



The HPWBANA News

Volume 6, Number 12

December 2010

www.hpwbana.org

Message from the Board

Another year is coming to a close, and with it, some changes to you neighborhood association board. I am excited to be the new President of the HPWBANA and look forward to continuing the great work that has been done over the years. In this newsletter, we have listed all of our board members and their email addresses. In the next newsletter, you will learn a bit about your 2011 board members and what they hope to accomplish while on the board.

But I want to remind you that you don't have to be on the board to participate in your neighborhood. You can join a committee whose work interests you such as Beautification or Crime & Safety. Or you can choose to work on one project such as the Egg Hunt or the annual membership drive. If you have any ideas about events you'd like to see or projects you'd like accomplished, please let us know. Remember, this is your neighborhood association!

Andrea Torres • HPWBANA President • andreatorres11@yahoo.com

Special Thank You

The HPWBANA board would like to give a big THANK YOU to Carolyn Robinson and Chereen Fischer for their tireless efforts on the neighborhood association board over the years. Carolyn served on the board for seven years and served as president for the past three years. Chereen served for four years with two as Vice President. Both were instrumental in coordinating and promoting many of our cherished annual events. Both will be missed, but we hope to see them at neighborhood events – perhaps behind the hot dog grill or in the bunny suit!

Local Daisy Scouts Earn Badges at Mayfield Park

It was a fun afterschool event for local Daisy Scouts and their moms as they visited Mayfield Park in mid October to earn scout badges. These Daisy Scouts are first and second graders at Highland Park Elementary. Mayfield Park with its gardens, peacocks, native habitats and community support of volunteering makes it a great learning environment!

One Daisy Scout badge is the Golden Honey Bee Award. This badge is earned by volunteering in a public garden to help make the world a better place. The girls planted snapdragons and stock in the Morning garden to earn this badge. This is a butterfly garden so the flowers will be appreciated by park visitors, birds, butterflies, and of course bees.

Mom Juliee Beyt led the girls for the start of their second badge, the Watering Can Award. Girls earn this badge for being responsible for what they do. Their task was to start a mini-herb garden with one type of herb. With all the enthusiasm shown for both badges I am sure these mini-gardens are going to be tended wonderfully.

Good Luck Daisy Scouts! • Nadene Morning • Beautification and Park Committee

Mid-Century Modern Homes Preservation Tour

The neighborhood association in conjunction with individual and business sponsors committed to our neighborhood is hosting a tour which will feature 10-12 homes that exemplify the architectural design and characteristics of Mid-Century Modern in a celebration of the Mid-Century Architecture our neighborhood is both rich in and known for. Our goal is to maintain that image and preserve an architectural design that has been admired since the mid 20th century.

The tour is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 26th, 2011 from 1-5pm.

Do you have a Mid-Century home that you would like featured on our preservation tour? It could be a newly remodeled or new construction home that fits the architectural style of classic Mid-Century Modern architecture? Want to show it off to other admirers that love and respect these homes and their architectural design and characteristics? Home selection process will take place mid December so please contact us sometime before then if you would like your home to be featured.

(Continued on Page 2)

Highland Park West Balcones Area

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Austin Citywide Information Center 974-2000 or 311
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Non-emergency Police (coyote sighting, etc.)311
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SPO David J. Knutson
Central West District APD Rep.....974-5917
Wildlife Rescue 24 Hour Hot Line 210-698-1709

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Scott Rogillioscott@rogillio.com

David Obermann humbug@texas.net

The HPWBANA Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month except December at the Yarbrough Library on Hancock. Meetings are held from 7:00 – 8:45 p.m. 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.

Mid-Century Modern Homes Preservation Tour -

(Continued from the Cover)

If you are interested and for more information please contact: Tonianne Soster, VP of the Neighborhood Association and Chair of the Home Preservation Committee.

Mid-Century Modern is an architectural, interior and product design form that generally describes mid-20th century developments in modern design, architecture, and urban development from roughly 1933-1965. The Term was coined in 1983 by Cara Greenberg for the title of her book, Mid-Century Modern: Furniture of the 1950's (Random House), celebrating the style which is now recognized by scholars and museums worldwide as a significant design movement.

Thanks for your interest.

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

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Girls School of Austin... Regular Park Volunteers!

Every couple of weeks this fall students from the Girls School of Austin have been coming out to Mayfield Park and Preserve to volunteer. This is part of an afterschool program where the students (K - 8th grade) choose where they want to help out in the community. Mom Suzanne Quinn coordinates the program. Mayfield is a popular choice and projects are lined up for them in both the park and the Preserve. They even helped out in Perry Park one afternoon. And the project choices are not just helping out in parks. If you know a student from the Girls School of Austin ask them what they have been doing for their community as they will have great stories to share.

A sampling of Mayfield projects they have helped with include potting up water plants for the ponds, adding plants and bulbs to the gardens, raking up leaves, adding compost to new gardens, watering and weeding the native gardens in the preserve, and collecting and scattering native seeds for the preserve. They even rescued a turtle one afternoon. The girls seem to just love getting out there to help keep Mayfield Park and Preserve a wonderful place.

*Nadene Morning
Beautification and Parks Committee*

Did You Know?

- 1 in 3 8th graders drink alcohol.
- 1 in 5 teens binge drink.
- Only 1 in 100 parents believe his or her child binge drinks.
- 74% of kids say parents are the leading influence on their decisions about drinking

**POWER OF
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It's your influence.

by MADD

Despite being the leading influence on preventing underage drinking, most parents either don't feel it's necessary or don't know how to talk to their kids about drinking. That's where MADD is here to help. MADD has partnered with Dr. Robert Turisi of Penn State University to create a handbook which includes information on your teens world, parenting styles, communication strategies, tips on how to have the conversation and set effective consequences.

The handbook will be given at free, 30-minute workshops.

MADD is looking for groups like yours to host workshops, which can be part of an already existing meeting. MADD can also provide information for newsletter articles.

*To schedule, please contact:
Jill Johnstone at 445-497-6230
or jill.johnstone@madd.org*

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Highland Park West Balcones Area

CHRISTMASTREE RECYCLING AT HOME

The City of Austin Solid Waste Services Department has announced the Zilker Holiday Tree Christmas Tree Recycling program. Convenient curbside collection of Christmas trees for recycling is available for Austin's Pay-As-You-Throw customers beginning December 27th. Trees will be collected with yard trimmings. Simply set your tree at the curb by 6:30am on your yard trimmings collection day. Be sure to remove all decorations and the stand. Trees 6ft. tall or taller must be cut in half.

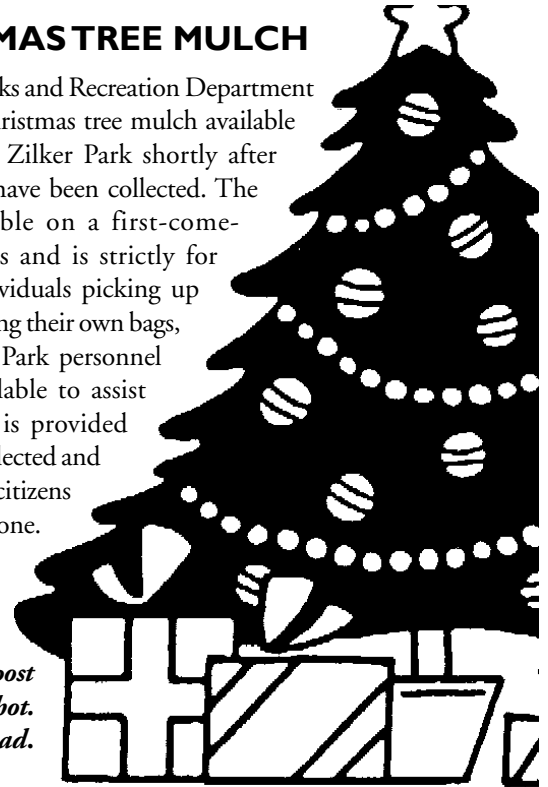
CHRISTMASTREE DROP OFF

If you would rather not leave your tree curb side, you can drop it off at the Zilker Park Christmas Tree Recycling Drop Off at Zilker Park. Drop off Christmas trees by the Polo Fields, (just follow the signs). from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, December 27th, 2009 and Saturday/Sunday, January 2nd and 3rd and Saturday, January 9th. No businesses.

The Parks and Recreation staff strongly recommend that the mulch be placed in a compost pile for several months. The mulch is "green" and the decay process causes it to get very hot. If the mulch is applied without a waiting period it may damage areas where it is spread.

CHRISTMASTREE MULCH

The Austin Parks and Recreation Department will have free Christmas tree mulch available to the public at Zilker Park shortly after Christmas trees have been collected. The mulch is available on a first-come-first-service basis and is strictly for private use. Individuals picking up mulch should bring their own bags, and equipment. Park personnel will not be available to assist loading. Mulch is provided from the trees collected and is distributed to citizens until the pile is gone.



Thank You

to all the businesses who advertised with us
in 2010 and made this newsletter possible.

Merry Christmas!



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AUSTIN CURRENTS

Texans Pay More In Property Taxes

Submitted by Rich Keith

The average Texas homeowner pays more in property taxes than the national average, according to an analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data conducted by the Tax Foundation. The Washington, D.C.-based advocacy group ranked Texas third in the nation for its tax burden relative to home value.

The median annual property tax payment in Texas last year was \$2,275 – 14th highest in the nation and above the national average of \$1,917. When calculated as a percent of home value, Texans paid 1.81 percent of their home's value in property taxes – the third highest burden in the country, behind New Jersey and Connecticut.

For Travis County, the median property tax payment was \$3,985 or 1.85% percent of home value. The total property tax bill ranked Travis County 65th among all counties surveyed, but as a percent of home value paid, the county came in at 88th.

On average, property tax burdens were highest in Northeastern states, largely New Jersey and New York, while Southern states generally had the lowest property tax burdens, according to the Tax Foundation's analysis of American Community Survey data.

Louisiana has the lowest property tax burden, where homeowners pay \$180 on every \$100,000 in value.

Visit <http://www.mytaxburden.org/propertytax/> to use an interactive property tax comparison tool created by the Tax Foundation. Detailed tables of property tax burdens by state and county can be downloaded on the foundation's website. Source:

Article by Melissa Castro, Dallas Business Journal. For more information contact RKeith@Primerica.com Rich Keith, (512) 632-0162.



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Highland Park West Balcones Area

DECEMBER EVENTS

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Friday and Saturday, December 3 and 4, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 5, noon to 5 p.m.

Free admission.

Discounts and ornament signings in the store, all three days. Artists and artisans sell their wares in the Visitors Gallery on Saturday and Sunday

LUMINATIONS

Saturday and Sunday, December 11 and 12, 6 to 9 p.m.

Our festival of lights! Luminarias, local musicians, children's crafts, food and fun! Free with a donation to the Capital Area Food Bank.

WILDFLOWER CENTER CLOSED

December 24 through January 4



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Sunday Morning Schedule

9:30 - Blended Worship | 11:00 - Contemporary Worship | 9:30 & 11:00 - Bible Life Groups (all ages)

Great Hills Baptist Church | www.ghbc.org | 10500 Jollyville Road . Austin, Texas 78759 | 512.343.7763

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