

The North Shoal Creek Newsletter

Issue 13

A publication of the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association

Fall 1999

President's Corner

I would like to thank those residents who have called with concerns this year. Most calls concerned crime and safety, and I referred the callers to Officer Jim Riley of the Austin Police Department at 834-7977. We will spend time at our next neighborhood meeting going over a current crime report for our area.

Also, I'd like to extend a big thank-you to Jack Morgan for working on the Gas Pipe situation (see Minutes, page 4) and to Steven Weintraub for selling advertising for the newsletter. It's enjoyable to watch people give back to their neighborhood.

Summer finally arrived in August this year. What a change a few weeks of dry, hot weather can make to our lawns and gardens. The city has instituted a voluntary watering schedule for our lawns based on the last digit of our street address. The city is asking us to water our yards only every five days. Most turf grasses (St. Augustine, Bermuda, etc.) need only one inch of water a week to stay healthy, and watering deeply and less frequently makes the roots grow deeper, which makes grass drought-tolerant and resistant to disease.

To find out how long it takes to apply one inch of water to your yard, put an empty tuna or coffee can near your sprinkler and note the time it takes to fill the can to a depth of one inch. The best time to water is in the early morning in order to avoid high evaporation in the afternoon and fungus at night. An ordinance is now at city council which, if passed, could fine

homeowners \$500 for watering their lawns during the day. Pray for rain.

Our next neighborhood meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 21, 1999, at 6:30 p.m. at Pillow Elementary's cafeteria. I hope to see you there.

Chuck Crane
NSCNA President

September Watering Calendar

Residents in Austin are being asked to save water by watering lawns only once every five days, before 10 a.m. or after 7 p.m. To find your watering days, look for the last number of your street address on the chart below and follow the line across.

If your address ends in:	your watering days are:
	September
0 or 9	3, 8, 13, 18, 23, 28
1 or 8	4, 9, 14, 19, 24, 29
2 or 7	5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30
3 or 6	1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 26
4 or 5	2, 7, 12, 17, 22, 27

Source: City of Austin Water Conservation Program

Make Your Pet a Good Neighbor

We've heard from several neighbors who are concerned about loose dogs. One wrote, "People need to know about the leash law and understand that loose dogs are a danger, even if they think their dog is harmless. I walk my dog on a leash every day, and half the time a loose dog will charge us. Dog fights are very scary, and it's even worse when the owner is not in sight." Section 3-3-2(A) of the Austin Code of Ordinances states, "Every owner of a dog . . . shall restrain such dog from running at large." Running at large means "not under the direct physical control of the owner by a leash, cord, chain or similar direct physical control, of a maximum length of six feet."

Mobilize your concerns. For abandoned cats and dogs, take it upon yourself to find a good home for them, or call the Humane Society—SPCA Austin (837-7985) or Town Lake Animal Shelter (472-7387). Allowing domestic animals to run wild sentences them to disease, pain, and violent death. And unless you intend to keep all their offspring or

find good homes for them, please spay or neuter your pets.

Several neighbors have complained about cats roaming the neighborhood, spraying urine, digging and defecating in flower beds, shrieking at all hours, and killing songbirds and squirrels. Section 3-3-7 of the Austin Ordinance Code states, "It shall be unlawful for any person to fail to promptly remove and dispose of, in a sanitary manner, feces left by a dog or cat being handled by that person on property, public or private, other than the premises of the owner or handler of such dog or cat."

Good News Flash! While walking her dog, a neighbor was seen carrying the impromptu pooper-scooper: a plastic bag. Thank you!

Reprinted from the Allandale Neighbor

Yard of the Month

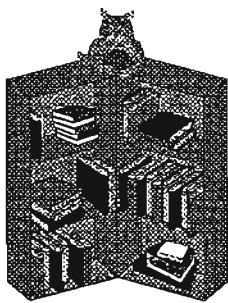
Congratulations to our latest Yard of the Month winners, and thanks for making our neighborhood a more beautiful place to live.

June: Carolyn and Guy Gifford and Honor Olivia of 8711 Primrose Lane

July: Stephanie, Fred, and Sophie Quandt of 8713 Little Laura Drive

August: Janice Zent and John Burford of 8404 Daleview Drive

We welcome nominations for Yard of the Month. Call Tina Huckabee at 453-6953.



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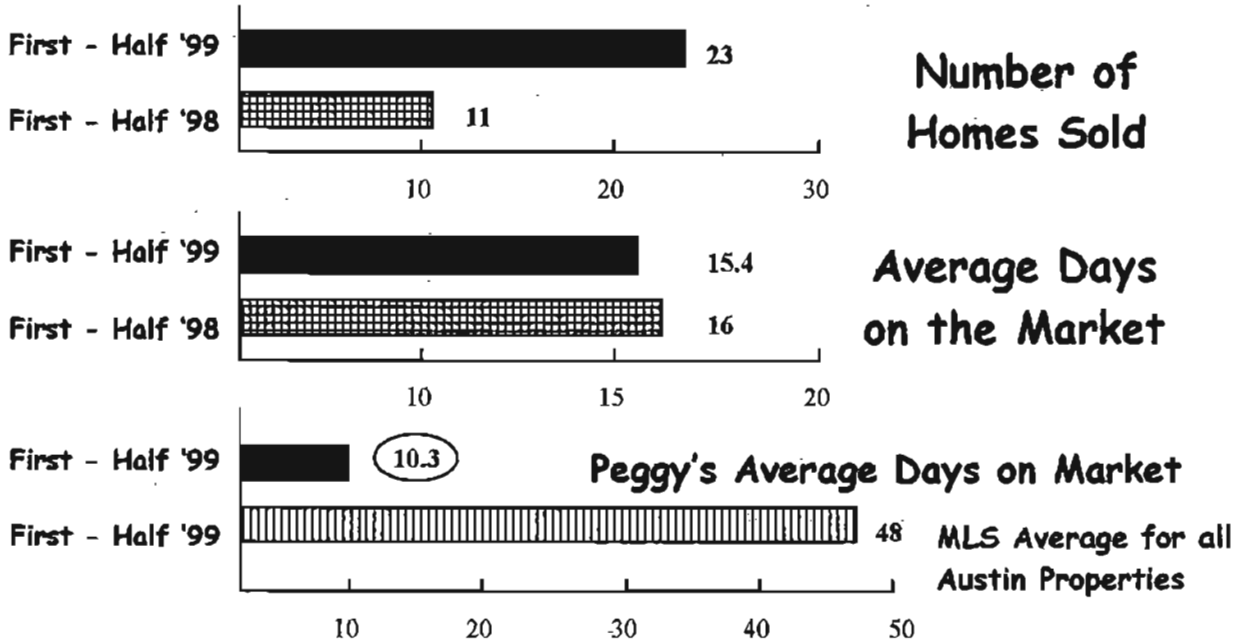
Rates per issue: Business card: \$25 1/2 page: \$80
1/4 page: \$45 Full page: \$150

To run an ad, please call Pam Penick at 302-3467. Ads must be camera-ready and paid for in advance of publication. The newsletter reserves the right to request changes, reject an ad, or label an ad as such. The advertiser, not the newsletter, is responsible for the truth and content of the ad.

The Stats Are In!

Here are the 1999 Austin Multiple Listing Statistics for the North Shoal Creek Area.

MID - YEAR STATS '98 VS '99



REMEMBER To Keep Your Foundation Watered In Drought Conditions!

***8705 Little Laura Dr. Listed at \$164,500
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Austin Police Officer Urges Neighbors to Help Fight Crime

Minutes of the May 4, 1999, NSCNA Meeting

The meeting was called to order by the president, Chuck Crane, and the minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary.

Treasurer Steven Weintraub reported on the association's two accounts at Bank of America. One is checking, with a balance of \$2,773.64. The other is a savings account with \$25,000 plus interest, which is earmarked for traffic calming or other needs of the neighborhood. Steven noted that he had spent time with bank officers to negotiate fees on the accounts.

Donna Eagar, chairperson of the traffic committee, asked anyone with traffic problems on his or her street to sign a list that she was circulating.

The entrance at the corner of Daleview and Steck was discussed. There was concern about the upkeep of the property, and a request was made to find out who owned it.

Chuck Crane announced that the owners of the Gas Pipe had requested a zoning

change to accommodate a parking lot for a store they intend to build on their property, which is located across Burnet Road from our neighborhood, near Burnet Middle School. The Gas Pipe is a head shop that sells bongos and other "smoking accessories." Chuck urged residents to attend the city planning commission meeting on Tuesday, May 7, to speak against the zoning change.

Guest speaker Officer Jim Riley, our district representative from the Austin Police Department, encouraged residents to call him if they experience a problem, including traffic problems, in the neighborhood. His phone number is 834-7977. He urged residents to form neighborhood watches and said he will be available to help establish them. He also offered to perform security checks on homes in the neighborhood; call him to request one.

Jo McFerren
Secretary

How the NSCNA Works for You

The NSCNA was established to protect the interests of our neighborhood and preserve the quality of life we enjoy here. Over the years, the NSCNA's list of accomplishments has grown. Here are a few of the things the association has done for our neighborhood:

- ✓ Kept our neighborhood kids at Anderson High School by protesting the school boundary change that would have made Lanier our neighborhood's high school.
- ✓ Prevented the strip club The Yellow Rose from locating across Burnet Road from our neighborhood, next to a girls' soccer field.
- ✓ Struck a deal with developers that netted the association \$25,000 for traffic-calming devices or other uses.

- ✓ Worked with the developer of the new David Weekley houses to prevent drainage problems and solve traffic concerns.
- ✓ Participated in the planning for Pillow Elementary School's new playground.
- ✓ Prevented Holiday Inn from building a hotel in our neighborhood.
- ✓ Worked with the management of the Town North auto dealership to discourage test drivers from racing down our streets.

The association's success in dealing with future problems that will affect our neighborhood depends on YOU. There is strength in numbers. Join the NSCNA today and help make our neighborhood an even better place to live.

New Playground Constructed at Pillow

Under the shade of the oaks at Pillow Elementary, new playground equipment is entertaining schoolchildren and toddlers alike. The colorful new equipment is also a welcome sight to concerned parents.

The old equipment had been beyond repair for many months, with broken slides, boarded-up play surfaces, insufficient gravel to cushion falls, and lead paint. Now all that has been removed, including the old surfac-

ing material and the wooden pilings that ringed the toddler playscape. The playground is revamped with four new play areas. These include a playscape and swingset for 5—12-year-olds and a playscape and swingset for 2—5-year-olds. All equipment is handicapped accessible, and deep gravel surfacing makes playing (and falling) safer.

According to Parks Department employee Frank Hodges, who oversaw the project, the school plans to make improvements of its own to the playground, including a new sidewalk, water fountain, and picnic tables. **Pam Penick**

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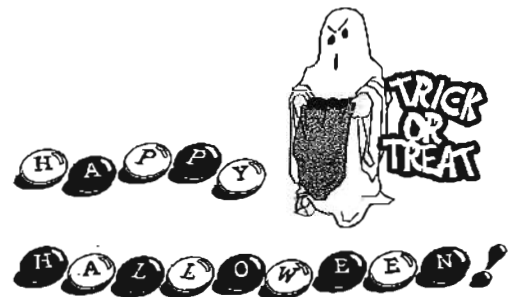
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Neighborhood Home Sales

The following sales information and its sources are deemed reliable but not guaranteed. For more information, please call Felicia Morrison at (512) 606-3399.

Homes Currently Listed for Sale:

<u>BD—BA</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Price (\$)</u>
3—1	8200 Briarwood Ln.	94,454
5—4	8312 Stillwood Ln.	130,000
3—2	3201 Benbrook Dr.	141,500

Homes Under Contract:

<u>BD—BA</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Price (\$)</u>
3—1.5	8206 Briarwood Ln.	116,500
3—1.75	8505 Rockwood Ln.	99,500
3—1.5	8306 Daleview Dr.	132,900
3—1.75	8704 Melshire Dr.	154,987

Homes Sold May 4—August 4, 1999:

<u>BD—BA</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Price (\$)</u>
3—2	7928 Rockwood Ln.	86,000
3—1	8305 Franwood Ln.	93,000
3—1.5	8003 Rockwood Ln.	93,500
3—1.5	8406 Stillwood Ln.	98,000
3—2	3007 Boxdale Dr.	104,000
3—2	8202 Valleydale Cv.	110,000
3—2.5	8203 Valleydale Cv.	129,500
3—2	2509 Ashdale Dr.	119,500
3—2	8412 Millway Dr.	135,000
4—2	8115 Parkdale Dr.	127,000
3—3	8011 Parkdale Dr.	129,000
4—2	8604 Melshire Dr.	153,900
3—2	8700 Melshire Dr.	149,900
3—2	2706 Benbrook Dr.	145,000



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Child Safety Traffic Tips

School is back in session, so please remember to watch out for children crossing streets near Pillow, and teach your children about street safety. Here are more tips for all drivers in our neighborhood.

- ✓ Obey 20 mph school zones and instructions from crossing guards.
- ✓ Avoid causing a traffic jam in front of the school.
- ✓ Don't park in bus zones or crosswalks, and don't double park.
- ✓ Park mid-block or a block away to avoid contributing to a traffic jam if you're dropping your child off at school.
- ✓ Instruct your child to cross streets with a crossing guard or at an intersection.
- ✓ Think of the hours between 7—9 a.m. and 2:30—4 p.m. as children hours, because there will always be children walking to and from school during these times.

Call the City of Austin

Frustrated about a pothole on a street that you travel? Call 440-8444 and report it to the city today. With your help they can make your ride smoother.

The city can also use your help in reporting traffic signals that seem out of sync. Give them a call at 457-4850.

NEXT NSCNA MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, September 21
TIME: 6:30—8:00 p.m.
PLACE: Pillow Elementary
AGENDA: Neighborhood Safety

The *North Shoal Creek Newsletter* welcomes your story ideas and written articles. Send them to Pam Penick at 8509 Daleview Drive, Austin, Texas 78757, or email them to nscna@bigfoot.com.

A Thank You to Our Advertisers

The publication of this newsletter is dependent upon the support of our neighborhood advertisers. Please thank them for their support when you patronize their businesses.

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Please complete this coupon and mail it with a check for \$13.00 (made out to the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association) to Steven Weintraub, Treasurer, 8709 Stillwood Lane, Austin, TX 78757.

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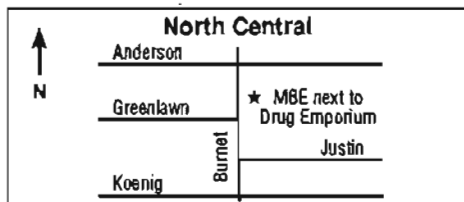
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North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association

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Vice President - Mark Palitza: 459-1036
Secretary - Jo McFerren: 451-2752
Treasurer - Steven Weintraub: 453-6953

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Margaret Flaniken: 459-5522
Felicia Morrison: 451-2552
Pam Penick: 302-3467
Beverly Schlegel: 419-1053
Montie J. Simpson: 459-0595

Committee Chairpersons

By-Laws - John Migl: 452-3482
Newsletter - Pam Penick: 302-3467
Traffic - Donna Eagar: 467-9046
Yard of the Month - Tina Huckabee: 453-6953
Zoning - Dallas Maham: 452-3673

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