

The Little Parade with a Big Heart

With celebrations of all sizes happening throughout Austin on July 4th, neighbors gathered together once again for the annual HPWBANA Independence Day Celebration and Parade.

Just the right length for young riders and rollers, the parade made it's way around the block just west of Highland Park Elementary School. Parade participants of all ages showed off their festively decorated bikes, scooters, strollers, and wagons, with a City of Austin fire truck leading the way.

Always there to cheer on parade participants, Valley Oak resident Judith Sokolow has become a fixture of the Annual HPWBANA Parade. "You can't have a parade without spectators and candy!", she said.

"I have walked in the parade with my grandchildren for years. When I do, I always try to gather up some friends and family members to hand out candy as the marchers pass our house. This year, the grandkids were not in town, but we still wanted to keep up our spectator tradition!" said Sokolow.

After the parade, neighbors enjoyed a recitation of the Declaration of Independence, and complimentary hot dogs and snow cones, courtesy of the HPWBANA.

It may not be the biggest party in town, but according to one resident, "the short and informal celebration is the perfect way to ease into a long day of sun, fun, fireworks and chaos!"

Congratulations to the following winners!

- Best Scooter: Bodhi and Chander Tripathi (tie)
- Best Bike: Lizzie Gunkel (1st), Mitchel Butler (3rd)
- Best Wagon: Caroline Atherton
- Best Stroller: Thomas and Molly Bradfield



Jackson and Charlie Cox: Best Costume



Mitchell Butler: 3rd Place for Bike Decoration

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
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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

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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/>

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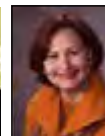
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Ryan Lew Initiates Firewise Project at Perry Park

After the long dry summer of 2011, Ryan Lew decided there was an opportunity to help his community by kick starting a Firewise program as part of his Boy Scout Eagle service project. Firewise (www.firewise.org) is a program supported by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the USDA Forest Service, the US Department of the Interior, and the National Association of State Foresters. The program encourages community involvement to protect people and property from wildfire and teaches us how to adapt to living with fire risks and drought conditions by working together and taking action now to prevent losses. It is important to remember that everyone in the community has a role to play in reducing the risk of wildfire.

To kick-start his project, Ryan contacted Lt. Josh Portie (Austin Fire Department), Park Ranger Michael Sledd (Austin Parks and Recreation Dept.) and Juliee Beyt (Friends of Perry Park) to propose his service project and to get an assessment of what needed to be done. This resulted in creating neighborhood awareness in Firewise and leading a



Parks and Rec employess, Ryan Lew, and Lt. Josh Portie from AFD are all smiles as they celebrate the completion of their project.

community service day on January 21 at Perry Park. He organized volunteers from the neighborhood and Boy Scout Troop 49, directed the activities to clear 'dead and down' brush and trees that could be a fuel source for wild fires, and managed the overall project (established the work day schedule, assigned tasks, communicated needed supplies, tools, protective clothing, and safety procedures, and clean up). Fox News 7 was on site to report on the Firewise efforts and interviewed Lt. Portie and Ryan. West Austin News was also there to provide coverage for their Jan 26 issue.

A total of 29 volunteers contributed 128 hours of work for this service project and provided follow up to previous HPWBANA and Beverly Hood neighborhood discussions with the Austin Fire Department to make our homes and the area safer from the impact of wildfires. Thanks in part to Ryan's efforts, there are on-going activities with AFD and HPWBANA to continue progress in establishing Firewise communities in the Beverly Hood and Perry Park neighborhoods.



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Highland Park West Balcones Area

West Point Society Gains PARD Support For Mt Bonnell Improvements

The West Point Society of Central Texas has announced major progress in their continuing efforts to gain city approval for the renovation and enhancement of visitor amenities atop Mount Bonnell. West Point graduate Stan Bacon, Project Manager, says the proposal to replace the nearly demolished Frank Covert, Sr. limestone marker with a permanent granite one and make improvements to the surrounding landscaping on the peak's summit has finally won the endorsement of Sara Hensley, Director of the Austin Parks and Recreation Department. According to Bacon, "We made our initial proposal to PARD in January 2011, with a \$100K+ plan built on a generous gift from the Covert family and an anticipated grant from the Austin Parks Foundation." Getting approval from the department proved to be quite a challenge. As Bacon explained, "Since Mount Bonnell is officially classified as a historic site, PARD referred the proposal to the city's Historic Landmark Commission. We presented the plan to an informal review by the Commission's Certificate of Appropriateness Committee in November - and ran into a buzz saw!"

The Chair of the Committee, Laurie Limbacher, who is also the Chair of the Landmark Commission, had major objections to the plan. She took the position that the fragile and nearly demolished limestone marker should be restored and remain in place, and that no changes should be made to the landscaping around the marker. "She called it 'historic creep'" said Bacon, "so with the support of former Mayor Bruce Todd we took the

matter to Mayor Leffingwell, who applauded our proposal to use private funds to improve the park, and endorsed our plan to install a permanent granite replica of the original marker with enhanced landscaping around the marker. We also met with Council Member Chris Riley, who had appointed Ms. Limbacher, and explained that without a granite marker there would be no funding for the project."

Last month Jason Andrus of O'Connell Robertson and Fred Bothwell, of the West Point Society met with PARD to finish hammering out the details on a simplified landscape design, subsequently approved by PARD Director Sara Hensley. The existing large garden wall will be lowered to eliminate the need for additional steps, distinctive stone will be used for the dais surfacing and steps, and two long limestone benches will stretch between the pillars at the far edge of the garden. Hand rails will be placed on the outside edges of the flanking steps.

The next step in the process is for PARD to present the plan to the Certificate of Appropriateness Committee for formal approval. The COA Committee will meet July 16, 2012 at 4:00pm in Room 500 at One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Road. The public is invited to attend this meeting to demonstrate support for this generous gift to the people of Austin and visitors to Mount Bonnell.

For more information, contact Fred Bothwell 512-635-4433, frebo3@yahoo.com, or visit http://www.west-point.org/joseph_bonnell/.

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IT TAKES A VILLAGE, CAPITOL CITY VILLAGE

by Frances Allen



Capital City Village members and volunteers join together to stay connected to the community.

I am Frances Allen and I have lived in the 78731 zip code for over fifty years. I served on the board of HPWBANA for fifteen years and have worked with MoNAC (citizens watching the development of MoPac) for twenty years. For the past five years I have been watchful and involved with Parks and Recreation over the care and maintenance of Austin Memorial Park Cemetery. From generations of children in Highland Park Elementary to Block Captain for my street, I have been involved in our neighborhood and I plan to continue living here as long as possible. That is why I have joined The Village, Capital City Village.

The Village strives to create a community of members, volunteers and services to provide participating seniors the help and information they need to successfully age in place.

Aging in place is just what I want to do; I want to live well at home.

The Capital City Village is part of a nation-wide movement call the Village-to-Village Network (www.vtvnetwork.net) that began in Boston's Beacon Hill. We're a non-profit, membership-driven organization that combines a small paid staff and a number of volunteers to support our goal of helping aging adults staying fit, healthy and at home. St. David's Foundation has granted funds to Capital City Village to have an executive director, Beth Jasper, and other funds have enabled us to pay

part-time support staff.

Thanks to generous donations and the help of volunteers, our group is able to organize various outings and events for local residents. We walk at Camp Mabry and have Yoga class at Café Dance on Hancock. We also have informal programs on gardening, photography and birding, as well as trips to the Blanton. You could even design your own!

I invite you to learn more and meet some friends, both old and new at the following Capital City Village Events:

- 1st Thursday Happy Hour at Jorge's 4:30 -6:30
- 2203 Hancock Dr. 78756 (just next door to the Capital City Village office)
- 2nd Thursday 2nd Cup of Coffee at Russell's Bistro 9:30 – 10:45
- 1601 E 38th St., 78731 in Jefferson Square
- 3rd Monday Yarborough Library Program
- 5:30 Meet & Greet, 6-8 Program
- 2200 Hancock Dr. 78756 (across from the Capital City Village office)

Check our website for our calendar of events: www.capitalcityvillage.net or call our Village Office (512) 524-2709

We believe, and studies indicate, that people live longer, healthier and more productive lives when they remain in their home and neighborhoods and stay connected to the community.

So come "get connected", we are waiting for you.

Highland Park West Balcones Area

Stay Out of the Doghouse!

The NA has recently been notified of several incidents where off leash dogs have attacked other dogs walking on leash in the neighborhood. City leash law requires that all dogs on city streets must be on leash, and owners of aggressive dogs must ensure that their pets are restricted and restrained so as to not be a danger to other animals or people in the neighborhood. Please remember that animal control can fine owners or remove aggressive dogs if they are a threat to other animals or people. And while we understand that most dog owners believe their pets are not truly aggressive and they might not see their pets in the same light as those pet owners whose dogs are being attacked, please be mindful of others and keep dogs either on leash or secured in fenced yards.

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It's hard to believe, but the start of the new school year is just weeks away! Ready or not, it is time to say goodbye to late nights and lazy summer mornings. To make a smooth transition for both parents and children, re-establish bedtime and mealtime routines (especially breakfast) at least 1 week before school starts. And remember to watch out for young riders and walkers on their way to school in the coming weeks!

IMPORTANT DATES FOR HIGHLAND PARK

ELEMENTARY & PACK 59

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| August 8 | Pack 59 Game and overnight at Dell Diamond |
| August 24 | Rally day- Highland Park Elementary. 2:30-3:30
<i>Meet your teacher and connect with friends, old and new!</i> |
| August 27 | First Day of School (AISD) |
| August 28 | Back to school night (3rd & 4th grade) |
| August 29 | Back to school night (2nd & 5th) |
| Sept 6 | Back to school night (Kindergarten & 1st) |
| Sept 9 | Pack 59 Back to school swim & Ice Cream Social
<i>at Northwest Park and Pool</i> |
| Sept 18 | Individual and Class Pictures |

For more information, go to <http://hnppta.org/>

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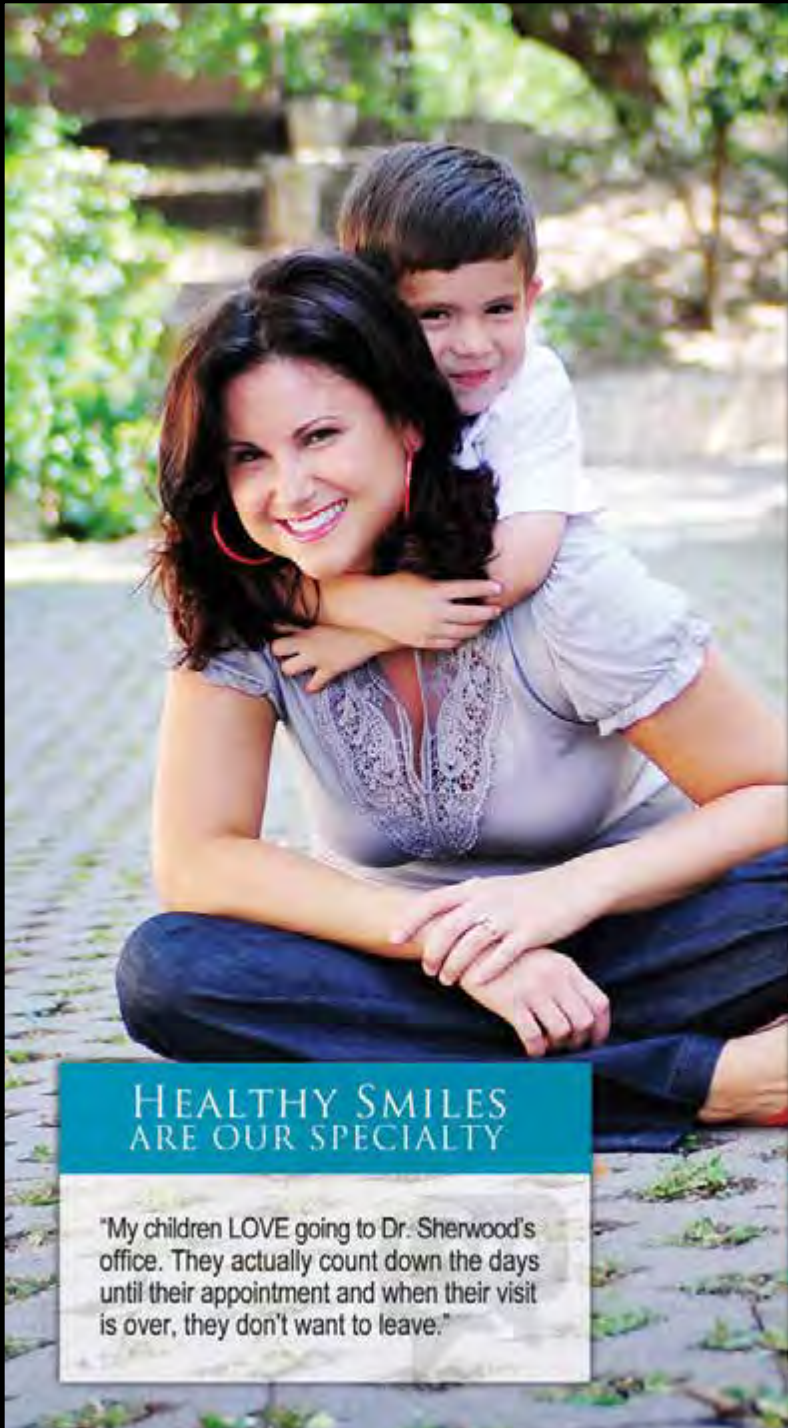


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