



HIGHLAND PARK WEST BALCONES
AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

THE HPWBANA NEWS

VOLUME 16, NUMBER 7 • JULY 2020 • WWW.HPWANA.ORG





4412 Enclave Cove



7228 Oak Shores Drive



2729 Trail of Madrones

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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

APD REP. - Officer Darrell Grayson 512-974-5242

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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 Street, on the west by Mt. Bonnell Road, and on the east by MoPac and by Bull Creek Road between Hancock Drive and 45th Street. Mail your membership dues to HPWBANA, P.O. Box 26101, Austin, Texas 78755.



Bicycle Accidents | Boating Accidents | Car Accidents | Dog Bites | Drunk Driving Accidents
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The President's Letter

HPWBANA Neighbors:

The HPWBANA listserv has been sponsored by the Association for several years. This Yahoo Group allows the Association to send out timely and informative information and is the second communication medium, in addition to the monthly *The HPWBANA News*, that the Association uses to keep the neighborhood updated and informed. Information on development cases in the neighborhood, COVID-19, constable patrol, and city projects affecting the neighborhood are examples of how the Association uses the listserv.

If you are not currently a member of the listserv, please join. The link is: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/hpwbana/info>.

The guidelines for being a member and using the listserv are:

For verification purposes, we require your full name, address, and phone number. If you do not live within the Highland Park West Balcones Area Neighborhood Association boundaries, please also briefly explain why you want to join the HPWBANA newsgroup.

Please note our posting guidelines below. In particular, our rules prohibit unsolicited advertising of commercial enterprises, but responses to a specific request are welcome. (To avoid advertising your business every time you post, please remove e-marketing data from your signature unless you are responding to a specific request for items or service you provide.) Mentions of small efforts like babysitting, arts and crafts, etc. are always welcome. Identity of the poster is also required; this can be addressed either by signing your posting using your first and last names or by an email address which includes both first and last names.

HPWBANA Newsgroup Posting Guidelines:

The HPWBANA Newsgroup is for messages of a general interest to Highland Park West and Balcones Area neighborhoods which may include discussions and opinions on issues affecting the neighborhood; the following types are also acceptable:

- Announcements of neighborhood events
- Requests for information
- Requests for advice on volunteer or commercial services

- Requests for volunteers for activity within the neighborhood
- Positive suggestions for improving the neighborhood
- Service, trade, restaurant recommendations, items wanted, and garage sale notices

The following are NOT acceptable:

- Insulting or inflammatory messages
- One-on-one messages, messages to a specific individual, or "chats" between individuals
- Messages which are intended to promote a business, unless the message is in response to a specific request for a service or product you provide (to avoid advertising your business every time you post, please remove your e-marketing data from your signature unless you are responding to a specific request)

- A discussion of issues not related to our neighborhood

In general, follow these netiquette guidelines:

- Avoid simply hitting "reply" and typing. If you do, you will resend the entire listserv posting to those who subscribe to the digest version, which makes it excessively long and hard to read.... Take time to prune your posting; you can use [snip] to indicate a portion deleted; only preserve the key thought you want to respond to.

- Think before you post.
- Answer critics with respect.
- Postings should deal with issues, not individuals—stay objective, no personal derogatory adjectives.
- Probing to find out more about an individual who is posting to the newsgroup or remarks about an individual are not acceptable
- Use an identifiable e-mail id or sign your name to your postings—this listserv is not for anonymous postings.

Users who violate these guidelines are subject to a warning from the moderator and removal from the newsgroup for subsequent violations.

Thank you,

HPWBANA Newsgroup Administrators

The advertisement is a rectangular banner. On the left, there is a photograph of a family of five (two adults and three children) standing outdoors. To the right of the photo, on an orange background, is a list of services: "Free Estimates on New A/C Systems", "Fast 7-Day A/C Repairs", "Energy Audits • Weatherization", "Duct Repair & Replacement", "Home & Handyman Repairs", "Remodels & Additions", "Senior Accessibility Upgrades", "Painting / Staining", "Drywall & Popcorn Removal", and "Decks & Fences / Install & Repairs". Below this list is a quote: "We have been keeping Austin comfortable for over 40 years." - The Yamin Family. On the right side of the banner, there is a white background with the company logo "A+ AIR" in blue and orange. Below the logo, it says "A-PLUS AIR CONDITIONING & HOME SOLUTIONS", "Cooling • Heating • Home Repairs • Remodels", and the phone number "512.450.1980" and website "www.AplusAC.com". A large orange "\$20 off" is prominently displayed, followed by "ANY A/C Repair or Handyman Service!". At the bottom, it states "Cannot be combined with other offers. Check our website for additional coupons & discounts." and features a cartoon character of a man in a blue cap and yellow shirt.

Constable Patrol



Following are the reports from the constable for his patrol activities through May 29, 2020. During the Stay-Home Order, patrol has been reduced due to less traffic. Although the Order has been extended, it has been modified so we can expect traffic to increase, and patrol will be increased accordingly. Also, the Constable has begun reporting the range of speeding over the speed limit in his reports: 1-9 mph over the posted speed, 10-15 mph over the posted speed, and 16 mph or more over the posted speed. For this second reporting of the information in the summary report, all four five moving violations were for speeds between 10 and 15 miles per hour over the posted speed limit. Since the Constable has started reporting the range of speeds over the speed limit, all nine moving violations over the posted speed have been for speeds between 10 and 15 miles per hour over the speed limit.

Please note that 80% (81 out of 101) of the traffic stops for 2020 continue to be of drivers who do not live in the Highland Park West Balcones Area compared with 73% (404 out of 556) of the traffic stops for 2019 and 74% (495 out of 672) of the traffic stops for 2018. The trend continues that roughly 75% of traffic stops are not residents of the neighborhood. Traffic enforcement is a key element for safety in the neighborhood.

The cost of the constable patrol is \$65/hour. Please ask your neighbors to support this effort.

And thanks for your continued support.
Be Safe!

Pieter Sybesma, President
Board of Directors
Highland Park West Balcones Neighborhood Association
president@hpwbana.org

(SUPPLEMENTAL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT
EFFORTS ON NEXT PAGE)

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HIGHLAND PARK WEST BALCONES
AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

From Your Highland Park West Balcones Area
Neighborhood Association Board Members:

**The July 4th Parade and Weiner Roast
has been Cancelled due to COVID-19**

**Wishing you a Fun and Safe
July 4th**

HIGHLAND PARK WEST BALCONES AREA NEIGHBORHOOD 2020 SUPPLEMENTAL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS JANUARY 7 – MAY 29, 2020

Constable Random Patrol Times: 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. or 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (Generally)

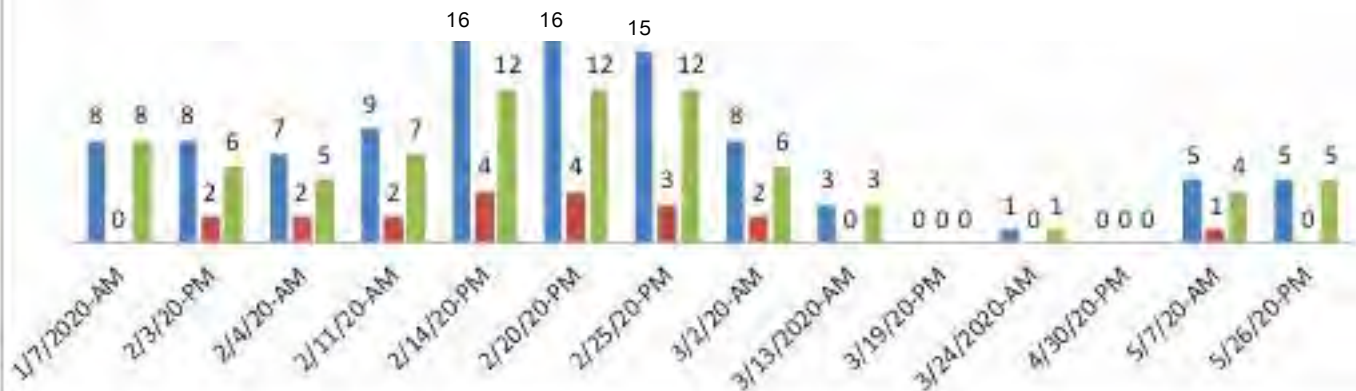
Traffic Enforcement Areas: Balcones, Perry, and Hancock and smaller side streets or School Zone and both crosswalks, and Patrol throughout the neighborhood.

Moving Violations: Running a stop sign, speeding, failing to yield right of way or unsafe lane change.

80% OF TRAFFIC STOPS DO NOT LIVE IN THE HPWBANA AREA

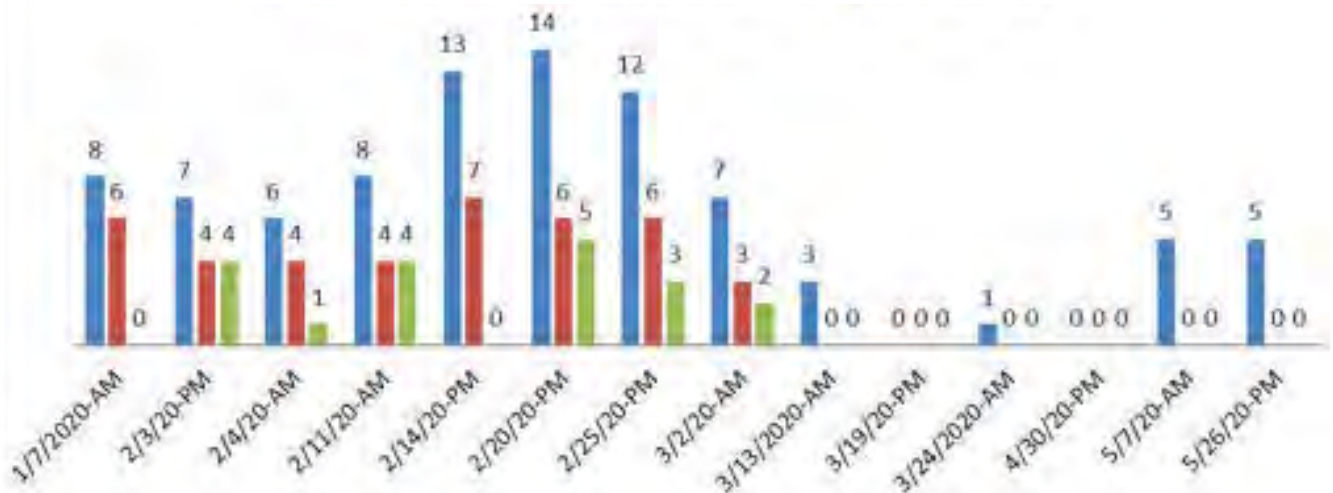
Total Traffic Stops and Highland Parks West Balcones Area Neighborhood Residents

■ Total Traffic Stops ■ Highland Park Neighborhood Residents ■ Non-Residents



Types of Violations

■ Moving Violation ■ Non-Moving Violation ■ Verbal Warning



Continued on Page 7

Highland Park West Balcones Area

(Continued from Page 6)

- TUE 1/7 Highland Park Neighborhood patrol 6:45am to 9am / 3200 blk Hancock -Speeding X3 / 3900 blk Balcones -Speeding X3 / 3200 blk Perry -Speeding X0 / Balcones at Madrona -Ran Stop Sign X1 / Valley Oak at W. Highland Terr -Ran Stop Sign X1 / No School today / traffic stop - Marijuana, Driving with suspended Driver's Lic and no vehicle ins
- MON 2/3 Highland Park Neighborhood patrol 2pm to 6pm / 3200 blk Hancock -Speeding X5 / School zone - 4 warnings / 3900 blk Balcones -Speeding X1 / 3900 blk Balcones -Speeding X1 / 500 blk Mount Bonnell rd -Speeding X1 / Home owner requested I check the woods at the end of both Falls Trl for a possible homeless camp/ I checked 3 different trails into the woods down to the creek area and found no camp or any signs of any camping in the area. Unfounded./ roving patrol thru the area east of mopac, near bull creek end of Westfield under the bridge, I located a large pile of trash where someone dumped it.
- TUE 2/4 Highland Park Neighborhood patrol 6:45am to 9am / Roving radar patrol thru HP for a few mins / 3300 blk Perry -Speeding X3 / Balcones at Mount Bonnell -Ran Stop Sign X1 / 3900 blk Balcones -Speeding X2 / Balcones at Madrona -Ran Stop Sign X0 / Valley Oak at W. Highland Terr -Ran Stop Sign X0 / 4800 blk Balcones -Speeding X1
- TUE 2/11 Highland Park Neighborhood patrol 6:45am to 9am / Balcones at Mount Bonnell dr. -Ran Stop Sign X2 / 3900 blk Balcones -Speeding X2 / 3300 blk Perry -Speeding X3 / school zone - X4 warnings / Valley Oak at W. Highland Terr -Ran Stop Sign X1 / checked Ridge Oak Park, I stopped and talked to a home owner that was out taking a walk - all good / Roving patrol-radar thru neighborhood east of Mopac -Checked area - construction trash pile still under the bridge at the end of Westfield dr. no issues or stops
- FRI 2/14 Highland Park Neighborhood patrol 2pm to 6pm / 3900 blk Balcones -Speeding X1 / 4900 blk Fairview -Drove wrong way on one way X1 / Madrona at Edgemont -Ran Stop Sign X1 / Madrona at Balcones -Ran Stop Sign X3 / Balcones at Mount Bonnell -Ran Stop Sign X2 / 3300 blk Perry -Speeding X2 / Valley Oak at W.Highland -Ran Stop Sign X2 / Home owner wanted info on who to call about a new 6' wooden fence blocking the view of west bound Hancock traffic from W.Francias stop sign / Mount Bonnell at Falls Tr -Speeding X1
- THU 2/20 Highland Park Neighborhood patrol 2pm to 6pm/ 3900 blk Balcones -Speeding X3 / school zone -(5 verbal warnings) / 3200 blk Hancock -Speeding X3 / 3300 blk Perry -Speeding X5 / Valley Oak at W. Highland Terr -Ran Stop Sign X2 / Balcones at Madrona -Ran Stop Sign X1 / 4600 blk Edgemont -Speeding X0 / Ridge Oak Park - checked ok / assist home owner -saw his robot lawn mower had stuck itself under his SUV in the driveway. Home owner notified so they didn't back over it.
- TUE 2/25 Highland Park Neighborhood patrol 2pm to 6pm / 3200 blk Hancock -Speeding X2 / School Zone -3 warnings (all for exp reg or no reg stickers) / Valley Oak at W. Highland -Ran Stop Sign X2 / 3900 blk Balcones -Speeding X2 / 3300 blk Perry X3 (home owner came out to thank me for working radar and slowing cars down) / Balcones at Madrona -Ran Stop Sign X1 / Balcones at Mount Bonnell -Ran Stop Sign X2 / 4600 blk Edgemont -Speeding X0, Ran Stop Sign X0 / Ridge Oak Park -Checked ok / roving radar east of Mopac, no stops, no issues
- MON 3/2 Highland Park Neighborhood patrol 6:45am to 9am / Roving patrol thru HP 645am-705am / 3200 blk Hancock -Speeding X3 / School zone -2 warnings / 3300 blk Perry -Speeding X2 / Balcones at Madrona -Ran Stop Sign X1 / Balcones at Mount Bonnell -Ran Stop Sign X1 / 3600 blk Mount Bonnell -Speeding X0 / Ridge Oak park -Checked ok
- FRI 3/13 Highland Park Neighborhood patrol 6:45am to 9am / No school today / 3200 blk Hancock -Speeding X2 / 3300 blk Perry -Speeding X1 / Balcones at Madrona -Ran Stop Sign X0 / 3900 blk Balcones -Speeding X0 / Lots of roving radar patrol today / Mount Bonnell area, area east of mopac... Ridge Oak park - park checked ok / With the Covid 19 Virus going around, school was canceled and lots of people stayed home today. There was almost no traffic around the neighborhood.
- THU 3/19 Highland Park Neighborhood patrol 2pm to 6pm / Roving neighborhood patrol / public safety patrol
- TUE 3/24 Highland Park Neighborhood patrol 6:45am to 9am / Roving patrol thru all of HP / one vehicle stopped for driving wrong way on Fairview
- THU 5/7 Highland Park Patrol 6:35am to 9am (Covid.19)/ 3200 blk Hancock -Speeding X3 / 3300 blk Perry -Speeding X2 / 3900 blk Balcones - Speeding X 0
- TUE 5/26 Highland Park Patrol 2pm to 6pm / 3900 blk Balcones -Speeding X1 / 3300 blk Perry -Speeding X1 / 3200 Hancock -Speeding X2 / Balcones at Mount Bonnell -Ran Stop Sign X1 / Mount Bonnell park / talked with APD unit -no problems around parking area / checked house under const on Big Bend -owner is having problems with Juv's -talked with Neighbor / I talked with a home owner about a car running the stop sign on Balcones at Madrona and then ran over a cat. This occurred a few days ago. / didn't see the homeless camp under the Hancock bridge.

HIGHLAND PARK ELEMENTARY DUMPSTERS ARE NOT FOR PERSONAL USE

We have cleaning crews at HP that really need space in our dumpsters for school trash. They have been filled multiple times this summer with personal trash, which has caused lots of additional work for the custodians. Thanks for your support and understanding.

Katie Pena
Principal
Highland Park Elementary School

HIGHLAND PARK WEST and BALCONES PARK Area Neighborhoods Real Estate Statistics

Analyses and Graphs by Rebecca Wolfe Spratlin

And the Market Goes On...

Even through the world events...pandemic, recession, demonstrations and riots, the local real estate market continues to move forward. No doubt the number of listings began to slow down in March as the pandemic began to spread across the country, but trended back up a bit in May, far exceeding May 2019. The buyer market remains strong as interest rates are still at historic lows. The most unusual stat is the zero sales/closing in May. The good news is there have already been 4 sales/closings June 1-10.

List prices have dipped a bit, but the sale prices have remained strong. Sale prices per square foot are also holding. The number of days on the market before going under contract continue to fall significantly. In May the Average Days on Market was 28 and the Median Number of Days on Market was 18 days. This compares to 72 and 32 days respectively in 2019.



All data was derived from Austin Board of Realtors® MLS. Data reflects listings and sales by member Realtors®. Note that off-market/private homes listed and sold by owners are not included in this data. © by Rebecca Wolfe Spratlin of Rebecca Realty, LLC.

Highland Park Water & Wastewater Improvement Project Update – July 2020

The Highland Park Water & Wastewater Improvement Project will construct a second water line to feed into the area. The project runs about three miles from Far West Blvd. to Crestway Drive with much of the work being done along Balcones Drive.

Water line breaks are well documented in this area, and the existing 12-inch line is a dead-end and not connected or looped with other water lines. The new 16-inch line will improve water service and fire protection in the area.

Wastewater infrastructure adjacent to the proposed waterline was studied in early stages of design, and wastewater lines and manholes deemed deficient will be replaced or rehabilitated.


The project is being constructed in two phases:

- **Phase 1** (Far West Blvd. to Northland Drive (RM 2222)): construction began in April 2020 and will be complete by end of 2022.
 - **Phase 2**, (Northland Drive (RM 2222) to Crestway/Mount Barker Drive): design is nearing completion and construction is expected to begin around spring 2021. Approximate construction duration is 3 years.
- Work on these projects continues under the City of Austin's Stay

Home – Work Safe orders. Additional precautions are in place for construction activities to protect the health and safety of workers and customers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information and to sign-up to receive email updates about the project, please visit austintexas.gov/highlandpark.






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LETTUCE RECYCLE!

by Dena Houston

QUESTIONS FROM OUR READERS – PART 2

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

I STILL DON'T HAVE CURBSIDE COMPOST COLLECTION. WHEN

WILL IT START IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD? The last rollout for curbside compost collection was originally scheduled for September 2020. Here is an update from Austin Resource Recovery: *Due to the impact of COVID-19 and a delay in the delivery of essential equipment, the final phase of the Curbside*

Composting expansion is tentatively scheduled for late 2020. All customers will be notified of their first service date via mailed postcard as soon as the date is confirmed.

WHAT DO I DO WITH AN OLD BARBEQUE GRILL? CAN I PLACE PARTS OF IT INTO MY CURBSIDE RECYCLING BIN? Metal grill parts cannot go into the blue curbside bin. You can take the grill to the Recycle & Reuse Drop Off Center where the steel components will be recycled OR wait till the next bulk item collection date when the entrepreneurs will pick it up.

ARE TETRA PAKS RECYCLABLE? No, they are not recyclable in Austin. Tetra paks, as well as cardboard milk and juice containers, must be placed in the trash carts. They are made of multiple layers of materials that cannot be separated for recycling.

IS ALL ALUMINUM FOIL RECYCLABLE? No, aluminum foil must be totally clean and dry (no paint or food product) in order to be recyclable. It needs to be wadded up into at least a two-inch ball. Foil tops on cream cheese, sour cream, and yogurt can be recycled if clean and dry. Some wrappers and toppers look like foil but are not. If you wad it up and it stays wadded up, it is foil. If it does not stay wadded up, it has a plastic coating on it and is not recyclable.

IS THERE ANY ADVANTAGE TO PUTTING FOOD INTO CURBSIDE COMPOSTING INSTEAD OF INTO THE GARBAGE DISPOSAL? Not really. Everything that goes into your curbside compost becomes soil. Everything that goes into your garbage disposal goes into the wastewater stream. In Austin, the sludge from the wastewater treatment plant is processed into Dillo Dirt (a type of fertilizer unique to Austin).

ARE DISPOSABLE PAPER VACUUM CLEANER BAGS ALLOWED IN THE GREEN CURBSIDE COMPOST BIN? No, they are not. A vacuum cleaner bag could contain contaminated materials such as glass and cat litter. There is no way to open each bag to check the contents at the compost facility. Also, some bags have metal or plastic parts that make them non-compostable.

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.





Neighbors!

If you have any interesting
and new article ideas for the
newsletter or a desire to write
for us, please contact
president@hpwbana.org

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