families Grow Together"

9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship

## Hyde Park Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

610 East 45<sup>th</sup> Street (512) 452-2596 www.hydeparkcc.org

#### Youth Groups

1-12 Grades, meet on Sunday evenings. We will meet from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

## 2007 Homes Tour Numbers Add Up to Success!

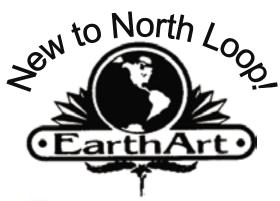
The 2007 Homes Tour Committee is pleased to an-I nounce its final financial results:

The total income was \$19,208.18. This includes ticket sales of \$14,076.23, advertising sales of \$1950, booklet sponsorships of \$1180, underwriting of \$2,000 (Grande, This Old House, and University Federal Credit Union), and \$1.95 bonus from PayPal for opening an account.

The total expenses were \$7.848.75. This includes insurance (405.11), music (1,200), buses (2,140), portapotties (200), printing of booklets and tickets (1,250.69), printing and distribution of posters (241.87), banner repair and display (480), various parties and gatherings (1,593.58), a commission to the ad salesman (287.50), and a minor repair to a tour house

This leaves a balance of \$11,359.43, a significantly larger profit than any homes tour in recent years (perhaps ever) has earned. The ticket sale total was approximately \$2000 higher than last year, and the attendance was approximately 100 more tourists than last year.

 Lorre Weidlich, 2007 Homes Tour Chair (Editor's Note: Thank you for the update, Madame Chair - AND for the great job!)





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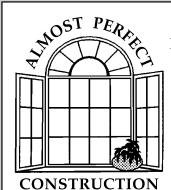


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## Farewell to Mrs. Callan and Reverend Lazenby

We are saddened to report the passing this summer of two beloved and accomplished long-time Hyde Park neighbors.

One was Mrs. Myrtle Almeda Hornsby Callan, who passed away on July 26th at her home at 40th and Avenue F at the age of 105. She was born on July 7, 1902 in Hornsby Bend 9 miles east of Austin, which was established in 1832 by her ancestors Rueben and Sarah Morrison Hornsby when they left Mississippi with Stephen F. Austin, and became among the first settlers of what is now Travis County. Hers was a large and accomplished family, and she was among the charter members of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, of which she was a member for 87 years. She had a distinguished 30-year teaching career at the Texas School for the Deaf, which ended with her retirement in 1967, when she was made an honorary member of the TSD Alumni Association. A warm and delightful neighbor, "...her charm and wit made a lasting impression on all who met her." Evidence of this charm included her annual Christmas Tree Trimming Party, which was featured on KXAN's "On the Porch" program in December of 2005. She was buried in Hornsby Cemetery, the final resting place of more than 360 other Hornsby descendants, including baseball great Rogers Hornsby. The extraordinary extent of her lifespan is reflected in a comment she made to a relative during his last visit with her: "I wonder what the Comanche Indians would think of Austin now?"

The other significant loss was that of Rev. Hervey Lewis Lazenby, who passed away on August 6th at the age of 90. Born in Shawnee, Oklahoma, he moved to Austin in 1942 to attend Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary; here he met and courted Mattie Downman Smith, to whom it was said he proposed under the Moonlight Tower at 41st and Speedway. Following graduation his was a widely-traveled ministry, but he returned to Austin in 1972, began his ministry at Hyde Park Presbyterian Church, and moved into his distinctive yellow bungalow at 42nd and Ave. C. After his retirement he did extensive volunteer work at the Austin History Center, and provided such distinguished service during his 14 years of volunteering that Mayor Wynn declared November 9, 2006 as "Hervey Lazenby Day." Clown ministries, local theatre and hand bell choir were among his favorite avocations in later life, but perhaps his proudest distinction and most beloved role was serving as the oldest living member of the UT Alumni Band. All that marching must have rendered him singularly fit, as he never seemed to want or need (or have) a car, and many neighbors have clear and fond memories of Hervey tromping to and from the Hancock H-E-B with his grocery bag.

We extend our condolences to the loving families and friends of these two very special Hyde Parkers, and our thanks for the length and quality of the time that we were able to have them as neighbors.

(Our thanks to another beloved and accomplished long-time neighbor, Dorothy Richter, for providing us with this information.)

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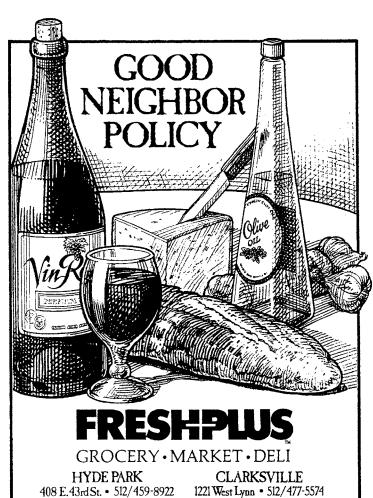
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## Letters Dept. contd-

#### Something in the Water?

Dear Editor,

I grew up in Hyde Park and lived in Austin for 29 years, although I recently moved to St. Louis. I got a letter in the mail recently from a friend back in Austin with this tidbit of information enclosed.

It's from Jeffrey Kacirk's "Forgotten English: A 365-day Calendar of Vanishing Vocabulary and Folklore for 2007," and it includes a reference to the (apparent) fact that "One of over fifty mead-making recipes...specifically called for 'Hyde Park water.'" My friend's letter included the observation that "...you might want to know what you were drinking all those years in Hyde Park."

I thought it might be something all Hyde Park residents ought to know. I always loved the water in Hyde Park, and when I go back to visit my parents I will let them in on the secret.

Sincerely,Anna Strong4057 A Hartford St.St. Louis, MO 63116

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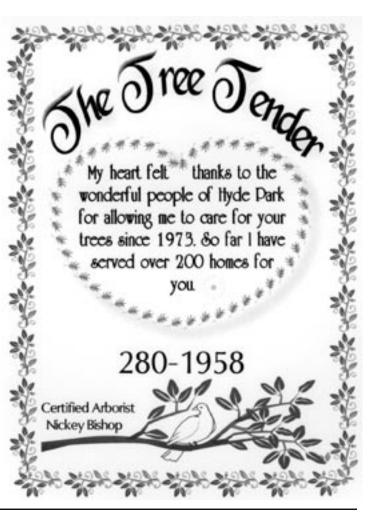
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## Hyde Park Poets.



When I went to high school here in Austin, Reagan for 9th grade, then LBJ for the remaining 3 years, Friday nights meant exciting times for everyone in the neighborhood. I remember packing Nelson Field, and when LBJ played Reagan, it was SRO and overflowing crowds. Sadly, if you dare go to an A.I.S.D. football game these days, you can pretty much pick your seat. I was hired by the school district some years ago to film (yes, film) the games for the coaches. I had my choice, and I purposely chose to film the 2A & 3A schools in the area because I knew those games had the same feel of community that I knew when I was in school. Here's a scene you can still enjoy in small towns.

## Small Town Friday Night

Pack the kids, turn off the stove It's time again, to head down the road There is a place, you have got to see An exciting place, where everyone meets

Hey Bob! Hey Joe! How's the wife? How'd you make out in poker last night? Man it's hot, let's get a drink Served with a smile, and maybe a wink

There's the mayor, shaking hands With several people, in the stands Sheriff Walker will have to wait He's standing watch, at the gate

The crowd attending, begins to swell Enticed to the snack bar, by the smell Of dogs and burgers, and even more By the aroma, of fresh popped corn

Hey down in front, I can't see The coin toss, by the referee Home team wins, they'll have to choose Which side of the field, each team will use

Whistle blows, the game begins There's the kickoff end over end The ball is taken by number five Pile-up at the twenty, how did he survive

The quarterback is tall, he scans the field To see what the defense might reveal He barks the signals loud and clear A gain of twelve yards, the crowd cheers

The bands strikes up, the school fight song Trying to help the team move on Pom poms are waving, the cheerleaders tell People in the stands, it's time to yell

Third and goal, we're going to score! The ball is placed down, at the four Hut One! Hut two! The play explodes Over the middle, into the end zone

> — Eric Robertson LBJ, Class of '77 ©1992

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## Hyde Park Poets



Once a guy told me the story of his life, riding the bus from Florida to Texas. I didn't know him. That was the point. Some of it was pretty heavy. I listened and nodded, an intimacy grew. By the time he got off, we were old friends-kind of. I knew more about him than I wanted to and he knew nothing about me. I felt tired. I wondered how a priest could keep doing this kind of thing day after day. I wondered what I would do when I got to where I was going. I didn't have a plan. Most of my bus trips were made without a plan in those days. Maybe I should have been the one confessing. But maybe I was too burdened to confess, too ashamed. It was not a good time in my life. And there was no one to understand. It was night by then. I decided that I couldn't begrudge him whatever relief his confession had brought him and granted him absolution in absentia and, lulled by the engine's hum, curled up in my darkened burrow and fell asleep.

Albert Huffstickler, 9.10.2000

### Rooted

If you wander, you make no connections, no place holds you, special is as common as raindrops and perhaps lovers; intimacy as rare as a permanent address. If you wander, you are inoculated against heartbreak, callouses rub on your heels, and walking away, you feel nothing. If you wander, everywhere is the next breath, every morning throws a different shadow, and, just maybe, the only longing you'll carry will be for the perfect cup of coffee you found back in Memphis. But for us who stay, who cling to tiny paths through the big picture, who hold bouquets of friends and rituals, for whom a bad dream tilts the house at a 45 degree angle, and change signals desperation, for us who stay, there is expectation of daily balm, there is safety in knowing who will fall from the trees and who will bloom in the garden and who will bake the cake. For us, we tie ourselves down, not admitting to that, but we tie ourselves to heavy furniture with strings of beads and scarves from every continent, we cling to one lover, brew one grind of coffee, collect the raindrops in buckets. We believe to the center of our souls that this place, and thus we, are special.

Nancy Taylor Day, 8.4.2007

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## Hyde Park Poets\_

## The Infernal Order

Good morning, unknown caller, and why do you think it's okay to call me before my first cup of coffee to ask for money? What is it that gives you the right to speak to me as if you know me, by my first name, when I'm probably old enough to be your mother? Who the hell do you think you are that you can burst through the center of my poem, gruff voice, all authority and boom and over friendliness? I think you're an irritant. I think you should leave this room with the mosquito that has been feeding on me for the past few days. The two of you, vampires under the skin, do mosquitoes have skin?, the two of you fly off together, or get squashed. Your choice.

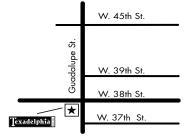
> Nancy Taylor Day 8.8.2007



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Address: 4530 Avenue H

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SULU

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Address: **5002 Avenue H** 

Listed For: \$525,000

SOLD

Historically inspired recent construction (2001). 3020 square foot 4 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom with a great two car garage and an automatic gate off the ally. Modern design & period charm. Hardwood flooring/tall ceilings/granite counters/arts and crafts interior detailing/huge family room.



Address: **4406 Avenue D** 

Listed For: \$309,000

**SOLD** 

Classic Hyde Park Bungalow on one of the best blocks in the neighborhood. Inviting front porch/recent updates/long leaf pine flooring/tall ceilings/custom lighting/large rear screened porch/remodeled bathroom/detached garage and shed area(perfect for a workshop or greenhouse).



Address: 608 East 46th Street

SOLD

Listed For: \$345,000

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