

NORTH UNIVERSITY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

www.nuna-austin.org



Nuna President's Note

By Babs Davis

Here we are one year into the pandemic and coming off the effects of a vicious ice storm that left many Austin neighbors stranded without power or water. What a year in the NUNA community! In the face of almost unimaginable human difficulties in our community and world-wide, I have been reflecting at a personal level at ways that our neighbors have coped with the chaos in their environment.

One way of coping stands out for me across this period: gardening. As I walk Abby Sparkle north, south, east, and west of my house, I have enjoyed the calming effects of NUNA neighbors gardens. From the lovely bougainvillea hedges across the street from the Age of Central Texas building on 38th, the stately lawns along Duval, the kitchen garden on 32nd, Rick Iverson's garden on 34th, to the lovely calming lawn at the Presbyterian Seminary, my walks and enjoyment of neighborhood gardener's products have centered me in the beauty of nature in the face of chaos and uncertainty. And I have spent many hours of my own labor on the plants in my garden as a coping strategy, as have so many of you.

So now we are all faced with rebuilding after the storm. Huge stacks of sticks and leaves adorn our

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streets waiting for pickup. In my mind, rebuilding our gardens to surround ourselves with living beauty can be a metaphor for rebuilding our lives after these terrible events in our environment that extend across our culture and our entire world. Maybe just one small avenue toward making a new world out of the difficult chaos in our present world, but a path that can contribute some small oasis of peacefulness for ourselves and our community.

Take care of yourselves NUNA neighbors!

Leoda Anderson

Leoda Anderson died February 10, 2021, at the age of 105. She was born in New Hanover, Illinois, in the same house where her mother was born. She attended New Hanover public school and was the last surviving member of Waterloo (Illinois) High School's graduating class of 1933.

Leoda worked as a secretary at her high school under the aegis of the NYA (National Youth Administration). Later, when a new school was built, she was again the secretary. One of her favorite jobs was working for the *Waterloo Republican* newspaper.

In 1943 she married Rev. William (Bill) Anderson. They moved to New Orleans, where daughters Elaine and Heidi were born. The family later moved to Womack, Texas, near Clifton in Bosque County, where daughters Sunya and Lissa were born.

The Andersons moved to a busy church life in Schulenburg, Texas, in 1951. In addition to being the mother of four young daughters and contributing to the community as a pastor's wife, Leoda worked for a time at the local newspaper, the *The Schulenburg Sticker*. In 1959 they moved to Austin. In 1965 Leoda and Bill divorced.

Leoda went to work as a planning aide in the City of Austin Planning Department. Then she began a new career at the University of Texas at Austin in the Classics Department, where she worked as an Administrative Assistant to the Chairman from 1966 to 1986. She stayed in touch with old friends from Classics until her death. She was committed to maintaining friendships over years and distance, keeping a calendar of birthdays and never hesitating to pick up the phone when she wondered how an old friend was doing.

An avocation she enjoyed was teaching line dancing, under the aegis of the Lifetime Learning Institute and the Austin Parks and Recreation Department. She retired from teaching two line-dance classes a week only when she turned 95. Many of her dance students became close friends.

Leoda always loved to write. She authored a small book (*Goosing Mother Goose*, ©2002) that parodied Mother Goose rhymes. She also wrote

many rhyming couplets for children that begin "Did you ever?" Over the decades she must have written thousands of letters to family members, friends, editorial pages, and politicians. In recent years she frequently contributed poems and stories from her travels in Mexico to the newsletter of the North University Neighborhood Association.

In 2015 Leoda was honored and delighted by a 100th birthday party hosted by her daughters, where family members and about 100 of her many friends celebrated her life, told funny stories, and expressed their affection and appreciation for her.



She loved her little house just north of UT and, until her health declined, she was very involved in her neighborhood's life. She'd often share her home-baked cakes or pies with neighbors, and she heartily appreciated their bringing her special treats. She was always a sucker for stray cats, who seemed to know she would feed them.

Leoda is survived by her four daughters: Elaine Dreskin, Heidi Rentería, Sunya Anderson, and Lissa Anderson. She also cherished her three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Leoda's family wants to thank the staff at The Collinfield House, who took such good care



of her over the past year. We also thank her kind and generous neighbors, who looked after her in so many ways. The wonderful staff at Hospice Austin eased Leoda's last months. Those who wish to honor Leoda's memory are invited to donate to Hospice Austin. No memorial event is planned, since her 100th birthday party was the best possible way to celebrate her life, while Leoda was able to feel the love with which she was surrounded.

The Latest on Hancock Golf Course

By Brandon Tucker

At our February General Membership meeting, we were joined by Adam Sparks, a representative from the Hancock Conservancy who shared their group's vision for a general use parks pace rather than a golf course. They encouraged members to write their council member and ask for more time to discuss solutions, and also that there be no driving range or netting installed at the course (something that has

been a pretty popular ask throughout this process from all sides).

There has been some interest in this general-use concept since debate about the future of Hancock began last spring as PARD said they needed to look at some options for the property that will take the fiscal risk out of the golf department.

But golf hasn't been as popular in recent memory as it now at Hancock and throughout the U.S. Data shared with us from the City of Austin Golf department shows that golf is currently on fire throughout the city and especially so at Hancock. With their fiscal years beginning in October-February, so far in 2020-21, revenue is up over \$60,000 at Hancock (177,726 in '21 vs. 114,578 in '19-20). Even with February's snowstorm disrupting play for over a week, the course was only \$4,000 below previous February. The other months, revenue has been up +/- 100%. Rounds played in this time frame are up 82% YoY.

(It's worth mentioning that the course is still under minimal operations with no pro shop or golf cart revenue. It is currently walking only 7 days a week and all green fees are paid at the paystation).

The Hancock Conservancy has about 3,500 signatures online from residents interested in making the property a passive park. Compare that to the 12,862 green fees that were paid at Hancock just between October '20 - January '21.

A little bit misleading on the Hancock Conservancy site, they write that “For 122 years, the 45 acres of Hancock Golf Course have been held for the exclusive use of golfers.” That’s leaving out the fact that a jogging trail encircles the property, there is an activity center, basketball courts, playground, and neighbors tend to frequent the grounds at dusk (or enjoy the snow-covered hills when a once-in-a-generation snow storms hits like it did in February). Seeing that golf and parkgoers can further enjoy the space in harmony through programming or redesign of the golf holes should be a priority worth exploring for whatever comes next at Hancock.

It’s safe to say that as long as this positive trend in golf rounds continue, Hancock as it is today will suddenly be generating an operational surplus to the golf enterprise fund of the city and no longer a drain (the only reason it lost money in 2020 is because the city closed golf courses for COVID-19 purposes for about two months and took in no green fees). Compare that to the passive park solution, which PARD estimates would cost \$200,000 annually to upkeep with significantly less, if any revenue associated with it.

PARD is slated to present to the city’s parks board later this year (summer, most likely) with their findings on both the community input surveys and their rounds played this past year, but if the course is actually continuing to make money, the need for operational adjustments to Hancock may be less urgent and there will be more time to consider renovations or other enhancements to what is left of the historic golfing parkspace at Hancock.

Brandon Tucker is a NUNA neighbor and a Sr. Managing Editor for Golf Channel.

Dogs of Nuna

Abby Sparkle has been a member of the Davis pack for 14 years now. (Some would say that she is the leader of the pack)! She is a rat terrier/Jack Russell mix. As the runt of her litter, she only achieved 10 pounds, but her dad says she is a 90 pound dog in a 10 pound dog body personality-wise! Her dominant characteristics are her ears and her tail. Her ears act like radio wave antennas turning toward sound and are at least as big as her head. Her tail is the main engine of her approach to people, hoping she will get a “scratch.” And her best talent is her ability to howl, which she does to greet parents returning home and younger family members on Zoom. All and all, Abby Sparkle Davis is spoiled rotten and deeply beloved by her humans!



The Dish: Thrive Craft House comes to NUNA

By Abby Tucker

Located at 37th and Guadalupe, the family-owned Thrive Craft House has been on our list to try for several months now. Ever since La Tazza Fresca closed we have been awaiting the grand opening of this new restaurant/pub.

We picked an especially nice day last week to walk up there (taking the shortcuts through the neighborhood) and settled onto one of the nice picnic tables on the patio. We were quickly greeted by our waiter. It was a Monday night, which we didn't realize was Open Mic night. Although we enjoyed having some tunes (it's been a year!), it was a bit loud for the kids, so we relocated to a quieter table that was somewhat hidden off the back patio. What a treat it was! There was a wood-burning



ambiance. For a moment we could pretend we were on a relaxing vacation...or whatever that looks like with two kids.

We started with the onion rings and they were hot and crispy and had a great dipping sauce. For entrees we tried two of the flatbreads, which were very crispy (if you love super thin crust pizza this is for you!) and satisfying. "The Longhorn"

NUNA General Meeting (Zoom)

April 12, 2021

Report on Status of Project Connect	Pam Bell
Report on Standing Committee Membership	Babs Davis
Report on Method(s) for Voting	Lynn Marshall
Report/Vote on Officer Nominations for 2021-22	Bill Bednar
Report on Website	Babs Davis
Call for NUNANews Editor	Brandon Tucker
Treasurer Report/Membership	Jan Moyle
Secretary Minutes/Vote	Abby Tucker
Quadrant Leader Reports	Jim Creswell, Dick Holland, Mary Ingle, Randy Thompson

Aprils 2021's regular general NUNA meeting via Zoom can register by sending name / email to: zoomnuna@gmail.com or they can register by texting their name and email to (512)655-9790 for information on how to contact the meeting host to receive an invitation and link.



version is your traditional take on a Supreme, while “The Domain” with chicken is a nice surprise with a walnut pesto drizzled on top. My sister ordered the “Hyde Park Chicken and Artichoke” which she said was very delicious and looked almost like a panini with a nice tapenade and melted mozzarella. The kids were equally happy with their mac and cheese (the adults had several bites and approved), fries and a fruit bowl. While my husband is the only beer drinker of our group, he enjoyed a nice Horseshoe Pilsner on tap and said the beer menu was very extensive (33 draft beers, viewable on the Untappd app).

It should also be noted that the manager said their breakfast menu has been very popular (especially the breakfast calzone) which he said is also great to-go and transports well. We will have to give it a try if we can re-learn how to put on normal

clothes before noon. (NUNA neighbors, note the free coffee in their ad in this newsletter!)

The manager also mentioned there is live music Fri-Mon night (with Mon always being Open Mic night) if you are suffering from live tunes withdrawal.

We were checked on several times throughout the meal (everyone was masked) and the staff was noticeably friendlier than your average casual dinner spot. Maybe we would have enjoyed eating out anywhere at this point, but I will say we had an especially lovely night at Thrive and will certainly be back. We were able to easily socially distance, the menu is touchless, accessible via QR code, and it was nice to have such a warm welcome from the staff. Give it a whirl, especially on one of these beautiful spring nights!



Thrive Craft House
 519 W. 37th St.
 Indoor/Outdoor Dining or To Go
512-502-5346

One FREE order of
 pretzel bites with
 any entree order
 Must bring coupon

Visit us for craft coffee,
 craft food and craft beer!
 thrivecrafthouse.com
 Pups welcome! 



*Home of
 Leoda Anderson*

3105 Wheeler St.
April 22nd, 23rd & 24th

Thursday.....9am-4pm
 Friday.....9am-4pm
 Saturday.....9am-2pm



MORE INFO 512-577-1015

DUES! DUES! DUES!

Please become a member or renew your membership in NUNA and be a contributing member of our neighborhood. Our dues cover the calendar year, so this is the time to send in a check.

Your dues help with signs for meetings, and signs and other items for It's My Park Day, and a donation for the Fourth of July celebration. And there are always those needed materials for presentations to the City.

Some people have already paid for 2021. If you are wondering about your status as a dues paying member, check with Jan Moyle at moylejan@gmail.com.

There should be a form in this newsletter, but if not:

Dues:

\$25/couple | \$15/one person | \$10/student

Mail to: Jan Moyle, 200 W. 32nd, Austin (or put through my mail slot)

Please include: Name(s), address, email and telephone number.

Insects and the BIG FREEZE

By Wizzie Brown

With most of Texas seeing freezing temperatures in February, I've been getting numerous questions on what it will do to the insect populations this year. Since we haven't experienced such cold temperatures along with ice and snow for a long time, the short answer is that we just don't know and will have to wait and see. I have a feeling that the majority of insects- and other arthropods- will be just fine because they have ways of surviving winter's cold temperatures.

Just like "snowbirds" that drive their RVs to Texas or Florida to spend the winter, there are certain groups of insects that migrate to new areas to spend the winter where temperatures are not as cold. A great example of this is the Monarch butterfly.

Another example that can be put into "human relation" terms would be insects that use cryoprotectants (anti-freeze compounds). The most commonly used compound that insects use for this purpose is ethylene glycol, which is the same compound that is in antifreeze that humans put into vehicles. Ethylene glycol allows the insect's body tissues to supercool and remain above the freezing point.

Freeze tolerance is another modification that some insects use to survive winter temperatures. With this method, freezing causes water to be forced out of living cells and the fluid around the cells freeze. These insects also empty their digestive tract to get rid of any food that contains water which could freeze and cause the digestive system to burst. Freeze tolerance is easier for smaller insects due to the fact that they have less

fluid in their body because of their small size.

Some insects may gather together to create collective heat. Honey bees do this inside the hive during the winter to keep warm.

Other insects seek areas of shelter in areas where it is not so cold. An example is ladybugs that move indoors during colder months of the year. These insects move into homes through cracks and crevices or other areas that are not well sealed when it gets cold. This can lead them indoors to become nuisance pests.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

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Scene And Heard

We received quite the snowstorm in February (not that you've forgotten by now). We're fortunate to have seen our neighborhood utilities go mostly unaffected around the neighborhood based on chatter with you all. We were hosting family and friends for a few nights who weren't as fortunate. The kids certainly enjoyed the week off of school and the chance to frolic in the snow and even go sledding at Hancock golf course!

At long last! The old pawn shop has been quite the eyesore at 34th St and Guadalupe for a couple years now. We're glad to have finally seen signs of a new business coming! Looks like a new restaurant is scheduled to open this spring!



Advertise Your Business with NUNA in 2021!

In preparation for 2020 we'd like to invite any new businesses in the neighborhood or existing ones looking to support our association and get the word out about their business with an annual advertising package.

The North University Neighborhood is one of the oldest neighborhoods in Austin and the third most dense after Riverside and West Campus. We are an eclectic mix of University folk (professors, students and staff), families and working professionals. Our neighborhood lies between 27th and 38th streets, bound by Guadalupe on the west and Duval on the east, with Hemphill/Adams Park with Waller Creek running through its center.

The North University Neighborhood Association (NUNA) News is published 6 times a year, February-March, April-May, June-July, August-September, October-November and December-January. We print and distribute 1000 copies to homes, businesses, coops and non-profit agencies in our neighborhood. The newsletter also appears online at nunaaustin.org. The content of the newsletter is all about our neighborhood and we like to include stories about our supporters and advertisers. Please email nunanews@gmail.com if you are interested.

Sizes and Rates: We sell ads by the year (6 issues). Our rates are:

1/8 Page Ad (3.5x2.25): \$200

1/4 Page Ad (3.5x4.5): \$300

1/2 Page Ad (5.3x8 horizontal or 3.6x9.875 vertical): \$550

Full Page Ad (7.5 x 9.875) – \$1000

Ad Specifications: Black & white, no bleed, 300 dpi



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4604 AVENUE D

Rare opportunity to build & customize your dream home. Local builder, Craftsman Collective, has approved building plans and permits for a 3,495 SF Craftsman home.

Listed at \$1,350,000



201 WEST 32ND STREET

Charming 1928 Storybook Tudor style home in historic Aldridge Place. Spacious formal living and dining rooms plus 4 BR, 2 BA. Wood beam ceilings and fireplace.

Listed at \$950,000



602-A EAST 49TH STREET

New modern farmhouse design featuring open floor plan with 4 BR, 3.5 BA. Hardwood floors, gas fireplace, abundance of windows and natural light throughout.

Listed at \$875,000



901 WEST 22ND STREET

Available now for short term lease at discounted rate. Charming 2 BR, 2 BA condo at Preservation Square. Ground level unit with adjacent parking. Walking distance to U.T.

Listed at \$1,695/mo.



4214 SPEEDWAY

Exquisite renovation of 1939 Hyde Park bungalow. Many upgrades and custom finishes. 3 BR, 3 BA. Two screened in porches, greenhouse, hot tub, garage/workshop.

Listed at \$1,195,000



3512 RED RIVER STREET

White stone traditional style custom built home with 4 BR, 3.5 BA, 2 LIV. Open floor plan, updated kitchen, fabulous master suite on ground level. Two-car garage plus carports.

Listed at \$1,195,000



3306 HARRIS PARK AVE.

Upstairs unit of 1930s brick duplex with 2 BR, 1 BA. Updated with new appliances, refinished floors, screened porch. Looks out on tree-tops. Walking distance to U.T.

Listed at 2,100/mo.



3501 WOODROW ST.

Stately 1933 brick American Four Square home with 4BR, 2BA, 2LIV plus guest house. Park-like yard with pool on half-acre lot. Fun fact: Childhood home of QB Drew Brees!

Listed at \$1,695,000

Hyde Park & North University homes continue to be in high demand! Call your neighborhood expert today for a complimentary market analysis and customized marketing plan for your property. Check out new listings for sale on [Instagram](#) @hydeparkrealtor .

Suzanne Pringle

Broker, REALTOR®

512.217.1047

suzanne.pringle@sothebysrealty.com



Kuper

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