



# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

## November 2010

President's Corner .....	2
Holiday Lights Walk .....	2
Safety News .....	3
Bylaws Update .....	3
Tree Grant Update.....	5

## Calendar

- 11/9 NSCNA General Meeting, Pillow Elementary**
- 12/13 Board of Directors Meeting, North Village Library**
- 12/21 Holiday Lights Walk, Pillow Elementary Grounds**
- 1/4 NSCNA General Meeting, Pillow Elementary**

Visit our neighborhood calendar at [www.nscna.org/calendar](http://www.nscna.org/calendar)

## Join NSCNA

Visit [nscna.org](http://nscna.org) or mail in the membership form at the back of this issue.

## Connect Online

Keep up with neighborhood news between newsletters. Visit our website and join your neighbors on our NSCNA email discussion list.

**NSCNA website** - [nscna.org](http://nscna.org)  
**NSCNA email discussion list** - [nscna.org/discuss](http://nscna.org/discuss)

## Neighborhood Partner Project

by Kate Brien

The Neighborhood Partner Program (NPP) provides an opportunity for Austin neighborhood associations to coordinate small (less than \$75,000) and medium (\$75,000 to \$150,000) projects with the City. Part of the coordination requires that the neighborhood association pays for at least 25% of the project's cost. The payment can be achieved through cash, "in-kind services," or "sweat equity."

Earlier this year, several NSCNA members contacted the Board regarding sidewalk repairs. Based on members' interests, the NSCNA submitted a non-binding letter of intent to the NPP regarding our interest in sidewalk repairs. Before entering into a binding agreement, the Board wanted to gauge members' current interest and participate in an official vote.

NSCNA members had an opportunity to participate in a survey regarding NPP. The survey asked members to indicate whether NSCNA should consider spending money from the neighborhood association CD to participate in the program. The survey also provided members with an opportunity to rank possible projects and suggest alternate projects. The survey results were mailed to members on October 12. The surveys were only used to gauge interest.

On October 19, members met to discuss the NPP and to take an official vote on whether or not to participate. At the meeting, NPP committee members shared further information on some of the possible projects. NSCNA members had the opportunity to ask questions and share thoughts regarding general participation in the program and specific projects.

Based on discussions, the following motion was proposed, discussed, and voted on:

1. NSCNA to submit an application to the City of Austin Neighborhood Partner Program for sidewalk repairs
2. NSCNA to furnish up to \$20,000 in cash match funds for this sidewalk repair project; and
3. NSCNA to work to develop additional non-cash matching funds through means such as volunteer "sweat equity" and material donations from businesses.

The majority of NSCNA members present at the meeting voted in favor of the motion. The vote from the October 19 meeting is the official membership vote, and the NSCNA Board will proceed based on the membership vote. The City of Austin has been informed of the decision to proceed with sidewalk repairs. We are currently awaiting

*(continued on page 3)*

## North Shoal Creek Neighborhood News

is published bimonthly  
by the North Shoal Creek  
Neighborhood Association (NSCNA)

EDITOR: Cheri Hartman  
DISTRIBUTION: Andreas Guenin  
Alyssa Hedge

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Kate Brien, Jeff Hartman, Don Jones,  
Sharon Justice, Juliette Kernion, Lois  
McEvoy and everyone else who helped  
make this newsletter possible.

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# President's Corner



by Chip Rosenthal

One thing I've enjoyed  
these past several  
months is hearing  
feedback from  
neighbors. My

contact information is published in  
this newsletter and on the website,  
and from time to time neighbors will  
use that to ask me a question or share  
a concern. It's often rewarding, and  
I find it helpful to me to hear about  
issues outside my quiet little block  
of the neighborhood.

I'd like to use this column to give  
the neighborhood a bit of my own  
feedback, arising from what I've  
heard in those calls and emails.

One thing I'd like to do is clarify  
the difference between a neighborhood  
association (like NSCNA) and a  
homeowners' association (HOA).  
The names sound similar, but they  
are very different things. An HOA  
typically is created by a property  
developer to control the appearance  
and manage the common assets in a  
subdivision or development. A  
neighborhood association, on the  
other hand, is a voluntary organization  
of people who get together to advocate  
for their neighborhood. The City of  
Austin has a broad network of  
neighborhood associations, and these  
groups often are the strongest  
representatives of residents' needs  
and interests.

That's why NSCNA gets involved

in areas such as development,  
transportation and safety. We try to  
represent neighborhood interests on  
these sorts of issues before the city.

Individual property appearance issues,  
for instance, might be something an  
HOA would take up, but neighborhood  
associations generally don't. If you  
contact me with such an issue, I'll  
probably direct you to the City of  
Austin "Code Compliance" department,  
which does follow up on some of  
these issues. I mention this not because  
I mind the contact – I just want to  
save you a step. You can get more  
information at <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/code/compliance/> or by  
calling 311.

Sometimes I hear about issues that  
the association can do something  
about – if we've got the resources to  
do so. We're a volunteer organization,  
so we can only do the things that  
we have volunteers for. So far,  
we've been having a great year with  
our programs – and we'll be able to  
take on even more if we have the  
volunteer resources.

If there is a neighborhood issue that  
concerns you, I hope you'll consider  
offering your support to one of our  
committees. It's a great way to meet  
your neighbors, and help on the issues  
that are important to our neighborhood.

I welcome your feedback on neighborhood  
issues. You can reach me at chip@  
unicom.com or 573-5174.

## Neighborhood Holiday Light Walking Tour

On Tuesday, December 21 from 6 to 8 pm, the Social Committee will lead a  
Holiday Light Walking Tour. We'll meet on the Pillow School Grounds. For  
more information, email Alyssa at socialchair@nscna.org or call her at 380-9616.

# Neighborhood Safety News

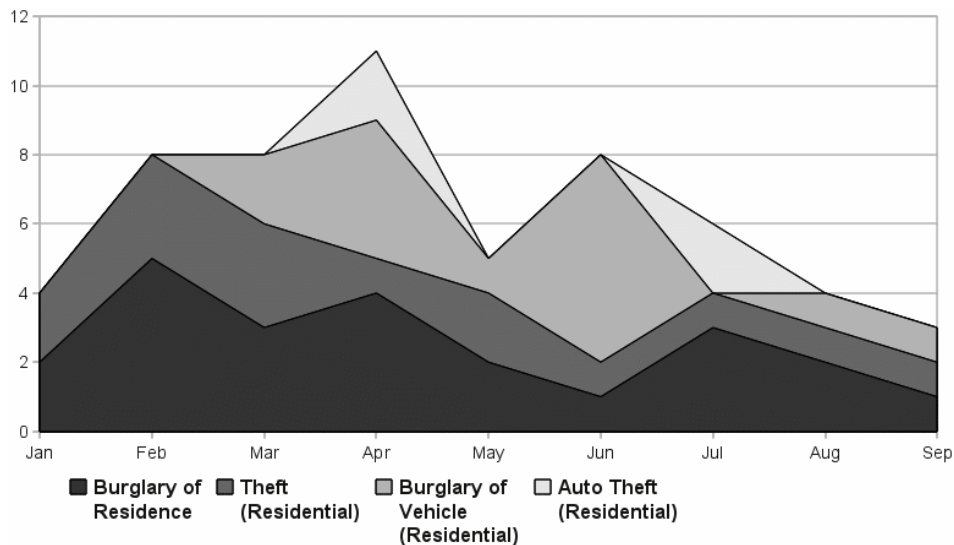
by Chip Rosenthal

There is quite a bit of good news to report this time around. First, NSC residents had a very successful National Night Out this year. It was on October 5, and we had beautiful fall weather that evening. We had six different parties listed in the neighborhood. Emergency service personnel dropped in on at least some of the parties.

Thanks to Andreas Guenin for coordinating our list of neighborhood parties.

## Crime Analysis

Property crime in our neighborhood continues to decline. Throughout the year, we've been seeing a steady decrease in residential theft and burglary. Automotive theft and burglary have been persistently stubborn through the year – until now. In recent months, we've finally seen improvements in the neighborhood automotive theft and burglary rates.



The property crime rates shown in the accompanying graph show continued reductions through the year, with a low of three residential property crimes total in the month of September.

To a large extent, the crime rates in our neighborhood have been following citywide trends. Our efforts to secure our property and watch for suspicious activity are helpful, to keep our neighborhood from being an attractive target to thieves.

The improvements are welcome, but we're not at zero, which means there is still more work to do. It's more important than ever to file a report with the Austin Police Department if you are the victim of a crime. We need to bring even minor incidents to the attention of APD, to be sure we continue to get the support we need.

As always, please secure your valuables around your home, remove them from your car, watch for suspicious activity, and call it into 911 immediately.

# Bylaws News

by Lois McEvoy

Our neighborhood is evolving and our bylaws need some amending. The Bylaws Committee— Sherran Williams, Kevin Weir, Vicki McFadden, Jerry Horn, and Lois McEvoy— is working to make sure our bylaws stay current. Members will have a chance to vote on the amendments at the November 9 meeting.

Prior to that meeting, all members of the association will receive a printed copy of the proposed amendments for review.

## NPP (cont)

the official invitation from the City before we proceed.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped with the myriad of tasks associated with NPP.

Please contact Kate Brien at [mathqueen99@gmail.com](mailto:mathqueen99@gmail.com) or Chip Rosenthal at 573-5174 if you have any questions.

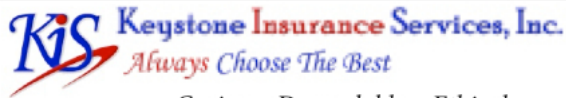
## Fire Safety Tip

November 7 marks the end of Daylight Savings Time, so be sure to turn your clocks back one hour and enjoy the extra sleep. Also, it's a great time to check the batteries in your smoke detectors. They're easy to check and replace, and if you need help accessing or changing the battery in one, let us know and we'll find you some help.



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## Service Directory Numbers

- 211.... Community Information and Referral Services  
(food stamps, emergency shelters, state assistance, etc.)
- 311.... Non-Emergency Police and City Services
- 411.... Directory Assistance
- 511.... Traffic and Transportation Information
- 611.... Repair Service (usually for individual cell phone companies)
- 711.... Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS – for the  
hearing impaired)
- 811.... Call Before You Dig (locates underground utility  
lines for emergency repair, or regular repair situations)
- 911.... Emergency

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# Tree Grant Update

by Sharon Justice

Members at the September 7 meeting approved a motion to submit the Beautification Committee's grant proposal to the City of Austin's Urban Forest Grant. The grant request, titled "North Shoal Creek Urban Heat Island Mitigation Project," asks for \$7,000 to buy and plant 15 medium-sized trees (15-20 gal.) in yards where more street shade is needed, and 10 larger trees (25-30 gal.) in yards of homeowners who remove dead or dying trees from their yards (at their own expense).

It also asks for \$2,400 to hire a certified arborist to survey the neighborhood, report where trees are most needed and recommend what species to plant.

The grant request has been mailed, and we hope for a response from the City in November.

The text of the grant request is posted on the NSCNA website at [www.nscna.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/08/UFGP-Review-Draft.pdf](http://www.nscna.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/08/UFGP-Review-Draft.pdf).

# Halloween Spirit



photos by Don Jones

## ★ My Allandale Home Listings! ★

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8711 Millway- pending	8608 Daleview-sold	8614 Millway-sold	8110 Stillwood-sold
8012 Vinewood-pending	8607 Dawnridge-sold	8700 Millway-sold	8415 Stillwood-sold
2525 Ashdale #77 -sold	8706 Dawnridge-sold	8703 Millway-sold	8700 Stillwood-sold
2701 Benbrook-sold	8708 Dawnridge-sold	8706 Millway-buyer & seller	2708 Thrushwood-sold
2703 Benbrook-sold	8701 Donna Gail-sold	8603 Primrose-sold	3000 Thrushwood-sold
2703 Benbrook-sold again	8400 Flagstone-sold	8605 Primrose-sold	8617 Winding Walk-sold
3206 Benbrook-sold	2705 Kerrybrook-sold	8702 Primrose-sold	8621 Winding Walk-sold
3200 Crosscreek -sold	2707 Kerrybrook-sold	8717 Primrose-sold	
8209 Daleview-sold	8712 Little Laura-sold	7928 Rockwood-sold	
8300 Daleview-sold	8701 Melshire-sold	8015 Rockwood-sold	
8306 Daleview-sold	8703 Melshire-sold	8109 Rockwood-sold	
8310 Daleview-sold	8301 Millway-sold	8202 Rockwood-sold	

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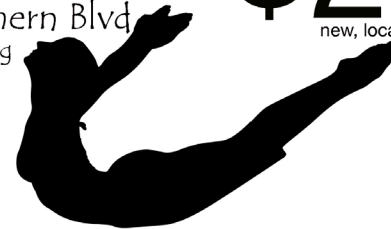
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Name of all residents over 18: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any comments or concerns for NSCNA? \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the committees you are interested in:

- |   |                                      |                                     |                                     |                                  |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Media      | <input type="checkbox"/> Nominating | <input type="checkbox"/> Social  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bylaws         | <input type="checkbox"/> Election    | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety     | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic |

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