

# Hyde Park United

SEPT. 2008

A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

A publication of the Hyde Park United Civic Association  
P.O. BOX 66422 • HOUSTON, TX 77266-6642  
www.hydeparkunited.org

## President's Letter

### Wharton School saved!

Hello everyone,

It's always a pleasure to report good news and the following item gives us good reason to celebrate: Wharton Elementary was saved from the wrecking ball! The school will remain open for at least another five years whereupon the HISD Board will reconvene to review its status. In the meantime, neighborhood leaders will continue working behind the scenes to strengthen Wharton's position in the community.

Hats off to Kenneth McPherson of the East Montrose Civic Association for his hard work in organizing Friends of Wharton Elementary and helping to preserve a neighborhood landmark.

What's planned for the rest of the year? Mark your calendars for the next four months! Are you ready?

Due to the Labor Day holiday, we will have our next meeting on Saturday, Sept. 6, at Nidda Thai Restaurant at 1226 Westheimer (close to Radio Shack). We'll start the meeting at 11:30 am, so please come around 11:00 to order a terrific Thai lunch. At the meeting, we will formally add Stephen Marchione to our Deed Restrictions Team.

On Tuesday, Oct. 7, Hyde Park United will celebrate the 25th Annual National Night Out (NNO) in Lamar Park beginning at 7 pm. NNO is America's Night Out against crime! We'll have plenty of great food donated by area restaurants, a couple of kegs, and a peppering of politicians.

Cynthia Greenwood, Hyde Park secretary and acclaimed author, will talk about her new book, *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Shakespeare's Plays*. The beauty of her book is that she offers insights and commentary about the historical and political settings, the lives of the actors, and the "firsts" that propelled Shakespeare to the highest reaches of the dramatic arts. Books will be available to Hyde Parkers for a mere \$17 per copy. Cynthia will be happy to inscribe them for you and even include your favorite quote. Start thinking....holiday gifts....that special person.....what to give?

At the regular meeting on Monday, Nov. 3, Claude Wynn,

President of the Board of the Montrose Boulevard Conservancy, will speak to Hyde Park residents about the proposed redevelopment of Montrose Blvd. He'll bring along architectural renderings, plus answer your questions about the project.

Lastly, the Holiday Party will be held on Monday, Dec. 1 at Riva's Italian Restaurant at 1117 Missouri. This is a traditional time to renew memberships and visit with friends. At this time, the civic torch will be passed along to Allyson Wilkinson, current vice-president. :)

That's all for now. Hope to see some new faces at Nidda Thai at lunchtime on Saturday, Sept. 6th!

*Kathy Schipper, President  
Hyde Park Civic Association*

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

Saturday, Sept. 6

**11:30 am at Nidda Thai Restaurant  
1226 Westheimer near Radio Shack**

Come early at 11 am to order lunch  
— See the Agenda on Page 2 —

Tuesday, Oct. 7

**7:00 pm in Lamar Park  
25th Annual National Night Out**

Come for the free food, beer & fun

Monday, Nov. 3

**7:15 pm in Grace Lutheran Church  
2525 Waugh Dr. @ Missouri**

Claude Wynn on Montrose Boulevard  
Conservancy redevelopment plans

Monday, Dec. 1

**Annual Holiday Party  
at Riva's Italian Restaurant**

**Deadline for October newsletter: Wed., Sept. 24**

## AGENDA for Sept. 6

Meeting at 11:30 am at Nidda Thai Restaurant,  
1226 Westheimer. Come early to order lunch.

### Introductions

### Old Business

- Traffic Study
- Lamar Park Tax Deduction
- Membership

### New Business

- Stephen Marchione
- Trees
- Home Tour
- National Night Out

### Announcements

### Adjournment

## BLOCK CAPTAINS

Bomar	Dan Schnorr	832-455-7135
California/Westheimer	Kathleen Schipper	713-522-2538
Commonwealth	Neal Boggiano	713-524-5795
Commonwealth Apts.	Libby Cook	713-522-0584
Fairview/Van Buren	Tom Greer	713-526-9149
Hyde Park & Hyde Park Apts.	Linda Carter	713-524-2952
Hyde Park Crescent	Carlos Fernandez	713-520-7017
Hyde Park Townhomes	Jean Garwood	713-807-1228
Indiana/Yupon	Brigette Wignall	281-788-8011
Jackson	Doug Prince	713-471-6816
Maryland	Chris Lemus	713-528-1673
Michigan	Tom Whitworth	713-523-8035
Missouri	Jeanne Wallace	713-528-0834
Montrose	Sara Fernandez	713-520-7017
Peden/Haddon/Van Buren	Randy Stadler	713-524-2756
Vermont	Peter Forbes	713-527-0948
Waugh	Sue Chin	713-522-3231
Welch	Scott Whitley	713-545-1497
West Drew	Alice McCarthy	713-521-5807
W Gray/Hazel	Scott & Lina Rigrad	713-528-2791
Willard	Camille Bogel	713-526-7625
Yoakum	Ryan Levy	713-319-7376

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HOURS Mon-Fri 8:30AM-5:30 PM

# Parks that aren't parks, yet count as such

## ANOTHER SAD STORY OF LIFE IN THE BIG CITY ON THE BAYOU

When Hyde Park was created during the early 1900s, there were little triangular spits of land leftover from the development — too small for another house, too small for anything really.

Did you know that the City of Houston considers these little triangles PARKS? And, that these little triangles are included in the overall calculations of PARK SPACE in the Montrose area? HA HA!!

I was so incensed to learn of this that I calculated the square footage (using Heron's formula) of the four triangles in Montrose — three of them are in Hyde Park and the last is in Cherryhurst. In square feet:

California/Yoakum/ Waugh = 1288

Waugh/Waughcrest/California = 825

Waugh/Commonwealth/Haddon = 4935

California/Ridgewood/Westheimer = 1895

Additionally, the City of Houston wants to know how we feel about a proposal to begin charging civic clubs for placing signs such as "Hyde Park Civic Association" on City property. We would be "grandfathered" in at a special rate of \$1000 per sign per year!!! HA HA!!! I told the City representative he could put our signs in a wood shredder and use the shavings to fill the empty spaces in their heads. He then told me that since the majority of our signs were in City PARKS that maybe we would be exempt from the new regulations. HA HA!!

I honestly don't know whether to laugh or cry.

— submitted by *Kathy Schipper*



### All Mac. All Fun. All on Sept. 6th

Mac Speakers and Presentations  
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## Ground broken for sustainable residential building

Ground was broken recently for The Mirabeau B at Hyde Park, a sustainable residential building dedicated to encouraging a strong sense of community, resource efficiency, and quality of life. The passively designed 14-unit building will include a large PV canopy producing energy, a planted green roof, and a rainwater retention system for onsite irrigation. To learn more, visit [www.mirabeaub.com](http://www.mirabeaub.com).



Shown at the site of The Mirabeau B. from left to right: Larry Minns (Landscape), Joey Romano (Harvest Moon Development), Andrew Vrana (Metalab), and Joe Meppelink (Metalab).

## Texas Artist of Year Melissa Miller on view at Art League

Art League Houston is pleased to announce the opening of "Melissa Miller, Texas Artist of the Year 2008" Sept. 5 - Oct. 10, 2008. Miller is well known for her poetic and enigmatic narrative paintings of animals set in environs where one may find the wolf with the lamb or the llama with a herd of cows. This exhibition will feature paintings and prints from the 1980's and '90's, as well as more recent work.



The opening reception for "Melissa Miller, Texas Artist of the Year 2008" is Friday, Sept. 5, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., beginning with an artist talk by Miller at 6:00 p.m. A catalogue, with an essay by Michelle White, accompanies the exhibit. To learn more, visit <http://www.artleaguehouston.org/exhibitions.html>

## NO MEETING on Sept. 1, Labor Day (duh!)

Next regular meeting Sat., Sept 6 at Nidda Thai Restaurant



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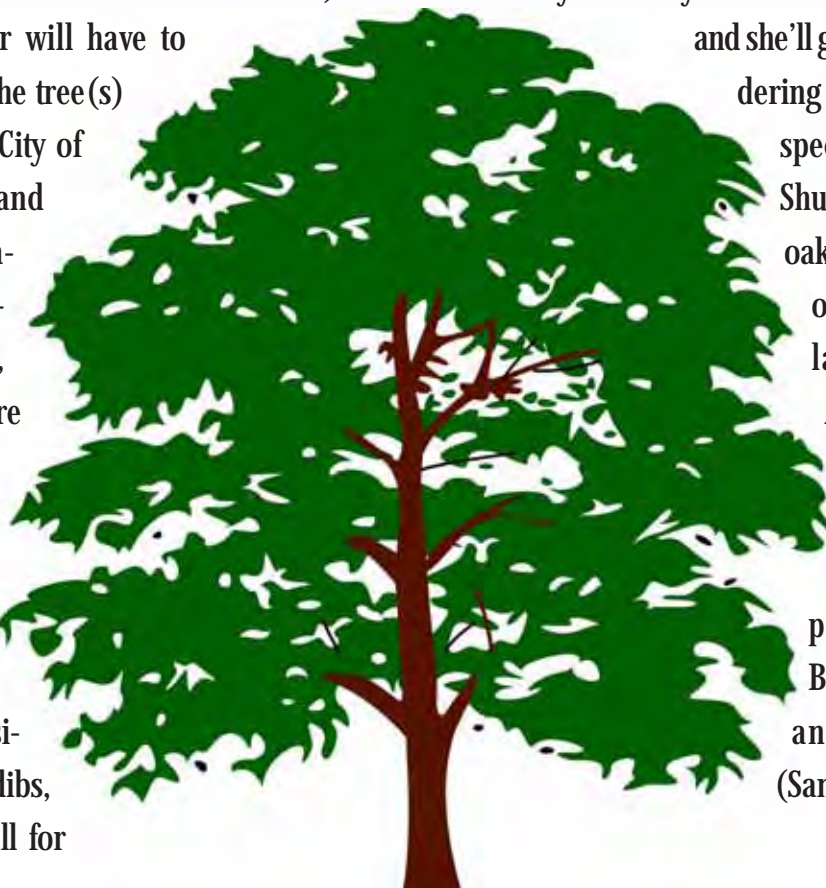
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**713-524-3989**

Interested in obtaining a free hardwood tree for your right-of-way or is there an bald spot in front of a vacant lot where you'd like to see some greenery? If so, contact Kathy Schipper at [president@hydeparkunited.org](mailto:president@hydeparkunited.org) for more information.

In October, the City of Houston will offer Hyde Park residents free trees to plant in the right-of-way (the space between the sidewalk and the street).

The homeowner will have to sign a form stating the tree(s) will be planted on City of Houston property and will be fed and watered until established. In the past, hundreds of trees were deposited on Kathy Schipper's driveway and prospective owners picked them up at their leisure. Hyde Park residents will have first dibs, then it's a free-for-all for



everyone else in Montrose and surrounding areas.

Email [president@hydeparkunited.org](mailto:president@hydeparkunited.org) and let Kathy know if you have a special preference,

and she'll get started on the ordering process. Available species: bald cypress, Shumard red oak, bur oak, sawtooth oak, live oak, Texas ash, lacebark elm, American elm, cedar elm, American holly, loblolly pine, Chinese pistache, Mexican Buckeye, sycamore, and the anaqua (Sandpaper tree).

## FREE TREES AVAILABLE IN OCTOBER FOR PLANTING IN CITY RIGHT OF WAY

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**Monday—Friday**

Lunch Specials: 11 a.m.— 2:30 p.m.

Dinner 5:00 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.

**Saturday**

12:00 Noon — 10:00 p.m.

**Sunday**

12:00 Noon — 9:30 p.m.

# Author of book on Shakespeare's plays will sign copies at River Oaks Bookstore in Sept., National Night Out in Oct.

Cynthia Greenwood, performing arts critic and former *Houston Press* classical arts reviewer, will sign copies of her new book, *The Complete Idiots Guide to Shakespeare's Plays*, at the following locations:

**Saturday, Sept. 27 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.**

River Oaks Bookstore  
3270 Westheimer  
Houston, TX 77098  
Phone: 713-520-0061

Students and teachers of English and drama who attend may register for a chance to win a free copy of Cynthia's new book.

**Tuesday, Oct. 7 7:30 p.m.**

National Night Out  
Hyde Park United Civic Association  
Lamar Park (located on Hyde Park between Waugh and Commonwealth) Houston, TX 77006  
Phone: 713-527-8699

THE COMPLETE IDIOTS GUIDE TO SHAKESPEARES PLAYS



is a handy reference to 20 major plays by William Shakespeare and his lesser-performed works. Using tips on plot and theme, this guide focuses on the essence of the spoken word of the plays and the importance of watching them onstage or on film. It also explores the cultural and historical contexts for the major plays, offering the directors and actors perspective in addition to that of the scholar and close reader.

Remember - Shakespearean theatre is a social art form. This book brings you closer to the heady world of freelance playwrighting and the London playhouses of the 1590s. It also reminds us that Shakespeare was at the forefront of Western show business.

## Our Garbage Collection and Recycling Schedule

### Garbage & Yard Trimming Collection:

Every Monday (except holidays)

**Recycle:** Every other Tuesday (except as noted\*).

**Please note** – Your automated container & recycling bin should be at your curb by 7 a.m. and removed by 10 p.m., **on your collection day**. If it appears it may rain, do not put out your newspapers for recycling, as the city cannot recycle wet newspapers. **Glass is NOT accepted curbside**. The recycling schedule:

September 2008		October 2008	
Tuesday	Sep 09	Tuesday	Oct 07
Tuesday	Sep 23	Tuesday	Oct 21

Check the city's trash pickup and recycling schedule online at: <http://www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/77006.html>

**Heavy Trash:** Second Tuesdays. Next pickup Sept. 9



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## Hyde Park September 2008 Yard of the Month

### WE PRAISE THE YARD(S) ECLECTIC

Nominate someone in Hyde Park for their beautiful yard — and tell us why you think they deserve it.

E-mail nominees for Yard of the Month to:

[beautification@hydeparkunited.org](mailto:beautification@hydeparkunited.org)

*Acknowledge beauty, effort, and community pride: nominate a yard of the month*

### JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS — JOIN HYDE PARK UNITED

#### THE HYDE PARK UNITED CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) New Member ( ) Renewal Cost: \$24 annually for residents and renters

Additional donation(s) of \_\_\_\_\_ for Lamar Park and \_\_\_\_\_ for Neighborhood Protection

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Bus. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you  
for joining!**

Community Interests / Concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

One vote per membership. The bylaws of Hyde Park United define who can be a member. Your annual membership fee insures your voice will be heard in all matters concerning the area you have chosen to call home. Through our newsletter and monthly meeting, you can be part of this beautiful, historic and growing area. Thank you for joining and helping us build a "sense of community."

**Mail with your check with completed form to: Hyde Park United • P.O. Box 66422 • Houston, TX 77266**

You also can join online at [www.hydeparkunited.org](http://www.hydeparkunited.org) or bring this form with you to the next meeting.