



# The HPWBANA News

Volume 4, Number 7

July 2008

[www.hpwbana.org](http://www.hpwbana.org)

## HPWBANA IS WILD!

### *Looking for a summer project to do with your children?*

The City of Austin is challenging Austin neighborhoods to certify the most number of yards within their boundaries as wildlife habitats. Participating neighborhoods will have the chance to win the challenge and help Austin earn points towards becoming certified as Texas' first National Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat.

The Parks and Recreation Department's new Wildlife Austin program is sponsoring the challenge. Wildlife Austin is an initiative to educate and assist Austinites in the creation of wildlife habitats to benefit its people, wildlife and biodiversity.

It's easy to create wildlife habitat! Yards that provide food, water, cover, places to raise young for wildlife and practice sustainable gardening practices are eligible for NWF wildlife habitat certification. Creating habitat is as simple as planting native plants that

provide nectar, pollen, seeds, and berries year round, including a reliable water source to attract a variety of critters, and providing places for cover and rearing young such as planting evergreen shrubs, leaving brush and rock piles or putting up a birdhouse. Upon completion of the challenge neighborhoods must register their neighborhood with Wildlife Austin no later than October 31st.

Make this a summer project with your children. Visit [www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife](http://www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife) or [www.keepeaustinwild.com](http://www.keepeaustinwild.com) for more details on the requirements for certification. Contact Jessica Winslow, HPWBANA neighbor, [jwinslow@austin.rr.com](mailto:jwinslow@austin.rr.com), if your yard is a certified habitat, or if you have questions about getting started.

All families who complete this certification will win a gallon of Blue Bell Ice Cream! Let's show Austin that HPWBANA is WILD!

## Golf Tournament to Benefit Highland Park PTA

The Highland Park PTA is excited to present the 1st Annual Scottie Classic Golf Tournament. Play golf, have fun, and benefit your neighborhood PTA.

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Lakeway Golf Club

1:30 p.m. Shotgun Start

Lunch and barbeque dinner provided. Raffle drawing and prizes. Sponsorships are available.

For more information contact:

Ben Friedman, [bfriedman@landmtg.com](mailto:bfriedman@landmtg.com)

Jodi Leach, [jodie.leach@gmail.com](mailto:jodie.leach@gmail.com)

Ray Calderon, [raycalderon@att.blackberry.com](mailto:raycalderon@att.blackberry.com)

## May Meeting Highlights

On May 28, the board held its monthly meeting. The Associate Editor for the West Austin News joined the meeting. The board discussed the Fourth of July parade and National Night Out events. The annual Fourth of July event will occur on Friday, July 4 at 9:15 a.m. National Night Out will be on October 7. Neighbor concerns about traffic at the 35th Street and Balcones intersection were discussed. Board members were updated on the status of HPWBANA's grant proposal for a toddler swing in Perry Park.

Board meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of every month at 7pm at the Yarbrough Library on Hancock. Neighbors are encouraged to attend and present any ideas or concerns they may have. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting!

## 4th of July Celebration

Come join us for the annual HPWBANA Independence Day celebration! Walk in the parade and stay for the rest of the festivities!

Friday, July 4th

Festivities begin at 9:15

Parade steps off at 9:30

Perry Park



**October 7, 2008**

Organize Your Neighbors  
And Let Us Know  
What You Have Planned

Contact: Frances Allen  
[Fba100@juno.com](mailto:Fba100@juno.com), 454-2112

# Highland Park West Balcones Area

## Helpful Phone Numbers

Austin Citywide Information Center .....974-2000 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  
Ricardo Vargas, Senior Police Officer ..... 974-5801  
Wildlife Rescue 24 Hour Hot Line ..... 210-698-1709

## 2008 HPWBANA Board of Directors

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Eric Hansen..... ech@flash.net  
Newsletter Editor ..... Andrea Torres

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

Mail your membership dues to HPWBANA, P.O. Box 26101, Austin, Texas 78755

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## Message From the Board

The City of Austin Police Department offers a Resource Manual available for all residents. The manual describes what city department to call to handle many common non-emergency situations. Most city services can be reached through the 3-1-1 number:

Animal control problems  
Illegally parked vehicles  
Property crimes not in progress or when no officer is needed  
Overgrown vegetation or trees blocking streets or sidewalks  
Dead Animals                      Flooding Complaints  
Graffiti Removal                  Nuisance Vehicles on Lots  
Street Lighting

And the list goes on and on. If it is not an emergency, chances are 311 operators can connect you to the correct department to handle your request. If you would like to request a copy of the Resource Guide, contact APD's Community Liaison Office at 974-4700.

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## Constable's Notebook – June 2008

By Constable Bruce Elfant

Last summer while conducting research for a column about family violence I was surprised to learn that while Travis County has many governmental and social services agencies providing assistance to victims of family violence, no single source of information existed to help victims understand options that were available to them.

Travis County was one of the first communities in the nation to require an arrest if probable causes exists that domestic violence has occurred, mandate counseling as a condition of personal bond, establish a domestic violence court, and create a family protection team comprised of law enforcement, prosecutors and counselors. But for all we have accomplished to initiate effective domestic violence prevention programs, we have not been as effective in providing information about available services.

My office has created a user friendly, web-based Domestic Violence Resource Center at Constable5.com which includes contact information for all Travis County area governmental and social domestic violence related services. The Domestic Violence Resource Center also features 21 informative videos in English and Spanish that describe how to get confidential help, obtain legal assistance, apply for protective orders, understand counseling and shelter options and recognize the warning signs of teen dating abuse.

(Continued on Page 4)

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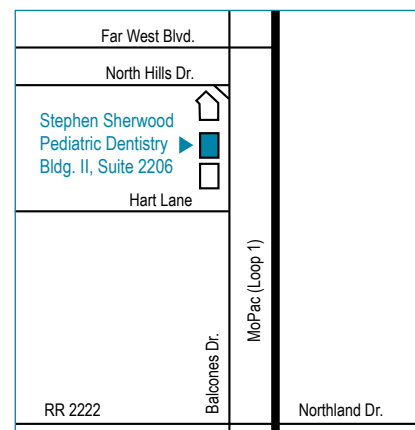
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8 am - 5 pm. Fridays are reserved for surgical procedures.

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## Constable's Notebook - (Continued from Page 3)

Convincing victims of domestic violence to seek help is often frustrating. Twenty years ago when I first became involved with domestic violence issues, fewer than 10% of victims were willing to pursue charges even after having called 911 for assistance. Some victims believe that the violence will not get worse. Many victims are financially supported by their spouses or partners and must figure out where to go and how to support themselves and their children. The fact is that most occurrences of domestic violence begin with non-physical but controlling behavior, and over time often escalate to physical abuse. In Texas alone, more than 140 victims of domestic violence were killed last year.

It is our hope that the Domestic Violence Resource Center at Constable5.com will be used by victims as well as their family and friends to help them understand that abusive behavior is not acceptable. Confidential help is readily available in Travis County and only takes a phone call.

At no time will any source be allowed to use the HPWBANA Newsletter contents, or loan said contents, to others in anyway, shape or form, nor in any media, website, print, film, e-mail, electrostatic copy, fax, or etc. for the purpose of solicitation, commercial use, or any use for profit, political campaigns, or other self amplification, under penalty of law without written or expressed permission from the HPWBANA and Peel, Inc. The information in the HPWBANA Newsletter is exclusively for the private use of HPWBANA Neighborhood residents only.

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## 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:

Neighborhood Beautification Efforts  
Easter Egg Hunt, July 4th Parade and Picnic  
Movies in Perry Park  
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 of \$10 for a Single-Member Household membership (only one adult in household) to: HPWBANA, PO Box 26101, Austin, TX 78755

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Second Adult \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Questions about membership? Please contact Krista Saeger at 380-9062 or via email at [kristasaeger@yahoo.com](mailto:kristasaeger@yahoo.com)*



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## Fire Ants are Back

By Wizzie Brown

I've been seeing more and more fire ant mounds popping up all over town lately. With the warmer weather, the ants are becoming more active and noticeable. Since temperatures can vary from day to day in early spring, you need to choose your treatment method carefully.

Fire ant bait may not be the best choice during cooler weather. Fire ants pick up bait as food, but during cooler weather, fire ants usually do not actively forage for food. To check if fire ants are foraging for food, place a hotdog slice, a potato chip or some peanut butter near a mound. Leave the food item for 15-30 minutes then check to see if fire ants are actively taking it back to the mound. If they are picking up the food, then bait can be applied for managing fire ants. If fire ants are not picking up the food, you may need to try another treatment method.

Broadcast granular products, with active ingredients such as bifenthrin or fipronil, work well when applied in late March or April. These products are applied with a drop or push spreader and then watered into the soil so that the chemical binds in the soil layer. When fire ants work the soil to build their mounds, they come into contact with the chemical and die. These products can provide a year of control, although you may need to spot treat individual mounds occasionally throughout the year.

Individual mound treatments using liquid drenches, dusts or granular products can be utilized at any time of year when you see fire ant mounds. Many of these products require water to carry the pesticide down into the mound where the fire ants are located. Failure to use the proper amount of water may not completely kill the mound. Read and follow label instructions before treating mounds.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600.

## Join our ListServ!

The HPWBANA ListServ, hosted by Yahoo, is for members of the Highland Park West Balcones Area Neighborhood Association (HPWBANA) and residents of this neighborhood. The ListServ is used to disseminate information to all members, via email, on a variety of topics, such as: crime in the neighborhood, upcoming meetings and events, city service issues, etc. The ListServ is moderated, meaning that all posts are reviewed and approved prior to being distributed to the members, to eliminate any inappropriate posts. All posts by members are sent out via the ListServ email address to protect each member's email address from being seen or used for non-ListServ purposes, i.e. solicitations, spam, etc. Member email addresses are kept private and not used for any purpose other than distributing HPWBANA-related information to members of the neighborhood. To sign up for the list, please send an email to HPWBANA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.





## Wildland Conservation Activities

The City of Austin has FREE educational opportunities on Austin wildlands!

A current list of available activities can be found on the calendar page of the Wildland Conservation Division's website: <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/water/wildland/online/registration/ecowebevents.cfm>. Citizens can choose from activities such as an easy introductory hike to the Water Quality Protection Lands, a breeding bird survey on the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve, or a photography-focused hike.

City-hosted activities are free but do require pre-registration since they are limited in capacity (typically 20 people). Registration is easy. Go online and click the blue button on the calendar page mentioned above.

## HPWBANA Board Meetings

Please attend our next monthly meeting

**Wednesday, July 23, 2008**

Yarborough Library - 2200 Hancock Drive

7:00-8:30 pm

*"Thanks again for everything. If we are ever looking to buy anything again, you are top on our list. It was wonderful working with you."*

- S. Stafford, Austin, TX.



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\*Annual Percentage Rate. All rates expressed are "as low as". \*\*Austin Telco will pay all standard closing costs on Home Equity loans below \$100k. Additional non-standard fees will be the responsibility of the member. Credit qualifications apply. \*\*\*Rate applies to 1st lien commercial real estate loans with a loan to value of 80% or less; construction/development loan rates/terms may be different. No Pre-payment penalty. Credit qualifications apply. Please call for details. \*\*\*\*Annual Percentage Yield. Penalties for early withdrawal may apply. All APRs, APYs and terms are subject to change without notice.

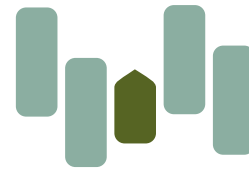


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