



The HPWBANA News

Volume 3, Number 6

June 2007

www.hpwbana.org

Muster Days 2007

Congratulations to Camp Mabry for a wonderful Muster Days 2007. From WWII re-enactments, to civil war campsites and modern day exhibits, this year's Muster Days was educational and fun for the whole family. Thanks to Camp Mabry for hosting such a great event.

The Texas Military Forces Museum needs volunteers to help in many areas of the museum. Contact Col. Pat Simpson at 782-5770 to volunteer or find out more information.



Little Pilot Clara enjoys Muster Days!

Newsletter Delays??

Many neighbors have expressed concerns that the HPWBANA Newsletter has arrived late during the last few months. Your concerns have been noted and we are working closely with our newsletter publisher, PEEL, Inc. to remedy these problems. Please remember to visit our website: www.hpwbana.org to get the most up to date news about events in the neighborhood and membership information. We apologize for the delay and hope that the problem has been corrected.

Foothill Terrace Median is Looking Great!

By Nadene Morning, Beautification Committee

The care and maintenance of the crescent shaped median on Foothill Terrace has a long history of community efforts. In continuing that tradition an anonymous neighbor stepped forward to take care of this green space in a wonderful way. In late May the median was upgraded with a professional landscape design, complete with irrigation system, all at the expense of the neighborhood resident! The neighborhood has also volunteered to handle maintenance of the median.

The neighborhood associations would like to thank Monte Goertz of Michael Dean Homes who acted as a liaison between neighbors, the HPWBANA, the landscape design company LandWest Design Group and his client who funded the project. This task seemed to span a very long time and the courtesy and professionalism were noted and very much appreciated!

As with all median beautification efforts in our area, getting the necessary city approvals was a challenge. We thank Brian Block of Keep Austin Beautiful for his help in getting a signed city license agreement. Hopefully through these KAB efforts Austin will see more of these median beautification projects throughout town.

The significant contribution towards improving a public green space in our neighborhood is outstanding! To this very generous neighbor – on behalf of the entire HPWBANA board and the neighborhood we say Thank You!!!

REMEMBER FATHER

June 17

Don't want to wait for the mail?

**View the current issue of the Highland Park West Balcones Area
Neighborhood Newsletter on the 1st day of
each month at www.PEELinc.com**

Highland Park West Balcones Area

Helpful Phone Numbers

Austin Citywide Information Center974-2000 or 311
Emergency Police 911
Non-emergency Police (coyote sighting, etc.) 311
Social Services (during work hours) 211
Dana Munguia, Senior Patrol Officer 974-5440
David Crowder Jr., Senior Police Officer 974-5545
Wildlife Rescue 24 Hour Hot Line210-698-1709

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The HPWBANA Board meets on the 4th Monday of each month except December. Meetings are held from 7:00 – 8:45 p.m. at the Yarborough Library, 2200 Hancock Drive. All neighbors are invited to attend. www.hpwbana.org

HPWBANA 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.

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HPWBANA Board Meeting In Review

If you were not in attendance at the April HPWBANA board meeting, here are the topics discussed. Please contact any board member if you would like more information about these issues:

Post office problems creating newsletter delays, beautification projects, including a request for sun screens for benches at the tennis courts in Perry Park, also a request for toddler swings in Perry Park and the increased need for volunteers to help with beautification maintenance. Other topics included better utilization of email communication to increase membership and possibly increase in number of board members for next year.

Interested in shaping the neighborhood? Attend a board meeting and get involved!

HPWBANA Board Meetings

Please attend our next monthly meetings:

June 25, 2007
Yarborough Library
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7:00-8:30 pm

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Highland Park West Balcones Area

Calling All Patriots!

Abraham Lincoln! George Washington! Uncle Sam! It's time to prepare for the Annual HPWBANA July Parade and Celebration. The festivities will begin at 9:15 a.m. on July 4. Prizes will be awarded for the following categories:

- Best Decorated Bicycle
- Best Decorated Wagon
- Best Decorated Stroller
- Best Decorated Scooter

Prizes will also be awarded for the most patriotic costumes. Line up for the parade and judging at 9:15. Parade will plan to step off at 9:30.

After the parade, we will have the reading of the Declaration of Independence.

Please volunteer to help in one of the following categories:

- Judging
- Decorations
- Emcee
- Reading of the Declarations
- Organization
- Hot Dog Stand
- Good Idea Committee
- Signs/ Advertising

To volunteer, contact Chereen Fisher @ chereen@austin.rr.com or Carolyn Robinson at carrob99@hotmail.com.

New Farmers' Market Opens In

North Central Austin On Wednesdays!

The new Austin Farmers' Market at The Triangle held its Grand Opening on Wednesday, May 2. The market will be open every Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., in May – September, and from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in October – December. Free parking in nearby parking garage that is just to the west of the park.

The market is located "inside" The Triangle complex, at beautiful Triangle Park. The park is located at the corner of 46th Street and Triangle Avenue, which is an intersection inside of the Triangle. 46th can be accessed on either Lamar or Guadalupe and Triangle Avenue is accessible from 45th. There will be signs up at the main entrances to direct you to the market and parking.

Weekly, the market will have farmers with all kinds of vegetables, fruits, meats, eggs, cheese, and honey. More than 40 vendors are starting off at this site, from Animal Farm to West Wind Dairy. There will be loads of food vendors so families and individuals can take "picnic in the park" to a new level a farmers' market freshness level. Live music will be offered every week, as well as twice monthly cooking demos, alternating between a "Little Kitchen" for kids and a regular demo for adults. This is a beautiful site with a 2-acre lawn, a band shell for music, two bocce courts, a fully shaded courtyard for dining al fresco, and a water fountain for kids to frolic in.

The Austin Farmers' Market is a project of the local nonprofit Sustainable Food Center. Visit the website, <http://www.austinfarmersmarket.org> for more details.

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Highland Park West Balcones Area

Have a Habitat in Your Own Back Yard!

By Nancy Woolley

The city of Austin is attempting to become the largest certified Community Habitat in the country. And you can help! The National Wildlife Federation has a program that certifies homeowner's backyards as habitats. It's easy to do, it helps the environment, it's educational for young and old, and it's just a lot of fun. The city needs a total of 600 backyard habitats, 10 workplace/public area habitats, and 6 school habitats to qualify as a community. Already, there are over 340 certified backyard habitats and 15 schoolyard habitats. Bright Leaf is a certified National Wildlife Federation Habitat.

The National Wildlife Federation, founded in 1936, is America's largest conservation organization. Its mission is to "inspire Americans to protect wildlife for our children's future." Parents may be familiar with their Ranger Rick or Your Big Back Yard publications and young and old may have seen their films on the Discovery Channel, IMAX, or local theater. The NWF offers special training for Habitat Stewards who help others create natural habitats and offers their program to schools in a Schoolyard Habitat program. By taking a few simple steps, homeowners can join in on this movement to be green.

The city of Austin thinks creating backyard habitats is important because it fits in with the existing Austin Climate Protection Plan. Natural areas and native plant landscapes absorb greenhouse gasses such as carbon dioxide. Trees and plants help shade areas of impervious cover and lessen the urban 'heat island' effect. Habitats

often require less mowing with equipment that often emits large amounts of greenhouse gasses. Native plants, once established, require less water than many exotic plants. Less water use means savings of not only water, but also the energy it takes to purify and pump that water. Diverse native landscapes protect and encourage native wildlife. Native birds, insects, and animals flourish in normal population numbers. "Standard" landscapes often encourage overpopulation of pest animals like grackles and starlings. Reducing or eliminating invasive plants such as ligustrum and nandina also reduces the chance these nonnative invaders will create problems in areas such as Bright Leaf and in city and state parks. Well adapted native plants also are easier to maintain and have fewer pest problems than temperamental exotics. Fewer pests mean little or no pesticide use. That's better for our springs, creeks, and lakes. These plants also flourish without high levels of fertilizer that also runoff into creeks such as Dry Creek every spring. Check with the city water department for discounted prices on rainwater collection barrels to save even more on water bills.

What do you need to do to have your yard qualify as a habitat? The important things to think about are: food, water, shelter, and a place for animals to raise young. Water is important year-round. This can be as fancy as a pond or as simple as a trashcan lid. If you do

(Continued on Page 5)



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Highland Park West Balcones Area

Habitat - (Continued from Page 4)

have a pond, then fish can be part of your habitat. Try native wetland plants around the pond area. Water birds like ducks aren't afraid to go for a swim, but other birds like shallow water. Birdbaths should be shallow, not deep. Be sure to check the water on a regular basis to keep birdbaths full and clean. Try birdbaths at different heights and in different locations in the garden. Birdbaths aren't just for the birds.

Go to the National Wildlife Federation website to apply for habitat certification or come by Bright Leaf on National Trails Day and we'll have the application form available. Master Naturalists will also be on hand to answer plant and animal questions. If you would like personal help with your yard, Habitat Stewards can come to your yard and give advice for your specific location. Contact the National Wildlife Federation at (512)476-9805 to get in touch with a Habitat Steward. The National Wildlife Federation also has a schoolyard habitat program, so talk to your child's teachers about starting a butterfly garden or native plant habitat at school.

A backyard habitat is a great way to connect with nature. Grab a glass of iced tea and go outside and watch the birds at the feeder, the lizard climbing the tree, and the butterfly visiting the flowers. There's a lot going on in our own backyards. Enjoy!

Resources:

National Wildlife Federation: www.nwf.org phone: (512)476-9805
City of Austin Grow Green program: www.GrowGreen.org phone: 974-2550
Texas Wildscapes: Gardening for Wildlife by Noreen Damude & Kelly Bender

Coyote Reminder

A Note from our Wildlife Biologist...

Please do not intentionally or unintentionally feed coyotes by placing pet food outdoors. Coyotes that have access to such food resources in residential areas will generally become more bold around people, enter yards to kill small pets or attack dogs, and may ultimately exhibit aggressive behaviors that threaten human health and safety.

Randy O. Farrar

Wildlife Damage Management Biologist
Texas Cooperative Extension - Wildlife Services

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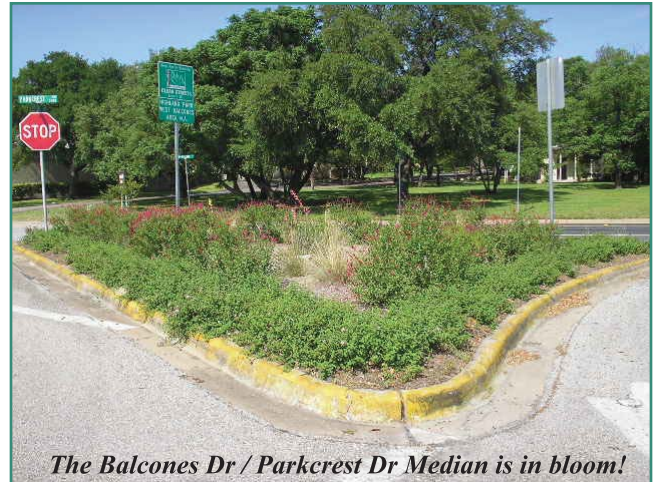


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 Canyon Creek
 Cherry Creek on Brodie Ln.
 Circle C Ranch
 Courtyard
 Davenport Ranch
 Estates of Shady Hollow
 Granada Hills
 Highland Park West Balcones
 Hill Country/Westview Estates
 Horizon Park
 Jester Estates
 North Acres
 Pemberton Heights
 Ridgewood
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The Balcones/ Parkcrest Median Needs Some TLC



The Balcones Dr / Parkcrest Dr Median is in bloom!

The median on Balcones Dr and Parkcrest Dr was the first project by the beautification committee about five years ago. The committee is again looking at this green space to implement some improvements. We want the median to be lower maintenance and have a more evergreen and balanced appearance. Committee member Pam Penick of Penick Landscape Design (<http://www.penick.net/digging>) is donating her design advice for us. If you are interested in learning about native plants, particularly those that will survive a non-irrigated median this would be a great way to learn. Contact Nadene Morning at ntmorning@hotmail.com to get involved.

Working Together!

For the many parents, children and tennis players who visit Perry Park or Highland Park Elementary and need to walk from Crenshaws Athletic Club parking lot you will notice the recent addition of stairs to make that trip easier and safer. And by the time you get this newsletter a stone pathway will be added by Reed Thomas as an Eagle Scout project. We will provide that story next month!

Thanks to Gil Elsass and Rex Harwver of Crenshaws Athletic Club (www.crenshaws.com) who worked with the community to provide a much needed segment to a Eagle Scout project intended to provide a safe pathway for people using the park and school. Thanks Crenshaws!



Crenshaws Athletic Club at work building steps for the school and park access.

Highland Park West Balcones Area

Support HPWBANA with your Membership!

It's important for neighbors to join and stay active in HPWBANA. A growing membership makes us a stronger force with the City of Austin and allows us undertake projects that directly contribute to the quality of life in our neighborhood:

Movies in Perry Park
July 4th Parade and Picnic
Neighborhood Beautification Efforts
Spring Easter Egg Hunt
Involvement in City Planning & Zoning Issues
Focal Point for MoNAC

We need your support! Please renew your membership or become a new member of HPWBANA today. Send \$15 for a Family membership or \$10 for a Single-Member Household membership (only one adult in household) to:

HPWBANA, PO Box 26101, Austin, TX 78755

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Questions about membership? Please contact Krista Saeger at 380-9062 or via email at kristasaeger@yahoo.com

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