



The Balcones Woods Newsletter

Balcones Woods Club, Inc. * 11204 Alhambra Drive* Austin, TX 78759

JUNE 2005

Web site: www.balconeswoods.org

E-mail: newsletter@balconeswoods.org

Calendar

July 3 FIREWORKS!

July 4- Parade p.1

July 5 BW Board of Directors Meeting p.6

August 2 National Night Out

August 13
Adult Pot Luck Dinner at the pool -7-10 p.m.

September 24
Adult Casino Party at the pool- 7-10 p.m.

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Fireworks July 3 Sunday Night !

On July 3, there will be a Patriotic Day/ Fourth of July Celebration in the Quarries from 5:00 p.m. until approximately 10:00 p.m. **Yes, there will be a FIREWORKS DISPLAY at roughly 9:30 p.m.**

The event is open to our neighborhood and the only charge is \$5 for a BBQ and fajitas meal. Parking in the Quarries is limited to veterans and the handi-capped. Here's the schedule:

- 5-8 p.m. BBQ and Fajitas Meal
- 5-8 p.m. Concessions (Snow cones, cotton candy, funnel cake etc.)
- 5-8 p.m. Inflatable games for children.
- 8-8:30 p.m. Ice Cream and Brownies
- 8:30-9:30 p.m. Service
- 9:30-10 p.m. Fireworks

July 4 Parade & Activities



The neighborhood parade will begin at 9:00 a.m., Monday, July 4th in the pool parking lot. We hear Uncle Sam himself will be in attendance!

Decorate your bikes, trikes, cars, and yourself for a patriotic day of fun. Have your photo made with the fire truck. Cool down with an ice pop. After the parade, Contests and Games will take place throughout the day including a Coin Toss and Watermelon Contest. The Anderson Choir will sell concessions from 11:00am -2:00pm at the pool.

Hope to see you there!

Quarries Update

The Five Neighborhoods United/HPBC Quarries Coordinating Committee met on June 6.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE:

Construction on the Christian Life Center (CLC) has been underway for two weeks and is on schedule to be complete within 300 days from start. There were questions regarding the hours of construction. Signs have been posted for contractors to remind them of agreed upon work hours and HPBC representatives are monitoring the construction and the signs. There are no other construction projects funded or scheduled at this time. Neighbors are reminded that the construction site area is OFF LIMITS for safety and insurance reasons.

TRESPASSING:

There have been reports of young people trespassing through the lots under the LCRA high-lines and adjacent to the Quarries, climbing the chain link fence and trespassing into the Quarries. These people have walked through the neighborhood to the fence and also have driven and parked along Balcones Woods Dr. then crossed the lots. HPBC has reported vandalism to property in the Quarries and intends to prevent trespassing. Neighbors are encouraged to report trespassing to APD and/or HPBC. A HPBC contact will be provided soon and the main Church numbers can be called during the interim. Any neighbors knowing young people accessing the Quarries should remind them that they are trespassing by crossing the private lots under the high-lines and climbing the fence, and, that HPBC is very serious about preventing further vandalism to their property.

EVENTS

There are no other major events scheduled in the Quarries at this time. Seasonal sports events, both HPBC school and league sports events will continue.



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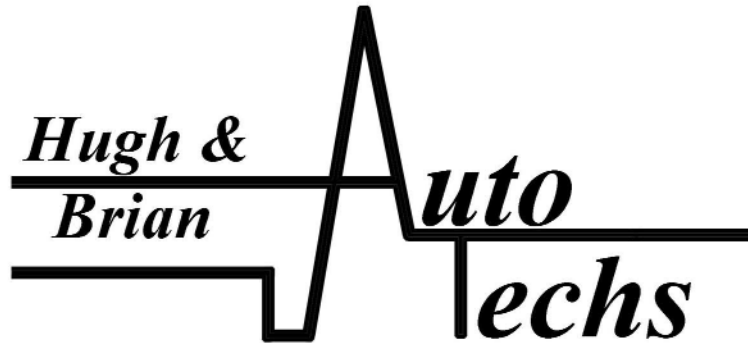
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Pool Reservations

Make reservations with Ryan Perez via email at poolmanager@balconeswoods.org. Balcones Woods policy is one party at a time, for two hours. More time is allowed if the pool/park is not reserved. **Fees Charged [Swim Season Only]:** Parties with only residents or 1-10 non-residents will not be charged. A \$25.00 fee will be charged for 11-31 non-resident swimmers and a \$50.00 fee for 32-52 non-resident swimmers. All parties with greater than 52 non-residents must have board approval at least two weeks prior to date of reservation. Fees will be collected at time of party. **Deposit Required [Swim Season/ Non-Swim Season]:** A \$100.00 deposit will be required when reservation is made for parties of 11 or more non-residents or \$25 for parties of 10 or less non-residents. This deposit will be forfeited if proper clean up is not completed.

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June Board Meeting

On June 14, the Balcones Woods Board and neighbors met at the pool for a thorough question and answer session about the new commons building/pool area project. The Board was thanked for its presentation and information on the work completed to date and the many volunteer hours by various neighbors.

The plans can be seen on the BWC website at www.balconeswoods.org.

Searching for plans

Because the pool building has been maintained by many different people over the years, the neighborhood doesn't have schematics of electrical, plumbing, etc. Does any former maintenance volunteer or committee member have drawings or sketches of the structure? Anything you can find would help should construction take place.

Let's Watch Our Children

This summer, we want to remind parents to accompany their younger children at the pool. In the neighborhood rules and regulations, "Any child under nine (9) years of age, who is using either the swimming pool or the surrounding grounds, must be closely watched by a responsible person."

Let's have a safe summer. Thanks!

Welcome!

With the busy moving season upon us, please help the Welcoming Committee keep up with new neighbors moving into Balcones Woods. If you know a home that has sold, please contact Marion Douglas at 499-8181 or Scarlett Spivey at 418-9722 so a Balcones Woods Directory can be delivered to the new residents. We may also be reached at welcome@balconeswoods.org

Thanks for helping us so we will not overlook a new resident. We want to make every new Balcones Woods resident feel at home right away!



Welcome to our new young Balcones Woods neighbor - Theresa Lucia Maska - born on April 15, 2005. She lives with her parents, big sister, Veronica, and big brother,

Gregory.

“Thank you” for Clean-up Day Helpers

We had another successful Balcones Woods Clean-Up Day on Saturday, April 23 but forgot to mention Alycia Bagwell's dad --Steve Bagwell. Thanks Steve!

Scoopers Needed

We have reports of a number of dogs (one or two fairly big ones) who run loose in the neighborhood and on the sidewalk along Balcones Woods Drive.

Could our dog owners please pickup after their pets? It's good for the neighborhood, and it's good for protecting our water sources.



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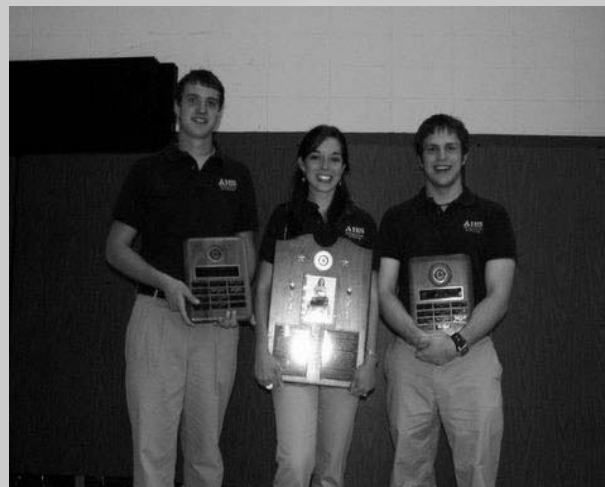
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Swim Awards



Lee Bohne (l), Randalyn Johnson (center), and Jonathan Rigg with their award plaques.

Athletic Foundation Awards Ceremony, May 11

On a night devoted to the recognition of academic and athletic prowess the Trojan swim team again showed they are a force in the classroom as well as in the pool with virtually the entire team being awarded Academic All-District honors. A number of swimmers also received All-District swim honors as well. This is a team built upon numerous traditions--established at previous Awards nights. Randalyn Johnson received the Individual Sport "Female Athlete of the Year" Award while Jonathan Rigg was awarded the Individual Sport "Trojan Heart" Award. Lee Bohne won the Individual Sport "Excellence in Action" Award. Congratulations to all our winning swimmers!

Thanks to Zack Rivette for story and photo.

More Quarries Issues



HPBC Quarries managers are reporting yard waste being dumped onto Quarries property,

apparently by some adjacent home owners. This practice must cease immediately and the trash policed up and properly disposed of. We have worked diligently over the years to gain respect and cooperation from HPBC and to forge a mutually beneficial relationship regarding the HPBC Quarries area. Vandalism and trespassing by local kids, and dumping of yard waste materials and other trash, on their property, puts all the work the neighborhoods have done for years at risk. If anyone knows of violators and does not wish to talk to

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the neighbors or contact HPBC directly, please feel free to contact me. I will either put an end to the dumping or allow the Balcones Woods Board or Directors to appoint another representative to the committee because I feel that my personal reputation is being compromised. It is difficult to try to ask HPBC to "tow the line" if my own neighbors will not.

Thanks,
Tom Terry, Balcones Woods
tomkerry@hotmail.com

BW Kids Classifieds

Ali's Sitting Service

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Responsible 17-year old boy seeking babysitting jobs, yardwork, and more. Oldest of six children. Many neighborhood references upon request.

Contact David Vineyard 794-5870.

Amanda's Sitting Service

I will sit your plant, pets, and kids. I will also gather up mail. I am a very reliable and responsible 17 year old. I am great with kids at any age.

Call Amanda Roam at 241-1380.

Responsible 15-year old boy seeking yard work. I'll mow, rake leaves, edge, and weed eat. I promise, you'll be satisfied. Please call Kyle Unnasch at 794-0629.

Babysitting & Petsitting--I'm in 8th grade and live in Balcones Woods. I have a babysitting certificate from a babysitting class that I took a

few years ago. I'm very responsible & own 3 hamsters & 2 dogs so I'm pretty much an expert in cleaning small animal cages! Please call 338-4160, ask for Shir.

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Very responsible 8th grader available for babysitting, plant watering and dog walking.

Please call Amanda at 241-1601.

Cordova teenager looking for lawnwork. Will mow, edge, and rake. **Call Chad for pricing and scheduling at 346-6465.**

Editor's Note: If you are 18 or under and would like to post a free ad, please e-mail us at newsletter@balconeswoods.org or call 338-4971. Because space is limited, we reserve the right to edit and will run ads on a first come-first served basis.
Thanks!



Neighbors,

A few incidents which you might want to be aware of:

- There were several incidents of "Smash and grab" burglaries of auto contents a few weeks ago.
- Recently, a white cargo type van with male occupants has been observed moving suspiciously through the neighborhood and possibly stalking children.
- Recently, in the vicinity of Flagstaff Dr., two suspicious looking males on bicycles were observed apparently "casing" houses late at night.

You are strongly urged to call 911 or 311 when you see any criminal or suspicious activity. That is the only way we will get increased police presence and establish patterns of criminal activities.

Thanks to Tom Terry for the update.

Yard of the Month

Congratulations to Donald and Cindy Dodds of 4010 Cordova Drive, recipients of the May Balcones Woods Yard of the Month Award! Nice work folks. The YOTM committee are judging yards for the June award very soon. Maybe you'll be the next



winner! There are no entry forms or special requirements. Winning yards will be judged in several categories: including overall "curb appeal," well-maintained, creativity, use of native plants, plant variety, use of color, and use of "hardscape" elements (walkways, paths, lawn art, benches, lighting, etc.).

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Board Meeting Change

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the 3rd floor "B" conference room at Seton NW. This is a change in schedule due to vacation conflicts.

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June Gardening Tip

How should I deal with extreme heat?

Answer: Water your plants deeply and regularly. If a plant is dry, don't feel that you have to wait for early morning hours to water. If a plant is dry at 2:00 p.m., water it then. Keep water off foliage any time the sun is shining to prevent sunscald. Mulch your plants deeply to lessen the soil-to-air contact, and, in the process, to conserve valuable soil moisture. Of course, you should plant only trees, shrubs, vines, ground-covers, turf and flowers that can handle the normal Texas heat in the first place.

Source: Neil Sperry's Gardens web site.
www.neilsperry.com

Snakes on the Move



Someone wanted to know if we had pictures of snakes that frequent our back yards. The attached photo is not recent, but I took it when we moved here two years this month. Why I bring it up is because I think it's in May that many of these snakes are on the move. We found this big guy under the fall leaves.

Tony Geishauser

Pharaoh Ants

Pharaoh ants are also known as sugar ants. These ants are very small, yellowish-orange with the abdomen being darker. Pharaoh ants are associated with human habitation because they are dependent upon artificial heating. These ants are often found in kitchens and bathrooms since they require a moisture source for survival. They have been found nesting in light sockets/ electrical outlets, potted plants, wall voids, behind baseboards and in attics.

Pharaoh ants tend to have large colonies that multiply by "budding." "Budding" is where groups of workers leave the nest with brood (eggs, larvae and pupae) and move to a new nest site. Queens may also move to the new site, if not, workers can rear new queens from the brood.

Pharaoh ants feed on a variety of foods, preferring grease, meats and sweets. These ants enjoy mint apple jelly which you can use to your advantage and make your own bait (2 level tablespoons of boric acid powder to 10 oz. mint apple jelly). This bait can be placed out using soda straws cut into ½" pieces. Place baits where ants are foraging and don't wipe away their chemical trails.

To manage pharaoh ants follow these tips:

- Wipe up any spills and crumbs regularly
- Remove garbage regularly
- Clean garbage can inside and out regularly
- Use baits; do not spray!! This will break the nest up further and make it more difficult to control
- Under sinks in kitchens & bathrooms, poke a small hole to enable you to puff a thin layer of boric acid dust into the wall void
- If ants are trailing, do not wipe up trail before placing baits- this will enable ants to find bait faster

For more information, contact Wizzie Brown, Extension Agent-IPM Travis County, at (512) 854-9600.

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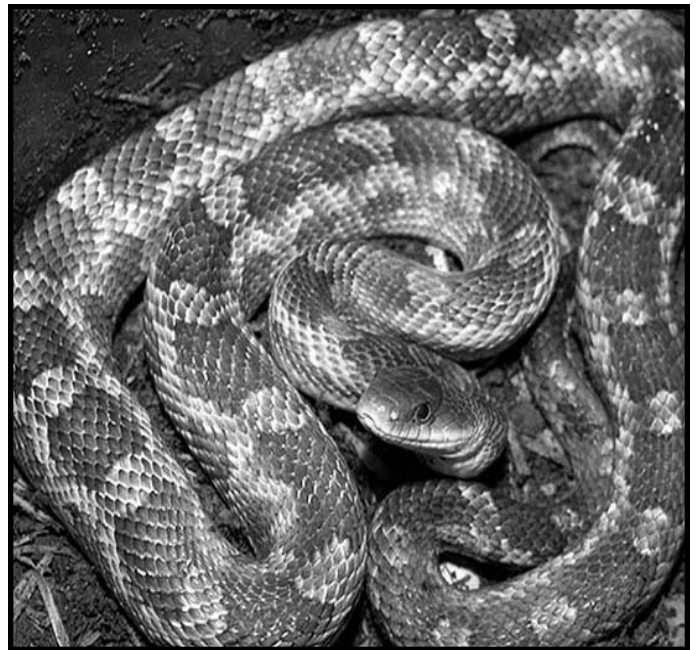
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Snakes...fortunately not the poisonous kind.

Thanks to John Rivera for this photo of the rat snake he recently caught in his yard.

Judy Myers notes there are photos and information on rat snakes online. She googled 'Snakes of Central Texas' and says a lot of great websites pop up.