

Volume 5, Number 4 April 2009 www.hpwbana.org

# **Message From The Board**

At our February meeting, Senior Officer David Knutson spoke to the crowd about increased crime in our neighborhood. The following is an article by Officer Knutson on crime prevention and reporting suspicious activity.

#### WHO IS WATCHING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

With the frequent number of burglaries in and around Austin, I have been asked by a number of citizens how they can help. We currently work with through the local media, neighborhood and homeowner associations, safety fairs, and other crime reducing initiatives to educate and get the word out to everyone on ways reduce the opportunity of them becoming victims of property crimes. This is a continuing effort as many victims feel that it won't happen to them and they take a chance. Many victims are aware of burglaries in their area or, in the instance of vehicle burglaries, are aware of the possibility of being a victim in the area where they are parking – such as a store, mall, hike and bike trail – anywhere. Yet, many of these crimes can be prevented. Lock, Take, and Hide is a general rule to help reduce opportunity!

But what else can you do? Many associations have a neighborhood watch programs, but how active and effective is their program? The success of your program may rely on you!

#### WHAT IS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?

Crime or the fear of crime provides the impetus for residents to become better informed on how to protect themselves and their property. Getting back to the old adage of being our "brother's keepers", means neighbors watching out for other neighbors. Neighbors are asked to be the eyes and ears in helping the police in apprehending criminals. Crime Watch is not designed to substitute for police protection. Rather it is an extension or supplement in assisting the police in making neighborhoods safer for all residents. Neighborhood Watch operates under two principles. When neighbors get to know and watch out for each other, they watch out for each other's property as though it was their own. Second, Neighborhood Watch helps to create an identity within the neighborhood, which in turn fosters sense of pride, and belonging for the participants. The participants make their neighborhood a safer place to live by adopting

a more observant and active attitude and, as a result, become more aware of strange cars, persons, or circumstances. This will not take a lot of time and soon will develop into a daily habit of becoming more aware of what is going on in the neighborhood.

As a community, people generate many good ideas on how to protect their neighborhood from crime, but it takes active participation. A reduction in crime and higher quality of life can be accomplished by combining citizen involvement with the available law enforcement resources. More resources can help reduce crime, but a joint effort will be more effective almost every time.

Some associations are coordinating their recreational walks with looking out for suspicious activity and reporting that activity to the police. This is a very good start and with the age of cell phones, reporting suspicious activity to the police can be done from almost anywhere. You can help by being familiar and aware of your surroundings and when you observe something that looks suspicious – report it. Follow these tips what to do if you see suspicious activity. Do it for your neighbor – do it for your community.

# SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING AND PURPOSE OF REPORTING

The purpose for reporting suspicious activity to the police is to stop the criminal activity, increase police presence in your neighborhood and give a true perspective of crime. Making a report will enhance the possibility of getting your property returned. Keep police emergency numbers close by when reporting suspicious activity or an emergency. Anything that seems slightly "out of place" or does not look right could be criminal activity.

# CALL THE POLICE IMMEDIATELY ABOUT ALL SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY.

Do not worry about "bothering" the police or being embarrassed if your suspicions prove to be unfounded. Think ahead about what could happen if you don't act. Give the police or the telephone clerk:

- The reason for the call.
- The location of the activity.

(Continued on Page 2)

## **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

| Austin Citywide Information Center 974-2000 or 311 |
|--|
| Emergency Police                                   |
| Non-emergency Police (coyote sighting, etc.)311    |
| Social Services (during work hours)211             |
| SPO David J. Knutson                               |
| Central West District APD Rep974-5917              |
| Wildlife Rescue 24 Hour Hot Line 210-698-1709      |

#### 09' BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### **PRESIDENT**

Carolyn Robinson ...... carrob99@hotmail.com

#### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Chereen Fisher ......459 3203, chereen@austin.rr.com

#### **TREASURER**

Krista Saeger...... 380-9062, kristasaeger@yahoo.com

#### **SECRETARY**

| Andrea Torres,  | andreatorres 11@yahoo.com     |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Tonianne Soster | 825-3773, te883@austin.rr.com |
| Frances Allen   | Fba100@juno.com               |
| Trey Blundell   | trey_blundell@yahoo.com       |
| Ben Friedman    | bfriedman@landmtg.com         |
| 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 Yarborough 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

#### **ADVERTISING INFO**

Please support the businesses that advertise in the HPWBANA Newsletter. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all residents to receive a newsletter at no charge. No neighborhood association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office at 512-263-9181 or advertising@PEELinc.com for ad information and pricing.

#### Message from the Board - (Continued from Cover Page)

- The description of the suspect and any vehicle involved.
- If the crime is in progress, give the circumstances and possible crime being committed.

#### WHEN IN DOUBT, CALL IT IN

Under no circumstances should you attempt to apprehend a person committing a crime or try to investigate suspicious activity. The police want your information – not your action.

The police department would rather investigate than be called when it is too late. Your call could save a life, prevent an injury or stop a criminal act. BE ALERT.

Not every stranger who comes into your neighborhood is a criminal, by any means.

There are many door-to-door salesmen, repairmen, and servicemen moving around our neighborhood all the time. But criminals do take advantage of this by pretending to be legitimate workmen.

"What is Neighborhood Watch" and "Suspicious Activity Reporting and Purpose of Reporting" information was obtained from the Austin Police Department "Forming a Neighborhood Watch Program" manual at http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/police/downloads/neighborhoodwatchmanual.pdf

#### HPWBANA Board Meetings

Please attend our next monthly meeting Wednesday, April 22, 2008

Yarborough Library- 2200 Hancock Drive 7:00 - 8:30 pm

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.

DISCLAIMER: Articles and ads in this newsletter express the opinions of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Peel, Inc. or its employees. Peel, Inc. is not responsible for the accuracy of any facts stated in articles submitted by others. The publisher also assumes no responsibility for the advertising content with this publication. All warranties and representations made in the advertising content are solely that of the advertiser and any such claims regarding its content should be taken up with the advertiser.

- \* The publisher assumes no liability with regard to its advertisers for misprints or failure to place advertising in this publication except for the actual cost of such advertising.
- \* Although every effort is taken to avoid mistakes and/or misprints, the publisher assumes no responsibility for any errors of information or typographical mistakes, except as limited to the cost of advertising as stated above or in the case of misinformation, a printed retraction/correction.
- \* Under no circumstances shall the publisher be held liable for incidental or consequential damages, inconvenience, loss of business or services, or any other liabilities from failure to publish, or from failure to publish in a timely manner, except as limited to liabilities stated above.

## **February Meeting Highlights**

The February meeting was held on Wednesday, February 25. The first order of business was the issue of whether HPWBANA should adopt the city ordinance that prohibits front and side yard parking on unpaved areas. Several neighbors voiced concern about the passing of such an ordinance and raised questions regarding new driveways and expansion of parking areas. Debate continued after the meeting, and the board decided not to consider the matter for the 2009 year. Further research regarding the ordinance will be conducted and HPWBANA may revisit the issue in 2010. If you want to discuss this issue, or have more questions, call Carolyn Robinson, HPWBANA president.

APD Neighborhood Representative David Knutson was present and addressed the issues of speeding and recent increase in crime. Officer Knutson is an interested and active neighborhood representative and has been very responsive to helping address our issues. He offered many tips, including some published elsewhere in this newsletter.

Other business included approving the 2009 budget and discussion of the upcoming egg hunt in Perry Park.

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!

# Don't even THINK About Selling Your Home UNTIL YOU SPEAK WITH Rebecca Spratlin Realtor, GRI, e-Pro 512.694.2191 Dephanie Cates Realtor, CRS, ABR, SRES 512.970,2627 Call for a FREE 1/2 Hour Consultation for: Coldwell Banker United, Realtors 9442 N. Capital of Texas Hwy. Arboretum Plaza I, Suite 600 Austin, TX 78759 Kitchen & Bath Renovations Interior Design Paint & Color Selection Staging Your Home for Sale

## Perry Park Egg Hunt

Remember that the Annual Perry Park Egg Hunt will happen April 11 at 9:30 a.m. Donations of candy and plastic eggs are welcome. Volunteers are needed to help stuff eggs in advance or to help HIDE eggs on the morning of the hunt. Please contact Carolyn Robinson (750-4072 or carrob99@hotmail.com) or Chereen Fisher (chereen@austin.rr.com) if you can pitch in.

And remember ....DON'T BE LATE!!!! The Bunny will be present for photos and hugging! See you there!

#### **WARNING!**

The COA Parks and Recreation Department has contacted HPWBANA regarding unauthorized tree cutting in Perry Park. HPWBANA has worked with Parks and Recreation for the past several years to remove the invasive, non-native plant life in the park. This removal was authorized and supervised by Parks and Rec. It is unauthorized and illegal for individuals to cut down or trim trees on COA parks property. If you believe there is an area of the park that needs attention, please contact Nadene Morning (ntmorning@hotmail.com) or Carolyn Robinson (carrob99@hotmail.com or 750-4072) to report the problem.



#### **Business Classifieds**

**GROUP FITNESS CLASSES** - All ages and fitness levels welcome for an efficient cardio and strength interval workout led by a certified personal trainer. Every Monday, Wednesday, Friday 6am – 7am at Perry Park. First class FREE. Visit www. balancepft.com for more information.

**DISCOVER YOUR VOICE!** - Learn to produce your own unique sound, or fine-tune a developing voice. UT Graduate and HPWBANA resident teaches private lessons in classical voice through a variety of musical styles. Call for more information. Marla Lowrey, MME, 512-363-9709.

#### Classified Ads

**Personal classifieds** (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Granada Hills residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail <u>rperkins@austin.rr.com</u>.

**Business classifieds** (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales at 512-263-9181 or *advertising@PEELinc.com*.

The Property Tax Deadline Is Coming.

# Are You Ready?

# FREE Consultation Call Now: (512) 771-3367

"Josh helped us obtain a fair reduction. We recommend his services." Joe K., Davenport Ranch



# REAL APPRAISAL RELIEF

Josh Bushner, Principal

www.RealAppraisalRelief.com Josh@RealAppraisalRelief.com phone: (512) 771-3367

# Westview Drive Shrove Tuesday Pancake Race:

A "Flipping" success!

Neighbors from Westview, Lucas Drive, Beverly Hills, Beverly Skyline and Ridgemoor gathered to celebrate Shrove Tuesday. Participants brought their own skillet and organizer John Berry provided each participant a pancake (crepe) to place in their skillet and flip while running the race. Colorful aprons, mardi gras beads, masks and even a tuxedo costumed the contestants (and onlookers). A cup was presented to the first place finisher and medals were given to the top three finishers:

First place: Audra Lewis Second place: Anna Blankenship Third place: Jonas Tatu

After the race, the crowd continued to John Berry's home for tasting the pancakes! Congratulations to the winners and Congratulations to everyone who attended. This is the greatest neighborhood in Austin!



John Berry with the race winner Audra Lewis



(Pics Continued on Page 5)





## STEVE'S PLUMBING REPAIR

• water pressure problems

• sewer & drain service • fiber optic drain line inspections

• free estimates • satisfaction guaranteed

Steve Brougher 276-7476 1106 West Koenig Lane





### **HARDIPLANK • WINDOWS • ROOFS**

#### **Nolan Ryan**

says: "When I needed Hardiplank & windows, I trusted Allied Siding & Windows to do the work on my home and you should too."





Home -Improvement Specialists since 1988



#### FREE ESTIMATES

(Siding & Windows)

100% Financing Available No payments until Sep. 2009



512-674-3464

www.hardiplanksiding.com





Master License: M-11465

# American Heroes Celebration

Honor the heroes of Texas April 18 and 19, 2009 at Camp Mabry. This family event will feature an air show, reenactments, tours, and much more. New this year is a children's area especially for the little ones. This area will include face painting, a bounce house, archaeological dig, kids karaoke and more! There are also plans to have ID bracelets available for all the children while on base. Free sign up for bracelets and raffles at the Information Booth.

For weekly updates on the weekend visit: http://www.texasnationalguard.us/ahc/

# Calling all Newshounds!!

Enjoy writing? Interested in learning about your neighbors and the neighborhood? If so, consider volunteering for the HPWBANA newsletter.

We are looking for someone who can write one or two stories per month for the newsletter. No experience necessary, just a desire to contribute to the neighborhood. If you are interested, contact Andrea Torres, andreatorres11@yahoo.com.



### FREE CHECKING 200+ FREE ATMS LENGE NCUA

\*Annual Percentage Rate. All rates are expressed "as low as". Actual rate may vary depending on credit qualifications. \*\*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. \*\*\*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 Prepayment penalty. \*\*\*\*Annual Percentage Yield. Penalties for early withdrawal may apply. 'Regular - A minimum deposit of \$1000 is required. 2Jumbo - A minimum deposit of \$95000 is required. All APRs, APYs and terms are subject to change without notice. Please call for details. This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration.

## **Annual Clean Sweep**

Clean Sweep is Keep Austin Beautiful's annual citywide cleanup that takes place all over Austin. The first 4,000 volunteers to register get a free event t-shirt and it's followed by an awesome Volunteer Party and Environmental Fair at Waterloo Park which includes: free lunch, live music, kid's environmental activities, green art, door prizes and more!

**Date:** Saturday, April 04

Time: Cleanup is from 9:00am – 11:00am and the

Volunteer Party is from 11:30am – 1:30pm

**Location:** Volunteer to help one of many groups

throughout Austin or hold a cleanup of your very own at your school, favorite park, on your street, in your neighborhood, at a local creek or other public space. The Volunteer Party is at

Waterloo Park, 403 East 15th St.

**Contact:** Visit http://www.keepaustinbeautiful.org/

cleansweep for more info or contact Alanna at

512.391.0622 with any questions

**Business classifieds** (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales office at 512-263-9181 or *advertising@PEELinc.com*.



- \* Repaints Interior, exterior, and much more
- \* Free on-site estimates
- \* Established company for 17 years
- \* BBB member
- \* Painting, staining, and popcorn ceiling removal

Please contact Robby Chapman at 512-632-5990 with D&W Painting, Inc. or by email - robby@dwpainting.com

We look forward to helping you create your perfect home!



# It's Dues Renewal Time! 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
Advocates for Neighborhood on City Issues
Strengthen Neighborhood Safety Network

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

# GREAT HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH Easter Activities **Good Friday Service** Friday, April 10 / 6:30 pm Family - Friendly **Easter Egg Hunt** Saturday, April 11 / 10 am Family - Friendly | Free Event Toddlers through Fifth Grade One Had to Rise - Easter Musical Saturday, April 11 / 7:00 pm / Great Hall Presented by the Great Hills Celebration Choir Free Event **Easter Services** Sunday, April 12 9:30 am - Choir & Orchestra / 11:00 am - Praise Band Children's worship for birth through fifth grade during both services. Great Hills Baptist Church | 10500 Jollyville Road . Austin, TX . 78759 | www.ghbc.org | 512.343.7763



311 Ranch Road 620 S. Ste 200 Lakeway, TX 78734-4775 www.PEELinc.com PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID PEEL, INC.

HF

# STEPHEN SHERWOOD PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

Stephen Sherwood, DDS - Brad Singleton, DDS



# HEALTHY SMILES ARE OUR SPECIALTY. Serving children from infancy to adolescence and patients with special needs.

Far W Blvd.

North Hills Dr.

Stephen Sherwood Pediatric Dentistry Bldg. II, Suite 2206 Hart Lane

10 September 2009 Hart Lane

(1 door) 26 Joyn Bldg. H. Northland Dr.

6500 North MoPac, Bldg. II, Suite 2206 Austin, Texas 78731 Tel: 512.454.6936 Fax: 512.454.0437 www.drsherwood.net

#### OFFICE HOURS

Convenient office hours are Monday 9 am - 5 pm Tuesday – Thursday 8 am - 5 pm Fridays are reserved for surgical procedures. In the Northwest Hills of Central Austin, Stephen Sherwood Pediatric Dentistry partners with parents in caring for your child's smile from infancy through adolescene.

Your child's first visit is recommended between 16 and 18 months of age. 10% of children already have decay by age two and 10% by age four. Early and regular dental visits make good sense.