## North Shoal Creek

Welcome Randolph Brooks!

# SUMMER 2007

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<u>Calendar</u> School Starts August 27th The relationship between the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association and the surrounding business community has never been so important as now. This year, in an effort to foster that "livability" factor that many have come to desire in our area, NSCNA has been making deliberate efforts to maintain the unique character of the neighborhood and the safety of its' streets and walkways. Against this backdrop is the business community around the perimeter of North Shoal Creek's boundaries, robust and flourishing, with its own set of juxtaposed goals and ambitions. The challenge for NSCNA is to reach out to the business community, reconcile differences and recognize common goals, so that both can realize the vision of a great area to live, work, shop and recreate.

Along these lines, NSCNA would like to announce the addition of the newest business member, Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union on Rockwood Drive. As many already know, credit unions are not-for-profit, borne of a simple idea: people should be able to pool their money and make loans to each other. The contemporary credit union idea has grown from the 1930's to present times as an instrument of cooperation for 85 million people nationwide.

Randolph Brooks is ranked in the top 25 out of nearly 9,000 financial cooperatives, with over 252,000 members and assets of \$2.6 billion. Originally chartered in 1952 to serve personnel at Randolph Brooks Air Force Base, it expanded to include employees and associations within more than 1000 groups between San Antonio and Austin.

Credit Unions are also dedicated to improving the lives their members. Kristi Wells, local branch manager, says "We are committed to doing more than conducting business. We become members of the community, sharing the philosophy of "people helping people". In April of 2003, Randolph Brooks was granted a designation to serve a defined area of central Austin. Thus, residents of North Shoal Creek are eligible to become members. Within walking distance from any point in the neighborhood, residents may open any variety of account or loan with the knowledge that they are doing business with a full service financial institution that has consistently received the highest rating of financial stability.

The Social Committee of NSCNA would like to thank Randolph Brooks for their financial support of the 2007 4th of July Celebration. Residents are encouraged to stop in and visit Randolph Brooks, give them a welcome to our neighborhood

and thanks for helping to make this years parade bigger and better than ever. It is hoped that throughout the many years to come, mutual cooperation between NSCNA and RBFCU will continue to grow.

(Excepts from this article were compiled from www.RBFCU.org and written by Mary Arnett)



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010 9 0

# News from the President

First, I hope you were able to attend the Fourth of July parade. Thanks to all the volunteers and participants. A huge THANK YOU from everyone, belongs to Sandy Perkins! She was responsible for making this year's event a success.

Next, here is a quote from a recent article in the Chronicle regarding Northcross: "... many community members support the project and are in dialogue with Wal-Mart other than RG4N, such as the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association ..."

NSCNA has taken a Position: We believe this to be a "property rights" issue, that property owners have the right to sell/rent their land to any legal buyer/ tenant. The only opportunity we have to influence that transaction is based upon the perceived consequences of the sales/rental transaction. Allow me to clarify North Shoal Creek's position: "North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association is very concerned about the traffic problems associated with the development of Northcross, particularly with the lack of a traffic impact analysis for our neighborhood and the other surrounding neighborhoods, and is especially concerned about cutthrough traffic."

Your Neighborhood Association's members have

participated in many meetings, sent countless emails and worked diligently to address this traffic issue. As I've mentioned before, I have personally met with Wal-Mart and Lincoln Properties (not their lawyers). We are in dialog with Wal-Mart but have never communicated support for the project. We support any development that will be sustainable and consistent with the City's and neighborhood's long term goals. I will continue to pursue a non-litigious means to having the most sustainable and neighborhood-friendly redevelopment of Northcross as possible. On another development note, property located at Shoal Creek and Steck (BMC, aka Stripling Blake) was sold recently. There are other parcels of land up for sale along Shoal Creek as well. We want to work with the new owners to discuss any changes their plans will have for our area. Just as with the Northcross property owners, we support any development that will be sustainable and consistent with the City's and NSCNA's long term goals. Our newest Board member (Chris Jones) has been busy making significant upgrades to your website (<u>www.nscna.org</u>). Here are some areas of interest you should preview:

1) History of our Neighborhood Eventually, this will contain a historical description of the neighborhood from the 1960's when the first tracts of land were developed for residential homes, to the expansion of the neighborhood to the north.

2) Discussion Forums: A new discussion forum has been set up and Chris would like you to log in and take a look around. The main focus for the forum is to give us a place to discuss specific topics in a more organized fashion compared to the Yahoo group. The forum is setup to complement our NSCNA Yahoo group. The old Yahoo forum will be a place for quick posts to be disseminated. The new forums will be a place for lengthy discussions organized by topic.

Thanks for the support and we will see you at our next General Meeting!

# Spotlight on our Neighbors



It has been said that if you dig deep enough gardens tell stories. "Life began in a garden ", says Margaret Schuenemann as she surveys her 41 year old collection of plants framed by a picturesque white picket fence on Stanwood at Daleview. Life together actually began for Lee and Margaret 50 years ago when they were married on July 7, 1957 in San Antonio. They moved to Austin on Buell Street off Burnet Road in a house which was just outside the city limits. As their family grew over the next nine years, they moved to the QC Taylor Ranch on Jollyville Rd , and then to a small house in Rosedale. In the fall of 1965, five months before the birth of their third child, they walked through a treeless field of Johnson grass off Steck Avenue and viewed the stakes which outlined their new suburban home to be built by Pringle Brothers. Move-in day was 41 years ago, June 25th, 1966.

Margaret's love for gardening spans from her childhood in south Texas where dry conditions only allowed for the most drought hardy plants, to current times in her own front yard where she has amassed an impressive array of flora. Even more amazing is the number of friends, family, neighbors and church members who have contributed cuttings, seeds and propagations from their own gardens: Asiatic jasmine, yaupons, asparagus fern and amaryllis from her mother, old fashioned double orange daylilies from Jackie Allen at Dover and Shoal Creek, roses from Coleman Mills, "the rose lady" formerly of 8402 Daleview, monkey grass from Susan Boyett, rosemary from Mickie Bellah, coral yucca from the Costello's, rock rose from the Bouche's, Lily of the Nile from Carol Friedrich, yellow iris from Carol Holmgreen, Gallisiafragrans from Dana Boyd, obedient plant, blue fall asters, bells of opher, butterfly weed, blue iris, lambs ears, wild petunia, the list is far too numerous for the confines of this space.

"Their generosity is a visual reminder of our relationships and our love of flowers and plants. The ones that do the very best are the ones that have been shared by other gardeners", says Margaret.

There is a great satisfaction that comes from tending one's own garden. The trials and tribulations of life are mirrored in the challenges and celebrations of a gardeners' work right beneath their feet. Her lyrical cottage garden evolved over the years as trees were added and renovations were made to the house. Additions to the garden kept ever changing the space and her sensibilities about how it should look. Their backyard now includes a very prolific organic garden which they enjoy daily. It is hoped that their story will serve as an inspiration to all gardeners to remember the important social aspects of gardening.

Lee and Margaret keep a sign in their front yard which says "Rest-A-While Park". They invite you to rest and visit. "We have been blessed with an awesome life for 50 years together, 41 of them right here on Stanwood Drive."

-Mary Arnett







## How do you choose a CHIROPRACTOR?

Chiropractors are as varied as Medical Doctors. If you've seen a chiropractor before and like the way they adjust, ask them the type of technique they use. Many people like to go to a Palmer College graduate because Palmer founded chiropractic in America in 1895 and created the Palmer-Gonstead technique. All chiropractic colleges teach the most common techniques: Diversified, Thompson drop, Activator, Applied kinesiology and Sacro-occipital technique. Many chiropractors have advanced board certifications in orthopedics, neurology, exercise rehabilitation and nutrition. Make sure your chiropractor is licensed and in good standing with the board. The best chiropractic referrals come from friends or family. If you have insurance, check your provider manual to see if the doctor is on your plan. If you don't have insurance, most chiropractors offer a payment plan for cash patients. Moore Chiropractic has been in existence for nineteen years.

Dr Michele Moore, D.C., is a Palmer graduate and has a Master's degree in education. She is board certified in exercise rehabilitation and adjusts full spine. She is a sports injury specialist and therefore also adjusts knees, shoulders and other extremities. As a courtesy to patients, the office verifies and bills your insurance. They are preferred providers on most plans and also offer massage and physical medicine modalities. They recently purchased the building at 8301 Shoal Creek. To learn more , please visit www.drmoore.com.

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Deadlines to receive advertisements and articles are: January 1st, April 1st, July 1st, October 1st

Personal ads are free for NSCNA Residents. Limit 30 words. Business classifieds are \$45. Limit 40 words.



## Traffic Report

Back in March, the traffic committee suggested a list of traffic-related improvements to the NSCNA Board as part of the Northcross redevelopment negotiations. Many of the suggestions related to improving sidewalks or reducing cut-through traffic. The requested improvements were analyzed by the Public Works Department, and, unfortunately, the cost of sidewalk improvements alone would exceed \$2 million. Needless to say, the sidewalk improvements will not be implemented in the near term.

The city does have a maintenance budget to repair hazardous sidewalks, reinstall missing street signs, replace faded signs, and fix potholes. The Public Works Department encourages anyone to report problems using 311, as this is the central dispatch for reporting issues.

There was one success story for the traffic committee. We suggested a signaled crosswalk be installed where Stillwood crosses Steck, as this is a key pedestrian route. The city conducted a video surveillance study of the intersection, and found that less than 20 pedestrians used the intersection over 24 hours. Based on this "traffic" volume, a signal was not warranted; however, new signs were installed on Steck to advise drivers of the pedestrian crossing. We are encouraged that the public works engineers analyzed the reported problem and devised a solution based on observed traffic patterns.

The traffic committee is continuing to inform the city of our problem streets. One of our neighborhood's top priorities is calming cut-through traffic. The city has plans for some funding of traffic calming for next year, and they are working to identify the neighborhoods with the "biggest" problems. We verified that the city is aware of all the problem streets in our neighborhood, and the traffic committee will continue to advocate our neighborhood for a traffic calming study. -Jeff Russell

# Not! Nein! Non! No Way! I Don't Think So! As If! When Pigs Fly! Ain't No Way! Forget About It!

# Say No to Credit Solicitations

Few people realize that each time their credit is checked that their credit profile is sold to other creditors and to companies that sell and resell names and personal information. These companies market your personal information including name, address, phone number (including unlisted), credit score, current debt, debt history, property information, age, gender and estimated income. As amazing and disturbing as this is, it is legal.

You can make this stop. Much like the federal Do Not Call list, the credit information industry has provided a way for consumers to "opt out" or remove their name from credit solicitations. You can make a direct call to 1-888-567-8688 or go online to www.OptOutPrescreen.com/contact.htm.

Call or email today and protect your privacy. Don't depend on credit solicitors to protect it for you. The fewer companies that have your information, the safer your private information will be.

If you know someone who could benefit from monthly MoneySmart information, please email me. I will gladly add them to my mailing list.

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Thanks again for all of your recommendations and referrals!



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## School Readiness

The pressure for children to be ready and excel in preschool and elementary school is rising and parents nationwide are struggling with the decision to keep their child back for an extra year before sending them to school. This is known as "red-shirting" and is gaining popularity as a solution for parents around the country as some say the older or more prepared the child is for their grade, the better the chance they have of being one of the most advanced physically, emotionally and academically.

Texas places high stakes on student test scores in elementary school, making important decisions such as funding based on TAKS tests. In 2002 No Child Left Behind continued a trend of increasing school expectations by introducing literacy skills earlier in school, expecting more out of children at a younger age. As a result, many teachers informally recommend starting a less ready child in kindergarten a year later.

Parents who choose to hold their 5-year-old out of kindergarten face a financial burden as well. The extra year of full-time preschool can exceed average annual tuition at the University of Texas.

Austin mother Aimee Reese, a former teacher, recognized the need for her preschool daughters to be fully prepared for Kindergarten and enrolled them in Gymboree Play & Music's Level 7 Preschool Readiness program. The class prepares 3-5-year-olds for preschool and kindergarten by honing their learning skills, building confidence, and encouraging pre-literacy skills. Reese said, "This is one of the only classes that truly focuses on teaching my kids how to learn – a skill that will benefit them in school for sure."

The school readiness debate continues among parents and teachers, but most will agree that a better prepared child will be more confident and able to learn in kindergarten. For more information about the red-shirting trend, see "When Should a Kid Start Kindergarten" from The New York Times Magazine's June 3, 2007 issue. Call Gymboree Play & Music at (512) 444-9626 or visit www.GymboreeClasses.com for more information regarding its Level 7 Preschool Readiness program. - Christine Feldott





Over 50 homes Listed and Sold in our Neighborhood If you're thinking of buying or selling, please call me **512-797-PERK** (7375) or sandyperkins@earthlink.net





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\$225,000 8415 Stillwood Lane If you know someone who might like to live in our area, perhaps someone you work with or socialize with, please tell them about my latest home listed—it's a 3 Bedroom, 1.5 Bath with a 1 Car Garage, newly remodeled and ready to move-in today!

Decorating your yard with the American Flag each Memorial Day since 1989!

## **Beautification News**

The North Shoal Creek Neighborhood evolved from the mid sixties as a patchwork of various developments north and south of Steck Avenue with each development being given a different name designation. What was once near the edge of town is now referred to as "Central Austin" by many. For more information about our neighborhood history, see www.nscna.org.

With the march of time, business areas grew and transit routes defined the boundaries of this neighborhood. One vestige of the original development has remained: the Allandale Estates sign, located at Steck and Daleview. This sign was erected by the developers and the small parcel of land on which it stands was deeded to the owners of the adjacent property at 8202 Daleview many years ago. Currently it is owned by Dan Silver and Steve Punches. Throughout the years there have been 4 different owners and each of them has maintained the sign for the benefit of and, sometimes with the assistance of the neighborhood. The structure is sound and in good shape despite enduring 41+ years of the elements and one colossal flood, the 1981 Memorial Day flood of Shoal Creek.

In keeping with a renewed spirit of neighborhood pride and activism, the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Beautification Committee would like to update the landscaping of this sign and create a beautiful display that is a reflection of our concern for the history of our neighborhood as well as our interest in maintaining the neighborhood feel of some important thoroughfares. With the help of numerous neighborhood resources, it will be a focal point for our neighborhood identity.

We have obtained the volunteer advisory services of Carolyn Kelly, Landscape Architect. Carolyn was chosen to provide landscape design and implementation for our new library at Steck. She is also known in garden club circles as the designer of the landscaping at City Hall on Cesar Chavez.

Other steps to implementing the project include:

- \*Finalizing a landscape design plan (In Progress!)
- \*Power Wash the sign surface
- \*Check the site for utility lines placement—DONE!
- \*Obtain as many in kind donations from various sources for materials including boulders, dirt, plants.
- \*Employ the volunteer efforts of a Scout Troop to help us prepare the site.
- \*Coordinate a work party that includes neighborhood residents.
- \*Request donations from the neighborhood to offset costs.

Our current estimated budget is \$1300. It is anticipated that the project will be finished by Spring of next year. If additional money and time allows, updated lighting options will be explored. Participating on this project is Lori Anderson—Beautification Committee Chair, Mary Arnett—Board Member, Dan Silver and Steve Punches—current property owners, Margaret Schuenemann—neighborhood advisor to the committee.

The Committee is asking the neighborhood to show your support by giving some financial assistance to this project. All donations should be sent to NSCNA PO Box 66443, Austin, Texas 78766-0443 and please designate: "Allandale Sign Project" for your donation. Please indicate if you would allow us to acknowledge your name in a future issue of the newsletter as a donor to the project. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Arnett at 803-1540.



Yard of the Month Winners Jan—8300 Stillwood, Sonja Shaw March—8306 Millway, Grady & Barbara Louermilk April—8017 Stillwood, Don Imboden June—8308 Rockwood, Judy Ballard July—8404 Daleview, Janice Burford Copy of an Austin American-Statesman full page ad from Sunday, October 23, 1966 provided by Margaret Schuenemann

## grand opening today, Austin's newest planned community

Finally, a developer can offer you a new community of truly beautiful homes and say with conviction that it will have uncluttered beauty.

ALL UTILITIES ARE UNDERGROUND with no utility poles or overhead wires around your home. Not only is the beauty of your home enhanced, but the possibility of damage from fallen utility lines is eliminated. Also, the F.H.A. says your home is worth more if it is in a community with underground utilities. A home in Allandale Estates will be easier to sell or trade.

BEFORE YOU DECIDE TO BUY, CONSIDER THESE AD-VANTAGES: Allandale Estates is a total community. More than 500 homes will be built: yet, even now, each detail of the whole development is planned. Sidewalks have been provided for your walking enjoyment and for your children's safety.

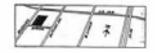
HERE IN ALLANDALE ESTATES, you have a choice of homebuilt by three of Austin's finest builders, Jack Andrewartha, Pringle Co., and Stan Rodgers. Each of them is known for the quality he builds into every home. These builders will offer a variety of homes from which to choose.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND PARK are planned and will be constructed in Allandale Estates. The developers have dedicated land for the school and park. Construction will start on the school early next year and it will be ready September, 1967. The community park will be a natural gathering place for you, your friends, and children. THREE MODEL HOMES ARE OPEN for you to see in Allandale Estates. Homes here will have built in appliances in the kitchen and central air and heat. Cabinetwork and finishes are as you would expect to find in homes costing thousands mare. No matter what the price, your home by one of these well-known builders will have quality beyond the price you pay.

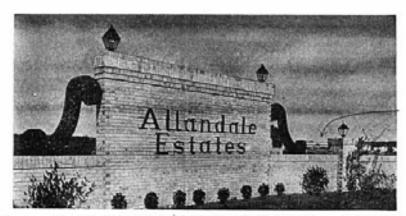
THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY, STREETS are planned for peoceful, quiet, relaxed living.

HOMES MAY BE FINANCED V.A., F.H.A., or Conventional. Homes range in price from 15 to the mid-20 thousands. Down payments start at \$700.00 with monthly payments as low as \$130.00 (including principal, interest, insurance and taxes).

IN PREFERRED NORTH AUSTIN, Allandale Estates is located between Balcones Trail and Burnet Road on the headwaters of Shool Creek. The main entrance is at Steck Avenue and Daleview. Today, when you visit Allandale Estates, you can see three model homes: ane each by Wiley and Howard Pringle, Stan Rodgers, and Jack Andrewartha.



DRIVE NOLTH ON Balcones. Turn right at Steck Ave. and follow signs.



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#### Home Theaters 101

by David Dettmer, Founder of Expertunity.com

The Texas Summer is here! One way to beat the heat is to create a home theater and watch the sizzling blockbusters in the comfort of your own cool, living room. Whether you're looking to upgrade your 20" to a large screen or create an entire home entertainment center, you may be wondering where to start.

Visiting retail stores such as Circuit City or Best Buy and talking with a sales person is a great way to get educated about your options. Before heading to the store, it's helpful to take along a few measurements:

- Distance from the couch or viewing area to the television
   To estimate the approximate size of television you need, multiply the number of feet between the viewing area and the television by 5 (7 ft x 5 = 35"). Television size is measured diagonally across the screen.
- Space where your television will fit (either the wall space or a cabinet)
   If you already have an armoire or entertainment center that you aren't going to replace, you'll need to consider the depth and weight in addition to width and height.

When surveying the variety of TVs available, there are 5 leading categories:

	Pros	Cons
Standard Direct View Cathode ray tubes create a picture	Great color; Viewable from any angle and light; Inexpensive	Heavy and awkward; Limited to 40" screen
Rear Projection Image projected through lenses, mirrors or filters	Big screen at an affordable price; Excellent picture quality	Limited viewing angle
Front Projection Separate projection device projects on a dedicated screen – like the movies	Huge screen potential	Expensive; Require custom wiring and installation
LCD Uses liquid crystals and color filters – like a laptop computer screen	Slimmest profile; Bright and sharp images; Wide viewing angles; Mountable on wall	Limited screen size
<b>Plasma</b> Illuminated fluorescent chambers create an image	Large screen size; Slim profile; Intense color; Wide viewing angles; Mountable on wall	Relatively expensive

If you're upgrading the features of your television, it may also be time to incorporate surround sound technology for a dynamic entertainment experience. Audio quality within most TVs is a second thought, so an external system is usually necessary. Surround sound mimics the audio environment of a movie theater. A standard system includes 5-7 speakers (left, right, front, rear) and a subwoofer. If you want an easy-to-install option, companies like Sony and Bose have created a system requiring only two floor speakers and a subwoofer that provide a similar sound without all the wires.

Depending on your expertise, it may be valuable to elicit the assistance of a professional services company. Home Theater experts can offer anything from advice to installations to custom-designed media rooms. Typically they provide a free consultation and they usually can get a hold of exceptional products at discounted prices, which can reduce the cost of your entire installation.

Hopefully you will find the perfect home theater setup for your home and family. Creating a home theater space can be very rewarding when it comes to spending time with your loved ones. Good luck and enjoy the movie.

Expertunity.com is an online resource for homeowners searching for landscapers, plumbers, roofers, handymen, painters, remodelers, and more.



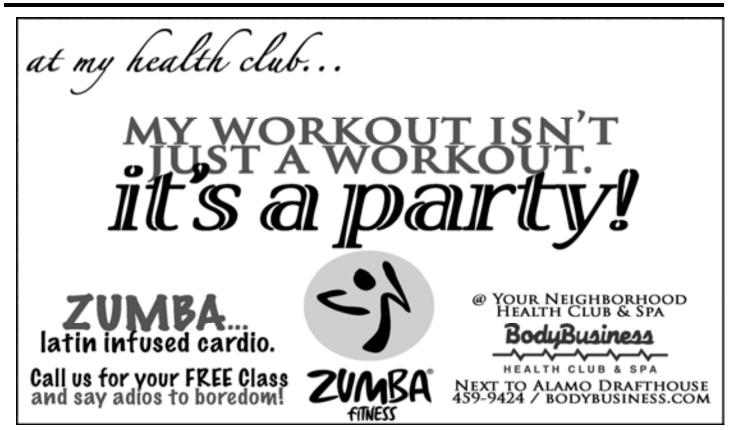
Landscapers, plumbers, handymen and more You name a pro, that's where to go

www.expertunity.com

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Your dues help sponsor our annual July 4th Parade, our Neighborhood Garage Sale, our Movie Night and many other exciting events. So if you haven't already joined, please fill out the form on the back page and join today—you could win a \$50 gift certificate



Zumba - Burn Calories & Have FUN!

DAYTON, Ohio - The security guards at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base were more than a little curious. A package-delivery truck sitting on the edge of a base parking lot was shaking violently. Warily approaching, the MPs found 35-year-old driver Doug Jones inside — shirtless, sweating and exercising to Latin music pulsing through the vehicle. Jones, on his lunch hour, was practicing Zumba — a brassy, high-octane, Colombian-born dance-aerobics workout that he teaches. "It's a party," Jones said in trying to describe Zumba (pronounced ZOOM-buh), which is Colombian slang for "fast." "It emulates being in a nightclub without the drinking, the smoking, the bad pickup lines." Classes are packed. The exercise gained a toehold in Miami in 1999 and has spread its international rhythms and flamenco footwork around the country. Studios devoted to the craze are now opening. In Charlotte, N.C., the classes have become so popular that people are turned away. They have to arrive early and get their hands stamped to assure themselves a spot. Nearly 1 million Americans have taken Zumba classes, following the moves of 3,500 instructors, according to Zumba Fitness LLC, which owns the trademark. Enthusiasts say Zumba is popular because people get lost in the music and the dancing, making exercising fun. TV dance shows such as "Dancing with the Stars" are also fueling interest. "You can just get out there and move and be silly and not have to worry about it," said Rick Carpenter, 50, a television repairman from Brookville, who took up Zumba with his wife after seeing a poster for it. "It's a good stress reliever. You can be having the worst day ... and after you've done an hour of Zumba you just feel great." Torture-free fitness: The 60-minute program incorporates footwork and body movements from flamenco, salsa and other dances. Participants pump their legs, windmill their arms, gyrate their hips, clap their hands, dip, slide and spin — all to a frenzied beat that leaves them with flushed cheeks and dripping in sweat. "You don't have to torture yourself to be fit," said Alberto Perlman, chief executive of Zumba Fitness. "It's almost like hiding medicine inside a piece of candy. Exercise experts say Zumba can offer a good cardio workout. Cedric Bryant, chief science officer for the American Council on Exercise, which trains fitness professionals, said Zumba is relatively easy on the joints. "For the middle-aged exerciser, it's going to be a more comfortable way to challenge the body," Bryant said. Some dancers say they can burn up to 700 calories or more in onesession — an amount that will shed about one-fifth of a pound.

*Excerpts of article provided by:* BodyBusiness Health Club & Spa - Your Neighborhood Health Club! Offering 4 ZUMBA classes a week 2700 West Anderson Lane / 459-9424 www.bodybusiness.com © 2007 The Associated Press. Austin's Neighborhood Gym



Gym One offers a full line of cardio equipment, free weights, weight machines, individual saunas, complementary towels (sweat and bath), and other amenities for your convenience. We also offer dry cleaning pick-up/drop-off service, car wash service, independent personal trainers, retail, and much more coming soon.

BRING IN THIS AD TO RECEIVE NO INITIATION FEE (savings of \$100).

Come See Us:

GYM ONE Shoal Creek Plaza 3300 West Anderson Lane, STE. 301 Austin, TX 78757

 $\begin{array}{c} & \text{Or Call:} \\ 459 & 6165 \end{array}$ 

Help Support RG4N

MEMBERSHIP CONTEST WINNER Our neighbor, Suzanne Chaney of Briarwood was the lucky winner of our 2nd quarter drawing just for joining or renewing her membership this year! She won a \$50 gift card to Casa Chapala Restaurant



You can be our next lucky winner just by filling out the Membership Form on the back page and mailing it in with a \$15 check - and your name will go into the drawing for the 3rd quarter winner!



#### Save your energy for them.

You've got better ways to spend your weekend than playing handyman. The Freeman Company provides home improvement expertise, from roofing to energy-efficient windows and everything in-between. And we can help reduce your home energy consumption while keeping your environment comfortable. Call us today — you've got *real* playing to do.

Want to save energy this summer? Call us for a home energy audit at (512) 255-1295.

## **Cub Scout Recruiting Coming to Area Schools**

By Charles Mead

Families have as many choices as ever when it comes to spending their free time together. But few of those choices will offer parents fun for their children, while allowing mom and dad to get involved too. Scouting can offer all this – plus access and opportunity to people and experiences that can help your child succeed in the future.

The start of the school year is a great time for families who are interested in getting started in Scouting, as school districts across Central Texas offer "Join Cub Scouting Nights" at their elementary school campuses. Join Cub Scouting Nights offer families of boys in the first through fifth grades the chance to find out what Scouting is all about, and ask leaders questions.

"Scouts get out of the house and have fun with friends," says Capitol Area Council President, Winston Krause. "A child can try so many new things in Scouting, and moms and dads can be there with their children as they figure out what they like and what they don't. The most important thing is that no matter what a Scout tries, he promises to do his best."

Scouting aims to serve families in many ways, now and in the future. According to research by Harris Interactive, men who were Scouts are more likely than men who were never Scouts to graduate from high school and college, earn a higher annual household income, value family relationships, have lifelong friendships and believe in helping others.

"I like what they have taught my son, in teaching him how to be a leader," says Sandra Conrad, mother and Scout leader. "He's learned leadership skills and he has the tools and he can move forward from here."

Cub Scouts and their families can take advantage of the Capitol Area Council's new 150-acre "Cub World" facility at Camp Tom Wooten, on the LCRA Lost Pines Scout Reservation in Bastrop. Every new Scout that joins this August or September will receive a free Pinewood Derby car kit courtesy of Gatti's Pizza - and will be invited to an exclusive practice of the University of Texas Longhorn football team, hosted by former Scout, Mack Brown.

For more information about Scouting or Join Cub Scouting Night, go online to www.bsacac.org and look for the "Join Cub Scouting Night" link on the home page. If you don't see information for the Join Cub Scouting Night at your child's school, contact James Johnson at (512) 926-6363 ext. 33 or *jajohnso@bsamail.org*.

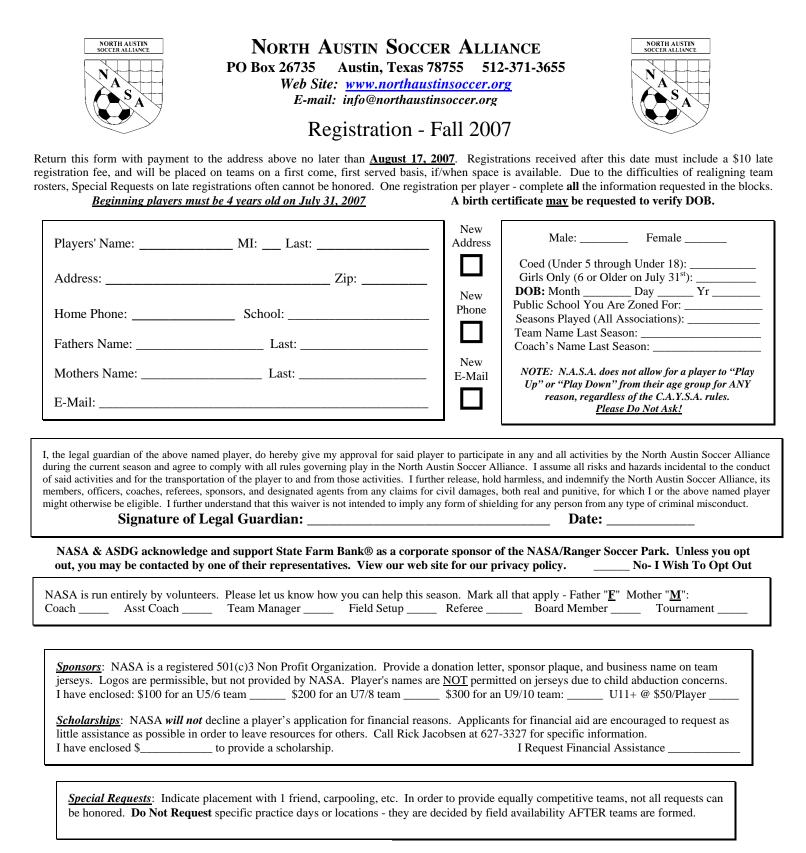
## "It Takes A Community : Local Government at Work

The North Village Branch of the Austin Public Library is pleased to announce a new speaker series, "It Takes a Community: Local Government at Work." On the second Thursday of each month, at 7p.m., we will meet at the library with a representative of a local agency to hear about the services they provide. Some will be more familiar to you than others, but we think you will be surprised—and your lives enriched—by the extraordinary variety of services available to the citizens of Austin.

The series kicks off on **Thursday**, **August 9**, **at 7 p.m.**, with **Beverly Reeves**, Customer Service Coordinator for the **Austin Independent School District**. She will fill us in on "New Horizons at AISD." Know what to expect for the coming school year!

All programs will take place in the meeting room at the North Village Branch, 2139 West Anderson Lane (behind Popeye's Chicken in the North Star Home Center). Call me or Kathleen at 458-2239 if you have questions. And please share the news about this exciting new series with your friends and neighbors.

Beth Solomon, Librarian III, North Village Branch, Austin Public Library, 2139 W. Anderson Lane



Fees provide game jersey, shorts, socks, picture (U5-U12), participation trophy (U5-U12), field supplies & equipment, insurance, referee fees (where applicable), and free weekly player and coaches training clinics conducted by licensed professional coaches. <u>Footgear, shinguards</u>, and <u>soccer ball</u> are mandatory at player's expense.

Date Processed: \_\_\_\_\_ Ck #: \_\_\_\_\_ Amt: \_\_\_\_

Under 5/6 (4 & 5 Year Olds)	<b>\$ 90</b>	
Under 7/8/9/10 (6 to 9 Year Olds)	\$ 115	
Under 11 and Above (10+ Year)	\$ 145	
\$10 Family Discount for Additional Players ()		
\$10 Late Fee (After August 17	<sup>th</sup> ) \$10	
<u>NOTE: Select ONLY 1 Age Group</u>	Total \$	

# July 4th Parade Photos

















# Pillow Elementary News

Aside from hearing the news in March that our little school on Crosscreek Drive had won the Urban School Transformation Excellence in Education award, two individuals from our Pillow family went on to win prestigious awards in our community this spring. Cheryl Drozd, a fourth grade teacher, was honored on May 7 by Sam's Club, when they surprised her with the Teacher of the Year Award for the Austin area! That evening, HEB announced the winners of the statewide Excellence in Education contest. Dr. Linda Webb was announced Elementary Principal of the Year! The school received a gift of \$25,000 from HEB, and Dr. Webb won \$10,000. The Pillow family is proud indeed of these wonderful accomplishments.

Many thanks to LOWE's on Shoal Creek. They donated two trees for planting on Earth Day in April. With all the rain we've had, the trees are enjoying a healthy start! Thanks also to Whole Foods Market and RunTex for supporting our Track and Field Days in late April. Due in part to their support, Pillow has won a CATCH (Coordinated Approach to Children's Health) grant for the upcoming year.

The new school year is starting later than usual, due to changes made by the Legislature. The first day of classes will be on Monday, August 27, so please make note of increased pedestrian and auto traffic around Pillow that day (and for days, weeks, and months afterward!)

The school will be open before that date for those folks who did not register in May, have transferred into Pillow's attendance area, and for Pre-K registration (special days for that) If you need more information, feel free to call the school after July 30 at 414-2350.

On the first day of school we invite all Kindergarten parents to stay and share coffee and snacks and address any concerns they may have about this new stage in their child's life. Dr. Webb and PTA members will assist. The PTA Gift Wrap Sale, a major fundraiser, will take place soon after school starts. You may have some young "entrepreneurs" knocking at your doors, perhaps you can participate and support the school. As always, we would welcome volunteers to mentor a child at Pillow for the upcoming school year. Please contact Annette Hendricks at 414-2350. Thank you for your support!



# A Big NSCNA Thank you and Hats off to:

Aleda Johnson for coordinating our Spring Garage Sale.

Billy Reagan of Reagan Advertising for immediately removing a billboard sign at Burnet Rd & Colfax advertising a XXX club . Upon one phone call, Mr. Reagan said the sign would be changed to another advertisement within 24 hours and it was!

Steve Ynostrosa, Debra Luna and Christi Wells of Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union for providing pizza and prizes at our last General Meeting and again to Debra Luna and Christi Wells of RBFCU for their enthusiasm in helping with our July 4th Parade and for providing water bottles and hand fans at our July 4th Parade.

All of our neighbors who brought pies & cakes for our July 4th Cake Walk!

To Fuddrucker's Restaurant for providing a gift certificate for a July 4th contest winner! To San Francisco Bakery for donating baked goods for our Cake Walk.

To Marie Calendars for donating 2 pies for our Cake Walk.

To Jerry & Helen Horn for allowing their precious 8 year old granddaughter to sing the National Anthem for all to enjoy at the July 4th Parade.

#### *Library News* North VILLAGE BRANCH, AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY 2139 WEST ANDERSON LANE

Hello, neighbors! We are your friendly neighborhood library, the North Village Branch of the Austin Public Library. Perhaps you have visited us. If not, we hope you will soon. We are tucked away in the North Star Home Center at 2139 West Anderson Lane (that's the furniture store and Yoga Yoga strip mall behind Popeye's Chicken). We've been here for over 35 years! As some of you may know, back in 1998 the citizens of Austin approved a Bond to build us a new building on Steck Avenue. The architectural firm of Limbacher & Godfrey has completed the plans, and construction has begun as we speak! However, we'll be in our current location for a while yet. So come visit us! We have a lot to offer.

Our Branch Manager, Kathleen Kanarski (a resident of North Shoal Creek) has been at North Village for nearly seven years. While she has seen many changes in that time, a lot has remained the same. We still serve as a gathering place for community organizations (about 25 different groups a month), as a study hall for students, as an activity center for children and their adults, and as an educational, information and entertainment resource for every citizen in our diverse community.

Here are some of the free services and resources we offer:

--New this Fall: **Special Adult Programs** at 7 pm on the second Thursday of the month, featuring speakers from City, County and State departments who will introduce us to little-known or unsung services available to all. On September 13, meet Jean Graham from the City of Austin's **Art in Public Places** program. And on October 11, learn about pandemic flu preparedness from Linda Cox of the **Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department.** 

--Two **story times** each Tuesday morning: 10:15 am for Toddlers, and 11 am for Pre-schoolers, both led by our Children's Librarian, Heather Valdez. <u>Story times will resume in September</u>.

--Seven Internet-connected computers, also loaded with Microsoft Office (including Word, Excel, Publisher and Photo Editor).

--Access through the library's home page to proprietary **databases** on many subjects, including business, literature, automobile repair, legal forms, biography, careers and genealogy.

--DVDs, yes, we've got all kinds, from educational to kids' cartoons to Anime to your favorite first-run theatrical releases.

--CDs: music ranging from classical to country to pop to R&B--you name it!

--Graphic Novels (full-length comic books) on a variety of subjects, including many popular Manga, at three reading levels: grade school, middle/high school, and adult.

--Books on Tape and Books on CD—you can listen to a book while driving your car or working in your garden.

--Magazines on many subjects from "Barrons" to "Vogue," to "Mad," for kids and adults.

--Newspapers including the <u>Austin American Statesman</u>, the <u>Dallas Morning News</u>, the <u>San Antonio Express-News</u>, the <u>Houston Chronicle</u>, <u>USA Today</u>, the <u>Wall Street Journal</u> and the Sunday <u>New York Times</u>.

--A complete **reference** section, with up-to-date information on all kinds of topics including <u>Consumer Reports</u> and both volumes of <u>The Value Line Investment Survey</u>.

--and finally, **BOOKS**! Yes, we do still have books, lots of them, more than 65,000, and not only in English, but in Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and Japanese. Even in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, books remain the heart of the neighborhood public library. We receive copies of all the books on the <u>New York Times</u> Bestseller List, as well as the most current, important and relevant publications of the day. And you have access through the Branch to the entire collection of the John Henry Faulk Central Library as well as the other 19 Branches in the Austin Public Library system. We have received over 300 brand new books in just the last month!

We're open from 10am to 9pm Monday through Thursday, 10am to 6 pm Friday, and 10am to 5 pm Saturday. Please stop by. We'd love to meet you. Our staff has over 100 years of combined library experience! We look forward to helping you discover and enjoy the many options available at <u>your</u> neighborhood public library, the North Village Branch!



PO Box 66443 Austin, TX 78766-0443

If you join the neighborhood association or renew your membership between July 1st and September 30th—your name will go into the hat for a \$50 gift certificate to: Casa Chapala's Restaurant. See 2nd quarter winners name on page 14. Your membership will allow you to become a voting member of the association, will help pay for exciting neighborhood events and will help pay for resources that assist in solving issues which effect our area. Support your Neighborhood Association by joining NSCNA and help continue to make our area great! Just fill out this coupon and mail it (along with your \$15 check made payable to NSCNA) to NSCNA Membership, P.O. Box 66443, Austin, TX 78766-0443 Name: Phone: Address:	Win E	Big in Our Membership Contest!
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Win Big in Our Membership Contest!	Win D	in in Our Manshanshin Contact!

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