

August 2005

City of Balcones Heights

Serving the residents and businesses of Balcones Heights

National Night Out August 2, 2005 ~ Party Locations

The "22nd Annual National Night Out," Tuesday, August 2, provides a unique opportunity for the City of Balcones Heights to join forces with thousands of other communities across the country in promoting cooperative, police-community crime prevention efforts. It is essential that all citizens be aware of the importance of crime prevention programs and impact that their participation can have on reducing crime, drugs and violence in Balcones Heights.

The following is a list of block parties:



- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| 203 Concord | 212 Vivian |
| 323 Crestview | Villa Madrid/
Cumberland |
| 234 Glenarm | Apartment |
| 211 Leisure | Santa Fe Place |
| 220 Pleasant | Apartment |
| 242 Shadyview | |

Inside ...

2 Council Accepts Community Block Grant from Bexar County for Drainage Rogiers Park City Officials

4 New Parking Ordinance Refuse Regulations Clean-Up Day Balcones Heights in Sight

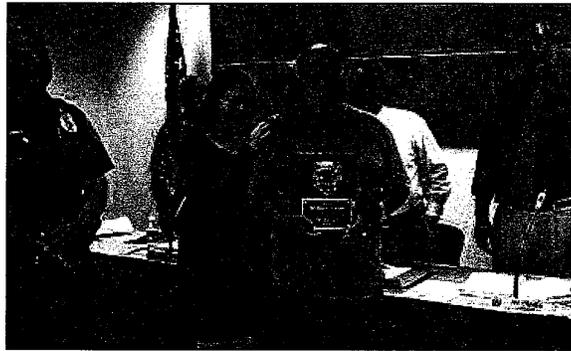
6 2005-2006 Budget Message from the City Administrator

8 Calendar

Police Sergeant Ramon Menchaca Retires

Long time Balcones Heights Police Sergeant Ramon Menchaca retired June 30, 2005 after 16 years with the City of Balcones Heights Police Department. Ramon was well-liked by the citizens who dealt with him and was considered a warm friendly face in the Police Department.

Ramon was recognized with a plaque at the July 11, 2005 City Council meeting and Mayor Jim Craven said, "Ramon's



Sergeant Ramon Menchaca and his niece, Monique Williams, at the July 11 City Council meeting.

smile, maturity, and friendly customer service will be missed in the Police Dept. We wish Ramon well in all of his future endeavors."

City Council Accepts Community Block Grant from Bexar County for Drainage

The Bexar County Infrastructure Services Department presented Mayor Jim Craven a grant for \$174,428 to use for drainage improvements on Woodlawn Creek at the ribbon cutting ceremony for new playground equipment at Rogier's Park. The new park equipment was paid with funding from the same Bexar County program.

The grant monies will be used on phase II of the project – widening and deepening the creek channel enabling the creek to handle more water with less flooding.

Andrew Alva, supervisor of the community development block grant program of the Bexar County Infrastructure Services Department, told Mayor Craven, “the county is excited

to be a part of the solution to drainage problems in Balcones Heights and we look forward to rapidly completing this project and doing more in the future.”

Citizens interested in looking at the completed drainage study performed by Halff and Associates Engineering may call City Hall at 734-9148.



Rogiers Park Renovation Complete

Left: City Council members pose at a new slide that is part of the Rogiers Park renovation. From the top, Bennie Cass, Mayor Jim Craven, Bill Johnson, Steve Walker, Lamar Gillian, and Suzanne de Leon. Below: Residents join City officials at the July 6 ribbon cutting at the newly renovated Rogiers Park.



Balcones Heights City Officials

Jim Craven, Mayor
 Bill Johnson, Mayor Pro Tem Councilman, Place 5
 Lamar Gillian Councilman, Place 4
 Steve Walker Councilman, Place 3
 Suzanne de Leon Councilwoman, Place 2
 Bennie Cass Councilman, Place 1
 Lanny S. Lambert City Administrator
Balcones Heights Justice Center (210) 735-9148
Mayor Jim Craven x235

Balcones Heights Staff Roster

City Administrator Lanny S. Lambert x227
 City Secretary Delia Flores x236

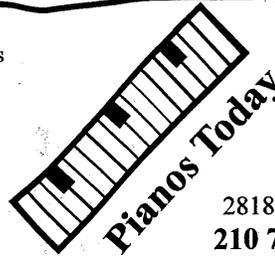
Director of Tourism Lorenzo Nastasi x230
 Accts. Payable/
 Payroll Clerk Vacant x244
 Municipal Court Clerk ... Yvonne Baez x223
 Deputy Court Clerk Jo Ann Vidal x224
 Building Code
 Enforcement Officer ... David Cadena x246
 Police Chief Kenneth Menn x237
 Asst. Police Chief Robert de la Garza x238
 Police Secretary Grace Lerma x222
 Investigator/Sergeant ... Joyce Pena x239
 Civilian Investigator ... Dianna Bowers x240
 Dispatcher x232
 Fire Chief/
 Fire Department Ben Hoeffner (210) 735-9206

SUMMER SPECIAL

Group Lessons \$49.⁹⁵

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Starting May 30, 2005

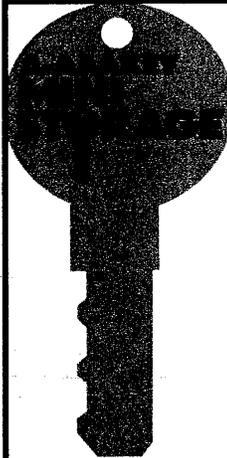
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Anna K Brown
Instructor

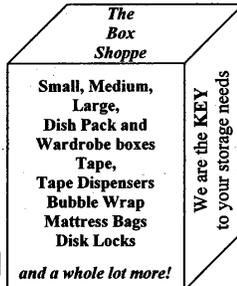
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210 737-6737



210 735-3255

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August 5-7

The Texas Sales Tax Holiday offers back-to-school shopping without state and local sales taxes on most clothing and footwear priced under \$100. Register to win a \$500 shopping spree when you shop Crossroads August 5-7. Visit the Food Court for registration forms and details.


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of SAN ANTONIO

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FREDERICKSBURG ROAD AT I-10 AND 418

Ad Sizes & Prices

#1	\$20	2x3
#2	\$35	2x4
#3	\$35	2x8
#4	\$50	4x4
#5	\$65	4x8
#6	\$75	6x8
#7	\$85	8x8
#8	\$100	8x10



All sizes are approximate. Ad copy and payment must be to the Alliance no later than the 10th of the month prior to publication. Please call Lynn Calkin @ 857-9571.



The Balcones Height Business Alliance will be hosting a Tailgate Mixer at the SpringHill Suites Crossroads hotel in conjunction with the August 12th Jazz Fest. Admission will benefit the BHPOA Toy Drive.

All BHBA members are welcome, as well as any business interested in joining the Alliance. For more information please contact Elizabeth Wells @ 737-6086 or Tiffany Gailan @ 669-5721. Please RSVP before 8/5/05.

Council Amends No Parking Ordinance



At its June 13th meeting the Balcones Heights City Council adopted an ordinance restricting vehicle parking in front and side yards of any structure or residence in Balcones Heights to pavement (concrete, asphalt or gravel). The purpose of this ordinance is to stop parking on dirt or grass and to improve the appearance of the City.

Councilman Bennie Cass amended the ordinance at the July 11, City Council meeting to allow limited parking in these areas.

The ordinance exceptions adopted are:

A resident may park a recreational vehicle in the front or side yard of a residence for a period not to exceed seven (7) days or one hundred sixty eight (168) hours.

If resident intends to utilize exception 3.1 (a), the resident must notify the Code Enforcement Officer or the Police Department of the City of Balcones Heights giving the date and time of arrival, license plate number of vehicle and the departure date of such vehicle.

A vehicle may be parked in the front yard for purposes of loading and unloading or washing of vehicle not to exceed two (2) hours.

Please call City Hall with questions. David Cadena, Code Enforcement Officer, will start enforcement of this ordinance in August 2005.

Refuse Regulations

Waste Management, the refuse collection company for Balcones Heights, reminds citizens to put out their refuse for pick-up on designated pick-up days. Pick-up days for Balcones Heights are Monday and Thursday. Recycling is picked up on Monday.

Citizens are asked to meet the following rules:

- **Bundled Brush:** Tree, shrub and brush trimmings or newspapers and magazines securely tied together forming an easily handled package not exceeding four feet in length and/or 35 pounds in weight.

- **Container:** A receptacle constructed of plastic, metal or fiberglass, less than 35 gallons in size and the weight of the container and its contents shall not exceed 35 pounds. This also applied to plastic bags.

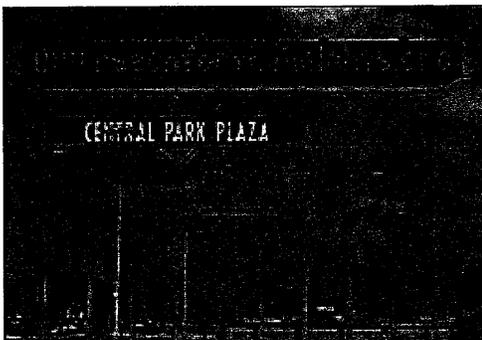
Please call Chris Iden, the City's Waste Management customer service representative at 368-5005 with questions.

Clean-Up Day

The next city-wide clean-up and large bulk refuse collection is scheduled for September 19, 2005. Please put this on your calendar. The other collection for 2005 is December 5, 2005.

Out of courtesy to your neighbors and out of a desire to have a cleaner city, the City Council asks you to not place the items out to be picked up until one week before the collection date. Some people are putting their tree-cuttings and other items out many weeks and even months before the collection date and then their neighbors, and visitors to the City have to look at that mess until its picked up.

Help keep Balcones Heights clean! Do not put your large trash items out before the pick-up week!



Balcones Heights In Lights

The Balcones Heights Convention and Visitors Bureau Web site, www.reachfortheheights.org is illustrated on the Central Park sign at Loop 410 and San Pedro. The Web site is part of a message promoting this year's Balcones Heights Jazz Festival at Crossroads Mall. The message rotates throughout an 18 hour cycle each day, with more than 250,000 cars passing the sign each day. This year's festival has also been heavily promoted in the San Antonio Express-News, San Antonio Current, and on both sides of an elevated mall billboard next to Springhill Suites.

<p>\$5.00 off</p> <p>14 POINT OIL AND FILTER CHANGE (Up to 5 quarts)</p> <p><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER SPECIALS</small></p>	 <p>733-8366</p> <p>2800 Hillcrest at Babcock</p> <p>Other services included: *PVC Valves*Wiper Blades*Breathers*Fuel Filters *Light Bulbs*Air Filters*State Inspections*Batteries</p>	<p>\$10.00 off</p> <p>The following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION SERVICE *FUEL INJECTION SYSTEM CLEANING *POWER RADIATOR FLUSH *SERPENTINE BELT REPLACEMENT <p><small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER SPECIALS</small></p>
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<p>CLOTHING ALTERATIONS</p> <p>1 hour!</p> <p>4255 Fredericksburg Rd Crossroads Mall next to Hobby Lobby 210 733-5255</p>	<p>CUSTOM TAILOR SOLUTIONS</p> <p>Pants Hemmed \$7.50</p> 	<p>Leaders in the prompt tailoring & customizing of dress garments. One hour alterations: Hems or adjustments on pants, jeans & skirts, zippers, shortening shirt sleeves, dress garments, party clothes, swimwear, uniforms, custom tailoring.</p>	<p>20% DISCOUNT</p> <p><small>COUPON EXPIRES 8/31/05</small></p> <p>RETOUCHERIE de <i>Manuela</i></p>
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2005-2006 Budget Message

July 11, 2005
 The Honorable Mayor and City Council
 City of Balcones Heights
 City of Balcones Heights, Texas

In accordance with the General Statutes of the State of Texas, the annual proposed budget and work program for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2005 and ending September 30, 2006, are presented for your consideration. The Budget is our most important policy document because it presents in financial terms, the overall plan to accomplish the Council's program of service and priorities during the upcoming fiscal year.

Economic Outlook

Property values are reflecting an increase in this year's tax roll (preliminary value of \$173,591,839) an increase of \$17,955,058, (10.3%)

- New (60,000) sq. ft. Doctor's Office
- New Norris Conference Center
- Higher property values

With the new Heart Hospital Doctor's offices and clinic, the 2005-2006 fiscal year budget will fund all existing Balcones Heights operations.

The total proposed budget is \$4,094,817 a 4.1% increase over the 2004-05 budget. The budget sections have been prepared to explain in some detail all of the major changes and assumptions of the proposed budget.

Highlights of the 2005-06 budget include:

- Pay plan for all employees is set at 3% (Cost of Living - \$49,116.90)
- Longevity pay for all employees at 1% - (\$14,183.58)
- The ad valorem tax rate is at valuation, (a -2.113 cent decrease) .5059
- General Fund Balance will increase from \$249,615 to \$258,282 per Council instruction to increase fund balance. (This will be 37.8 days fund balance)
- A Part-time Code Enforcement Officer position is continued to enforce City Ordinances
- \$75,000 is budgeted again for street maintenance and repairs
- Increase in diesel and gasoline costs of 28% (\$5,250.00)
- Increase in Police Dept. overtime (\$32,250.00)
- Increase in Fire Department overtime (\$10,750.00)
- Transfer of Public Safety janitorial services to general fund



2005-2006 Budget Message

Page 2

This budget was balanced even with the cost of living raises, the higher fuel costs, the increased overtime, and the length of service raise by:

- No new personnel
- No capital purchases
- Increase in employee deductible for health insurance (to be decided in January 2005)
- No increase in TMRS Retirement System
- 8 month opening for Police Detective position (filled in Feb, 2006)
- \$1.00 increase in refuse collection administrative fee
- Sale or lease of Old City Hall

Crime Control District Fund

- Funding Established for 3 Full-time Investigators, of which 1 position is funded for 2/3 of the year only (Feb-Sept. 2006)
- 3rd year loan-pay-off for 6 Police Cars
- Continued funding for Overtime for Police Officers
- Debt Service for Balcones Heights Justice Center
- Transfer of Public Safety facility janitorial to General Fund
- Elimination of 'COPSMORE' grant funded position.

Hotel Motel Tax Fund

- The City Council has created a Visitors and Convention Bureau with 7 appointed Board Members who have presented a Budget for 2005-2006 and have hired a Director for advertising and marketing.
- This fund incorporates a fully-funded Convention and Visitors Business Bureau.
- For the 2nd Year, this fund is proposed to be deficit funded. Budget to be detailed in August, 2005.

Lastly, please note that many enhancements requested by Department Heads are not funded in this year's budget. Many of these issues must be faced again in future budgets.

The FY 05/06 budget has been prepared with the assistance of all Department Directors who stand ready to accomplish the goals outlined and adopted by the City Council. We commit to the City Council our best efforts to ensure that the needs of our citizens are met and exceeds!

Respectfully submitted,

Lanny S. Lambert
City Administrator

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Balcones Heights Calendar • August 2005

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 	2 National Night Out	3	4	5  Crossroads Mall 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.	6
7	8 Regular City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Justice Center	9	10	11	12  Crossroads Mall 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.	13
14	15	16	17	18 CVB Meeting 5:30 p.m. Justice Center	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11