



HPWBANA

HIGHLAND PARK WEST BALCONES
AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

THE HPWBANA NEWS

Volume 13, Number 11

November 2017

www.hpwbana.org

Please Join your
HPWBANA Board of Directors
for the

ANNUAL HPWBANA MEETING

Chez Zee American Bistro

5406 Balcones Drive

Austin, TX 78731

6:30 pm Tuesday, November 14

Guest Speaker

Barbara McArthur

Community Activist

Speaking about

What CodeNEXT Means To Our Neighborhood

Complimentary Hor d'oeuvres
and Cash Bar



HPWBANA

HIGHLAND PARK WEST BALCONES
AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Neighborhood Annual Meeting November 14

"How CodeNEXT Will Impact Our Neighborhood" is the topic of the neighborhood annual meeting on November 14. Mark your calendars for this important meeting at Chez Zee, November 14, 2017, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Free hor d'oeuvres and cash bar will be available.

Five HPWBANA Director positions will be up for election to the Board at this annual neighborhood meeting. The Director positions are for a two year term and are open to any dues paying member (\$20 for an individual or \$25 for a household) of HPWBANA. A nominating committee will deliver a report at the annual meeting and any member in good standing may also nominate from the floor at the meeting.

If you are interested in serving on the HPWBANA Board of Directors, please contact a Board Officer (president@hpwbana.org, secretary@hpwbana.org, vp@hpwbana.org, or treasurer@hpwbana.org).

For more information about HPWBANA and the By-Laws of the Association: <http://hpwbana.org/resources/hpwbana-bylaws>

New Signs Point the Way to Covert Park / Mount Bonnell



New directional signs for Covert Park at Mount Bonnell have recently been installed by the city. Area residents requested the new signage to help the many park enthusiasts more easily find Mount Bonnell. Many motorists became lost in the neighborhood driving from the north on Balcones looking for Mount Bonnell. The new signs have been installed on Balcones at Perry Lane and Balcones at Mount Bonnell Drive. Directional signage for Mount Bonnell on

(Continued on Page 2)

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
Wildlife Rescue 24 Hour Hot Line 210-698-1709
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board@hpwbana.org

The HPWBANA Board meets on the first 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.

(Continued from Cover)



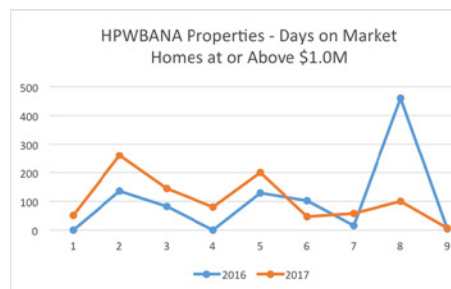
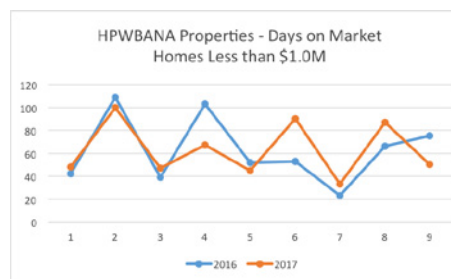
West 35th Street has been in place for several years. Now, signs help point the way on West 35th Street, Perry Lane, and Balcones Drive for those who want to enjoy the views from atop Mount Bonnell.

How LONG Will It Take To Sell My Home?

by Rebecca Wolfe Spratlin

Anyone contemplating selling their home has two BIG questions. How much is my home worth and how long will it take to sell? While a home's value is worth only what someone is willing to pay for it, an estimate can be obtained by a professional who knows the market. It is not an exact science. Time on the market, however, can be measured empirically.

By looking back at the past two years, we can see that homes over and under \$1.0 million in the HPWBANA area have very different sales times. In January through September of 2016, homes under \$1.0 million sold in an average of 61 days, while homes over \$1.0 million dollars were on the market for an average of 85 days before selling. In January through September of 2017, homes under \$1.0 million sold in an average of 60 days, while homes over \$1.0 million dollars were on the market for an average of 126 days before selling.



It's interesting to note that right after May, sales times generally increase. The average time to sell homes under \$1.0 were very similar in 2016 and 2017, 61 days and 60 days respectively. There was, however, a striking increase in the time to sell homes over a million dollars, comparing 85 days in 2016 versus 126 days in 2017. Prices are still increasing, albeit at a much slower rate, but it is taking much longer

to sell these homes. The best course of action to sell a home quickly, especially those over \$1.0 million, is to get your home on the market in very early spring when there is less inventory, therefore, less competition.



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LETTUCE RECYCLE!

by Dena Houston

18 MONTHS OF QUESTIONS FROM OUR NEIGHBORHOOD READERS PART 2



Here is part 2 of the fabulous recycling questions I have received from the readers of "Lettuce Recycle".

HOW DO I RECYCLE MAILING ENVELOPES WITH A BUBBLE WRAP LINING?

These are not recyclable because there are two layers of materials that cannot be separated. Bubble wrap by itself can be recycled in the plastic collection bins located at most grocery stores.

CAN I PUT CELLOPHANE IN MY RECYCLING BIN? No. Cellophane must be placed in your trash bin. Cellophane is also not accepted in the plastic collection bins at the grocery stores. The way you can tell cellophane from plastic is that cellophane is mostly clear and crinkly. It is used as packaging to display the items inside.

ARE BABY FOOD POUCHES RECYCLABLE? The squeezable pouches that toddler baby food and some other products like tuna come in are not recyclable. These pouches are made of layers of materials that do not allow them to be separated to be recycled. They must be thrown into your trash bin.

HOW DO I RECYCLE AEROSOL CANS? Aerosol cans (full or partially full) are accepted at the City of Austin Recycle & Reuse Drop-Off Center. The material in them is considered hazardous and cannot be put in the blue recycling bin. Totally empty aerosol cans may be put into the blue curbside bin.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE STUFF COLLECTED BY THE CITY DURING BULK COLLECTION WEEK? IS IT RECYCLED? Anything set out for bulk collection that is collected by City trucks goes to the landfill. These items are not recycled. The

only recycling or reuse that occurs is when the drive-by entrepreneurs pick up these items first.

WHAT DO I DO WITH THE PLASTIC BAGS FROM MY BARK MULCH, COMPOST AND GARDEN SOIL? These bags cannot be placed in the plastic bag collection bins at the grocery stores. Because they have to support weight, they are treated with a special polymer that makes them unrecyclable at these locations. They can however, be taken to the Recycle & Reuse Drop-Off Center. PLEASE DO NOT PUT THESE IN YOUR BLUE CURBSIDE BIN!

WHAT DO I DO WITH ALL THE 45 RPM RECORDS I HAVE SAVED SINCE I WAS A KID? Vinyl records are making a comeback, but if you don't want to sell them, the Creative Use and Recycling Center will happily take them. Customers buy them to make craft projects. You can have your 45 record of "favorite lullabies" turned into a serving tray. Please visit their website for more information <<http://austincreativereuse.org/>>.

WILL THE CITY PICK UP BAMBOO WITH THE WEEKLY YARD TRIMMINGS COLLECTION? Yes, provided it is cut into 5-foot lengths or less. The City prefers that bamboo be bundled with string because it is easier to handle. You can also cut it into smaller pieces and put it into the large yard waste bags available at Lowes, Home Depot, and other hardware stores. The City also requests that thorny plants, like rose bushes, be put into bags rather than cans. It is safer for the workers handling them.

INSTEAD OF THROWING IT INTO MY TRASH CAN, WHAT CAN I DO WITH A PERFECTLY GOOD GARDEN HOSE THAT I NO LONGER USE? I just got rid of one by posting it on the Next Door website as FREE! As they say, one man's trash is another man's treasure. It was picked up within minutes. Best way to recycle! Please remember, do not put garden hoses into your recycling can. They must go into your trashcan if you cannot give it away.

(Continued on Page 5)

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Highland Park West Balcones Area

(Continued from Page 4)

I JUST STAINED AND OILED MY DECK AND HAVE LOTS OF EMPTY GALLON CANS AND LOTS AND LOTS OF OILY RAGS AND BRUSHES. WHAT DO I DO WITH THESE? Rags with oil on them can be a serious fire hazard. Put the oily rags and brushes in the empty cans. Fill the cans with water and put the lids on securely. You can then take them to the Recycle & Reuse Drop-Off Center for safe disposal.

HOW DO I RECYCLE THE PILLOW PACKS THAT COME IN PACKAGES? PAK MAIL on Balcones will accept and reuse them if they still have air. PAK MAIL also takes clean bubble wrap, Styrofoam, and cornstarch peanuts. You can also put the air pillows and bubble wrap into the plastic recycling collection bins at the grocery stores.

CURBSIDE COMPOSTABLE UPDATE

By now, those of you who will be getting curbside composting pick-up should have received your green carts and the weekly pickups should have started. If you have any questions about what you can and cannot put into your new bin, please check out this helpful website <AustinTexas.gov/austincomposts>.

If you have any specific question about this program, please feel free to email me at recycling@hpwbana.org

A NEW QUESTION – AND THE ANSWER!

WITH CURBSIDE COMPOST COLLECTION, WILL THE CITY CONTINUE PICKING UP YARD WASTE WEEKLY IN THE BROWN BAGS AND OUR OWN STICK CANS? The answer is YES. The City prefers leaves and sticks be placed in your new green composting cart. When that is full, use the brown bags or your own cans for anything else. Brown material like leaves and sticks are an important component of compost.

Here is a very informative City of Austin recycling website:
<http://www.austintexas.gov/what-do-i-do>

Stay tuned for future tips that will include creative ways to recycle or reuse. If you have any questions or recycling ideas, please send them to: recycling@hpwbana.org



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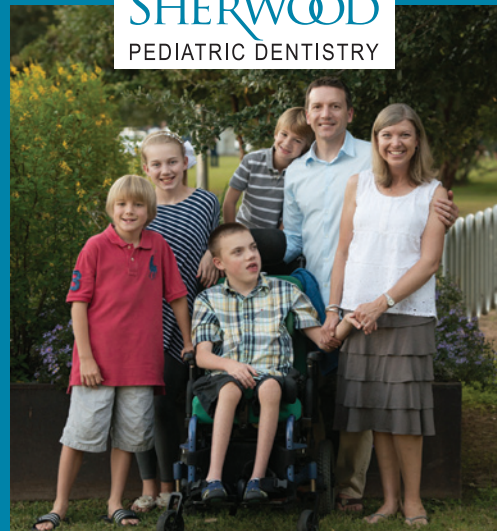
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Highland Park West Balcones Area

Friday, December 8 7-9pm

St. Luke United Methodist Church

Saturday, December 9 9:30am, 11:30am, or 1:30pm

1306 W. Lynn, Austin, Texas



Cookies & Castles A GINGERBREAD EXTRAVAGANZA



PRESENTED BY THE AUSTIN TRIDELTA ALUMNAE CHAPTER
BENEFITTING THE CHILDREN'S BLOOD & CANCER CENTER AT DELL CHILDREN'S



Please join the TriDelta Alumnae of Austin at our second annual Cookies & Castles event which benefits Dell Children's Blood and Cancer Center. The fundraiser will be held at St. Luke United Methodist Church in Clarksville on Friday, December 8 and Saturday, December 9.

We will provide unlimited icing and candy to decorate gingerbread men (cookies) and gingerbread houses (castles) and we'll clean up the mess! Ladies Night Out

will be Friday, December 8 from 7-9pm, sans kiddos. Family Decorating will be Saturday, December 9 and starting times at 9:30am, 11:30am, or 1:30pm.

Individual houses or tables of four houses will be available on our website:

<http://www.austin.tridelta.org/cookies--castles>

Sponsorship opportunities, volunteer opportunities, and other questions can be directed to cookiescastlesATX@gmail.com



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TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE Centipedes EXTENSION



Centipedes have a single pair of antennae on their head and a long, worm-like body. They have one pair of legs per body segment with the first pair of legs modified to function as claws and are used to capture prey. These claws are sometimes called fangs since they are connected to poison glands that can inject venom to subdue captured prey.

Most centipedes found in Texas are relatively small, but the red headed centipede, *Scolopendra heros*, can reach over nine inches when full grown. The bite of larger species of centipedes may cause extreme discomfort and pain.

Centipedes can live from one to six years. They prefer moist, protected habitats such as under stones, rotted logs, leaves or bark. Winter is spent as an adult and eggs are laid in soil during warm months and are covered by a sticky substance.

Centipedes are predaceous with many species feeding on other arthropods, such as insects. Their modified pair of legs, or claws, is directly under the head, allowing prey to be injected with venom.

Most centipedes can only bite with their poison claws located directly under the head resulting in a bee-like sting; however, *Scolopendra* can harm a person with the sharp claws of its many walking legs. Each walking leg is tipped with a sharp claw capable of making tiny cuts in human skin. A poison produced from the attachment point of each leg may be dropped into the wounds resulting in an inflamed and irritated condition. The best rule of thumb is to never handle large centipedes.

With cooler weather, centipedes may move inside homes to avoid extreme temperatures. Tips to prevent centipedes from sharing your home:

- move objects providing harborage away from the structure such as compost piles, firewood and stones
- create a band of gravel, or similar material between the

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foundation of the home and any landscape beds that touch the structure

- occasionally turn mulch near structures to allow it to dry out
- seal cracks, crevices, and pipe penetrations with sealant that will expand with our temperature extremes
- repair weather stripping around doors and windows as needed
- properly ventilate crawl spaces or areas under the home to allow for air flow through the area
- use perimeter sprays around a building's foundation

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

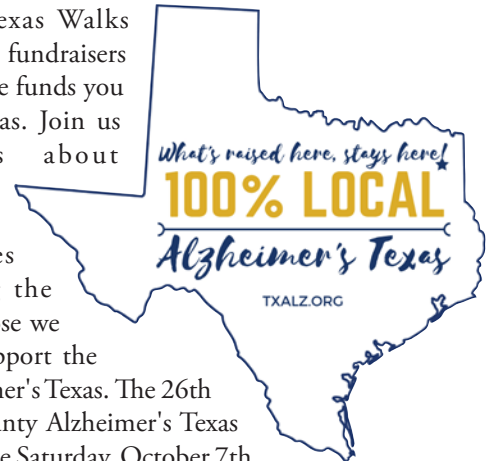
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For more info: <http://p2p.charityengine.net/txalztraviscowalk17/>

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Highland Park West Balcones Area

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LamarFest 2017

Friday, November 10
6-9pm

We are so excited for LamarFest! Mark your calendars for Friday, November 10 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Lamar will host this family-friendly event that brings out students, teachers, parents and folks from all over the city. This is the only school-wide fundraiser of the year. Online wristbands can be purchased at lamarmiddleschool.org/lamarfest until Nov. 9th at midnight or they can be purchased Friday the 10th before school and at lunch for \$25 per band. You also can purchase tickets the day of at the door for \$30. Enjoy food from great local vendors including Craig-O's, PT Terry's, Cloud 9 Cotton Candy, Tamale Addiction, Top Notch, and Jim-Jim's. Lamar students from band, guitar, choir, and orchestra will entertain, and everyone can enjoy fun activities like henna tattoos, fun store, boot camp challenge, bungee trampoline, laser tag and much more! Interested in volunteering, email lamarfest@gmail.com.



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We will select the top few and post their artwork on our Facebook Page - Facebook.com/PeelInc.
DUE: November 30th



Be sure to include the following so we
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(first name, last initial)

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November

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4-5 Texas Book Festival | texasbookfestival.org | Texas State Capitol

10-11 Bastrop Veteran's Day Car Show Weekend
bastropareacruisers.com | Bastrop, TX

11-12 1944 Close Battle Assault - Battle Re-enactment
texasmilitaryforcesmuseum.org | Camp Mabry

11-12 & 18-19 East Austin Studio Tour | east.bigmedium.org
1501 E. 6th St

15-19 Junior League's A Christmas Affair | www.jlaustin.org
Palmer Events Center

18 Chuy's Children Giving to Children Parade | chuysparade.com
Downtown Austin

23 Thundercloud Subs Turkey Trot | thundercloud.com/turkey-trot
The Long Center

24-Dec24 Blue Genie Art Bazaar | bluegenieartbazaar.com
Marchesa Hall & Theatre

25-26 Renegade Craft Fair | www.renegadecraft.com
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