



The HPWBANA News

Volume 5, Number 5

May 2009

www.hpwbana.org

Dear Neighbors,

It has been a few weeks since our request for you to complete a Green Neighbor certification packet. We have received twenty packet requests. But given that we need to certify over 500 homes to become a Green Neighborhood, we have a long way to go.

We want to encourage you again to request and complete a Green Neighbor packet. If you have a fuel-efficient car and a child who rides in a carpool to school, you are almost one third of the way to being certified. It is very likely that you are already doing things that will meet certification requirements. If not, the packet will give you great ideas about how to be more "green."

If you request a packet and get certified, you can get a t-shirt, free passes to Barton Springs and the bragging rights that come with Green Neighbor certification. More importantly, if you and your neighbors get certified, the neighborhood will receive a free landscape design consultation or trees.

Thank you to all those who have participated so far! If you have not yet completed a packet, we encourage you to request one at <http://tr.im/greenneighbor>. We will deliver it to your house promptly.

Thanks again for your efforts to make our neighborhood green!

Grant McClure
Kyle Obermann

Message From the Board

We want to thank all of the neighbors who gave their input on the Side and Front Yard Parking Ordinance. Based on comments from our neighbors and our understanding of this and other ordinances related to driveways, the board has decided to table this issue for now. Because we chose not to implement this ordinance for our neighborhood at this time, our understanding is that we will not have another opportunity for awhile. In the meantime, we hope to get a better understanding of what ordinances will and will not allow pertaining to our driveways. And of course, we will ask for your input.

We appreciate that you made an effort to be part of the process. That is what makes HPWBANA a great neighborhood!

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Austin Citywide Information Center 974-2000 or 311
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Non-emergency Police (coyote sighting, etc.) 311
Social Services (during work hours) 211
SPO David J. Knutson
Central West District APD Rep..... 974-5917
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

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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American Youthworks Helps Out at Perry Park

By Nadene Morning

The invasive plant removal efforts at Perry Park continue with another effort at ligustrum and chinaberry removal in Perry Park in early April. The HPWBANA and the Friends of Perry Park started cleaning up Perry Park several years ago. Invasive plant removal was a priority project although it turned out to be a lot of hard work, with many workdays that spanned years. What remains are mostly large plants that requires hiring a special group to remove them. American Youthworks Environmental Corps specializes in this type of work.

HPWBANA funded this last effort and can proudly claim that only a handful of ligustrum and chinaberry trees remain in the park. Ligustrum and Chinaberry trees were the main plants causing problems. The City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARC) was involved and meetings were held to preview the work areas and discuss strategy. PARC also helped with the brush removal.

What is next? The seed base from years of ligustrum and chinaberry in the park is starting to grow. These small seedlings will be either hand pulled or weed wrenched. We will also discuss removing nandina throughout the park. Nandina is another invasive plant that will take over and choke out our native plants.

The HPWBANA Beautification and Parks Committee will review bringing E-Corps to Perry Park again next year to help out in the park. This investment in our community park will ensure that our neighborhood can continue to enjoy it for years to come.

Business Classifieds

BEAT THE HEAT—EXERCISE EARLY! 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. Questions? Visit www.balancepft.com.

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.

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Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to HPWBANA residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail andreatorres11@yahoo.com.

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.

March Meeting Highlights

The March meeting was held on Wednesday, March 25. A community member was present to discuss interest in forming a community garden and the steps needed to implement one in our neighborhood. The board reviewed memberships and business sponsorships for the year. They also discussed the toddler swing status, which included a possible June construction date. Details were given for the annual Easter Hunt. Finally, the board discussed how to follow up with the community on the front and side yard parking ordinance.

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!

HPWBANA Board Meetings

Please attend our next monthly meeting

Wednesday, May 27, 2008

Yarborough Library- 2200 Hancock Drive

7:00 - 8:30 pm

Texas Leaf Cutting Ants

By Wizzie Brown

Leaf cutting ants are large, reddish ants with spines on their thorax. Worker ants come in a variety of sizes. The ants build large colonies, usually with many terrace-topped mounds that have a central opening. Colonies can contain millions of ants and cover large areas of land.

Leaf cutting ants typically forage in thick trails. During the summer, foraging takes place at night when temperatures are cooler, but can occur at any time of day during the rest of the year. These ants damage plants, causing defoliation by removing leaves and buds. Small trees can sometimes be completely stripped overnight. The ants eat a fungus grown on the plant material they harvest.

If you have leaf cutting ant mounds, you can broadcast a bait product such as Amdro Ant Block. Amdro Ant Block is a hydramethylnon bait labeled for leaf cutting ant control in urban areas. If you have foraging holes and trails, you can treat these areas with a residual contact insecticide dust or spray.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Also check out www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com



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Highland Park West Balcones Area

It's My Park Day at Mayfield Preserve

By Nadene Morning, Friends of Mayfield Nature Preserve

It's My Park Day is an annual event for the Austin Parks Foundation (APF, <http://austinparks.org/>) and it gets bigger every year. One day every year, individuals and groups sign up to work in a park of their choice. This year, the event was March 7th and our local Mayfield Park and Preserve was one of 60 parks that participated. Wheatsville Food Co-op presented It's My Park Day and provided wonderful snacks for the volunteers.

Friends of Mayfield Preserve had projects lined up for the approximately 35 volunteers that attended. It was a beautiful morning to drag brush to a chipping area, remove invasive plants, spread mulch onto trails, replace a gate at a park entrance, and also plant about \$500 worth of native plants funded by an APF It's My Park Day mini-grant.

Rene Barrera, the Preserve Manager for the Parks and Recreation Department (PAR),

was on site to help direct the volunteers. There was no shortage of projects because the Friends of Mayfield Preserve have been working hard throughout this last year removing invasive plants throughout the entire 22 acre preserve. Ligustrum is the main invasive plant targeted, but not the only one. Ligustrum was on its way to causing problems with the ecosystem in the preserve and restoration efforts are now taking place in specific needed areas.

Information about projects in Mayfield Preserve can be found on the Mayfield Park website, <http://mayfieldpark.org/>, on the Friends of Mayfield Preserve page. If you have questions about the invasive plant removal project please contact Rene Barrera at Rene.Barrera@ci.austin.tx.us.

For the volunteers that helped out – we thank you!

Summer Miracles

Every summer Kidsave brings older orphaned children to Austin, and other U.S. cities, to participate in our 5-week Summer Miracles program. Summer Miracles “shines a light” on children the world has forgotten.

The children stay with volunteer host families, experience family life, attend day camp, and meet families who may want to adopt them. Over 90% of the children now have families, hope and love because of Summer Miracles.

Approximately ten orphaned children will be coming to the Austin area to participate in Summer Miracles 2009. For more information about how you can help or host one of these children, please call Stephanie Karasick at 512-415-7082, or email stephanie@austinkidsave.org.

Be a voice for change for children who need families. Volunteer to help a child this summer!

Great Hills Baptist Church

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Vacation Bible School | **June 15-19**

Going Beyond - Women's Conference with Priscilla Shirer | **June 26-27**

Patriotic Celebration - Both Sunday Services | **June 28**

Children's Fine Art Workshop | **July 6-10**

Veggie Tales Day Camp | **July 27-31**

Middle / High School Camps - Baylor University | **July 27-31**

Celebrate Recovery | **Mondays, 7 pm, 2nd floor of building A**

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9:30 am Celebration - Connection | *Worship Choir & Orchestra*

11:00 am Life - Connection | *Worship Band*

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Highland Park West Balcones Area

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 or \$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?

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Highland Park West Balcones Area

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Chicken Waldorf Salad with Mexican Mint Marigold Dressing

Serves 6

CHICKEN SALAD:

4 (4-oz)	Boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cooked and diced
2 Medium	Granny Smith apples, cored and diced
4	Green onions, sliced, including tops
½ Cup	Dried cranberries or cherries
½ Cup	Chopped celery
½ Cup	Chopped pecans

DRESSING:

½ Cup	Mayonnaise
½ Cup	Sour cream
3 Tbsp	Chopped Mexican mint marigold (or 3 Tbsp fresh tarragon or 1 tsp dried)
1 Tbsp	Tarragon wine vinegar
2 tsp	Dijon mustard
1 tsp	Beau Monde seasoning (by Spice Island)
Dash	Tabasco
Salt and pepper to taste	

Mix chicken salad ingredients in a bowl; toss gently to combine. In a separate bowl, stir dressing ingredients together. Combine dressing with salad, adding enough dressing to bind salad. Chill and serve on leaf lettuce.

Happy May!

Molly, www.thediningdiva.com

May Events at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



Gardens on Tour

Gardens on Tour

Saturday, May 9.

See five beautiful private and public gardens plus the Wildflower Center. Wristbands on sale now. Susan Wittig Albert signs her new novel, *Wormwood*, at the store, noon to 3 p.m. \$25 ticket for all gardens; \$6 for each individual garden. Children under five free. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Wildflower Center Gala

Friday, May 1

The Wildflower Center is closed at 3 p.m. to prepare for the Gala which begins at 6:30 p.m.

National Wildflower Week Photo Exhibit

Tuesday, May 4 through Sunday, May 10

Rick Tolar's stunning wildflower

portfolio, "Flowers of Observation" on display in the Visitors Gallery. This is a partnership with Texas Highways magazine.

Memorial Day Sidewalk Sale

Saturday, Sunday and Monday, May 23-25

David Kattes signs the newly released *Insects of Texas* from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

Nature Nights: Hiding In Plain Sight: Animal Tracking.

Friday, May 29

Hit the trails and discover animals that live in Central Texas. We will explore tracks and scats. \$1 admission. \$1 admission. 6 to 9 p.m.

Information on all events at www.wildflower.org

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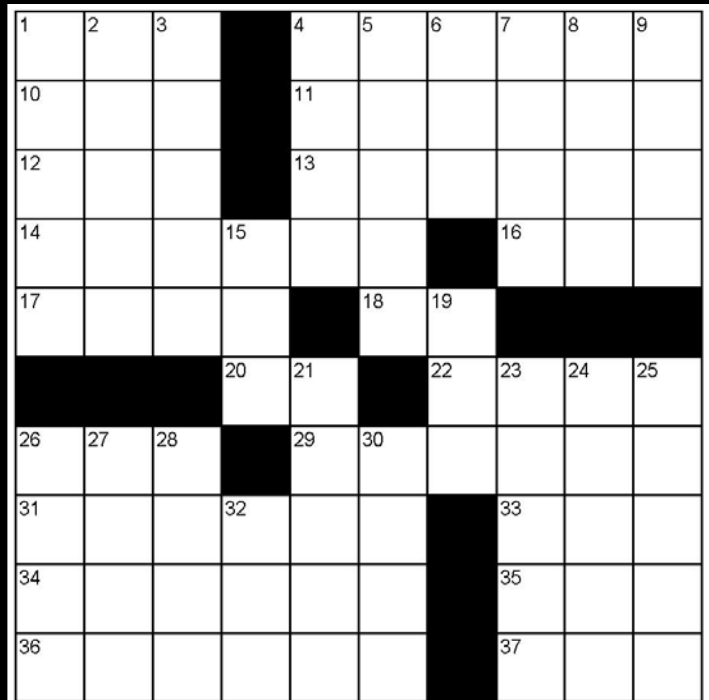
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1. Ornament
4. Sacred poems
10. Morse code "T"
11. Cover Girl's competitor
12. Hubbub
13. Docket
14. Searching for metal
16. Put
17. Ratify
18. Year (abbr.)
20. Kansas
22. Wager
26. Tax agency
29. "___ and World Report"
31. Harry
33. Pock
34. Lush
35. Whiz
36. Military attack
37. Downwind

DOWN

1. John ___ (U.S. President)
2. Radiuses
3. Leather strip
4. Frame
5. Waterlogged
6. To be
7. Glasses part
8. Fixed
9. Louvre
15. Pen stuff
19. Dashed
21. Japanese dish
23. Asian country
24. Again
25. Sugar-free brand
26. Pixies
27. Rolled chocolate candy brand
28. Mumble
30. Eye infection
32. Eastern Time

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HAPPY *Mother's Day*

May 10th

Recipe of the Month: Sloppy Joes



Grata Reber's Cookbook, Yield: 4 to 6 sandwiches

Ingredients

1 lb. lean ground beef	2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1 (8 oz.) bottle catsup	½ green pepper, diced
1 tsp. brown sugar	1 tsp. white vinegar
½ tsp. dry mustard	½ tsp. allspice
1 Tbsp. relish	2 tsp. chili sauce
1 onion, finely chopped	Salt & pepper to taste

Directions

Brown ground beef in medium skillet, drain excess fat. Add remaining ingredients and mix thoroughly. Simmer in skillet for 45 minutes. Serve on sandwich rolls or hamburger buns.

If you would like to submit YOUR recipe email it to articles@peelinc.com.

HPWBANA Birthdays

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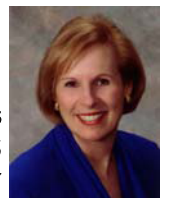
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Highland Park West Balcones Area

Recent Rains a Boom for Wildflowers, Especially Hardier, Late Bloomers



Photo by Bruce Leander. View in the color pdf online at www.peelinc.com.

AUSTIN, Texas — Cooler-than-average temperatures and rain in recent weeks should help bluebonnet blooms last longer while boosting the flowering of late spring bloomers, according to a University of Texas at Austin expert at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.

“The rain has an immediate effect on wildflowers blooming early in the season,” said Damon Waitt, the center’s senior botanist. “It also helps with the growth of plants such as Indian blanket that are preparing for a late spring and summer showcase.”

The rains in Austin and elsewhere have not yet been enough to dispel the drought that has plagued Central Texas. But pockets of early bloomers such as bluebonnets received enough moisture to put on good shows in some traditional strongholds, such as west of La Grange along Highway 71 in Fayette County, and northeast of there on Highway 105 between Navasota and Montgomery. Bluebonnets and Indian paintbrush are also plentiful off Interstate 45 east of Bristol in Ellis County.

Meanwhile, east of San Antonio, good sightings have been made by center staff of Engelmann’s daisy, Texas ragwort, Drummond’s phlox and other early spring bloomers along Highway 123 south of Seguin and Highway 80 north of Nixon.

Rain lilies have been sparse near San Antonio due to the infrequent rains, and pink evening primrose hasn’t had the banner year in some places that it did last year. But late spring bloomers look to be luckier.

As a result of temperatures and other conditions that benefit their growing season, the upcoming winners will likely include black-eyed Susan, Mexican hat, Indian blanket and plains coreopsis.

Like all other native plants, though, seasonal wildflowers have more to overcome than just the drought.

“They’re also being challenged by invasive plant species like turnip weed, or bastard cabbage,” Waitt said, noting that he’s spotted large infestations of the Mediterranean invader with highlighter-yellow flowers along most major roadways in Austin.

“Certain exotic plants are a concern because they displace plants that naturally occur in Texas without providing ideal wildlife habitat and other benefits of native vegetation.”

Waitt is acting board president for the Texas Invasive Plant and Pest Council. His hobbies include knocking the flower heads off bastard cabbage whenever he encounters them on quiet stretches of roadway. He also oversees the Invaders of Texas Citizen Science program and a new program at the Wildflower Center called the Eradicators. Managed by staff members Travis Gallo and Carrie McDonald, the program teaches volunteers to identify and remove invasive plant species in Austin parks in collaboration with the Austin Parks and Recreation Department.

To learn more about Eradicators and volunteer opportunities to remove invasive plant species, contact Gallo at tgallo@wildflower.org or 512-232-0116.

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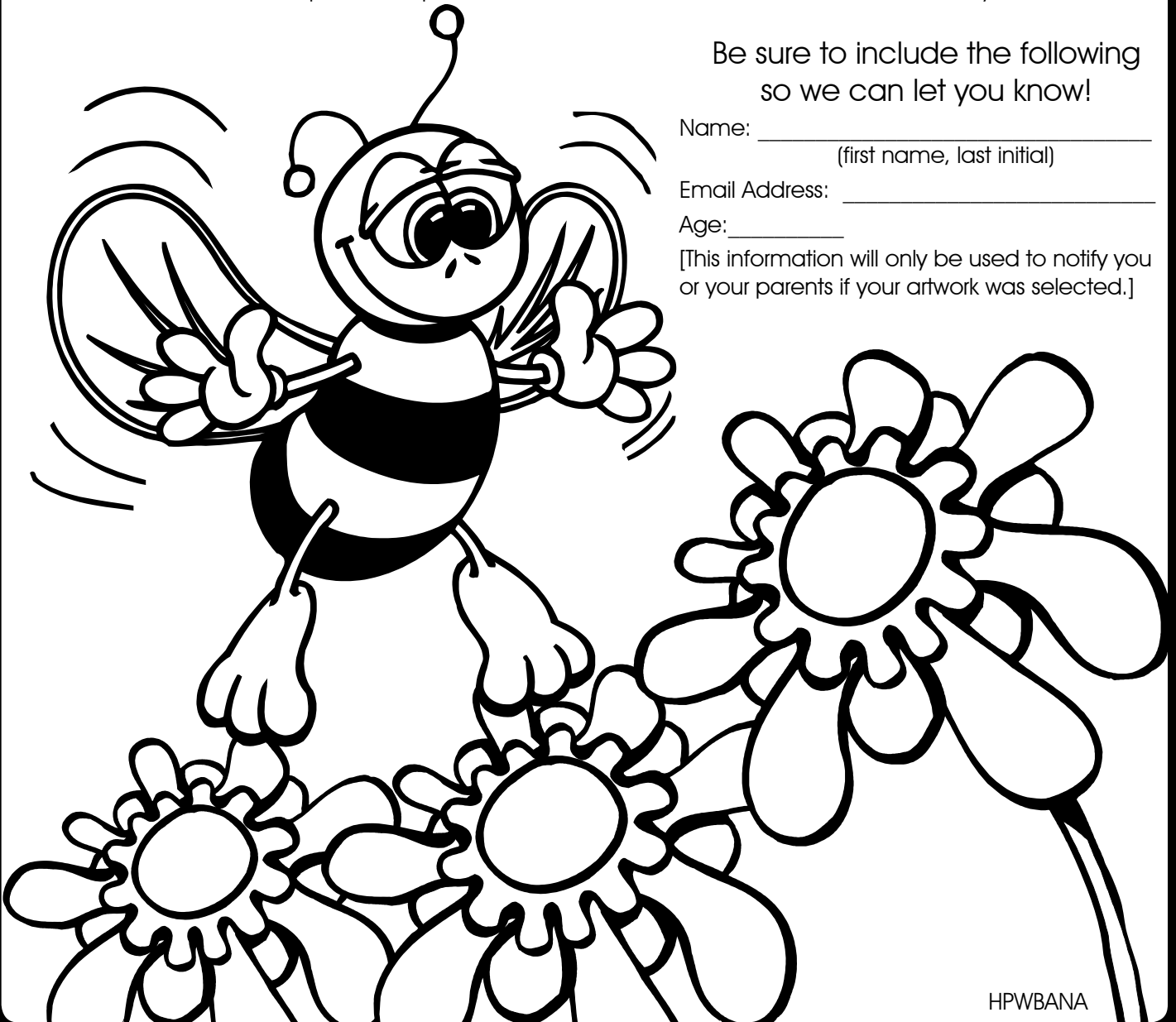
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HPWBANA

STEPHEN SHERWOOD

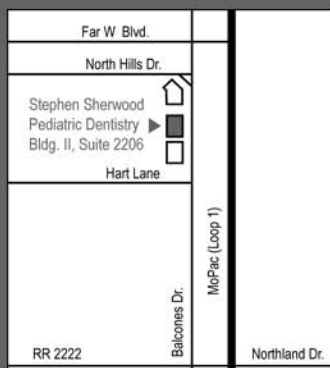
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with parents in caring for your child's smile
from infancy through adolescence.

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.