

Barton Hills News

It's what's going on in your neighborhood

Message From The New President

As the new Barton Hills Neighborhood Association (BHNA) President, I look forward to this coming year as full of opportunities, great and small, to enjoy one another as members of this extraordinary, beautiful, and vital community. With so many demands on our time in our over-busy lives, I am amazed still at the commitment and energy devoted by so many of us to making a difference in the life of this community. I feel very fortunate in raising a family here. The quality of life in Barton Hills is a gift to cherish. As written in the Barton Hills Neighborhood Handbook (a must have for newbies and oldtimers alike, and everyone in between, only \$5, available from BHNA!), "Want to watch a gorgeous sunset from a bluff overlooking the creek? It's here in Barton Hills."

It is because of this spirit and on behalf of this special place that the BHNA executive committee and you, all of us, have another great year ahead, with a great variety of volunteer activities. When you see all of the projects and committees, ongoing and new, such as the Greenbelt Guardian, Sidewalk, and Barton Springs committees and the new Neighborhood Planning, Barton Skyway Entrance, and Bylaws committees, not to mention the events such as the greatest 4th of July celebration this side of Monticello, you will want to rush to make sure you have paid your membership dues to fully support and enjoy this work!

I hope our year will be a time of carrying on the best of BHNA tradition of leadership, advocacy, consensus-building, purposeful collaboration, and service, so well represented by outgoing president, Robin McKeever. In learning from her of this tradition, I have come to care very much about continuity with this past, especially when we have so many past efforts and victories to cherish, sustain, and always learn from. This tradition, of course, begins with Betty Brown, who founded BHNA in July 1979 and led the successful effort to keep Barton Skyway from crossing the Greenbelt. Can you imagine what this special place would be like today if she had not fought this fight? We hope very soon to complete the planning for a Betty Brown memorial

at an entrance to her beloved Greenbelt. So it is a grand record of accomplishment, a long line of efforts related to preserving the natural beauty of this part of Central Texas, especially Barton Creek and Barton Springs, while honoring and seeking to steward responsible development. This is a tradition to hold dear.

I also look forward to new initiatives, to being attentive to our ever-changing community and city, and achieving new victories to continue to serve our community. To me, attending to the Barton Springs remediation project and energizing and educating ourselves about the coming City of Austin-sponsored neighborhood planning process are key strategic goals for this year (please see article on neighborhood planning). But strategic planning is for all of us to do together. Your ideas are welcome! My own view is that we should get out in front of the neighborhood planning process by starting our own larger discussion of what are the values of our community. This discussion can begin at our general meeting on January 27 and follow over the year to ensure full and informed discussion. This is part and parcel of creating a shared vision. Otherwise it will be informed by the vision and values of others outside the community.

And along with this important work another significant goal is to expand our membership and ensure that meetings, activities, and projects are seen as meaningful and engaging to a larger number of members. No matter how vital an organization, we always need to be attentive to building a stronger and broader membership. Please read the article on the proposed in membership dues and bylaws.

We as the executive officers are responsible to you and greatly depend upon and appreciate your willingness to help as needed or as inspired. Together we have many "pursuits of happiness" ahead and can achieve a purposeful and effective agenda that reflects the values of our whole community. Don't forget to enjoy the sunset! Look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Don Long, President, 2004

By-Laws Changes

Barton Hills is a vital, thriving community. Your executive committee wants the BHNA to be the same, now and in the future. Some membership changes have been proposed to help ensure that the BHNA stays responsive and relevant to the community it serves. We hope that the proposed changes will make membership more attractive and convenient so that more people in our great neighborhood can have a voice in the issues that affect us all.

After careful deliberation we would like to propose an increase in member dues from \$5 to \$10. This increase - the first since the BHNA's inception in 1981 - will enable the BHNA to continue supporting such valuable existing activities such as the Greenbelt Guardians and the annual 4th of July parades as well as remaining fiscally flexible enough to establish new neighborhood traditions. The membership dues increase will require a change in bylaws (proposed language provided below).

Please know that we take any changes in costs or bylaws very seriously and present these to you for your full consideration and comments; we wish only to take action when a consensus exists that circumstances warrant such changes. We look forward to a good discussion of this item at the January 27 BHNA meeting and will work hard to ensure a good attendance. We would greatly appreciate your help in this way too, so please come and bring a neighbor. Pending a vote by two-thirds of the members at the upcoming BHNA meeting, this increase will go into effect for 2004.

Lastly, it is proposed that a bylaw change be approved at the upcoming meeting so that membership dues waivers will be available for instances of financial hardship.

Other changes are aimed at facilitating the membership process. Paypal, an online payment system, will enable members who prefer electronic payment to support the BHNA with a point and a click. Paypal charges a transaction fee to BHNA which necessitates that members who choose this option pay an additional \$1. Also, a 2-year payment option for memberships will be available for \$20 so that members won't be faced with the task of having to remember to write out a check to BHNA annually.

This neighborhood association is here to serve your needs. We are here for you. We hope these changes will facilitate your involvement in your neighborhood, our home.

Proposed Bylaw Changes:

IV. Membership

2. Dues

A. Dues in the amount of \$10.00 per residence per year shall be payable at the beginning of the calendar year. This fee shall remain applicable to those seeking membership throughout the year. Fee waivers for residents' dues are available for instances of hardship with approval of the Vice-President and Treasurer of the Executive Committee and are considered on a case-by-case basis. [revised 2004]

B. Dues may also be payable at the sustainer level of \$20 per residence per year for an honorary membership as a "Barton Hills Pioneer." The Executive Committee shall provide for special recognition during the year of those with this type of membership. [2004]

Officers

Don Long
President
416-0679 (h)

Rayma Chase
Vice President
462-1424 (h)

Derek Stuart
Treasurer
441-3186 (h)

Debby Kalk
Recording Secretary
442-8829 (h)

Lance Schriener
Corresponding Secretary
443-2147 (h)

Robbie Botto
Austin Neighborhood
Council Representative
448-0693 (h)

Grow Green

Winter is the season to weed! Now is a great time to see the warm season weeds sprouting in the dormant lawn and PULL them out. Given our proximity to Barton Springs and location over the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone, it is critical to avoid the use of herbicides which can be extremely toxic to the environment. An excellent comparison of herbicide toxicity is available at:

<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/grow-green/lawncare.htm>.

A representative from Grow Green will give a presentation on the dangers herbicides and other environmentally-wise topics at the upcoming meeting BHNA meeting on Tuesday, January 27. We invite you to come and take advantage of this tremendous resource that our city provides.

Greenbelt Guardians

The Greenbelt Guardian program is a partnering agreement between the BHNA and the City of Austin, through their Parks and Recreation Adopt-A-Park program. In March of 2003 our neighborhood association "adopted" 2.7 miles of the Barton Creek Greenbelt trail system, from Campbell's Hole to the meadows, plus the two entry access trails from this neighborhood, on Homedale Drive and on Barton Hills Drive, (known as the Gus Fruh entry).

The goal of this program is to provide a structure and an opportunity for neighbors and friends of the Barton Creek Greenbelt to invest of their time, energy, and skills to tend and maintain this much-loved and much-used public resource. The City Parks Department has only one staff person assigned to the whole Barton Creek Greenbelt, which consists of 7 miles of trails and 1773 acres. Our help is sorely needed!

The program format is to organize quarterly work days with specific objectives, based on needs identified by the Parks liaison person, the Greenbelt Guardian coordinator, and volunteer members. The tasks consist of trail maintenance and improvements, small construction improvement projects, erosion management and drainage diversion, invasive species removal, native plant revegetation, weeding and pruning along trailways, and trash clean-up.

We also provide educational articles and presentations to help inform our neighbors of ways to reduce pollution and live lightly on our aquifer. Since we all live uphill of the creek, on porous karst limestone, our gardening practices and our auto and home maintenance activities inevitably impact the aquifer.

Our program will be celebrating its one year anniversary this February, when we hold our fourth work day. Each of the three work days had from 22 to 27 volunteers show up, contributing from 1 to 8 hours of their time. Most of the volunteers came from our neighborhood, but we have also had participation by neighbors from the Zilker and South Lamar neighborhood associations. Total, we contributed 282 volunteer hours to the care of the Greenbelt during 2003!

We also had generous donations of food, money, time and materials from: our Neighborhood Association treasury, Green Mesquite, Patagonia, Whole Earth Provision, Thundercloud Subs, and our neighbors Nan Clayton and Art Stone. In addition we were awarded a grant of \$2,075.00 from the Austin Parks Foundation for trail maintenance materials and the purchase of weed wrenches that enable us to effectively remove the invasive ligustrum and nandina plants.

A heartfelt thanks is extended to all the people who showed up and contributed to the success of the Greenbelt Guardian work days. We look forward to another successful year.

Our next Greenbelt Guardian work day is scheduled for Saturday, February 7, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. We will continue to work on the Homedale entry trail. There are a few more refinements needed for the trail edging and the stone retaining wall around our new bridge, and innumerable more ligustrum & nandina to remove. We plan to create some native stone steps to improve the interface between the trail and the stone flats (it is now a slippery mud slope after rains). We have lots of native seeds to plant, harvested during our last work day. And there is a need for trash collectors to roam up and down the trails and creek beds to remove glass, metal, and cloth debris.

We hope many lovers of the greenbelt will be able to join us. We have had wonderful turnouts on these work days, and hope to keep up the good spirit and the good work. Working hard and having fun at the same time is a rare treat you won't want to miss!

Notices with further details will be sent out via email to the list serve and the Greenbelt Guardian mailing list. If you have any questions or suggestions, please call or email Glee Ingram at 443-7522 or <gleeful@earthlink.net>

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Dougherty Arts School
1110 Barton Springs Road, Austin, TX 78704 tel. 397-1458
www.cityofaustin.org/dougherty/school.htm

Austin Parks and Recreation

Austin City Limits Event Review

The second annual Austin City Limits concert in Zilker Park last September was a resounding success on the whole. The event was reportedly nominated for a national award, "Music Festival of the Year." A review of the event and its impacts on adjacent neighborhoods occurred in November at a meeting with Jesus Olivares, Parks Director, and Charlie Jones from Capitol Sports Entertainment (CSE), which planned and promoted the event. Representatives from Barton Hills, Zilker, Bouldin and Rollingwood neighborhood associations participated in the review. Don Long and Robin McKeever attended from BHNA.

Mr. Jones estimated a total economic impact to the city of \$21 million from the event. All area hotels were sold out for the 3-day event, and 40% of the ticket holders were from out of town. Total attendance on Friday was about 40,000, on Saturday about 50,000, and 60,000 on Sunday. Expansion of the event to include Friday promoted out-of-town ticket sales and succeeded in drawing people from across the U.S. and as far way as Australia. Proceeds paid for turf restoration, street closures, and additional police and emergency workers as specified in the contract between the City and CSE for the event. Even wet weather for two of the three days did not appear to deter the turnout.

Thirty-seven BHNA members provided comments and concerns about the event by email. The feedback was compiled, copied, and distributed with a cover letter to Mr. Olivares and copies to Mr. Jones and Mary Beth Rogers, President of KLRU. Of the total 37 BHNA messages, 24 specifically expressed support for the event. Nineteen BHNA members expressed concern about excessive noise, and extending the closing time later than 10:00 p.m. In response, Mr. Jones pledged to reduce the noise at the next event, including considering a Sunday closing of 9:00 p.m. He said the artists' contracts would be changed to include provisions for cut-off times, technical solutions for limiting maximum sound amplification will be used, and additional CSE staff at the next event will be available for enforcement. Additionally, staging and line-up scheduling

adjustments will help to avoid excessive noise. Any rain delays at future ACL concerts should not result in a significant extension of the closing time.

Parks staff was satisfied overall with the transportation flow for the event, while several areas for improvement were identified. After initial problems on Friday, buses generally loaded and unloaded in 2-3 minutes for shuttles to and from parking garages. CSE was unable to obtain a waiver for the \$5 parking fee at State garages. Taxi drop-offs worked much more smoothly than the previous year. Significantly more bike racks will be provided for future concerts, and coordination with cycling groups is anticipated. Zilker and Bouldin residents reported major problems with event parking on certain small streets. Crowding on small streets can be an issue for emergency vehicles. Parks staff will provide for additional monitoring for those streets during future ACL concerts. Four BHNA residents reported concerns about parking congestion, and three members were concerned about additional traffic through the neighborhood as a result of "lost" concert-goers.



In response to six BHNA members' concerns about turf damage, Mr. Olivares said that extensive aerating and grass re-seeding was started four days before the concert and continued

after the concert. A low-level fertilizer was also applied to the turf. Rain during the concert helped turf regeneration, and the turf was restored in eight days after the concert. Costs for the extra efforts were paid for by CSE under their contract with the City for the event.

Other identified problems with cell-phone use and insufficient restroom facilities will be resolved for the next ACL event. Four BHNA members proposed moving the event to a different location, three members expressed concern about the inconvenience of the road closure and pedestrian safety hazards, and two members were concerned about event-related trash on nearby residential streets. Overall, BHNA members appear to be enthusiastic about the annual event and our proximity to world-class entertainment, and willing to endure a few days of inconvenience for the pleasures of the event.

Universal Living Wage Endorsement

In July '03 the BHNA brought Richard Troxell in to speak at our General Meeting. At that time he presented us with an impassioned speech about the state of homelessness and the need for legislation to insure a "living wage". The concept of a living wage is simple. It is based on the premise that if a person works 40 hours a week, then he/she should be able to access basic housing. It uses two existing Federal guidelines to determine what the Universal Living Wage should be. The first guideline (a HUD standard also used by banking institutions across America) dictates that no more than 30% of a person's gross monthly income should be spent on housing. The second guideline, the Fair Market Rents (FMRs) is established by HUD throughout the country for each municipality and all other areas. Therefore, the Universal Living Wage will vary per area in accordance with the FMR. FMRs are based on gross rent estimates that include shelter, rent and the cost of utilities except telephone service.

This format, using already established government guidelines, enables the use of existing government formulas to easily justify specific Universal Living Wage figures that are based on the need for housing and are appropriate to each municipality and outlying areas.

More endorsements have graced the Universal Living Wage Campaign since that time beginning with the national endorse-

ment of the United Methodist Church. A few of the others include the San Fernando Cathedral of San Antonio, Texas, the International Union of Painters, and Allied Trades #807, and the AFSCME Council 4 in New Britain, Connecticut. The National Rural Housing Coalition also displayed its recognition of the importance of the ULW when it endorsed. A variety of support came when the YWCA of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, the United Veterans, Beacon House in New York and Co-Op America (another national organization) scripted their endorsement.

Among the scores of additional endorsements includes that of the Kucinich For President Campaign. House of Representatives Denise Kucinich from Ohio who's running for the Presidency of the United States of America, endorsed the campaign saying: "The campaign for a Living Wage is fundamental to making certain that people have more than crumbs when they sit down to eat their daily bread." A complete list can be found at the website www.universallivingwage.com

At this next General Meeting we will have an opportunity to add our collective voice in endorsing the Universal Living Wage campaign, adding the BHNA to the growing list. So, please make a point of coming out to the meeting Tuesday night the 27th at 7PM and let your voice be heard.

Barton Creek Remediation Plan Update

At the October 2003 BHNA meeting, a presentation was given by city staff, led by Les Tull, Watershed Protection and Development Review Department, on the remediation plan for the three contaminated areas along Barton Creek. This had become a serious issue in our neighborhood, beginning in January 2003, when the American-Statesman published an article claiming the pollutants were far more harmful than the City had determined. After much citywide alarm, including the temporary closing of Barton Springs pool, and further extensive review by city, state, and federal agencies, the pollutants were found not to be a danger to public health but should be cleaned up through remediation. The October presentation was helpful and informative, and included diagrams and enlarged photos of the areas along Barton Creek that require remediation. While appreciative of this presentation, our members expressed their concerns, especially about the impact of the proposed remediation ponds on the appearance and enjoyment of the planned sites. Les pledged that the City will continue to work with BHNA to address our concerns and seek our input as further planning for solutions proceeds.

A recent article in the American-Statesman, ("Barton Creek cleanup costs rise," December 31, 2003) gave the impression that significant changes, including a doubling in the size of the remediation pond in the field below the Park Place apartments, had occurred since October. This is not accurate. It turns out that this article was based on a draft report in the summer and not the final report as presented to us in October. There have not been any significant changes since our last meeting. Les reports that the city is about to complete negotiating the scope of the project and will then move forward in the coming months to examining with us the design issues raised by BHNA members. This is in large part due to our very good working relationship established over the years with many City staff, including Les. We were assured that the City recognizes the strong interest we have in this project and will continue to work with us in addressing our concerns. We will have a more detailed update at the January 27 meeting.

Neighborhood Planning

Last fall City staff informed us they had rescheduled the development of the Barton Hills plan to begin in October 2004. While this may still be subject to change, planning is clearly on the immediate horizon and there is much we can do this year to ensure this process results in a plan that we can be proud of and establishes a vision of the future that reflects our values and hopes. So what is a neighborhood plan? It is more than a vision statement of goals and objectives, though that is important. As described by the City of Austin Neighborhood Planning and Zoning Department (NZPD), a neighborhood plan provides a framework for zoning and land use decisions that can determine, for example, the type and mix of development – residential, office, retail, etc. – minimum lot sizes, population density, the size and height of buildings, and setbacks. It is a critical planning tool, with direct impacts on the quality of life in a community.

While there have been previous planning initiatives, Austin is increasingly experiencing dramatic growth and is now rightly focusing on regional planning. The Envision Central Texas survey last fall testifies to this (we hope to have an update on the

final report, expected soon, in the next newsletter). And our plan is to be developed along with the Zilker, Galindo and South Lamar neighborhood associations so that City staff can consider broader impacts and issues along this part of the South Lamar corridor. In order to enter the official planning process fully informed and prepared, we should undertake a number of activities on our own – strengthening our understanding of zoning and variances, researching the issues related to planning, ensuring broad and deliberative participation in discussing and setting our priorities to protect and enhance our community. For more information on planning, visit the COA website at <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/zoning/default.htm>. You can read the plans already done. Since 1998 plans by Bouldin NA, Dawson NA, and 19 others that have been completed.

To help lead these efforts, a Neighborhood Planning committee is being formed and those who are interested in this important work are welcome to join. Just email the chair, Don Long, at donwlong@att.net.

Barton Hills Elementary

Barton Hills Elementary is a great place to learn! We currently have 345 students in grades Pre-Kindergarten through Sixth. Everyday brings exciting learning opportunities for students and teachers, and parents. If you will be a “new” kindergarten parent for the 2004-2005 school year, and would like to visit a kindergarten classroom, please call us at 414-2013 to schedule a visit. If you know of families that are interested in transferring to Barton Hills for the next school year, the transfer application process begins on February 7th, and we have transfer forms available in the school office.

If you have walked by the front of the school, or the back parking lot, during the past year, you will see that our Landscaping committee has been hard at work. In the front, we created several new granite paths, relocated some trees, planted environmentally (and kid) friendly plants, and incorporated student work! Our efforts last spring earned a “Green Garden” designation from the City of Austin. You will see more improvements this spring as we work to create additional seating areas in the front of the building. Near the back parking lot, you will see the results of hard labor, as we built a series of retaining walls to eliminated soil erosion into the parking lot. We will be planting in that area this spring.

We are always looking for volunteers to help us. One of our

greatest needs is for mentors. The mentor program promotes positive relationships between community adults and students. Mentors usually meet with students once a week for about an hour. Potential mentors must complete an application and a criminal background check, and attend a brief orientation. Once approved, we work to match a mentor’s strengths and areas of interest with a student on our campus. If you are interested in volunteering, please call us at 414-2013.

On another note, we have recently experience a rash of vandalism, usually during the weekends and vacations. While some has been “prank” oriented (trash cans on the roof), several instances have resulted in destruction of property (spray painted words, broken windows, broken marquee). If you see suspicious activity around the school, please don’t hesitate to call AISD police at 414-1703.

Thank you for your continued support of our school. Please watch our marquee for announcements of upcoming events, join us in celebrating the work of our outstanding students, our dedicated teachers, and our fabulous parents.

Kati Achtermann

Principal, Barton Hills Elementary

City Council Contact Info

In the interest of keeping our membership informed, we thought it would be helpful to print the contact info for our City Council members.

Mayor Will Wynn
E-mail: Mayor Will Wynn
Office: Municipal Building
124 W. Eighth St., Room 103
Austin, Texas 78701
Phone: (512) 974-2250
Fax: (512) 974-2337
Chief of Staff: Richard Arellano
Executive Assistant: Josh Allen

Place 1 - Council Member Daryl Slusher
E-mail: Daryl Slusher
Office: Municipal Building
124 W. Eighth St., Room 119
Austin, Texas 78701
Phone: (512) 974-2260
Fax: (512) 974-3212
Executive Assistant: Tina Bui
Executive Secretary: Jackie Ramos

Place 2 - Council Member Raul Alvarez
E-mail: Raul Alvarez
Office: Municipal Building
124 W. Eighth St., Room 111
Austin, Texas 78701
Phone: (512) 974-2264
Fax: (512) 974-1887
Austin, Texas 78701
Executive Assistant: Veronica Briseño
Executive Secretary: Elaine Diaz

Place 3 - Mayor Pro Tem Jackie Goodman
E-mail: Mayor Pro Tem Jackie Goodman
Office: Municipal Building
124 W. Eighth St., Room 109
Austin, Texas 78701
Phone: (512) 974-2255
Fax: (512) 974-1888
Austin, Texas 78701
Executive Assistant: Jerry Rusthoven
Executive Secretary: Andrew Rivera

Place 4 - Council Member Betty Dunkerley
E-mail: Betty Dunkerley
Office: Municipal Building
124 W. Eighth St., Room 117
Austin, Texas 78701
Phone: (512) 974-2258
Fax: (512) 974-1886
Austin, Texas 78701
Constituency Liaison: Stephanie Beckett
Executive Assistant: Gloria Aguilera

Place 5 - Council Member Brewster McCracken
E-mail: Brewster McCracken
Office: Municipal Building
124 W. Eighth St., Room 113
Austin, Texas 78701
Phone: (512) 974-2256
Fax: (512) 974-1884
Executive Assistant: Matthew Curtis
Policy Director: Karen.Gross

Place 6 - Council Member Danny Thomas
E-mail: Danny Thomas
Office: Municipal Building
124 W. Eighth St., Room 115
Austin, Texas 78701
Phone: (512) 974-2266
Fax: (512) 974-1890
Executive Assistant: Sandra Frazier

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Pete Longoria 512-344-7476

Rachel Gladney 512-344-7491

Chad Jacobi 512-344-7533

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Sidewalks

The Barton Hills Sidewalk Committee formed in the fall of last year. The primary purpose of our committee is increase safety and walking access in our neighborhood and to connect the numerous partial sidewalks located throughout the neighborhood, particularly along Barton Hills Dr. However, since sidewalk building is a slow process, the committee decided to take an active role in the beautification of our neighborhood by improving the usability of our sidewalks. To this end, we removed the equivalent of about 100 bags of yard waste, 10 large bags of trash, 6 grocery sacks of recycling, a tire, a stereo system, and a street sign from the sidewalk area between Westhill and the Mobile station on Barton Skyway.

In addition, the committee is working with the City Streets and Bridges Department to have some "fill in" sidewalks built. Unfortunately, thus far, we have run into dead ends when we've tried to find a way to have a large section of sidewalk built all at once. At this time, it looks like new sidewalks might have to be built one house at a time over a number of years, although we hope to find a different solution. At the homeowner's request, a sidewalk can be installed in front of your home at a price of 50% of the total cost. If you are interested in getting a sidewalk installed, please notify me (Cindy Bogard [912-9770]), and the Committee can work with you to secure funding.

Although the City is involved in building sidewalks, the money they have is allocated according to a point system based on needs. Our neighborhood is far down their list, and it is unrealistic to think that the city will be financing the installation of walkways for us. Instead, the Committee will be organizing fundraisers in order to complete our mission. If you are interested in helping to maintain our sidewalks or in assisting with fundraising, please let me know.

Grocery Card Program

Q. How do you stop neighborhood children from selling you gift-wrap?

A. Buy Grocery Cards.

Each year, Barton Hills PTA has to find new and exciting ways to pad our school budget that has been cut by the district. Without our support, our school would suffer. We contribute to our Computer Lab salary, teacher supplies, teacher training, library books and anything else "extra" that our children need to receive an education.

We all agree on one thing – we are tired of selling and even more tired of buying. As an experiment, we decided not to sell products this year. Instead, we have implemented a Grocery Card Program. We sell HEB (includes Central Market) and Randalls gift cards in \$100 increments and receive money back from this. Our school receives \$4 from HEB and \$5 from Randalls from each card sold.

What this means to you is that you pay \$100 and receive a \$100 gift card to each of these grocery stores. We have been selling these for three months at our school. We are opening it up to the neighborhood. We need to sell 2000 cards to pay for our computer lab fees for this year.

Please, pick up a form in the school office or contact Susan Carpenter at scarpenter@austin.rr.com or 444-2259.

New Ad Rates

The Executive Committee has gotten money hungry! No, no, no! Really we haven't! But after reviewing our financial situation from the past year it became obvious that we had to find some ways to increase revenues. The price of printing, stamps and, in fact, everything to do with keeping the Association running has gone up. But no one could remember the ad rates ever being different.

So, along membership dues (see the related article) we've decided to bring the ad rates up to current standards. The rates for the business card sized ads will now be:

January & July issues: \$ 75 ea.

April & October issues: \$ 50 ea.


Full year of all four issues: \$ 225

The rates for the quarter, half and full page ads remain at \$ 100, \$ 200 and \$ 400 respectively. We hope this will at least serve to cover the cost of producing a quality newsletter with crisp, clean ads for our beloved advertisers.

And as always, to place an ad please contact Lance Schrinier @ 443-2147.

Show your support for the B.H.N.A. by supporting our advertisers!

If you'd like to place an ad, please contact
Lance Schrinier at 443-2147 or lanceschriner@netscape.net



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B.H.N.A. General Meeting

Tues. Jan. 27th, 2004
St. Mark's Episcopal Church

AGENDA

6:00 – 7:00

Meet & Greet Social
BBQ Dinner catered by
Green Mesquite

7:00 – 9:00

General Meeting

Treasurer's Report

Grow Green speaker

ULW Endorsement

ACL Concert update

By-Laws vote

Committee Reports

**Neighborhood
Planning Report**

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**2404 Rock Terrace Cr.
Austin, TX 78704**

Barton Hills News

The newsletter of the Barton Hills Neighborhood Association is published quarterly, and is supported by the advertisements of our generous sponsors. It is distributed in print to every home in Barton Hills in January and June, and only to paid Association Members in April and October.