

Barton Hills News

BARTON HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



Take A Walk On The Wildlife Side

By Debra Danburg and Pat Valls-Trelles

There's been much discussion in our neighborhood news about the habitat we share with our pets, wildlife, and native vs. invasive vegetation. It's great to share information to help us live in harmony with our wonderful Greenbelt and the nature right at our doorstep. The recent issues seem to be around lost pets, snakes, coyotes, rat poison vs. owls, and cats vs. songbirds.

LOST PETS- It's so important to have pets spayed/neutered, microchipped, and for dogs, collared and tagged. While the neighborhood is great about reuniting families via listserve, it's so much faster and safer to catch a roaming pet, and call its family directly.



SNAKES and OWLS vs. RATS and PESTS- probably 95% of our local snakes are beneficial and non-poisonous, and who doesn't just LOVE OWLS?

The feeding habits of snakes (and owls) act as a natural form of pest control. Snakes (and owls) are predators and feed on a variety of creatures. Small snakes feed on many harmful bugs and insects. Larger snakes (and owls) eat mice, rats and other mammals that can destroy gardens, spread disease and damage personal property. Snakes and owls tend to control rodent populations in particular. Without snakes and owls we would be completely overrun by these nuisance rodents. (www.quora.com).

In our semi-urban Greenbelt area, the biggest threat to our beneficial predators is second-hand poisoning when they eat tainted rodents. If pests are bothersome, the safest and most humane eradication is trapping – be it “Have-a-heart” traps or quick kill snap traps/electronic traps.

COYOTES and FOXES

While most who have studied this remind us that coyotes and foxes were here before humans, and will still be after we're gone, given all the discussion of this on listserve, it's important to understand “best practices” for interacting with these neighbors.

HAZING AND SECURING FOOD SOURCES ARE MORE EFFECTIVE SOLUTIONS TO COYOTE PROBLEMS THAN KILLING.

If you spot a coyote in your neighborhood, relax. Most coyotes avoid people. “Seeing a coyote out during the day is not a cause for alarm, especially during spring and summer when they are looking for food for their pups.”

-Lynsey White Dasher, Humane Society US, Director of Humane Wildlife Conflict Resolution.



NEXT MEETING

JULY 25, 2017

• 6-9pm •

Please join us at

St. Mark's Church

(corner of Barton Skyway
& Barton Hills Drive)

Featured Presentation:

Adrienne Clark, Wildlife
Animal Protection Officer
from the City of Austin

Dinner & Social Hour:

6pm

\$8

Neighborhood Meeting:

7-9pm

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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 *Position Open*

Corresponding Secretary

Kierra Francis
newsletter@bartonhills.org

Newsletter Design

Caroline Bhargava
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Austin Neighborhoods Council Representatives

Position Open

Committee Chairs

Committee on Area Development

Peter Hess
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Greenbelt Guardians

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Neighborhood Watch

Position Open

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skdon@mindspring.com

Neighborhood Outreach

Position Open

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

Summer is upon us! We had our great annual neighborhood parade and party, which we will be featuring the photos and our sponsors in the center pages. Hopefully you made it in a photo!

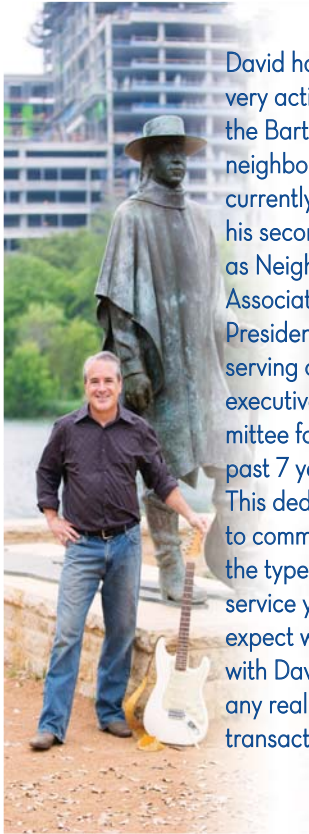
As I am winding down my second term as president, and having been involved with the BHNA executive committee for almost 7 years now, I really appreciate everything our neighborhood has to offer, which overwhelmingly would have to be all the great residents themselves. I had a great response when I asked for volunteers to help me run the 4th of July parade and party. Last year I took on many tasks within the parade and while I was able to do it, having everyone chip in this year made things a lot more manageable for me. Since the list is somewhat long I would just like to personally thank everyone that helped me staging the parade, whatever your duty or contribution was – and this of course includes everyone that attended. It is selfless contributions from all our neighbors that make Barton Hills so great.

Another interesting facet that I have discovered over time has been my involvement working with the City of Austin, with all the special events, our bike lane project and potentially the special event parking. Doing work in the private sector is vastly different than having to deal with the public sector. I am amazed at all the pieces and parties involved when you start working with the city. At times the disconnect and what seems like a lot of hoops to jump through is somewhat baffling, seemingly making something you might think is easy, very difficult. Also you never know what is around the corner as far as what gets dropped in your lap, which the special event parking initiative pretty much turned into a hornet's nest right off the bat. Regardless I have always sought our resident's input towards making sure things can be done as best as possible. Nothing will be 100%, not everyone will be happy, but believe me I have always tried to look out for the best interest of our neighborhood.

With that I will close out this president's message and I hope everyone has a great rest of the summer, whether you are staying in the hood or perhaps going on an exotic vacation.

See you at the July 25th BHNA meeting!

David



David has been very active within the Barton Hills neighborhood, currently serving his second term as Neighborhood Association President, and serving on the executive committee for the past 7 years. This dedication to community is the type of service you can expect working with David on any real estate transaction.

Be in the know

with the last 3 months statistics of homes sold in the Zilker Neighborhood

	2nd Quarter 2017	2nd Quarter 2016	Percent Change
Homes Sold	15	15	0.00%
Avg. List Price	\$993,787	\$777,667	27.80%
Avg. Sold Price	\$905,925	\$772,485	17.30%
Avg. Square Ft.	2,188	2,158	1.40%
Avg. List Price - SqFt	\$431.88	\$365.82	18.10%
Avg. Sold Price - SqFt	\$422.91	\$363.91	16.20%
Avg. Days On Market	17	15	13.30%

Search Criteria: Sold Properties from 4/1/17 to 6/30/17 - Barton Hills

For the most current market information in the neighborhood call me today at 512-707-9143

This is an opinion or comparative analysis and should not be considered an appraisal. In making any decision that relies upon my work, you should know that I have not followed the guidelines for development of an appraisal or analysis contained in the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice of the Appraisal Foundation. Copyright © 2017 ABOR. All rights reserved.

What's important to you? Let's talk.



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Take A Walk On The Wildlife Side *(continued from front cover)*

If a coyote displays no fear of people, he's probably been fed. You can reinstall his fear by raising your arms and yelling to drive him away. This is called hazing. Unlike trapping, which sometimes catches pets or other wildlife but rarely the coyotes who are causing problems, HAZING WORKS.

Coyotes may mistake small, unattended pets as prey or attack large dogs they view as threats to territories or dens. To keep your animals safe take two simple steps: 1) WATCH YOUR PETS - Keep cats indoors and never leave small dogs outside unsupervised or let any dog out of your yard off leash. 2) SECURE FOOD SOURCES - Store garbage in wildlife-proof containers and feed pets indoors. ("What To Do About Coyotes" by The Humane Society of the United States)

Keeping your cats indoors not only protects them from coyotes, but also protects the songbirds that enliven our environment.

*****PLEASE NOTE: The next BHNA meeting on July 25th will feature Adrienne Clark, a Wildlife Animal Protection Officer with the City of Austin.*****

For additional resources, here is contact info to CLIP and SAVE:



If you've FOUND a pet:

- 1) If safe to do so, catch and secure the pet, and call the number on his or her tag
- 2) Submit a Found Animal Report by calling 311 or use the Austin 311 app
- 3) Visit and join Austin Lost and Found Pets Facebook group

Snake Identification: <http://texassnakeid.com/>

HSUS Coyote video (includes hazing demonstration): <http://austintx.swagit.com/play/12192013-736>

Honeybee removal: Central Texas Bee Rescue, 512-914-0123, ahbpa.org

Wildlife Rescue Inc. 512 472 9453, 5401 East MLK Jr. Blvd

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4th Of July Parade Photos

THANK YOU to everyone who attended the parade! It was a great success and we are so grateful to our neighborhood sponsors and volunteers for helping to make this the best 4th of July parade yet!



2017 Barton Hills

4th of July Parade Sponsors

Alamo Drafthouse
Amy's Ice Creams
Austin Fire Department Station 11
Barton Hills Market
Chipotle
David & Susan Donaldson
East Side King
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Kevin Haines - Reilly Realtors
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David Poisson - Sky Realty
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Rockin' Tomato
Ryan & Angel Rodenbeck - Spyglass Realty
Soup Peddler
Travis County Constable Precinct 3
and....
All of our Parade & Party Volunteers!





Greenbelt Guardians *by Stan Ostrum*

Greenbelt Guardians Update:

We haven't had a workday since the last newsletter, so there isn't much new to report. We usually work on National Trails Day at the beginning of June, but decided not to this year. We can't remove any vegetation between March 1st and September 1st due to Golden-cheeked Warbler nesting season, so between that, the heat, and being busy with other things, we're taking this summer off!

Our next scheduled workday is on Saturday, September 30th - National Public Lands Day. Stay tuned for more details on where we'll be working and what we'll be doing. We also plan to work on Saturday November 4th, which is the Austin Parks Foundation's new fall "It's My Park Day" event.

Please visit our website at www.greenbeltguardians.org for more information on upcoming events, photos from past events, or to join our mailing list and receive our notifications.

Upcoming Events:

National Public Lands Day
Sep 30, 2017 @9:00AM - 12:00PM
Barton Creek Greenbelt

It's My Park Day - Fall
Nov 4, 2017 @9:00AM - 1:00PM
Barton Creek Greenbelt

BARTON CREEK
**GREENBELT
GUARDIANS**
Barton Hills Neighborhood Association



REMEMBER TO STAY HYDRATED WHEN YOU ARE ENJOYING OUR PARKS AND TRAILS!

Water is essential for temperature regulation and is especially important for children during the summer.

Kids ages 4-8 need two quarts per day.

Consider spending the warmest part of the day in public buildings -
take a trip to the library, catch a mid-day movie, or take the kids to an indoor play facility.

20% of the average person's water intake comes from food!

**KEEP
CALM
AND
STAY
HYDRATED**



Austin Parks & Recreation News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release Date: Jul. 12, 2017

Contact: John Nixon, Parks and Recreation 512-974-6723



BURN BAN ISSUED FOR CITY OF AUSTIN PARKLAND

Due to dangerous fire conditions that currently exist in the Central Texas area, the Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARC) is temporarily prohibiting the building of fires and grilling in all City of Austin parks, greenbelts and preserves—pursuant to Ordinance No. 20111102-025—effective immediately and until further notice. This includes the use of wood or charcoal BBQ pits/grills/smokers. Propane stoves are allowed in designated picnic areas only. As a general reminder, smoking is always prohibited in City of Austin parks.

The Austin Police Department's Park Police and PARC's Park Rangers will enforce the ban in the City's parks and greenbelts. Violations may result in a fine between \$300 and \$500.

The temporary ban helps ensure the safety of park patrons and surrounding communities, while minimizing the wildfire risk in the City's parks and greenbelts. The Department will continue to evaluate fire conditions and will lift the ban as soon as it is safe to do so; a media advisory will be distributed at that time.

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2932 Kassarine Pass
2100 Kinney Avenue
503 Lightsey Road
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914 Post Oak Street
2807 Rae Dell Avenue
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Neighboring Events

Whether you're making plans to get out of town or looking for reasons to stick around, these are the upcoming events that may affect traffic and parking in and around the neighborhood.



JULY 26: Last **Sound and Cinema** outdoor movie/live music event at the Long Center

AUGUST 2: Last **Blues on the Green** concert at Zilker Park

AUGUST 21: **AISD** First day of school!

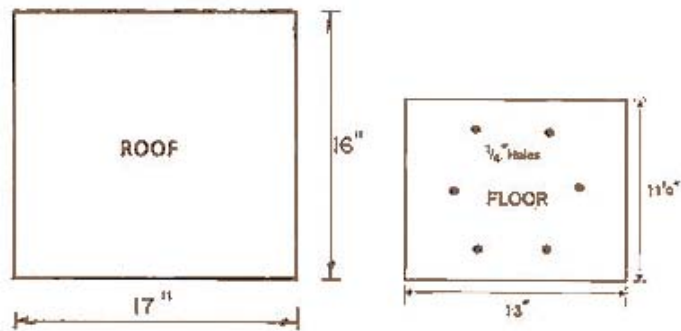
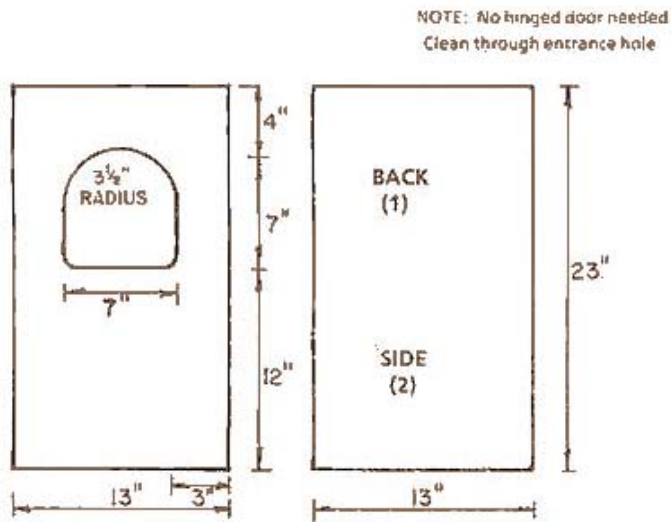
OCTOBER 6-8: First weekend of **Austin City Limits Music Festival (ACL)** at Zilker Park

OCTOBER 13-15: Second weekend of **ACL** at Zilker Park

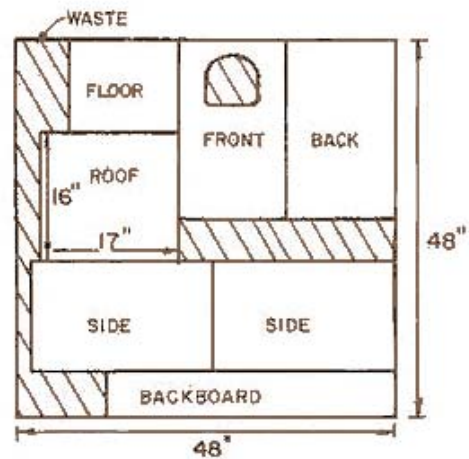
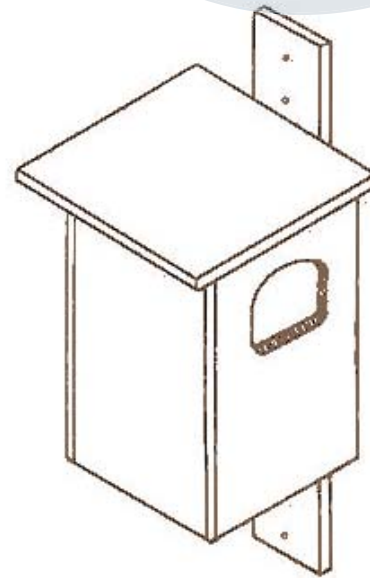
A colorful advertisement for Jump! gymnastics. At the top is a green frog logo with the word "gymnastics" in a rainbow font above it. Below the logo is the word "Jump!" in large, colorful letters. The text "Austin's most FUN way to LEARN GYMNASTICS!" is written in a green, cursive font. Below this is the text "CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN NORTH & SOUTH AUSTIN!" followed by the website "WWW.JUMPGYMNASTICS.COM" and the phone number "512-593-6226". A blue starburst contains the text "MENTION THIS AD AND GET \$30 OFF YOUR FIRST MONTH'S TUITION. *NEW STUDENTS ONLY". At the bottom, there are four colored boxes labeled "PRESCHOOL", "AFTERSCHOOL", "CAMPS", and "PARTIES". Below these boxes is a dashed box containing the text "INTRODUCING JEREMIAH'S CLUBHOUSE" and "DANCE, GYMNASTICS, MUSIC, YOGA TRY IT FREE FOR ONE WEEK!". To the right of this text is a circular logo for "JEREMIAH'S CLUBHOUSE" featuring a green frog.

Make Your Own Owl Box!

(infographic courtesy of Woodcrafting for Wildlife)



LUMBER: One 4' x 4' x $\frac{1}{2}$ "
sheet exterior plywood



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



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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.)