

November Meeting

When: 7:00 p.m.
Monday, November 2, 2015

Where: Griffin School
5001 Evans Avenue

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

HPNA General Meeting Agenda for November 2

- ◆ Potluck Meet & Greet
- ◆ Presentation by Jim Walker, UT Director of Sustainability, Working with Neighbors and Neighborhoods around UT
- ◆ Update from Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo's Office, City Council Action on Sort Term Rentals
- ◆ Announcements

See You There!

Community Spirit and Appreciation at the 2015 Fire Station Festival

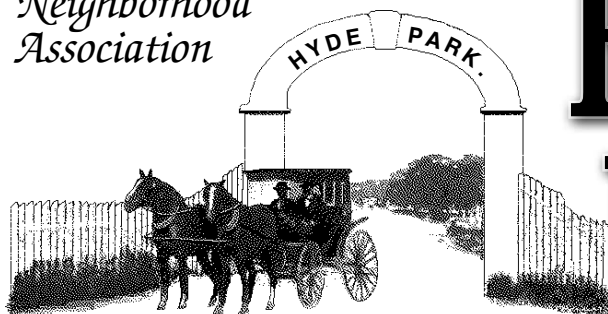
With the current Hidden Pines fire and the Bastrop fires in the back of many Hyde Park-er minds, it seemed even more important to celebrate and show appreciation for our neighborhood fire fighters at Station #9.

Our thanks go to Lt. Lee Kendrick, David Sullivan, Donald Castro, Daniel Miller, Matt Moore, and Peter Teliha, who were at the festival greeting neighbors, facilitating engine tours, and providing information. There's no call too big or too small for them to answer to assure our safety and peace of mind. While medical situation are their most common calls, Station #9 firefighters also quell our neighborhood fires, and just a few days ago, they helped residents rescue an injured buzzard!

According to firefighters Lieutenant Lee Kendrick and Donald Castro, who have served at Station

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*The Hyde Park
Neighborhood
Association*



Pecan Press

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39th Hyde Park Homes Tour: A Celebration of Small Houses

“A Celebration of Small Houses” is the theme of the 39th Annual Historic Hyde Park Homes Tour on Sunday, November 8 from 11 am to 5 pm.

While Hyde Park was founded in the 1890s as a destination for wealthy Austinites who owned fine large mansions, many homes of different sizes and periods were added to the neighborhood during subsequent years.

These homes not only chronicle different periods of architectural styles, they reveal the varied histories of Hyde Park neighbors over the past 120 years. They tell the stories of Austin.

Averaging less than 850 square feet in size, the small homes featured on this year's tour show that creative people can enjoy style and affordability in a Central Austin location. By living in smaller homes, residents can also embrace sustainability and the growing tiny house movement. Fortunately, Hyde Park's local historic district protects these small homes from the demolitions that are increasingly occurring throughout the city.

Seven featured homes on the tour include a lovely Folk Victorian cottage that represents resilience and survival; a 1918 bungalow that added storage by creating a loft; a 1927 home that recently expanded its living space by creating a garage guest suite; a cottage that was produced from an all-inclusive kit from the Calcasieu Lumber Company; a recently updated small Depression-era cottage that exhibits the distinctive architectural features typical of homes built at that time; a home that was once covered in pink asbestos shingles; and a 435 square foot “tiny house” that was built in 1940 as part of a compound of small apartments.



4304 Avenue D, photo by Rice Jackson Photography

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Welcome to the November edition of the *Pecan Press*. As this is our first letter as co-Presidents of the neighborhood association, we felt it appropriate to give you a short background about us so that you can get to know us better.

New co-President Reid Long is in his early 30s and has been in the neighborhood for about 8 years. After graduating from The University of Texas at Austin with a PhD in organic chemistry, he began working for an intellectual property law firm as a technical advisor and then a patent agent. In his earlier life, he served in numerous leadership roles, including Vice President for External Affairs for the UT Graduate Student Assembly. Within the neighborhood, Reid

has been a member of the HPNA for several years and has served as HPNA's co-Secretary for the past year and chair of the bylaws revision committee for the Hyde Park Neighborhood Plan Contact Team. Reid looks forward to serving as co-President and helping to advance our neighborhood.

Kevin Heyburn is serving his second term as HPNA's co-President. He is a lawyer for the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, Office of Inspector General, and prior to that, he served as an Assistant Attorney General. He is a graduate of St. John's College in Santa Fe, New Mexico and earned his law degree at the University of Houston Law Center. He was a Peace Corps volunteer in Kenya.

Please feel free to contact us if you want to discuss anything that you feel is important to the neighborhood.

The upcoming year will provide many challenges, as the City continues to debate changes to policies related to short term rentals and accessory dwelling units. Neighborhood flooding remains a threat, and increased development only increases that threat. The possible redevelopment of the Austin State Hospital remains an open question and could have long-term implications for the neighborhood. All of these issues are underpinned by the CodeNEXT process that is being undertaken by the City to rewrite the land development code over the course of the next year.

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Pecan Press

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Monthly Calendar November

- 2 — HPNA Meeting
- 8 — 39th Annual Hyde Park Homes Tour
- 9 — HPNA Steering Committee Meeting
- 13 — Recycling Collection
- 19 — Book Signing by Michael Barnes at the Ney
- 27 — Recycling Collection

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Exploring Lives

Interview with Deaton Bednar



Editor's Note: For years, Deaton Bednar lived near Red River but loved to run through the tree-lined streets of Hyde Park. When a home she coveted came onto the market in 1994, she seized the opportunity to move to Hyde Park, where she quickly became a leader of community-building events including the Fire Station Festival and Volunteer Party. In addition to her tremendous service to the community, Deaton has over 24 years of senior management experience in creative, education, and technology-based industries. Recently, she decided to combine her passion for education, biking, and the City of Austin to found Texas Bike Tours. TXBT offers personalized cycling and culinary experiences designed to immerse customers in the distinctive cultures of Austin or Fredericksburg. Deaton was interviewed by fellow Hyde Parker, Betsy Clubine.

Betsy Clubine: Many of us have met you through your extensive involvement in the neighborhood but know very little about your past. Can you tell us a bit about where you grew up?

Deaton Bednar: I grew up in North Carolina in a little town called Kinston in between Raleigh and the coast. It was less than 50,000 people. We had a fun meeting with my dad when I was in the 5th grade and he said, "Ok, we have two choices: we can belong to the Country Club or we can buy a house at the beach and spend our summers at the beach." So, I now think of myself as a beach girl because that's where we spent our summers and those were my happiest times. Then I went to a small college in North Carolina and branched out from there.

BC: I notice that you have a Bachelor's degree in Business from East Carolina University but started out as a classroom teacher. What prompted your decision to teach?

DB: I'm old enough that you could be three things: a secretary, a nurse, or a teacher. I wasn't sure what I wanted to do. I loved accounting and I loved art. I took a lot of Art electives but my daddy was pretty adamant that if I was going to college—I was the only person in my family that went to college—I needed to take business subjects because he didn't want me to ever count on any man. He wanted me to be able to take care of myself.

So, I think I took half a class of shorthand and I thought it was the worst thing ever. I kept looking out the window and I said, "OK, I'm not going to be a nurse, and I'm not going to be a secretary. I'm going to be a teacher but I can at least teach what I want!"

BC: After you taught, is that when you moved to Austin?

DB: I taught for one year and they would not allow me to teach accounting my first year out of college because I was so young. So, I taught business math and I realized how deplorable the education system was. One of my students in the 9th grade did not know the alphabet. It was a pretty hard year. A lot went on and I didn't know what my options were, but I knew that the guy that I thought I would love forever had survived

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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.



THE HYDE PARK SPECIALIST

and Resident

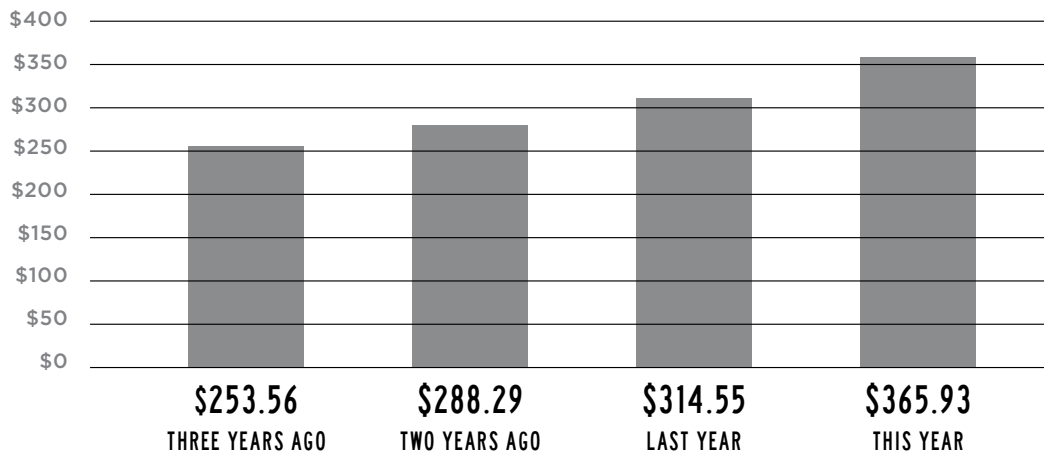
SAM ARCHER

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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The Arts in Hyde Park

Harold Pinter at the Hyde Park Theatre

One of the nice things about living in Hyde Park is that you don't have to travel very far to enjoy the fine arts. On any given weekend you can walk to Central Market, the New World Deli, or Sao Paulo's to hear live music. Every weekday you can drop by the Ney to see great art. If you are more ambitious, you can walk downtown to a club or visit a gallery at UT. And thanks to Hyde Park Theatre, you don't have to leave the neighborhood if you want to see a good play. For example, right now at Hyde Park Theatre, Austin's award winning Capital T Theatre Company is performing *The Dumb Waiter* by the famous British playwright Harold Pinter.

The Dumb Waiter is a comedic thriller about two professional killers waiting in a windowless basement for word of their next assignment. Neither one of them is sure who their target will be or when they will have to carry out their deadly task. The play was a huge hit when it opened in London. London's *Telegraph* newspaper called it, "a thrill with some hearty laughs." London's *The Guardian* observed, "Pinter knows exactly how to balance comedy and fear."

The late actor, poet, director Harold Pinter was born in East London in 1930. His first full-length play, *The Birthday Party*, debuted in the West End in 1958. Critics often describe Pinter's plays as "comedies of menace" in which situations that should be ordinary turn absurd or ominous because of inexplicable reasons. His plays usually take place in a single room, whose occupants are threatened by indefinable outside forces. In addition to plays, Pinter wrote screenplays, including *The Servant* (1962), *Accident* (1967), *The Go-Between* (1971), *The French Lieutenant's Woman* (1981), *Turtle Diary* (1985), *The Trial* (1989), and *The Handmaid's Tale* (1990), among others. Prior to his death in 2008, Pinter was honored with both the

Nobel Prize for Literature and France's Légion d'honneur. On presenting Pinter with France's highest civil honor, the French Prime Minister said, "Poetry teaches us how to live and you, Harold Pinter, teach us how to live."

The Dumb Waiter stars Jason Phelps and Ken Webster and is directed by two time B. Iden Payne and Austin Critics Table award-winning director Mark Pickell. The play opened on October 29th and runs through November 21st, Thursday through Saturday, at 8:00 pm, at Hyde Park Theatre at 511 W. 43rd Street.

— Kevin Heyburn



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News From The Ney

If you've been reading the *Austin American-Statesman* for a while, or even just a few weeks, you're familiar with the name Michael Barnes. Born in Texas, Michael earned his Ph.D. here at UT-Austin, then became a staff entertainment writer for the *Statesman*. Since then, he's become something of an authority on social life in Austin, its places and its people.

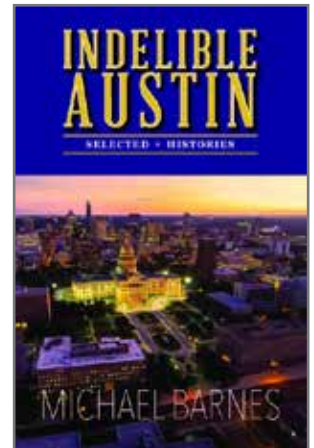


Michael Barnes

Recently, however, Michael crafted a wonderfully rich series of short histories about our city, and just a few weeks ago, Austin's Waterloo Press released a

compilation of these gems.

Indelible Austin: Selected Histories collects several dozen historical columns written by Michael and originally published by the *Austin American-Statesman*. The notion of publishing a book grew out of frequent reader requests for a collected version of these stories which have not been covered in standard histories of Austin. The columns connect Old Austin with New Austin and almost always bring the historical record into the present. Themes include the natural settings; built environments; older neighborhoods; ancestral families; park jewels; the meeting of politics, cultures and charity; and interpretations of how Old and New Austin relate. Stories from African Americans, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and the LGBT community are all featured.



Indelible Austin

In this time of almost incomprehensible community change, these stories sound quaint but often remarkably powerful. Among Michael's gifts is his ability to tell big-picture stories through tiny glimpses of barely remembered events, or to evoke images of picnics in dusty road-median parks.

Whatever the topic, his deft storytelling skills are always apparent. As the inimitable Bob Ward, Chairman of the Travis County Historical Commission puts it, "When I read a Michael Barnes article, it's like listening to a great story told by an old friend. It always

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39th Historic Hyde Park Homes Tour... ...cont'd from page 1

A special bonus of this year's tour is a collection of restored vintage dollhouses that will be on display in several of the tour homes. Yes, we'll have small houses in small houses!

Purchase tickets online at HydeParkHomesTour.org anytime for \$20 or on November 8 from 11 am until 5 pm at the tour's headquarters, Lucien, Stirling & Gray Advisory Group at 4005 Guadalupe Street.

Parking for the tour will be available at several marked locations near 40th and Guadalupe.

The homes are within reasonable walking distance of each other, so plan to spend several hours strolling or biking the tour route. A tour booklet with a map and descriptions of each house will be provided to guide your visit.

The homes tour is the largest fundraiser for the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association, and hundreds of volunteers join together annually to plan and showcase our historic neighborhood. The tour began almost 40 years ago, when neighbors guided visitors around Hyde Park to share the history of older homes, to point out architectural features, and to explain how a vintage house could be saved from demolition and transformed into a livable home.

The tour is still a beloved neighborhood event and one of the highlights of the year in Hyde Park.

Once again the Hyde Park Homes Tour is generously presented by Suzanne Pringle of Kuper Sotheby's International Realty.

Direct questions to 2015 Tour Chair Carolyn Grimes at cgrimes@cbunited.com or 512-426-3559 (call or text).



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Fire Station Festival 2015... ...cont'd from page 1

#9 for 10 and 22.5 years, respectively, the firefighters at Station #9 feel appreciated and enjoy working at a good station in a hospitable neighborhood. They like the fact that they know neighbors by their first names and neighbors know them. Firefighter Castro said, "Thank you for all you do for us." The Fire Station Festival is a wonderful way to show our mutual appreciation. As Hancock neighbor Alison Young said, a lot of elbow grease goes into the festival and it always comes off without a hitch. She always comes away with a sense of community connectedness and pure joy. Whether it's the parade, McCallum drummers, henna painting and crafts, great music, or neighborhood comradery, from the looks of things this year, she is not alone in her feelings!


Colorful balloons and imaginative costumes set the stage for the Festival parade under a beautiful blue sky on a rather warm fall day on October 18. Hyde Park residents - big and small, two legged and four, wagons and strollers - lined up on 44th Street next to Shipe Park to form the highly anticipated Fire Station Festival parade. Kids of all ages, parents and adults alike, dressed up in their Halloween finest. A miniature Darth Vader, too many princesses to count, a glamorous mermaid, a walking milk carton with cookie, knights, power rangers, and so many wonderful others lined up. Among them, Oliver Franklin drove a sharp-looking 1937 Packard owned by John Lawrence, Hyde Park resident Kathy Lawrence's father, and Elizabeth Ney - in photograph form - caught a ride with him. Fire Engine #9 led the parade and the fantastic McCallum Drum Line set the rhythm for the march up Avenue G to 41st Street, back down Avenue F, and along 43rd Street to Fire Station #9, where parade walkers were met with food, drinks, and entertainment.

Fantastic music by Soul Supporters added to the fun of the day, as did the refreshing drinks, delicious sandwiches, snacks, and cake. Tire racing was a sight to see! The basketball hoops, crafts, space to dance, and time to talk provided something for everyone. And everyone enjoyed the sneak peek at the Halloween costumes that will reappear in a couple of weeks.

Festival volunteer Liz Lock announced the Costume award winners. The Best Family Costume award went to Winnie the Pooh with Eeyore, Tigger, and a baby Piglet in tow, while the Zombie Ballerina won the Scariest Costume award. The Funniest costume was a little girl dressed as a gumball machine, and the Most Creative was a rather young Dorothy from The Wizard of Oz. The Best Pet Costume award went to a canine Rufferee.

The Hyde Park Neighborhood Association gave its annual awards at the festival. Mark Fishman was awarded the Walter & Dorothy Richter Award for his consistent contribution to the Hyde Park neighborhood in a multitude of contexts over many years. Deaton Bednar and Sharon Brown were both recognized, Deaton for her years of service supporting and enhancing the social life of the Hyde Park neighborhood and Sharon for taking

Continued on following page



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the initiative in Hyde Park communication and outreach efforts. New HPNA officers were also announced: Reid Long will join Kevin Heyburn as Co-President; Susan Marshall will join Artie Gold as Co-Secretary; and the Steering Committee will welcome our most recent former Co-President Lorre Weidlich as well as Karin Wilkins, Joan Burnham, Betsy Clubine for an extended term, and John Williams, also a former Co-President. Thanks to you all for your neighborhood service!

Volunteer emcee Matt Ott thanked the sponsors and donors who helped make the festival fun come together: Carolyn Grimes of Coldwell Bankers, Danes Body Shop, Fresh Plus, Grande Communications, Hyde Park Bar and Grill, Hyde Park Baptist Church, Midtown Church, The Montessori Center, Princess Parties & More, Quack's Bakeries, The Skylark Lounge, Toybrary Austin, Toy Joy, Trinity United Methodist Church, Walgreens, and Wheatsville Food Co-op.

Of course, the Fire Station Festival would not exist if not for the group of neighbors who form the Fire Station Festival committee. Linda van Bavel served as Chair, and she feels the festival could never happen without the team's hard work. Many thanks go to Deaton Bednar for organizing marketing and general advising, Lynne Hohlfeld and Jen Berbas for setting up the grounds, Elizabeth Williams and Ashley Aarons for arranging the refreshments, Liz Lock for making sure the kids had plenty of fun activities, Matt Ott for his graphic design work and for serving as emcee, Michael Crider for marketing and website support, Joan Yamini for organizing fun activities for the afternoon, Anne-Marie Geiger for handling the book drive, Mary LaTouf for arranging sounds and music, and Judy Gurgiolo for organizing and facilitating the parade.

– Jessica Charbeneau

Deaton Bednar...

...cont'd from page 3

Vietnam, so I could join him for a vacation in Texas. When I got here, I realized this was great! I love Texas.

BC: *How did your early experience in the classroom affect your subsequent career as a leader in education and technology-based organizations?*

DB: If you talk to people who know me pretty well, they will say that I am a chameleon. I have changed careers so many times. But I can tell you that education has threaded through everything. I have always realized that education can change people's lives and, even in bike tours, we educate people. Everybody who does pathfinding for me know[s] about the city. A bunch of journalists are coming to Fredericksburg on the 14th and we are going to take them on a tour. Hopefully, it will help build the business there, but they are [also] going to get an education about Fredericksburg and what the people were like when they got there. So, [I worked in] technology, yes, but it was educational technology.

BC: *Alongside a demanding career, you have volunteered extensively in the community. What do you see as some of your accomplishments there?*

DB: This is going to sound cliché but my talent is getting the right person in the right situation and giving them support. I knew I wanted to give back to the neighborhood, because I think everybody should. If you love something, you have to help feed it and help create what it is. You can't just sit around and throw rocks.

I tried code enforcement, and I could not stay awake in those meetings. After working all day, I just couldn't do it. So, I said, "You know what? This is just not for me." I realized that I needed to do something volunteer-wise that was completely different from my work life because, otherwise, I just wouldn't be interested. I, literally, was walking down the street in our neighborhood, just talking to the universe, and I said "I want to give back to this neighborhood but clearly this is not the right time. When I retire, I will be ready to give it 100%." Well, two days later, John Kerr [then President of the HPNA] asked me if I would put on the Fire Station Festival.

BC: *When was that?*

DB: I think that was 12 years ago. I didn't even know that there was a Fire Station Festival, so that was a real eye opener. I guess it went pretty well, because then he wanted me to do the holiday party and I thought, "Is this man never satisfied?" [laughs] Gradually, I learned that there was a position called Social Chair. I thought about getting them to change the name, until I realized that you have to do the by-laws [of the HPNA], because I thought that this was

not being a Social Chair. This is developing a community. This is bringing people together.

The way I often get people to take on a responsibility is – if they are new in the neighborhood – I just say, "This is the way to get to know your neighborhood." This is how you make friendships. It's not by going out and having a glass of wine and talking – although I do love that – but by working together towards a common goal and participating. It's the best way. So, I think my biggest accomplishment has been finding pretty incredible people to take care of our standard social activities but also enabling neighbors, when they have an idea, to build that opportunity as well.

BC: *In addition to your work as Social Chair for the HPNA, you were involved in the formation of Friends of Shipe Park.*

DB: That's what I'm taking about! A neighbor came to me and said "I would like to do something for Shipe Park. The park is deplorable." It was Mary LaTouf, actually, and she said, "I would like to put on a rock concert as a way to raise money." Well, I'm thinking, yeah, I like this. I knew that I needed to help her do this, so I went through all of the list-serv emails and if anyone said the word "swimming pool" or "swimming" or "park", I emailed them and said "Hey, this is what we are thinking about, would you like to get together and talk about that?" And that is how Friends of Shipe Park got started. So, I helped them get started and Adam [Wilson] and Alison [Young] are the ones that made Friends of Shipe Park what it is.

BC: *What is your vision for Hyde Park?*

DB: Two things quickly come to mind. One is [that] I think of Hyde Park as where the past and the future come together to create a community. We have to always respect our past but not be so hindsight-ed that we aren't preparing for the future. The other thing I see is that we have a responsibility to preserve a historic neighborhood, so that people in the future can see what one looks like. That's what I see. People are going to have to learn to be able to manage both of those.

– Betsy Clubine



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HPNA Meeting Minutes: October 5, 2015

Co-President Lorre Weidlich called the October meeting of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association to order at 7:07 pm at the Griffin School. The first item on the agenda was an announcement. Lorre announced that the Steering Committee would meet on October 12 at 7 pm at the Trinity United Methodist Church.

Carolyn Grimes spoke about the upcoming Hyde Park Homes Tour. The theme of the homes tour is "A Celebration of Small Houses". The tour has seven houses, with an average size of about 850 square feet. The homes tour is on November 8 from 11 am to 5 pm. Carolyn asked for volunteers to help with the homes tour. Additionally, Carolyn noted that the cost of tickets was \$20. Finally, an individual can also become a "Friend of the Hyde Park Homes Tour" for a \$50 donation.

Next, Lorre welcomed Deaton Bednar, who introduced the Austin Fire Department Battalion Commander, in charge of facilities. The Austin Fire Department is a premier group with a nationally recognized fitness program. The fire department's average response time is approximately 3 to 5 minutes. Despite these points of distinction, the departmental facilities continue to need repair and renovation. Currently, the city does not have a program that allows individuals or neighborhoods to contribute or assist in the maintenance of the fire station. Station #9 is scheduled to undergo renovation in the near future. When the station is undergoing renovation, the hope is that the fire fighters will stay in the immediate area. Finally, the fire station will be cleaned and polished in time for the upcoming Fire Station Festival on October 18.

The next item on the agenda was a report from the Nominations Committee. Adam Wilson presented the report of the committee. Adam began his report by thanking all the current officers and steering committee. Several officers and steering committee members are scheduled to conclude their terms, including Lorre Weidlich, Debbie Wallenstein, Ellie Hanlon, and Heidi Bojes. The Nominations Committee's slate of candidates was introduced. Those candidates include Kevin Heyburn and Reid Long for Co-Presidents, Kathy Lawrence and Adrian Skinner for Co-Vice Presidents, Artie Gold and Susan Marshall for Co-Secretaries, and I. Jay Aarons and Mark Fishman for Co-Treasurers. The Steering Committee will include Jessica Charbeneau, Karin Wilkins, Sharon Brown, Betsy Clubine, Joan Burnham, John Williams, Lorre Weidlich as Immediate Past President, and Dorothy Richter as a lifelong member. Karen McGraw moved to accept the slate of candidates and Heidi Bojes seconded the motion. The slate of candidates was approved: 19 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions. Adam also mentioned that several positions, committee

heads or project leads, are open, including Social Chair. Please contact Kevin Heyburn or Reid Long if interested.

Elzy Cogswell presented a short poem about Popeye, the superhero. He thanked the HPNA for allowing him to publish so many of his poems in the *Pecan Press*. Elzy also passed out copies of his book of poems, *Love Songs for Hyde Park*.

The final item on the agenda was a presentation by representatives of the UT System and the Division of Recreational Sports regarding the Intermural Fields renovations. The renovations are scheduled to begin around October 19 and expected to last approximately one year, until October, 2016. The presentation discussed the scope and time frame of the renovations, the impact on water drainage, Monk parrot evacuation, and lighting. For more details about the project and the topics discussed see the article "Renovation of the Whitaker Intramural Fields". Neighbors asked questions regarding the impact on flooding along Avenue A, the design criteria for the project, the necessity of relocating the Monk parrots, the impact on lighting modifications, and the impact on parking and traffic.

After the presentation, Lorre adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.

Letters Dept.

Less Light Please

Hyde Park is already lucky to have relatively low levels of street lighting. The time-honored moonlight tower, however, seems increasingly hard to defend; those who live under it undergo a real health risk, as Rebecca Boyle shows in her article "The End of the Night" (<http://aeon.co/magazine/health/the-health-effects-of-a-world-without-darkness/>).

It would be wonderful, too, if residents were to use more motion-sensor lights outside (lights that go on only when someone approaches the house), rather than leaving lights on all night. Many of us miss the stars.

Best wishes,

Galen Strawson
3900 Avenue G
President's Chair in
Philosophy, University of
Texas at Austin

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Around & About the Avenues

Preservation Austin Sponsors Hyde Park History Hunt.

On September 19, Preservation Austin sponsored its first History Hunt for children, kindergarten through 5th grade, right here in Hyde Park. More than 20 children participated. Each received a passport with clues to locate a series of structures in the east-of-Speedway area of Hyde Park. In the process, they learned about such architectural features as columns, friezes, and pediments. A prize went to the first child to find all six locations and return to the starting point at the Elisabet Ney Museum. We thank Preservation Austin for selecting Hyde Park for its first History Hunt; Sara Ludena, Preservation Austin Education Committee Member, for her organization of the hunt; and Hyde Parker Ann Graham, Preservation Austin Board of Directors, for all of her assistance and participation.



Volunteer Ann Graham Helps a Young History Hunter, photo by Lorre Weidlich



Hyde Parkers Achieve Positions of Public Trust. The *Pecan Press* congratulates two Hyde Parkers who recently took their seats on important policy bodies. David Conner was elected to the Austin Neighborhood Council (ANC) as Sector 5 Representative. Sector 5 is central Austin, an area extending from Koenig Lane on the north to the Colorado River on the south, MoPac on the west to I-35 on the east. Susan Moffat was nominated to the Land Development Code Advisory Group (CAG) by the City of Austin/AISD Board of Trustees/ Travis County Commissioners Court Joint Committee and confirmed by Austin City Council. We salute these people for their willingness to serve the community. They are important voices for Hyde Park and Austin neighborhoods.

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Save the Date for the Annual Hyde Park Volunteer Party.

Our party to celebrate the holidays and honor our volunteers will take place on Sunday, December 6, from 5 to 8 pm at the Elisabet Ney Museum. Drinks and refreshments will be served, and there will be additional fun activities for children. In case of inclement weather, the Griffin School has kindly agreed to let us use the school as our backup location. Again this year, leave a wish on the Wish Tree at the Ney! To help with the party, either advance planning or activities on the day of the party, contact Joan Burnham, this year's coordinator, at 512-619-4610 or jgiburnham@gmail.com.



Sign Installed at Huffstickler Green. On September 23, Betsy Clubine, Kathy Lawrence, and Lorre Weidlich joined

Mark Fishman, HPNA Parks and Public Space Chair, and Janea Ryan, City of Austin Neighborhood Partnering Program representative, to install the official sign at Huffstickler Green. The sign features Huff's poem "In Passing". Take the opportunity to view the sign and read the poem. The Hyde Park neighborhood thanks the City of Austin for its assistance with this multi-neighborhood project through the Neighborhood Partnering Program.



Mark Fishman Setting the Pole at Huffstickler Green, photo by Lorre Weidlich



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

While initial signs give us hope that the CodeNEXT process will give great deference to existing neighborhood plans and NCCDs, CodeNEXT will be a key focus for the upcoming year.

We close by thanking all of the retiring members of the HPNA steering committee. It has been an honor working with all of you. We also want to give a special thanks to Lorre Weidlich, who has completed her term as Kevin's co-President. Lorre is smart, dedicated, and passionate. She loves Hyde Park and has contributed more time than anyone else to make this neighborhood a great place. Fortunately, Lorre is staying on the steering committee as Immediate Past President. We would also like to take this opportunity to introduce her as the new editor of the *Pecan Press*. If you have liked recent issues of the *Press*, please thank Lorre. We are lucky she has agreed to share her writing and planning skills to help us maintain and improve the best neighborhood newsletter in Austin.

— Kevin Heyburn &
Reid Long
HPNA Co-Presidents



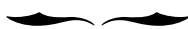
News from the Ney... ...cont'd from page 6

leaves you informed, entertained, and feeling somewhat closer to the Austin community. He is our collective memory."

You can catch Michael at a book signing at the Elisabet Ney Museum on Thursday, November 19. A reception will be held at 6:30. At 7, Michael will read and discuss his book. Copies will be sold on site for Michael to sign after his talk.

What better place to get a copy (or several—they make great Christmas gifts!) than the Elisabet Ney Museum?

Also, save the date: the HPNA and Elisabet Ney Museum Holiday Season party will take place on Sunday, December 6. In the meantime, have a wonderful November.



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Renovation of the Whitaker Intramural Fields

At the October meeting of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association, representatives from the UT System and UT Division of Recreational Sports presented information about the renovations to the Whitaker Fields that are scheduled to commence around mid-October. The Whitaker Fields have been in operation for the last 40 years, as a neighbor to Hyde Park. The site has not been updated in a long time and is in need of repair and renovation. See the included schematic of the proposed renovations. The presentation was divided into four major themes: drainage, the Monk parrots and their habitat, lighting, and scheduling.

Overview

The architect, Mr. Dewberry, described the scope of the project.

The renovation will include the refurbishment of fields. Twelve fields in the southern section of the fields are grass fields. The northwest corner of Whitaker Fields, to be known as Championship Corner, will include six fields with synthetic turf. This synthetic turf is similar to that used at Darrell K. Royal Texas Memorial Stadium and Clark Field.

Twenty of the forty courts at the tennis complex have been resurfaced. The replacement for the Penick-Allison complex that was originally slated to move to Whitaker Fields is actually being relocated to East Austin near the softball field.

The renovations will include a new control building, sand volleyball courts, an open commons area with a stage, and a renovation of the existing control building.

Drainage

The drainage system of the renovated system is designed to create reduced flow into Waller Creek. The new synthetic fields are designed to retain water so that entry of water into the creek slows, with retention of one to two hours as opposed to minutes. The drainage system is designed to handle a 100-year storm, meaning the drainage system is rated higher than required by City code. The grass fields are also designed to absorb more water and thus slow water flow into the creek. The design follows City of Austin criteria for drainage design.

Continued on following page

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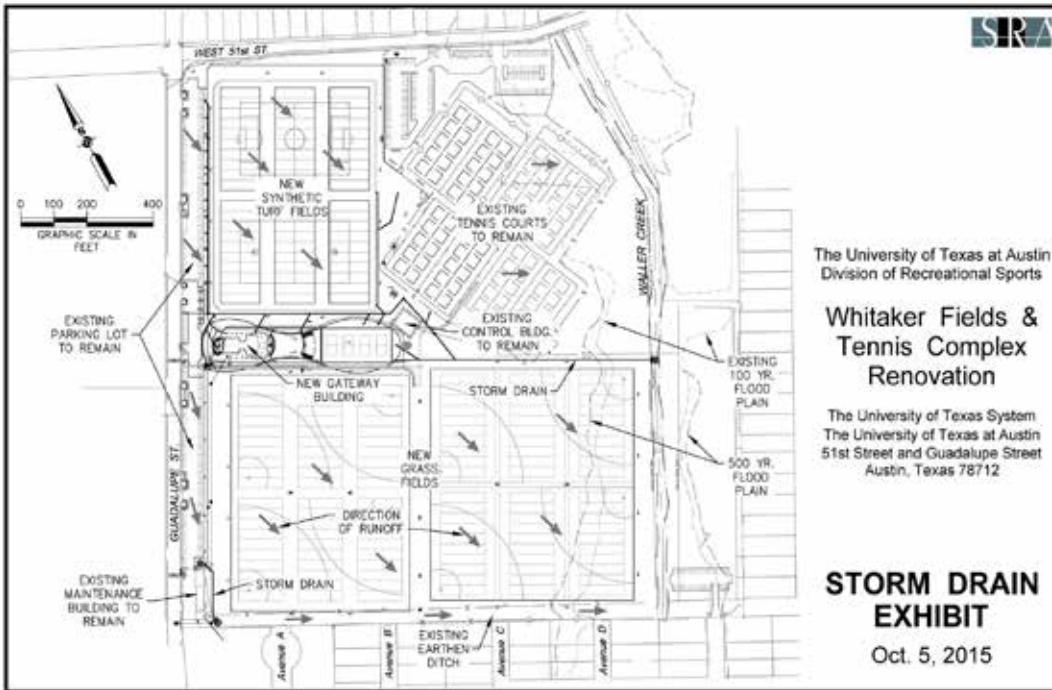
Monk Parrots

The wildlife manager from the project was present and addressed questions regarding the relocation of the Monk parrots from their current nesting locations on the present lighting poles. The birds will be moved from their current location and sent to Austin Wildlife Rescue for relocation. Funding will be provided for the care of the birds. Similar relocation took place with the removal of the cell tower at the fields earlier.



Whitaker Fields Site Plan

WHITAKER FIELDS & TENNIS COMPLEX RENOVATION
DIVISION OF RECREATIONAL SPORTS
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM



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Oct. 5, 2015

Whitaker Fields Drainage Plan

Scope and Timing

The project is slated to begin on October 19, with installation of fencing and other site controls. The project will be substantially complete by October, 2016. Traffic and parking will be closely monitored and controlled. All construction traffic will flow down 51st Street to Guadalupe to avoid impact on the neighborhood. Additionally, all construction parking will be on-site only and no contractors will be allowed to park in the neighborhood.

Lighting

The project electrician discussed the replacement of the lighting fixtures. The current lighting system was state of the art in the 1970s but lighting has advanced since that date. The new system being installed will have a significant cut-off shield that directs the light downward onto the fields. Additionally, the poles will be taller, which also will help in reducing the amount of light that enters neighboring homes. Finally, the system will include zoned timers that will allow increased control of the lighting on a particular set of fields, which allows greater control of the lighting of a particular segment of the field and reduces the need to light the entire field. All of these modifications will allow decreased light pollution and increased compliance with dark sky concerns.

Contact

Any questions regarding the project should be directed to the project managers at UT System, Michael Uyeda (muyeda@utsystem.edu) and Paul Cornell (pcornell@utsystem.edu).

– Reid Long



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Hyde Park Poets —

Dreadlines, Deadlines

Deadlines, dread lines, insert themselves,
Dividing me from fun,
Sometimes greatness happens in attempts
To meet them, sometimes, not so much,

Ah, procrastination,
I try to put it to good use,
Sometimes, remarkable tasks
Are completed, in attempts
To avoid the tasks I dread,

Papers lie stacked in a menacing pile,
They cannot be ignored and, they glare at me;
Last time this happened, I weeded and hoed my garden,
Prepared my taxes, and planted the garden,
All considered chores, before they would supplant
The glaring pile, lying stacked upon my table.

I cannot help but wonder what I might not have done
Had there not been those things I did not want to do,
The walls between work and fun,
Crumbled under pressure, building an illusion,
Chores of weeding through the garden and my taxes,
Happened to postpone inevitable work, and
Though they made me mad,
Them deadlines ain't so bad.

— Herzele
04-25-2015

Limerick

I thought I would write you a limerick
and give it the color of turmeric.
I found an old recipe
and I tried that old recipe
but I couldn't make yellow the limerick.

— Miguel González-Gerth
April 16, 2015

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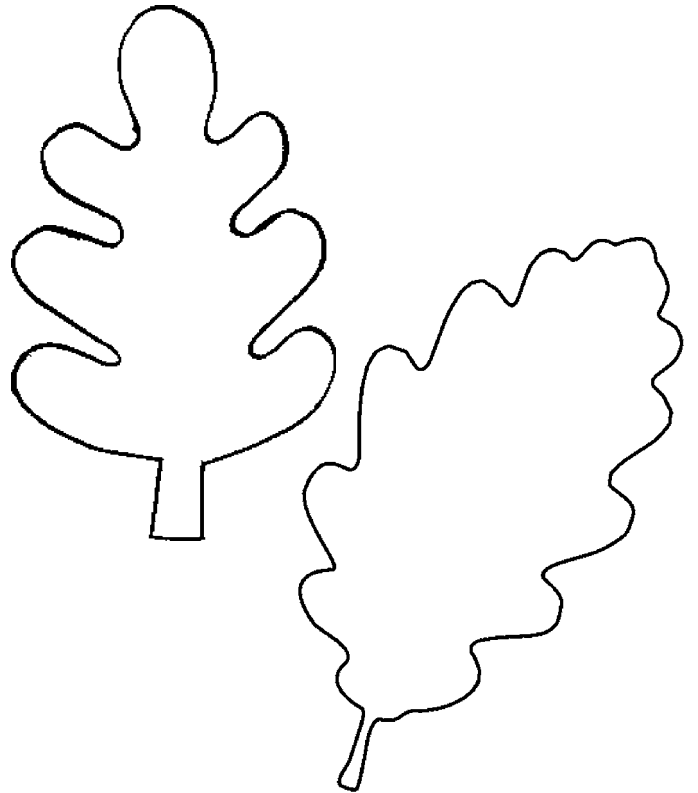
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Kid's Corner: Thankful for Hyde Park

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

Imagine a Thanksgiving table sprinkled with leaves, each symbolizing in words or pictures the things we are grateful for on Thanksgiving Day and every other day. You can cut out this print of an oak tree leaf, use it as a stencil to make a bunch more in various fall colors, and invite your kiddos and guests to fill them out and add them to your table, refrigerator, wall, door, or whatever surface you'd like - maybe even a branch to create a tree! The kiddos can help prep the activity by doing the cutting and act as hosts asking guests to fill them out. It's even something your family can do all month long gradually creating a Thanksgiving cornucopia of gratitude. However you celebrate the day, have fun and know HPNA is thankful for you, our neighbors who make up such a wonderful neighborhood!



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3907 RED RIVER STREET

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Listed at \$649,000



308 WEST 37TH STREET

Charming home built in 1920 with high ceilings, spacious rooms, beautiful hardwood floors. Almost 2,000 SF with 3 BR, 2 BA, 2 LIV, updated kitchen and baths.

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110 WEST 32ND STREET

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