# February Meeting

#### HPNA General Meeting Agenda for February 5

Hybrid Meeting: In person at Griffin School (5001 Evans Avenue) and on Zoom Meeting Topic: 2024 HPNA Budget & Bikeways Project

- Discussion and Vote on Proposed 2024 HPNA Budget
- Presentation by Austin Transportation Department on the 46th and 47th Streets and Bennett-Middle Fiskville Neighborhood Bikeways project
- Philanthropy Spotlight: Mondra Wright, Volunteer Coordinator, Interfaith Action of Central Texas
- Announcements
   We hope to see you at the meeting!

Not an HPNA member? You're welcome to join the meeting anyway!

#### Join Zoom Meeting at 7 pm: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4738130850?pwd= V3hIKzhLVGxIVTNqVCtVTHVZeVZYUT09 Meeting ID: 473 813 0850 Passcode: 728004

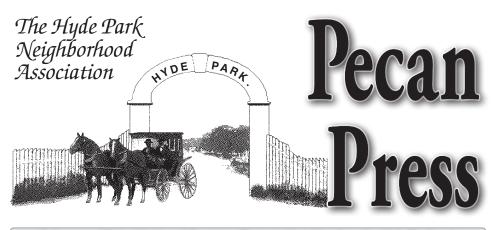
## Elisabet Ney Museum Kicks Off Effort to Fund Landscape Plan

At a January reception, the Friends of the Elisabet Ney Museum announced the public portion of its plan to match a \$25,000 challenge grant from the Still Water Foundation. This funding must be matched by July 12, 2024 and will help pay for an update to the museum's 2007 landscape plan.



Jack Nokes Introduces Fundraising Plan at Ney Reception, photo by Ulises Vela Garcia, City of Austin.

Continued on page 10



February 2024 • National Register District Neighborhood • Vol. 50, No. 2

# Save the Date

# It's My Park Day is March 2 at Shipe Park

Please plan to join your friends and neighbors for the annual, family-friendly cleanup and landscape maintenance of Shipe Park.

Come pitch in to improve our play areas, show love to our trees, clean up Waller Creek, and prepare the park for the year ahead. For parents, it's a perfect opportunity to teach kids the value of stewardship and volunteerism.



Friends of

Shipe Park (FOSP) will host It's My Park Day (IMPD) at Shipe Park on Saturday, March 2, from 10 am to 1 pm. Sign-up on the Austin Parks Foundation website will begin soon (see *https://austinparks.givepulse.com/ group/9012-Its-My-Park-Day-Spring*). Keep an eye out for more sign-up information and event updates on the FOSP website (*https://shipepark. org*), our Facebook page (*https://www.facebook.com/groups/friendsofshipepark/*), and the Hyde Park neighborhood list serve.

IMPD is a city-wide event organized by the Austin Parks Foundation to galvanize volunteers to improve our neighborhood parks. FOSP sponsors and helps organize the IMPD activities at Shipe Park. Every year it is a wonderful, well-attended community event that helps the park and brings neighbors together. Snacks will be provided by Quack's along with music by Blowcomotion. The Elisabet Ney Musuem will have a table explaining their upcoming events and landscape improvement initiatives. There is nothing like getting outdoors with a bunch of friendly folks to care for and improve our shared spaces. Come join us!

Work clothes, long sleeves, and water bottles are encouraged. Tools will be provided, but volunteers are welcome to bring garden tools if they have them. Make sure to label them with your name, so they make it home with you at the end! We can always use these things: work gloves, wheelbarrows, rakes, garden forks, shovels, and pitchforks.

# From the Desk of the President.

First, I want to thank Suzanna Walker, who stepped down as the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association's (HPNA) Co-Treasurer at the end of last year. Suzanna is a brilliant accountant and her talents and hard work will be missed. She still lives in the neighborhood and we hope to continue to seek her advice.

The HPNA Steering Committee held its first meeting of the new year. At that meeting HPNA Vice Presidents Paul Smith and Kathy Jackson lead the Steering Committee in a discussion about HPNA's recent accomplishments and HPNA's ideas and goals for the future.

Among recent accomplishments, the Steering Committee was proud of the HPNA's successful community events,

#### Hyde Park Neighborhood Association

#### P. O. Box 49427 • Austin, TX 78765 www.austinhydepark.org - HPNA Officers & Steering Committee -President

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Co-Vice Presidents
Kathy Jackson
Paul Smith
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Additional Steering Committee Members:
<ul> <li>Sharon Brown</li> <li>Stephen Gonzalez</li> <li>Holly Granato</li> <li>Lisa Harris</li> <li>Marsha Riti</li> <li>Katie Turner</li> </ul>
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· · · · · ·

including the Homes Tour, Fire Station Festival, Holiday Party, Ice Cream Social, and Bunny Parade. Steering Committee members also praised HPNA's technology coordinator Chris Wooster for the enhanced HPNA membership outreach and online meetings and communication. Everyone on the Steering Committee agreed that HPNA needs larger committees to support HPNA events and initiatives. There should also be an effort to get feedback from participants in HPNA events, as was done successfully with the survey Chris Wooster sent to Homes Tour participants.

Among the ideas for the future, Steering Committee members discussed reaching out to younger neighbors and young families by breaking down HPNA activities by age to attract different age demographics, for example, younger neighbors could be involved in graffiti clean-up, followed by a



HPNA Business Members র্জ ò Woodeye Construction and Design Suzanne Pringle, Realton JET of Texas: Carport, Patio, and Pool Shade Cover Chris Wooster Creative

#### **District 9 Contacts**

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Happy Hour at Lazarus Brewing. HPNA should continue to grow its social media presence. An emphasis should be placed on growing neighborhood leadership outside of the Steering Committee. To create greater community and team spirit, HPNA could sell t-shirts and other items with a new neighborhood logo. Regarding General Meetings, topics should be chosen to broaden member interest. Speakers should be given enforceable time limits prior to their presentations. The tradition of using yard signs to announce General Meetings could be revived.

#### Continued on page 14

#### Pecan Press The *Pecan Press* is published monthly by the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association in Austin, Texas. Advertusing deadline: 15th of the month preceding publication. Editorial deadline: 10th of the month preceding publication. Editor Lorre Weidlich lweidlich@mail2sevenseas.com Poetry Editor Charlotte Herzele herzele@gmail.com Puzzle Editor Steve Bratteng Production Manager & Advertising Director Robert M. Farr, 731-0617, rudeboy.robbo@gmail.com Payments for Ads HPNA, P.O. Box 49427, Austin, TX 78765 **Distribution Coordinator** Rimas Remeza, 4105 Ave. F, 371-3158, rimasx@yahoo.com Area Coordinators N of 45th/W of Duval • Rosa Maria Lopez Reed ... ... elsalvadorchrist@vahoo.com N of 45th/E of Duval • Jay Gerard & Carrie Laughlin . S of 45th/W of Speedway · Betsy Clubine. .betsyclubine@gmail.com S of 45th/E of Speedway Martha Campbell. 452-2815

#### APD Representative for Hyde Park

- Phillip Sparkman
- For the Baker District, call .... 512-974-5340

#### Submissions to Pecan Press

Send your articles, letters, and photos by the 10th of each month to Lorre Weidlich at lweidlich@mail2sevenseas.com.

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.



The Elisabet Ney Museum is so fortunate to rely on such a dedicated team of

museum educators, full time staff, and volunteers that help craft the story of Ney in heartfelt ways for audiences. The museum is dedicated to telling her story through audiencedriven tours and therefore each tour and exchange is one of a kind. This month, we would like to share



the voice of one such Elisabet Ney Museum docent, Sree Sen Bhasi aka Sree. Her fictional account of Ney's sculptures coming to life within Formosa's walls sheds light on the magic and allure of this 113 year old museum in new and dynamic ways. We hope you will enjoy this story, "A Night at the Elisabet Ney Museum."

#### A Night at the Elisabet Ney Museum

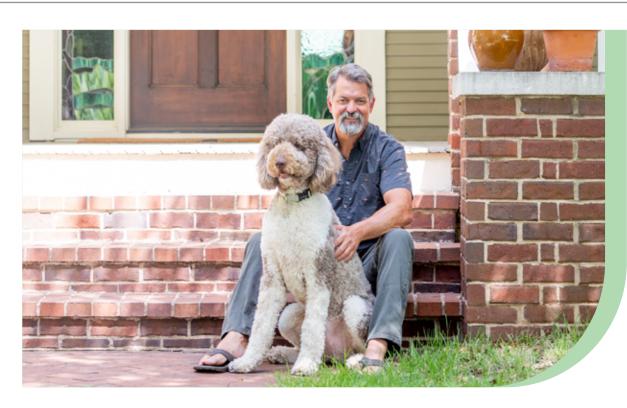
The Elisabet Ney museum in Austin is rather unique. It retains the aura of Elisabet, the firebrand and enormously talented woman sculptor from the 19th century. Like many of us, who left home and found a new country, she moved from the flourishing world of European art and culture and made Hyde Park, Austin, her new home. She was fiercely and independently creative, a social maverick, a sculptor of classic and exquisite tradition and talent. She broke ceilings hither and thither, left her mark on world sculpture and a museum that hosts a rare and fine collection of her works.

I love my time here as a docent. People drop in, curious about this niche museum that resembles a fortress, surrounded by an unruly prairie landscape. I see awe on the visitors' faces as they see the marble-white sculptures: Kind Ludwig II of Bavaria erect in his regalia; Prometheus chained to the rock; Lady Macbeth wringing her hands in distress; Stephen Austin and Sam Houston, standing tall, looking contemplative and pleased.

I tell the visitors about her remarkable life; often we talk more about her than the collection. People are awestruck at her achievements, at her progressive take on the world in 1800s. The museum is her original studio and home, built in 1890s. People want to know why she left Germany, her birthplace; who was this man she married and called her best friend; why did she end up in Texas of all places. The gray brick walls, the worn wood floor, and the narrow rustic stairway add to that romance.

#### Continued on page 7

Join and renew online at <i>www.austinhydepark.orgljoin.</i> • Secure online payment • Opt-in for auto renewal	Need to join by mail?         Complete and mail this form with cash or check (payable to HPNA) to HPNA, P.O. Box 49427, Austin, TX 78765.         Name:
Email reminders for renewals     Join for multiple years	Email (required):
Residents 18 or older living within the boundaries of Hyde Park are welcome to join. Current members may vote on HPNA resolutions concerning issues facing our community. New and lapsed members (over six months) must wait 30 days after dues payment to vote on HPNA resolutions.	Address:
Learn more about membership options and policies at <i>austinhydepark.</i> <i>org/join</i> or join us at a general meeting. HPNA does not share, sell, or publish any contact information; it's only	<ul> <li>New Member</li> <li>Renewing Member</li> <li>Membership Types (choose one):</li> <li>Individual, resident: \$5/year</li> </ul>
used for membership administration.	<ul> <li>Individual, resident. \$57 year</li> <li>Individual, non-resident (non-voting): \$5/year</li> <li>Senior, resident (65+): \$1/year</li> </ul>
Questions? Email hydeparkna@gmail.com. To receive reminders about HPNA events, email subscribe+hpna-notice@ googlegroups.com.	<ul> <li>Student, resident: FREE</li> <li>Business (non-voting): \$25/year</li> </ul>



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# Around & About the Avenues

**February Austin Marathon Runs through Hyde Park.** The marathon will take place on February 19. Early closures begin at 2 am and the race route closes at 6 am. Major cross streets remain open until runners arrive. The marathon will go north on Guadalupe, east on 38<sup>th</sup> Street, north on Speedway, east on 45<sup>th</sup> Street, south on Red River, west on 41<sup>st</sup> Street, and south on Duval. Street closures in and around Hyde Park include the following:

Street	From	То	Times	Status
Guadalupe	MLK Boulevard	W. 38 <sup>th</sup> Street	6 to 11:30 am	Northbound reduced to 1 lane. All lanes open southbound.
38th Street	Guadalupe	Speedway	6 to 11:30 am	Eastbound closed.
Speedway	38th Street	45th Street	6 to 11:30 am	Northbound closed.
45th Street	Speedway	Red River	6 to 11:30 am	Eastbound closed.
Red River	E. 45th Street	41st Street	6 to 11:30 am	Southbound closed.
41st Street	Red River	Duval	6 to 11:30 am	Closed.
Duval	41st Street	San Jacinto	6 am to 12 pm	Closed.

For more information, see the Austin Marathon Traffic Guide at *https://youraustinmarathon.com/traffic/*. It includes a section devoted to the Hyde Park area.

## 

**Hyde Park Neighbor Appears as Mother Ginger.** Avenue H neighbor Ann Graham appeared as Mother Ginger in Ballet Austin's 2023 production of the Nutcracker. Ann was given this honor in gratitude for her 10 years of service as Executive Director of Texans for the Arts, an advocacy group for the Texas arts community. Hyde Park neighbor and Austin Mayor Kirk Watson was also given this popular role in an earlier production of the ballet.

## 

Austin Classical Guitar ACGtalks Happy Hour. ACG presents its first happy hour of the new year on Thursday, February 1 at 6 pm, an opportunity to meet and engage with guitar superstar Xuefei Yang over delicious treats and drinks for free! To attend, RSVP at *https://austinclassicalguitar.org/event/acgtalks-happy-hour-xuefei-yang/?event=34942*.

# 

**City Council approves 2024 Heritage Preservation Grant to Baker Center.** In an article written by Kali Bramble on July 19, the Austin Monitor reported that Hyde Park's Baker Center was one of the recipients of a Heritage Preservation Grant funded by hotel occupancy tax dollars. City Council approved the grant on January 18. To read the article, see *https://www.austinmonitor.com/stories/2024/01/city-council-approves-2024-heritage-preservation-grants/.* 





# Monthly Calendar February

- 1 ACGtalks Happy Hour
- 5 HPNA General Meeting
- 9 Recycling Pickup
- 12 Steering Committee Meeting
- 19 Austin Marathon Comes to Hyde Park
- 23 Recycling Pickup

## March

2 — It's My Park Day at Shipe Park



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others are saying:

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#### A Night at the Ney... ...cont'd from page 3

As I tell tales of her life and work, her advocacy of women's rights and social justice, I hear her voice in my head, still strong, still as indomitable as ever.

Some evenings, after the last visitor has left and we close up and switch off the lights, I look over my shoulders; my neck tingles. I feel I am leaving behind an electrifying place, kind of like a monarch's crypt or an Egyptian tomb. I imagine movement and hushed whispers as darkness falls.

In my bed at night, I see more.

Elisabet descends from her large portrait on the wall and paces about in resolute strides, shaking her short dark curls in indignation at the ills of the world....

She stops by Prometheus.

"Why are you still in chains?" she shouts.

"Some chains cannot be broken," Prometheus answers, his face downcast.

"All chains must be broken," she shouts again. "We vote now, I mean the women, we have rights, we are heads of state; we choose our own education and career."

"Is that true everywhere?" Prometheus asks calmly.

Elisabeth snorts, a few curls fly upwards.

"You were tormented for too long; you have lost your sense of invincibility."

She walks over to Otto Von Bismarck.

"I really cannot tolerate the chaos that is enveloping the world," he says.

"The world was always in chaos," Elisabet replies. "Think of how I had to leave my country. Texas wasn't an easy place for someone like me. But, I made it mine, made it better."

"I wanted to set up the first welfare state. I see that practice is thriving in very few countries."

"Yes, yes, but too many problems aren't solved. Human rights are violated, political refugees are suffering, too many are marginalized because they are different, too much profiteering, women are still being held back, no one wants to read treatises written by people like Edmund. Too much needs fixing," her voice trembles.

"Elisabet," a faint voice calls out her name. Lady Macbeth wrings her hands.

"Help me to get the damned spot," she says.

Continued on page 9

#### People We Lost in 2023 Word Find by der Brat

PEOPLEWEHAVELOS T EKEDOUTALIFEEXIT RAINROKNIGHTASIF RCASEEZYELSERPER YRAMSCHOOLINGICU LOCOVIDGSTEINOME **G S A T U R N R U E X S P U R B** N B R H I R E G E A T F L U K E IYOELMEREERLEARN TANROOT S I RABOUT S T I N S A D J N Z C A S T T A W ALOENEEDCARETREE MACUMUMMBUTKUSOL BOOKLOREFARETRAC **CRABUFFETTROUGHH** AKITTENNEBRINGIT

[Numbers in parentheses = number of letters in answers]

- Lisa Marie \_?\_. King's daughter. (7) \_\_\_\_\_
   David \_?\_; NCIS doc. (8) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Richard \_?\_; original Shaft. (9) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Rosalynn \_?\_; Former 1st Lady. (6) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Matthew \_?\_; one of the Friends. (5) \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. Andre \_?\_; Det. Pembleton in Homicide.
  (8) \_\_\_\_\_
- Raquel \_?\_; Fuzzy britches in Shawshank Redemption.
   (5) \_\_\_\_\_\_
- 8. Bobby \_?\_; BB coach; infamous chair thrower. (6) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. Jimmy \_?\_; still looking for shaker of salt. (7) \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. Norman \_?\_; person for the American way. (4) \_\_\_\_\_
- 11. Paul \_?\_; Pee Wee! (7) \_\_\_\_
- 12. Tom \_?\_; Dick's "dumb" brother. (8) \_\_\_\_\_
- 13. Sandra Day \_?\_; first lady on SCOTUS. (7) \_\_\_\_\_
- 14. Henry \_?\_; I wonder who's him now. (9) \_\_\_\_\_
- 15. Ken \_?\_; missed Apollo 13, but got a ride on 16. (9) \_\_\_\_\_
- 16. Dick \_?\_; namesake of linebacker award.(6) \_\_\_\_\_\_
- 17. Dianne \_?\_; CA Senator. (9) \_\_\_\_
- 18. Tony \_?\_; left major organ in S.F. (7) \_\_\_\_
- 19. Andre \_?\_; Black pianist born in Nuremburg.(5) \_\_\_\_\_
- 20. David \_?\_; The C of CSNY. (6) \_\_
- 21. Suzanne \_?\_; American Graffiti's "blonde in T-bird" (6) \_\_\_\_\_
- 22. Vida \_?\_; colorful name for pitcher. (4) \_\_\_\_
  - Answers on page 14





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PENDING



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Austin Board of Realtors, MLS data shown is for Austin area addresses September, 2023



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#### A Night at the Ney... ...cont'd from page 7

"I can't. I can only fix cracks," she walks away.

"Not a crack but blood," says the Lady.

"Blood often makes the biggest cracks," Elisabet sighs.

She stands facing Ludwig II of Bavaria and lovingly touches his floral robe.

"I wish I was born now," says Ludwig in a child-like voice.

"Yes, Ludwig, some things would have been easier for you now," says Elisabet.

"Do people still listen to Wagner? Can we play some now?" he asks.

"No way to play any music here right now. It's a bloody museum."

"That's wonderful. You are immortal and people get to see your work," he laughs.

"I guess so. You have no idea how many millions go to see your Neuschwanstein every year." Ludwig sighs happily.

"I always knew. People cannot stay away from beauty and art." Stephen Austin snorts in the other room.

"Beauty and art did not create Texas. We had to fight hard."

"And the fight continues. Everywhere you see people are still fighting, for rights, for land, for statehood, for liberation from oppressors," Elisabet rattles on. She pauses and says, "Do you like the city they named after you?"

"I do. I think it's a fine city. I only brought 300 families; see how many have moved now. People are power. We must not forget that."

"People need leaders like you, Stephen," says Elisabet.



"People who love their country always know what to do. You must belong – passionately, wholeheartedly."

Elisabet walks away. She stops in front of Ludwig and sighs.

"You should be happy, Elisabet, you should be proud of all that you have achieved," says Ludwig, his voice calm and soporific. "It's time for us to sleep."

"But, there's too much that needs to be done," her voice is fretful.

"Leave that to those who are not in marble," he says.

Doves begin to coo in Hyde Park. Faint rays of first light fall on the northern windows.

All is quiet in the museum.

The End

Sree Sen Bhasin is an education technology professional

and a creative writer. She worked as a syndicated columnist for Tribune, India while also building an offshore division for an Austin-based tech start-up. Sree's adventures overseas led her to document her widely read stories of 'enchanting madness' in her blog: sreeatlarge.com. Her short stories have been published in literary magazines. Sree travels widely and loves her time as a docent in the Elisabet Nev Museum. Sree is a history buff, a cheese aficionado,

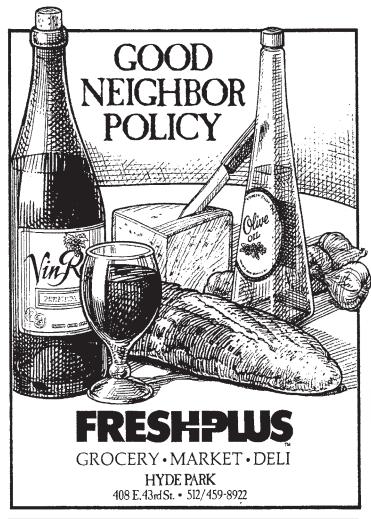


and an avid walker. She lives in Hyde Park and recently completed her debut novel.

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#### **Pecan Press Advertising Rates**

(E	ffective September, 2015	<b>b</b> )
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#### Hyde Park Neighbors –

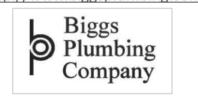
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## Friends of the Ney Fundraising... ...cont'd from page 1

The Friends have hired Ten Eyck Landscape Architects (TELA) and Catherine O'Connor (whose expertise is historic landscapes) to produce the plan which is set for completion late this spring. TELA founder Christy Ten Eyck and O'Connor attended the reception to discuss progress so far.



Reception to Introduce Ney Landscape Plan, photo by Ulises Vela Garcia, City of Austin.

To fund the landscape plan, the Friends have secured grants from the City of Austin Heritage Tourism Program (\$30K) and the Austin Parks Foundation (\$50K) as well as the \$25K challenge grant from the Still Water Foundation. Updating the landscape is part of a larger partnership between the Friends and the City of Austin to invest over \$3.5M in improvements to the museum over the next two years.

The Friends announced that the non-public portion of its fundraising campaign has already raised \$12,000 toward the \$25,000 match. The Friends hope to raise the rest from Hyde Park neighbors. Its public campaign kicked off in late January.

If you have not already heard from the Friends

and want to help, please contact Jack Nokes (*jacknokes*@ *gmail.com*) or donate online at *https:// austincf.fcsuite.com/ erp/donate/create/ fund?funit\_id=1773.* 

For more information about the museum, contact Site Coordinator Jade Walker (*jade.walker*@



QR Code for Donations

*austintexas.gov*) or go visit the museum at 44th Street and Avenue H.

The Friends is an unincorporated, all-volunteer group dedicated to supporting the Elisabet Ney Museum.

Page 10 – February 2024 – Pecan Press

# Lettuce Recycle! by Dena Houston



## Love my Coffee! A Recycling Challenge my curbside compost bin is really compostable? There

very morning, I waltz into my kitchen and make for myself my beloved cup of coffee. I use a pour-over plastic dripper with a paper filter and ground coffee. I compost my coffee and filter. I have often



considered the convenience of getting a Keurig, but cannot justify the K-cup expense and the fact that the cups are not recyclable. Here are some of the coffee-recycling challenges:

• *The Keurig Cup (K-Cup)*: It's so convenient! However, the number of K-Cups thrown into landfills today could wrap around the planet more that 10 times. This means that, with over 75 million homes brewing single-use pods every day, tens of billions of these pods end up in the landfill (source: The Story of Stuff Project).

K- Cups are not recyclable in our market because they are so small that they fall through the gaps in the conveyor belts. Also, they are not recyclable in most other markets.

Compostable pods can be purchased. These can go into the compost bin but they must be labeled BPI-Certified compostable.

- *Coffee Bean and Ground Coffee Bags:* Many coffee grinders provide a brown craft bag for their ground coffee. These bags are lined with plastic or cellophane and therefore are neither recyclable nor compostable. An Austin coffee company, Texas Coffee Traders, allows you to bring in your own bag for the coffee it grinds for you.
- Coffee Filters and Grounds: These can be placed directly into your

curbside compost collection cart or into your backyard compost



bin. If you have neither, the grounds are good for your garden.

• Reusable Coffee Cups: We have some wonderful coffee shops in Austin. Many provide ceramic mugs as an option to using paper cups (which are neither recyclable nor compostable). Be sure to request one or bring your own coffee mug with you.

• *Tea Bags:* Tea bags are compostable only if they are made of paper and not nylon or plastic. The staple needs to be removed.

#### **Questions and Answers**

How do I know if the plastic bag I want to use in

is a symbol on every box and bag that is certified compostable. It will say "BPI-CERTIFIED COM-POSTABLE BAGS." These are bags that have been tested and approved by Biodegradable Products Institute scientists to ensure the bags will break down completely, quickly, and safely during the organic composting process. Here is a picture of the symbol:



I have a compost bin in my backyard. Why do I need to use curbside composting?

- There are many things we should not put into our backyard compost bin that we can put in our curbside bin:
  - Meat, cooked and raw
  - Bones
  - Fish
  - Dairy products
  - Spoiled food
- There are many things that do not compost quickly when placed in a backyard bin that we can place in our curbside bin:
- Pizza boxes
- Paper towels
- Microwave popcorn bags
- Popsicle sticks
- Nut shells
- Avocado seeds
- Corn cobs

You can find a comprehensive guide to starting your own home composting system at *https://www*. austintexas.gov/homecompostguide.

#### **Please Remember:**

- When in Doubt, Throw it Out! Recycling and composting contamination is a huge problem. If you have exhausted all reuse possibilities and are still unsure, put the item into the trash can.
- Nothing Smaller than a Credit Card in the Blue Bin.
- 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 denahouston3309@gmail.com.

# Hyde Park Poets

Editor's Note: The *Pecan Press* is pleased to announce that its Poetry Editor, Charlotte Herzele, will shortly be publishing her second book of poetry. Readers who enjoy her work can check future issues of the *Pecan Press* to learn the exact date it appears. In the meantime, they can enjoy the following selections of her work, written between 2000 and today, and exhibiting the development and character of her work.

# Home for Flora and Fauna

The little cardinal comes to play. I wish out loud that she would stay, I love to watch her. I invite her. I hope she's looking here, To make her home.

Cardinals, I have been told, will return, year after year, to nest, to home, There used to be a pair that lived in the corner of the yard, but The freeze took their home, the subsequent heat brought new flora, Their corner is shaping up but, I am afraid they do not know it, Now this little lady is doing recon, I hope. I would love to host A happy pair of cardinals, once again. The purple castor plants provide some shady spots, There is greenery that has survived, and even thrived, They could be safe and build a nest, a place to rest. There is another resident, one I had not met, Until he showed up on the planter's edge, Emerging right out of the hedge, I called him Gomez, but I have no idea, If Gomez is a girl or guy, but Gomez is a Gecko, Or maybe a chameleon, bright green, In any case, I hope to see this one again. I'll write a story about the life of a lizard, In my garden growth, full of life it is. I wonder what it's like in there, in all the shrubbery, It's deep and dark, and full of shade. Looks safe enough, For little lizards, snails, and snakes and bugs, but, I have no idea. I can only imagine, and that is what I love the most, Imagining life in the jungle of the planters, Full of life and drama, I can only dream of.

> – Herzele 09/09/2023

# Evergreen

The leaves on the trees are bickering Like hens in the barnyard, The air is rife with particles, Riff raff rent from unsuspecting flora Fauna, too. Winter is coming Nature cannot bear to leave A trace of brilliance, her color Anywhere, every tree and flower, Every trace of living must be bare, With one exception, of course, The magnificent evergreens. At some point in the creation, Or sometime in history, Some deal must have been struck That spared the majesty of deep, Deep, evergreen, deep evergreen. No matter how bitter cold the wind Or bright the summer's glare, The seasons come and go and Come and go and yet the Evergreens are there. These little red and yellow hens Outside my bedroom window, Chattering and gnattering, They peck away the hour. Soon they will be so much Flotsam on the ground. The barren skeleton branches, So lonely will they stand Against a mixed background, A skyline, with buildings, roads, And signs and further, mountains, Evergreen always green, Evergreen.

> – Herzele 12/06/05

# Hyde Park Poets

# Thoughts While Walking on the Eve of the Longest Night

Selective flurries of random leaves Falling like premonitions of snowflakes Soft and gentle, the air still warm, Walking, on a made up mission, An excuse to not bail on a walk, Takes me on a mystical path, I wonder, if I watch for long enough, If the gracefully falling leaves, Each one distinct, will transition Into snowflakes, famous for none Resembling another – the leaves don't either, There seems to be an endless supply, The yellow ones come in a puffy drift The red ones seem to shudder, They drift, seemingly aimless, Reminiscent of young, infatuated girls, On the way to meet their lovers, Not in a hurry, perhaps a bit hesitant, Soon they will all meet, turn around and Around and soon they will touch the ground And the end of innocence will begin

> - Herzele 12/20/2020

# Never by Day

My mother never wore make-up during the day. At night, many nights, swathed in silk, Or some diaphanous swirl of fabric, Ah, then, she would construct her face, Her eyes, she would shape them With a blank brush She would lengthen her eye, her gaze, With liquid liner, black as night Her brow would extend Oh, you could follow it Into the stars, at night... Her lids, she would powder them, white Contrasting the black outline And she would place a dot, Ever so carefully, on her cheek, A seductive little surprise On her perfect, bronzed skin, And she would outline her lips, And paint them ruby red, And smile an ancient smile Of wisdom Right through me, Into the wild night, Bathed in chiffon and satin, Glittering in spangles, Sequins, and pearls Shimmering and rustling, She would go, Off she went, Into the night Shimmering, swirling Painted like the night If you could see the night.

Herzele
 1/14/00



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## It's My Park Day!... ...cont'd from page 1

FOSP meets for planning meetings on the first Sunday of every month at 3 pm and all are welcome! Our next meeting is February 4. Also, if you know an individual or business who would like to sponsor the work of FOSP, please ask that person or business to go to our website (*https://shipepark.org/contact/*) or our Facebook page (*https://www.facebook.com/groups/ friendsofshipepark*) for details on sponsorship levels and directions on how to contact us.

Can't wait to see you at the park!

 Miranda Grieder Friends of Shipe Park

### President's Letter... ...cont'd from page 2

The Steering Committee welcomes your thoughts about future HPNA events and goals. Please email your ideas to *hydeparkna@gmail.com*. We hope to see you at this month's General Meeting, when we will vote on HPNA's 2024 budget and hear a presentation about a very important bikeways project being built north of 45th Street.

> Kevin Heyburn HPNA President



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#### Word Find Answers from page 7

ANSWERS: 1)PRESLEY; 2)MCCALLUM; 3)ROUNDTREE; 4)CARTER; 5)PERRY; 6)BRAUGHER; 7)WELCH; 8)KNIGHT; 9)BUFFETT; 10)LEAR; 11)REUBENS; 12)SMOTHERS; 13)OCONNOR; 14)KISSINGER; 15)MATTINGLY; 16)BUTKUS; 17)FEINSTEIN; 18)BENNETT; 19)WATTS; 20)CROSBY; 21)SOMERS; 22)BLUE





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