



The Balcones Woods Newsletter

What a great and soggy turnout for our annual Fourth of July neighborhood parade! Check out more photos online in our "photo gallery". Our parade winners were:

On Wheels: Elise Rivera, Brooke Anthony, and Sponge Bob America Pants (courtesy of the Bradford Family), Nate Schrobilgen, and Charlotte L'Amie. **Pet:** Shorty Mecredy (Get a load of *all* those fabulous wiener dogs!) **People:** Our very own WWII veteran Mr. Baugh, Max and Marina Weikle, and Adam Culler **Most Patriotic Family:** The Biggerts

A special, special thanks to all the folks who helped put the parade together: Gary Adams, Susan Anthony, Doug Bohne, Pam Hatter, Molly Hornbuckle, Nancy L'Amie, Shane Oldham, Dave and Laurie Oyer, Harvey and Liz Pittel, Jodi Schrobilgen, Craig and Bo Shepard, Harrison Smith, Sandra and Allen Walker, Lori White, Allen and Nancy Woelke, Frank Zeiler, Nikki Zern, The Rowdy Neighborhood Association (you know who you are!), all of our life-guards, and to everyone else who braved the weather to join their neighbors in celebrating our great nation's birthday — Happy "227th" America!



July 2003

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July Gardening

~Water lawns and garden when needed giving a thorough soaking rather than frequent light sprinklings.

~Fertilize lawn every 10-12 weeks. Be sure soil is moist before applying then water in well after applying.

~Check plants for mulch. Replace as needed



~Keep a close check on recently planted landscape plants. Inadequate root system and drought can be damaging.

~Watch for and apply early control for summer insects and disease to prevent a build up of spread.

~Check Azaleas and Camellias for iron chlorosis (pale green leaves,

darker green veins). If necessary, use copperas or iron chelate to correct iron deficiency.

~Sow seeds of the following annuals for fall flower: Marigold, Zinnia, Periwinkle, Petunia, Cosmos, Portulaca, Ageratum.

~Make the last pinch on early blooming mums by mid-July. Those blooming late in the fall can be given one additional pinch the last of the month. Keep them well watered.

~Check your lawn mower. With hot weather here, you may want to raise the mower blade to the highest setting.

~Check junipers and marigolds for red spider mite. The brown, discolored foliage may be due to mite damage. Hold a sheet of white paper below a branch and tap the branch sharply. If the dirt specks start to move, you can be almost certain you have spider mite.

~To keep hanging baskets looking attractive, soak the baskets in a tub of water every few days in addition to the

regular daily watering. This is also a good time to fertilize baskets but never apply fertilizer to dry plants.

~Divide spring and early summer perennial including daffodils, daylilies, iris, etc., and replant the best clumps. Discard the diseased or damage material, and share any surplus with friends.

~Low areas in the lawn may be gradually filled with shallow applications of good top soil where needed. Avoid temptation to apply a layer of sandy loam over the entire lawn area just because your neighbor does.

~Plant spider lilies and fall crocus

~Seed tomatoes, eggplants, peppers, cauliflower, okra, cabbage and broccoli for fall garden.

(Prepared by Travis County Extension Service)

Coming Up...

•**August 2nd** BW Adult Party at the Pool 7-10. BBQ, Beer, Margaritas, and Soda will be there, bring a side dish to share!

•**August 5th** National Night Out—Organize a block party! Contact Annette Bohne for details 345-9450 (See page 2)

•**August 12th** Book Club Mtg at the Commons Area "Holes" 7:30. All welcome!

•**September 20** Casino Party at the pool. 7-10. We need dealers, call Craig at 328-3235 ext. 27

Fun In The Sun



A few sunscreen tips to help you take care of your biggest organ:

- Apply sunscreen generously 30 minutes before going out in the sun. The chemicals in sunscreen bind to the skin. If you sweat too early, it won't stick.
- Reapply every two hours and after being in the water or toweling off.
- Start your summer with a fresh bottle. The effectiveness of sunscreen declines with age and exposure to heat.
- The sun is strongest from 10am to 3pm, hats are great protection for the face, head, and eyes (avoid those cataracts later in life!)



Let your sweet tooth
be heard!
Go online to
www.balconeswoods.org
And fill out our
"POOL SWEETS"
survey



The pool is now open Monday through Saturday at 10am and on Sunday at noon. It closes at 10 pm nightly with the last hour designated as adult swim.

Pool phone: 346-0185

July Recipe ~ by Jodi Schrobilgen

Jodi's Chicken Salad Sandwiches

- 2 cups cooked and shredded chicken
- 1/4 c. plain yogurt
- 1/4 cup light mayonnaise
- 2 Tbs. lemon juice
- 1/2 tsp ground cumin
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 1/2 tsp Tabasco



Blend and toss all these with chicken.

Then add:

- 1/2 cup thinly sliced carrots
- 1/4 cup diced red pepper
- 1/4 cup sliced green onion
- 2 Tbs. finely chopped cilantro

Quick & Light
Perfect for
Summer!

Chill for 1 hour. Sprinkle with paprika. Serve with sliced avocado, lettuce, tomato, and (of course) bread!

Would you like to share *your* recipe? We'd love to have it. Drop us an email at newsletter@balconeswoods.org or call 502-8726.

Kids Classifieds

Need a string quartet for a special occasion? How about a portrait in pastels or prisma-color? Contact All-State violist and award-winning artist Ellen Murray at 346-2901

Shelby's Pet & House Sitting

- Feed & walk pets
- Take in mail & newspapers
- Water plants
- Very reliable

Call Shelby at 345-0347

National Night Out On Tuesday evening, August 5th, neighborhoods throughout Austin are being invited to join forces with thousands of communities nationwide for the "20th Annual National Night Out" crime and drug prevention event. National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for local anticrime efforts and strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships. If you would be interested in organizing a National Night Out block party for your street, please contact Annette Bohne at 345-9450.

Kids Classifieds

Certified Babysitter and Experienced Pet Sitter. Reliable and Reasonable Rates. Call Carol Murray at 346-2901

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**Responsible 16 year old boy seeking baby-sitting jobs.** Oldest of six children. Many Neighborhood references upon request. Contact David Vineyard 794-5870

## Kudos to you! Thanks

~Thank you to Sandra Marshall and the entire Marshall family for coming to my rescue (again) when I broke my wrist. Your family's kindness and compassion is a true gift to our family and to the entire neighborhood. Thank you, The L'Amie family.

~Thanks to David Zern for taking out the Swim Team's trash this season!

# How do they do it ?!?!

With *a lot* of help, of course! These wonderful things happen every year in our neighborhood with energetic volunteers like you. Here are the contact folks for each event - they *need* and would *love* your help and ideas. Drop them an email!

**Spring Easter Egg Hunt** - Sandra Marshall (smmarshall@austin.rr.com / 795-9584) Every year a week before Easter Sunday, the kids come out with their baskets and hunt from the hundreds of eggs that are hidden in the commons area. Refreshments are served and tables are set up to redeem tickets found in "special" eggs for prizes. The Easter bunny visits us and stays for pictures with the kids. It's great fun! ~~~

**Fourth of July Parade** - Craig Shepard (craigs@micromain.com / 343-0437) A police piloted parade of patriotically primped people (had to use a thesaurus for that one!). What a blast! Everyone enjoys a refreshing spray from the fire truck in the parking lot, concessions at the pool, water games, and free popsicles for the kids. We even have a contest for those "best dressed" in the parade with great prizes. ~~~

**Fall Garage Sale** - Nikki Keller (nkellertx@aol.com / 345-5752) Our fall garage sale is the perfect place to unload your extra treasures. For \$5 an ad is placed in the paper announcing the neighborhood wide event, maps are handed out at the entrance to Balcones Woods, and decorations are supplied for your mailbox so no one misses *your* sale. What a deal! ~~~



**Marketplace** (Is this you? Call Nikki Zern at 502-8726 if you'd like to head this up or be involved) We did this for the first time in the fall of 2002 and it was a lot of fun. Vendors from all over the neighborhood and beyond come and hock their wares. Homespun crafts, jewelry, and foods as well as Pampered Chef, Discovery Toys, Southern Living at Home, Creative Memories, Avon, and more. A great place to do a little early holiday shopping without leaving the neighborhood! ~~~

**Christmas Basket Bureau** - Linda Shell (lshell@austin.rr.com / 343-0366) For years Balcones Woods has collected goodies to add to Christmas baskets for our great friends at the Police and Fire Stations, Milwood Public Library, and the Seton NW Emergency Room to show our appreciation for all that they do for our neighborhood. ~~~

**Santa in the Park** - Nikki Zern (nzern@austin.rr.com / 502-8726) Ho Ho Ho! Skip the mall, guys, home is where the real Big Jolly Fellow is. Come greet Santa, give him your list, and have your picture taken on his lap. Stay for crafts and hot cocoa and enjoy the reindeer. Yep, we're working on reindeer for this year. Stay tuned...~~~

## A Deeds & Covenants Reminder for July...

What a great month for boating and camping! But...

A motor home, RV, boat, trailer or similar item may not be parked/stored in your drive or yard. Cleaning & servicing any of the above items is allowed in your drive for no more than 72 hours once every 30 days. Boats, RV's, etc. stored in backyards must be behind privacy fences out of plain sight.

For more information on our deeds & covenants, visit the website and click "important". Thanks for keeping Balcones Woods beautiful!

## Hyde Park Quarries Tidbits—

- The HPBC fireworks caused quite a few "sparks" on our yahoo groups discussion board, Wow!
- Construction is scheduled to start on reconfiguring the athletic fields during Sept. Changes will involve moving the most used field toward the center of the land and should prove less intrusive to the neighborhood.
- No big events scheduled at this time.
- Some issues about drainage and landscape maintenance are being addressed. These will be fixed during the construction process.

—Tom Terry

## Austin Police Department Update

I am a representative from Northwest Austin on the APD Chief's Forum. This is a group of community representatives from all over Austin, which meets quarterly with Police Chief Knee and other APD personnel. The purpose of the forum is community outreach and awareness of APD programs, policies and activities. My goal is to report back to the communities in Northwest Austin and act as an information conduit. There is limited seating at these meetings so visitors are limited.

Area Commanders Forums. These forums are held within Northwest Austin. The Area Commander, District Representatives and other APD personnel meet with the citizens to discuss community policing and what is happening in our part of town. There is a short program updating the citizens on activities within APD and things, which have happened since the last meeting. There is an open forum to allow questions and comments from the floor. I strongly encourage everyone to take this opportunity to meet with the officers and APD employees who support Northwest Austin. The next meeting is 7:00 p.m., August 12 at the Westover Hills Church of Christ, 8332 Mesa Dr.

The following is a brief summary of some of the information passed on from the Chiefs Forum and District Commanders Forums.

**VOLUNTEERS:** There are numerous volunteer activities available to civilians. These range from assisting with fingerprint filing to neighborhood watch programs to participating in the Citizen's Police Academy. See APD Web site or call the volunteer coordinator for additional information.

**RACIAL PROFILING:** APD has a very strict policy against any form of racial profiling and is successfully complying with laws and guidelines against this practice.

**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT:** Scheduled for August 5. A great opportunity to meet/socialize with neighbors and to meet police and other emergency response personnel. Each neighborhood has a point of contact to coordinate NNO meetings and information is available either through them or through APD.

**CONTACTS:** There is a tremendous amount of information regarding APD, its policies and community outreach programs available via their WEB site at [www.ci.austin.tx.us/police](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/police)

- 911 - Call for life threatening or emergency situations.
- 311 - Call for non-emergency situations.
- Volunteers in Policing: 974-4731
- Northwest Area Command, Supervisor of District Representatives (Your neighborhood point of contact) 974-8511.
- District Representative for the area north and east of US 183, south of McNeil Dr. and west of Metric Blvd., Officer Mike Dunn 974-5553.



Please feel free to contact me at [tomkerry@hotmail.com](mailto:tomkerry@hotmail.com) or (Day) 459-6820. I will discuss any community concerns at the forum meetings and report back to you. Please consider, however, that I am not a part of APD. All crime-related issues should be reported to 311 or 911 or through the contacts listed above.



If anyone has a child who has lost a bike recently, it may be at the pool with the life guards. Give them a call. 346-0185. The one they have is a red 16" w/ silver "turned up" handlebars. It has been unlocked in the bicycle stands for a very long time.

### Large Brush Collection—July 14th

Please have your large brush and limbs at the curb by 7:30 a.m. on this day.

- Trim branches to eliminate forks.
- Place brush in one row less than 15 ft along the curb and stacked no more than 4 feet high.
- Place the cut ends toward the curb.
- Brush must be at least five feet away from your garbage cart.

Don't forget to take in your trash cans on Wednesday evenings, thanks!

# Congratulations, Blue Wave!

The Balcones Woods Blue Wave Swim Team once again won the Austin Aquatics League Championship held at the UT Swim Center on June 28. Finishing the year undefeated, the Blue Wave held up their five year championship winning streak by narrowly defeating the second place team from Great Hills/Jester/Lakewood. The Blue Wave's successes can be attributed to our talented coaches, hard working kids and adults who have made a commitment to the youth of our neighborhood.

The swim team is a vital part of this neighborhood and is one of the great success stories of volunteerism. There are many people to thank for their help this year, but the swim team would especially like to thank good neighbors Ed Weiss for his attention to the maintenance details at the pool and to pool managers Ryan Perez and Grant McClendon for their efforts at having the pool ready for the summer season. Also, thank you to Rob Michael for making more benches for the pool and the swim team.

Whether or not you have kids on the team, the value of having a successful youth program in this neighborhood is priceless in terms of what it means to all of our property values. The saying, "If you build it, they will come," could not be truer than in this neighborhood where property values remain high because of our commitment to a quality of life for all our residents, young and old. Thank you to all of Balcones Woods for making a commitment to the future by investing in our youth.

~ Nikki Deathe, Swim Team President

**----- ALERT -----**

**IF YOU ARE PAYING 6 ½% OR MORE ON YOUR MORTGAGE, WE NEED TO TALK.**

**LONG-TERM MORTGAGE RATES FALL TO NEW HISTORIC LOWS!!!**

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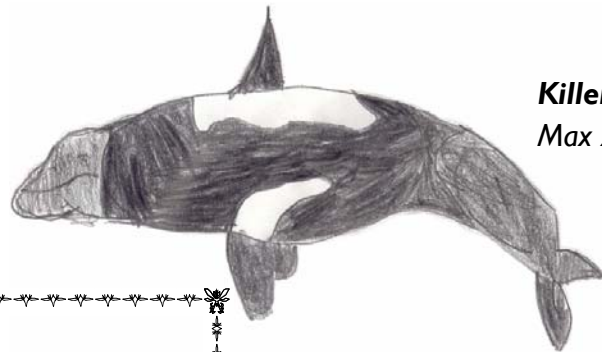
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~ Kids' Corner ~



**Killer Whale**  
Max Zern, age 7

**Sea Lion**  
A sea lion climbs out of the water and lays quietly on the rocks.  
Lauren L'Amie, age 8

**Bug Hunter Pest Control**

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**Ken Howell**

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Send your child's "talent" to [newsletter@balconeswoods.org](mailto:newsletter@balconeswoods.org). Be sure to consider the copy quality and include their name and age. We also love funny "kid-isms" and jokes!

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## The Hulk is the perfect link between the comics and the movies

by Sam Bradford

*Hello everyone! Before I tell you all what I thought of this movie, I'd like to tell you a bit about myself. My name is Sam Bradford, I am 18 years old and I graduated from Anderson High School in 2002. For the past year I have attended ACC at the Northridge campus. I enjoy plays and movies and hope to be an entertainer myself later on down the road, right now I am the head lifeguard at the Balcones Woods pool.*

This movie is so much fun to watch, the action is very intense and the graphics are astounding. This is truly a great action film. For those of you who don't know, the Hulk is really a scientist named Bruce Banner who is bombarded by a Gamma-Bomb that alters his body and causes him to transform whenever he becomes angry.

The movie stays true to its comic book origins and adds a twist that gives the story a darker, more in-depth look into the life of Bruce Banner, AKA the Hulk. Director, Ang Lee, is known to many as a visionary because of his ability to use the latest in film technology to enhance the movie experience, and this movie is a shining example. Lee uses the split-screen approach that is used in Fox's "24" to show the audience multiple action in one moment. This gives the movie a comic book look and feel as the actions of multiple characters can be seen on the screen all at the same time.

As far as the acting and plot are concerned, both are surprisingly above par for most action films. The two main actors, Eric Bana and Jennifer Connley, are both amazing in their performances. Eric Bana plays Bruce Banner, the confused, bottled-up and melancholy scientist who saves his friend from a Gamma explosion and becomes the Hulk. His performance is flawless and is almost disturbing because of the nature of his character. Despite the overall good acting, there are moments where the cheesy writing of traditional comic books make a really intense scene seem like a soap opera. The plot isn't weak, but if you are going into this movie expecting an Oscar-winning screen-play, you're going to be disappointed.

All in all, this movie is intense, exciting and a little disturbing because of its focus on the anger and rage of one man's life. This movie is a perfect comic-movie, however it is not a feel good movie, so don't take little 3 year-old Billy because, after seeing this movie, he'll probably cry every time you get angry. With that said, I enjoyed this movie more than I expected I would, so if you like action and old school Marvel Comics, then go see The Hulk. And remember, if you don't agree with my review you can always write one yourself, but I'm warning you "...you wouldn't like me when I'm angry!"

## Kids Classified

Do you need someone to mow your yard? Well then, call Cory Folts and Chris Grunski between the hours of 11am and 10pm at 343-7633 and let us help you. Both boys are neighborhood boys that are hard workers and just need some money! We mow, edge, blow, pick up, and any other odd jobs you may have for us. Yard prices, small-\$20, medium-\$25, large-\$35 (we decide your yard size)



## Editor's Note:



If you are under 18 and would like to post a free ad for work or a service, please e-mail us at newsletter@balconeswoods.org or mail/drop off your ad to: 11408 Calle Verde Cove, Austin, TX 78759. Be sure to include an ok or permission note from your parent and a telephone number or e-mail address. Because space is limited, we reserve the right to edit ads and will run them on a first come, first served basis. Thanks!

## Tell a friend about our newsletter and advertising space!

The Balcones Woods printed edition monthly newsletter sells ads. Approved by the BWC Board, ad rates are as follows:

### Display Ad Dimensions and Rates

- Full page Ad 7 3/4" x 10" \$100 per issue
- Half page Ad 7 3/4" x 5" \$60 per issue
- Quarter page Ad 3 3/4" x 5" \$40 per issue
- Business Card Ad \$20 per issue

All ad copy is subject to approval by the publisher, and no political ads will be accepted. For more information, please contact: Nikki Zern at newsletter@balconeswoods.org or 502-8726.