



## HPWBANA Fitness in Perry Park

*HPWBANA Family Fitness Bootcamp  
Coming to Perry Park in June*

Join HPWBANA this month for Fitness in Perry Park! HPWBANA has teamed up with local trainers at Evolution Fitness to bring an outdoor workout to Perry Park for adults and kids (ages 7 and up, with participating parents) on Saturday mornings at 10:30am.

Fitness in Perry Park will help people to identify and execute the 10 General Physical Skills, including:

- Cardiovascular/respiratory endurance
- Stamina
- Strength
- Flexibility
- Power
- Speed
- Coordination
- Agility
- Balance
- Accuracy

*Expect to sweat, but more importantly, expect to have FUN!  
Questions? Email Adriana at [adrianajongraf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:adrianajongraf@sbcglobal.net)*

## 4th of JULY CELEBRATION

*Join us for our annual HPWBANA  
Independence Day celebration!*

Walk in the parade and stay for the rest of the festivities.

Thursday, July 4th

Festivities begin at 9:15

Parade steps off at 9:30

Highland Park Elementary South Parking Lot

Prizes for best decorated bike, dog, wagon and stroller!

Hot Dogs!

Snow Cones!

## Help Bring Google Fiber to OUR Neighborhood!

Google Fiber is coming to Austin, but if you would like to have Google Fiber in our neighborhood, they need to hear from YOU. Based on feedback from Austin residents, Google will create "fiberhoods" to prioritize the deployment of Google Fiber throughout the city. Help our neighborhood get to the front of the line by visiting

[www.google.com/fiber/austin](http://www.google.com/fiber/austin)

Just enter your email address and zip code. It's that easy! Already signed up? Then help us get the word out to everyone in the neighborhood!



# Highland Park West Balcones Area

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Austin Citywide Information Center. 974-2000 or 311  
Emergency Police ..... 9 1 1  
Non-emergency Police (coyote sighting, etc.) ..... 311  
Social Services (during work hours) ..... 211  
Wildlife Rescue 24 Hour Hot Line ..... 210-698-1709  
APD REP. - Officer Darrell Grayson ..... 512-974-5242

## '12 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### BOARD MEMBER

David Obermann ..... humbug@texas.net

Chereen Fisher ..... chereen@austin.rr.com

Nadene Morning .....

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/>

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### Beverly Hood Neighborhood Firewise Update

*by Nadene Morning*

Just a quick update on Firewise as we approach the hot dry season. The Beverly Hood neighborhood is continuing the Firewise discussions with the Austin Fire Department, however, it is slow going as people are so busy these days. Nevertheless, John Berry continues to send out his monthly fire safety note to neighbors focusing on a specific Firewise topic. In addition, we have developed a survey for neighbors to gauge their interest in Firewise and are now starting the neighborhood assessment discussion. Why do we feel this topic is important? There have been two deck fires in the last few months in which the fire department responded. Both decks faced the forested areas of our neighborhood. With so many trees and forested areas in our neighborhood, wildfires are a concern for all residents and we want to be prepared.

Questions? – Contact John Berry [jlassoc@flash.net](mailto:jlassoc@flash.net) or Nadene Morning [ntmorning@hotmail.com](mailto:ntmorning@hotmail.com)



### Little Helping Hands at Mt. Bonnell

Looking for a way to give your kids an opportunity to give back to the community? Come on out to Mt. Bonnell the 3rd Sunday in June for a clean up project fit for all ages. Little Helping Hands needs approximately 8 volunteers to help pick up trash at Mt. Bonnell Park from 10-11am. To learn more about Little Helping Hands or to sign up for this event, go to <http://littlehelpinghands.org/volunteer/event-calendar/>

Little Helping Hands is a resource for parents, caregivers, and businesses/groups looking for meaningful family volunteer opportunities suitable for young children. Through creating and organizing hands-on volunteer activities, Little Helping Hands provides ongoing opportunities to instill the value of community service in early childhood.

### Ridge Oak Triangle Update *from the Beautification Committee*

*By Nadene Morning*

The large median located at Ridge Oak Drive and Lake View has seen some vast improvements this spring. Specifically, the Beautification Committee has been working with the city and neighbors to make the space easier to maintain and more usable.

The first project involved redefining the native bed edges, along with significant weeding and mulching of the beds. Because this is a large space, we hired a city approved contractor to do the work. The city contractor is also mowing the median on a more regular basis.

A second project is yet another serious attempt to get rid of the sticker burrs that keep the space from being used. Application of pre-emergent herbicides along with more consistent mowing by the city contractor will be the first steps in eradicating the pesky burrs. The goal is to make the green space usable again by families, kids and pets, like it was decades ago.

*(Continued on Page 4)*



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# Highland Park West Balcones Area

(Continued from Page 3)



The Beautification Committee fundraised this spring to do most of this work and thanks to the generous donations of neighbors and the HPWBANA we have enough to get started. The area is already looking consistently more maintained, and the landscaped beds look great! This is part of an ongoing effort to care for this green space which also includes paying for the monthly water bill.

If you are interested in donating to the Ridge Oak Triangle please send a check to:

**HPWBANA**

PO Box 26101

Austin, Texas 78755

(note Ridge Oak Triangle on the check).

It is just great to see the support from neighbors for our public green spaces. As you drive through the neighborhood and see public spaces that look maintained, remember it is due to the kind efforts of either a neighbor or a member of our beautification committee!

*Questions? Email [beautification@hpbwana.org](mailto:beautification@hpbwana.org)*



## CLASSIFIED ADS

**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](mailto: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](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com).

## “HOMES SOLD” Statistics for

### *Highland Park West and Balcones Area Neighborhood*

The concept of price elasticity is clearly applicable to our local real estate market. The demand for homes in our neighborhood is very high, and the availability of homes is at one of the lowest points in years. There were 29 home sold year-to-date in 2013, compared to 38 homes in the same period in 2012. The rapid turnover of homes on the market is notable. How many of you have seen a sign pop up

in front of a home on your street, and then learned that it is already under contract within just a few days? Many homes don't make it past the “Coming Soon” period before going under contract. Realtors are spending time and effort to find homes that are not yet on the market, because there are just not enough homes available for their buyers.

The average days on the market has dropped from a median of 20 to a median of 15 days on the market. Even though homes are being priced aggressively, they are getting offers for asking price and above, with many getting multiple offers and back-up offers. The key limiting sales price factor is that homes must appraise for their contract prices in order to qualify for financing, unless, of course, they are cash deals. And there have been plenty of cash deals in recent months.

Knowledgeable industry leaders have noted that the market has started moving so rapidly, that sellers are getting more than they thought they could get even just a few months ago. The lesson here is that if you have been thinking about selling, don't delay. As the summer months approach, the inventory will increase, putting some downward pressure on prices. However, it will take quite a while for the pent-up demand for homes in this area to be satiated.

Metric	Year-to-Date 1/1 - 5/16, 2012	Year-to-Date 1/1 - 5/16, 2013	Percent Change
Single Family Homes Sold	38	29	-24%
Average List Price	\$629,071	\$853,821	+61%
Median (mid-point) List Price	\$459,450	\$723,600	+57%
Average NET Sold Price	\$508,227	\$829,802	+63%
Median (mid-point) NET Sold Price	\$452,500	\$703,650	+56%
Average List Price per Sq.Ft.	\$237	\$273	+15%
Median (mid-point) List Price/Sq.Ft.	\$229	\$262	+14%
Average NET Sold Price per Sq.Ft.	\$227	\$266	+17%
Median (mid-point) NET Sold Price/Sq.Ft.	\$220	\$254	+15%
NET Sold Price Range	\$151,100 - \$1,350,000	\$215,000 - \$3,700,000	
NET Sold Price Range/Sq.Ft.	\$129 - \$412	\$120 - \$502	

*Information provided by Rebecca Wolfe Spratlin.*

# Help Pets Beat the Summer Heat

By Dawn Lewis

Summer is around the corner and here in Austin, we all know it will be hot, it is just a matter of how hot. We as humans know how to survive the relentless heat: stay indoors, dress appropriately, exercise early, swim and swim some more.

However, Rover the dog and Fifi are even more vulnerable during the summer months due to their furry coats. Here are some great tips to help pets stay cool in the Texas heat:

- Just like your kiddos, never leave your pet in the car. Though it might not seem too hot outside, the sun can raise the temperature inside your car to 120 degrees Fahrenheit in a matter of minutes, even with the windows down.

- Make sure there is access to lots of water for your pets, both indoor and outdoors. If you go on an adventure with your pet, be sure to bring water for him or her.

- Drinking from puddles in the street can be dangerous, as they may contain antifreeze. Antifreeze tastes sweet to dogs, but can be toxic, so try to avoid those puddles as drinking water for your pets.

(Continued on Page 4)



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# Highland Park West Balcones Area

(Continued from Page 3)

- We all sweat even more when the humidity rises. Pets only perspire around their paws which is insufficient for cooling off the body. Animals pant, moving air through their nasal passages, which picks up excess heat that is then expelled from their mouth. This is not as successful when humidity is high so take more caution on humid days.

- Even if you pride yourself on being able to run three miles in the summer heat, that doesn't mean that your dog can, so be careful that your dog does not overexert himself in the heat. Be sure to keep an eye on him/her when you are walking, hiking, jogging.

- Finally, just like you, your pet will love hanging out in the air-conditioning during peak heat times, and your dog may even enjoy a cold bath or a dip in the lake. After all, that is what summer is all about in Austin.



## SUDOKU

View answers online at [www.peelinc.com](http://www.peelinc.com)

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The goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each digit may appear only once in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box.

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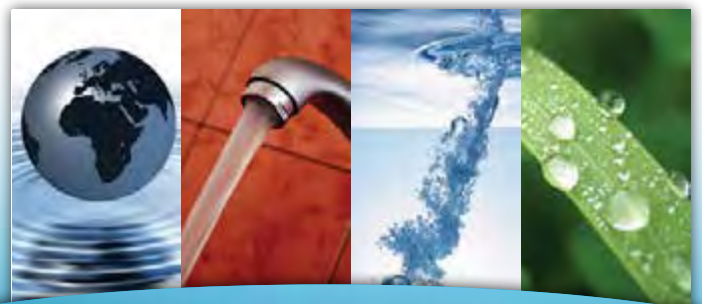
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# We want YOU... to Volunteer!

*By Donna Edgar*

We're all familiar with the WW II poster showing a stern-faced Uncle Sam with his finger pointing seemingly right at the viewer, saying "I want YOU!" Well, your neighborhood association needs you too. There are 1750 households in our neighborhood association area, and we have not yet reached 100 memberships for 2013!

Board members are working hard to present a varied program to enrich the lives of area residents, including:

- Events. Movie in the Park, Spring Egg Hunt and July 4th Parade
- Crime and Safety. Meetings addressing neighborhood concerns, including our Annual Crime and Safety meeting featuring our APD representative, Officer Grayson.
- Neighborhood Development. Keeping tabs on local development issues and representing neighborhood best interests, including infill projects.
- Neighborhood beautification. The neighborhood association has an active committee that oversees the maintenance of several areas, including our medians as well as Perry Park. A substantial portion of the annual budget goes to this important work.
- Improved Communication. A new website was designed and implemented in the past year and an area listserve continues to be not only a de facto local "Angie's List" where neighbors share references and referrals with neighbors, but also the fastest medium

for spreading word of an event needing publicizing – witness the recent coverage of the rogue driver of a black SUV that passed through the area damaging property. In addition, the Newsletter provides additional relevant information to area residents.

- Oak Wilt Awareness and Prevention. Our neighborhood would not be the same without our amazingly beautiful Live Oaks. The Board keeps tabs on oak wilt hot spots within the neighborhood and works hard on prevention efforts, including awareness and education.

Great things are happening thanks to the efforts of the Highland Park West and Balcones Area Neighborhood Association, HOWEVER, it takes money and volunteers to make these things happen. Please consider joining now to support the neighborhood association. Volunteer to help out with beautification efforts or events, or even submit a monthly article for our newsletter! Even if your only involvement is to contribute membership dues, you are helping to make a difference in your neighborhood.

It's never too early (or too late) to join or renew your membership with HPWBANA, and with membership dues starting at just \$20 (\$25 per family), it truly is money well spent. Please take a moment to fill out the form on the following page and return with a check at your convenience. Additional donations are also welcome to help us increase the size and scope of our work.

We hope you will join us in 2013 for another productive and rewarding year...HPWBANA needs you!



# Highland Park West Balcones Area



Please select the appropriate form below and send with your check to:

HPWBANA  
PO Box 26101  
Austin, Texas 78755

## 2013 NEW MEMBERSHIP FORM

- ☐ 2013 Family Membership (\$25)      ☐ 2013 Single-Member Household Membership (\$20)  
(Only one adult in household)      ☐ Additional Donations to HPWBANA

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ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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If you have any questions about membership or HPWBANA, please feel free to contact Trey McWhorter:  
[president@hpwbana.org](mailto:president@hpwbana.org)

## 2013 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

- ☐ 2013 Family Membership (\$25)      ☐ 2013 Single-Member Household Membership (\$20)  
(Only one adult in household)      ☐ Additional Donations to HPWBANA

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ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Please detach form and send with a check (\$25 for family, \$20 for single-member household) made payable to HPWBANA to:

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If you have any questions about membership or HPWBANA, please feel free to contact Trey McWhorter:  
[president@hpwbana.org](mailto:president@hpwbana.org)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION!

## Highland Park West Balcones Area

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## May is Texas and National Water Safety Month

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**Ongoing:** Colin's Hope Athlete Ambassadors needed! <http://www.tinych.org/signup>

**Now-June 18:** Discount Schlitterbahn Tickets for sale. <http://www.tinych.org/tickets>

**May 18:** Colin's Hope Got2Swim Pure Austin Quarry Lake. <http://www.tinych.org/QuarryLake>



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