

## CRIME PREVENTION

We had a great turnout for our March HPWBANA board meeting, thanks to the appearance of Officer Darrell Grayson, our neighborhood APD district representative. Officer Grayson presented our area crime statistics and despite the recent increase in break-ins, neighbors in attendance were surprised to learn there have only been 5 reported burglaries in the HPWBA neighborhood since January 1st. However, Officer Grayson did mention several things we can all do to help prevent crime in our neighborhood:

**Say “NO” to solicitors.** Inform them (through a closed door) that Officer Grayson does not want neighbors doing business with solicitors. While there are certainly exceptions, most of these solicitors (such as magazine salespeople) are often transported hundreds of miles from their homes, often across state lines, and these “traveling crew” positions are among the worst jobs available for youth. The youths are taught to use high-pressure appeals and live out of vans and hotels, often making little or no money. In fact, many are for-profit operations that keep your “donation” or “subscription money” and do not pass it along to any charity, community group or publisher. In some cases, these “salespeople” are actually casing your home to see if you have any big ticket items worth stealing. In general, it’s best to play it safe and do not open the door to anyone you do not know.

**Leave a light on.** Dark homes are easy targets, so be sure to leave a few lights on at night, or install motion detection lighting to discourage thieves.

**Know your neighbors.** Form a neighborhood watch group on your block and get to know your neighbors. Inform them when you leave town or when work is being done on your home. Thieves often pull right up to homes in the middle of the day and act as if they belong there, so be sure to let your neighbors know if you are planning to have work done on your home when you are away.

**Do not leave valuables in your car.** Thieves are opportunistic. Do not tempt them by leaving valuables in a locked or unlocked vehicle.

Even power cords for cell phones or GPS devices are common targets.

**Lock your doors.** There have been cases where thieves have walked right into homes and taken items from inside the house or garage while owners are relaxing in the backyard. To be safe, always keep doors closed and locked, even if you are home. This also applies to vehicles.

**Ask friends or neighbors to watch your home while you are away.** If you go on vacation, have a neighbor or trusted friend pick up your mail, check your doors for flyers, and take out your trash (even if it is empty). Put automatic timers on a few lights inside your home and arrange for your lawn to be mowed. You can also email Officer Grayson to let him know you will be out of town. His contact information can be found on HPWBANA.org as well as on the second page of the newsletter.

**When in doubt, call.** If you notice anything suspicious in your neighborhood, call 9-1-1 immediately.

To join or form a neighborhood watch group on your block, please contact [volunteer@hpwbana.org](mailto:volunteer@hpwbana.org).



# Highland Park West Balcones Area

## IMPORTANT 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  
SPO David J. Knutson  
Central West District APD Rep..... 974-5917  
Wildlife Rescue 24 Hour Hot Line ..... 210-698-1709  
APD REP. - Officer Darrell Grayson ..... 512-974-5242

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The HPWBANA Board meets on the third Monday of each month except December. Please go to HPWBANA.org for our current meeting location or contact president@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

## 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.

## Join The HPWBANA Yahoo Group

The HPWBANA Yahoo Group is a neighborhood listserv intended for discussion and announcements of interest.

It is also the best place to find out about activities in the neighborhood, lost or found pets, crime, & recommendations.

*Membership is free...to join, go to*  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HPWBANA/>

## Perry Park Spring Egg Hunt Saturday, April 7 | 9:30am

**DON'T BE LATE!**

*Participants will be divided into the following age categories*

**0-2**

**3&4**

**5-7**

**8 & UP**

*Only elementary age children are invited to participate, please.  
Older children can volunteer to hide eggs.*

**SEE THE EASTER BUNNY!**

**FIND THE GOLDEN EGG!**

**GUESS THE NUMBER OF  
JELLY BEANS & WIN A PRIZE**



## Trowel and Error

MAYFIELD PARK GARDENING SYMPOSIUM

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 2012

RAIN OR SHINE!! 9:30 A.M. – 1PM

MAYFIELD PARK 3505 W. 35TH STREET AUSTIN,  
TEXAS (NEXT TO LAGUNA GLORIA ART MUSEUM)

On April 7, historic Mayfield Park combines topics dear to the heart of Central Texas gardeners in a series of “must hear” lectures.

10 AM Trisha Shirey, Director of Flora and Fauna,  
Lake Austin Spa Resort,

*"The Organic Arsenal- Pest Control for the Organic Garden"*

11 AM Carolyn Williams, Master Gardener

*"Creating a Hoe-Down Heritage Garden"*

12 noon Eric Pedley, Succulent Specialist

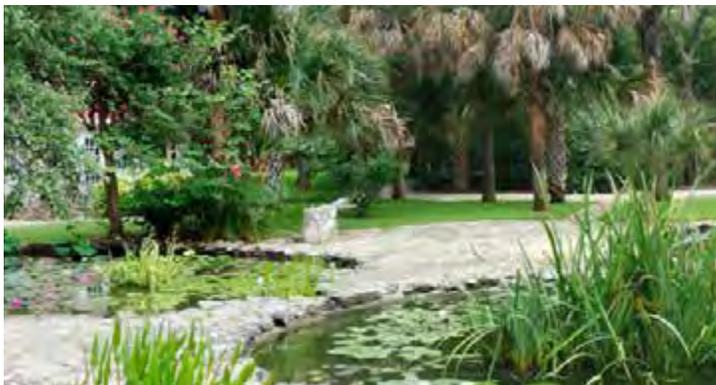
*"Propagating Succulents is Easy and Fun"*

### BRING YOUR GARDENING QUESTIONS!!

What's a garden event without a plant sale? Mayfield has the best deals in town for hard-to-find heirlooms and other perennials perfect for the April garden. A “garden goodie” raffle for the discerning gardener will round out the day.

As always, Trowel & Error benefits one of Austin's favorite and enchanting parks, historic Mayfield. Guests tour the restored Mayfield-Gutsch home, surrounded by stone-walled gardens patterned in the 1920's after the cottage gardens of England. Towering palms, flowering trees and perennials line meandering paths set among ponds filled with water lilies and fish. Gregarious peacocks supervise overflowing flower beds planted and maintained by community volunteers.

Sponsored by Friends of the Parks of Austin, a non-profit organization, TROWEL AND ERROR is the solitary fund-raiser for historic Mayfield Park. Although admission is free, a \$5.00 donation is requested.



## Clean Up The Park

West Point Society will be hosting a clean up of Covert Park at Mt. Bonnell on Saturday, April 14th from 9:00 to 11:00am in conjunction with Keep Austin Beautiful's 2012 Clean Sweep. It will include litter removal, garden weeding and trail clearing. Tools, gloves, snacks, Tee shirts and water will be provided. Volunteers should be Age 15 up and wear long sleeves and pants, and closed toed shoes. To register, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/mtbonnellcleanup>

Help keep one of Austin's most frequently visited landmarks beautiful!



## Neighborhood Observations

As I walk or drive around the Highland Park area I note how nature and man have combined to adapt to the recent water scarcity. Lawns are usually in poor shape, if not actually dying. Plants that are doing well are things like Crape Myrtle, Rosemary, Sage, Pyracantha (commonly known as Firethorn) and many different cacti. Roses bushes are few, and those I looked closely at are doing poorly. Those yards that look best often have as much well laid out rock paving as plants.

I started looking because I was worried that our yard would itself look bad compared to those of my neighbors. Well, not a problem. Our yard is no worse than many others, however, a brief period of thought sent me to the nearby nursery to buy Mountain Laurel, Sage, and Cacti to plant in my own front yard.

But I will never plant Pyracantha. I took out a 50 linear foot hedge of Pyracantha when I was 14, and today I recoil in fear when I see just one of those horrible plants.

*By: Steven Zoraster*

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# Highland Park West Balcones Area

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## Keep HPWBA Beautiful!

With its wide streets and towering trees, HPWBA is a mecca for walkers. Unfortunately, it is also a magnet for trash. Although we would certainly prefer that the trash never end up in the street to begin with, we can all do our part to help remedy the situation. The next time you head out for a walk around the 'hood, why not bring along a plastic bag? You would be surprised how much trash you can pick up in a relatively short amount of time.

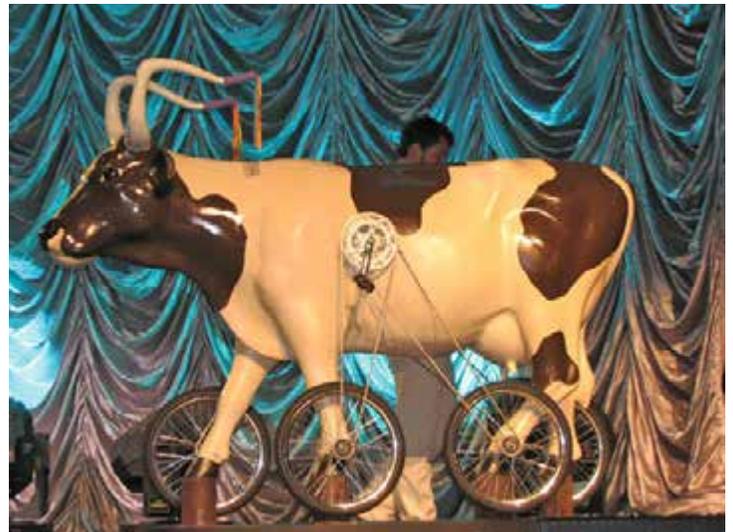
## Talent in the 'Hood

Local HPWBA resident Rebecca Spratlin was asked to participate in the city's CowParade Austin, a public art event held in November that raised over \$1,500,000 for Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas and the SuperHero Kids Fund. Spratlin had two cows in the auction this year; the "Cowcycle" and the "Cowch". Astonishingly, Spratlin's "Cowch," a seated cow sculpture that featured a cowhide sofa, was purchased for \$150,000 by an anonymous bidder. The "Cowcycle", a four wheeled sculpture with pedals, chains and handlebars was purchased for \$30,000 by Lucy Baines Johnson, an avid cyclist. That is some serious MOOO-la! Way to go, Rebecca!

**SPRATLIN'S "COWCH"**



**SPRATLIN'S "COWCYCLE"**



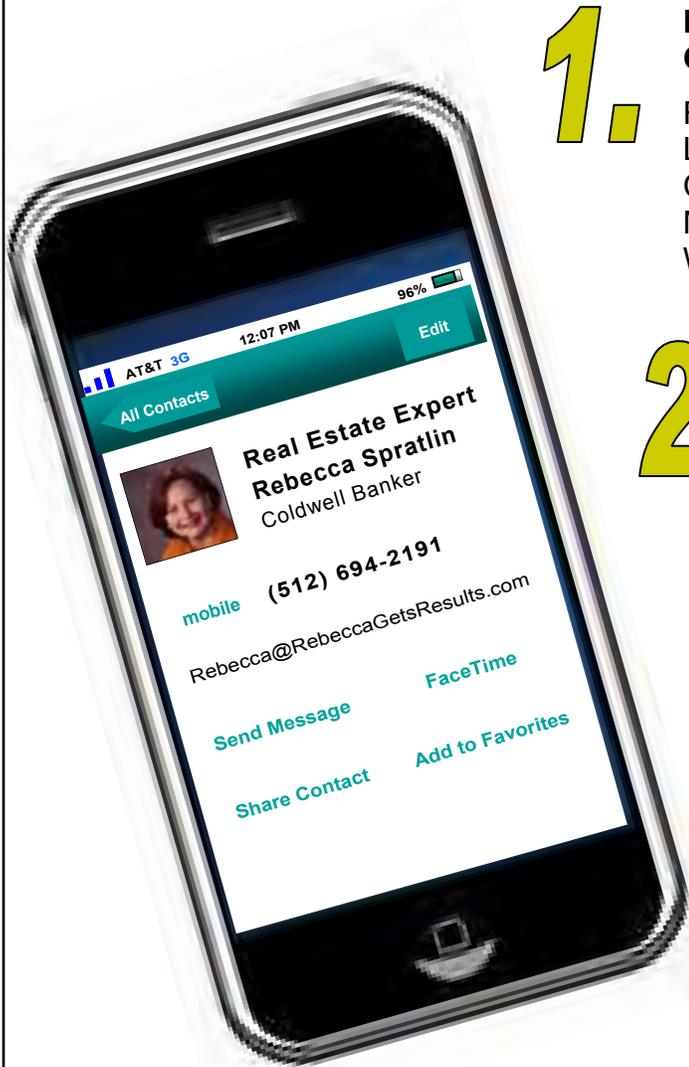
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# RECIPE OF THE MONTH

## Ingredients

- 2 lbs. carrot, sliced
- 1/8 tsp. pepper
- 1/2 Cup chopped onions
- 1 1/2 C milk
- 1/4 Cup oleo, divided
- 4 oz. processed
- 3 T. flour
- American cheese, cubed
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 T. dried parsley

Cook carrots until tender crisp. Drain. In saucepan saute onions in 3 T butter. Stir in flour, salt, & pepper. Gradually add milk and bring to boil. Cook for 1 minute or until thickened. Stir in cheese until melted. Add carrots and parsley. Pour in greased 2 quart baking dish. Melt remaining butter and pour over carrots. Bake at 350° 20-25 minutes or until bubbly. (8-10 servings)



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# Austin Newcomers Club April Luncheon

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE ZACH?

Founded in 1933 as Austin Civic Theater, ZACH has been a major player in the Austin Theatre and Theatre Education life of this region for almost 80 years. Our speakers this month are Joy Selak, the Board President at ZACH, and Nat Miller, ZACH's Education Director. They will be telling us about the work they do in theatre education and theatre for youth at ZACH as well as working with arts education in the Austin school system. They will also share with us the progress on their new state of the art Topfer Theatre under construction on the expanding campus.

Joy has served on ZACH's board for 8 years. Nat recently joined the organization from the Paramount, where he was education director. Nat is also a former high school teacher and received his MFA in Theatre Education from the University of Texas.

## WHEN AND WHERE:

**Wednesday, April 18, 2012 at Green Pastures Restaurant, 811 West Live Oak Street, pre-payment \$20.00. Reservations are required.**

**Time: 11:30 a.m. socializing, Luncheon begins at noon  
For Luncheon Reservations: Email: LuncheonDirector@AustinNewcomers.com**

Austin Newcomers Club is a non-profit social and recreational organization dedicated to introducing residents to the Austin Community and giving them the opportunity to meet and make new friends. To Join Austin Newcomers Club: Any person who has a zip code beginning with 787 is eligible for a new membership with the annual dues payment of \$40.00. Membership includes The Welcome Mat, the monthly newsletter, and the annual Members' Directory. Contact Dotti Thoms, New Member Services, at (512) 314-5100. You are invited to attend a morning or evening Welcome Coffee and Orientation. For more information visit the website at: [www.AustinNewcomers.com](http://www.AustinNewcomers.com).

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**SATURDAY**

- 7:00 AM Flag Raising Ceremony
- 8:00 AM American Heroes Air Show
- 10:00 AM Opening Ceremony
- 1:00 PM Helicopter Demo
- 1:30 PM K9 Search and Rescue Demo
- 2:00 PM WWII Battle Reenactment

**SUNDAY**

- 8:00 AM 5K Heroes Run
- 11:00 AM Church Service
- 1:00 PM Helicopter Demo
- 2:00 PM WWII Battle Reenactment

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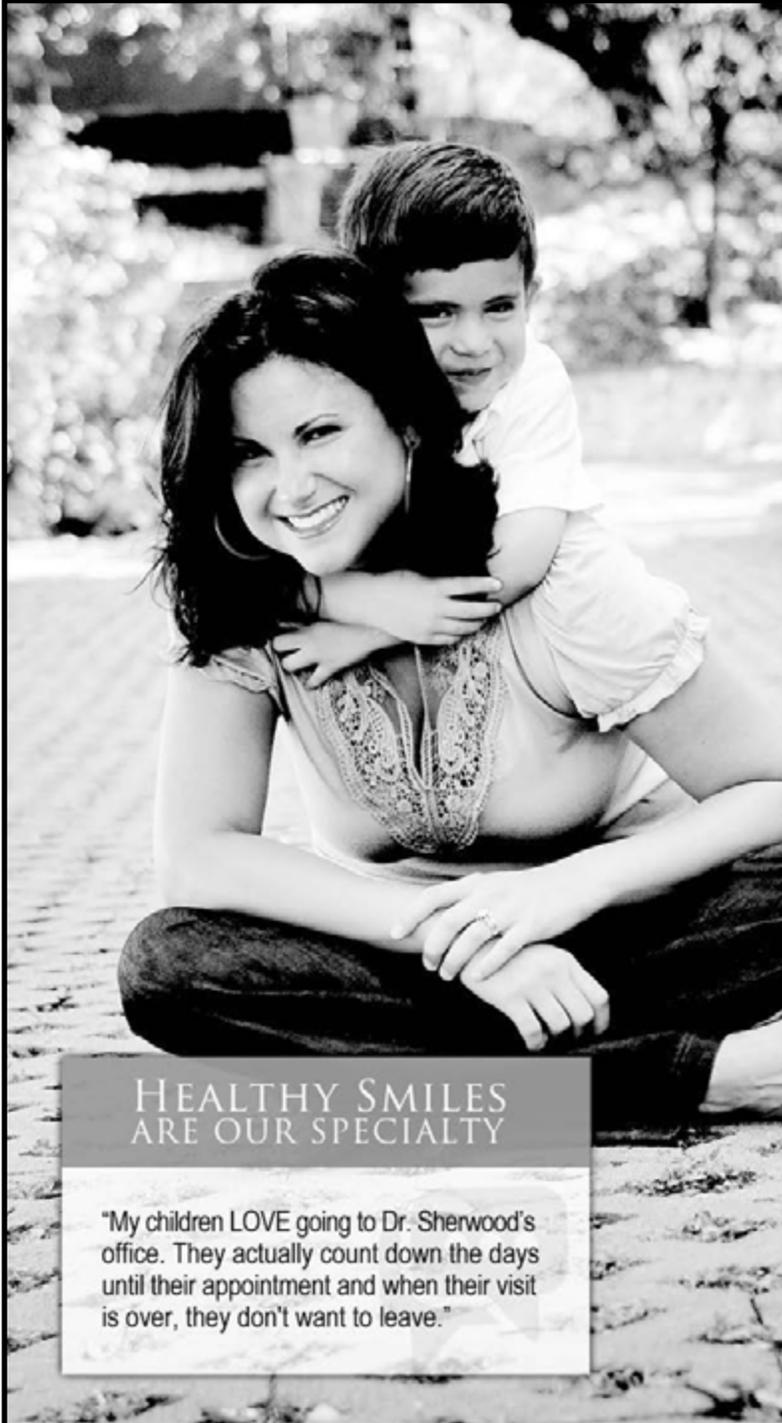


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