

February Meeting

When: 7:00 pm
Monday, February 4, 2019

Where: Griffin School
5001 Evans Avenue

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

HPNA General Meeting Agenda for February

- Introductions
- Update: Shipe Pool Construction and Log Cabin Restoration
- Vote: New Steering Committee Member
- Local Nonprofit Highlight: Austin Club House mission and volunteer opportunities
- Announcements

It's My Park Day

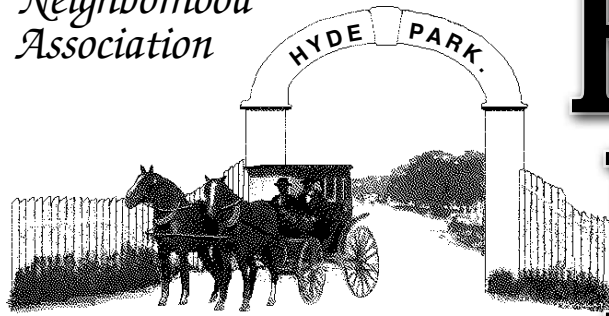
It's that time of year again! On Saturday, March 2, 2019, between 9am and noon, legions of neighborhood volunteers will celebrate and work together. This year however, because Shipe Park is tied up, the It's My Park Day team invites you to cross the street!

Come help to maintain the native landscape recreation and other parts of the Ney Museum grounds. Alongside specialists, identify and remove invasive species, promote healthy pollinator forage, plant tall grasses, and more. Learn tricks for your own backyard. And - no worries - conventional tasks like mulching, trail maintenance, creek clearing, and painting are also on the list. Music and refreshments will add to the fun! Please arrive at 8:45am, so that we can begin promptly at 9am.

Sponsors include the Austin Chapter of the Native Prairie Association of Texas, the Friends of the Elisabet Ney Museum, the Friends of Shipe Park, the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association, and Quack's Bakery as well as the Austin Parks Foundation and its major sponsors, Wheatsville Coop,

Continued on page 10

The Hyde Park
Neighborhood
Association



Pecan Press

February 2019 • National Register District Neighborhood • Vol. 45, No. 02

The Arts in Hyde Park Laurence Becker, Filmmaker

Long-time Hyde Park resident Laurence Becker's new film, *Fierce Love and Art*, demonstrates how art transformed the lives of seven persons with autism. The film also tells the stories of these artists' families: parents describe both the challenges and joys of raising a child with autism. Parents tell how they discovered their children's hidden talents, how those talents contributed to their children's happiness, and how the development of those talents helped scientists to better understand the creative process.



Laurence and Roseanne Becker

The film profiles Ping Lian Yeak, a painter from Malaysia and Australia; Tony DeBlois, a savant musician from Boston; Grant Mainer, a paper collage artist from Houston; Richard Wawro, a painter from Scotland; Christophe Pillaut, a painter from France; Kimberly Dixon, a non-verbal poet and painter from Round Rock; Erik Warren, a woodcarver from Kansas; and Seth Chwast, an artist from Cleveland Heights, Ohio. The film also features Ron Sandison, a medical professional and professor of theology, who used his own experiences growing up with autism to write the book *A Parent's Guide to Autism: Practical Advice*.

Laurence Becker says his interest in artists with autism began in 1976 when he attended the International Film Festival on Psychiatry and Culture in San Antonio. While there, he saw a ten minute BBC-produced documentary film about the Scottish artist Richard Wawro. The film told the story of how Wawro, a man who is both autistic and blind, become an accomplished artist. Laurence was particularly fascinated by one of Wawro's prints displayed at the festival, *Moonlight over Scottish Hills*, which reminded Laurence of Van Gogh's *Starry Night*.

Laurence visited Scotland to meet Wawro and his family. Shortly thereafter, Laurence decided to make his own film about Wawro's life

Continued on page 7

From the Desk of the Co-Presidents



Greetings! As we write, progress on the Shipe Pools is visible - concrete has been poured in the kiddie pool and the contractors are preparing to pour concrete into the big pool. We're sure you are as interested as we are about when the pool will be finished and ready for the first splash. To this end, the Friends of Shipe Park - who have championed and led community engagement around this project from its inception - will be at the HPNA meeting on February 4 to give us an update on the progress and to answer any questions you might have. We will all reap the benefits of this project come summer, but, right now, we thank you for your patience with the ongoing construction and disruption to normal park activities.

Two activities that are normally held at the park are the Egg Scramble and It's My Park Day. After considering alternative locations to host our annual Egg Scramble, we concluded that there isn't a large enough space to hold the event where small children can run around safely. So, we are cancelling this event and look forward to its return in 2020! It's My Park Day, however, will continue in a new, but very close by, location: the Ney Museum. Come out and pitch in on March 2!

After our January hiatus, we will have our first general meeting

of 2019 in February and are pleased to introduce a new regular feature. Every other month this year, we will feature a neighborhood (or neighboring) non-profit organization and offer meeting attendees a chance to learn more about the great work taking place in Austin and to explore opportunities to volunteer in our community. Please join us as we explore ways we can give back, whether you're fulfilling a 2019 New Year's resolution or continuing years of commitment. If you have suggestions for organizations we should feature, we welcome them!

See you on February 4.

— Best,
Sarah Cook and
Betsy Clubine
HPNA Co-Presidents



Hyde Park Neighborhood Association

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

— HPNA Officers & Steering Committee —

Co-Presidents
• Betsy Clubine.....betsyclubine@gmail.com
• Sarah Cook.....cooksicle@gmail.com

Vice President
• Paula Rhodes

Co-Secretary • Susan Marshall.....pro47f@att.com

Acting Co-Secretary • Bonnie Neel.....bonnie.neel@georgetownmtg.com

Co-Treasurers • PO Box 49427, Austin, TX 78765
• Susanna Walker.....suzwalkercpa@gmail.com
• Lorre Weidlich.....lweidlich@grandecom.net

Additional Steering Committee Members:
• Margo Carrico • Artie Gold • Lisa Harris • Kevin Heyburn • Dorothy Richter • Charlie Sawtelle • Phil Siebert

— HPNA Committees & Task Forces —

Austin Independent School District • vacant

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

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

Austin Neighborhoods Council Rep. • Lorre Weidlich, lweidlich@grandecom.net

Church-Neighborhood Liaison • Kevin Heyburn, kmheyburn@gmail.com

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 • Kevin Heyburn, kmheyburn@gmail.com

Graffiti Patrol • Lisa Harris, ljharris@yahoo.com

Historic Preservation • Joan Burnham, jigiburnham@gmail.com

Homes Tour • Ellie Hanlon, ellie.hanlon@gmail.com
• Dave Bowen, Davidbowen@hotmail.com

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

Outreach and Communications • vacant

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

Social Events Coordinator • Sarah Cook, cooksicle@gmail.com

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

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

Website • Graham Kunze, grahamkunze@gmail.com

Pecan Press

The *Pecan Press* is published monthly by the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association in Austin, Texas.
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(width X height)		
Back Cover	(7.5" X 10")	400.00
Full Page	(7.5" X 10")	300.00
1/2 Page	(7.5" X 5")	190.00
1/4 Page	(3.63" X 5")	100.00
1/6 Page	(3.63" X 3.25")	80.00
1/9 Page	(3.63" X 2.25")	60.00
1/12 Page	(3.63" X 1.63")	50.00

Austin Police Department Hyde Park Liaison

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512-802-4922 (pager)
Natalia Lee, Auto Theft Division.....
512-974-1346..... natalia.lee@austintexas.gov

February Vote for Steering Committee Vacancy

The Hyde Park Neighborhood Association Nominating Committee has nominated Joan Burnham to fill the vacant seat on the Steering Committee created by one of our members who is moving out of state mid-term. Heather McGrail, who was elected in October, is moving away from Hyde Park and back to the community outside of New Orleans where she grew up. We wish Heather well in her transition back to NOLA.

We are grateful to Joan for her willingness to step back onto the HPNA Steering Committee to fill the remainder of Heather's term through 2020. Joan served one term as a Steering Committee member from 2015 to 2017, and she also has leadership experience in the North University Neighborhood Association. A vote will be held on Joan's nomination at the HPNA Meeting on February 4.

The HPNA Nominating Committee wants to take this opportunity to invite people who would like to get involved in the work of the neighborhood to contact us to discuss the best way to become engaged. We are always eager to place good people into roles to lead and support community events, build a stronger sense of community in Hyde Park, and develop the character of our neighborhood community. Please email us if you are interested in this work!

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


Monthly Calendar

February

- 1 — Recycling Pickup
- 2 — Landscape First Saturday at the Ney
- 4 — HPNA Meeting
- 7 — DRC Meeting
- 11 — Steering Committee Meeting
- 14 — Happy Valentine's Day!
- 15 — Recycling Pickup

March

- 2 — It's My Park Day



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Membership Information

- Membership in HPNA is open to all residents 18 years or older residing within the boundaries of Hyde Park or within 300 feet of its boundaries.
- All memberships expire on September 30th of each year.
- New members and members who lapse in dues for over six months are eligible to vote at HPNA meetings 30 days after receipt of dues.
- Membership dues can be paid in several ways: By signing up at an HPNA meeting or event, by mailing in the membership form, or by joining online using PayPal. To pay online, go to www.austinhypark.org and click on the **Join Now** button. Dues paid online are \$6.

Submission Information

- Send your articles, letters, and photos by the 10th of each month to Lorre Weidlich at lweidlich@grandecom.net.
Opinion articles & letters to the editor must not exceed 500 words.
- Send your poems to Charlotte Herzele at herzele@gmail.com.
All poems, even if written under a pen name, must include a name and contact information for identification and verification purposes.
- Send your contributions to "Kids Corner" to Tony Barnes at tbarnes@sasaustin.org.

Hyde Park Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

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Dues per Person Standard - \$5/yr. Check
 Senior - \$1/yr. Cash

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 Renewing Member Amount _____

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	2016	2017	2018
NUMBER OF HOMES SOLD	31	31	31
AVERAGE SALES PRICE	\$623,514	\$595,595	\$689,967
AVERAGE SQ FT	2,079	1,699	1,829
MAX PRICE SOLD	\$1,150,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,250,000
MEDIAN DAYS ON MARKET	9 DAYS	14 DAYS	9 DAYS

All statistics & square footage are from Austin MLS for Single Family Residence taken 01/07/2019 from the Austin MLS. For detailed market information about your home, contact Sam Archer, Broker.



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Around & About the Avenues

Hyde Park Seniors Needed for Architecture Study. Texas A&M architecture graduate student Sinan Zhong is looking for volunteers, 65 or more years old, to participate in a study of the influence of neighborhood (social and physical) environment on active and healthy aging in place. It would require filling out a 30-minute survey either online or on paper. Paper surveys are available at the Lamar and South Austin Senior Activity Centers; the online survey can be accessed at survey.healthagingtexas.org.



Passing of Long-Time Hyde Park Personage. Pete Gaitan, Senior, long-time owner of Gaitan's Barber Shop in Duval Center, passed away in early January, 2019. Pete founded Gaitan's Barber Shop in 1954 and maintained it until he retired several years ago and passed it on to Phyllis Nunez. Many Hyde Park residents will remember going to Gaitan's regularly for haircuts. Pete's funeral was held in San Marcos, Texas, where he lived.



Additional Contributors to Shipe Park. The Friends of Shipe Park reported several new contributors to the matching fund for their Austin Parks Foundation grant, at the Shipe Friends level: Adam and Caroline Wilson and Lauren Tate.



Hyde Parkers Selected for City of Austin Design Standards Working Group. Three Hyde Park residents were selected to participate in the City of Austin Design Standards Working Group. The purpose of the group is to create a set of universal design standards for local historic districts, to simplify the work of the City of Austin Preservation Office and the Historic Landmark Commission in reviewing applications for changes to contributing structures and new construction in local historic districts. The Hyde Park participants are Karen McGraw, preservation architect and Planning Commission member; Paula Rhodes, preservation architect and Texas Historical Commission employee; and Lorre Weidlich, former chair of the Hyde Park local historic district project.



Austin Marathon Coming Through Hyde Park. On Sunday, February 17, Hyde Parkers should be prepared for the Austin Marathon. Runners will make their way north on Guadalupe, east on 45th Street, south on Red River, west on 41st Street, and south on Duval. The course will begin to close to motor vehicles at 6am in preparation for the 7am start and will reopen on a rolling schedule following the final runner. For traffic details, see youraustinmarathon.com/traffic.



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Website: healthagingtexas.org



Foxes in Hyde Park. Readers of the neighborhood listserv and NextDoor have seen postings about sightings of foxes in the neighborhood. Apparently, Waller Creek can still act as



Photo by David Ben-Zvi

a wildlife corridor. This picture of a fox casually lounging in a backyard at Fairfield Lane and Eilers Avenue was taken on November 17 by David Ben-Zvi.



Hyde Park Arts Organizations Covered in Local Media.

Visit Austin, on its website, included Hyde Park Theatre's Frontera Fest on its list of the top January events and exhibits. It describes Frontera Fest as "... a five-week, citywide fringe theater festival featuring more than 800 local and national artists." For the complete list, see www.austintexas.org/austin-insider-blog/post/top-january-events/.

The Austin Chronicle previewed the Elisabet Ney Museum's exhibit, Women of Flatbed: A Retrospective, in its January 11 article, "Celebrating the Women of Flatbed Press at PrintAustin 2019." Author Robert Faires described the genesis of the exhibit thusly: "The idea for the Flatbed show came from the Ney's museum site coordinator, Oliver

Continued on page 11

*Driving a minivan full of kiddos
to see the Hoover Dam?*

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Laurence Becker...

...cont'd from page 1

and art. That film, *With Eyes Wide Open*, went on to receive three international and four national film awards, and it was one of the films Dustin Hoffman studied prior to playing his Oscar-winning role in the film *Rain Man*.

This past year Laurence premiered his second documentary film, *Fierce Love and Art*, in Austin. He hopes the film will soon be ready for distribution and entry into festivals. Laurence is also planning an exhibit of original art by the artists portrayed in his film. *Fierce Love and Art* has already received great reviews. Steve Edelson, the Director of San Diego's Autism Research Institute, called *Fierce Love and Art* "a powerful testament on how individuals on the autism spectrum and their families can improve their lives and how the world as a whole can benefit greatly from their brilliance, beauty, and persistence." Karen Simmons, co-author of *Chicken Soup for the Soul*, called the film "a powerful testament."

Laurence Becker grew up in Hyde Park and attended Lee Elementary School. He now lives in the same house in which he grew up. He was the long-time chairman of the English department at St. Stephen's Episcopal School. While at St. Stephens, he founded the Texas Student Film Festival. He has a PhD in Creative Learning Environments and has worked with autistic savants for over 40 years. In 2000 he directed an International Gathering of Savants at the University of Texas.

He and his wife Roseanne have been married for 58 years, have three children and one grandchild, and are active with the HPNA and in the greater Austin community. At age 82, Laurence pursues an active athletic life. This year he will begin training for his tenth bike ride in the 20th Hill Country Ride for AIDS.

— Kevin Heyburn

Editor's Note: Laurence Becker's film, *Fierce Love and Art*, was one of the films featured at the Autism Film Festival in November, 2018. For an article about the festival, including Laurence's comments, see <http://www.kut.org/post/festival-promotes-acceptance-and-awareness-autism-through-film>.

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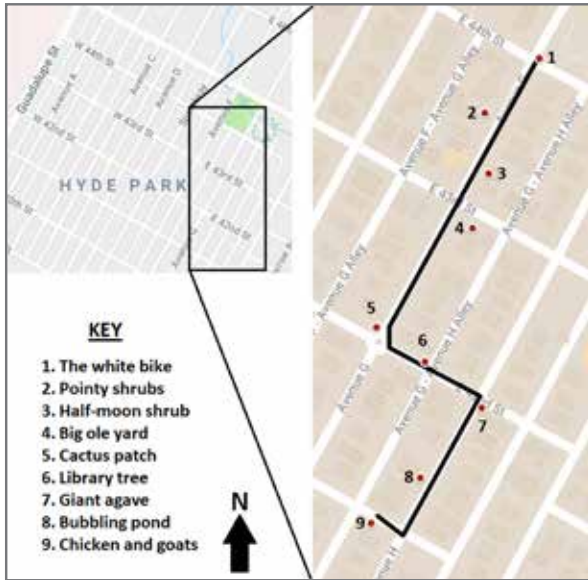
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Kid's Corner: Outdoor Fun!

Hello, and welcome to the Kid's Corner! Here each month you will find things like a comic strip, geography riddles, geocache coordinates, highlights, and hiking routes through Hyde Park. Get outside and have some fun!

Hike and Seek

Can you walk the route and find all of the items?



Geography Riddles

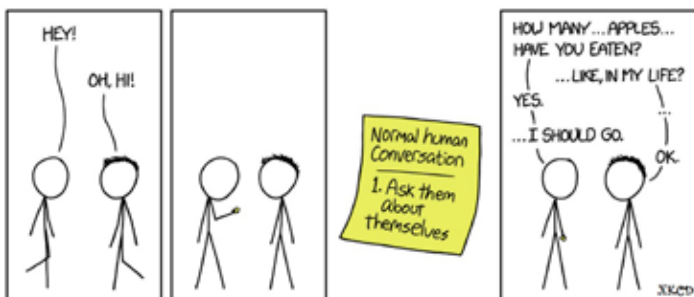
- Which city would be the best place to hire a lawyer?
- This should be worn when dressing up like Superman.
- Which national park do the world's best athletes visit?
- What European capital should you go to find green vegetable sprouts?

Answers on page 10.

February Highlight

Pease District Park, 1100 Kingsbury Street, is 42 acres and one of Austin's oldest parks. Get out and run, hike, or just stroll around. The playground at the entrance of Kingsbury Commons welcomes you and also includes plenty of space for a picnic. Included in a hike around the trail system is an interactive art installation that will keep you entertained while you get some fresh air with your exercise.

Comic



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Shipe Park Log Cabin: An Update

After a few starts and stops due to weather and inaccessibility due to the pool construction, the renovation of the beloved Shipe Log Cabin is well underway. Phase 1, which included removal of the chinking and installation of new decking, zinc flashing, and traditional shake shingles, is nearing completion. Phase 2 will include new chinking, perimeter drainage work, new lighting, cleaning of the logs, and application of a natural sealant to protect the wood from future deterioration.

The materials for the reconstruction of the cabin were vetted and selected (with approval from Friends of Shipe Park) by a team from the city spearheaded by Kim McNight, the Historic Preservation and Conservation Program Manager for PARD. They are in keeping with the original structure as much as possible. As with all new construction, even construction using period techniques and materials, it will take some time for the new wood and metal to acquire that aged look, but we are confident it will patina nicely.

Many thanks to James Nolan Construction and PARD Project Managers George Maldonado and Mike Jones for keeping the project rolling. A tip of the hat to the G Hyatt

Construction Company, which is building the pool, for working with us during their "big dig," and to the generous community members like you who have contributed so much towards restoring the Log Cabin to its rightful role as the "gathering place of Hyde Park." This and other park improvements couldn't happen without YOU!

— Alison Young
Friends of Shipe Park

Answers to Geography Riddles: Sioux City, Cape of Good Hope, Olympic, Brussels

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

GSD&M, the Austin Parks and Recreation Department, the Austin Watershed Protection Department, and others.

All volunteers who register online at www.austinparks.org get a free T-shirt, so register early. Hard to plan that far out? Last minute volunteers are always welcome.

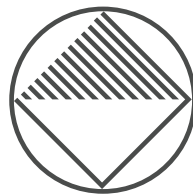
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For more information, contact Alison Young at alison@alisonyoungdesign.com or Oliver Franklin at oliver.franklin@austintexas.gov.



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Around & About the Avenues

...cont'd from page 5

Franklin, who pulled fellow Ney staffer Lindsay Barras in on the project, and they teamed with Flatbed Associate Director Annalise Gratovich and Preparator Mike Brimberry to review and select the works. Their aim was to show both the wide variety of art created through the years and the evolution of participation by women. 'After all, there were only a couple of women working with Flatbed back in its early days, compared to nearly half of the printers today,' says Franklin." Go to www.austinchronicle.com/arts/2019-01-11/celebrating-the-women-of-flatbed-press-at-printaustin-2019/ to read the entire article.



Austin CultureMap Cites Hyde Park Restaurant for Happy Hour. In its article, "7 trusty Austin neighborhood restaurants with tried-and-true happy hours," on January 9, Austin CultureMap included Hyde Park restaurant *Vino Vino*. Writer Brandon Watson described *Vino Vino* as "already a neighborhood favorite." For the complete list, see <http://austin.culturemap.com/news/restaurants-bars/01-09-19-7-austin-neighborhood-restaurants-with-happy-hour-deals-nightcap-foreign-domestic-cavalier/>.

News from the Ney

February launches with another Landscape First Saturday at the Ney on Saturday, February 2, from 10 to noon, with the help of the Native Prairie Association of Texas (NPAT), Austin Chapter.

The Ney's Native Historic Landscape recreation, now in its tenth year, has had a robust youth. Much has been learned – its topography, its soils, its trees, its nuances, and more. Some species thrive in one zone, while others prefer it elsewhere. Trees, bushes, vines, flowers, grasses: all have their sweet spot – pollinators, birds, and bunnies, too. All told, it's more a symphony than a song, and it's now clearer than ever. And, like a symphony, it takes folks with specific interests and specialties to orchestrate it properly. It requires a producer, a conductor, and a stage manager. Together, the NPAT, along with PARD staff and volunteers, have learned to produce the most beautiful, satisfying, effective, and healthy "symphony-scape" imaginable.

In concert with this change, come celebrate It's My Park Day 2019 on Saturday, March 2 at the Ney Museum! Information about signing up and details for volunteers can be found elsewhere in this issue.

Afterwards, enjoy the new Elisabet Ney Nature Day! On Saturday, March 2, from 1 to 4, find fun nature activities, booths from outdoor organizations, food, live music, and more. Look for details on this event in the next edition of *Pecan Press*.

Inside the museum, see the terrific special exhibition, *Women of Flatbed: A Retrospective*, featuring work collected from thirty years of production. This exhibit will remain on display through April 28, 2019 and is part of Print Austin's 2019 celebration.



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Hyde Park Neighbors –

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HYDE PARK & NORTH UNIVERSITY HOMES GALLERY



4211 AVENUE F
 Spacious 1923 Victorian house plus garage apartment on oversized lot, 75' x 125'. House has 4 BR, 3 BA, 2 LIV, screened porch. Apartment is 1 BR, 1 BA. Bonus workshop.
 Listed at \$1,150,000



4301 AVENUE D
 One of Hyde Park's original grand residences. 1914 Craftsman style home on over-sized corner lot in heart of historic district. 4 BR, 3 BA, 3 LIV. Wrap-around porches.
 Listed at \$1,185,000



4506 AVENUE C
 1910 Folk Victorian with many recent updates— foundation, roof, plumbing, wiring. 2 BR, 1 BA plus detached 1 BR/ 1BA casita/guest house.
 Listed at \$459,000



4302 AVENUE G
 Charming 1920s multi-family investment property located in prime location near Shipe Park. Three separate units, on-site parking, many recent updates.
 Listed at \$750,000



107 EAST 48 1/2 STREET
 Available now! 3 BR, 2 BA, laundry room with washer/dryer, storage room, carport, fenced backyard. Near bus route and intramural field. Short term lease possible.
 Listed at \$1,800/mo



4809 AVENUE H
 Two adorable homes on one lot. Main house is 3 BR, 2 BA, with new kitchen & baths. One-story guest house has 1 BR, 1 BA. Ideal for rental or extended family.
 Listed at \$649,000



4009 AVENUE D
 Classic 1925 Hyde Park bungalow in heart of historic district. 2 BR, 1 BA, updated kitchen and hall bath, utility porch. Wood floors throughout. One-car garage.
 Listed at \$529,000



4202 AVENUE C
 Cute 1920s Hyde Park bungalow featuring 2 BR, 1 BA plus separate 1 BR, 1 BA garage apartment. Both have hardwood floors and many recent updates.
 Listed at \$529,500

Hyde Park & North University homes continue to be in high demand and are selling quickly! Call your neighborhood expert today for a complimentary market analysis and customized marketing plan for your property.

Suzanne Pringle

Broker, REALTOR®

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