

Barton Hills News

BARTON HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



National Night Out

National Night Out (NNO) is a thirty-year tradition that works to bring together community and law enforcement in an effort to reduce crime. NNO parties encourage neighbors to turn on their porch lights and spend time outside together to increase crime awareness and foster neighborhood spirit. NNO happens every year on the first Tuesday in October. If there's not already one in your part of the neighborhood, you can register to host an NNO party online at <http://www.austintexas.gov/nno> and request APD, AFD, EMS, and/or Code Compliance to come by and visit the party. Kids love to explore the emergency vehicles!



Engine #11 from the Austin Fire Department came to the Glenclyff/Brookhaven/Cresthaven part of the neighborhood for National Night Out on October 4, 2016. Neighbors gathered at Linda Patterson's home and shared home-cooked dishes and conversation. Linda and neighbor Sharon Harris have been hosting NNO parties for the past eight years, establishing an important neighborhood tradition, one of many that make our neighborhood so special.



JANUARY 24, 2017
• 6-9PM •

NEXT MEETING

Please join us at
St. Mark's Church
(corner of Barton Skyway &
Barton Hills Drive)

All are welcome!
Meet your neighbors and
stay informed about
neighborhood events
and issues.

Community starts here!

Pizza Social Hour at 6pm
Pizza, salad & pasta from
Rockin' Tomato \$7

Neighborhood Meeting:
7-9pm

Photos courtesy of Linda Patterson & Evan Overstreet

Barton Hills News

The Barton Hills Neighborhood Association newsletter is published quarterly and supported by advertisers. It's distributed to homes in the Barton Hills neighborhood of Austin, Texas. For more about membership and neighborhood affairs, contact the appropriate person below.

2016 Executive Committee

President

David Poisson
president@bartonhills.org

Vice President

Scott Hoopman
vicepresident@bartonhills.org

Treasurer

Stan Ostrum
treasurer@bartonhills.org

Secretary (Recording)

Russ Riley
secretary@bartonhills.org

Community Partnership Coordinator

Tom Nuckols
community@bartonhills.org

Corresponding Secretary

Kierra Francis
newsletter@bartonhills.org

Newsletter Design

Caroline Bhargava
newsletter@bartonhills.org

Austin Neighborhoods Council Representatives

Position Open
ancrep@bartonhills.org

Committee Chairs

Committee on Area Development

Peter Hess
phess@mail.utexas.edu

Greenbelt Guardians

Glee Ingram
gleeful@earthlink.net

Neighborhood Watch

Position Open

Emergency Preparedness

Susan Donaldson
skdon@mindspring.com

Neighborhood Outreach

Carol Mann
carol.mann13@gmail.com

Barton Hills Community Park

Roy Smithers
rorsmith@yahoo.com

www.bartonhills.org

Newsletter printed on 100% recycled paper.

President's Message

By David Poisson, BHNA President

Hi Neighbors,

It's hard to believe my first year as the BHNA president has concluded. It has been a real pleasure and privilege to work on behalf of all the area residents and to meet and correspond with everyone who has contacted me or spoken to me in person over the past year. I will be at the captain's chair again this upcoming year and look forward to navigating the neighborhood ship once more through the uncharted waters that come with the position.

I need to thank the outgoing members of our executive committee for their outstanding service this past year. Vice President Carlisle Hamling for juggling the membership and listserv. Wishing her well in her new home in Nashville. Alexia Rodriguez, our Recording Secretary. Kay Killen and Robin McKeever for holding down the Austin Neighborhood Council chair. Last but not least Carol Mann for her great work in getting all of our parade sponsors. I should follow this up by welcoming our newly elected executive committee members: Scott Hoopman as our new Vice President and Russ Riley as our new Recording Secretary. We still have the ANC position, Community Partnership Coordinator, and Parade Sponsorship chair open in case anyone is interested in helping out.

Barton Hills is a very politically active and involved neighborhood, as evidenced by one of the highest voter registrations and turnouts within our city. I had someone comment to me that while we live in a very progressive neighborhood, they thought the BHNA and executive committee were out of touch with the neighborhood. That is really tough to hear because the BHNA works for and on behalf of the neighborhood. New issues continually come up possibly affecting the quality of life for our neighborhood and we have to do what we feel is best for everyone, with the neighbor input being crucial. Likewise we have the interesting dynamic of how the northern portion of our neighborhood seems to bear the brunt of all the activities at Zilker Park, while the southern portion deals with heavy greenbelt traffic. I don't think a lot of people realize the actual impact these peripheral spaces have on our neighbors and their quality of life. Attending the meetings really helps neighbors hear and understand each other and come together to effect small-scale change with potentially large-scale results.

It would be great if we had more participation from the neighborhood residents. If you feel the BHNA needs to be more progressive, then please come and participate! We will welcome you and your input that could indeed only make things better.

continued on pg. 3

I know with everyone's busy schedule that attending the quarterly meeting for two hours isn't always possible or doesn't seem to be a good use of our limited time. And sometimes I joke that the same 50 people attend the meetings. BUT I do see new faces every three months, and I would really love to see more.

I am trying to make these meetings as informative and interesting as possible by having presentations that are related to issues that either affect us or will benefit us. Likewise I try to interject some of my bad attempts at humor to keep the mood light. Maybe we should have wine and beer with our dinner before the meeting?

Really what I am asking for is your participation. Come on out to the 6pm dinner or skip dinner and just come to the meeting at 7pm on January 24th and meet your neighbors that may live on a different street or area of the neighborhood than you. See what is happening with our committee presentations, such as the Greenbelt Guardians or BHE Park Committee. Both of these are great groups that do important work and they are always seeking area residents to help. The more we participate the better our neighborhood will be!!

On that note, I hope everyone had a great holiday season with family, friends and neighbors and of course a safe start to the New Year.

David

****January 24th meeting presentation: AISD Master Plan and Bond Initiative****

****JANUARY is BHNA membership renewal month! Please pay your dues online at bartonhills.org (plus a \$1 PayPal charge) or bring a check for \$10 to the meeting. Thank you in advance for supporting your neighborhood association. It's great to have you as a member of this very special community!**



Your Barton Hills Neighbor, Serving South Austin for over 14 Years

Thinking about selling? Call today for a **FREE no obligation market analysis** of your home. My team and I offer a **complimentary make ready and professional staging** with every sale!

My Recent South Austin Sales

2503 Side Cove in 78704

2603 Clear Cove in 78704

2502 Milfoil Cove in 78704

1807 Margaret Street in 78704

810 W Elizabeth Street in 78704

810 Cumberland Road in 78704

2215 Post Road #1064 in 78704

1400 Wilson Heights in 78746

2200 Brookhill Drive in 78745

5803 Burnhill Drive in 78745

2215 Post Road #2056 in 78704

2215 Post Road #1070 in 78704

5412 Buffalo Pass in 78745

151 Courtland Circle in 78737

2215 Post Road #2001 in 78704

For more information or to search for homes, visit www.KevinHainesRealtor.com

Kevin Haines, REALTOR® | 512-294-9002 | kevin@reillyrealtors.com
Top Producer with 14 Years Experience in South Austin



New Client Special

vita wellness
massage



Leslie Nichols
License# 118399

\$50
First Hour
Massage



Jennifer Dayton
License# 116333

purchase & schedule online
at vitawellnessmassage.com

Located off S. Lamar & Oltorf

AUSTIN
PARKS
FOUNDATION

Taking action for
Austin's parks

Make it
your park
Volunteer!

512-477-1566
www.austinparks.org

Robert E. Lee Tributary Grow Zone *by Gail Rothe*

The Friends of Robert E. Lee Tributary volunteer organization was formed in the fall of 2014 to support the City of Austin's Grow Zone project (www.austintexas.gov/blog/grow-zones) in a way that also addresses concerns raised by neighbors and park users. Robert E. Lee (REL) Tributary borders Robert E. Lee Road along the sidewalk and captures rainfall run-off from our neighborhoods. The tributary then flows into Barton Creek downstream of Barton Springs Pool. In 2015 we added to our care the Old Little Zilker Channel, a second tributary starting at Barton Hills Drive and ending at Barton Creek.

The Friends organization consists primarily of residents of Zilker and Barton Hills neighborhoods, although we have participants for workdays from all over Austin and beyond. To date we have held 19 workdays and many smaller work efforts that total over 500 hours.

A major goal this fall and winter is to cut down ragweed between the sidewalk and REL tributary and in and around the adjacent detention pond. This project involves planting these same areas with relatively low-height native grasses and other plants that 1) provide greater diversity of native plants in the riparian area, 2) stabilize the channel bank which receives considerable flow from the nearby hillside and 3) provide a more aesthetic look to the grow zone in response to neighborhood concerns.

Workdays will be scheduled over the coming months. If you are interested in participating, keep an eye on the listserv or contact Gail Rothe at grothe@austin.rr.com or 512-659-7955.



Above: The tributary along Robert E. Lee, photo courtesy of GoogleEarth.

Below: September Keep Austin Beautiful workday. Volunteers chopped down ragweed, made and spread wildflower seed bombs and prepped for the fall pond planting. Photos courtesy of Keep Austin Beautiful.



Greenbelt Guardians Report *by Glee Ingram*

Our Greenbelt Guardians group has been busy working directly on improvement projects in the greenbelt, as well as becoming engaged as a member of a recently created group called the Violet Crown Stewardship Council.

On Saturday, September 24th, 2016, in honor of National Public Lands Day, Stan Ostrum and David Poisson worked with a local band called Hikes to do a clean-up project at the Homedale Access.

Our last major volunteer workday for this year was on Saturday, November 5th. The Austin Parks Foundation (APF) is establishing this date as a fall season “It’s My Park Day.” We had 55 volunteers and completed a number of improvement projects at the Gus Fruh Access. For details and some photos, check out our new and improved website at www.greenbeltguardians.org.

Our next scheduled workday is **March 4, 2017 - APF’s “It’s My Park Day - Spring.”** Please save the date and plan on joining us if you can.

The Violet Crown Trail is an ambitious undertaking initiated by the Hill Country Conservancy to provide a contiguous, well-maintained public walking trail that starts in Zilker Park and follows the Barton Creek Greenbelt almost to MoPac, where it splits off and continues on to Sunset Valley. It was initially called the “Walk For A Day Trail”, and is intended to provide public access to our uniquely scenic Hill Country landscapes, which are primarily found on private property.

The Violet Crown Stewardship Council is comprised of numerous City and County department staff which have responsibilities for the Barton Creek Greenbelt (e.g. CoA Parks Department, Fire Department, Watershed Protection, Park Police, and Park Rangers) as well as volunteer stewardship and adopter groups that provide educational and physical maintenance services (e.g. Greenbelt Guardians, APF, Texas Conservation Corps, and the Austin Ridge Riders). This umbrella organization offers the rare opportunity to break through departmental silos and narrowly framed responsibilities, to come together and resolve issues that require comprehensive solutions.





THE #1 LISTING AGENT IN BARTON HILLS

Donna Blair

President & Broker, Blairfield Realty

512-968-9080

www.BlairfieldRealty.com



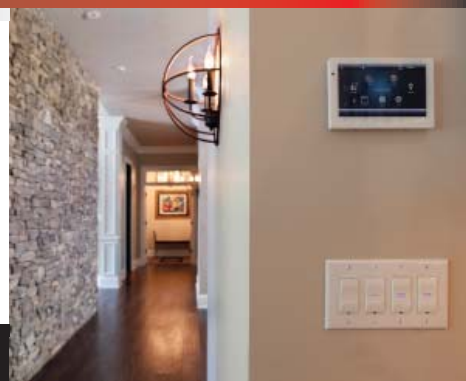
www.nextaustin.com

512-263-9700

• Home Automation • Lighting Control & LED Conversions • Motorized Shades
• A/V Pre-wiring & Distribution • Outdoor A/V • Media & Theater Rooms



Take back control of your A/V System with Control4







Area specialists for over 25 years!

Considering buying or selling? We welcome the opportunity to work with you. Call today for a FREE no-obligation consultation or market analysis - we love spreading GOOD NEWS!

- Peach and Cynthia Reynolds

*** Free Notary Service ***

KALEIDOPROPERTIES

440-1799

Email: Peach@kaleidoproperties.com
www.kaleidoproperties.com

Recently participated in the sale of:

- 1604 Dexter
- 1606 Dexter
- 1804 Ford
- 1135 Barton Hills Dr, #246
- 1100 Robert E Lee, #1102
- 2209 Trailside
- 1307 Kinney, #152
- 2200 Dickson, #209

DAY TRIPS: Central Texas Painted Churches *by David Poisson*

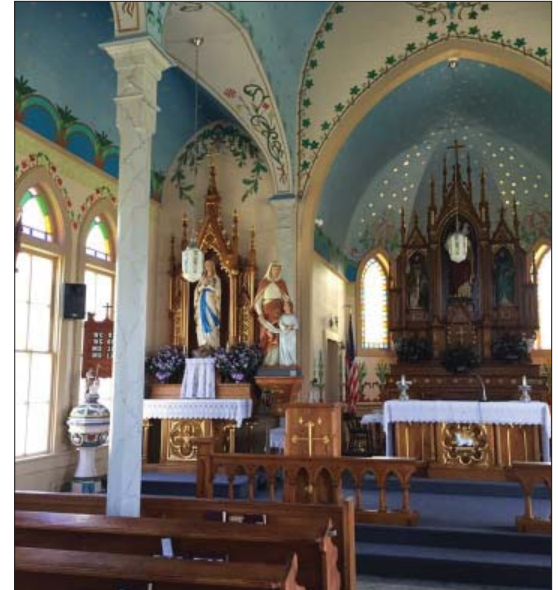
If you have a weekend off and want to explore some of the unique history our state of Texas provides, appreciate great architecture and art. and eat German/Czech food, I would strongly recommend taking a day trip to visit the painted churches of East Central Texas.

The churches are located within a short drive of each other eighty miles southeast of Austin in the Schulenburg area. Built by Czech and German immigrants who moved to Texas in the late 1800s/early 1900s, they were designed to recreate places of worship from the old country and celebrate the immigrants' prosperity in the new country. The four main churches (in the order I visited them on my drive) are St. John's in Ammansville, St. Cyril in Dubina, Nativity of Mary in High Hill, and St. Mary's in Flatonia.

Regardless of your religious affiliation you will be amazed. From the outside, these churches look like a typical small town church - Gothic Revival style, a strong central steeple, arched windows. The surprise occurs when you open the doors and walk in. It's breathtaking - the entire insides are elaborately covered in color. Floor-to-ceiling columns are painted to recreate marble, great arching spires are outlined with flowering vines and floating angels, there are stars on the ceiling, elaborate altars, and of course - incredible stained glass windows.

On the way there stop at Weikel's Bakery (on Hwy. 71E) for some great kolaches and other baked goods. After visiting the first three churches you will find yourself in Schulenburg. If you haven't had enough kolaches or strudel, I recommend stopping at the Kountry Bakery. If you are looking for a bigger meal, head to the historic downtown strip and stop at Sengelmann Hall, a late 1800s German dance hall where you can order traditional German fare like schnitzels, wursts and spaetzle, and of course a good craft beer to wash it down.

A few fun tips: At the St. Cyril Church in Dubina, you can take a shortcut to the High Hill Church using the Piano Bridge Road. The signs on this road might scare you into turning around, but fear not - unless you are driving a huge delivery truck, the small, single-lane steel bridge that spans the Navidad River will support your vehicle. If you like polka music, stop in at the Texas Polka Music Museum next to Sengelmann Hall and check out the history on polka bands that have kept the German/Czech heritage and spirit alive.





Our Programs:
BIRTHDAY PARTIES
PRESCHOOL • AFTERSCHOOL
CAMPS • GYMNASTICS

CALL TODAY
OR SIGN UP
ONLINE!
(512) 505-8608
JUMPGYMNASTICS.COM

Austin's most FUN way to LEARN GYMNASTICS!

MENTION THIS AD AND GET \$30 OFF
YOUR FIRST MONTH'S TUITION.

*NEW STUDENTS ONLY

FRIENDS, FUN
& GYMNASTICS!



CRIME STATISTICS: October 1, 2016 --January 5, 2017

3 Assaults
3 Auto Thefts
8 Burglary of Vehicle
2 Burglary of Resident
1 Criminal Mischief
1 Criminal Trespass
2 Theft
1 Theft of Bicycle
4 Family Disturbance

A vintage tip from former Barton Hills resident and beloved "security guru" John Luther:

Home Security Tip

By John Luther

If you have a dead bolt on your doors, check the length of the screws holding the striker plate (where the bolt goes into the door jam). Often the screws holding the striker plate in position are one inch or shorter. This means the dead bolt is only being secured into the soft wood of the door facing and the door can be easily kicked open by a hard kick from the outside.



You can make this door extremely difficult to kick in by replacing the short screws holding the striker plate with screws that are at least three inches long. That allows the screw to go through the door jam and into the wood wall stud next to the door. Now if your door is kicked, the long screw into the solid wood stud will prevent the door jam from shattering and the door will hold. Cost of two long screws: About 98 cents!

Some practical security measures you can take to reduce potential for crime:

- **LOCK** your doors and windows - 1/3rd of home burglaries are accessed through an open door or window, including open garage doors.
- **LIGHTS** on timers inside your home make your house look occupied when you're away. Motion sensor lights outside will help illuminate when needed.
- **ALARMS** and alarm signs deter thieves. (Signs, in the absence of burglar alarms, are probably effective also.) Invest in a surveillance camera for extra peace of mind.
- **NEIGHBORS** are your best asset. Get to know your neighbors, let them know when you'll be out of town, and watch each other's homes when you will be gone for an extended time. Ask them to bring in your garbage cans from the road and pick up fliers and rogue packages from your door/porch. (And bring 'em home a little something special!)
- **STOP** newspapers, mail and delivery of products to your doorstep. Hold Mail can be requested online at usps.com.
- **MAINTAIN** your yard and door/porch area. A shaggy lawn can indicate that no one has been home for a while. Overgrown bushes provide hiding places and can obscure illegal activity.
- **If you see someone doing something suspicious around a house, call 311 to report it.**
- **If you see a possible crime taking place, call 911 to report it.**

Barton Hills Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 41206
Austin, TX 78704

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTIN, TX
PERMIT NO.1

IN THIS ISSUE

National Night Out	FC
President's Message	2
Neighbor Spotlight.....	3
Robert E. Lee Tributary Grow Zone.....	5
Greenbelt Guardians	6
Day Trips	9

Once you're a BHNA member, you can join the Barton Hills listserv.
Visit groups.yahoo.com/group/barton_hills/ for more information about how to sign up.

2017 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Fill out this form to join or renew your membership in the Barton Hills Neighborhood Association. Annual dues are \$10 per household, payable when you join (for a new membership) or every January (for renewal).

Your Name: _____

Other 18+ members of your household: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please send this form along with your annual dues to:

Barton Hills Neighborhood Association P.O. Box 41206 Austin, TX 78704

Make checks payable to BHNA. You can pay dues online through PayPal at <http://bartonhills.org/about/membership/>.
(PayPal service fee of \$1 will be added to your total.)