



nwacaNEWS

NORTHWEST AUSTIN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

SEPTEMBER 2021

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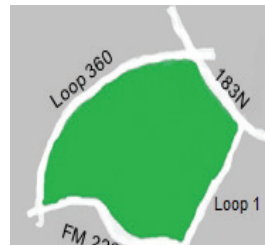
Two Steps Forward, One Step Back

At the time we sent our last issue of the NWACA newsletter to the publisher, we were elated to be able to report on and share many pictures from a joyful outdoor July 4th celebration. As this article is being written, it seems the spread of the highly contagious Delta variant of SARS-CoV-2 has thrown us a bit of a curve ball and requires our continued vigilance for a bit longer. On the upside, according to published data, our neighborhood vaccination rates are among the highest in Central Texas. And for people who are eligible to be vaccinated and are now interested in getting the jab, it's never been easier or more convenient with many options right here in the neighborhood.

National Night Out, an opportunity for neighbors to meet each other as well as meet with local law enforcement, fire fighters, and other first responders, is usually observed in early fall in Austin to coincide with cooler evenings. Instead of a large neighborhood get together, the NWACA board is encouraging you to consider smaller, more intimate (and appropriately distanced) National Night Out block parties or gatherings. We would love to publish photos and anecdotes from these gatherings. And, if you would like support in connecting with the Travis County Constable's Office, the Austin Police Department, the Austin Fire Department, or EMS to have their representatives attend your block party, reach out to us at info@nwaca.org and we'll do our best to connect you with the right contacts.

We hope you enjoy the articles in this issue, including Richard Denney's piece about the history of Austin's first L.C. Anderson High School, Idee Kwak's coverage of Irene Kang's bilingual book *My Favorite Gift*, an important article public service alert on the seasonal blue-green algae in area waterways, background on how the City of Austin is gearing up to fight wildfire, and a description of an important new state law supporting pedestrian safety. Have a happy and healthy September.

New to the Neighborhood? Welcome to NWACA!



If this is your first copy of our newsletter, welcome to the NWACA neighborhood! The map shows our boundaries – Mopac, RM 2222, Loop 360, and US Highway 183 (Research Boulevard). There are about 13,500 households who are your neighbors and are happy you're here!

This newsletter is one way to know what's happening in NWACA, but there's much more. Check out the quick link **For New Neighbors** on the home page at www.nwaca.org and visit our public Facebook page. Use the **Membership** button on the home page, or use the form at the end of this newsletter to become a member of NWACA. Members have access to the weekly **NWACA Notes** and the ability to join the NWACA closed Facebook group, to keep in touch with each other and with the latest news about NWACA.



ARE YOU A NWACA MEMBER?

Receiving the newsletter does not guarantee membership.
Not sure? Visit nwaca.org to confirm!

Here are 5 great reasons to join today!

GREAT NEIGHBORS = GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD
Together, we can continue to do great things for our neighborhood!

STAY INFORMED ABOUT ISSUES THAT AFFECT YOU
We are actively involved in our community and advocate for our residents.

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS

We encourage friendships among residents through our events - July 4th parade, National Night Out, Recycling Collection, Garage Sales, and more!

PROTECT AND IMPROVE OUR COMMUNITY

Learn about fire safety, crime prevention, oak wilt, environmental concerns, park development, wildlife management, zoning/planning, and more!

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY

We are deeply invested in building strong relationships within our business network to positively impact our neighborhood.

Together we can make a difference!
JOIN TODAY @ NWACA.ORG/MEMBERS

Bicycle Accidents

Boating Accidents

Car Accidents

Dog Bites

Drunk Driving Accidents

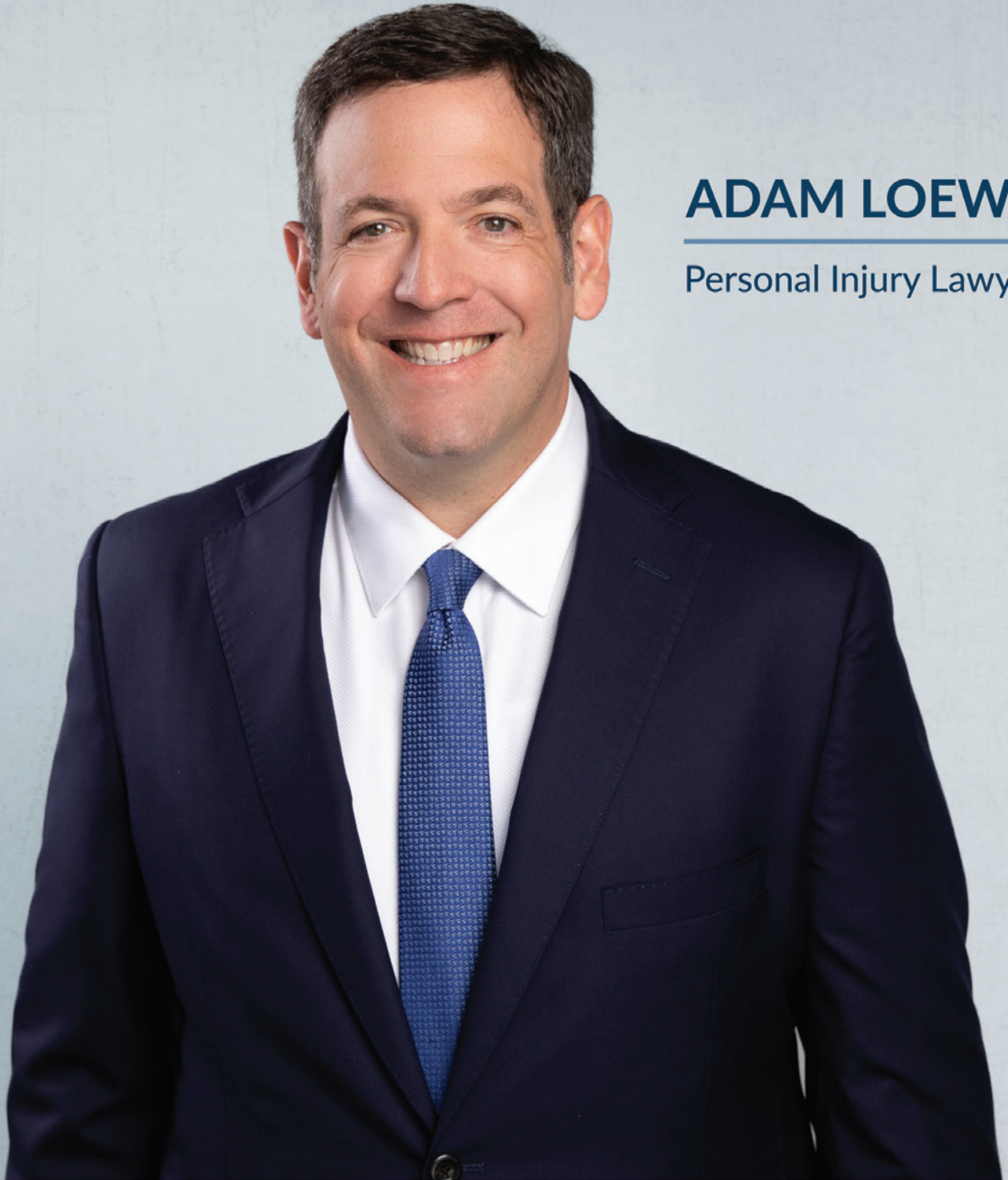
Injuries to Children

Motorcycle Accidents

Slip and Falls

Truck Accidents

Wrongful Death



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 APD District Representative,
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 District 10 Councilmember, Alison Alter.....512-978-2110
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Each of the Board members can be reached at:

info@nwaca.org

The NWACA Board meets on the 2nd Tuesday 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 put you on the agenda.

NWACA is bordered on the north by US Highway 183 (Research Boulevard), on the west by Loop 360, on the south by RM 2222, and on the east by Mopac (Loop 1)

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These events are as planned as of August 15. As you consider participating in one of the events listed, please check first with the organizer.

September 14th, 6:30pm-8:30pm

NWACA Board Meeting

TBD, perhaps virtual

September 15th, 2021

Signup begins for Annual Garage Sales on October 23

NWACA web site

September 18th, 2021, 9:00am

Monthly cleanup at Bull Creek District Park – Sign up at <https://austinparks.givepulse.com/event/225432>

Bull Creek District Park

September 21st, 7:00pm

Parks Committee

TBD, perhaps virtual

September 22nd, 5:00pm

NWACA Zoning and Transportation Committees

Joint Meeting

TBD, perhaps virtual

October 5th, 7:00-9:00pm

(State of Texas) National Night Out

Neighborhood areas

October 12th, 6:30-8:30pm

NWACA Board Meeting

TBD, likely virtual

October 16th, 9:00am

Monthly cleanup at Bull Creek District Park – Sign up at <https://austinparks.givepulse.com/event/225432>

Bull Creek District Park

October 19th, 7:00pm

Parks Committee

TBD, likely virtual

October 20th

Registration for Neighborhood Garage Sales closes

NWACA web site

October 23rd, 8:00am-noon

Annual NWACA Garage Sales

Throughout NWACA neighborhood

October 26th, 5:00pm

NWACA Zoning and Transportation Committees Joint Meeting

TBD, likely virtual



Irene Kang

one's babbling gradually turn into words, she began to remember her own verbal journey in English. As second-generation Americans, she and her husband speak English fluently but have only a working knowledge of their ancestral Mandarin and Korean, respectively. Irene's research revealed that in the mixing pot of our country, there are many Asian parents in the same situation: they lack the proficiency to pass their families' languages to their children.

Last summer when Irene Kang moved from the Bay Area to Austin, three things impacted her life: leaving behind an exciting job in the environmental field, dealing with the pandemic, and raising her infant son.

Listening to her little

By January 2021, she'd found an illustrator, Los Angeles-based Adriane Tsai, and soon they had their first 32-page, peek-a-flap-board book ready to print.

Choosing to self-publish, Irene founded a company, Spark Collection, and then launched a Kickstarter project with a goal of \$6,000. With a one-month window, June 23-July 23, it raised over \$13,000.

Now in publication, the book *My Favorite Gift* is available in Chinese/English and



Kang and Family

Hindi/English with a Korean/English edition in the works. Copies can be purchased at SparkCollection.com and Irene hopes it will be available at local bookstores and on Amazon.com in the near future. Her flashcards, a gift to Kickstarter patrons, may also become available soon. But that's not all. In the works are audiobooks narrated by native speakers and three more books in the series.

Irene believes the stories, while fun for the child, should impart strong values. *My Favorite Gift* tells of a little girl receiving birthday presents with the realization that the arrival of her family is the best gift of all. Irene's second book, set in nature, will show the value of the environment; the third will deal with the power of kindness; the fourth will illustrate how failure is often the first step to success.

Are these brightly colored books only for children? Perhaps not. Many immigrants who have risen to prominence learned their English from children's programs on television. One example is Nobel Laureate Kazuo Ishiguro who was awarded the prize for Literature in 2017. He was five years old when his family moved from Japan to Britain and has said that as a kid, he used TV Westerns like *Bonanza* and *Wagon Train* to learn English.

And can these bi-lingual books enrich families with non-Asian backgrounds? Absolutely. It's never too early to introduce children to the fact that ours is a world filled with people whose tongues may differ but whose values are shared.

More details can be found at these online sites: sparkcollection.com, facebook.com/thesparkcollection, adrianetsai.myportfolio.com, facebook.com/theartofadriane



My Favorite Gift Mandarin and Hindi



My Favorite Gift Car Flap Open

Though her professional background is in program management, Irene had taken many drawing classes in her formative years, even dreaming of becoming an artist. As a full-time mom during the pandemic, her repressed creative side reemerged. In October 2020, she began writing a children's book designed to help parents teach their children Mandarin Chinese. Using Pinyin, the official romanization of the language, she had completed two stories within two months and then offered them to beta readers.

2021 National Night Out

– NWACA Board

National Night Out, on the first Tuesday in October, is a great way for community members to get to know each other. It also serves as a great crime prevention tool. When you and your neighbors get together and get to know each other, you tend to pay more attention to your surroundings and help law enforcement by recognizing and reporting suspicious activities, people, or vehicles. The more you know about your neighborhood, the more you can do to keep it safe.

In years past, NWACA held a large neighborhood-wide celebration and we hoped to do it again this year. But with the outbreak of the Delta variant of SARS-CoV2, we are cautious and instead recommend that neighbors find smaller ways to come together and celebrate National Night Out. A few ideas:

- Gather a few interested neighbors for an informal get together.
- Invite a local food truck to come to your street - food is always a reason to come together!
- Have a small potluck with neighbors in your front yard.
- Invite local non-profit, local businesses, and special guests to rally around a common neighborhood cause.

If you tell us about your party at info@nwaca.org, we will notify first responders of your gathering and encourage them to come by and visit your group.

Our community is strong and resilient, and we look forward to seeing how everyone celebrates National Night Out.

The Original L.C. Anderson High School

– Richard Denney



*Mayor Adler and Evelyn Williams
(Class of 1971)*

2021 marks 50 years since the closure of the first Anderson High School: L.C. Anderson High located at 900 Thompson Street in East Austin. In July of this year a marker dedication was held to commemorate the site and history of the school. Speakers included members of the Original L.C. Anderson Alumni Association, one being from the class of 1950; Congressman Lloyd Doggett; AISD Superintendent Dr. Stephanie Elizalde; Latisha

Anderson, District 1 AISD Trustee; and many others.

Continued on Page 6



Brian Copland

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NWACA News

Continued from Page 6



Marker closeup

To accommodate an increasing African American population, the Austin Public School system (later the AISD) built E.H. Anderson High School in 1909, renaming it L.C. Anderson High School in 1938 [E.H. and L.C. were brothers]. The 1928 Austin City Plan restricted construction of future African American schools to the segregated neighborhood east of East Avenue [today's I-35]. Post-war population growth and the need to improve its "separate but equal" facilities led AISD in 1953 to build a larger, more

The school's namesake is Laurine Cecil Anderson (1853–1938). Anderson moved to Austin to serve as principal of the school for Blacks that later became Anderson High School, named in his honor. He was principal for thirty-two years until forced to resign in 1928 because of ill health. Anderson died in Austin in 1938 and was buried at Oakwood Cemetery.

The new State of Texas historical marker tells this story of the original L.C. Anderson High School. (My annotations are in the footnote¹.)

L.C. Anderson High School and Integration of Austin's Public Schools

modern building for Anderson High School. L.C. Anderson High School became a social center for the entire community, hosting athletics, plays, concerts, and graduations, and despite its disadvantages, the students excelled in academics, athletics, and music.

In 1955, the U.S. Supreme Court's second *Brown v. Board of Education* decision ordered schools nationwide to desegregate "with all deliberate speed." Austin implemented a "freedom of choice" program, allowing students to choose where they attended school, but in 1968, the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare declared AISD noncompliant with the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

In 1969, AISD attempted to integrate Anderson, but only 17 white students enrolled. In 1970, when a U.S. district court redrew attendance boundaries, only 40 white students attended, as many white parents would not allow their children to attend Anderson. In 1971, AISD, with the Court's approval, closed Anderson High School and ordered the busing of African American students to predominantly white high schools within the district. The closure of L.C. Anderson High School at this location, Austin's only Black public high school, diminished the cohesiveness which made the historic L.C. Anderson High School such a focal point for the surrounding community.

Attending the two-hour, standing-room-only marker ceremony on behalf of the Travis County Historical Commission, I came to realize the level of school spirit and pride that still exists for the original L.C. Anderson High School. The dedication's theme sums it up: L.C. Anderson "Yellow Jackets" Heritage, Always Remembered, Always Treasured.

My three kids all graduated from our neighborhood Anderson High School. I can only hope that in 50 years their alumni pride is as high as what I witnessed from alumni of the original L.C. Anderson. "Yellow Jackets forever."

To explore the story of the Yellow Jackets further, see the PBS special that aired June 17, 2021 at <https://www.pbs.org/video/the-anderson-yellow-jackets-wisdp1/>



Marker dedication day

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\$1,195,717



LIST PRICE PER SQFT
\$409



23
CLOSED SALES



SALES VOLUME
\$27,501,500



SALES PRICE
PER SQFT
\$452



8
DAYS ON MARKET



AVERAGE LIST PRICE
\$1,123,484

LIST PRICE TO
CLOSED PRICE RATIO
110%

SOURCE: ABOR MLS INCLUDING DATA FROM JULY 1-31, 2021 FOR SINGLE FAMILY HOMES. BASED ON NWACA BOUNDARIES: MOPAC/HWY 360/2222/HWY 183



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Horticultural Curiosities: Blue-Green Algae - Jon Plum

Algae alert!

This month's article comes in the form of a public service announcement. Please be aware of recent toxic blooms of blue-green algae! Cyanobacteria is a more accurate name for blue-green algae, an archaic phylum of colony-producing gram-negative bacteria. This group of photosynthetic bacteria is among the first organisms known to have produced oxygen in our early atmosphere. Blue-green algae should not be confused with eukaryotic algae, members of the plant kingdom having wide range of useful qualities. Nori that accompanies your sushi rolls is a good example of a red algae widely used as a food source.

Blue-green algae occur as single microorganisms and in mats or colonies. They are found in waterways throughout Central Texas and the Highland Lakes drainage area. Colonies can be recognized as silky or slimy dark "moss" that tends to grow near the surface of stagnant, warm water. However, it can also be seen in the main body of deeper waters as it tends to move around with currents and wind. The danger occurs when these microorganisms produce a "bloom" containing a powerful toxin called dihydroanatoxin. Blooms are not always seen, but they resemble a "paint spill" pattern of light to dark green swirls in the

water. The toxin is known for causing rashes and making people and pets sick. In the Austin area, dogs have been treated for the exposure to the toxin. Exposure can kill a dog. Information can be found on the City of Austin website at <http://austintexas.gov/page/algae>

Here are recommendations from the City of Austin.

- Avoid stagnant areas or areas with algae.
- Do not allow dogs to touch or ingest algae.
- Rinse your dog after contact with the water.
- If your dog becomes sick after swimming, take your dog to a veterinarian immediately.

Here are some signs of toxin exposure in your dog:

- excessive drooling, vomiting, and diarrhea
- foaming at the mouth
- jaundice and hepatomegaly
- blood in urine or dark urine
- stumbling
- loss of appetite
- photosensitization in recovering animals
- abdominal tenderness
- progression of muscle twitches
- respiratory paralysis

Blue-green algae growth and blooms are encouraged by fertilizer nutrient runoff. Consider mulching your lawn clippings to help mitigate erosion and limiting the use of lawn fertilizers to mostly spring and fall. Organic lawn fertilizers such as the liquid fertilizer "Hasta Gro Lawn" are easily absorbed by plant roots, allowing less to run off into streams and rivers. More information regarding nutrient runoff is found at <https://www.austintexas.gov/department/weed-feed>

According to the City of Austin website, risk for people is currently low. However, it is always better to err on the side of caution around stagnant water.

Stay safe!



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blue green algae pond



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Are Trees Recovering from Winter Storm Uri?

— Texas A&M Forest Service

Texas A&M Forest Service has a new article about tree recovery after the February ice storm. It includes information on how to tell if your struggling tree is likely to survive, what to do about one that has some green sprouts at the base but nothing else, and some guidance on tree replacement. See the in-depth article at <https://tinyurl.com/ForestService2>

Update on Spicewood Springs Road Project

— Transportation Committee

Neighbors have asked for a status report on planned improvements to Spicewood Springs Road between Mesa Drive and Loop 360. The project manager for this effort has given us a brief update. Construction, to widen the existing two-lane roadway to four-lanes should begin by early spring 2022. The plan includes a center grass median with curb and driveway approaches, shared use paths on both sides of the roadway to accommodate pedestrians/bicyclists, and street illumination. Also included is a proposed underground storm drain system, rain gardens, detention ponds, and water/sewer improvements.

The project manager noted that there will be no left turns onto or from Spicewood Springs Road. When a driver wants to travel left, they will go right and make a u-turn at a defined turnaround. This is intended to be a safe approach that eliminates the need for traffic lights.

There is a web page dedicated to this project. To see the project design as well as latest information, do a web search for “Spicewood Springs Road Regional Mobility Project.”

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Lights Out Texas Update – Maura Powers



Painted Bunting

Lights Out Texas is a statewide initiative by many non-profit groups to support spring and fall migrating birds when they converge on the state to either their summer or winter home. (It has nothing to do with the Texas electrical grid.) Last fall Dallas was the only major city in Texas to issue a proclamation challenging resident home and building owners to reduce or eliminate lighting that interferes with birds' ability to navigate the night sky.

Many more local governments issued proclamations in the 2021 spring migration; they are Arlington, Cedar Hill, Dallas, Dripping Springs, Fort Worth, Galveston, Houston, and Travis County (Austin metro area). The City of Austin and Travis Audubon joined forces to distribute yard signs to raise awareness of the need for dark skies during migration periods.

The fall migration this year will be roughly from Labor Day to Thanksgiving, with peak migration in October. If you have an interest in supporting the journey of an estimated billion birds by turning the lights down or off, please do so!

The International Dark Sky Association offers information on how to reduce the impact of lighting on our natural surroundings at <https://www.darksky.org>. Texan By Nature, founded by the former first lady Laura Bush, has been a leader in this campaign; see details at texanbynature.org. For more information regarding the science behind bird migration studies, check out the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and its mapping at <https://birdcast.info/science-to-action/lights-out/lights-out-texas/>

A large advertisement for Shoal Creek Dental. It features a man with grey hair and glasses, wearing a white t-shirt, holding his right hand to his face in a pained expression. The background is a lush green outdoor setting. Overlaid on the image is the text "GOT A TOOTH ACHE?" in large white letters, followed by "Visit the Shoal Creek Dental team" in smaller white letters. In the bottom left corner, there is a logo with the letters "S" and "D" inside a circle, and the text "SHOAL CREEK DENTAL", "8015 Shoal Creek Blvd., Suite 120", "512.453.8181", and "www.shoalcreekdental.com".

Getting Equipped and Ready for Wildfire

— Joyce Statz

Watching wildfires burn in the west, I'm holding my breath and praying that we can avoid a similar challenge here! As noted in recent news stories, Austin is ranked fifth in the nation for potential property damage from wildfire; all higher ranked cities are in California. With so much of our city on the wildland urban interface (WUI), we could easily lose many lives, homes, and businesses, as well as trees and grassland, to a wind-whipped fire during a hot and dry period.

To minimize our risk, both homeowners and firefighters must be prepared. Our newsletter articles generally provide guidance on how to harden your home against wildfire; much of that advice is also available on the NWACA website www.nwaca.org and on national websites such as www.firewise.org. To see the current level of risk in our area, monitor **Today's Wildfire Danger Rating** on the NWACA website under the Hot Topics tab (no pun intended!).

The Austin Fire Department (AFD) has a collection of initiatives to prepare Austin for when wildfire occurs.

- A Wildfire Division, created several years ago, is dedicated to minimizing wildfire risk through training of firefighters, community leaders, and homeowners; mitigation of wildfire fuel; and development of resilient Firewise communities throughout Austin.

- The Division includes a crew of specialists who create shaded fuel breaks in city-owned green spaces next to high-risk communities. In the last six years, they have cleared fuel breaks in more than 90 acres in the WUI. This is expensive human-powered landscape work, since most of our green spaces are thick with oak and cedar trees; the huge brush machines that can be used in west coast pine forests are not practical here. Thanks to City Council's creation of the Austin Civilian Conservation Corps last year, these efforts will be augmented by a group of newly trained Corps staff this year.

- Data and mapping specialists at the Division are working on evacuation plans for neighborhoods in case wildfire occurs and first responders must advise citizens to leave. The city is broken into more than 300 "fire boxes," individual areas for which maps and evacuation guidance are being assembled.

- While most wildfires rely on firefighters using time-honored techniques of creating firebreaks and dousing fires with water, technology is evolving to view the fire from afar and provide direction to teams on the ground. At the AFD Wildfire Division, drones are an important aid; they are also borrowed to monitor burning buildings by the rest of AFD.

- As noted in Alison Alter's recent message about next year's City of Austin budget, funding was included for specialized wildfire training of all AFD firefighters. This training was developed in the last several years by experts in the International Association of Firefighters, including some from AFD. It focuses on fighting fires near homes on the WUI. A train-the-trainer session was held the last week of July, and training will be deployed across AFD in the coming months.

To learn more about the Wildfire Division, shaded fuel breaks, the wildfire risk of your specific part of Austin, and more, go to <https://wildfire-austin.hub.arcgis.com/>. To read more about technology used in fighting wildfires, see the latest Wildfire Division newsletter at <https://tinyurl.com/WildfireAugust>



Gourmand's Corner: A little of this and a little of that

— Chris Hajdu

I often get asked how I find some of the restaurants, bars, breweries, and other places that I write about. I tend to rely on these key resources:

- Websites like CultureMap (<https://austin.culturemap.com/>) and Eater.com (<https://austin.eater.com/>), along with various Austin food blogs

- Periodicals like Austin Community Impact, the Northwest Hills specific version and others (the website has links to all) <https://communityimpact.com/impacts/austin/northwest-austin/>

- Recommendations from friends and neighbors

This time I'm writing about three restaurants that have been open awhile and one brand spanking new restaurant. Two, Revelry on the Boulevard and Backspace in the Crestview neighborhood, are outposts of existing successful Austin restaurants. The other two restaurants are one-offs -- the brand-new Kapatad Kitchen and Café on Far West Boulevard, and Turnstile Coffee Beer and Spirits located near Q2 Stadium.

Revelry on the Boulevard

6215 North Lamar Boulevard

<https://revelryboulevard.com/>

This place comes from the team who created Revelry Kitchen and Bar on East 6th Street and Corner Bar on South Lamar Boulevard. Both Revelry locations are known for their gumbo. Executive Chef Dominique Labeaud hails from Louisiana and rumor has it, his gumbo file (the powder used in making gumbo) comes from a relative's sassafras tree. Chef "Dom" learned his gumbo skills from his mother and grandmother; it is made from scratch and includes grilled chicken, smoked andouille sausage, Tasso ham, shrimp, lump crab meat, and crawfish, making it a very hearty and filling dish.

The menu includes other Louisiana specialties like Crawfish and Hatch Chile Etouffee and Boudin Balls. The remainder of the menu consists of a solid assortment of starters, sides, and entrees. Two standout items include a Short Rib Bahn Mi with Pho Broth (for dipping) and a Cubano Grilled Cheese. They also offer a Sunday brunch that has received rave reviews.

The atmosphere is laid back and casual but with elevated food, beer, and cocktails. Bistro lights hang on both spacious dog-friendly outdoor patios, adding to the relaxing ambiance. They have a comprehensive bar with signature cocktails including a Oaxacan Old Fashioned made with Silencio Mezcal in place of the traditional whisky. With 18 beer taps, they should have no trouble satisfying everyone's tastes.

Continued on Page 13

Backspace

1745 W Anderson Ln Ste 600

<https://www.backspacepizza.com/>

Backspace is owned by Shawn Cirkiel, who first brought Neapolitan style pizzas to downtown Austin in 2010. (The original Backspace is located behind his other successful restaurant, Parkside, on East 6th Street.) There are two Neapolitan pizza restaurants (DeSano and Bufalina Due) on North Burnet Road, so it was a bit strange to see another Neapolitan pizza place open in the same area. For those who like this style of pizza, having too many Neapolitan pizza places is a good problem to have!

Backspace on Anderson opened in Spring 2020, right at the beginning of the pandemic. When my wife and I recently visited, we were very impressed. The menu includes Neapolitan pizzas cooked in the traditional style, of course, but also an array of appetizers, salads, paninis (made with Easy Tiger ciabatta), pasta, and sides. They even have a large (shareable for two people) Chicken Parmigiana platter. The night we were there include the Farro salad, the Burrata, and the Fennel Sausage pizza were delicious. After the main course, you can finish with gelato, tiramisu or chocolate hazelnut budino (a kind of custard or pudding.)

There is a large wine selection, including spumante (sparkling wine), rosato, romato, and reds and whites. They have Peroni on draft, and a selection of local canned and bottled beers. Italian-inspired cocktails like the ATX Negroni and an Aperol Spritz round out their beverage selection. Happy hour is 4-6pm daily with ½ off beer, wine (by the glass), cocktails, and appetizers.

Turnstile Coffee Beer and Spirits

10025 Burnet Road

www.turnstilebrews.com

Turnstile, located just north of the Burnet/Rutland intersection, has a little bit of everything. It is a place to hang out and have some drinks with friends, a place for dinner and a great cocktail, or a place to get coffee and some work done away from the confines of your house. With the focus on brews (coffee and beer) plus a simple, but tasty, menu and full cocktail menu, Turnstile is a great addition to the North Burnet area.

Located close to Q2 Stadium, Turnstile is also a great location to visit before or after an Austin FC game – but the parking lot fills up quickly. If you take the bus to the game, you can get off at the Rutland stop, walk to Turnstile, grab a drink and bite, and then continue walking up Burnet to the stadium. Turnstile has a spacious pet-friendly covered outside seating area and a smaller indoor seating area. Food is prepared in a separate building, but they bring your order to your table.

Their coffees include classic drip coffee, cold-brew, and espresso drinks made with fair trade, locally roasted coffee. There are pastries from Easy Tiger, as well as burgers, chicken sandwiches, and salads. There is a full bar; a great specialty cocktail menu allows their expert bartenders to show off their skills. They have 20 taps, 16 of which are dedicated to local brews; the other 4 are dedicated to premade craft cocktails.

Kapatad Kitchen and Cafe

3742 Far West Blvd # 113

<https://www.kapatad.com/>

Opening in the former Hao-Q location on Far West Boulevard in July 2021, Kapatad serves Filipino food. The Franco family immigrated to the Austin area over a decade ago. The seven siblings learned to cook Filipino food from their parents, and it was a lifelong dream to open a restaurant. Four of the seven siblings (along with their spouses) decided to start this restaurant and fulfill that dream. The Franco family hails from the northern Philippines (Pampanga Province) which is known for its cuisine and great hospitality. By the way, Kapatad is the Kampampangan word for “siblings” and I think that name suits this restaurant perfectly.

The restaurant serves both Filipino and Chinese cuisine prepared by Chef Rene Franco. On a recent visit, some friends and I shared several dishes; we had traditional Filipino dishes such as Lumpiang Shanghai (crispy egg rolls with pork and vegetables), Pancit Bichon (Filipino noodles with vegetables and choice of pork, chicken or beef), and Sizzling Pork Sisig (marinated pork with onion, garlic, and lime on a hot sizzling platter.) Next time, I plan to try more traditional dishes including Crispy Pata (crispy fried pork shank) and Beef Kare-Kare (beef in a special peanut sauce with veggies). For those wanting the more traditional dishes served at Hao-Q, know that the Franco family made a pledge to the previous owners, the Youngs, to offer many of the Young’s famous dishes.

I hope you get a chance to try some of these restaurants, and if you have any feedback, comments, questions, or recommendations, please send them to info@nwaca.org

New Texas Law Regarding Sidewalks

– Public Service Announcement



This year’s legislature passed a bill, signed by Governor Abbott, that amends the State of Texas Transportation Code (at Chapter 545, section 428) regarding motor vehicle accidents at crosswalks. The change, effective September 1st, makes it safer for kids and vulnerable road users to use crosswalks. The law now makes it a crime in Texas to operate a motor vehicle in a way that injures someone who is legally using a crosswalk, whether they be a pedestrian, or a person using a bicycle, motor-assisted scooter, electronic personal assistive mobility device, neighborhood electric vehicle, or golf cart.

The law also requires drivers to stop and yield if a pedestrian is in our path. The law does not change any of the places where a pedestrian legally has the right of way, but simply requires that all of us stop and yield if a pedestrian is in our path, instead of just rolling through.



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Understanding City Code: Landlords and Tenants

— Alan Carson



There are two codes concerning the relationship of landlords and tenants that apply in Austin: the Texas Property Code §92.051 - §92.061 and the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC), which has been adopted as an Austin code. If you are either a landlord or tenant, you should become familiar with these. The Texas Property Code can be found online by searching for Texas Code 92 with your browser. The IPMC can be found with a web search for *International Property Maintenance Code*.

Why are there two such codes? One reason is that the City of Austin cannot revise the State of Texas Code, but it can tailor the IPMC. Austin has deleted 57 sections and amended 79 sections. The IPMC is authorized in chapter 25-12, article 9 of the City of Austin Code.

You may prefer a version of these codes written for the general public (plain English). Texas A&M has such a guide on the internet; do a browser search for *Landlords and Tenants Guide A&M Real Estate Center*. The Texas Attorney General also has such a guide, which can be found by searching for *Renter's Rights | Office of the Attorney General – Texas*. A resource that deals with both the State of Texas and City of Austin codes is the Austin Tenants Council (ATC), a non-governmental volunteer organization that focuses on housing discrimination, tenant-landlord education, and housing repair and rehabilitation. Access their guides and other information at *Austin Tenants Council*. Counseling is available by telephone, online, or in-person. They provide education and information regarding residential tenant-landlord disputes as well. You can reach ATC by phone at (512)-474-1961.

Reusable piece for inclusion now: *If you have a question or concern about a City code that we haven't yet covered, send us email at nwacainfo@gmail.com, and we'll have Mr. Carson check it out. It may become the topic of an upcoming article.*

Help Keep our Wildlife Wild!



NWACA advises residents to NOT feed wildlife. Many well-intentioned individuals do so out of concern for the wildlife they are feeding. However, intentional and unintentional feeding of wildlife attracts predators to the wildlife being fed. Additionally, an

association with humans and food contributes directly to habituated behaviors of animals like coyotes and feral hogs, which then become aggressive in pursuit of a food or prey attractant. Please eliminate food attractants from your yards for the safe enjoyment of our streets, parks and playgrounds for neighbors and pets.

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Drive a Senior, Please?

— Stephanie Lane



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Have you ever been stuck at home for weeks with no transportation, wondering how you will get to the doctors or regularly access food? This is the reality of many Austin homebound seniors. According to the Texas Demographic Center, Texas has the third largest senior population in the country, and Travis County holds one of the largest population pockets of those seniors 65+. There are only about 1,600 seniors currently registered with a senior transportation agency in the county, even though up to 23% of all 127,395 seniors may be homebound.

Austin's aging population is projected to grow almost 100% in the next 20 years (Texas Demographic Center, 2018), setting an unprecedented need for more senior services, especially to those who are isolated and homebound.

Drive a Senior-ATX has been providing free, volunteer-based

transportation and other support services to seniors in Austin since 1985. They are dedicated to ensuring that no senior goes without access to healthy food or transportation to medical appointments. This takes a lot of volunteers! Lately, they have seen a surge in new client registration and ride requests. Many older adults are fully vaccinated and want to resume tending to their health needs and going to the grocery store after a year of isolation. There has been a 99% increase in rides since May 2020 as seniors feel safe and are eager to experience normal life once again. Drive a Senior currently has too few volunteer drivers to keep up with the steady surge of requests.

Volunteer drivers are an essential part of the "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" motto of Drive a Senior, a culture proven to help eliminate social isolation, declining health conditions, and food insecurities for homebound seniors. Volunteers build meaningful relationships with elderly adults while providing a vital service to the community. Coordination is done through a smartphone or computer, and schedules are flexible. Simply sign on to their platform, see what rides may fit within your schedule, and choose when and who you drive. It is great for those in retirement looking for regular interactions with neighbors, busy parents who only have a couple free hours a month, or college students whose schedules constantly change.

To learn more or to sign up as a volunteer driver, please visit www.driveasenioratx.org, call their main office at 512.472.6339, or email info@driveasenioratx.org. Orientation and training are done at your convenience online.

Crape Myrtle Bark Scale

—Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service



Contributed by Helene Dougherty,

Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, Bugwood.org

Crape myrtles are a popular landscape tree in parts of Texas, prized for their beauty. While this tree has been relatively maintenance free for years, that is no longer the case now that crape myrtle bark scale (CMBS) has been found in Texas.

Crape myrtle bark scales are small, wingless insects, pinkish in color and covered with a white, velvety covering. When looking at the bark of an infested tree, check for round to oval shaped white velvety insects. If you puncture one with a toothpick, it will exude a pink substance.

When inspecting crape myrtles for CMBS, look along trunks and limbs, as well as smaller twigs and branches found toward the top of the tree. You'll want to look for scale insects and sooty mold. Sooty mold is a black colored fungus that grows on honeydew. Honeydew is an excretion from scale insects (and other small, soft-bodied insects such as aphids and mealybugs).

Heavily infested crape myrtles have CMBS that produce copious amounts of honeydew on the tree and surrounding area which leads to growth of sooty mold, turning landscape plants and the surrounding area (or items underneath infested trees) black. Infested crape myrtles produce fewer and smaller blooms which may be difficult to tell unless you have an uninfested tree to compare.

Only male crape myrtle bark scales fly. Females and immatures are wingless, but can be dispersed by wind, birds, other insects, or landscape maintenance equipment to nearby areas. Long-distance transport occurs through infested material. Once CMBS are in an area, they can move onto nearby trees.

Control options are varied for CMBS. There are predators and parasites that attack and eat CMBS, such as ladybugs, but this may take a while for you to see control, and the scale insect population may outgrow the population of the predators. Try to avoid bringing home infested material by inspecting plants and other landscape materials before buying.

Pesticide treatment for crape myrtle bark scale can be done with either a contact spray or a systemic. Studies from TAMU discovered that contact sprays should be used when pest numbers are peaking (crawler/nymph numbers peak mid-April through May), and two treatments should be done with the second treatment taking place 2 weeks after the initial treatment. Insecticides with bifenthrin as the active ingredient tend to work best.

Systemic treatments should be applied earlier when crape myrtle leaves are budding out. Systemics such as imidacloprid and dinotefuran are best used as a soil treatment in March so they are taken up by the tree and in place for the crawler population that emerges in April-May. These products should be used when trees are NOT in bloom to protect pollinators.

If you notice crape myrtle bark scale infesting your trees late in the season (approximately July and on), then you can use a high-pressure water spray to knock the scale insects off the tree. Another option is to get a scrub brush and dip it into a bucket of soapy water and wash the insects of the trunk and branches of the trees.

For a video on how to treat crape myrtles for CMBS, you should go to this link:

<https://citybugs.tamu.edu/2018/08/28/how-to-treat-your-crapemyrtle-for-bark-scale/>

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600.



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For more info email us at: **info@nwaca.org**



erin arnold
ORTHODONTICS

WHY AGE 7?

**Why are so many elementary kids in braces these days?
We get this question all the time! Here's the scoop.**



Contrary to popular belief, the increase of children in early braces is NOT due to parents overly-concerned with aesthetics, or practioners "pushing" treatment. Orthodontists have been doing early treatment for decades. However, when you and I were young, they used more appliances (think big removable chunks of plastic and metal). Today, we tend to choose braces over appliances. In addition, the pediatric dental profession has grown tremendously. With their specialized training, fewer children that need early orthodontic intervention are missed.

The American Association of Orthodontics and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentists recommend that all children be evaluated for orthodontic needs at age 7. This does not mean that all children need early treatment. Since some orthodontic problems can cause irreversible damage and some can only be treated before the skeletal structure is mature, it is important to identify which children may need treatment.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|
| ✓ Early or late loss of baby teeth: | May indicate problems with erupting permanent teeth. | ✓ Underbite: | Modifying the growth of the upper jaw is most effective under age 12. |
| ✓ Crossbite in the front or back: | Leads to tooth wear, gum recession, and/or asymmetric jaw growth. | ✓ Asymmetric face or bite: | May indicate dental shifting that can lead to asymmetric jaw growth. |
| ✓ Overbite or protruding upper teeth: | May be at risk for trauma. | ✓ Severe crowding: | May cause damage to the roots of permanent teeth or tooth impaction. |

In many instances, Dr. Arnold will recommend postponing orthodontics until all the permanent teeth are in, usually around middle school. We will monitor your child's growth and development over the following years until orthodontic treatment timing is right.

Bottom line – you have nothing to lose by having your child evaluated for orthodontics. At a minimum, you can rest assured that either no treatment is needed yet, or if it is, that we didn't miss the window to intervene.

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Aside from expert real estate knowledge, Dawn is an all-around wonderful person to work with. She radiates kindness and confidence from the moment you meet her.

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~Anne and Tom Sharkey



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