

Austin Parks and Recreation Department Announces Collaboration with The Contemporary Austin and Friends of Perry Park to Establish Perry Art Park

Austin Parks and Recreation Department, The Contemporary Austin, Friends of Perry Park and Austin Parks Foundation celebrated the official ribbon-cutting of the Perry Art Park project, at Perry Neighborhood Park, at 4 pm on January 15, 2016.

The first collaboration between The Contemporary Austin, Austin Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of Perry Park, with funding from Austin Parks Foundation, the Perry Art Park project at Perry Neighborhood Park launches with the installation of Jim Huntington's Dayton (1977). The large granite and steel sculpture stands at 96 x 60 x 37 inches and is on loan from The Contemporary Austin, where it was added to the collection as part of the "Seven Sculptors" commissions in the late 1970s and early 1980s when the institution was known as the Laguna Gloria Art Museum.

"Part of the joy of working with the outdoor sculpture collection at The Contemporary Austin is having the opportunity to highlight a rich history of commissions and site-specific pieces at Laguna Gloria," said Louis Grachos, Ernest and Sarah Butler Executive Director of The Contemporary Austin. "We're dedicated to keeping the sculpture collection active and alive, and have embarked on strategic loans of outdoor sculptures to local

institutions and parks, such as Perry Neighborhood Park. I am excited to see Dayton in a new context, and look forward to sharing it with new audiences."

District 10 Austin City Council Member Sheri Gallo attended the Perry Neighborhood Park Ribbon Cutting where she read a proclamation from Mayor Steve Adler declaring January 15, 2016, "Perry Art Park Day." She stated, "I am so excited about this upcoming event, not only to represent District 10, but also because I grew up in the Highland Park neighborhood and my great-grandfather, Edgar H. Perry, donated the land that is now Perry Park."

"The Parks and Recreation Department enjoys partnering with the community and organizations who can help bring a whole new perspective to our parks," said Sara Hensley, Director of the Austin Parks and Recreation Department. "With the generosity we received from the Austin Parks Foundation, donations from neighborhood families and businesses, and the hard work and determination of Friends of Perry Park, partnering

with The Contemporary Austin is elevating the landscape when it comes to adding a new dimension to our Perry Neighborhood



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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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Park. We are looking forward to many more collaborations with community organizations in the future."

Austin Parks Foundation is dedicated to improving and strengthening the quality of life for people living in Austin through Austin's incredible green space. "At Austin Parks Foundation we are committed to bringing people together for the benefit of our parks," said Ladye Anne Wofford, Programs Director for Austin Parks Foundation. "We are proud to bring art to the parks through our ACL Music Festival Grants Program, and we are thrilled with the outcome at Perry Neighborhood Park. This collaboration is a perfect example of coming together to make Austin's parks and public spaces more enjoyable for everyone."

Friends of Perry Park, a small group of volunteers whose mission is to enhance Perry Neighborhood Park, has worked on this project for several years. "We are thrilled that our vision of a neighborhood art park is becoming a reality. The Perry Art Park project has transformed this lightly-used area into a peaceful spot where the community can enjoy art in a natural setting," according to Julie Beyt and Jessica Winslow, FOPP leaders.



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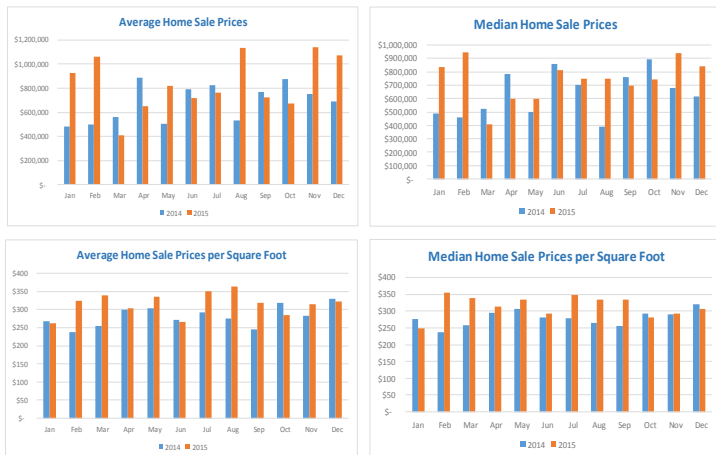
HPWBANA HOME PRICES: 2015 COMPARED TO 2014

By Rebecca Wolfe Spratlin

At the end of each year, I pause to analyze the current year compared to the previous year. The easiest way to clearly understand the price activity during a given time period is to chart the comparisons. Looking at the adjacent charts, it becomes evident that the 2015 Average Home Sale Prices exceeded the 2014 Average Home Sale Prices in six of the months, and were less in six of the months and the 2015 Median Home Sale Prices exceeded the 2014 Median Home Sale Prices in seven months. But that does not mean the prices balanced out during the two years. It is noteworthy that during the months that prices were less than the previous year, the prices were very close, but in the months where 2015 prices exceeded 2014, they exceeded the previous year very significantly. For example, the 2015 August Average Home Sale Prices were more than double prices in the same month in 2014.

The Median Sales Prices in 2015 were nearly double the prices in 2014 during the months of January and February, and also exceed the previous year during November and December. These are particularly interesting, as many home sellers believe that November and December or not good months to list their homes, and others think that waiting to list until the spring months is optimal. These stats suggest otherwise. The winter months are performing extremely well for home sellers in our neighborhood.

Average Home Sale Prices per Square Foot in 2015 exceeded the previous year during nine months and the 2015 Median Home Sale Prices per Square Foot exceeded the previous year eight months of the year. The overall growth in prices and prices per square foot continue to show growth year over year for the past few years with that trend continuing throughout 2015. Early indicator for 2016 suggest prices will continue to climb as long as interest rates do not increase significantly during the year.



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Traffic and Safety Improvements within Highland Park Area

By Pieter Sybesma

The City of Austin has completed some street surface repairs for a number of streets: Perry Lane, West Highland Terrace and Shadow Lane around Highland Park Elementary. Highland Crest, Mount Barker Drive and Mount Bonnell Drive are also just a few of the streets that were seal coated. Following these repairs, the city restriped Perry and Shadow Lane/ Big Bend and painted new crosswalks on Perry at Shadow Lane, on Fairview at Big Bend and on Fairview at Hancock in addition to refreshing the school crosswalks in front Highland Park Elementary. The newly painted crosswalks are in addition to the red painted curbs where No Parking is allowed around the school.



A big concern now is that more vehicles are driving the wrong way on the one-way portion of Fairview Drive. This has surprised the school crossing guards and has been brought to the attention of the city. In fact, two cars drove the wrong way one day when the city Traffic Engineers were on-site reviewing the situation. New pavement turn arrows have been painted on West Highland Terrace and on Fairview Drive to supplement the existing one way and other directional signs. For the safety of school children, pedestrians, and vehicular traffic around the school, please be aware of the one-way portion of southbound Fairview Drive

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between Hancock Drive and West Highland Terrace.

Speeding, traffic safety and crime prevention are long standing issues for HPWBANA. The supplemental patrol and traffic safety efforts were initiated by concerned neighbors who wanted to take a more proactive stance. With the expansion of the geographic area of responsibility of our APD District Representative, little neighborhood patrolling can be accomplished by APD since officers are generally going from call-to-call. It is unfortunate that the City does not provide enough support to allow neighborhood police patrolling on any regular or consistent basis. To address the patrol need and speeding issues on our streets and around the school, several residents have voluntarily funded supplemental patrolling and enforcement of speed limits within the neighborhood by a Constable. Emphasis is placed on traffic enforcement on Perry Lane, Hancock Drive (from Bull Creek Road to Balcones), Balcones Drive (from 35th Street to RM 2222), and on neighborhood patrolling.

We continue to need your help funding the Supplemental Patrol efforts for the HPWBANA area. Please make a donation to continue this worthwhile safety initiative in our neighborhood. You may make a donation through the HPWBANA.org website <http://hpwbana.org/get-involved/join-hpwbana> or by contacting Pieter Sybesma at psybesma@austin.rr.com.

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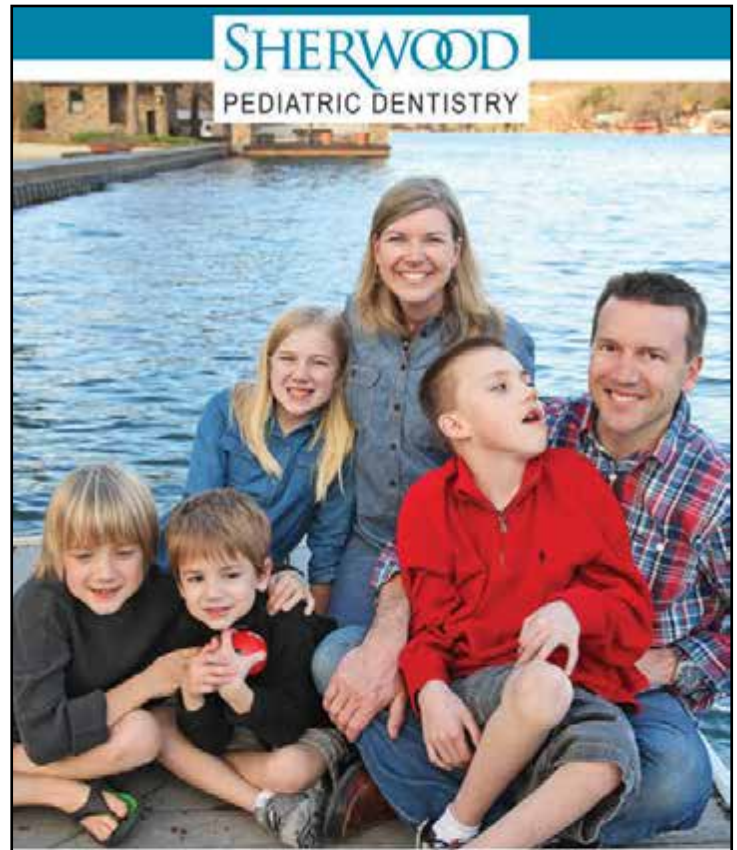
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Also, the Akins High School Orchestra and Classical Guitar Program is hosting a fund-raising 5k on 20 February which is open to the public. This is not a military event, but the funds go to a good cause so Maj. Mancuso wanted to help them get the word out to increase their participation.

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