



The HPWBANA News

Volume 4, Number 9

September 2008

www.hpwbana.org

Message From the Board

I am delighted to report that volunteerism is alive and well within the HPWBANA boundaries! Last month, we put out the word for helpers to aid in the watering of median and green spaces in the neighborhood. I was pleasantly surprised that many of you read the article and decided to act. Thank you! The call is still out, however, and help is still needed. If you thought about calling last month and never got around to it, please know that it is not too late.

On a different note, neighbors have contacted HPWBANA about approaching the city regarding the Balcones/35th Street intersection to include a more definite stop. If you are interested in working on this project, or have any input regarding this intersection, please, contact me.

Carolyn Robinson
HPWBANA President
750-4072 or carrob99@hotmail.com

June Meeting Highlights

The monthly board meeting scheduled for July 23 was cancelled.

Board meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of every month at 7pm at the Yarborough 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!

Single Stream Recycling Comes to Austin!

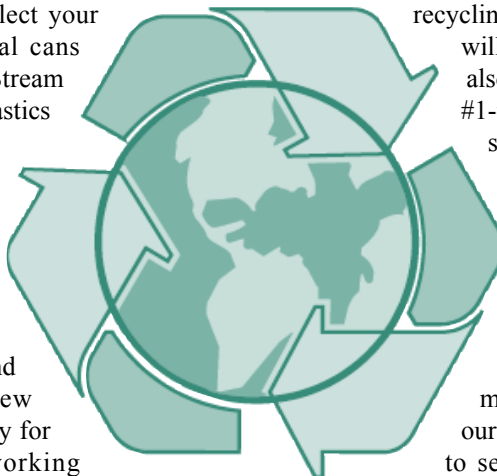
The following is an excerpt from a letter received by the neighborhood association from William E. Rhodes, P.E., Director, Solid Waste Services:

Beginning in October, City of Austin residential customers will have a new way to recycle—Single Stream Recycling. Single Stream is an improved, more efficient way to collect your aluminum and metal cans with no sorting. Single Stream recycling will be accepted; rigid plastics includes cereal and

Solid Waste begin the distribution recycling carts. Because the carts are material, collection week, meaning fewer reduced emissions and. In addition, this new provide greater safety for

HPWBANA is working video and/or a member of Solid

the September neighborhood meeting to discuss this improved service. Look for more details on the ListServ or on our website, www.hpwbana.org.



Stream is an improved, more recycling. Paper, plastic, glass, will all go into one cart with also means more items will #1-#7 and boxboard which soda boxes.

Services (SWS) will of the new 90- gallon in October 2008. will hold more will occur every other trucks on the road, improved air quality. method of collection will our employees.

to secure an informational Waste Services staff to attend this improved service. Look for more



October 7, 2008

Organize Your Neighbors
And Let Us Know
What You Have Planned

Contact: Frances Allen
Fba100@juno.com, 454-2112
or

Register your group with Rosie Salinas:
<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/police/nno.htm>

Prizes will be awarded by HPWBANA!

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 Officer974-5440
Ricardo Vargas, Senior Police Officer 974-5801
Wildlife Rescue 24 Hour Hot Line 210-698-1709

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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

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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Official HPWBANA website

In the past few weeks some of our neighbors have received a postcard on their door advertising a “new” website for the neighborhood. Please note that this website is not created, supported, or endorsed by HPWBANA. The official website for the neighborhood continues to be www.hpwbana.org. If you have any questions about this matter, please feel free to call or email a board member.



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Highland Park West Balcones Area

Toddler Swings Coming to Perry Park!

As we mentioned in the last issue, HPWBANA and Friends of Perry Park have been awarded a grant from Austin Parks Foundation to install an ADA-compliant, one-bay toddler swing set (2 swings) within Perry Park playground. These will be bucket-style swings with leg holes to support a young child in an upright position. Our goal is to have age-appropriate playground equipment to attract a greater number of users, and increase the utilization of the playground.

The project must be completed within a one-year timeframe. **AND WE NEED YOUR HELP!** The grant covers only half of the estimated total project cost of \$8,000. Our neighborhood businesses have committed \$1,000, and HPWBANA will also contribute to this project. However, we still need to raise \$2,000 for this project to be fully funded.

Please consider a contribution to this project, whether it be individually, or collectively among your neighbors, playgroups, scout groups, or your business. Donations (cash or check) can be sent to HPWBANA at PO Box 26101, Austin, TX 78755. (A donation coupon can be found in this newsletter.) In the memo line of the check, please indicate "Toddler Swings." If you have any questions, please contact Krista Saeger at 380-9062 or kristasaeger@yahoo.com.

Thank you so much for your continued support of Perry Park and our neighborhood!

(Donation Coupon on page 4)

HPWBANA appreciates our business sponsors!

HPWBANA wishes to thank the following neighborhood business for sponsoring the neighborhood association and helping to make the toddler swings in Perry Park possible!

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Korcett Holdings

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HPWBANA Board Meetings

Please attend our next monthly meeting


Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Yarborough Library

2200 Hancock Drive

7:00-8:30 pm

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www.MamaFusAustin.com (locations, info)

Highland Park West Balcones Area

Toddler Swing Project at Perry Park Playground

Yes, please accept my donation of \$_____ for the Toddler Swing project at Perry Park playground.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please send cash or a check made payable to HPWBANA at PO Box 26101, Austin TX 78755. In the memo line of the check, please indicate "Toddler Swings". If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Krista Saeger at 380-9062 or kristasaeger@yahoo.com.



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Do You Have a Wildlife Habitat Yet?

Just a reminder that there is still time to certify your yard as a wildlife habitat and help Austin earn points towards becoming certified as Texas' first National Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat.

All you and your family need to do is 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.

The Parks and Recreation Department's new Wildlife Austin program is sponsoring the challenge and neighborhoods must register their neighborhood with Wildlife Austin no later than October 31st.. Visit www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife or www.keeptexaswild.com for more details on the requirements for certification. Contact Jessica Winslow, HPWBANA neighbor, jwinslow@austin.rr.com, if your yard is a certified habitat, or if you have questions about getting started.

Don't forget - all families who complete this certification will win a gallon of Blue Bell Ice Cream! Let's show Austin that HPWBANA is WILD!

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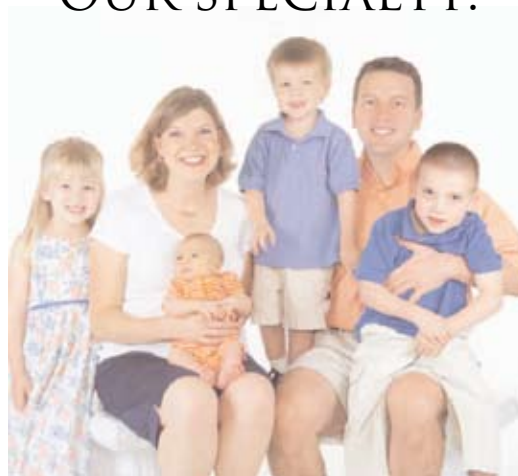
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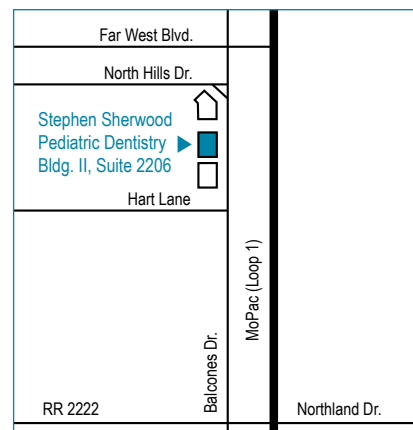
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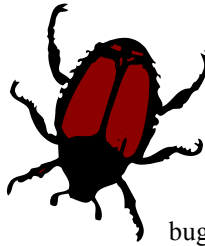
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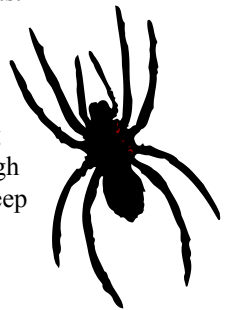
Bug Blog

*By Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service
Program Specialist*

Are you into blogging? Or maybe you are a bug enthusiast? Either way, you win with the bug blog. A couple of months ago I decided that to really get the latest news about insects to the public that I needed to take advantage of technology and join the blogging world. Blogging was completely new to me, and I'm still working out kinks here and there, but it seems to be a great way to update people on insects that I've been getting questions on, how to identify things they might be seeing in their yard and what to do about pests. So, if you're interested in insects, check out my blog at:

www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

You can either subscribe to have the latest blog sent to your email box or you can subscribe through a reader. I generally update on a weekly basis to keep current with insect activity.



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Highland Park West Balcones Area

EcoTexas Helps Bright Leaf Preserve

By Jordan Sessler, EcoTexas

The HPWBANA Beautification Committee recently learned about the organization, EcoTexas. This group has been working in our neighborhood (in Bright Leaf Preserve) removing non-native plants. And guess what...the group is located right here in our neighborhood!

As many know from experience, it is quite a struggle to get a teenager out of bed in the morning on the weekend, not to mention several dozen of them. However, one might be surprised to see such a sight at one of the frequent workdays sponsored by EcoTexas, a local nonprofit, in which many area teenagers pry themselves out of bed well before 8:00 AM to help do manual labor at local parks and preserves.

Such volunteer workdays help to defend our local environment by removing substantial amounts of invasive plants that threaten to decimate the unique ecosystem that is endemic to Central Texas. Invasive species are foreign plants and animals that invade a local environment and wreak havoc on it. Even the presence of one invasive species can cause substantial environmental, economic, and health damage. In fact, some studies have shown that the invasive species EcoTexas seeks to eradicate cause the United States over \$122 billion dollars in damage each year, \$36 billion dollars in public health damage, and have driven over 42% of plants and animals on

Endangered Species list to their threatened status. On the contrary, native plants are naturally part of a local environment and fulfill important functions within an ecosystem.

Founded in 2007 by high school students dedicated to making a difference, Eco Texas is a nonprofit organization organized as a special project fund with the Austin Community Foundation. It encourages friends and neighbors to take action to reduce the threat of invasive species to our community by removing them from sensitive areas in local parks to protect our local environment, promoting the presence of native plants, and by raising awareness about the cause itself. To this day, EcoTexas' efforts are still driven by the work of teenage volunteers.

Since our environment is a valuable part of what defines our home and heritage in Texas, we believe that we have an obligation to preserve it for our children and grandchildren. If you would like to find out more about EcoTexas please visit us at www.ecotx.org to learn how you can make a difference today.



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