

# February Meeting

**When:** 7:00 p.m.  
Monday, February 1, 2016

**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 1

- Potluck
- Welcome New Members
- Presentations by Candidates for State Representative, District 49
- Vote, Resolution to support development at The Triangle
- Vote, Resolution to support occupancy limits

**See You There!**

## Proposed Development: The Village at the Triangle



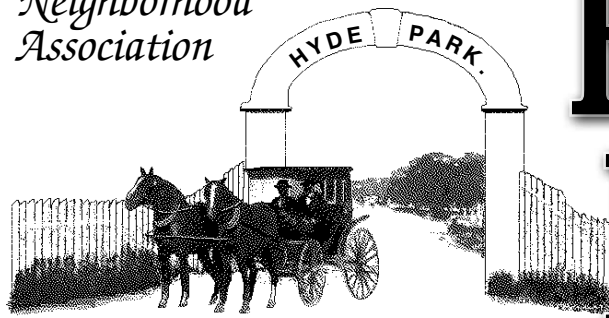
Proposed Triangle Development

### Summary

The Village at the Triangle is a 206-unit congregate care facility containing 126 independent living units, 55 assisted living units, and 25 memory care living units along with accessory spaces such as living room and dining areas, salon, fitness area, town hall, pool, theater, and crafts area. The project features two exterior courtyards that face east and overlook the existing Triangle wet pond. The 1.45 acre site is located in central Austin, at the southeast corner of Triangle Avenue and 46th Street. The building will consist of seven occupied levels over two parking garage levels, reaching a total height below 90 feet.

**Continued on page 14**

*The Hyde Park  
Neighborhood  
Association*



# Pecan Press

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## Attacker Still at Large: Follow-Up

*Editor's Note: At its January meeting, Officer Josh Metteauer and Detective Robert Holsonback of the Austin Police Department came to speak to the HPNA about the recent attack in the neighborhood. Following are excerpts from their remarks and the questions asked by neighbors. The HPNA Crime and Safety Committee is working on fundraising for a reward for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the perpetrator.*

**Officer Josh Metteauer:** I am the district representative, the go-between between you all and the police Department. You guys can call me or email me if you have a problem or a chronic issue that's going on in your neighborhood and you would like me to address it, if you have a question and you just want to ask a police officer and you don't really know where to go with it. I might not be able to solve the problem but I can forward you in the right direction with the city.

**Detective Robert Holsonbach:** I'm the lead investigator on the stabbing case that happened on November. 14. Briefly, what's going on with the case is that we're following the available leads that we have. There aren't a whole lot of strong leads in the case at this time but there are leads. I'm getting evidence tested by the crime lab and I'm hoping that that will give me a break that I'm looking for in the case. We've personally interviewed three potential suspects in the case and I've got about five more that have yet to be interviewed. The reason I haven't interviewed these particular five people is because these are leads that have come in through phone calls saying, "Hey, you might want to just keep an eye on this person" or "This person has been known to be in that area and they have the right color hair." Nothing at all remotely tying them to this specific case.

*Question: You say you're doing testing. Is that DNA testing?*

**RH:** That is one of the options we're doing.

*Question: How long does that take?*

**RH:** It hasn't been started yet. I put the request in going on three weeks ago now. I told my victim when I submitted the testing that I wouldn't expect anything for about three months; that's generally the time frame that I have seen recently. It could be longer, it could be shorter, just depends on how backlogged the lab is at the time. Everything is triaged. They put things in an order of priority, so things are constantly being bumped up and down in priority. So it may be next on the list this week and it may be eighth on the list next week.

*Question: Has motive been arrived at?*

**RH:** No, we don't have enough information at this time.

*Question: Is there anything we can do to contact people to make sure this remains a priority?*

**RH:** The issue I was speaking of specifically was the priorities in the lab. Homicides are going to take priority, because they take priority over

**Continued on page 13**

# From the Desk of the Co-Presidents

We want to begin by expressing our appreciation to everyone who came to January's Neighborhood Association meeting. We had a busy agenda including voting on a budget and two resolutions. The first resolution supports the Planning Commission's recommendation for short-term rentals. The second resolution called for City action on drainage infrastructure and improved maintenance of the Triangle detention pond in order to address flooding within the neighborhood.

The February meeting is also going to have several substantive issues for the membership to consider. At the meeting, the Steering Committee will ask the membership to vote on two more resolutions. The first resolution asks the city council to maintain the current occupancy limit for single family homes to no more than four unrelated individuals. In 2014, the association supported the reduction of occupancy limits that is set to expire in a few months, and this resolution reiterates the neighborhood's earlier position.

The second resolution at February's meeting will express support for the development of a senior assisted living center providing congregational care on the Triangle property, a development that the Steering Committee thinks will be a good use for land close to 45th Street and Guadalupe. This development, known as "Village at the Triangle," is less dense, with reduced impervious cover and reduced traffic. It will provide

housing stock so that residents of the living center can age in place. Finally, given that the development will overlook the retention pond, the developer has committed to work with the neighborhood to help address the issues with the Triangle pond. We hope this will help reduce flooding along Avenue A. The text of the occupancy limits and Triangle resolutions are published elsewhere in this issue of the *Pecan Press*.

## Our Thanks to Our Co-Treasurers and the Finance Committee

At last month's meeting, the membership approved the HPNA's annual budget with no amendments. The lack of changes at the meeting is a testament to the many volunteer hours put in prior to that meeting. We are very grateful to David Connor and his Finance Committee and to the Steering Committee for their efforts in writing, reviewing, and improving the budget. We are also most grateful to our co-Treasurers, Mark Fishman and I Jay Aarons, who continue to contribute their talents to keep HPNA on a stable financial footing.

## Pecan Press

Our neighborhood is blessed to have this publication as our neighborhood newsletter. Publication of this newsletter is a volunteer endeavor and we encourage all of our neighbors to consider contributing an article, poem, story, opinion, recipe, or crossword to the *Pecan Press*.

We are most grateful to our editor, Lorre Weidlich, for continuing to put out a quality publication. However, it is not fair to rely solely on Lorre to either write or obtain authors for all of the articles in each

issue. She is always looking for a good story and a person willing to tell it, and you don't have to be ee cummings, Ernest Hemingway, or Jane Austin to write for the *Pecan Press*. If you have news, a story, a poem, or an opinion to share, send it to our editor. The neighborhood wants to hear it!

## Hyde Park Neighborhood Association

P. O. Box 49427 • Austin, TX 78765  
[www.austinhypark.org](http://www.austinhypark.org)

— HPNA Officers & Steering Committee —

### Co-Presidents

- Kevin Heyburn ..... kmheyburn@gmail.com
- Reid Long ..... reid.long@gmail.com

### Co-Vice Presidents

- Kathy Lawrence ..... mail@kathylawrence.com
- Adrian Skinner ..... adrian.h.skinner@gmail.com

### Co-Secretaries • Artie Gold • Susan Marshall

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

- I. Jay Aarons ..... ijaarons@aol.com
- Mark Fishman ..... mlfishman@gmail.com

### Additional Steering Committee Members:

- Sharon Brown • Joan Burnham • Jessica Charbeneau • Betsy Clubine • Dorothy Richter • John Williams • Lorre Weidlich • Karin Wilkins •

— HPNA Committees & Task Forces —

### AISD • Anne Hebert, anne@annehebert.com

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

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### Church-Neighborhood Liaison • Kathy Lawrence, mail@kathylawrence.com

### CodeNEXT (joint HPNA-CT committee) • (unfilled)

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

### Finance • David Conner, daypaycon@yahoo.com

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## Pecan Press

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# Resolutions for Vote at the February Meeting

## Outreach Efforts

The Steering Committee, our Membership co-chairs, Karen Saadeh and Sharon Brown, and the co-Presidents are committed to improving the outreach and participation of the neighborhood association and our membership. Do you have a new neighbor? Let one of them know about HPNA! It is our intention to welcome everyone to Hyde Park, to encourage them to become part of the Hyde Park community as well as to participate in the HPNA.

Because everyone has a busy schedule, our goal is to continue to make our monthly meetings relevant for all of our neighbors. In addition to continuing to provide relevant topics and opportunities for interaction with your neighbors, the Steering Committee and we, in particular, plan to make a special effort to get acquainted with new neighbors who attend our meetings.

Finally, all of the officers of HPNA are interested in input from our membership. If you have any issue that you believe the HPNA should discuss or if you would like our help to learn more about a topic, please feel free to contact us. Our contact information can be found on page 2 of the *Pecan Press*, in the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association box. We encourage meeting attendees and readers of the *Pecan Press* to let us know what's on their minds.

We look forward to seeing you at February's meeting. We will have a great agenda, a potluck, and a chance to meet candidates running for state representative.

— Kevin Heyburn & Reid Long  
HPNA Co-Presidents

## Occupancy Limits Resolution

The Hyde Park Neighborhood Association (HPNA) supports maintaining the current occupancy limits of four unrelated adults in single-family zoned properties. The HPNA views the current occupancy limits as essential to maintaining affordable housing in the neighborhood because it removes the incentive to remove older, more affordable housing in favor of newer and more expensive housing stock. Furthermore, the current limit helps ensure that new housing stock is useful for all resident types rather than for a single segment of the residential population. Finally, the current occupancy limit of four unrelated adults has reduced incidences of excess trash, overflow street parking, noise disturbances, and the demolition of older homes.

## Village at the Triangle Resolution

The Hyde Park Neighborhood Association supports the request for the Village at the Triangle by W2 Real Estate Partners for a change in zoning and variance for impervious cover to build a congregate care facility on The Triangle property. This development represents a significant need in our community while using a smaller impervious cover footprint than other potential developments on the property. Additionally, the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association supports the efforts of the development to improve the performance of The Triangle detention pond and reduce the likelihood of future flooding in the neighborhood.

### 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.austinhdepark.org](http://www.austinhdepark.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](mailto:lweidlich@grandecom.net).  
*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.*
- Send your contributions to Kid's Corner to Jessica Charbeneau at [ppkidscorner@yahoo.com](mailto:ppkidscorner@yahoo.com).

### Hyde Park Neighborhood Association Membership Form

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Dues  Standard - \$5/yr.  Check

Senior - \$1/yr.  Cash

New Member Date \_\_\_\_\_

Renewing Member Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:  
 HPNA Membership  
 P.O. Box 49427  
 Austin, Texas 778765  
 Make checks payable to HPNA.



# THE HYDE PARK SPECIALIST

*and Resident*

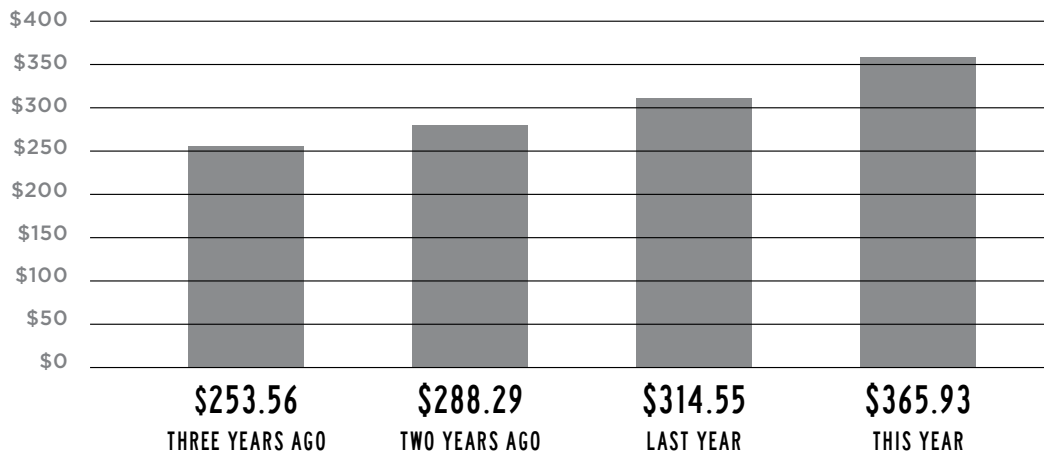
## SAM ARCHER

Until the 1880's, the Texas State Fair took place in Hyde Park. More than a century later, that same historic section of the city is once again attracting crowds as one of the most in-demand neighborhoods in all of Austin. I have lived in Hyde Park for 20 years and witnessed the area transform into a beautiful community that has seen a sweeping boost in property values and quality of life over the past decade. Whether you're looking to buy or sell a house here, my expertise and experience regarding the rich history of the homes in this classic Austin neighborhood will help ease the stress of the realty process. Contact me if you have questions or need any help planning your move.

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# Exploring Hyde Park

## (Almost) 100 Years of History at the Duval Center

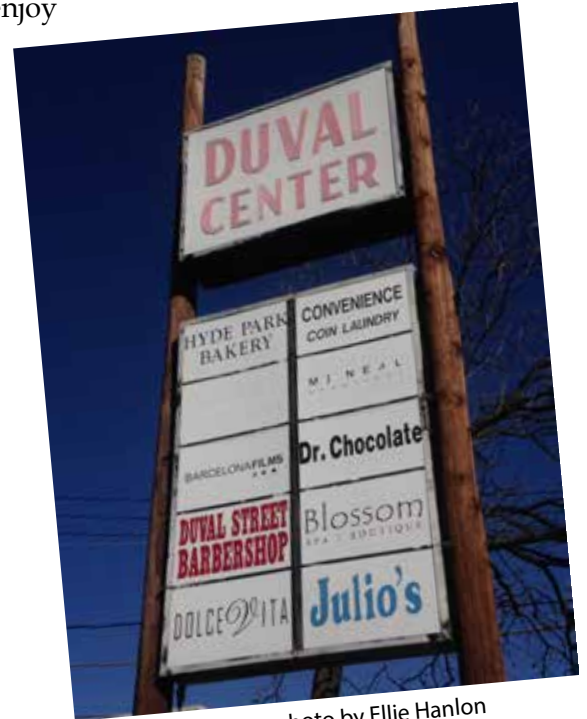
The first home of Joe and Alma Wukasch stood where we now enjoy the best roast chicken and Mexican martinis in Austin, Texas, at Julio's Café. Joe Wukasch was born in 1892 in Serbin, Texas into a community of Wendish Texans. After moving to Austin in 1910, he opened a small grocery store on Guadalupe at 23rd Street. In May 1918, he was called to duty and by chance became the cook for his infantry division after the regular cook was killed. Joe and Alma married upon his return from duty and moved into a modest frame house with a fenced yard on the corner of 43rd and Duval Streets where they lived for nine years before moving to a larger home on West 22 ½ Street.

The current buildings of Duval Center date back to around 1955 and remained in the Wukasch family until 1991, when the current owner, Ed Shaw, purchased them with his mother. Mr. Shaw moved to Austin in 1976 and has fond memories of iconic landmarks such as Mad Dog and Beans (once located on the Drag), where he first tried avocado on a hamburger. He is a hands-on owner and manager of the Duval Center and hopes to preserve the neighborhood charm while adding a bit of polish to some areas and expanding some spaces to enhance the services available to customers.

If you take a look up at the Duval Center sign, you can still see a listing for the Hyde Park Bakery. From 1985 until 1997, Mr. Shaw and Judy Willcott (of Texas French Bread) operated the Hyde Park Bakery at Duval Center. It began as a 450 square foot space with a single convection oven in what is now the western seating section of Quack's Bakery and gradually expanded to the current bakery space. In fact, the space has been a bakery for over 35 years and has had only two owners for 31 of those years. (Archie's Bakery operated from 1981 until 1985.)

Arthur Silver, who operated the beloved Captain Quackenbushes Intergalactic Dessert Company and Espresso Café on Guadalupe, purchased Hyde Park Bakery in 1997 and continues to operate the space as Quack's 43rd Street Bakery. Last spring, Quack's opened The Cakery in the space formerly known as Blossom Day Spa (still visible on the Duval Center marquee). The Cakery includes "Bridal Sweet" and offers decorated birthday cakes and tiered wedding cakes. Mr. Silver recently acquired the laundromat space between the bakery and Julio's Café and has plans to use that space to further enhance the bakery operations.

Look a little more closely at the Duval Center marquee and you can see the faint remnants of the Gaitan's Barber Shop sign. Mr. Gaitan provided excellent haircuts for over 50 years and won several "Best of" awards from the Austin Chronicle, including one in 2008 to commemorate his reunion with his business partner Phyllis Nunez, who had briefly moved to a different location. Ms. Nunez took over the shop when Mr. Gaitan (semi)-retired in 2010 and remained there until her recent move just a hop, skip, and a jump away to The Haircut Store on San Jacinto near Posse East.



Duval Center Sign, photo by Ellie Hanlon

The barbershop is currently vacant and plans are underway to increase the size of the space currently occupied by Dolce Vita by expanding into the former barbershop. So far, there isn't a named tenant, but Mr. Shaw is aiming toward something fun that is a good fit for the neighborhood and a little more hip and refined. There are also plans to remove the current parking spaces and driveway between the two buildings (Dolce Vita to the south and Julio's and Quacks to the north) to create a pedestrian plaza with covered seating.

There are a few more listings on the Duval Center marquee that no longer exist and the most recent shop isn't there at all. Antonelli's Cheese Shop opened in 2010 and acquired additional space beyond the Duval Center at the Cheese House across the street in 2012.

Time marches on, and the current Duval Center sign will soon be replaced with a newer version with lights and names of the current tenants of the shopping center. Regardless of the changes, Duval Center will continue to be a place for neighbors and friends to meet and share a delicious meal or a coffee and a sweet.

Share your photos and memories on our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/austinhypark](http://www.facebook.com/austinhypark)). Look for the Duval Center post and add your photos and memories in the comments section.

— Ellie Hanlon

### Related links:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=169340>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wends\\_of\\_Texas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wends_of_Texas)

# HPNA Minutes:

## January 4, 2016

The meeting was called to order on January 4, 2016 at 7:05 pm by co-President Reid Long at the Griffin School, 5001 Evans Avenue.

The first item on the agenda was consideration of the 2016 HPNA budget. The budget was summarized by Finance Committee chair David Conner. The major point of contention concerned the line item for volunteer appreciation and parties. It was suggested that we check on whether IRS rules permit this expenditure. The budget passed by a vote of 28 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstentions. Approval levels for HNPNA officer spending were approved by acclamation.

The next item on the agenda was a presentation by representatives of the Austin Police Department concerning the November stabbing near Shipe Park. APD District Representative Josh Metteauer advised residents to be on alert when outside their homes. He recommended using Nextdoor.com to keep updated with police information. Officer Metteauer can be reached at 512-974-8124 or Joshua.metteauer@austintexas.gov. Also present was Detective Robert Holsonback who is working on the case. He stated that he was in the process of interviewing potential suspects and fielding phone calls, but the identity of the suspect is still unknown. Following their presentation, volunteers were recruited to pass out flyers at neighborhood businesses to solicit help in identifying the perpetrator. (See related article, page 1)

The third item on the agenda was a presentation by Jeff Howard, Austin attorney for the developer of the remaining undeveloped property at The Triangle (to be located at 46th Street and Triangle). Instead of the multi-family development in the original proposal, which would contain 320 units, the new plan is for a senior housing project containing 206 units (126 units of independent living, 55 units of assisted living, and 25 memory care units). Mr. Howard claimed that the new plan would generate one-quarter of the automobile traffic compared to the original plan. To proceed with the new plan, the developers are requesting a zoning change from GRMO to MF-6. This change would permit the change of use to congregate care housing and would also allow a uniform building height of 90 feet. Mr. Howard also stated that the developers plan to file a variance to permit 85% impervious cover, which is less than the old plan but more than the 80% impervious cover permitted under MF-6 zoning rules. They are also petitioning for a variance to permit the construction of balconies.

Discussion focused on previous maintenance problems with the retention pond at The Triangle development, which was found to be responsible for flooding of Avenue A in 2015. Mr. Howard, who is not an engineer, stated repeatedly that the developers feel the current retention pond is appropriate and that the main issue is proper maintenance, although he also noted that with heavy rains the pond is designed to spill over onto Guadalupe Street. He also stated that not all 2015 flooding events in Hyde Park could be traced to The Triangle de-

velopment. In response to questioning, Mr. Howard stated that the developers are willing to consider dropping the permanent pond level to improve drainage. Members expressed concerns that there should be regular monitoring of the retention pond and a stated willingness of developers to consider redesign as needed to prevent neighborhood flooding. A number of members objected to the proposed variance to permit 85% impervious cover. Mr. Howard can be contacted at 512-328-2008 or jhoward@mcleanhowardlaw.com.

The fourth agenda item was a resolution on neighborhood flooding issues to be presented to the Austin City Council. Co-Vice-president Adrian Skinner read the resolution, as follows:

*WHEREAS the Austin neighborhood known as Hyde Park has witnessed increased flooding during rainfall events over the last two years; and*

*WHEREAS THE City of Austin has confirmed that Hyde Park drainage infrastructure was built out in the 1930s, has not been significantly updated since installation, and is in need of major infrastructure improvements; and*

*WHEREAS the retention pond at the northwest corner of Guadalupe and 45th Street has failed to perform as designed, the City of Austin has cited The Triangle property management group for failures to maintain said retention pond, and water from said retention pond has spilled over onto Guadalupe contributing to flooding in Hyde Park on multiple occasions; and*

*WHEREAS residents of Hyde Park have incurred property damage as a direct result of flooding during the last 2 years;*

*The Hyde Park Neighborhood Association requests the following actions on behalf of all Hyde Park residents:*

*EXPEDITED APPROVAL of funds required to begin improvements to neighborhood drainage infrastructure; and*

*ADDITIONAL INSPECTIONS of the retention pond at the northwest corner of Guadalupe and 45 Street INCLUDING ad hoc inspections for debris, overgrowth, and other potential blockages directly preceding any day when heavy rain is forecasted; and*

*ENGINEERING REVIEW AND REPORT on development growth and impervious cover culminating in a recommendation for drainage infrastructure improvements necessary to mitigate current and anticipated future growth needs for Hyde Park and surrounding neighborhoods.*

The main suggestion for revision of the resolution was to be more specific geographically in identifying the location of the flooding problem. Mr. Skinner agreed to research that issue. The resolution passed by a vote of 28 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention.

The fifth and final agenda item was a resolution with regard to type 2 short-term rentals to be sent to the Austin City Council. The content of the resolution followed closely a recent unanimous vote on type 2 STRs (those located on property that is not owner-occupied) by the city Planning Commission. Steering Committee member Sharon Brown presented the resolution, as follows:

The Hyde Park Neighborhood Association (HPNA) supports the recommendations of the Planning Commission regarding type 2 short-term rentals (STRs) and asks that the City Council adopt the Planning Commission's proposed ordinance. In particular, the HPNA asks that any ordinance include the following principles:

**Continued on following page**



## Monthly Calendar February

- 1-13 — *FronteraFest at the Hyde Park Theatre*
- 1 — *HPNA General Meeting*
- 4 — *DRC Meeting*
- 5 — *Recycling Pickup*
- 8 — *HPNA Steering Committee Meeting*
- 13-14 — *Nancy Mims: The Passed Looms Present at the Elisabet Ney Museum*
- 19 — *Recycling Pickup*
- 20 — *Celebrate Urban Birds at the Elisabet Ney Museum*

- Phase out type 2 STRs from residential neighborhoods.
- Require bad-actor STRs to seek conditional use permits from the Planning Commission.
- Establish a 6-person occupancy limit for STRs regardless of whether the occupants are related or unrelated.
- Establish a 1,000 feet distance separation between type 2 STRs.
- Enact stiffer penalties and higher fines for STR violations and clearly define all violations and penalties.
- Utilize the administrative hearing process of the Building and Standards Commission (BSC) for STR complaints and violations.
- Supplement the Property Maintenance Code to facilitate the BSC's jurisdiction over STRs.

During discussion, two major revisions were proposed. The first was, with regard to the first bullet, to place a time limit on phasing out type 2 STRs, such as "... no later than 2020." It was agreed to delete the second bullet. The resolution passed with 27 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

With the agenda items concluded, announcements included the following upcoming meetings: January 12 (6 pm, City Hall Council Chambers) meeting of the city Planning Commission to consider changes to the Contact Team ordinance; the quarterly meeting of the neighborhood Contact Team on January 24 at Trinity United Methodist Church; CodeNEXT Advisory Group Public Comment on January 12 (6 pm) at Town Lake Center, 721 Barton Springs Road, Room 130.

Reid Long adjourned the meeting at 8:35 pm.  
 — *Artie Gold and Susan Marshall,*  
*HPNA co-Secretaries*

## Around & About the Avenues

**Shipe Pool Renovation Update.** On January 8, 2016, the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department was informed that the scope (contract) of the approved Shipe Pool renovation had been executed by the City of Austin Contract Management Department. This milestone officially begins the process for developing the proposed pool renovation at Shipe Park.

The unofficial timeline suggests that the pool will remain open this summer, with construction to be completed in time to reopen for the following swim season.



**Lee Live: Sponsor Opportunities.** Our neighborhood school, Lee Elementary, hosts its most important fundraiser of the year, Lee Live, on March 5, 2016, 6:30 pm at Spiderhouse Ballroom. Featuring live music from Lee parents Kelly Willis and Bruce Robison, plus the Outskirts, Lee Live is always a great success and a wonderful opportunity for local businesses to support our school. If you are interested in being a sponsor, please contact Michele Starkloff at [mlstarkloff@me.com](mailto:mlstarkloff@me.com).



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## Kid's Corner: Happy Valentine's Day, Hyde Parkers!

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, kid's drawings, stories, comics, songs, poems, what have you! [ppkidscorner@yahoo.com](mailto:ppkidscorner@yahoo.com)

Have some fun with your little Valentines with this silly wordplay poem. Perhaps you can convince them to eat all the veggies mentioned, in addition to all the yummy Valentine treats, of course!

Cabbage always has a heart;  
Green beans string along.  
You're such a Tomato,  
Will you Peas to me belong?

You've been the Apple of my eye,  
You know how much I care;  
So Lettuce get together,  
We'd make a perfect Pear.

Now, something's sure to Turnip,  
To prove you can't be Beet;  
So, if you Carrot all for me  
Let's let our Tulips meet.

Don't Squash my hopes and dreams now,  
Bee my Honey, dear;  
Or tears will fill Potato's eyes,  
While Sweet Corn lends an ear.

I'll Cauliflower shop and say  
Your dreams are Parsley mine.  
I'll work and share my Celery,  
So be my Valentine.

— Anonymous



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# The Arts in Hyde Park

## 23rd Annual FronteraFest at Hyde Park Theater

One of Austin's most popular and longest running performance events, FronteraFest, has returned for its 23rd year. A collaboration between Hyde Park Theatre and ScriptWorks, FronteraFest is composed of three separate performance events: the Short Fringe, which showcases pieces 25 minutes or less and runs the entirety of the festival; the Long Fringe, with pieces between 45 and 90 minutes; and Mi Casa es Su Teatro, which offers one day of performances hosted primarily at private homes. The Fest started on January 12 and runs through February 13 (Short Fringe) at Hyde Park Theatre, 511 West 43rd Street; January 18 through 31 (Long Fringe) at Ground Floor Theatre, 979 Springdale Road; and Mi Casa es Su Teatro, for one day only on Saturday, February 6, from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm.



Ashleigh Pedersen in *Mother Enough*, photo by Bret Brookshire

Over the course of two decades, artists, actors, musicians, poets, and performers of all types have helped build FronteraFest into one of the largest and most popular fringe performance festivals in the Southwest, attracting national and international attention.

In the past few years, performers have traveled from as far as Chang Ung University in Seoul, South Korea to perform a fascinating adaptation of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, in both Korean and English. Other U.S. cities represented in recent years include New York, San Francisco, Seattle, Minneapolis, and Los Angeles. Throughout the life of the Festival, there have been thousands of participants.

While the spirit of the festival is collaborative rather than competitive, there are weekly three-person voting panels as well as audience voting in the Short Fringe. The highest ranked performances get to return to the stage each Saturday of the Short Fringe for a Best of the Week showcase. The final week of the Short Fringe (February 9 - 13) is reserved for Best of the Fest, which includes pieces selected from Best of the Week, in addition to a special Wild Card night, which features pieces selected by FronteraFest staff and crew.

Ken Webster, Artistic Director of Hyde Park Theatre, credits the Fest's popularity and longevity to the eclectic mix of performances. "The combination of work by established writers and performers, as well as newcomers to the Austin arts scene, is an exciting mix," he says. "From dance to music to theatre - you experience an artistic melting pot, and I think that resonates in a city like Austin."

Christi Moore, Executive Director of ScriptWorks, views the collaborative nature of the Fest as invaluable to both new and developing artists and writers. "The very nature of the ScriptWorks organization is collaborative. We work together to make everyone better, to tell better stories, become better writers. The Fest provides a different and very special kind of immediate feedback that can educate, entertain, and inspire."

FronteraFest is widely regarded as an incubator for new work. Many performances that germinated at the Fest have catapulted into full-length, professional award-winning productions. Austinites Steven Tomlinson, Ron Berry, Hans Frank, Cyndi Williams, Lowell Bartholomee, and many others have been widely recognized for their work. Participants have also included former LA television actress Beth Broderick, now living in Austin; Hank Schwemmer; and slam poet Big Poppa E, who made a name for himself on HBO's former television series, *Russell Simmons Def Poetry Jam*.

The Fest is the collaboration between two of Austin's foremost arts organizations, Hyde Park's very own award-winning professional theatre, Hyde Park Theatre, and ScriptWorks, a playwright development and service organization with members in Austin, the state, and around the country.

Venue, ticket information, and full schedules can be found at [www.hydeparktheatre.org](http://www.hydeparktheatre.org).

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My tag "Old Austin REALTOR®" expresses the commitment to historic preservation that led me into real estate in 1997 to work with others who want to preserve the history and culture of Austin's older neighborhoods.

In 2000 I led in developing a class on "Marketing and Selling Historic Properties," an eight-hour MCE class sponsored by the Austin Board of REALTORS® and Preservation Austin. Fifteen times over the years I have gathered a team of experts to present useful information and every time it is done I learn more. The class will be offered again in February (For info see [PreservationAustin.org](http://PreservationAustin.org))

Real estate companies change and evolve, and after fifteen good years with the Kinney Company I am happy to announce that I will soon be joining Elizabeth Brooks and her colleagues at Landmark Properties. Elizabeth has had a respected presence as a Broker south of the Colorado River in Travis Heights and other neighborhoods for more than twenty years.

Searching for a home in Old Austin can be difficult and frustrating—especially without the help of a REALTOR® who knows and appreciates central neighborhoods and old houses. I encourage anyone who wants to buy or sell an old house to work with a REALTOR® who lives and works here. We may not all be "old," but we have a proven commitment and knowledge that can be extremely helpful to a buyer or seller who wants to help save "old Austin."

As I join Landmark Properties, I will continue to work from my home, accessible to people who want to contact me by phone, cell phone or internet.

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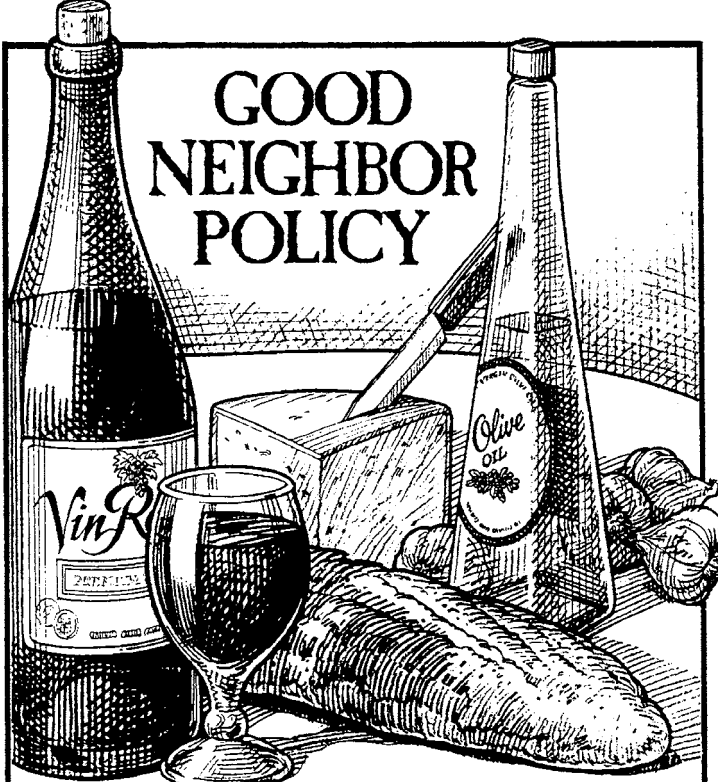
# News from The Ney

Two unique but quite different events will take place at the Ney in February 2016.

On Saturday and Sunday, February 13 and 14, from noon to 5 pm, the Ney will present *Nancy Mims: The Passed Looms Present*, a very special installation art piece. The Ney's landscape north of Waller Creek will become Austin artist Nancy Mims' medium in this one-of-a-kind site-specific participatory installation. Three tree-bound looms will be the epicenter on which very large woven prints will come together with the help of strings, enormous photographs printed on cloth, found objects, thread, and rope. Visitors' hands will be recruited for the weaving of these remarkable works. There will also be an Artist's Talk at 2 pm both days and a reception on Saturday, February 13 from 4 to 6 pm. *The Passed Looms Present* will take place rain or shine; after all, the weather is part of the palette. Of note, this event is part of Print Austin, a month-long celebration of Austin's vibrant print art community, and marks the first time the Ney has ever participated in this series. For more information on Print Austin, visit the website at [www.printaustin.org](http://www.printaustin.org).

Attend *Celebrate Urban Birds* on Saturday, February 20, from 1 to 4 pm at the Ney! Presented with the Austin Nature and Science Center, Travis Audubon Society, and the Cornell School of Ornithology, this annual family event helps raise awareness of our avian neighbors while producing data that will be used in tracking, monitoring, and understanding them and their habits. As you'll learn, it's a much richer community than you might expect. From grackles to warblers to hawks, many can be found in an afternoon at a Certified Wildlife Habitat like the one at the Ney. At 1 and 3 pm, there will be guided bird counts. At 2 pm, Professor Emeritus Robin Doughty of the University of Texas at Austin Geography Department will give a talk about the changing nature of Austin's urban birds. The species mix that exists today in the city is very different from the one that existed here 100 years ago. Kiddos can become a bird at our face painting booth, join us for the Migration Challenge, construct a bird house with recyclable materials, and create bird masks and clay bird feeders!

The museum will also be unveiling summer camp plans soon, so keep an eye out for that. One good way is to "like" the museum on Facebook, where all the events are posted. Speaking of social media, the Ney's Instagram feed is increasingly robust and its Twitter account is tweeting regularly. Both can be found @ElisabetNeyATX. You can also find the Ney on Pinterest.



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# Attacker Still at Large...

## ...cont'd from page 1

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everything. So if it's a slow week or a slow couple of weeks, they'll start getting to the other cases. If several homicides come in in a very short time frame, those are going to get bumped to the top of the list and going to push everything else down. I can't think of anything that you guys could do that could change that. It's the necessary operation of the police department.

*Question: I know there was a general description of the woman. Was there enough to go by to do some kind of sketch?*

**RH:** That was something that I checked into. I spoke with a forensic sketch artist about it and it turned out that that was not a viable option in this case.

*Question: Had you encountered a crime like this before, a random stabbing, just somebody innocently in the middle of the neighborhood?*

**RH:** Me personally, no. Stranger-on-stranger crime is a daily occurrence in the city of Austin, but normally there is some other readily identifiable motive — robbery, sexual assault. There's something that precipitates it. A crime like this, where there appears to be absolutely no interaction whatsoever between the victim and the suspect ahead of time, I haven't seen it but I know it does occur. It's just in 22 years of law enforcement I've never worked one.

*Question: You know that our neighborhood is in close proximity to ASH. Have you followed up with their patient list — people who got treated recently with criminal histories or aggressive tendencies?*

**RH:** It's not something that I can get into because of the HIPAA laws. I just can't ask them, "Give me a list of all your patients who have shown aggressive tendencies or have verbalized aggressive ideology." I would have to have specific information about a specific person in order to go to a judge and get a search warrant to obtain those records.

*Question: Do you have any idea of the age of the suspect?*

**RH:** Unless something has changed in the case regarding the victim's memory of the incident, no, we don't have a specific age.

*Question: Could you ask the state hospital if there was anybody missing during those hours?*

**RH:** The state hospital reports people that are missing that are there against their will, that are there being treated because of a commitment. They make those reports to the police department and there were no reports during that time. Now, voluntary people can come and go as they please, so anything's a possibility.

*Question: Over the past few years, we've had people that show up, cause a ruckus, and then they're gone for long periods of time; sometimes they show back up in the neighborhood. Is there any chance to check back to see if any of those people match this description? It gives you a group of people that have been here before that potentially you could look at.*

**RH:** Those are the individuals that we have checked into and all three of the individuals we've already personally interviewed were individuals like that.

*Question: Are there any situations that we should avoid to make it safer for the rest of us?*

**JM:** Something you should try to do is be aware of your surroundings. A lot of it is just paying attention to where you're at, what you're doing when you're in public, making eye contact with people when they walk by. If you're going to sit in your vehicle, start the car up and drive off, don't just sit there in your vehicle gathering your stuff, looking at your phone. As long as you're sitting there, you're a target.

*Question: This is not about the investigation but about the response from the Austin Police Department. Has there been a stepped up presence in the neighborhood subsequent to this incident?*

**JM:** There have been some directed patrols set up for the patrol officers in the area. We canvassed the area a couple weeks after the incident. I'm aware of Shipe Park and who frequents it. I talked to some of the people who live around there and who walk through it. At this point, I think those patrols are not as frequent as they were at the time. We did for a good strong two weeks.

Just to give you guys an idea of what happened immediately after this incident, I put out a request to what we call our metro tactical units. They're officers that are in plain clothes, that don't openly display their police identification, that drive rental cars or borrowed cars from car dealerships. For at least a week after the incident, we had two teams of those driving around in addition to enhanced patrol in that area. That's where a lot of my initial leads came from — those officers out there, seeing someone who matches the description, who may or may not have been exhibiting specific behavior types, reporting back to me with names and photographs of those individuals. Since then, I've had several other occasions to contact both patrol and the metro tac unit to again go out, because I'd get a new phone call. It has happened on and off and it still is happening, because just last week I sent one of those emails.

*Question: Did you check with Capital Metro?*

**A:** Not all the Capital Metro busses have cameras in them. I haven't checked with Cap Metro this specific time because in the past when I've contacted Cap Metro about things, they've only got a small number of busses that have cameras on them.

*Q. They couldn't have just disappeared. They might have come on a bus and jumped on a bus.*

**A:** Correct. Although that's a good idea, at the time it wasn't a priority, because based on the amount of information I had at the time, if I would have seen somebody that matched the general description getting on the bus on the camera, for one thing I wouldn't have known whether that was them or not and I probably wouldn't be able to identify that person if I had. So I have to prioritize the work that I can do on the leads that I think are going to be the most productive.

*Question: I have a procedural question. It has to do with how we can get information about what happens in the neighborhood. This crime is very different than a lot of the stuff that happens in the neighborhood. It was more dangerous and right*

**Continued on page 15**

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## The Village at the Triangle... ...cont'd from page 1

The planned project is lower in density than is currently allowed under the existing development order, in the following ways: less height (below 90 feet versus up to 120 feet), less traffic (1/4 of the trips per day allowed for multifamily dwellings, 416 trips versus over 2,000 trips), fewer over-all units



Proposed Site Plan

(206 units versus 320 units), less overall developed square footage (231,436 square feet versus 280,000 square feet), and less impervious cover (85.39% versus up to 100% allowed under the Development Order and the existing pond design).

### Project Team

- Developer: W2 Real Estate Partners  
 (formerly Simmons Vedder Partners)
- Co-Developer and Operator: Bridgewood Properties
- Architect: House + Partners
- Civil Engineer: Bury
- Landscape Architecture: TBG Partners
- General Contractor: Harvey-Cleary

### Current Status

The 1.45 acre site is currently cleared and partially covered by gravel and is sometimes used for event parking.

Development rights under the current entitlements outlined within the State Development Order include the following:

- 320 residential units
- Building height of 120 feet and 65 feet (compared to the existing Triangle buildings, which are 60 feet high)
- Up to 100% impervious cover
- Authorization to build features over the setback lines, over right of ways, and over City-owned public areas

### Development Plan

- Seeking MF-6 zoning to maintain single building height of under 90 feet and to create congregate living.
- Seeking Board of Adjustment variance for 85.38% impervious cover versus 80% impervious cover allowed under MF-6 zoning.
- Seeking Board of Adjustment variance to allow exterior balconies to extend over setback lines (smaller variance than required by existing Triangle buildings, which included features extending over right of way and property lines).
- Projected construction start date: June 2016.



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# Attacker Still at Large...

...cont'd from page 13

next to the park. It took until we got through to you, I guess maybe three days later, to get a clear description of what happened. The big question to me as a neighbor: Is there a place we can go as individuals or could we be contacted as a community? Is there a process whereby we as a neighborhood can find out about things that we really should know about and be aware of? It can be that you contact us after something like this happens and we can get the word out to the neighborhood via the listserv.

**JM:** Yes, and that is what I did. What happens, when an incident like that happens, is that first it gets worked by patrol officers and then it gets assigned over to the detective and it's an ongoing investigation. As soon as I heard about it I started looking into it and reading up on it and I got a lot of calls from maybe some of you guys. I started piecing together what had happened. What can I put out and what can I not? Sometimes there's information that you don't want to put out because the suspect will know that and then whenever the detective is interrogating the suspect you don't want that information out to the public.

*Question: So then should we be going out to that neighborhood list that you told us to get on to?*

**JM:** Yes, that is Nextdoor.com. That is what's backed by the department. I'll put information out to NextDoor or I will also email. We put it through the Crime and Safety chair or the president, whichever one is functioning in that role.

*Question: Would reverse 911 ever be used in this sort of incident?*

**RH:** That would be a question that you would have to address to someone much higher in the department. I certainly don't know what the circumstances are for authorizing the use of reverse 911 versus not. That's something that would have to come from our fifth floor, which is where our chief's office is.

*Question: Could you explain what that means?*

**RH:** The department has the ability through its CAD system and its mapping software to pull up the residential phone numbers that are registered to the addresses in a specific area. A recording can be made of a message and the computer will call all those numbers and play that recording, saying, there's a shooter on the loose, officers are searching the areas, please lock your doors, things like that. I've been out of the patrol realm for so long I couldn't even tell you if we have that system today.



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**This is the time to start planning ahead if you are considering buying or selling this spring. Forecasts remain very positive for Austin's real estate market in 2016. Contact me today for a complimentary market analysis and customized marketing plan for your property.**

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