



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Development News for North Shoal Creek

by Kevin Wier

Here's an update on recent and upcoming development projects in our neighborhood that the NSCNA Development Committee has been following.

First Texas Honda

The First Texas Honda dealership being built at Steck and Shoal Creek Blvd. should be open by next year. The dealership says it will

not conduct test drives on our neighborhood streets. It is being planned as the "greenest" Honda dealership ever built.

Wal-Mart in Northcross

Wal-Mart recently presented their final plans to area neighbors for the Northcross store, scheduled to open October 2010. It's smaller than originally planned at 90,377 square feet, with 12,800 square feet of grocery space. The site plan does not include a garden center, automotive service center or parking garage, and no RV/campers will be allowed to camp in the parking lot.



will be no idling of truck engines once they arrive.

Wal-Mart estimates between 3 to 5 Wal-Mart 18-wheel delivery trucks will arrive per day, during the day, plus about 4 to 5 smaller delivery trucks per day from vendors.

The store will normally be closed for business between 1 and 5 am, when it will be restocked. It may be open 24 hours/day during sales tax holidays and national holidays. Wal-Mart also reserves the right to make it

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General Meeting

Tuesday, May 4

6:30 - 8:00 pm

Pillow Elementary

Our General Meeting will feature refreshments from Zen restaurant and a book/CD/DVD swap.

Current neighborhood calendar at www.nscna.org/calendar

Wal-Mart 18-wheel delivery trucks will travel south on Burnet Road and turn into Northcross at the Sonic Drive-In entrance. The trucks will exit west on Anderson Lane and turn right onto the MoPac feeder road to get back to Hwy 183. Wal-Mart says there

First Quarter Crime Summary

by Chip Rosenthal

In the first quarter of 2010, residential crime ticked up in February, then receded slightly in March. An analysis of first quarter crime incidents has been posted to www.nscna.org.

In March, residential theft or burglary happened at the following locations: 26xx Clarkdale, 88xx McCann, 32xx Mossrock, 27xx Penny and 85xx Rockwood. Please continue to be

observant and report suspicious activity to 911.

Although there were a total of eight counts of vehicular burglary in March, only two happened at residential locations: 27xx Thrushwood and 88xx Dawnridge.

Please be sure to lock your car doors and remove valuables to help prevent vehicular crime.

North Shoal Creek Neighborhood News

is published bimonthly
by the North Shoal Creek
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President's Corner



by Chip Rosenthal

The past two months have been good to our association. Back in February, I wrote about our plan to increase newsletter publishing frequency to bi-monthly, and produce a full issue in April. Well, here it is.

Our committees have started their work, and you'll read about their progress in this newsletter. I'm particularly pleased that some great neighborhood events have been scheduled. I'd like to see those efforts continue over the next couple of months.

Our membership drive, initiated two months ago, is showing fantastic

results. I want to say, "Thank you!" to everybody who has joined or renewed their 2010 membership, and helped make this possible. Congratulations to the Membership Committee on the success to date. (See Membership article p. 4 for more information.)

Membership is important, but we need more. Our efforts depend on the work of neighborhood volunteers -- like you. As you read this newsletter, think about whether any activities look like areas where you might like to help. We don't need a big commitment, just a couple of hours a month. Contact any of our committee chairs (or me!) if you're interested. Our contact info is in the masthead on the left.

Neighborhood Garage Sale

by Juliette Kernion

Looking for the chance to clear out your clutter and make a little money? The Social Committee has set a date and other details for this year's NSCNA Neighborhood Garage Sale:

Date: Saturday, May 22 (rain or shine)

Time: 8 am to 1 pm

How it works: You hold a garage/yard sale at your home, and NSCNA advertises the neighborhood sales (Statesman and Craigslist), puts signs around the neighborhood perimeter and creates/gives you flyers with a map and addresses of the participants. You can give out the flyers at your sale so shoppers can find all the homes in our neighborhood holding sales that day. We usually have at least 30 sales that day, which attracts a lot of shoppers.

To participate in the sale: Email me (Juliette Kernion) at garagesale@nscna.org or call me at 451-6929 with your name and address if you'd like to participate. I prefer email, but either method is fine. The deadline is Monday, May 17 if you want to be included on the flyer.

NSCNA charges each participating household \$2 to help cover the costs of promoting the event. On the morning of the garage sale event, we'll bring you a stack of flyers and will pick up your \$2.

I hope you'll join us, either by hosting your own garage sale or by visiting participating sales. It's a fun way to meet neighbors, have an enjoyable walk around the area ... and pick up a few bargains too.

Beautification Update

by Lynda Oakes

Thanks to the recent rains, the neighborhood is greening up and our residents are enjoying this most lovely corner of central Texas. Spring and summer projects are again on almost everyone's minds. The Beautification Committee is no exception.

Please come to our next meeting on Monday, May 10 when we'll discuss our growing list of activities. Details on the time and location are coming soon. The Beautification Committee needs your ideas and suggestions.

Plans for the year include projects and meetings where we can share our ideas and suggestions. We will continue to work on projects that were active during 2009 and to look for new ones in 2010.

Pillow Playground remains a priority for the committee. This park is available to students of Pillow,

neighborhood residents and visitors from around the city. We would like to continue work on goals for enhancements to the park such as benches, additional picnic tables and perhaps a stone walkway from the east sidewalk to the playscape.

Yard of the Month is a popular ongoing project. We would love to hear your suggestions for candidates -- yards anywhere in our neighborhood qualify.

We are adding to our mailing list the names of those interested in working with the Committee or in simply reading about our plans and activities. To put your name on our list, either email us at BeautificationChair@nscna.org, mail your note (attn: Beautification Committee) to the NSCNA address listed on page 2, or call me (Lynda Oakes) at 467-7781. Email is convenient, but remember, you don't have to have a computer to stay in touch.



November YotM

Congratulations to Kate Brien and Jami Wireman of 8623 Winding Walk for winning November's Yard of the Month.



December YotM

Congratulations to Claudia Perez and David Nauman of 8002 Rockwood for winning December's Yard of the Month.

Gardeners' Corner - A Neighborhood Resource

By Sharon Justice

We have a lot of gardening expertise in our neighborhood, and the NSCNA Beautification Committee wants to spread it around. If you have gardening questions, advice or suggestions, please send them to us and we'll publish them in upcoming Gardeners' Corner columns. If you send us a gardening question, we'll try to answer it; since we're not experts, however, we'll also ask for answers from you gardeners out there.

If you'd like to suggest a gardening topic to discuss, or if you have

gardening advice to offer, please send those to us too. We can learn a lot from one another, and I'd like this column to be one way of sharing our gardening knowledge.

Please email your gardening questions, tips, advice, etc. to Beautification@nscna.org.

If you prefer print to email, mail your note (attn: Beautification Committee) to our address listed in the column on page 2.

To get us started, I have a question about growing tomatoes: What are your favorite tomato varieties for Austin?

When I was growing up in northeast Texas, my aunt (our family's best gardener) always planted Porter tomatoes. But I've not found Porter tomato plants for sale at local nurseries, and I've been disappointed with the various varieties I have planted. So, gardeners, what varieties have you planted here? And do you have any advice for someone who loves home-grown tomatoes but can't seem to get any to grow well in Austin's heat?

I'm looking forward to hearing from you!

Why Should I Join NSCNA?

By Vicki McFadden

The NSCNA Membership Committee kicked off our 2010 Membership Drive in February with a flyer hand-delivered by volunteers to 850 homes. Committee members, Barbara Gaston, Lois McEvoy, Sherran Williams and I followed up with phone calls to encourage past members to renew their household membership dues.

We had a great time talking with neighbors, some of whom have lived in North Shoal Creek as long as 50 years and others who only recently moved here. When one neighbor said he didn't see the benefit of joining the association, I empathized and confessed my own past doubts. Why join NSCNA? The answer came time and again: *a sense of community*.

When a rash of burglaries hit our neighborhood last summer, NSCNA

residents mobilized to report suspicious activity to APD. Emails and telephone trees kept neighbors abreast of the latest news and neighbors watched over neighbors. NSCNA's annual Independence Day Celebration and Parade gives neighbors a chance to socialize, decorate bicycles and even dress up pets for a costume contest. The newsletter and website highlight community news and maintain a treasure trove of neighborhood history.

Without membership dues, NSCNA could not fund these activities and could not work to protect the neighborhood's quality of life, safety, residential characteristics and property values. Thanks to your support, the Membership Drive has helped increase 2010 membership from 37 households to 101 and growing. We welcome your comments and ideas; please contact us at membership@nscna.org.

Development... (continued from page 1)

always open 24 hours if a competitor decides to open 24 hours a day.

Wal-Mart said it will not do any traffic improvement on Anderson Lane. Neighbors attending the presentation expressed concern about crime and security in nearby neighborhoods and about the truck deliveries disrupting traffic and neighborhood tranquility. It was decided to have another meeting to further discuss safety concerns and Wal-Mart's security measures.

Waterloo Ice House

Waterloo Ice House has acquired the adjacent property on Burnet Road, and has filed a site plan for renovations. The plan is to convert the existing auto sales building next door to a catering facility with added parking. Additions will include approximately 1,200 square feet of dining area, a playscape and sidewalk improvements.



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Social Events

by Alyssa Hedge

The Social Committee is very excited to share some upcoming neighborhood events with you.

Neighborhood Night Out!

May 26, 7 pm at Frutii Frogurt

Crossroads Shopping Center - next to Chili's

1st 20 neighbors get coupons for 20% off their purchase

Hazardous Waste Collection

June 5, 8 am to 11 am

In front of Pillow Elementary

Volunteers with pickup trucks will take items to the facility in South Austin. Space will be limited so come early. We can only accept the following items: batteries, fluorescent lights, paints and solvents, lawn care chemicals, household cleaning products and automotive products. No leaking containers. We will only accept items from neighbors within the boundaries of North Shoal Creek as space will be limited.

Contact me (Alyssa Hedge) at socialchair@nscna.org or call me at 380-9616 with any questions or to volunteer for an event.

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Neighborhood Traffic

by Dallas Maham

Several traffic issues have been reported in recent months. Some are fairly isolated (i.e., speeding on my street last Tuesday at 4 am). While we take all issues seriously, the best advice for isolated issues is call 911. Other issues reflect consistent, broader neighborhood problems. We are making progress on several of these.

Rockwood traffic from Burnet to Anderson continues to be a problem. We have suggested restriping with bike lanes as was done on Steck and should know the City's decision within 4 weeks. The City is also studying the feasibility of additional stop signs at the Rockwood/Stillwood intersection.

Safety on Crosscreek is another major problem. We should know the Transportation Department's recommendations in the near future.

Sidewalk repair, renovations and installations are also a desperate need. We are continuing to work with the City on this.

Communication is Key

by Cheri Hartman

The Media Committee is continuing its goal of increased communication both in print and online. This is our second newsletter and I'm excited to report that we had so much to share, we couldn't fit it all in this issue. Visit nscna.org for even more information. Our news blog is updated multiple times a week to keep you informed of the news, activities, meetings and events happening in and around our neighborhood.

If you don't have online access, though, don't worry. We will be pulling interesting and relevant items from online into our print publication, and since we are increasing the frequency in which newsletters are delivered, all of our neighbors can stay involved.

Our network is growing, and we welcome everyone who wishes to volunteer.

Please feel free to share your thoughts and ideas on the changes to the newsletter and website. This is your neighborhood and we welcome your input. To reach me: email mediachair@nscna.org or call 751-1863.

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Independence Day

Our annual Independence Day Parade and Celebration will be held on Saturday, July 3. We are looking forward to another fantastic neighborhood event and we could use your help. Volunteers are needed for coordinating activities, judging competitions, clean up and much more. If you would like to help make this celebration a success, please contact Ken Moyer at vp@nscna.org or call 452-6889.



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Calendar of Events

- 5/4 (Tues.) - NSCNA General Meeting
- 5/10 (Mon.) - Beautification Meeting
- 5/22 (Sat.) - Neighborhood Garage Sale
- 5/26 (Wed.) - Yogurt Social Outing
- 6/5 (Sat.) - Hazardous Waste Collection
- 7/3 (Sat.) - Independence Day Parade

Did you know you can now import the NSCNA calendar to your desktop organizer software? See www.nscna.org/calendar.

/+/-/x/÷/ Math Tutor /+/-/x/÷/

I tutor students in 3rd grade through Algebra I. I have been a private tutor since Fall 2008. I have a Bachelors degree in Math Education and an employment history including KUMON, UT Tutoring Center, AISD, and a math content specialist in the assessment industry.

If interested, please contact Kate via phone at 512-799-5850 or via e-mail at mathqueen99@gmail.com.

Pillow: Purring with Pride

by Huddie Murray

Great news! HEB announced that fifth-grade teacher Candy Ellard is one of five finalists in the HEB Elementary Teacher of the Year Contest. The statewide winner is to be announced in April. It seems like just yesterday that Candy was in Washington, D.C. accepting her award for outstanding elementary science teaching from President Obama.

Several students are participating in the UT Poetry Declamation Contest, a wonderful collaborative effort by UT and local schools.

Despite terrible weather the night of February 11, Pillow's 40th Birthday Party was a huge success, with events all day and over 500 dinner party attendees. Thanks to all and here's to the next 40 years!



Upcoming events:

- Kindergarten Roundup, May 4
- Pillow Track and Field Days, May 20 and 21
- Pillow Golf Tournament and Silent Auction, May 24

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