



HIGHLAND PARK WEST BALCONES
AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

THE HPWBANA NEWS

Volume 12, Number 11

November 2016

www.hpwbana.org

HPBANA Annual Meeting November 7th

Mark your calendars for the HPWBANA Annual Meeting on November 7. The business meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. at the Yarborough Branch Library where election of four Board members will occur and other business for the neighborhood. Following the business meeting, we will adjourn across the street to La Mancha for socializing. Please plan to attend.

Lettuce Recycle!

by Dena Houston

THE RECYCLING JOURNEY – PART 2

When you put recyclables into your recycling bin or take them to a recycling facility, you are giving them new life. Some materials can travel through the recycling and manufacturing process and be back on store shelves in less than 30 days. Below is the journey of four more items that many of us recycle.

JOURNEY OF AN OLD COMPUTER – I BECAME A WEDDING RING!

There are many ways to recycle old electronics. If they are still in working condition, they can be donated to various non-profits for reuse or returned to the manufacturer for refurbishing and reselling. The Recycle and Reuse Drop-Off Center will accept all electronics, whether or not they are in working condition.

Electronics that cannot be reused or refurbished can be disassembled. They contain valuable precious metals such as gold, silver, platinum, palladium, copper, tin and zinc. These are recovered and used in a number of ways, including jewelry, plating, new electronics, and automotive parts. Plastic components can be used in new electronic devices or other plastic products such as garden furniture.

JOURNEY OF A SHAMPOO BOTTLE - I BECAME ANOTHER SHAMPOO BOTTLE!

Shampoo bottles made from HDPE (high density polyethylene) are ground into small chips of plastic called “flakes.” The flakes are processed and made into pellets. The pellets are melted, molded, and made into new bottles.

JOURNEY OF A GLASS BOTTLE - I BECAME A GLASS COUNTER TOP!

At a material recovery facility, rotating metal discs on a conveyor belt break the glass. This broken material is placed on a vibrating screen and hit with gusts of air to remove dirt, paper, and other debris. The glass is then crushed into “cullets.” Finally, the cullets are melted down and made into a new glass container or glass product.

JOURNEY OF AN ALUMINUM CAN – I BECAME ANOTHER ALUMINUM CAN!

As aluminum cans move along a conveyor belt, a special machine creates a reverse magnetic field that pushes them off the belt and into a bin. The cans are crushed and shredded into walnut-sized pieces. The pieces are screened to remove any non-aluminum materials and are then passed through a blast of very hot air to remove any paint or lacquer.

The shredded aluminum is fed into a furnace where it becomes molten metal. It is then poured into a mold. This cooled aluminum

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The HPWBANA Board meets on the first Monday of each month except December. Please go to HPWBANA.org for our current meeting location or contact president@HPWBANA.org.

HWPBANA is bordered on the north by 2222, on the south by 35th St., on the west by Mt. Bonnell Rd., and on the east by MoPac and by Bull Creek Rd. between Hancock Dr. and 45th St. Mail your membership dues to HPWBANA, P.O. Box 26101, Austin, Texas 78755

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(Continued from Cover)

is called a “brick” or “ingot” and weighs 36,000 pounds. It takes 1.5 million cans to make an ingot. The ingot is then heated just enough to be rolled into a coil that is 9 miles long. Manufacturers use this coil to make new cans and lids.

RECYCLING BLOCK LEADERS NEEDED FOR THE CITY OF AUSTIN

The City of Austin is calling for individuals to volunteer to become Recycling Block Leaders. Block Leaders are active, “green-minded” individuals who will help spread the word about recycling in their neighborhoods. After attending an orientation session to learn how to engage their neighbors in recycling in Austin, they will receive educational materials to share with their neighbors.

I have been a Recycling Block Leader for many years now. For the last several years, the program has been inactive. I am very happy to report that the City now has on board a wonderful gal who is activating the program and making a huge effort to recruit and train new Block Leaders and reengage the ones from the past. Here is a link to apply to be a Recycling Block Leader – <http://eepurl.com/qma8n>.

QUESTIONS FROM OUR READERS (AND THE ANSWERS):

I just had a wedding and have lots of wine corks. Is there a place in Austin to recycle these?

You can drop those corks off at Spec’s or Water 2 Wine wine stores. They are recycled into cork flooring, flip-flops, purses, etc.

Plastic drinking straws – are they recyclable? No, please put these items into your trash carts.

I have a lot of half empty bottles of shampoo and cream rinse and other toiletries. What can I do with these?

There is the ReUse Store at the City’s Recycling and Reuse Drop-Off Center. If taken to this facility, these items will be available for anyone free of charge.

Here is a very informative City of Austin recycling website: <http://www.austintexas.gov/what-do-i-do>.

Stay tuned for future tips that will include creative ways to recycle or reuse. If you have any questions or recycling ideas, please send them to:

recycling@hpwbana.org.

REACHING YOUR NEIGHBORS *and many others...*

- Avery Ranch
- Bee Cave
- Bella Vista
- Belterra
- Canyon Creek
- Cat Mountain Villas
- Circle C Ranch
- Courtyard
- Forest Creek
- Highland Park West Balcones
- Jester Estates
- Ladera
- Lakeway
- Legend Oaks II
- Long Canyon
- Meridian
- Northwest Austin Civic Association
- Paloma Lake
- Parkside at Mayfield Ranch
- Plum Creek
- River Place
- Rocky Creek
- Sendera
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Hancock from Bull Creek to Valley Oak Project Description and Background

Hancock Drive from Valley Oak Drive to Bull Creek Road, as indicated in Figure 1, is planned to be upgraded to protected bicycle lanes to improve both the route to Highland Park Elementary and the city-wide all ages and abilities bicycle network, as called for in the City of Austin Bicycle Master Plan (Ordinance No. 20141106-118). The planned project was initiated through the Department of Public Works Neighborhood Partnering Program (NPP) and expanded through partnership with the Austin Transportation Department (ATD). You are receiving this notification because you live on and/or own property adjacent to Hancock Drive in Austin, Texas or are otherwise registered as a stakeholder in the area.

Usted está recibiendo esta notificación porque vive cerca de Hancock Drive, es dueño de propiedad cerca de Hancock Drive, o es parte interesada de Hancock Drive en Austin, Texas. Si necesita un documento traducido en español, llame a (512) 974-7092.

Figure 1

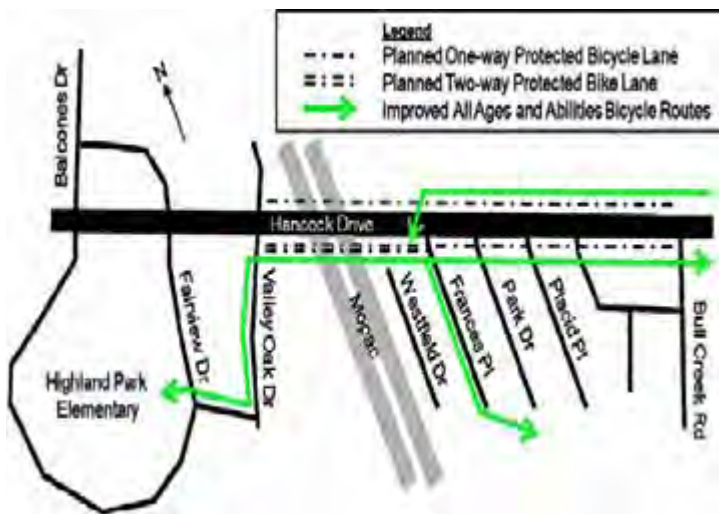
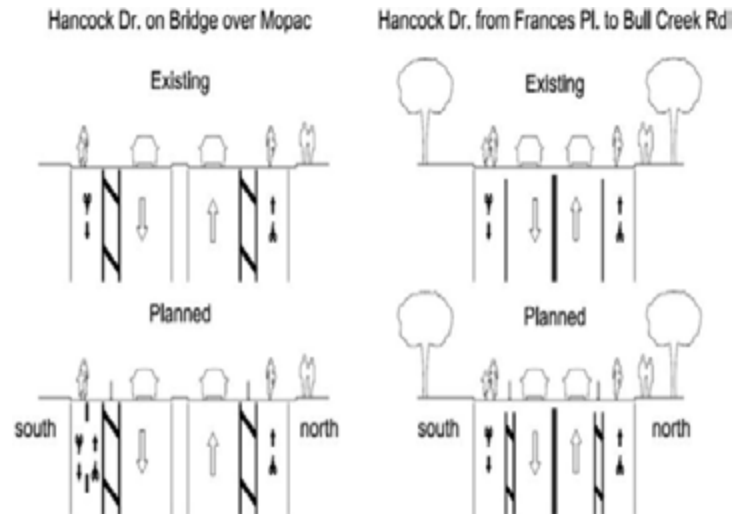


Figure 2 and 3 shows planned improvements at the intersections on the east and west side of the Hancock bridge over Mopac (Loop 1). Community members initiated the request to add the two-way protected bicycle lane connection on the south side of the bridge through the NPP. The two-way protected bicycle lane on the south side of the bridge solves the problem of providing a safer crossing of Hancock Drive to get to the school. Through a study of opportunities to improve access to the school for all roadway users, the opportunity to provide protected bicycle lanes between Bull Creek and Valley Oak Drive as well as a bicycle refuge island at Francis Place was identified and is also planned. The planned bicycle refuge island will enable people riding on the all ages and abilities route to make a safer two-stage crossing of Hancock and will have additional safety measures including advanced warning signs and yield signage for bicycle users,

(Continued on Page 6)

Figure 2



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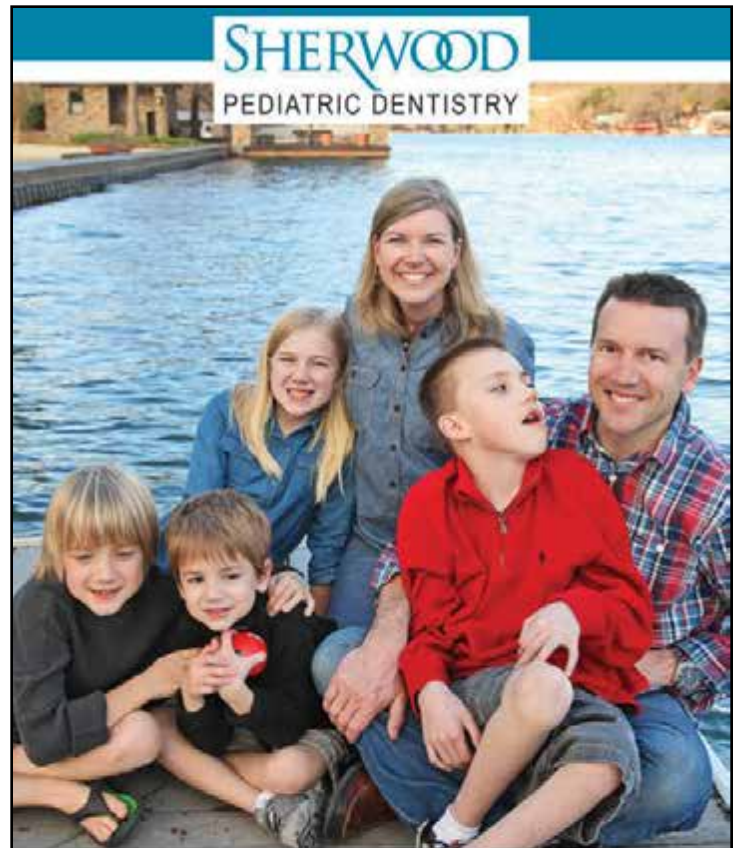
in Real Estate using Your IRA

By Rebecca Wolfe Spratlin

Are you underwhelmed by the growth of your 401Ks and IRAs that are invested in traditional mutual funds, stocks and bonds? Or, would you like to diversify your investment portfolio? More and more investors choose to “self-direct” their IRAs by purchasing other types of assets that they believe will provide better returns. Some of these investments include precious metals, private stocks, LLCs, Trusts and investment real estate. There are BILLIONS of dollars sitting around earning very low returns, but there are other options. This is a high level overview of how to use your 401Ks and IRAs to invest in real estate:

- Open and fund a self-directed IRA with a qualified Trustee/TPA (Third Party Administrator). You can do this by selecting a Trustee/TPA, then rolling over existing 401Ks and/or transferring IRAs to the Trustee/TPA in the amount of the cost of the investment property plus some additional funds to pay on-going expenses (maintenance, property taxes, insurance). You can google a list of self-directed IRA providers...then carefully vet them by doing research through the Better Business Bureau, referrals and other consumer watchdog groups.
- Locate the investment property you want to purchase and complete the purchase contract as you would with any property.
- Complete the documents required by your selected Trustee/TPA, as it will sign the final closing documents, but only AFTER you have had an opportunity to review and approve all documents.
- The asset is recorded in the name of your IRA, for example, “(Name of IRA Trustee/TPA) FBO (Your Name) Account (Your Trustee/TPA Account Number)”
- All expenses and income are administered by the Trustee/TPA. So all rents are sent to the Trustee/TPA and all expenses are paid by the Trustee/TPA. No personal funds are allowed.

There are restrictions on the types of real estate in which self-directed IRAs can invest. For example, you cannot live in a home that is owned by your IRA, nor can you use it as a vacation home. There are also restrictions based on the types of investments with which your selected Trustee/TPA deal. While billions of dollars are invested through self-directed IRAs, before doing so, be sure to consult your tax attorney, accountant and/or investment advisor to fully understand the way these investments work, the fees charged by the Trustee/TPA, your personal tax ramifications, risks and rewards of these types of investments.



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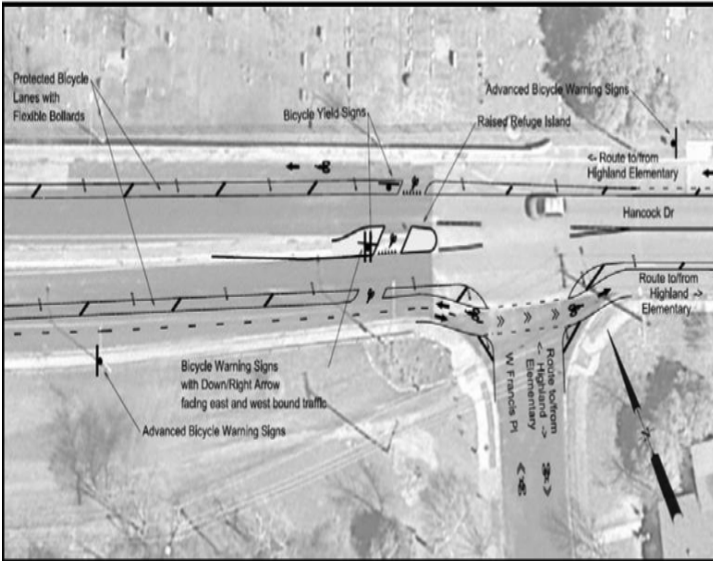
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Highland Park West Balcones Area

(Continued from Page 4)

The planned improvements will have no adverse impacts to motor vehicle operations including turning movements for large vehicles such as fire trucks and school buses.

Figure 3



Perry Art Park Fundraising Campaign Reaches Goal

Friends of Perry Park is thrilled to announce that the fundraising goal for Phase 2 of Perry Art Park was met in August! Many thanks go to the HPWBANA Board for the donation of \$2,000 towards this project! In addition, many local businesses and neighbors made generous contributions, bringing the total raised to over \$5,000. For a complete list of donors, please visit <http://friendsofperrypark.org/art-park-fundraising-summary>

In late June, Austin Parks Foundation awarded a grant for partial funding of this project. The fundraising effort was to meet the grant's matching funds requirement.

Installation of two sculptures will begin this fall. This project is a unique collaboration among The Contemporary Austin, Austin Parks and Recreation Department, and Friends of Perry Park. The first sculpture, "Dayton," by Jim Huntington was installed in November 2015. The additional sculptures to be installed this fall are, "Blue Float," by Peter Reginato, and "Alas IV," by Betty Gold.

Thanks again to all who supported this project!

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- 5-6** Texas Book Festival | texasbookfestival.org | Texas State Capitol
- 11-12** Bastrop Veteran's Day Car Show Weekend
bastropareacruisers.com | Bastrop, TX
- 12-13** 1944 Close Battle Assault - Battle Re-enactment
texasmilitaryforcesmuseum.org | Camp Mabry
- 12-13 & 19-20** East Austin Studio Tour | east.bigmedium.org
 1501 E. 6th St
- 16-20** Junior League's A Christmas Affair | www.jlaustin.org
 Palmer Events Center
- 19** Blacklight Run 5K | blacklightrun.com/austintx | Travis County
 Expo Center
- 24** Thundercloud Subs Turkey Trot | thundercloud.com/turkey-trot
 The Long Center
- 25-Dec24** Blue Genie Art Bazaar | bluegenieartbazaar.com
 Marchesa Hall & Theatre
- 26** Chuy's Children Giving to Children Parade | chuysparade.com
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