

# May Meeting

## HPNA General Meeting Agenda for May 2

**Hybrid Meeting:** In person at Griffin School Auditorium (5001 Evans Avenue 78751)

- Welcome
- Philanthropic Spotlight: Rob Faubion, Chief Community Engagement Officer, AGE of Central Texas (<https://ageofcentraltx.org/>)
- Updates on IH35: Brendan Wittstruck
- HPNA budget authorization vote: Kevin Heyburn\*
- Recent and upcoming HPNA highlights and activities
- Announcements

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

**Join Zoom Meeting at 7 pm at**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4738130850?pwd=V3hlKzhLVGxIVTNqVctVTHVZeVZYUT09>

**Meeting ID:** 473 813 0850

**Passcode:** 728004

**One tap mobile**

+13462487799,,4738130850#,,,,\*728004#  
US (Houston)

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\*The HPNA membership will vote on a resolution detailing which dollar amounts of spending may be authorized on behalf of the association by an officer of the association, which dollar amounts require Steering Committee approval, and which dollar amounts must be voted on by the membership.

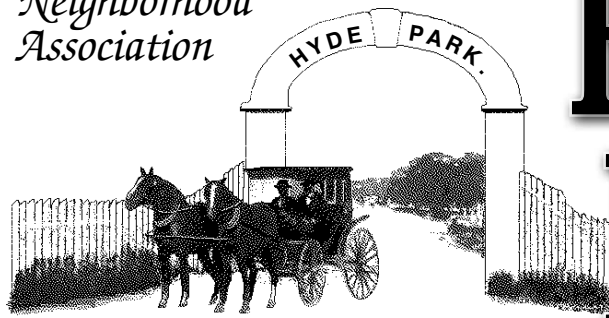
## Make a Plan to Vote in May!

April showers bring May flowers - and elections! Hopefully, you voted in the March primary, and surely you know there's a big election in November. What you may not know is that there are two more important elections in the month of May.

On May 7, Texas holds local and constitutional amendment elections, and Hyde Park residents have two state constitutional amendments and one City of Austin proposition on the ballot.

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The Hyde Park  
Neighborhood  
Association



# Pecan Press

May 2022 • National Register District Neighborhood • Vol. 48, No. 5

## In Memoriam: Oliver Franklin

Oliver Franklin, curator of the Elisabet Ney Museum, passed away April 4 after a four year battle with cancer. He was 60.



Oliver Franklin in front of the Elisabet Ney Museum, Photo courtesy of Friends of the Elisabet Ney Museum

During his ten years at the Ney Museum, Franklin kick-started a new level of activity for the historic home and studio of sculptor Elisabet Ney, the iconoclastic German-born artist who settled in Austin in 1892. Through programming, he raised the visibility of the Hyde Park museum, making it an active part of the Austin contemporary arts landscape.

Franklin developed an active exhibition program, showcasing more than 90 female artists - the majority sculptors - both within the museum and on the grounds in innovative public installations. A tireless and enthusiastic supporter of artists, Franklin is remembered for his work that helped artists realize their projects.

During the pandemic, when many institutions were closed, he made it possible for Austin artist Jade Walker to realize a long-developed body of outside sculpture. "Oliver took my project with kindness and love and gave

Continued on page 7

# From the Desk of the Co-Presidents



Welcome to the summer! Hyde Park's kids will soon be out of school to enjoy the holidays! And with these hot months comes the opening of the Shipe Pool, and hopefully, for most of us, a chance to travel to the beach or some other fun spot to enjoy a nice vacation.

While the three of us all hope to go on a vacation, there should be at least one of us in Hyde Park this summer to host the monthly HPNA membership meetings. Those meetings will continue in their hybrid (online and in-person) format. So wherever you are this summer, if you have a computer or smartphone, you will be able to join us.

During the summer we will be discussing ways to increase HPNA membership and membership

participation. Our top priority will be finding at least two new Membership Directors, as our longtime Membership Director Karen Saadeh and her Co-Director John Williams are stepping down from those roles. Before Karen and John depart, we plan to work with them and their successors on improving the maintenance of our membership data. We are also exploring ideas to modernize our voting process, especially for those members who are attending meetings and voting online.

If you have an interest in assisting in membership, whether serving in a leadership role or volunteering to help with specific aspects of membership, we welcome your assistance.



## Hyde Park Neighborhood Association

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

– HPNA Officers & Steering Committee –

### Co-Presidents

- Michele Grieshaber..... mgrashopper001@gmail.com
- Lisa Harris ..... ljharrisus@yahoo.com
- Kevin Heyburn..... kmheyburn@gmail.com

### Co-Vice Presidents

- Kathy Jackson
- Paul Smith

Secretary • Ben Reid ..... bried@utsystem.edu

Co-Treasurers • PO Box 49427, Austin, TX 78765

- Susanna Walker..... suzwalkercpa@gmail.com
- Lorre Weidlich..... lweidlich@mail2sevenses.com

### Additional Steering Committee Members:

- Betsy Clubine • Stephen Gonzalez • Peniel Joseph • Marsha Riti • Katie Turner • Brendan Wittstruck • Chris Wooster •

– HPNA Committees & Task Forces –

### ASH (joint HPNA-CT committee)

- John Williams ..... jawilli@grandecom.net

### Austin Neighborhoods Council Rep.

- Lorre Weidlich..... lweidlich@mail2sevenses.com

### Church-Neighborhood Liaison

- Phil Seibert..... phil.seibert@gmail.com

### Crime & Safety • Carol Welder, cjwelder@msn.com

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### Development Review • David Conner, daypaycon@yahoo.com

Finance • David Conner, daypaycon@yahoo.com

### Flooding • Kevin Heyburn, kmheyburn@gmail.com

### Graffiti Patrol • Lisa Harris, ljharrisus@yahoo.com

### Historic Preservation • Joan Burnham, jgiburnham@gmail.com

### Homes Tour • Kip Dollar, kipdollar@aol.com

- Chad Crow, chad@secondlabelwine.com

### Membership • Karen Saadeh, kdmatthis@gmail.com

- John Williams, jawilli@grandecom.net

### Neighborhood Planning • Karen McGraw, mcgrawka@earthlink.net

### Nominating • Adam Wilson adam@griffinschool.org

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

### Social Events Coordinator • (Open)

### 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. Advertising deadline: 15th of the month preceding publication. Editorial deadline: 10th of the month preceding publication.

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S of 45th/E of Speedway

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## APD District Representative for Hyde Park

Darrell Grayson.....512-974-5242  
Darrell.Grayson@austintexas.gov

The Steering Committee is planning to hold a short retreat at Griffin School. At that meeting, we will discuss ways to invite new neighbors into HPNA and ways to identify opportunities to get current members to take on leadership roles. We also plan to discuss how HPNA can better communicate with everyone in the neighborhood. We will have more information about what we discussed at the retreat in a subsequent issue of the *Pecan Press*.

As many of you know, the rezoning case involving developer Blake Thompson's plans for the old post office parking lot at 4303 and 4307 Speedway had been scheduled to go before the City of Austin's Planning Commission on April 12. A number of neighbors had signed-up to speak at that meeting. However Mr. Thompson requested a postponement of that case. We will monitor the Planning Commission's schedule and be prepared if and when the rezoning case is rescheduled.

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## Pecan Press Advertising Rates

(Effective September, 2015)

Size	(width X height)	Price
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

# Hyde Park Homes Tour Returns

Sunday, November 13, 2022

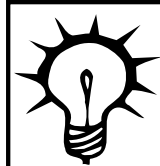
Will mark the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association's 43rd annual Historic Hyde Park Homes Tour. The event was canceled in 2020 and again last year due to COVID concerns. The tour is a signature event of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association and raises funds for neighborhood activities and preservation efforts such as the restoration of the log cabin in Shipe Park, all while highlighting the rich history of Hyde Park. This year, we are excited to include the recently renovated Baker School purchased by Alamo Draffhouse and several Austin landmark houses.



The tour committee welcomes your participation. We need volunteers to serve as researchers, docents, and house captains. Volunteers will receive a free pass to the day's events. To learn more about how you

can volunteer to be a part of this fun event, contact Kip Dollar ([kipdollar@gmail.com](mailto:kipdollar@gmail.com)). We are also looking for local businesses to sponsor and advertise in the tour booklet. For information on advertising rates and opportunities, please contact Susan Marshall ([pro47f@att.net](mailto:pro47f@att.net)).

– Kip Dollar  
Homes Tour Co-Chair



**Pecan Press is online at**  
[www.austinhypark.org](http://www.austinhypark.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.
- University students are free.
- All memberships expire on September 30th of each year.
- New members and members who lapse in dues for over six months are eligible to vote at HPNA meetings 30 days after receipt of dues.
- Membership dues can be paid in several ways: By signing up at an HPNA meeting or event, by mailing in the membership form, or by joining online using PayPal. To pay online, go to [www.austinhypark.org](http://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@mail2sevens.com](mailto:lweidlich@mail2sevens.com).  
*Opinion articles & letters to the editor must not exceed 500 words.*
- Send your poems to Charlotte Herzele at [herzele@gmail.com](mailto:herzele@gmail.com).  
*All poems, even if written under a pen name, must include a name and contact information for identification and verification purposes.*

## Hyde Park Neighborhood Association Membership Form

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Dues per Person     Standard - \$5/yr.     Check  
                            Senior - \$1/yr.         Cash  
                            Student - Free  
                            New Member         Date \_\_\_\_\_  
                            Renewing Member    Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:  
 HPNA Membership  
 P.O. Box 49427  
 Austin, Texas 78765  
 Make checks payable to HPNA.





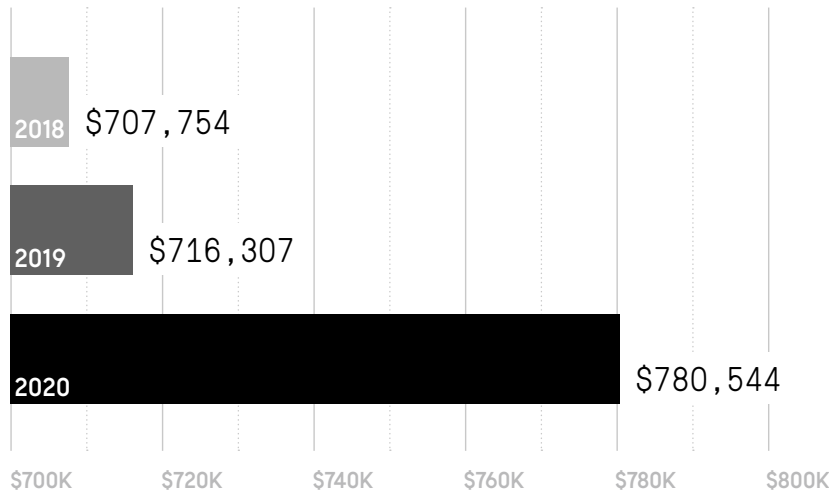
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# The Hyde Park Specialist

Sam Archer, Juice Real Estate Group  
512.633.4650 | [sam.archer@compass.com](mailto:sam.archer@compass.com)

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

## Average Sales Price: 2018–2020



4211 Ave D Seller Representation



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All YTD data is pulled from Austin MLS for single family residences.



## Word Find: Austin Critters

by der Brat

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

[Numbers in parentheses = number of letters in answers]

1. Dive-bomber bird (when in its space). (11)  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Masked bandit in the trash can? (6)  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. You can smell it coming or going. (5)  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. He's a black-feathered loudmouth. (8)  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. She's a blood sucker, he's not. (8)  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. He's the color of his name, she's not. (8)  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Crustaceans also called roly-polies. (8)  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. You can see him in the creek making a round area for a mate. (7) \_\_\_\_\_
9. Tabbies running wild in neighborhood. (5,4)  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Canines on the prowl. (7) \_\_\_\_\_
11. Bossy bird with colorful name. (4,3)  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. Furry-tailed tree rat. (3,8) \_\_\_\_\_
13. Mammal version of a roly-poly? (9)  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. Caterpillar that will destroy your tomatoes. (8)  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. Rodents not necessarily on the house. (4,4)  
\_\_\_\_\_
16. Dead-actor with a pouch. (7) \_\_\_\_\_
17. Despite the name, actually a hare. (10)  
\_\_\_\_\_
18. Crustacean with claws in the creek. (8)  
\_\_\_\_\_
19. Stinging, invasive mound-builders. (4,4)  
\_\_\_\_\_
20. Critters walking the streets, some with ear buds. (4,7)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Answers on page 14

## Orientation and Mobility Fun in Hyde Park

When the birds, bees, and butterflies return in abundance under the tree canopies of Hyde Park, so does the frequency of visits by students and clients who are blind, visually impaired, or deafblind and their certified orientation and mobility specialists (COMS).

Some of us are from nearby Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired and some of us might be from Criss Cole Rehabilitation Center. The Hyde Park neighborhood has a nice range of features that offer plenty of opportunities to practice orientation and safer traveling skills. They include your immaculate grid-pattern neighborhood streets, various intersection controls such as four-way, two-way, and roundabouts, street ordering by numbers and letters, sidewalks and the lack of them (oops?), a cozy grocery store, bakery, restaurants, and friendly passersby. Hyde Park's spacious tree-lined streets, with very light vehicle traffic, present opportunities for students to practice and build their confidence in crossing the street when it is safe.

You might observe students with their canes using a monocular and a smartphone, possibly with their camera and map app open; they might be gathering information about where they are and where they need to go. Hyde Park is literally a step on the way to the whole wide world for our students and clients. Thank you for being yourselves and always being welcoming!

— Heather Withrow, M.Ed., COMS  
Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist  
TSBVI

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## President's Letter...

...cont'd from page 2

We want to thank everyone who volunteered and participated in last month's Bunny Parade, and a big thank you to the SPJST Lodge for donating the Bunny's float.

Before we close, we want to express our condolences to the friends and family of Oliver Franklin, the long-time curator at the Elizabet Ney Museum. Oliver passed away in April after a long illness. Always a great friend of Hyde Park, Oliver opened the museum each year for HPNA's annual Holiday Party. He also organized popular city-wide events at the Ney – author readings; a celebration of art called Ney Day in the spring; and October's annual big polka party, the Polkapocalypse. Oliver was a delightful and dedicated public servant and a true Texas gentleman. He will be missed.

— Kevin Heyburn  
Lisa Harris  
Michele Grieshaber  
HPNA Co-Presidents



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The Elisabet Ney Museum will celebrate National Wildflower Week with Art in Hyde Park: Plein Air Austin Paint Out on Saturday, May 7! Join us within the museum's native landscape as we paint the wild and vibrant flowers surrounding the museum. The event will begin at 9 am with a painting session led by Plein Air Austin, then at 1 pm there will be a group critique and demos. We will end the day with an artist reception at 4 pm so participants can exhibit their completed works of art.

If you would like to spend more time immersed in the Ney's historic scenery, we will be hosting our monthly Landscape Learning Day on Saturday, May 14 from 9 to 11 am. This is an excellent way to learn more about wildflowers and grasses that are native to Central Texas. The museum's very own horticulturalists will be on site to provide educational demos and hands on activities.

As the last month of spring comes to an end, the Ney will amp things up with a late afternoon performance by Denton's very own Brave Combo on Saturday, May 21! The show will start at 4 pm outside on the north side of the grounds. Visitors can either grab a blanket and enjoy the music under a canopy of live oaks or join the rollicking crowd on the dance floor. This will be the perfect way to celebrate the return of live music events and get a taste of what's to come at our annual Polkapocalypse on Sunday, October 30.

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## Monthly Calendar

### May

- 2 — HPNA Meeting
- 5 — DRC Meeting
- 6 — Recycling Pickup
- 7 — Local & Constitutional Amendment Election
- 7 — Art in Hyde Park: Plein Air Austin Paint Out at the Ney
- 9 — Steering Committee Meeting
- 14 — Landscape Learning Day at the Ney
- 20 — Recycling Pickup
- 21 — Brave Combo at the Ney
- 24 — Runoff Election

## Oliver Franklin...

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

me freedom to make work all over the lovely grounds of the Elisabet Ney Museum," said Walker. "I did not know how much I needed the project and his trust in me was heartfelt."

A seventh-generation Texan with roots in Comal, Gillespie, Burnet, and Llano counties, Oliver Percival Franklin was raised in Austin and spent his career working for arts and cultural institutions.

Franklin received both a BA and MA in geography from the University of Texas, writing a master's thesis titled "Listen to the Walls Speak: Murals and Symbolism in Austin, Texas, 1990-1995." He would later organize mural tours of downtown Austin.

He started his museum career as the education coordinator for the Museum of South Texas History in Edinburg in the Rio Grande Valley. Later he held positions that included Executive Director of the Texas Historical Foundation, Director of the American Genre Film Archive, and Executive Curator for Public Programs at UT's Harry Ransom Center.

He is survived by daughter Anne Olivia and son Anderson. Franklin was buried in a private cemetery on his family's Blanco County ranch.

The Friends of the Elisabet Ney, a support group Franklin helped re-boot, issued a statement that read as follows: "Oliver brought us together to help continue what he so earnestly worked to do each day: to transform the Ney from a humble repository for a sculptor's busts of dignitaries into a vibrant, inclusive, and dynamic platform for the exchange of ideas, exhibition of contemporary work by female artists, a place where individualists can carve their own path, and always a place for accessible programming.

"Even as Oliver quietly battled cancer for the past four years, his spirit and resolve were unflappable — eternally proclaiming Elisabet's battle cry 'Sursum,' Latin for 'upwards.'"

— Courtesy of Sightlines Magazine





505 E 40th St. • \$1,650,000  
5 beds • 4 baths • 2 half baths • 3323 sq. ft.

SOLD



4009 Avenue H • \$1,550,000  
4 beds + office • 2.5 baths • 3,015 sq. ft.

SOLD



1104 Marcy Street, Unit A. • \$825,000  
3 beds • 2.5 baths • 2,141 sq. ft.



4410 Hank Avenue. • \$795,000  
2 beds • 2.5 baths • 1,616 sq. ft.



403 W Odell St. • \$750,000  
4 beds • 3 bath • 1,562 sq. ft.

SOLD



1909 Rogge Ln. • \$699,000  
3 beds • 2 bath • 1,889 sq. ft.

SOLD



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

SOLD



6709 Bryn mawr Dr. • \$559,900  
2 beds • 1 bath • 962 sq. ft.

SOLD

## REAL ESTATE BY THE NUMBERS

Austin Board of Realtors, MLS data shown is for Austin area addresses March, 2022



MEDIAN PRICE FOR SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES  
+22% to \$521,100



NEW LISTINGS ON THE MARKET  
-1% to 4,150



AVERAGE DAYS ON THE MARKET  
-6 days to 21 days



ACTIVE HOMES ON THE MARKET  
+46% to 1,731



AVERAGE INVENTORY  
+0.2 months to 0.5 months



PENDING SALES  
-11% to 3,597



### Hyde Park Team

Tammy Young, Principal  
Kam McCoey  
Amy Mintz  
Raz Khandpur  
Annette Patterson

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# Around & About the Avenues

**Traffic Circles Maintained.** On April 9, HPNA sponsored a landscape team to perform spring maintenance on the plantings at Hyde Park's four traffic circles. At 41 Street and Avenue B, they replanted the three ailing crepe myrtles with one larger, more robust tree and added additional rows of lirioppe, to make future maintenance easier. At the other circles, they checked soaker hoses, cleaned debris, and mulched as needed.



Traffic Circle at 41st and Avenue B

The new plantings at Speedway survived their first freeze and, after a year of hand watering, the water is finally back on. This will help keep the ruellia healthy during the hot summer months. The City of Austin pays for water at the circles as part of their collaboration with the neighborhood. A huge shout out to Alison Young for overseeing the work. If you have questions or concerns, contact the HPNA liaison at 512-808-9666.



Traffic Circle at Speedway



**Summer Jobs at Austin Parks and Recreation.** With summer just around the corner, hiring is in full swing at Austin Parks and Recreation. The Department operates 33 pools and offers affordable summer camp options to thousands of kids across Austin. In order to operate at full capacity, the City is hiring nearly one thousand temporary workers to fill these much-needed roles. Pay starts at \$15 per hour for entry level positions and it increases with experience. Job benefits include paid sick leave, a free bus pass, and flexible scheduling. In addition, Austin Parks and Recreation is offering a \$500 Summer Completion Bonus for staff members that work from June through August. Learn more at [AustinTexas.gov/ParkJobs](https://www.austintexas.gov/ParkJobs).



- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AustinCityParks/posts/359312789570353>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/AustinCityParks/status/1508559043635335171>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/p/CbvbYDRs3K>



## Speedway Rezoning Case Postponed.

Case C14-2021-0183, the rezoning of 4303 and 4307 Speedway, has been indefinitely postponed by the Housing and Planning Department at the request of Blake Thompson, owner of the properties. As a result, the case was removed from the Planning Commission agenda on April 12. Watch the *Pecan Press* for updates on the situation.



**Fire Station Reopens.** After more than a year of construction work, the Hyde Park Fire Station has reopened. The HPNA celebrated its reopening with yard cards and a small gathering on April 23. The fire station was closed to build an addition with facilities to accommodate female fire fighters as part of the Austin Fire Department's gender equity project, to address the building's health and safety issues like lead and asbestos, and to add a weight room. Welcome back, Hyde Park fire fighters!



Photo by Paul Smith

Continued on page 10

# Around & About the Avenues

...cont'd from page 9

**Filming Continues in Hyde Park.** On March 23, Ben Reid's house was the site of yet another episode of "Walker, Texas Ranger." A crew of around 100 people gathered to film a short segment, once again in front of the home of Walker's girlfriend, Geri Broussard. The few short lines were repeated and refilmed multiple times, to commands from the director. It looks like Ben's house is becoming a stable of the series.



The Filming Crew Gathers



**Titanic on 43rd Street: A Folk Lyric Walking Tour through Hyde Park.** On April 14, Patrick Floyd led an audience along 43rd Street from the fire station to Avenue H in recognition of the 110th anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic. The



Patrick Floyd Plays Morris Kopperl, flanked by Keith Palumbo and Jessica Schwartz

tour was an entertaining performance that fused information about significance structures on 43rd Street – the fire station, the Kopperl House, and

the Hodnette-McKesson House – with information about the Titanic. Patrick Floyd was joined in his efforts by Jessica Schwartz, who matched his portrayal of Morris Kopperl with hers of Loula Bell Kopperl, and musicians Keith Palumbo and Courtney Jackson. We hope this turns into a regular Hyde Park event.



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# HPNA General Meeting Minutes: April 4, 2022

Michele Grieshaber welcomed everyone and outlined the agenda.

Walter Moreau, Executive Director of Foundation Communities, discussed affordable housing in Austin.

- Foundation Communities is a local nonprofit focused on providing affordable, attractive homes and free on-site support services for thousands of families with kids as well as veterans, seniors, and individuals with disabilities.
- Foundation Communities owns 23 communities in Austin and three in North Texas, enough to house over 7,000 individuals.
- Foundation Communities offers after-school and summer learning, early childhood education, English as a second language classes, free income tax preparation, one-on-one financial coaching, and other services.
- Foundation Communities is available at <https://foundcom.org/>. To get involved, contact Jackie Cuellar, Director of Corporate and Volunteer Programs at 512-610-7377 or [Jackie.cuellar@foundcom.org](mailto:Jackie.cuellar@foundcom.org).

Michele gave a brief budget overview, and a vote was held to authorize expenditure of HPNA funds for two non-budgeted items.

- Reminder: The 2022 budget has been approved and HPNA has funds in reserve for any overages.
- We need to purchase a new bunny costume for the upcoming Bunny Parade on April 16; the old costume is worn and stained. A new one will cost \$200.
- Additionally, the neighborhood would like to hold a small get-together on April 23 to celebrate the re-opening of the fire station. For this event, HPNA plans on renting yard cards (similar to what was done at the Post Office). Yard cards (in-ground two full days) and cookies will cost \$300.
- Karen Saadeh moved to vote, Lorre Weidlich seconded the motion. After brief discussion the vote was held. The motion to allow these expenditures passed: 25 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.
- At next month's meeting, HPNA leadership will discuss the possibility of authorizing the HPNA leadership to make minor expenditures without requiring general association approval.

Lorre Weidlich gave a presentation on the purpose, function, similarities, and differences between the HPNA Development Review Committee and the Hyde Park Neighborhood Plan Contact Team (HPNPCT).

About the HPNPCT:

- A contact team is a city entity established by city code. Every Austin neighborhood that has a neighborhood plan has a contact team. A neighborhood contact team is a neighborhood organization that qualifies as an interested party for purposes of notice, appeal, and other processes if all other qualifications

- for interested party status are satisfied. The neighborhood plan contact team is a separate body apart from any other existing or future neighborhood organization. It is not associated with or run by the neighborhood association (HPNA in this case)
- Contact teams are responsible for establishing officers and members, creating bylaws, reviewing and responding to proposed amendments to the adopted neighborhood plan, working to implement the neighborhood plan, working on behalf of the planning area stakeholders, and serving as the community point of contact.
- Developers are required to meet with the contact team if they are proposing to amend the established neighborhood plan. Developers are not required to meet with neighborhood associations.
- The HPNPCT was established in 2000, after the city adopted the Hyde Park Neighborhood Plan.
- According to its bylaws, the purpose of the HPNPCT is to review and make recommendations on all proposed amendments to the adopted Hyde Park Neighborhood Plan, but the HPNPCT can consider any issue relevant to the Hyde Park Neighborhood Plan.
- Membership in the HPNPCT is limited to neighborhood stakeholders: property owners, persons renting within Hyde Park, owners of businesses within Hyde Park, neighborhood organization members who own or rent property within Hyde Park.
- The HPNPCT has no dues. To be a member, one must simply attend HPNPCT meetings.
- To vote at an HPNPCT meeting, a person must have attended at least one meeting during the previous nine months.
- The HPNPCT meets quarterly, on the fourth Monday of January, April, July, and October.

About the HPNA Development Review Committee (DRC):

- The DRC is a committee of the HPNA. The committee is chaired by David Conner and consists of volunteers from the HPNA.
- The DRC has no legal authority, its purpose is purely advisory: to inform property owners, developers, and architects about how the zoning that applies to Hyde Park (NCCDs, Local Historic District, and City Code) affects what they can build in Hyde Park.
- If a homeowner wants to make changes to their property, ideally they would use the following procedure:
  1. The homeowner or developer attends a DRC meeting and informally present the proposal to the committee.

Continued on page 12



## April Meeting Minutes... ...cont'd from page 11

2. The DRC relays the homeowners' plans to the HPNA Steering Committee. The Steering Committee evaluates the proposal and determines whether the homeowner's plan will affect a number of community members and/or if the plan requires a recommendation to the city (which requires a vote of the general HPNA membership). If the Steering Committee determines the answers to these criteria to be no, the process ends here.
3. If the answer to either of these criteria is yes, then a vote is held by the HPNA general membership to determine whether or not to support the project.

Alex Arguello, Head of Community Engagement at the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, gave a presentation on the school.

- Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (TSBVI) was founded in 1856.
- TSBVI has been at Burnet and 45th Street since 1906. Within the last 15 years, the campus has been completely renovated. The entire campus was rebuilt with the visually impaired in mind. There are two gyms and a natatorium, and public tours are available if anyone is interested.
- The school operates both as a day school (where students go home at the end of each day) and as a boarding school. If students live 45 miles or more away from school, they are welcome to spend week-nights at the school.
- TSBVI has several different types of volunteer opportunities. Volunteers can learn how to ride tandem bikes with students. There are also classroom volunteer opportunities like working with clay projects or conducting science experiments.
- If you own a small business or know someone who does, TSBVI students can also work as interns for small businesses.
- To get involved or become a volunteer, visit [www.tsbvi.edu/become-a-volunteer](http://www.tsbvi.edu/become-a-volunteer) or contact Alex at [ArguelloA@tsbvi.edu](mailto:ArguelloA@tsbvi.edu).

### Announcements

- Ben Leffler, a candidate for Austin City Council District 9, introduced himself and gave a brief overview of his campaign. For more information visit [www.benleffler.com](http://www.benleffler.com).
- Brendan Wittstruck noted that there is an I-35 public engagement meeting on April 12 from 4 pm to 6 pm at the Huston Tillotson Student Center.

Michele thanked everyone for joining the meeting, and the meeting was adjourned.



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# Lettuce Recycle!



by Dena Houston

## Inside the Balcones Resources Recycling Facility

There are two recycling processing facilities in Austin where the city's recyclables go after they are collected curbside: Balcones Resources and Texas Disposal Systems.

I recently attended a presentation by the Education and Outreach Coordinator and the Director of Partnerships and Municipal Relations for Balcones Resources. I hope you enjoy this in-depth look at Balcones Resources, ranked as a "top 5" recycling processing facility in the nation.

### What Happens When the Recycling Truck Arrives at Balcones Resources?

When the truck arrives, it is weighed on the facility scales. This weight determines how much the city pays Balcones for the recyclables. The materials then go to the pre-sorting conveyor belt. It is here that many of the non-recyclable items are removed. These items are sent to the landfill. Here are some of the items removed in this first step:



- Black plastic bags (full or empty)
- Clothing
- Loose plastic bags
- Most of the clear plastic bags full of recyclables (only a few bags are opened and emptied due to the speed of the conveyor belt)

Use this fabulous video link that shows what happens at this facility as our recyclables are being processed: <https://vimeo.com/199912809>

### Interesting Things I Learned

*Do not flatten aluminum cans.* Aluminum cans are sorted by their shape. If they are flattened or crushed, the optical scanner can't identify them accurately.

*Do not put any plastic containers that don't have the numbered recycling symbol into your blue bin.* It cannot be recycled if the number is not picked up in the sorting process.

### Frequent Concerns

Many people have recycling concerns and some of these were addressed during this presentation. They are as follows:

- *Are the materials taken to Balcones really recycled or are they just thrown into the landfill?* Balcones Resources is a for-profit company. It would not collect all this material just to throw it into the landfill. There are reliable markets for everything they collect.

- *Is glass really recycled?* Glass is one of the more difficult and more expensive items to recycle, but Balcones has reliable markets for its glass.
- *How has China's refusing to accept recyclables affected Austin's recycling program?* It hasn't affected it. Years before China stopped accepting contaminated recyclables, Balcones Resources and Texas Disposal Systems secured strong, reliable markets.

### Questions and Answers

*Is dryer lint compostable?* No, dryer lint is not compostable. Only cotton fibers are compostable. Dryer lint often includes non-cotton fibers.

*Do I need to take the metal cutting strip off my aluminum foil and similar type boxes?* No, you do not. The paper mill recyclers have the equipment to remove this metal from the cardboard.

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

**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 [recycling@hpbwana.org](mailto:recycling@hpbwana.org).



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# Plan to Vote...

...cont'd from page 1

On May 24, runoff elections will be held for races that didn't have a clear winner (50% or more of the votes) in the March 1 primary. Every Texan voter can cast a ballot in statewide runoff races that include top state officials like the attorney general, lieutenant governor, land commissioner and railroad commissioner. There are four Democratic runoff races and three Republican races. In addition to the statewide runoffs, there are many down-ballot runoffs as well. Texas voters can vote in the U.S. House, State Board of Education, Texas Senate, and Texas House runoff races that correspond with the district in which they live (see <https://apps.texastribune.org/features/2021/texas-redistricting-map/>).

If you voted in one of the party's primaries in March, you can and should be sure to vote in that same party's runoff. If you didn't vote in the March primary, you can vote in either party's runoff.

Turnout is often low in May elections, so every single vote counts even more! Make sure you will be ready to make your voice heard. For the primary runoff, early voting runs May 16 through 20, and Election Day is May 24.

If you need to register to vote, check your voter registration status, or change your name or address, go to <https://www.votetexas.gov>.

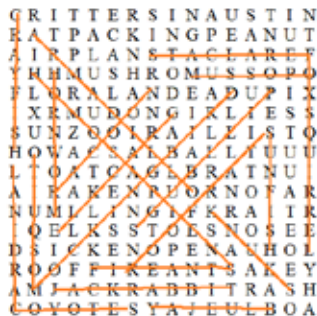
To see your personalized ballot, go to <https://apps.texastribune.org/features/2022/texas-runoff-2022-ballot-may-24/>.

Be informed and be a voter!

— Anne Hebert

## Word Find Answers from page 5

- 1) MOCKINGBIRD; 2) RACCOON;
- 3) SKUNK; 4) GRACKLES;
- 5) MOSQUITO; 6) CARDINAL;
- 7) PILLBUGS; 8) SUNFISH;
- 9) FERAL CATS; 10) COYOTES;
- 11) BLUE JAY; 12) FOX SQUIRREL;
- 13) ARMADILLO; 14) HORNWORM;
- 15) ROOF RATS; 16) OPOSSUM;
- 17) JACKRABBIT; 18) CRAYFISH;
- 19) FIRE ANTS; 20) HOMO SAPIENS



## Blue Heron Guardian

I am watering my infant garden, newly planted,  
In four raised beds, tomatoes, peppers, bell, and ghost,

Procured from  
Wheatsville  
Natural Grocers,  
And the nursery on  
Hancock Drive,

Where I have  
never gone before,

It is a beautiful  
time of day, 4-ish  
and

It is April and I see  
a little bird in the  
Mountain Laurel,

What catches my  
eye is the little  
orange beak

On that little bird  
and I wrack my  
brain, "What is it?"

Then, I see its  
mate, a Cardinal, did you know

That Cardinals mate for life and if they make a home  
In your yard, they will come back, year after year,

To nest again, and here they are, in my yard,

Earlier I saw the blue birds who often frolic and

Flit about but, I don't know if they are returners

Like the Cardinals. There are many different birds

In this neighborhood, I count their different sounds,

Every morning, part of joy, robins, jays, not pretty,

But present, grackles, also noisesome but belonging,

The doves, ever present, sometimes cooing but,

Mostly mourning, especially in the morning, and

Many owls, including me, the night owl,

"Who?" they are always asking, they sometimes get warbles

In reply. There are mockingbirds and woodpeckers, and

Several years ago, a friend of mine released little green parrots,

Along the lake, and they have thrived so well that people ask

If they are native. They are now!

I put fake owls, in two of the beds; their heads turn around,

One day I came out and saw a bird sitting on one of their  
heads,

So, I found a life-size copper blue heron and set him sentry

So far, so good.



Blue Heron Guarding the Garden

— HERZELE  
04/09/2022



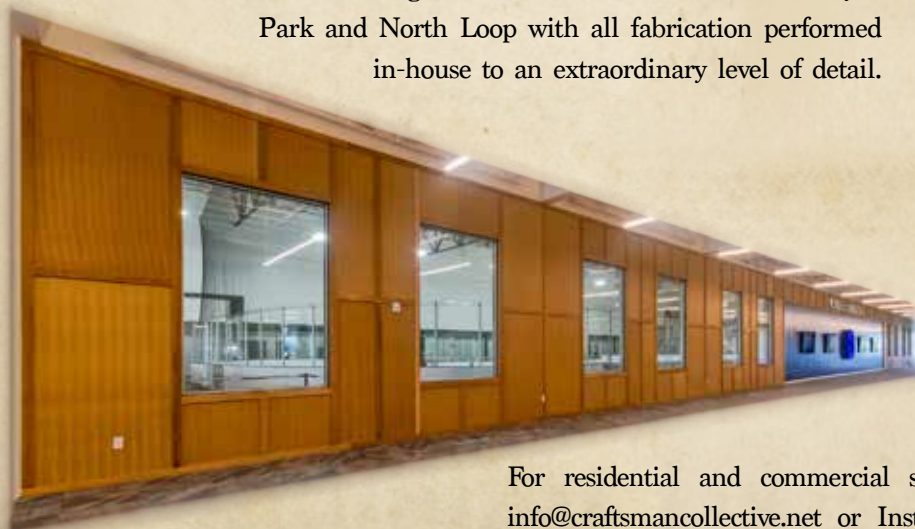



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With a 20-year history in Hyde Park, our artisan woodworks can be found throughout the neighborhood's finest homes. Primary focus is bespoke hardwood doors, cabinetry, tables, & wall installations.

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**105 WEST 33RD STREET**

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**429 TOWNE PARK TRAIL**

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**4807 ROWENA AVENUE**

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Hyde Park, Hancock and North University neighborhood homes are in strong demand! Properties are selling quickly and at record high prices. Call Suzanne, your neighborhood expert, today for a complimentary market analysis and customized marketing plan for your property. Check out new listings for sale on [\*\*Instagram @hydeparkrealtor\*\*](#) .

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