



President's Message

Chris Hajdu

It's already almost the midpoint of the year, and that means it's time for our annual meeting. The meeting will be held Thursday, May 11th 7-9pm, at the Dell Jewish Community Campus. Speakers will include:

- District 10 Council Member Alison Alter
- AISD Board of Trustee member, Julie Cowan
- Chris Allen, speaking on CodeNEXT
- Joannie Arrott, speaking on our oak wilt history in NWACA
- NWACA Volunteer of the Year Award
- A yearly recap from yours truly and much more....

We will have representatives from our NWACA committees as well to share information on the many activities going on throughout our area. Please take the time to come and mingle with your fellow neighbors while you get informed about what's happening in your neighborhood.

On to the topic of Austin Oaks. By now, most of you will have heard that the Austin Oaks PUD case has reached a conclusion. On April 13th, 2017, Austin City Council voted 8-2 to support a version of the PUD that somewhat resembles what came out of the Austin Oaks Charrette process in January 2016.

It's an understatement to say that this process was a divisive happening in our neighborhood. I can only say that I hope we all work to maintain a level of respect with each other as we move forward. NWACA is going to be watching everything going on at Austin Oaks, with the intent to make sure that all

development occurs with complete adherence to the plan agreed upon by council.

We appreciate everyone continuing to stay involved in the processes that govern zoning activities such as these. Our council member has stated that it is her aim that the process that drives cases like the Austin Oaks and Grove PUD is reviewed by council, and that improvements are made such that future cases will hopefully go through a more refined and streamlined process. Please see our full article in this newsletter for a recap on the Austin Oaks PUD decision.

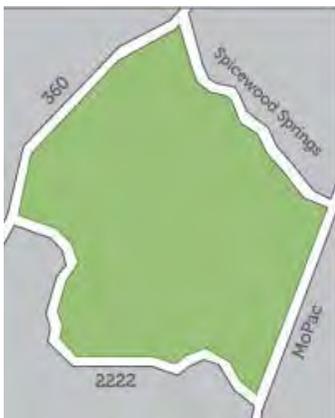
Moving on to the topic of schools, the AISD Board recently voted to move forward with the recommendations made by the FABPAC (Facilities and Bond Planning Advisory Committee.) Some of these recommendations are related to improving school overcrowding and school facilities at several of our area schools. As this process moves along, we will be providing information about the process as it becomes available. School overcrowding was one of the highest rated items in our recent neighborhood survey, so I'm sure many of you will be following this item closely.

And on the topic of history, please enjoy the final article by Richard Denny on the area surrounding Spicewood Springs. In future issues, he will turn his attention to the Bull Creek area, but will be taking off a few months to do that. Meanwhile, if you are interested in contributing stories or information to the history committee, please contact us at nwacainfo@gmail.com and we will put you in touch with the right folks. Thanks!

New to the Neighborhood?

If this is the first time you're seeing our newsletter, welcome to the NWACA neighborhood! This newsletter is one way to keep up with what's happening here, but there's a lot more available, too. Check out the Quick Link For New Neighbors on our web site at www.nwaca.org

This map shows our boundaries – Mopac, RM 2222, Loop 360, and Spicewood Springs Road. There are about 4100 other households who are your neighbors and are happy you're here!



Welcome to NWACA!

NWACA EVENTS CALENDAR

May 2, 8 AM

Kneaded Pleasures
Communications Committee

May 3, 8:30 AM

Kneaded Pleasures
Crime and Safety Committee

May 4, 8 AM

Kneaded Pleasures
Sponsorship Committee

May 6, 9 AM to 1 PM

Canyon View Event Center, 4800 Spicewood Springs Rd.
Austin Wildfire Symposium - presentations and discussion
on wildfire prevention; to register go to
<http://tinyurl.com/2017AusWildfire>

May 6, 9 AM to noon

McCallum High School, 5600 Sunshine Drive
CLASP Informational Forum

May 7, 2 PM

Kneaded Pleasures
Parks Committee

May 11, 7:00-9:00

JCC - Community Room
NWACA Annual Meeting - All neighbors invited

May 21, 1-4 PM

Murchison Pool Park, 3700 North Hills Dr.
Cleanup at Murchison Pool Park before the pool
opens on June 5

May 23, 5 PM

Temple Beth Shalom, 7300 Hart Lane
NWACA Zoning and Transportation Committee

June 1, 8 AM

Kneaded Pleasures
Sponsorship Committee

June 3, 8:30 and 10:00

Stillhouse Hollow Nature Preserve, 7810 Sterling Drive
National Trails Day - guided hikes at 8:30 and 10:00,
with a bit of trash cleanup

June 4, 2 PM

Kneaded Pleasures
Parks Committee

June 6, 8 AM

Kneaded Pleasures
Communications Committee

June 7, 8:30 AM

Kneaded Pleasures
Crime and Safety Committee

June 27, 5 PM

Temple Beth Shalom, 7300 Hart Lanes
NWACA Zoning and Transportation Committee



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 APD District Representative, Office Darrell Grayson...512-974-5242
 District 10 Councilmember, Alison Alter.....512-978-2110
 Contact to enroll in the District 10 weekly newsletter:
district10@austintexas.gov
www.district10austin.com

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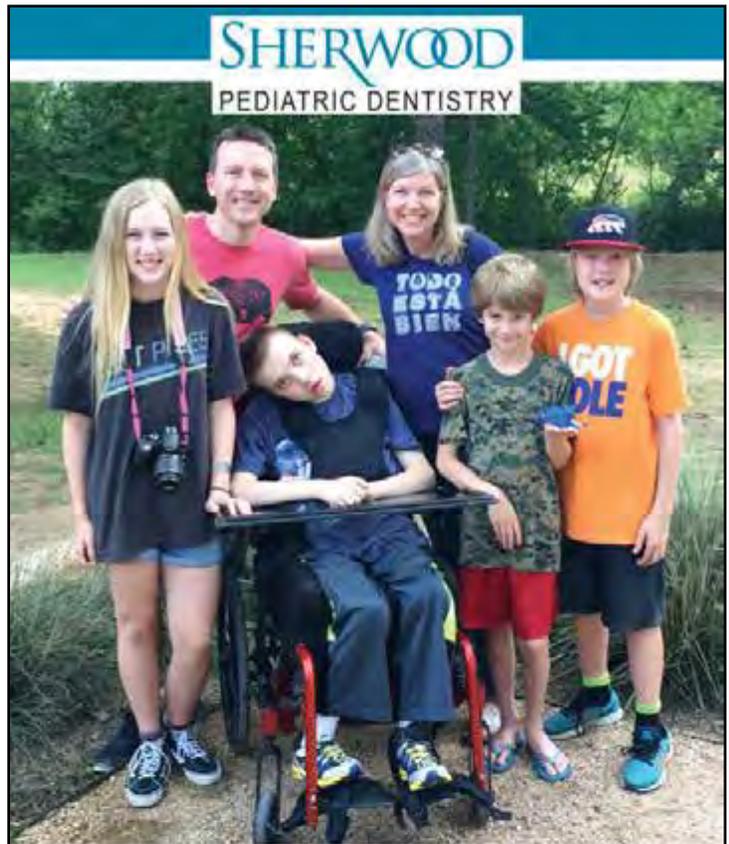
Each of the Board members can be reached at:
nwacainfo@gmail.com

The NWACA Board meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, except December. Please visit our calendar at www.nwaca.org to see the specific time and location. If you wish to speak at a Board meeting, please send email a week before the meeting, so that we can get you on the agenda.

NWACA is bordered on the north by Spicewood Springs Road, on the west by Loop 360, on the south by RM 2222, and on the east by Mopac (Loop 1).

ADVERTISING INFO

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School News – Lauren Ward and Kristin Ashy

After a nearly six-hour discussion and several tweaks, the school board approved the Austin ISD Facility Master Plan at 3:17 a.m. on Tuesday April 4, 2017, in a six to three vote. This plan will guide future bond elections and decisions over the next 25 years.

As you may remember, in October of 2015 a Facilities and Bond Planning Advisory Committee (FABPAC) was established to develop a series of recommendations for the modernization of Austin's public schools. Using the Facility Master Plan drafted several years prior, the first charge given to FABPAC was to offer recommendations for updates that were more specific and gave the Board of Trustees guidelines by which to make facility decisions.

The FABPAC engaged with a consulting organization to assist in evaluating the campuses across the district. These assessments found that 39% of AISD's schools were rated as having a facility condition of "poor" or worse; 22% have an educational suitability score of "unsatisfactory" or worse; 17% were overcrowded; and 27% were under-enrolled. Assessments clearly showed that an investment in facility modernization is

essential for AISD to achieve its vision, and that much needed to be addressed.

The Anderson High School vertical team contains two of the most crowded schools in the entire district: Doss Elementary and Hill Elementary. It also has the only overcrowded Junior High in the district: Murchison Middle School. As such, the updates to the Facility Master Plan (FMP) and subsequent bond recommendations will dramatically impact our neighborhood. The FMP updates that were approved result in the development of a new NW Elementary School to provide relief for the aforementioned schools. It also recommends building additional capacity at Doss Elementary and improvements for Murchison Middle School. Because the scope of work needed at Murchison is large, the district and FABPAC are looking at a phased work schedule for the project.

The next step is for the FABPAC to design and develop a bond based on the master plan to allow for development of these new campuses as well as overall modernization of the district. The target for the bond will be for a November election.



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Austin Oaks Update - PUD Approved

– Joyce Stutz

At its April 13, 2017 meeting, the Austin City Council approved the Austin Oaks PUD, completing a process that has been underway since the middle of 2014. The ordinance that was approved at this meeting now governs the development of the Austin Oaks site, with a set of regulations and an overall design that is documented in a multi-page Land Use Plan. Once published by the City as the final ordinance, those documents will be posted to the NWACA web site, along with the history of the case which is there.

Throughout these years, the NWACA Board has provided information to the neighborhood, surveyed the neighborhood for feedback, and reflected community input to City staff, commissions, and City Council. During 2014 and 2015, NWACA and other neighborhood associations met with the site owner's representative and were unable to achieve agreement on the plan being proposed. Late in 2015, the NWACA Board asked that community input be gathered via a charrette process conducted with City staff, the site owner, and a design team. That process was agreed to, and together with other neighborhood association representatives, including members of Northwest Austin Neighbors, NWACA helped organize and conduct a charrette design workshop in January of 2016.

The NWACA Board officially supported the charrette process and its outcome, and throughout 2016 and 2017 had a Zoning and Transportation Committee subgroup monitoring the case and reviewing key documents. The subgroup identified dozens of issues and questions in the half-dozen updates that were provided to the City by the owner, met with the owner's representative and City staff to resolve these, and were pleased with the final submission that went to City Council for first reading in December, 2016. That submission was approved to go on for further consideration and the development of an ordinance by the City Attorney.

At the Council's second reading, there were significant amendments made to the proposed plan, adding a 175-unit residential building, which in turn caused the owner to replace the hotel with office space, add garages over the planned restaurants that face the creek park, and add several floors to office buildings along MoPac, making one of them 9 stories and one 8 stories. The addition of a floor to the initially planned residential building also caused additional height to be added to an office building.

Because the changes in second reading seriously compromised the plan that came from the charrette, the NWACA Board, in its April 12th meeting, passed a resolution opposing the PUD plan that resulted from the amendments. That resolution was provided to Council prior to, and during testimony at, third reading. It is also posted on the NWACA web site, along with Board Meeting Minutes.

Several changes were made at third reading: they removed

the additional floor on the original residential building (and accompanying garage), which we had asked for. They also reduced the height of one of the garages along MoPac by half a floor, and provided for other uses besides restaurant on the parcels designated for restaurant (Financial Services, Personal Services, Pet Services, and General Retail - Convenience).

Although the result after third reading is not all that we had hoped to see based on the charrette outcome, there are significant benefits to the community in the final design: a mixed-use development with housing (including some affordable housing), restaurants, retail and office; a community park, including the funds to develop the park; a restored creek area; and traffic mitigation for all of the items requested by the City. There are downsides, but these would occur as well if the site was developed under current zoning as simply office space; that would also entail similar increases in traffic, removal of some of the existing trees, as they would double their current office space to an estimated 900,000 square feet.

The final PUD ordinance allows for 1,321,500 square feet of development, of which 875,000 is office. The remainder is restaurant, retail, and 375 residential units, of which 10.8% (41 units) are affordable for renters at 60% median family income or lower. The final copy of the City PUD Ordinance and accompanying Land Use Plan will be posted to the NWACA web site as soon as it is available, so that you can see all the detail.

Development of the site is likely to unfold over 15 to 20 years, and throughout that time, the NWACA Zoning and Transportation Committee will monitor any work done in the PUD. Each time a site plan is submitted, the committee will review and ensure that conditions agreed to in the PUD are honored. One important condition we got into the PUD ordinance is that any change to the agreed-on conditions – whether substantial or minor – will require notification to the neighborhoods, so that we can ensure what is in the ordinance is honored.



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Picnic at Spicewood Springs, 1880

— Richard Denney

Recently I reached out to the Austin History Center for old photos of people at Spicewood Springs. While they found no photos, they found a poem from 1880 about a picnic at Spicewood Springs, written by Martha E. Whitten, part of her book Author's edition of Texas garlands. By way of context, she describes riding a steam locomotive ("fiery-tongued steed") from Austin to Spicewood Springs for a day of recreation. This was a service the railroad was promoting in the 1880s, Waters (AKA Watters) Park just north on Walnut Creek being a recreational spot developed by the railroad for this purpose. So, while not a photo, in some ways the poem communicates the "picture" of people at the springs – and how they felt about the springs -- better than a still photo.

THE PICNIC.

AT SPICE-WOOD SPRING, EIGHT MILES FROM THE CITY,
MAY 8, 1880.

Ah whither away
This bright sunny day?
Oh, where can the people be going?
They surely have found
Some "enchanted ground"
Where May's fragrant breezes are blowing.

The young and the old;
The timid and bold —
Brave lads and beautiful lasses;
Prim matrons are there
And maidens most fair
While little ones make up the masses.

Impatient they stand
With lunches at hand,
The train's onward motion awaiting;
Oh who could dare say
What bright hopes to-day
The hearts of this throng are elating!

And soon with all speed
On our fiery-tongued steed
Away from the city we're riding;
Over carpets of flowers
To fairy-like bowers
Where May's truant zephyrs are hiding.

On no fairer spot
Could it e'er be our lot,
To spend thus a picnic occasion;
Dame Nature with grace,
Has adorned this fair place
'Till it seems like some field of Elysian.

Here, grand stately trees,
Are kissed by the breeze;
Their leaflets at "Bo-peep" are playing;
A curtain they've spun,
To shut out the sun,
And to shade us while here we are staying.

The spring bubbling o'er
Its nectar doth pour —
'Tis rippling, and sparkling, and laughing;
To its fount we hie
Our thirst to satisfy,
Ab its bright limpid waters we're quaffing.

The birds blithely sing
'Till the woodlands ring,
As they carol the beauties of May.
We join the glad song —
Its echoes prolong,
With hearts just as joyous and gay.

Even the slimy snakes
Have hid in the brakes,
Nor crawl from their covert away;
Contented to yield



(Continued on Page 7)

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(Continued from Page 6)

The picnics the field,
Through this beautiful sunny day.

Here are maidens shy,
With lovers near by
Whose blushing and radiant faces
Fond secrets would hide,
But love's crimson tide,
Is adding its beautiful graces.

Some are strolling away
Seeking garlands of May;
And the dark waving moss entwining
With flowers so fair —
A chaplet most rare,
O'er their dark glossy ringlets shining.

Here the hobby-horse
On its flying course,
Went 'round and 'round and 'round;
How nickels did slide
For a jolly good ride
As each leaped to his seat with a bound!

When ready to dine,
Oh sure it was fine,
We quickly improvised our seats.
Out of the stock
Of honey-comb rock
That graced those woodland retreats.

When tables were spread,
That all might be fed,
'Neath their load we feared they would groan;
With appetites keen,
Such feasting was seen,
As is only to picnics known.

And this was the way
We spent that glad day —
That never-to-be-forgotten occasion;
Oh dear Spice-wood Spring!
How our memories cling
To thy scenes — like fields of Elysian.

For more on this topic and other local history, visit Richard Denney's
blog at <http://txcompost.blogspot.com/>

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NWACA Project Reserve Fund Inviting Applications

– Vicki DeWeese and Joyce Statz

The Project Reserve Fund was established by the NWACA Board to help fund special projects in our neighborhood. Projects must have a community benefit for NWACA residents and be publicly accessible.

During the past year, NWACA funded the purchase of five recycling containers for use at: Bull Creek District Park, Murchison Pool and Lakewood Park (Old Spicewood Springs Road at Loop 360). NWACA has also contributed funds for the development of a new soccer field behind Doss Elementary, which will be open to the neighborhood after school hours.

Any group or individual can apply for Project Reserve funds; just download an application online at www.nwaca.org. Go to the Get Involved tab and look for Project Reserve Fund.

Project applications for spring/summer grants will be accepted until May 31, 2017; and selected applicants will be encouraged to present their projects at the June 7, 2017 NWACA Board meeting. Submit applications, drawings, pictures, and estimated project costs to: nwacainfo@gmail.com, or by mail to: NWACA, P.O. Box 26654, Austin, TX 78755. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance and funds can be distributed as early as July following project selection. The number of projects funded is at the discretion of the Board. If you have questions about the program, email nwacainfo@gmail.com.

Some applicants may choose to submit an idea in concert with the City of Austin Neighborhood Partnering Program (see details at: <http://www.austintexas.gov/neighborhoodpartnering>). Applications must be submitted by October 1st or June 1st for their cost-sharing funding cycle. Other applicants may choose to team with the Austin Parks Foundation (see details at: <http://austinparks.org/tag/grants/>). Applications for different types of grants have different deadlines.

The Project Reserve Fund is just one of many ways that NWACA serves our community. Funds in this account are available because of the careful management of NWACA funds over the past several years. Please help us to continue our work by joining NWACA or renewing your membership today.



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Short Term Rental (STR) Update – Mike Polston

NWACA residents should continue to educate themselves regarding evolving Short Term Rental policies and the activities in our neighborhood. Many external events and actions may impact our neighborhood, including potential State of Texas laws that allow STRs (Commercial Hotels) in all residential zoned areas and the ongoing 311 calls for STR complaints. And then there is the tragic news in Austin a few weeks ago with shootings in a STR during SXSW.

District 10 continues to have the third highest STR complaints in the city. District 9 is consistently the highest and District 3 follows in second place. All ten districts have had STR complaints in the last 18 months. Austin had substantial STR complaints in March 2017, likely due to SXSW.

The most significant recent STR news has been the introduction of STR Bills at the Texas Legislature. The Senate bill is SB 451 and the House bill is HB 2551, which are almost identical. The bills dictate that all Texas cities and municipalities must allow STRs to reside in all residential neighborhoods. The only exception is neighborhoods that have HOA or HOA-equivalent rules in place. Many Austin citizens gave testimony on STRs at the Senate Committee hearings. We can expect more activities at the Capital through April and May,

and I strongly suggest that Austin homeowners pay close attention to this area of legislation.

One interesting measure of opinions on the State intentions is the number of “For” and “Against” assertions from individuals at the Senate committee hearings recently. The committee tracked 27 “For” the Senate Bill and 46 “Against” the Senate Bill. If you would like a pdf of the Witness List (includes live testimony and registering but not testifying), send an email to polston.mike@gmail.com. The following table reflects the positions of named organizations and representatives of city governments.

For

Texas Apartment Association
HomeAway
Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce
Texas Association of Realtors
TechNet
Texas Public Policy Foundation
Turnkey Vacation Rentals

Against

City of Austin
City of El Paso
City of San Antonio
City of Houston
City of Lakeway
City of Irving
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Traffic Calming on Far West

– NWACA Zoning and Transportation Committee

NWACA received a query about the traffic calming devices installed during March on Far West Boulevard, asking if NWACA had been consulted and supported them.

The traffic calming devices on Far West were installed as the result of a request by a resident living on Far West to the City of Austin's Local Area Traffic Management program. You can find a lot more about this program here: <http://www.austintexas.gov/department/local-area-traffic-management> The original request was approved in 2013 but it has taken until recently for funds to be released implement the request. To summarize at a high level, the program provides for the installation of devices such as speed tables only if two criteria are met:

1. Substantial amounts of traffic must be exceeding the speed limits.
 2. Substantial numbers of residents along the street segment for which the devices are requested must sign a petition supporting the request.
- City staff chooses the traffic calming method that they feel will be most cost effective in solving the problem. They would not, for example, propose speed humps if they felt the problem could be solved by yellow caution lights or better enforcement.

The NWACA Zoning and Transportation Committee monitors the list of LATM applications and approved projects. We have also informed people about the program when they came to us with complaints about speeding in their neighborhood. So far, we have not taken a position either for or against any specific request.

While the original detailed data are no longer posted on the site for the segment of Far West, the total score of 341 for the request is the highest of any funded request in the entire city prior to the current funding round! Achieving this score means both that there was substantial speeding along the segment and substantial support for the speed humps from those living along the street.

Given the strong backing for this particular request, it appears to be a situation in which the bad behavior of a minority of drivers causes inconvenience for the law-abiding majority. Since the speed humps were installed, we have had very positive comments from the neighbors living on Far West and adjoining streets. One remarked that it now felt safe to turn out of their driveway onto Far West; that hadn't been true for years!

Recycling Tip: How Do I Get Rid of Household Light Bulbs?

– Joanie Arrott



Did you know that major retail hardware stores including Lowes and The Home Depot offer light bulb recycling containers at most of their locations? They also accept rechargeable batteries, cell phones, and plastic shopping bags. Austinites and anyone else shopping for supplies can place

used light bulbs in the permanent recycling containers located at the store entrances.

While any locations that accept bulbs will take the traditional-sized bulbs, not all locations will be equipped to accept large-sized tubes (e.g. 4' bulbs shown in the picture below). It is strongly recommended to contact the store to verify which types and size of bulbs will be accepted before visiting them. Some stores also have small plastic bags posted and ask you to place the bulbs in a bag before putting them into the recycling container. This will minimize the mess in the event of any breakage.

For any bulbs that are not accepted at your local hardware store, City of Austin and Travis County residents can always drop off all types and sizes of light bulbs, as well as many other hazardous items, for free at the Recycle and Reuse Drop-Off Center (formerly the Household Hazardous Waste Facility) located at 2514 Business Center Drive, Austin, TX 78744.



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National Trails Day event at Stillhouse Hollow Nature Preserve, Saturday, June 3, 2017

– Janelle Medrano

Join the Friends of Stillhouse Hollow Nature Preserve and NWACA for another opportunity to participate in guided hikes into the preserve and to assist with trash removal. Mark Sanders, Biologist with the City's Wildland Conservation Division and Jane Tillman, Master Naturalist and birder, will lead hikes at 8:30 AM and 10:00 AM into areas not generally open to the public. These hikes will be opportunities to learn about the history and ecosystem of the preserve, including the endangered and threatened species who live there.

The hikes will be limited to 18 people each and registration will be available through the Austin Parks Foundation website - www.austinparks.org - closer to the event date. Notice will be sent via the weekly email notices (NWACA Notes) when APF is ready for registrations. Closed toe shoes and long pants are recommended for the hikes due to uneven ground and the probability of poison ivy. Hiking into and out of the canyon requires navigating steep, sometimes slippery areas, and may not be suitable for very young children or anyone with mobility impairment.

Please remember that to protect the preserve's ecosystem, pet animals are not allowed in, even on leash.

Water and snacks will be available. Please bring a refillable water container.

CLASP Forum for Neighborhood Safety

– Public Service Announcement

Announcing the citywide CLASP Informational Forum to be held May 6 from 9:00 am to 12 noon at McCallum High School. Come hear our speakers Austin Police Department Chief Brian Manley and District Attorney Margaret Moore, the new leaders of their respective agencies. The School is located at 5600 Sunshine Drive.

This Citizen Led Austin Safety Partnership (CLASP) Forum will feature presentations on the priorities and initiatives of the Austin Police Department and the Travis County DA's Office including neighborhood safety, the APD budget, criminal justice processes, and how the agencies can work together. There will be Neighborhood Watch Leaders networking sessions to share and learn from each other and connect with resources to help with watch programs.

CLASP is a non-partisan group dedicated to encouraging and sustaining a neighborhood watch network to provide opportunities for skill building, and to foster collaborative relationships with law enforcement in an effort to develop a model of citizen led community policing initiatives in Austin. Website: www.claspatx.com.

Special Thanks to Members

– Membership Committee

NWACA thanks members who generously contributed to the Oak Wilt Fund, the 4th of July Parade Fund, and the Park Fund, between March 17, 2017 and April 17, 2017.

Donations to the Oak Wilt Fund provide financial assistance to property owners dealing with oak wilt. Donations to the 4th of July Parade Fund help NWACA to host the best 4th of July parade in Austin! The Park Fund helps us revitalize parks in NWACA with projects such as cleanup days.

- Dan and Susie Allen
- Patricia Horridge
- Debra Judd
- Ron and Phuong Kampa
- Andrew and Sarah Moore
- Craig Fulthorpe and Marjorie Mulanax
- Mary Uren
- Adrienne M. Watt

A Reminder to Dog Walkers

– Tree and Environment Committee

We continue to have problems with animal waste left in public areas and on others' private yards. If you are a dog owner or walker, please remember that it is NOT OK to leave dog waste, either bagged or unbagged, in gutters, streets, or nearby lawns. It is an environmental hazard as well as an affront to your neighbors. Waste left in gutters winds up untreated in Austin's streams, creeks and lakes. Only what gets flushed down into the sewer systems from residences and buildings goes to the sewage treatment plants. The rest, if not disposed of properly, washes into local waterways and causes problems:

Human and Pet Health Problems

- Giardia
 - Roundworms
 - Salmonella
 - Other viruses and parasites
- Water Quality Problems
- Algae and aquatic weeds
 - Reduced oxygen for fish
 - Unsafe recreational areas for fishing or enjoyment

Keep in mind that in many NWACA neighborhoods, the gutters and street edges are where we walk, push baby carriages, and bike. They are our sidewalks. Let's keep our part of town a clean, safe and pleasant place to live!

So remember, ALWAYS pick up after the dog you are walking. Bag waste and take it home to your own trash can. Please don't leave filled dog waste bags in the gutter or on a curb, even temporarily. Too often they are forgotten. If you cannot stand to carry dog poop, you should not be walking dogs.

Want a sign in your yard to encourage your neighbors to scoop up? We've got them to share. To request a free sign in the NWACA area, just send an email to nwacainfo@gmail.com.

Inside Austin Garden Tour on May 6, 2017

– Public Service Announcement

The Travis County Master Gardeners Association has set Saturday, May 6, 2017, 9:00am-4:00pm, for their popular Inside Austin Gardens Tour (IAGT). The tour provides a rare look inside five private gardens and one public experimental garden that demonstrate realistic, sustainable gardening practices for Central Texas that will inform and inspire.

The tour's theme remains: "For Gardeners. By Gardeners," focusing on the vast variety and practical beauty of native and well-adapted plants in the garden. In turn, each garden has a theme that highlights a particular set of characteristics Central Texas gardeners are likely to encounter in their own gardens. Those themes are:

Earth-Kind Landscaping – environmentally friendly principles and a secret garden

Wildlife Restoration, Preservation – 23 acres of fruits, veggies, beehives and miniature horses

Birds, Butterflies, and Zen – natives, natural attractors along with meditation space

Sun and Shade – sunny daylilies to die for; shady umbrellas and gingers to soothe the soul

A Journey Through Fairyland – whimsical design, a plethora of plants and a garden piano

AgriLife Testing Ground – rainwater collection, new varieties and proven winners

Wendy Buck, the 2017 IAGT Chair, described the unique nature of the tour this way: "This really is a garden tour for gardeners, by gardeners. These distinctive private gardens have never been open to the general public before. Our aim is to educate and enthuse. Interested gardeners can experience a wide array of ideas, learn the details from the Master Gardeners that created the gardens, and know how to execute those ideas successfully in their own gardens."

Native and well-adapted plants require less water and less maintenance. They survive the Central Texas environment which includes erratic swings in temperatures, high summer heat both day and night, drought, flood, clay soil, and rocky soil. And, they are remarkably varied in style and structure. Natives provide food for animals and insects while establishing a beautiful, unique sense of place. They are the foundation of all the sites on the Inside Austin Gardens Tour.

About Inside Austin Gardens Tour

Originating in 2005, the IAGT is held every 18 months by the Travis County Master Gardeners Association and Travis County AgriLife Extension Service. A pass to all six gardens is \$20 in advance or \$25 on the day of the tour. Individual gardens are \$5. The event is held rain or shine from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Only service dogs are allowed. Complete information and tickets at:

www.INSIDEaustingardens.org



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If you would like this yard sign, please send email to nwacainfo@gmail.com

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NWACA Window Decals

Debra Danziger



NWACA window decals are now available for \$3. Show your neighborhood pride and spirit with an official NWACA membership window decal, perfect for your vehicle.

The decal measures 3"x3" and sells for \$3 online at:

<http://nwaca.org/donations/>
 Order yours today!

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www.nwaca.org
 NWACA northwest austin civic association

NWACA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Send annual dues of \$25 with this form to:
 NWACA, P.O. Box 26654, Austin, TX 78755

Homeowner Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____

Zip _____

Email #1 (kept private; print): _____

Email #2 (kept private; print): _____

Phone (with area code): _____

Date: _____

ANNUAL DUES: \$25

(Optional) 4th of July Parade Contribution:
 \$10___ \$20___ Other ___

(Optional) Parks Fund Contribution:
 \$10___ \$20___ Other ___

You can also pay via PayPal by going to www.nwaca.org, selecting the Get Involved Tab, and choosing Join/Renew

Volunteers are always needed on our committees.

Please mark those on which you'd like to actively participate.

- Civic Engagement
- Communications
- Crime and Safety/Neighborhood Watch
- Events/ 4th of July
- History
- Parks
- Sponsorship
- Transportation
- Tree and Environment
- Wildfire Prevention



**All gave some...
 Some gave all
 Remember them this
 Memorial Day**

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