

June Meeting

When: 7:00 p.m.
Monday, June 4, 2012

Where: Trinity United Methodist Church
4001 Speedway

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

HPNA General Meeting Agenda for June 4th

- ❖ An Evening Devoted to Books, Recycled Reads: Ruth Jiu, Hyde Park Book Swap
 - ❖ Resolution on Imagine Austin (vote)
- See You There!



Hyde Park Local Historic District Sign Topper Proposal

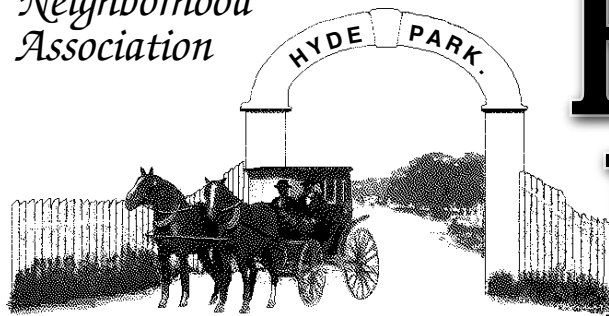
Hi Folks – I am happy to report that the HPNA Steering Committee has approved an initial deployment of Local Historic District Street Sign Toppers at multiple locations throughout the local historic district.

As you all know, the City of Austin voted to establish the District at the end of 2010 after many of our Hyde Park residents spent nearly four years researching and applying for the designation. We are currently the largest local historic district in Austin, encompassing 640 properties in the 186 acres bounded by 38th, 45th, Duval, and Avenue A.

Since the City does not yet have a formal application process in place for historic sign toppers, we will need final approval

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*The Hyde Park
Neighborhood
Association*



Pecan Press

June, 2012 • National Register District Neighborhood • Vol. 38, No. 6

2012 City of Austin Bond: *Elisabet Ney Museum Recommendations (And Re-roofing Update)*

On May 21st, the Bond Election Advisory Task Force (BEATF) voted to forward a 2012 Bond package to Austin City Council that included a recommendation for \$1.25M to be allocated to the preservation of the Elisabet Ney Museum.

The Needs Assessment as put forth by the Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) was in direct response to the needs identified in the Formosa: Elisabet Ney Museum Comprehensive Restoration Master Plan developed in 2008 in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

The \$1.25M, if it remains in the final bond recommendation by City Council and if it is supported by Austin voters in November 2012, will address the ongoing deterioration of the former studio building and the environmental needs of the collection of Ney statuary and personal memorabilia, largely on loan from the University of Texas Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, that is housed

within.

As defined by PARD, the Ney Needs Assessment includes "... renovations to this facility according to the master plan to include building and interior improvements with an emphasis upon HVAC and weatherization...\$500k would address the HVAC system alone and the balance of \$750k



Elisabet Ney Museum, May 21, 2012, by Ann S. Graham

would address the weatherization (doors, windows), thermal insu-

Continued on page 4

From the President's Desk:

HPNA allocated money for neighborhood improvements as part of this year's budget. When we added that budget item, we discussed installing local historic district signs in the part of the neighborhood that has been designated a local historic district (i.e., south of 45thSt.) as an example of the sort of improvement for which it could be used.

We give a big thanks to Mark Fishman for taking on the task of working with the city to learn whether local historic district signs could be installed, how much they would cost, and navigating the mechanics of the application process. The city has been receptive to the idea and at the May steering committee meeting we agreed to submit an application to the city for 10 signs. See Mark's article on

page 1 for additional information on the proposed signs.

I also am happy to report that approval of the 3801 Duval/Huffstickler Green project that we and Hancock N.A. have been working on getting installed through the city's neighborhood partnership program is progressing, though at a pace that sometimes seems glacial. We submitted what I think is the final paperwork to the city twice because it apparently got lost in the city's interoffice mail the first time. The second time Carolyn Palaima of Hancock hand-delivered it to Sara Krause in the Neighborhood Connectivity Division of the Public Works Department so that it could not go astray. The spring planting season is quickly passing but hopefully we can get started on the project by the fall planting season.

In late April, the city put the draft of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan that incorporates Planning Commission's revisions on the city website. You can review it here: www.imagineaustin.net/chapters

Planning Commission made a number of changes which improved the plan, one of which is highlighted in the resolution that steering committee adopted at our May meeting and that we will vote on at the June meeting. The passage quoted in the resolution, language clarifying that any rewrite of the city's Land Development

Code should reflect the compromises and assumptions upon which existing neighborhood plans depend, is important because one of the eight priority programs that is identified in Chapter 5 of the Plan, "Implementation and Measuring Success," is to revise Austin's development regulations and processes. The complete list of eight priorities (found on p.168 of the plan) is:

1. Invest in a compact and connected Austin.

Continued on following page

Pecan Press

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

Note: Each month's ad and editorial deadline is the 15th of month preceding publication.

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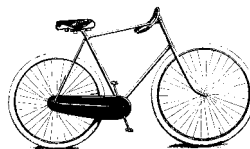
2. Sustainably manage our water resources.
3. Continue to grow Austin's economy by investing in our workforce, education systems, and entrepreneurs.
4. Use green infrastructure to protect environmentally sensitive areas and integrate nature into the city.
5. Grow and invest in Austin's creative economy.
6. Develop and maintain household affordability throughout Austin.
7. Create a "Healthy Austin" program.
8. Revise Austin's development regulations and processes to promote a compact and connected city.

The chapter notes that "The final program, to revise Austin's development regulations and processes, is an important step to promote each of the above priorities and to protect all that has been identified as valuable in the plan." On p. 189, the Imagine Austin Plan states: "Austin's City Charter requires that land development regulations be consistent with the comprehensive plan. Significant revisions to existing regulations will be necessary to fully implement

the priority programs." Adoption of the plan without the wording that Planning Commission added could be read as a license to rewrite the Land Development Code completely without regard to how the changes would affect existing neighborhood plans.

Council scheduled two important public hearings for May 24th. (I am writing this prior to that date.) One is on the Imagine Austin plan and the other is on commercial short-term rentals of residences. It appears that Council will adopt the Imagine Austin comprehensive plan and make decisions on ordinances regulating short term residential rentals in June.

– Lisa Harris
 HPNA President
 <Ljharrisus@yahoo.com>



HPNA General Meeting Minutes for May 7, 2012

The neighborhood picnic was held on May 7 in lieu of a meeting. About 40 attendees shared in the potluck supper. The group moved indoors due to rain. Everyone introduced themselves, including Bill Spelman, candidate for re-election to Austin city council. No formal business was conducted at this time.

– Ashley Schweickart,
 Claire de Young,
 HPNA Co-Secretaries

Happening Around Hyde Park

• **Hyde Park Afternoon Games**
 June 9th, Saturday
 3:00-5:00 p.m.
 4110 Avenue G
 for adults and children
 details on p. 6

Hyde Park Neighborhood Association Enrollment		2011-12 Membership	HPNA Membership Info
Name _____ Phone _____			All memberships expire on September 30th of each year. ❖ 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 the designated boundaries. ❖ 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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Bond issue affects the Ney...

...cont'd from page 1

lation and interior surface improvements. Due to the sensitive nature of the art collection, the work under this scope would require a costly relocation effort and there are efficiencies gained by doing the full scope of work all at once...".

Currently, water filtration from the outside contributes to an unstable interior that threatens the collection within. The City of Austin has a legal and ethical responsibility to maintain this collection as well as the landmark studio building and grounds and these funds will help to do that. Significant work will include replacing interior plaster that has deteriorated due to water seepage, re-glazing and rebuilding windows that currently allow for water/air infiltration, a new HVAC system and new ductwork as needed, new lighting, and other interior work that will improve the ability to climate-control the building interior and protect the collection.

Because of the fragile nature of the collection, with particular concern for the portraits in plaster by Elisabet Ney, extensive attention will have to be given to carefully moving and protecting the collection during the weatherization and waterproofing projects. The museum would be closed during this restoration process, though the length of time will not be known until the scope of work is completed.

The final funds dedicated to the Ney from the 2006 Bond Election are being invested now with the re-roofing project as being overseen by Public Works. As an update, the bidding process for the re-roofing project is underway and a contract should be issued at the start of August. Work will begin mid-late August and will take +/- 60 days during which time the museum will be closed to the public.

The bulk of the funds from the 2006 Bond were invested in the extensive perimeter sub-grade waterproofing which included extensive trenching followed by the installation of a waterproof membrane and French drain system, pulling water away from the building's foundation. In addition, up-to-code ADA access was integrated into the work and the landscape of Elisabet Ney partially restored.

We would like to particularly thank neighbors and the friends of the Elisabet Ney Museum from across Austin who spoke out in favor of this bond allocation. Within the extensive bond package development process, the sum recommended for the Ney went from \$1.25M, to zero (\$0.00), to \$500,000. Following a significant investment of time and effort on behalf of long time Museum advocates, including hosting open houses at the Ney Museum for the Task Force, the recommendation was raised back to the full \$1.25M as

Continued on following page

identified in PARD's Needs Assessment.

Special thanks, too, to PARD for recognizing the importance of investing further in the valuable historic landmark that the City of Austin has owned and PARD has stewarded since 1941. Additional resources will be needed to complete the full restoration of the museum, but this significant investment of \$1.25M will allow for vital building stabilization in the near future.

For next steps, Austin City Council will vet all of the BEATF recommendations and decide on the final 2012 Bond Package which will be on the November ballot. Competition for resources within a bond package is extreme and we are fortunate to even get a recommendation by BEATF. Do vote (!) for the 2012 Bond Package in November to make a difference with this priceless gift that benefits all of Austin and beyond.

The Elisabet Ney Museum draws over 10,000 visitors from around the world every year while presenting programs to 1000's of people of all ages here in Austin through educational, school and community based programs. The Ney is listed on the National Register of Historic Places based on its significance as the former American studio of Elisabet Ney. The museum holds Austin historic landmark and State Historic Landmark designations, and is a State Archaeological Landmark as well. An application is currently planned seeking federal designation of the Ney as a National Historic Landmark. Well deserving, if that application is successful, the Elisabet Ney Museum will join the Texas State Capitol and the Texas Governor's Mansion as the only other National Historic Landmarks in Austin.

If you haven't visited the Elisabet Ney Museum recently, do stop by. Admire the returning native landscape of Ney's Formosa and slow down enough to enjoy the new wildflowers and expanding diversity of birds, butterflies and other local fauna!

Thank you.

— Ann S. Graham
Awardee - 2008 Partners in the Arts
and Humanities, Elisabet Ney Museum,
Austin Parks and Recreation



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Hyde Park Games

Hyde Park Games is moving to a new day and time.

It seems that Wednesday evenings are a tough time for Hyde Parkers to get out and play games. Between school and work for those households with students and meeting obligations for others, we are shooting for a more relaxed time. The next Hyde Park Games will be on Saturday afternoon June 9, 2012, from 3-5 P.M. We will have great weather for outdoor games for kids and/or adults including 4 square or ring toss and indoor games ranging from charades to Cranium.

The vibe is casual and fun with a chance to meet your neighbors in an informal setting. Please bring a beverage of your choice to share. HPNA will provide snacks.

Please consider joining in at 4110 Avenue G. I look forward to seeing you there.

– Barbara Gibson
<bg@bd-law.com>

Hyde Park LHD Sign Toppers... ...cont'd from page 1

before they are manufactured and installed. We have been working with Ericka Nowicki, City of Austin Transportation Dept, Division Manager of Signs and Markings to evolve a process of design, approval, & installation of the sign toppers. Subject to final COA approval, the 24 inch by 9 inch red & white sign toppers will include the City of Austin Seal, the year Hyde Park was established, 1891, and the year the Local Historic District was established, 2010. We are also working with Nick at North Loop Sign and Graphics Shop at 102 E. North Loop Blvd. <info@northloop-signs.com> to manufacture the signs and the City of Austin requires that their own sign crew do the actual installations.

While the initial expenses associated with the first group of four to six signs will be borne directly by the HPNA, we expect to apply through the Neighborhood Connectivity Division of the City's Public Works Department for future funding for more signs. There are a lot of intersections in our neighborhood. Additionally, for a \$200 donation, we will arrange for the installation of one of the signs at or adjacent to any property owner's location within the District.

Thanks and wish us luck for a final approval and successful installation.

– Mark L Fishman
HPNA Steering Committee Member
<mlfishman@gmail.com>

Hyde Park Pot Luck a Success!

Despite the threat of stormy weather, our first Hyde Park Pot Luck Revival at Trinity United Methodist Church attracted approximately 40 people, and some of those were brand new faces, including some very young ones.

All had a good time sharing everything from fried chicken to empanadas. Frederico Geib, music teacher at the Griffin School, entertained enthusiastic listeners with Brazilian jazz guitar music.

Maybe we need to make Hyde Park Pot Luck meals a regular event! In the meantime, keep your eyes open for other Hyde Park social events - the Shipe Park Pool Opening Party, Game Night, and our annual August Ice Cream Social. Watch these pages for details.

— Lorre Weidlich




Frederico Geib, music teacher at Griffin School, entertains attendees at the Hyde Park Pot Luck Revival. Photo by Lorre Weidlich



Hyde Park Pot Luck Revival at May's General Meeting. Photo by Lorre Weidlich

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Resolution on Imagine Austin adopted by HPNA's Steering Committee on 5/14/2012

(Will be voted on by the membership at the June General Meeting).

Whereas, the current draft plan, in its section "Implementation and Measuring Success," was amended by the Planning Commission to include the following language:

"Since its adoption in 1987, the Land Development Code has been a continually modified and updated document reflecting countless hours of community participation and input. Elements of the Land Development Code and the broader City Code incorporate carefully crafted compromises and significant community decisions that have been reached through long-lasting committees, task forces, and citizen referenda.

"The existing neighborhood and area plans were crafted within context of this code and decisions were reached based upon the assumptions of the continued utilization of its provisions. This includes elements of the Land Development Code that are not specifically addressed in neighborhood and area plans but on which decisions were based (e.g., compatibility standards). The vision of the comprehensive plan can be achieved by retaining these protections and the approaches taken in the neighborhood and area plans.

"Any suggested rewrite of the City Code, while striving to achieve the broad goals of the comprehensive plan, must recognize, respect, and reflect these carefully crafted compromises, balances, and the assumptions upon which the existing neighborhood and area plans were based and depend.

"Continued protection and preservation of existing neighborhoods and the natural environment must be considered top priorities of comprehensive revisions to the City Code. The consequences and impact of additional density and infill in existing neighborhoods must be carefully identified and analyzed to avoid endangering the existing character of neighborhoods and exacerbating community health and safety issues, such as flooding.

"Impacts on sustainability and livability by increased infill and density of units, including associated infrastructure costs and impacts on affordability, should be identified prior to adoption of a new city code. Modifications to the city code and building code should be measured with regard to their ability to preserve neighborhood character, consistency with adopted neighborhood and area plans, impact on

Continued on following page

affordability, and the ability of existing families to continue to reside in their homes."

Whereas, Hyde Park neighbors participated in the crafting of a neighborhood plan and in that process they relied on elements in the Land Development Code that are not specifically addressed in the neighborhood plan.

Be it resolved, that Hyde Park Neighborhood Association calls for the language quoted above to remain in the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan when it is finally adopted by the Austin City Council.

Houses Needed!

Love your Hyde Park house? Proud of the way you've restored it and adapted it to the 21st century? Want to show it off? So do we – as part of the 2012 Hyde Park Homes Tour.

The Homes Tour House Selection Team is still assembling a list of homes for the 2012 tour. This year's tour has been moved to November 11 – the cool part of the year. It will be a 1-day (Sunday) event instead of an entire weekend.

We want to show the public the creative ways that older houses can be restored and renovated and the ways that new houses can fit into the historic matrix of Hyde Park. We don't care if your house is small or large, a Victorian, a bungalow, a cottage, or a ranch house. Variety is part of Hyde Park's appeal.

I. Jay Aarons is the point-of-contact for the House Selection Team. Get in touch with him at 431-3997(cell) or <ijaarons@aol.com> and help us show off Hyde Park.

Calling All Readers & Book Lovers

Ever wonder where retired library books go to die? The answer is that they don't die. They get sold at Recycled Reads. Ruth Jiu from Recycled Reads will be speaking at our June meeting.

After that, let's do some book recycling of our own. Bring along any books you no longer want. Label each book with your name and a price, or just "free," if you're willing to give them away. If you want to swap, put that on the label, for example, "Swap for a good mystery." Any freebies left behind at the meeting will be donated to Recycled Reads.

All Hyde Parkers welcome!



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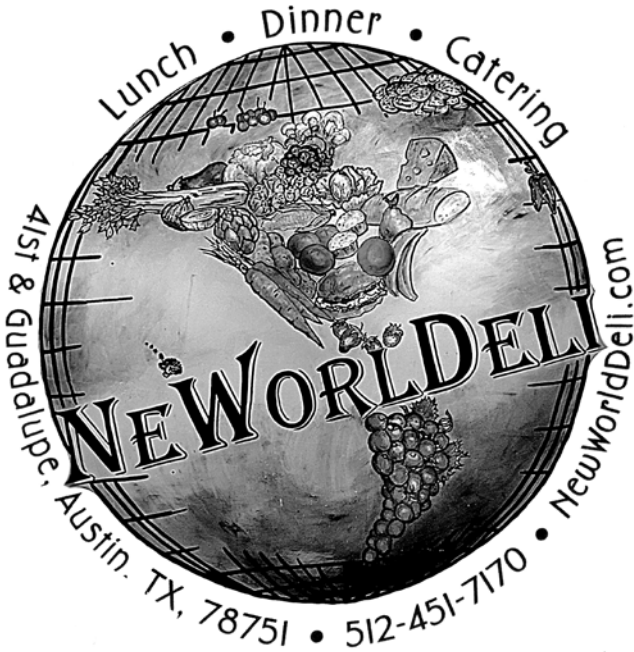
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"Some Countries" by der Brat

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

Clues: [# in parentheses is # letters in answer words]

1. AL enters country in Europe to create a country down under. (9) _____
2. The only country whose flag is not rectangular. (5) _____
3. World's smallest. (7,4) _____
4. Largest country on our continent. (6) _____
5. Largest country on the largest continent. (6) _____
6. Where the horn of Africa is found. (7) _____
7. Where most monarchs over-winter. (6) _____
8. Where Mohammed was from. (5,6) _____
9. Its name means silver. (9) _____
10. Where Magellan was from. (8) _____
11. Last country in the index. (8) _____
12. Little country whose flag shows 2 cows and a bishop's hat and crook. (7) _____
13. New World country with no army. (5,4) _____
14. Now the name of the country where Anna danced with the king. (8) _____
15. Low down place to find tulips. (11) _____
16. Has a quetzal on its flag. (9) _____
17. Once upon a time, East Pakistan. (10) _____
18. Near the end of "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade," the country with the place carved out of rock. (6) _____
19. Its creation made Ethiopia a land-locked nation. (7) _____
20. Controls the Galapagos Islands. (7) _____

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May & June Beetles

It's the time of year where May and June beetles begin to emerge from the ground, mate and lay eggs. These insects' offspring can cause damage to turf (immatures are known as white grubs), but the adults can be a nuisance when they come inside the home. By performing a thorough inspection, you can locate areas where these pests may enter and stop them before they become a problem.



Inside your home, look around doors and windows during the day. If you see daylight, then there isn't a good seal around the door and/ or window. Inspect the attic for holes that may have been chewed by rodents or other small mammals. If any holes are located, seal them with steel wool or a wire mesh screening. Also, make sure that all attic vents are covered with stainless steel screening to block insects and other animals from entering. Outside, inspect the perimeter of the home for cracks and crevices in the foundation. Look at pipe and wire penetrations into the structure to see if they should be sealed.

Common ways to exclude pests from your home:

- Trim back trees and shrubs that touch or overhang the home
- Seal pipe & wire penetrations with steel wool, sealant or expanding foam
- Replace weather stripping around doors and windows if there is not a good seal
- Repair any window screens with holes
- For homes with brick or stone facades, stuff weep holes with steel wool* or copper mesh
- *steel wool will rust if it gets wet, so do not use on light colored facades
- Inspect all furniture, boxes and bags for pests before carrying them into the home
- Inspect all plants for insect pests before bringing them into the home
- Do not store firewood inside the home, against the outside walls or near doors
- Use sheet metal, hardware cloth or steel wool to seal any areas where animals have chewed to enter the home**

**make sure animal is not in home or you'll seal it inside!

– Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist
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Simple Summer Energy Conservation Tips



Seal Leaks

Seal electrical outlets in the exterior walls of your house using foam insulating gaskets (less than \$1 each). Just unscrew the outlet cover, install the gasket, and replace the cover.

Go With the Flow

Install a high-performance, low-flow showerhead (\$20 and up). By switching, a family of four could save about \$88 a year on water and energy costs.

Swap Out Bulbs

Replace incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs. A CFL uses about a quarter of the wattage of an incandescent bulb, which amounts to more than \$30 in savings per replaced bulb over the lifetime of the CFL.

Be Cool

Wash clothes in cold water. Also, match the water level to the amount of clothes, or wait to wash full loads.

Close Your Blinds

Leave blinds down on south and west-facing windows on hot summer days.

Upgrade Your Cooling (and Heating) System

Install (and program) a programmable thermostat. A programmable thermostat can save a household about \$180 a year.

Home Energy Conservation tips from www.realsimple.com

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Central Texas Rehabilitation Hospital

Ribbon cutting for the Central Texas Rehabilitation Hospital at 700 W. 45th, corner of Guadalupe and 45th, was held on May 2nd.



Mayor Lee Leffingwell cut the ribbon. State Rep. Elliott Naishtat was present as well as Central Texas Rehabilitation Hospital CEO Peggy Barrett and Seton officials. Hyde Park Neighborhood was recognized for supporting the zoning that allowed this use on what was formerly State land. The Hyde Park Contact Team worked with the developer, Allan Brown, of Prevarian Hospital Partners, to craft zoning that matches the CS-NCCD zoning for Guadalupe Street. The CTRH opened with 50 beds for rehabilitation and may add another 75 beds in the future. I was fortunate to attend the ceremony and tour this remarkable state-of-the-art facility. The live oak trees and public access, which were of concern to neighbors turned out well.

— Karen McGraw



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Hints for Word Find #7

1. AUSTRALIA; 2. NEPAL; 3. VATICAN CITY;
4. CANADA; 5. RUSSIA; 6. SOMALIA; 7. MEXICO;
8. SAUDI ARABIA; 9. ARGENTINA; 10. PORTUGAL;
11. ZIMBABWE; 12. ANDORRA; 13. COSTA RICA;
14. THAILAND; 15. NETHERLANDS;
16. GUATEMALA; 17. BANGLADESH; 18. JORDAN;
19. ERITREA; 20. ECUADOR.

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Early Morning Sounds

The wind blows softly
Through the trees
And I feel it as a breeze
And I sense it, as the seas
Brush gently against the sands

One tiny breath
Can change the way
The world is viewed
In one short day

I lie in bed
At three a.m.
And listen to
Sounds of whim

A cough or more
Some cars, afar
A random chirp
A dog will bark

All the senses
For a weave
Of life within,
Without, about

The draught of winter
Parched we were,
Has withered as
A memory

Mud March now
Been and gone,
Again

Bright skies are coming
Through this gray
Of early April
Early day

It is spring,
It is random
Every day a new plot
Different than yesterday
Gray and breezy
Brought a sweater
Wind and rain
Give me shelter

Soon the summer
Soon the heat
Soon relentless,
Scathing heat

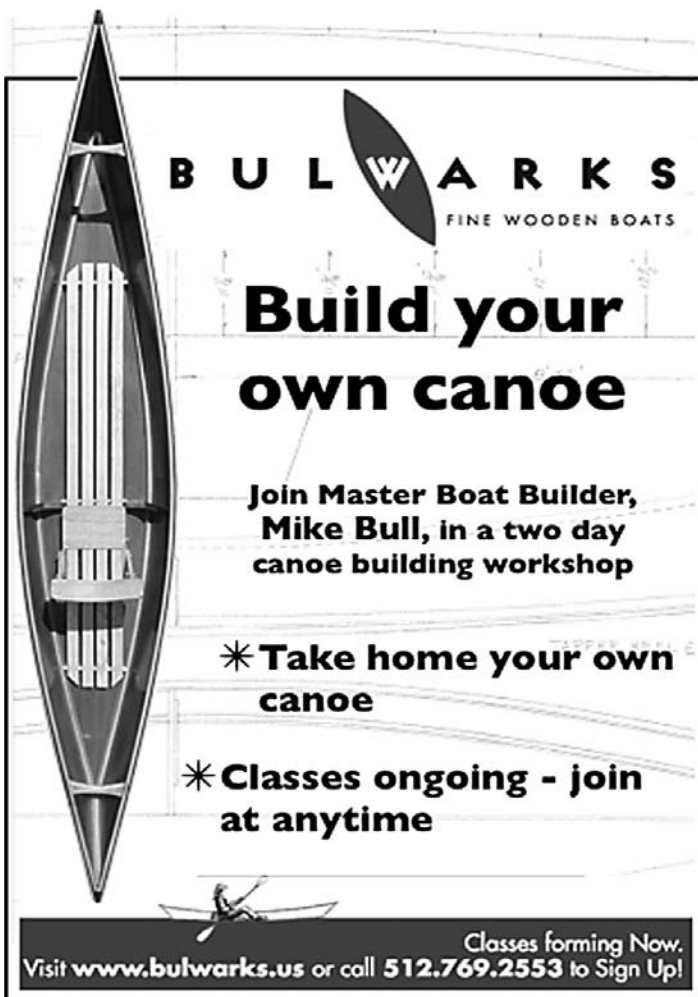
Part the curtains
Once again
Through the memories
Now grown dim

We've had our winter
With its draught
We've had some chill
There is no doubt

There's been the gray
Of winter's way
Not a lot, but just
Enough

To make us think
That we are tough
And, now, the green
Is on us springing
Forward!

— *Herzele*
4/2/06



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Hyde Park Poets —

My Shadow

I remember Peter Pan asking Wendy
To sew his shadow back on,
Tonight, I thought of that while I was in my bathtub.
The way the lighting is, I could see where my shadow
Attached to my feet
I would be dismayed
If that connection were to break
My shadow is attached to me
It goes where I go
It may hide and I may not see it, but
When the sun comes out,
My shadow dances with me

— *Herzele*
01/16/10

Fate

If I step and miss the hole,
Or trip and miss the fall,
Or fall and miss the break,
Or break and do not fail to mend,
Then, who am I to mind?
Will I say, “poorly,”
When asked how do I feel,
Or shall I reply,
With all surprise and light,
“Well, very well, actually,
In fact, quite well,”
For I have seen the light;
I know that it is light
When there is not darkness
Visiting my heart,
Not sitting on my soul,
When a hand is there to help,
A smile is there to cheer,
A nod there to assure,
Then, all is well
And I am swell,
And should you seek to know
My fate or how I fare,
I shall answer, with a smile,
Actually, quite well.

— *Herzele*
11/4/07 (revisited
2/27/11)

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