



August Meeting

When: 7:00 p.m.
Monday, August 3, 2015

Where: Shipe Park 

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

HPNA General Meeting Agenda for August 3

 Ice Cream Social with special puppet show story time by Sukyi McMahon

See You There!

News from The Ney

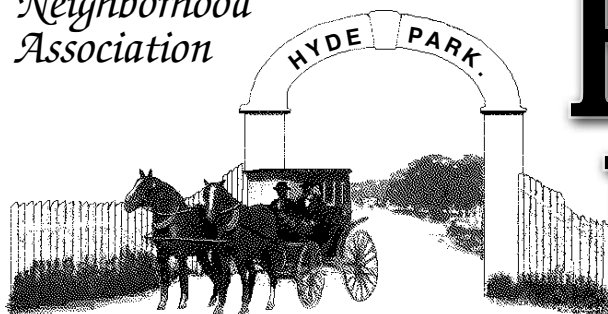
Well, another Ney Day has come and gone. It was a grand event. And sharing the day with the Friends of Shipe Park's Shipe Park Pool Party was so rewarding! Many thanks to all the friends and neighbors who came and enjoyed great music, art, and good times. If you have suggestions for next year, please send them.

Ney Day also marked the official unveiling of the new outdoor sculpture piece, *Dance of The Cosmos*, by Jennifer Chenoweth. As you may have noticed, it opens in the morning and closes at night, through solar power. It's a beautiful piece that truly brings the space to life. It's also temporary, alas, so it will be moving on at the next Ney Day, when it will be replaced by another temporary outdoor piece. If you haven't already done so, please visit it up close when you get a chance.

As for this August, The Ney will reprise the popular Saturday morning drawing classes, held from 10 to noon on Saturday mornings. People of all ages can come and learn from museum staff and from Elisabet herself. All the materials you need will be provided, but if you have your own, bring them. Like everything else we do, it's free admission. No registration is necessary.

This is going to be a great Fall too! More to come in the next *Pecan Press*!

*The Hyde Park
Neighborhood
Association*



Pecan Press

August 2015 • National Register District Neighborhood • Vol. 41, No. 8

Flooding in Hyde Park

Editor's Note: After the flooding of late May and early June, HPNA co-Vice President Adrian Skinner arranged several programs to explore that issue: people's experiences, possible causes, and city response. The first program, at the July meeting, presented next-door neighbors Tim Vetscher and Holly Gilman of the 4000 block of Avenue A discussing their experiences, followed by discussion. Discussants included several Hyde Parkers and several representatives from the office of Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo. Excerpts of the presentation and discussion are below. The second program, scheduled for September, will feature representatives from the city and major developments around Hyde Park.

Flood Narratives

Tim Vetscher: My wife and I and my newborn daughter live on Avenue A. We moved in in June 2014. In the year and less than a month we've been there, we've flooded three times. July of 2014, we took a flood, and then Memorial Day of this year, we took a flood, and the third one was June 17. I remember that one because my daughter had been home from the hospital for about a week and instead of being in the house playing with her, I was out pumping out of my house about two feet of water.

We're a little perplexed as to what the reason for the flooding is. Holly's lived in the neighborhood a lot longer than I have and will tell you that this is a recent phenomenon. Just based on my very brief research on the matter, it appears to be manmade. It doesn't appear that we're getting any sort of different weather. I know we got an unusual wet May and June, but I don't think that's necessarily different than what Hyde Park has gotten for decades, so something seems to be off.

Holly Gilman: This is my front yard from my front porch. It's about 10 inches of water covering my whole front yard. I live at the 40th Street end of Avenue A, so I'm right before the Baker School. I was working on Memorial Day. We had that big storm that took out tree limbs in Hyde Park on Saturday night, so we had no electricity on Sunday and heavy duty rains on Monday. On Monday I left my office, which is downtown, at 4 o'clock and drove home. I had to avoid Lamar because it was already flooding at Shoal Creek and 9th, 10th, so I went up and over and came down.



View from Holly Gilman's Porch, photo by Holly Gilman

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From the Desk of the Co-Presidents

Flooding



The accounts of Tim Vetscher and Holly Gilman (see article, page 1) of the flooding on their street and in their lots on several occasions during May and June make it clear that this issue needs to be addressed. The subsequent discussion revealed a series of contributing causes – development at the Triangle, infill, and the overgrowth of Waller Creek – as well as pointing out some of the consequences – flood insurance, the impact on refinancing, damage to houses. We thank everyone who contributed to the discussion. We invite you to attend the follow-up program in September, with representatives from the city.

Lee Elementary Name Change

In the wake of the South Carolina shootings, the issue of eradicating any symbolic support for the Confederacy, including the names of public buildings, has become intense. Recent postings on the Hyde Park neighborhood list have addressed the issue of changing the name of Robert E. Lee Elementary School, the school attended by many Hyde Park stu-

dents, to something that does not honor a Confederate hero, and Mayor Pro Temp Kathie Tovo invited the HPNA to weigh in on the issue.

By the time you read this, the Lee Elementary Campus Advisory Council (CAC) will have met to discuss this issue, and in August, the AISD Board Committee for Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity will meet to consider a process to address the entire issue of schools named for Confederate leaders. Consequently, the HPNA Steering Committee has decided to present this issue to the HPNA membership at the September meeting, so that our membership can respond knowledgeably to the AISD position. In the meantime, you can send your thoughts to AISD Board at trustees@austinsisd.org and Superintendent Paul Cruz at superintendent@austinsisd.org.

New Pecan Press Advertising Rates

It has been eight years since the current advertising rates for the *Pecan Press* were established, and the Steering Committee decided it was time to reconsider those rates. Members of the Pecan Press Committee (now subsumed into the Outreach and Communications Committee) investigated the prices charged by other neighborhood newsletters and made a recommendation to the Steering Committee, which voted new rates into place effective with the September issue. In conjunction with

Continued on page 17



Pecan Press

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

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Monthly Calendar

August

- 2 — HPNA General Meeting: Ice Cream Social
- 7 — Recycling Collection
- 10 — HPNA Steering Committee Meeting
- 21 — Recycling Collection

Hyde Park Neighborhood Association

P. O. Box 49427 • Austin, TX 78765
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The Arts in Hyde Park

Hyde Park Storytelling

All of us have stories that we love to tell. There are few pastimes as romanticized in American culture as storytelling. We all have that mental picture of sitting around a campfire telling stories, sitting at a bar with friends recounting the events of our lives, or reminiscing with family or friends around a good meal. More formalized storytelling and storytelling events have grown recently with the rise of podcasts such as This American Life, Radiolab, StoryCorps, and RISK! and events such as The Moth Radio Hour and Snap Judgment. And now, Hyde Park has its own storytelling event, Hyde Park Storytelling.



A Hyde Park Storyteller Takes the Stage

Founded last year by Matt Stoner and his housemates, with a build-it-and-they-will-come attitude, Hyde Park Storytelling has hosted four events, starting with a holiday-themed gathering last December. That launch was followed with a Valentine's Day event and a Spring storytelling focused on the theme of rebirth. Their Summer event, around the topic "Down but Not Out", was rained out in June but rescheduled for July 19, with over 250 reservations made on the Hyde Park Storytelling Facebook page. They haven't needed publicity; social media and word-of-mouth have been sufficient to build their attendance to the point where they are moving toward monthly events. Prospective storytellers of all ages sign up when they make reservations, and the available slots, both to attend and to perform, fill up within 24 hours after reservations open. All storytellers are

welcome and the stories aren't reviewed beforehand, allowing the event to remain informal and organic.

The storytelling sessions take place in Matt's backyard and generally start around 7 pm with a social hour, so guests can get to know each other. At 8, storytelling begins. Participants stand on the raised porch, looking out over a back yard full of listeners, and spend 5 to 7 minutes each recounting their tales. Eight or nine stories and around an hour and a half later, the event concludes, leaving the audience amused, moved, and entertained.

Matt himself follows in the footsteps of a storytelling father. "Part of me was probably subconsciously altered by his stories." He pursues improv comedy and theater and participated in a workshop with Kevin

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Hyde Park Neighborhood Association Membership

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

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We Welcome Your Submissions to Pecan Press

• Send your articles, letters, and photos by the 10th of each month to the HPNA Steering Committee at pecanpress@austinhypark.org.

Opinion articles and 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.

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	2012	2013	2014
NUMBER OF HOMES SOLD	76	79	74
AVERAGE SALES PRICE	\$401,513	\$477,040	\$470,565
AVERAGE SQUARE FOOTAGE	1,606 SF	1,773 SF	1,565 SF
AVERAGE SOLD \$/SQ FT	\$257.20	\$284.11	\$316.36
MEDIAN DAYS ON MARKET	34 DAYS	44 DAYS	29 DAYS

All statistics & square footage are from Austin MLS for Single Family Residence taken 12/31/2014 from the Austin MLS. For detailed market information about your home, contact Sam Archer, Broker.



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Hyde Park Business Spotlight

Fifth Dimension Books: Bringing Genre Fiction to the Historic ‘Hood

Bookmobiles, small buses outfitted with shelves and a rotating selection of books, used to be a common sight in Austin, Texas. Beginning in 1951, the Austin Public Library operated a fleet of bookmobiles to better serve residents who lacked access to brick and mortar libraries. The bookmobiles provided a regular place for community members to meet, discuss current reading selections, and check out new titles to enjoy while waiting for the bookmobile to return. Unfortunately, the Austin Public Library ceased operating bookmobiles in 1979 due to high fuel prices.



Fifth Dimension Bookmobile, photo by Ellie Hanlon

Enter Sukyi and Patrick McMahon, neighbors and proprietors of Fifth Dimension Books. The McMahon’s bookstore (a 1987 Chevy P30 bookmobile that served as a library bookmobile for twenty-five years) is often parked on 43rd Street near Quack’s Bakery at the Duval Center. The McMahons moved to the neighborhood in 2013 and were drawn to the area because of the ability to walk places and the high concentration of people who read books.

True to the pioneering spirit of the neighborhood, the McMahons were the first business in Austin to receive a mobile retail license. Sukyi reached out to City Council and the Committee on Codes and Ordinances to petition for a resolution to create a new type of license for mobile retail vendors. Luckily for the neighborhood, the McMahons were successful in obtaining the mobile retail license.

The McMahons have quickly developed a large fan base of science fiction and fantasy readers from the neighborhood and the greater Austin area. Bob Ryland, a neighbor who lives on Speedway, has been a regular visitor for the past year or so. Ryland “grew up on science fiction and now my kids are teenagers and getting into it so Fifth Dimension Books is the right thing in the right place at the right time!”

While you’ll need more than a library card to read books from Fifth Dimension, the prices for non-collectible used books are reasonable (50% off the cover price) and there is a 20% credit buy-back policy (at the owners’ discretion). If you are a collector, you’ll want to hurry in and learn more about the amazing collection of science fiction, fantasy, and fringe genre books under the care of the McMahons.

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New 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
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Around & About the Avenues

Upcoming Homes Tour Planning: Planning is underway for the 39th Annual Historic Hyde Park Homes Tour on Sunday, November 8, and we are looking for some additional people to join our planning team. Areas where we need additional expertise or willing volunteers include marketing (press, web content, photography, and graphics), transportation (use of buses is still undecided), and house captains for six or seven of the featured houses.

If you are new to the neighborhood or want to take a more active role in this wonderful neighborhood event, join us at *Vino Vino* at 4119 Guadalupe on August 16 at 5:30 pm or contact Homes Tour chair Carolyn Grimes at 512-426-3559 (cell or text) or cgrimes@cbunited.com.



Neighborhood Church Support for Hyde Park Residents:

Hyde Park Baptist Church is looking for ongoing opportunities in the Hyde Park neighborhood to assist neighbors needing a helping hand with various yard and household needs. The church is offering assistance with yardwork, house cleaning, simple household repairs and installations, basic computer and electronics set-up, and so forth. If you have needs in these particular areas or you know of a neighbor who does, you are invited to contact June Spikes at 512-852-4211. She will pass the request to someone on the service team to set up a time to address the need.



Filming in Hyde Park: Neighbors on Avenue C and Avenue F undoubtedly noticed the tents and electronic equipment on their streets during June, when Toyota used those streets

to film a commercial. The film crew contracted with various neighbors to use houses and lawns as part of the production effort. The commercial's subject was a new consumer-grade, hydrogen gas-powered car that produces only water as a byproduct. Expect to see it on television relatively soon. A new credential for Hyde Park – immortalized in a Toyota commercial!



Filming on Avenue F, photo by Lorre Weidlich

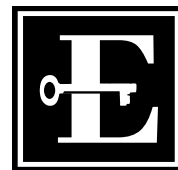


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Fifth Dimension Books... ...cont'd from page 5

Fifth Dimensions Books is a welcome addition to the neighborhood and strives to be more than “just a bookstore.” Sukyi grew up surrounded by books and used bookstores and wants to instill that experience in others. She recalled being very young and “really loving the school library” and she “wanted to bring our books right to the customers.” The McMahons have a deep sense of community and strong desire to share their love of books with others. As she explains, “We live here, we work here, we play here, and it is the best of those worlds. We are loving being in Hyde Park!”

You’ll find Fifth Dimension books parked near Quack’s Bakery most days of the week. Monday morning is story time at in.redients on Manor Road. Sukyi also takes her bookmobile on the road for the First Friday Block Party at in.redients and then heads

south to Independence Brewery on the first Saturday of the month. You can check the bookmobile’s schedule and learn more at 5dbooks.com.

Join the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association in welcoming Sukyi McMahon as she performs a puppet show story time for the young and not-so-young at the annual HPNA Ice Cream Social! The event will be in Shippe Park on Monday, August 3 at 7 pm (near the pool area).



Sukyi McMahon, photo by Ellie Hanlon

– Ellie Hanlon

Learn more about Austin Public Library Bookmobiles! The Austin History Center and unbound: sin fronteras, the library’s active transportation outreach team, invite you to “Neighborhood Bound: Austin’s Mobile Libraries”, a traveling photography exhibit curated by the Austin History Center. The exhibit opens Saturday, April 25 (during regular library hours) and is on display through September at the Terrazas Branch, 1105 E. Cesar Chavez St. The collection comprises a dozen photographs that reveal the Library’s mid-century bookmobile fleet, which circulated books and a variety of unique material into the late-1970s.

(<http://library.austintexas.gov/press-release/neighborhood-bound-austins-mobile-libraries-311561>)

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Hyde Park Contact Team Special Meeting Minutes

At 7:05 pm on June 29, 2015, Contact Team co-chair Adrian Skinner opened the special meeting.

Proposed Resolution:

The Hyde Park Neighborhood Plan Contact team requests that the Hyde Park Neighborhood, as defined by the Hyde Park Neighborhood Plan, be selected as one of the four areas used during the evaluation of the proposed CodeNEXT changes to the land development code.

Sponsors: David Conner and Lorre Weidlich

Lorre Weidlich led discussion of the proposal. The Hyde Park Neighborhood Association has approved a similar resolution and would like the Contact Team to join in sending a joint letter to the City of Austin regarding the offer to evaluate Hyde Park.

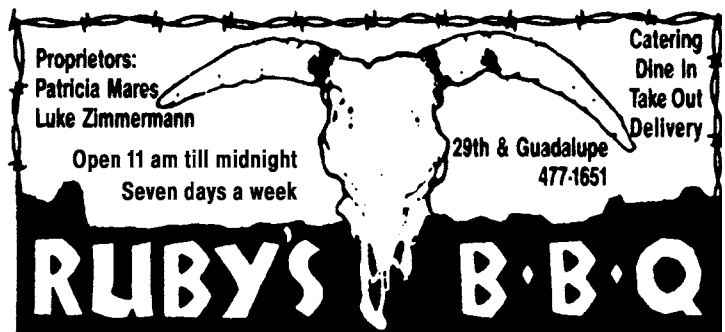
If Hyde Park is selected, the neighborhood will participate in a virtual test of the CodeNEXT program. Hyde Park would be a useful testing area because of the following:

- Hyde Park has both residential and commercial areas, and those areas are immediately adjacent to each other.
- Hyde Park is bisected by a major artery, 45th Street.
- Hyde Park has a wide variety of housing types, including single family homes, apartment buildings, duplexes, 4-plexes, ADUs, STRs, and condominiums.
- Hyde Park is close to tracks of land likely to be developed.
- Hyde Park has a significant number of public buildings including a post office, an AISD school building, and a fire station; public spaces including a park; and various institutions including a museum, several schools, and multiple churches.
- Hyde Park has a neighborhood plan.
- Hyde Park has two Neighborhood Conservation Combining Districts (NCCDs) and a Local Historic District (LHD).

Those present voted 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions for the resolution.

The next quarterly meeting of the HPNPCT will be July 27, 2015 at 7 pm. All residents, renters and tenants, property owners, and business owners in Hyde Park are encouraged to become members of the Contact Team and participate in discussions. An agenda will be posted two weeks before the meeting.

Corrections or Additions to these minutes should be forwarded by email to Mity Myhr, Contact Team Secretary, at myhr_steds@yahoo.com.



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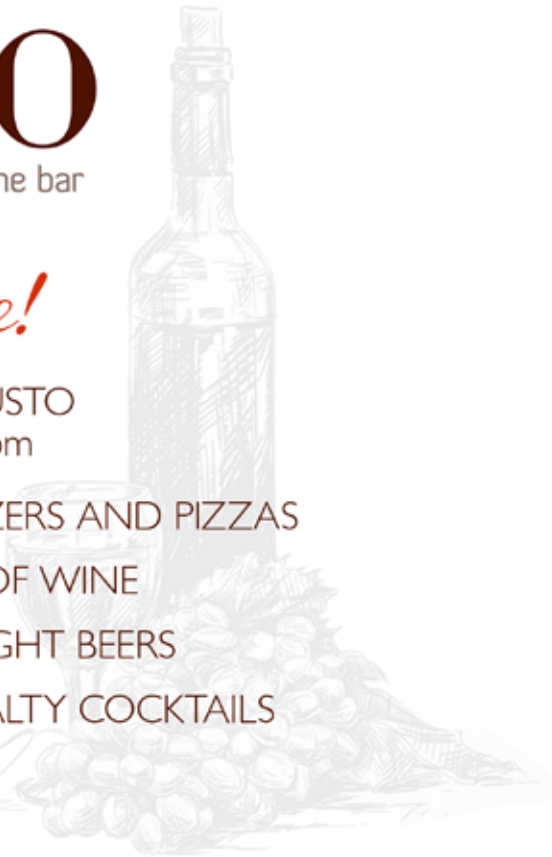
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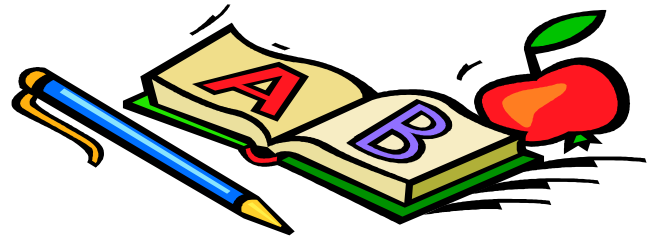
HPNA July 2015 Minutes

Co-President Lorre Weidlich called the July meeting of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association to order at 7:10 pm at the Griffin School.

The first item on the agenda was an open forum to discuss flooding issues. The presentation was led by Tim Vetscher, who has stories of flooding from various neighbors in addition to his own experiences with flooding on Avenue A. Speaking about his own experiences, he described how he has gone through three floods in the past 13 months. In each of these events, the water appears to be flowing down Avenue A from the north. When there is significant rain, the water overflows the street and enters the lots on the street. Tim's neighbor Holly Gilman had similar accounts. The water usually clears within 30 minutes to an hour. Avenue A is not currently in a declared flood plain.

After Tim's description of the flooding issues on his avenue, the floor was open for a more general discussion of flooding issues. Some potential sources of the extra water were discussed, including extra runoff from the Triangle, the growth of vegetation in Waller Creek, and insufficient drainage on the street. For more information about the discussion, please see the article on page 1.

After the conclusion of the open discussion of flooding issues in the neighborhood, Lorre closed the meeting with announcements. Lorre announced that the Steering Committee would meet at Trinity United Methodist Church at 7 pm on July 13th. Adrian Skinner, co-Chair of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Plan Contact Team, announced that the HPNPCT will hold its July quarterly meeting at 7 pm at Trinity United Methodist Church on July 27th.




At this time of year we think of folks returning from summer vacations and of children returning to school. Let us also think, at this time, of returning to God – of making real and intentional efforts to bringing our hearts and minds and bodies and souls back into right relationship with God.



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This study has been approved by The University of Texas at Austin Institutional Review Board

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Floods in Hyde Park...

...cont'd from page 1

When I got to Lamar on 38th, I took a right, and it was like a big faucet had opened up and was dumping into the intersection at Guadalupe and 38th Street and there were about 18 inches of water there. There was a bus sitting in the middle of it and no cars moving. I turned around and went up to 45th Street and it was also pouring out of the Triangle into that intersection. That was about 12 inches. So, both of those places are generating a lot of water that's pouring into the roadways. The car in front of me made it through, so I followed him and went to Avenue A. It was pouring down Avenue A as well. Tim had texted me asking what was going on. He was at the airport on his way back. I said, Let me send you some pictures.

I think we had a flood last October because when that happened, it came down the alley way and it deposited a full 8" railroad tie behind my garage. When I opened the door to get out of my garage there was a huge railroad tie right behind my garage, which I couldn't move because it was waterlogged.

Tim: For us June 17 was the worst of the bunch. We had more water under our house then than in any of the previous two. Avenue A essentially turns into a river. I've made it as far north as 42nd, 41st and it's coming from as far as I can see to the north, flowing to the south. Avenue A dead ends pretty much at 40th Street, so we're the collection point. It gets progressively worse as you go south, so Holly's house really gets the brunt of the flooding. I'm one north of her, so mine's a little better but not much, the one to the north of me is a little better but not much, and then Michael to the north of him is a little better, but he still floods. Blake, who's on the corner of 41st, floods.

Last July, I was actually doing reports on KXAN with Jim Spencer, all from my own neighborhood. He was telling me how, in his 25 years in Austin, he's never seen a flood like that in Hyde Park. Now he can't believe that we've had three of them in a year's time.

Right now thankfully it's more of a nuisance than anything, minor damage, but I worry that if this continues - especially some of these back-to-back floods when the ground is so saturated and can't take the rain - it's going to come up, and I worry that it actually could come into the house.

So that's the situation on Avenue A. It's kind of surprising. There was no disclosure when we bought the house of any sort of flood issues in that part of Hyde Park. My wife has already suggested that we look for a new place to live because she's frustrated. Now we have a baby, and you have two feet of nasty flood water sitting under your house. It's not healthy for anybody to be in the house, much less a three-week-old child.

Continued on following page

Waller Creek and Other Factors

Adrian Skinner: Watershed is talking about increasing the water flow to the creek, but you know the creek is already overflowing. That's where a lot of the issues happened this last flood – the water damage to the apartment complexes and cars being derailed into properties.

Tim: You're fixing one problem and making another one worse. If you divert it back to the creek, it ends up over on the East side of Hyde Park and 45th and Duval gets it. So, the question is, What do we do as an association to force the city's hand to address this?

Dorothy Richter: There in Shipe Park, the creek has grown up; it's full of trees and bushes and stuff. It holds the water back. It can't gush down, and there at the golf course – the water crossing at the golf course – it has three culverts. At one time that particular flood stopped up one of the culverts. Culverts are not as big as they look. I don't know about the rest of Waller Creek, but all of the part that I do know about needs to be cleaned out.

I blame the Triangle and the planning there. Then UT has come with their tennis courts that they've moved there on the creek now. They may have created a bigger runoff problem with that. I found way back that the University did what it wanted to do but it didn't really abide by the city's ordinances as does the state. They could do whatever they wanted to and that's why we're in trouble.

Flood Insurance & Flood Damage

Tim: I took out a flood insurance policy after last July's flood, and after the Memorial Day flood we filed a claim because we started to see cracks in our ceilings because the house was shifting so much. We're pier-and-beam, which is a blessing in a sense. If we were slab, all this water would be actually in our house. Thankfully these piers are high enough off the ground that the water doesn't actually get in the house, but it gets so wet under there we've had to pull up all of the vapor barrier. We paid a thousand bucks to put down a nice vapor barrier. Well, we had to pull that out because that was just holding the water. Cracks in the walls, cracks in the ceilings, doors that won't open, my AC unit that sits on the ground has to be cleaned because there were probably two feet of water in the unit. So I'm in the process of figuring out what the damage is from that Memorial Day flood. I guess I'm probably one of the fortunate ones that actually took out a flood insurance policy.

Adrian: I live on Duval and we recently refinanced our home. Prior to closing on that mortgage, they sent out somebody to do a flood inspection. Why are you doing a flood inspection? We know you guys have seen a lot of water recently and we want to make sure you have it taken into account before you close. That was an interesting reality for me to wake up to.

I'm now wondering if the development that we're seeing north of us is now going to force us to buy flood insurance. Are we going to be stuck bearing the burden for that?

Tim: I don't know how many of you are familiar with flood insurance, but it's actually administered by the federal government. You have to call a 1-800 number. I waited on hold for more than an hour after that Memorial Day flood. And I'm still trying to get the engineer out to the house to see if they'll concur with my assessment that shifting of the piers due to the water under the house is causing the cracks in the ceiling and the walls. I'm still waiting – what's today, July 6? – and the flood was Memorial Day.

The Effects of Infill

Shannon Halley: I don't know how many of you are aware of a resolution that was passed on December 11 of last year, South Lamar Mitigation Plan. It was drafted by Council Member Morrison's office and we (Kathie Tovo's office) co-sponsored it. We worked for months with Watershed. One of the things that we found through working with watershed is that it's cumulative. Residential redevelopment regulations that don't require properties to go through the same review as a site plan or a commercial property have cumulative effects and it's happening all over the city. There's actually a project that is going on right now as a pilot to look at how development, infill development, in a neighborhood effects flooding. I think we're going to get some good information that hopefully will help in this process.

What I'm talking about more specifically are small infill developments. They are exempt from some of the requirements and the scrutiny for drainage, so when you subdivide a lot into smaller parcels, you can have cumulative impacts that are similar to a large scale development and they're not required to have storm water controls.

Karen McGraw: I'm an architect. I go to somebody's house and it meets the 45% impervious cover requirement. But they want to add on, everybody wants to add on. The law is 45% impervious cover, so we carefully plan so that they don't exceed 45%. They have a right to add on. Every house where you see an addition, they may have had 30% impervious cover, but they're going to 45%. So you're adding several 100 feet of impervious cover to every residential remodel and that's free. And on a single family house you do not do any detention. You're not supposed to flood your neighbor but you don't have to do these measures that you have to do on bigger projects. How many additions have we had in Hyde Park in the last 40 years?

HYDE PARK

Presidents' Letter... ...cont'd from page 2

this decision was the decision to reduce the overall amount of advertising in the *Pecan Press*, to allow for a larger percentage of content. We thank the members of the *Pecan Press* Committee for their work on this issue.



Enjoying the Pool Party, photo by Lizzie Chen

Ney Day and Shipe Pool Party

Two of Hyde Park's Spring neighborhood events were rained out earlier this year, but you can't keep a good event down! They joined forces on July 18 for a full day of music, events, pool fun, and a movie in Shipe Park. A great time was had by all. Our thanks go to Oliver Franklin and the Elisabet Ney Museum staff and to the Friends of Shipe Park.



A Busy Time at Shipe Pool, photo by Lizzie Chen

— Kevin Heyburn & Lorre Weidlich
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Summer Evening

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Moon looking
like an orange slice
Cats waiting
in gardens & alleys to be fed
Spiders spinning
their webs
Birds flying
away home
Fireflies reminding
me of my childhood

— Cynthia Janis
June 19 2015

Not a Threat, But a Promise

We walk on vacant runways
at the abandoned Airport,
surrounded by empty-eyed condos
and carefully coiffed lawns.

On cracking concrete, we circle
the long silent control tower.
From up there air traffic controllers
once guarded travelers.
We are surprised that the place
rates no security at all.

Yet when we reach the base of the tower,
solid concrete walls from the ground up
disinvite us. It takes a while to notice
the two metal doors, locked
as tight as a closed mind.
There aren't even knobs to turn --
only a flat metal plate with a keyhole.

Some kid has added graffiti:
"We will get in."

— Elzy Cogswell

Limerick

There was an old woman in Yuma
who simply had no sense of humor.
You could tell her a joke
that amused all the folk
but not that old woman in Yuma.

— Miguel González-Gerth
April 16, 2015

Hyde Park Storytelling... ...cont'd from page 3

Allison of RISK! What makes a good story for him?
"Anything that's real - real emotions, real events, real perspectives. It doesn't matter about the subject matter. Do you believe it? Do you feel it?"

While Matt and his housemates host their events within the boundaries of Hyde Park, Austin has seen an explosion of storytelling groups. Scottish Rite hosts what may be the longest-running event. Other gatherings include one at the Livestrong Foundation and the Backyard Story Night on the east side. That event - the inspiration for Hyde Park Storytelling - routinely draws over 300 people.

If you like stories and storytelling, check out this relatively new event right here in the neighborhood. Events like this give Hyde Park its unique character and make the neighborhood an active participant in the Austin arts community.

Storytelling sessions take place at 5001 Duval. To find out about future events, join the group's Facebook page, Hyde Park Storytelling.

— Reid Long

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Kid's Corner: Bike Safety

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

I know it's hard to believe, but yes, it's back to school this month. Classes start up for AISD on the 24th and even earlier for kiddos attending private schools around town. Hyde Park residents are certainly used to sharing our roads with bike riders, that's for sure. Yet, it doesn't hurt to review basic bike safety hand signals as we get ready to see little and big ones headed to and from school, or to remind ourselves how best to let drivers and other cyclist know which direction we're going. Oh, and by the way, what do you get if you cross a bike and a flower? Yep, bicycle petals (source: jokes4us.com).



Left Turn



Stopping



Right Turn



Alternate Right Turn

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Right Behind

I've been a lefty for two weeks, now,
What a difference two weeks can make,
I eat very slowly, now,
I feel like my 16-month old grandson,
He is learning to eat – he does not have 100% efficiency, yet

1st pass

He knows that “thing” carries oatmeal to his mouth

2nd pass

The food is on that thing

3rd pass

Got it! Whoops – didn't make it to the mouth

4th pass

Thing is just thing with a fleck of oatmeal

5th pass

Screw it – I'll just go direct (at which point, he sticks his face into the bowl)

To those of us, watching, me, this is hilarious,
Wait – not so hilarious as practical,
I eat with my left hand (can't raise the right – surgery on the shoulder)
New understanding – I can identify with my grandbaby,

Another interesting bit...

I do the Sudoku and the Scrabblegram, in the newspaper,
Every morning, to kick start my brain,

I'm terrible at Sudoku, but, now
As a lefty, I am kickass

Must be the right brain opening up,
There are worse things than having to use the non-dominant arm,
I mean, what if I didn't have one?

— *Herzele*
3/23/13

Los Cascarones de la Pascua

Two girls, too young
to be less than perfect,
sneak up behind their mother,
who watches ripples in the lake.
Each has a confetti-loaded pink cascarón.
The older, perhaps three years old,
breaks the eggshell in mama's hair
at the same time that the younger,
perhaps two, does the same to her sister.
Pastel colored giggles rain down.

— *Elzy Cogswell*

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110 WEST 32ND STREET

1926 storybook home in historic Aldridge Place. 4-5 BR, 2.5 BA, 3 LIV, 2 DIN in main house. Detached carriage house. Exquisite gardens, patios, screened porch.
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3306 HARRIS PARK AVENUE

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4529 AVENUE C

Adorable 1947 cottage with 2 BR, 1 BA, 1 LIV, 1 DIN. Refinished hardwoods, faux fireplace, built-ins. Wide front porch, spacious rear deck. Detached garage.
Listed at \$399,950



310 EAST 35TH STREET

Custom built in 2011. Craftsman home with high-end contemporary interior. Main house with 3 BR, 3 BA, 3 LIV plus separate 1 BR, 1 BA garage apartment.
Listed at \$965,000



4808 AVENUE F

1932 Hyde Park bungalow on oversized corner lot with gardens and pergola. 2 BR, 1.5 BA with updated kitchen, wood floors, infrared dry sauna, built-ins. Bonus sunroom.
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