## Times are a-changin' — along Burnet Road and in North Shoal Creek: a commentary

Burnet Road is now one of Austin's hot spots for development. Two new developments opened recently; a third is being constructed; and a fourth has been proposed for 8528 Burnet, next to Waterloo Ice House.

As Lois McEvoy, NSCNA's president, says in her column, Austin is changing and so is our neighborhood. An ad I saw recently brought this home to me. The ad, for a Burnet Road apartment complex, ended with the words "chic Burnet Road corridor." When I think of Burnet Road, the image of Ginny's Little Longhorn Saloon is more likely to pop into my mind than a chic streetscape. But it's time to readjust my thinking to include chic as well as Ginny's chickens.

Burnet Road is an Austin time machine. Start at 45<sup>th</sup> with neighborhoods from World War II, then drive north, through neighborhoods from the 50s and 60s. When you reach 183, you're in the 80s. Keep driving and you'll arrive at the Domain with its brand new neighborhood. That's a lot of change, and the near future will bring a lot more.

Coping with change is the theme of this newsletter. It's addressed in Lois' Presi-

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dent's Corner column and in the NSCNA Board's explanation of why our Association opposes MF-6 zoning. Further along is an editorial about coping with more change—Burnet's growing traffic.

But there's a lighter side to change too. May 2, the first Saturday in May this year, is packed with events. It's the day of our annual neighborhood garage sale and there's a new twist—NSCNA is partnering with Pillow Elementary School to help publicize their garage sale fundraiser. NxNA, the North by North Austin Garden and Artisan Tour, is also May 2. Plan to hit the garage sales early and then spend a leisurely afternoon taking in North Austin's creative side. And a note to North Shoal Creek arts and crafts people—a table at Pillow's garage sale can be had for only \$10. Pillow's art focused fundraiser can be an opportunity to showcase your talents.

About a year ago, I wrote that we North Shoal Creekers need to take advantage of the opportunities change presents, sidestep the risks, and channel it where we want it. That hasn't changed. That's still our challenge this year as well.

Sharon Justice, co-editor

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

April 6: Talk Green To Me series at North Village Library, 6:00-8:00 p.m.April 10-11: Dinosaur George museum

exhibit at Pillow Elementary School

May 2: Neighborhood garage sales, including Pillow's fundraiser, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.; NxNA Garden and Artisan Tour, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

**May 5:** NSCNA General Meeting, Pillow Elementary School, 3025 Crosscreek Drive, 6:30 p.m.

## **Neighborhood News**

Spring 2015 Issue

A quarterly newsletter for the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association (NSCNA)

Editors: Sharon Justice, Erin Poole

Contributors/Volunteers: Amelia Cobb, Kimberly Davishines, Gabrielle Lucas, Lois McEvoy, Tomas Rodriguez, Kenneth Webb, and Kevin Wier

Color edition of newsletter available at www.nscna.org.

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To submit an article for consideration, email it to newsletter@nscna.org. All articles are subject to editing.

**NSCNA** P.O. Box 66443 Austin, TX 78766-0443

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## President's corner



I wish to thank all the other officers and directors for volunteering this year.

The year has already started off with a bang. At our November meeting, the general membership voted not to support the rezoning of the Crump/Gordon property from CS to MF-6. On February 12th, the City Council voted 7 to 4 in favor of granting the requested change by the developer. Voting to oppose the rezoning were Leslie Pool, Ann Kitchens, Kathy Tovo and Ora Houston. The Development Committee is hoping to change the mind of at least two more council members before the next reading.

Like the city of Austin, our neighborhood is changing. We love our neighborhood just as it is and don't want to see it change, but that is unrealistic. By working together, we can hopefully manage the changes to keep what we were drawn to when we chose to live here.

Do you have a vision for what NSCNA should do this year? My goal for this year is to increase participation in our organization. We have over 800 households in our neighborhood, but membership in NSCNA is less than 15% of that number. Attendance at our general membership meetings averages less than 5%. I want to increase both of those percentages.

There are many ways to participate in NSCNA. Can you serve on a committee? Volunteer at one of our events? Help deliver our newsletter? Come to our general membership meetings? Maybe just join our Yahoo group or check our website to stay up-todate on what's happening in the neighborhood? If you have time to join us, even if it's just a hour or so a month, we would like to get to know you!

> Lois McEvov. 2015 NSCNA President

The North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association (NSCNA) holds five membership meetings a year, on the first Tuesday of these months: January, March, May, September, and November. Membership meetings are held in the Pillow Elementary School cafeteria, 3025 Crosscreek, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. All our meetings are open to the public.

For information on how to join NSCNA, please see page 16.



The North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association is pleased to announce that Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union is the sponsor of our 2015 Newsletters.

# Why the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association Board opposes MF-6 zoning for 8528 Burnet

The developer, Sackman Enterprises, has proposed building a 300-unit apartment complex at 8528 Burnet Road, on the property that is currently Gordon Automotive and including the property that previously was Crump Plumbing. The developer has since decreased the number of units to 225.

That location is currently zoned CS (Commercial Services). Sackman Enterprises has asked that the CS zoning be changed to MF-6 (Multi-Family, Highest Density). The NSCNA Board, after considering the issue, responded with a counteroffer of MF-4 (Moderate High Density zoning), which matches North Shoal Creek's existing multifamily housing. The developer rejected the offer.

The Austin Planning Commission voted in favor of MF-6 zoning. The Austin City Council also voted in favor on first reading. To become an ordinance, the

issue must be "read" or voted on two more times.

City staff has recommended holding the second reading at the April 9th City Council meeting. As of the date of this article, the developer hadn't yet agreed to that date.

The NSCNA Board has a responsibility to protect the quality of life we enjoy in our neighborhood. We also recognize reality: Austin's boom is continuing, housing is badly needed, and development has now arrived in North Shoal Creek. We've sought a path that will accommodate growth, housing and development while not compromising the quality of life in our neighborhood.

In this article, we want to do several things:

• Describe the proposed development *(continued on page 12)* 

## **Your North Shoal Creek Expert**





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# Get Ready! North Shoal Creek's annual neighborhood garage sales plus Pillow's garage sale fundraiser set for Sat., May 2

Spring is almost upon us, and you know what that means? The annual **North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association garage sales**, of course! The date this year is **Saturday**, **May 2**, **8** a.m.-1 p.m.

This year, we are anticipating BIG crowds as we are coordinating with Pillow Elementary School as an <u>additional site</u>. Their community garage sale to raise funds for their graphic artists' painting project on Pillow's portable buildings is also set for that weekend.

And, May 2 is the day of the North Austin Art and Garden tour, which includes our North Shoal Creek Neighborhood!

So, here's the scoop if you want to participate in the NSCNA's garage sales on Saturday, May 2: sign up to list your address on the map that we'll distribute that day so shoppers know where to find your sale. E-mail Amelia Cobb, NSCNA Social Chair, at *social@nscna.org* or call 512-364-5519 and provide your name, address, and contact e-mail or phone number. (All that will appear on the map is your address.)

#### The deadline to sign up is Friday, April 24.

A donation of \$5.00 to go toward Pillow Elementary School's graphic art project and summer book drive is suggested but not required.

Got things to sell but don't want to hold a garage sale at your home? You can "buy" a table at Pillow Elementary School's garage sale (\$10 for 1 table; \$15 for 2). To reserve a table, call Mrs. Anderson at 512-414-2350 or email her at wanda.anderson@ austinisd.org.



We'll be teaming up to advertise the sales in the Austin American Statesman, on Craig's List, in the Pillow Elementary School Newsletter, on websites, and with banners and signs around the neighborhood.

So, start that spring cleaning while the weather is beautiful and get ready to enjoy some great sales and have a fine time in the neighborhood on Saturday, May 2!

Amelia Cobb, Chair, Social Committee (social@nscna.org)



# Pillow fundraiser to paint our portables and send children home with books to read this summer

Due to the generosity of local artists, some of the portables at Pillow will receive a fresh, new look this spring when murals depicting various subjects will be painted on them. We need your help raising funds to buy supplies for the artists, who are generously donating their time.

You can help by **purchasing a table at our garage sale (1 table for \$10.00** or **2 for \$15.00).** We will have the tables set up under the awning and on the driveway by the playground at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 2nd.

Tables must be purchased in advance. Please contact Denise Anderson or Carly Kennedy at Pillow Elementary School, (512) 414-2350, to buy your spot.

We will have food trailers on hand as well as the artists themselves to make it a fun day for a worthy cause.

### Don't Delay—Call Today!

Kimberly Davishines, Pillow Elementary School

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# Who Was Dorinda Pillow And Why Is Our School Named After Her? Condensed from "Who Was Dorinda Pillow?" by the Pillow PTA

Dorinda Pillow (1885-1962) taught in Austin public schools for 47 years, including 23 years at Pease. She was the fifth of nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. William Ashton Pillow. Miss Pillow was absent for only 40 days in her 47 years of teaching in Austin schools. She said she hated to miss school because one day in a child's life meant so much.

Miss Pillow holds a unique place in Austin's history not only as an educator but also as Austin's "Telephone Baby." At the time of her birth, Miss Pillow's father was superintendent of supplies for the first telephone company, the Erie Company, which established its Texas general offices in Austin. Mr. Pillow had the first residential telephone in Austin installed in his home so he could be notified of the impending birth of his daughter.

When the occasion arrived, Mr. Pillow, who was at his work place on Congress Avenue, was phoned and told to come home. The weather did not cooperate. A severe storm blew up, and hailstones striking his horse caused it to run away. Luckily, the horse ran home and into the barn, bringing the father on the scene in time to welcome his new



Dorinda Pillow Elementary School, 3025 Crosscreek

daughter, Dorinda. As a result, she was nicknamed "The Telephone Baby."

Miss Pillow retired in May, 1954. She died as a result of an auto accident on April 3, 1962. She is buried in Oakwood Cemetery Annex, Section E.

Pillow Elementary was named after her in 1969, when the school was new.

Printed in the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood News with permission of the Pillow PTA (pillowpta.weebly.com)

## DINOSAUR GEORGE MUSEUM EXHIBIT

at the
Pillow Elementary School Gym
Friday & Saturday, April 10-11
\$5.00/ticket

Over 300' of exhibit items featuring prehistoric life forms from around the world

For more information, email pillowpta@gmail.com or visit www.dinosaurgeorge.com



# Austin Public Libraries to host "Talk Green to Me" sustainable living series throughout April



The Austin Public Library is hosting a month long series of fun and informative discussions, presentations and documentaries on sustainable living throughout the month of April. Topics covered include community gardens,

growing local, permaculture, organic gardening, composting, energy efficiency, sustainable community planning, chickens, worms, tiny houses, edible insects, aquifer protection, gray water recycling, urban wildlife habitats, and green land-scaping.

Two of the 20-plus events will be held at the North Village Library on April 6th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

At 6:00 p.m., Gail Vittori, co-director of the Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems (CMPBS) in Austin, will speak about green build-

ing. She has been at the forefront of advancing green building and developed the framework for the City of Austin's Green Builder Program, the first green building program in the world.

She will be followed at 7:00 p.m. by Professor Dumpster, also known as Environmental Sciences Professor Dr. Jeff Wilson. Professor Wilson, aided by his team of students and experts, transformed a 33 square foot dumpster into a sustainable house and his home for a year.

For a complete list of the programs in this series, please visit *library.austintexas.gov/talkgreen* 

For more information on Gail Vittori, please see *library.austintexas.gov/event/meet-author-gail-vittori-cmpbs-308098* 

For more about Professor Wilson and the Dumpster Project, please see *library.austintexas.gov/event/meet-professor-dumpster-308099* 







# Update on the almost-ready-to-be-built-when-it- stalled-roundabout at the Rockwood/Stillwood intersection

The roundabout scheduled to be built at the Stillwood/Rockwood intersection had been in doubt for several months now, but recently an email arrived from Engineer Mario Porras of the Austin Transportation Department's Traffic Engineering Division. It clears the matter up, and I'm quoting much of it here:

"Progress on Rockwood is still ongoing. Due to budget constraints and post-installation studies, Austin Transportation Department (ATD) staff recommended that all curb work (such as the one to be constructed on the second part of Rockwood) be re-evaluated to consider speed cushions.

Previously, speed cushions were not considered on primary response routes; however due to their efficiency and cost effectiveness, Austin Traffic Division had discussions with AFD, EMS and Austin Re-

source Recovery to determine if they had any objections to such devices, which they did not. Please note that speed cushions allow large vehicles such as fire trucks or ambulances to "straddle" the devices, as opposed to speed humps which extend the length of the roadway.

ATD has had internal meetings to determine which projects we need to get on the ground, and Rockwood is one of them. Our next step is for ATD Engineers to redesign the schematic with the simpler (faster design and construction), more effective, and less expensive devices."

So, it sounds like speed cushions instead of a roundabout will be installed. Once I learn when, I'll post the date on NSCNA's Yahoo group.

Tomas Rodriguez, Chair, Traffic Committee (traffic@nscna.org)



# Burnet Road's traffic future is looking pretty bleak — but it's not too late to change it for the better: an editorial

Government reports don't usually make my list of recommended reading, but the one I discuss here is an exception. It's the *Final Report of the Austin Mobility North Lamar/ Burnet Corridor Program*, issued in December 2013 by the Austin Transportation Department. It's available online at austintexas.gov/department/corridor-studies.

I recommend it to everyone who lives along or drives on Burnet Road, because this report predicts what Burnet's traffic conditions are likely to be in 2031. Fortunately, you don't need to read the entire report; you just need to look at a series of tables in *Appendix F: Traffic Studies*.

Tables F-1 through F-8 compare existing wait times and level-of-service (LOS) ratings for North Lamar and Burnet intersections to projected 2031 levels. after \$152 million of improvements

split roughly equally between the two streets.

You might expect ratings after improvements to improve. For the most part, they do along North Lamar. Not so along Burnet Road south of 183. Intersection wait times and LOS ratings on Burnet in 2031, after almost \$77 million in improvements, worsen. In other words, our tax dollars fund "improvements" not to make traffic better but to keep it from being a lot worse instead of just somewhat worse.

The most important point I take away from the report is that reengineering Burnet to increase traffic capacity isn't really feasible. Instead, we need to siphon people out of cars and into "alternative transportation"—primarily bus service—instead.

(continued on page 10)

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Resident of North Shoal Creek 25 years as a Realtor in Austin, Texas

### (continued from page 9)

I don't have a problem with this solution. What I am fearful of is this: that the City's Planning Department may not know about this report. I say that because on one hand, Austin's Transportation Department issues a report projecting a 38% increase in traffic on Burnet over the next 20 years and recommending a 20% growth in traffic volume as the "goal for development policy along the corridor." On the other hand, Austin's Planning Department is focused on increasing density by permitting large, high-density apartment complexes along the Burnet Corridor. In short, it's a policy mismatch.

Unfortunately, our neighborhood's quality of life will likely suffer from this mismatch, because more traffic and worse congestion at intersections will, in turn, lead to more cut-through traffic on neighborhood streets. So, from my perspective, the future of Burnet Road and of our neighborhood streets looks pretty bleak right now.

Readers, please don't take my word for this. Look at the tables on pages F-7, F-8, F-10, F-11, F-14, F-15, F-21 and F-22 of *Appendix F* of the report for yourself.

There is a solution. City policy needs to encour-



age medium and moderate density along Burnet, and density should be coordinated with transportation infrastructure the way *Imagine Austin* envisions. There's even a process in place to do this: the long-delayed Burnet Corridor Plan.

I think we can prudently add density and housing to Burnet in a way that doesn't worsen the quality of life of neighborhoods along Burnet. Please inform yourselves about Burnet's traffic situation. See if you think I might be right. If you do, please support starting the Burnet Corridor Plan as quickly as possible.

Sharon Justice, co-editor (newsletter@nscna.org)

To see what North Shoal Creek's Burnet intersections are expected to be like in 2031, please turn to page 15.





# One-stop online shopping now available for city rebate programs

The City of Austin now has a webpage listing incentives and rebates offered by all City departments. It's austintexas.gov/resident/incentives-and-rebates, and it lists thirteen programs, ranging from "Electric Vehicle Rebates" to "WaterWise Landscape Rebate."

One rebate program we should all pay attention to given our current drought is "Drought Survival Tools for Your Yard." This provides rebates for installing compost or mulch and for core aerating your yard. For details and to download the application, go to *austintexas.gov/page/drought-survivaltools-your-yard*. Only one application per yard permitted, so if you've used this program before you can't again. Also, application and accompanying materials must be turned in before June 12, 2015.

Austin Water residential customers with existing irrigation systems may qualify for a rebate of up to \$400 for making improvements to increase their system's water efficiency. New irrigation systems and expansions to existing systems don't qualify. For details and to download the application, go to austintexas.gov/department/irrigation-system-evaluation

The WaterWise Landscape program offers rebates

**Dollar saving tip:** If you're still using the 64-gallon gray trash cart you got when the city's automated trash pick-up began several years ago, and if you aren't filling it up every week, you can save some money by downsizing:

- a 24-gallon cart costs \$15.20/month
- a 32-gallon cart costs \$16.45/month.

The grey 64-gallon cart costs \$21.60/month.

There's no charge to switch to a smaller size. Just call 512-494-9400.

You can also switch to a larger size, but there is a one-time \$15.00 charge to do that.

of \$35 for every 100 sq. ft. (minimum of 500 sq. ft.) converted from healthy turf grass to native plant beds, up to a maximum of \$1,750. Applications are accepted December 1-March 1 for spring conversion and June 1-September 30 for fall ones. Go to <a href="https://www.austintexas.gov/department/waterwise-landscape-rebate">www.austintexas.gov/department/waterwise-landscape-rebate</a> for rebate requirements and to download an application.

The City's Water Conservation Office offers several free items to help you decrease water usage. You can pick up a free showerhead (1.5 gallon/min.); a free kitchen faucet aerator (2.2 gallon/min.) and/or bathroom faucet aerator (1 gallon/minute); a soil moisture meter; and a treegator for a small 2-3" diameter tree.

The Water Conservation Office is located at 625 E. 10th, 6th floor, and is open 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m, Monday-Friday. According to their webpage, "metered street parking is usually available and there is limited free visitor parking on the 6th floor of the parking garage."

If you want more information on any of these programs and would prefer to ask a human rather than search a computer, call the Water Conservation Office at 512-974-2199.

## THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS

Our newsletter can't be published without the revenue NSCNA receives from our advertisers. Please use their services, and please thank them for advertising in the *North Shoal Creek Neighborhood News*.

What is North Shoal Creek's walk score? According to walkscore.com, we're the 23rd most walkable neighborhood in Austin. Our walk score is 59, our transit score 39, and our bike score 59. A score between 20 and 49 is Car Dependent; between 50 and 69, Somewhat Walkable.

(continued from page 3)

- Explain why we concluded this site is not good for this particular building
- Address the question of what we'd like to see there instead
- Suggest a way to avoid duplicating on Burnet some of the unintended consequences that have accompanied development elsewhere in Austin
- Say what NSCNA will be doing next and what we'd like for North Shoal Creek residents to do.

#### **Basic description:**

- As originally requested, the apartment complex would consist of 195 1-bedroom, 75 2-bedroom, and 30 3-bedroom units, projected to rent for between \$1,000-\$2,700/month. Size would range from 600 sq. ft. studios to 2,000 sq. ft. 3bedroom units and would average 840 sq. ft.
- It would generate about 1,995 additional vehicle trips per day.
- At 300 units, it would have a density of 107.5 units per acre. At the Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting, the developer's representative, C.J. Sackman, agreed to limit the number of units to 225. This drops the density to about 80 units per acre. This would presumably change the number of 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom units, but the final count by size isn't yet known.

### Why does NSCNA object to this development?

The Board believes this segment of Burnet Road cannot successfully handle traffic associated with MF-6 level density. We base our belief on a report by the Austin Transportation Department titled Final Report of the Austin Mobility North Lamar/Burnet Corridor Program. It can be found online at www.austintexas.gov/department/corridor-studies.

We think Burnet's limited ability to handle increasing traffic when combined with this particular site for an MF-6 development will result in heavier traffic on neighborhood streets. And that, in turn, will negatively impact the quality of life in North Shoal Creek.

#### Some key points from the report:

 Burnet's traffic volume is projected to grow 38% between now and 2035.

- The report recommends \$76 million in improvements to Burnet Road over the next 20 years. In spite of these improvements, levels of service ratings for Burnet's major intersections will be WORSE in 2031. In other words, the improvements don't make travel on Burnet better; they mean conditions get somewhat worse instead of a lot worse.
- The segment of Burnet just south of 183 has the highest daily traffic volume (37,100). That's North Shoal Creek's segment and it's where this development would be built.
- In addition, the complex will add to Rockwood's traffic, which is already worsened by cutthrough traffic trying to avoid Burnet's congested intersections. Rockwood runs by Pillow Elementary School, which presents a safety hazard for students and other pedestrians near that block.

To sum up, this is a poor location for a large MF-6 development because it would be 1) on a traffic corridor with a limited capacity to carry additional traffic; 2) on the segment of the corridor with the highest current daily traffic volume; 3) located between a failed intersection to the north (Burnet/183) and a failing one to the south (Burnet/Anderson), both of which are projected to deteriorate over the next 16 years in spite of improvements. Plus, it would increase traffic on Rockwood, which has an existing problem with speeders and which runs by a school.

#### What does NSCNA want instead?

The board believes North Shoal Creek is and should remain a medium/moderate density neighborhood. We recognize that new housing is badly needed. We would like to see MF-4 zoning at this site.

A moderate density MF-4 development would have advantages over MF-6: 1) less expensive to build; 2) at half the density, would halve the traffic impact; and 3) could attract families as well as singles and couples because MF-4 can offer more 2- and 3-bedroom units than can a denser MF-6 building.

(continued on next page)

(continued from page 12)

## The wider context: Our neighborhood plan and the Burnet Corridor Plan

Austin's current development policy focuses on increasing density through large, upscale rental developments located where a developer can put together enough property for one. Two such developments have opened recently at 5350 Burnet and at 5433 Burnet. A third is under construction at 6701 Burnet. This focus on large, dense projects increases traffic unnecessarily, drives up property values, ignores *Imagine Austin* and CodeNext recommendations calling for placing large dense developments near transit nodes, and fails to provide adequate long-term affordable housing.

North Shoal Creek first requested a neighborhood plan in 2006. Since then, we've been approved for a planning process four times, most recently in 2014. We've also supported moving forward with the Burnet Road Corridor plan. None of our efforts have been successful so far. These plans are the best opportunity we residents have to influence development in our area. We would like for the Austin City Council to instruct City staff to fast-track both planning processes. We believe the quality of life in Burnet Corridor neighborhoods is being negatively affected by the City's current development focus and that, as residents, our best chance to improve rather than degrade the quality of life of Burnet neighborhoods is via the Burnet Corridor Plan and a North Shoal Creek neighborhood plan.

## Where we go from here, and what North Shoal Creek residents can do:

Two more readings are required for the MF-6 zoning to be legally approved. The next reading is ten-

tatively set for April 9, so it looks like we'll have between now and then to try to change the votes of at least two city council members. Also, the Development Committee will be meeting with Mr. Sackman to try to find a compromise acceptable to both sides. Here's what you can do:

- Inform yourself about the issue. Please read the information posted on the NSCNA website. Also, a transcript of the February 12th City Council meeting (which is when this passed on first reading) and a video of that meeting are available at austintexas.gov/department/city-council/council-meetings. This rezoning case is Item #73 on the agenda.
- Call or email the mayor and city council to let them know your position. The mayor's phone number is 512-978-2100. To call other council members, substitute their district numbers for the last zero (for example, District 2 Council Member Delia Garza's phone number is 512-978-2102). Council members in Districts 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, and the Mayor voted in favor of the MF-6 zoning.
- To email them all as a group, use this address: austintexas.gov/email/all-council-member
   To email them individually, substitute their
   names for "all-council-members"—
   austintexas.gov/email/SteveAdler
   austintexas.gov/email/LesliePool (etc.)

We believe we have a strong case in support of MF-4 zoning for 8528 Burnet, and we ask for your support.

Thank you.

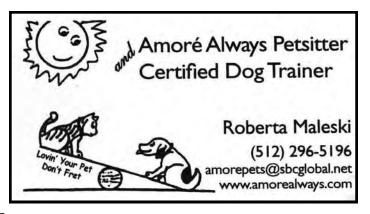
From the Board of Directors, North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association

# THE BEAD STASH

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# NSCNA 2015 Officers Elected at January General Membership Meeting

Front row, left to right: Karen Denton (director), Donna Eager (treasurer), Barbara Gaston (secretary), Sharon Justice (director), Ernie Garcia (director).

Back row, left to right:
Mike Blood (director), Lauren
Werchan (director), Amelia Cobb
(director), Julia Menegay (vicepresident) and Lois McEvoy
(president). Levi Bullock, director,
not pictured.

Photo by K. Webb



### **Excerpts from 2014 NSCNA Committee Reports**

**Beautification**: Responded to requests for assistance and questions related to reporting code violations and use of 311 as related to Beautification

#### **Development:**

- Monitored the ongoing rewrite of the city's zoning code (CodeNext) and hosted a CodeNext workshop for residents to provide input on envisioning the future of North Shoal Creek
- Won approval from City Council for a North Shoal Creek Neighborhood planning process
- Worked with owner's representative to limit businesses and traffic at the new office building to be built at 8611 N. MoPac (currently the Shoal Crossing Event Center)
- Worked with developer's representatives and City Council to limit effects of the rezoning of the Crump/Gordon properties on North Shoal Creek's quality of life (will continue into 2015)
- As one of the four neighborhoods closest to the proposed Austin Oaks PUD, worked with other neighborhoods to protect the interests of the North Shoal Creek neighborhood

#### Media:

- Published and distributed four newsletters
- Expanded online distribution of newsletter to include apartments and condos in our neighborhood

#### Social:

- May 3: 25 households took part in the annual North Shoal Creek neighborhood garage sale
- July 4: a record number of neighbors participated in annual Fourth of July parade and celebration
- December 19: 25 volunteers of all ages put together the annual luminaria walk

**Traffic**: Request for a traffic calming installation on Rockwood south of Steck completed this year; installation on Rockwood north of Steck to be completed in 2015

#### North Shoal Creek Real Estate Info

According to Zillow, three homes were for sale in North Shoal Creek at the end of February: 8409 Daleview (single-family) \$450,000 3033 Thrushwood (duplex) \$500,000 2600 Penny Lane (condo) \$124,900

Zillow also shows seven rentals available in our neighborhood:

3 at Arabella Apartments, ranging from 600-900 sq. ft., renting for \$799-\$1,225/month

2 at Ashdale Gardens: 655 sq. ft. for \$973/month 973 sq. ft. for \$1,200/month

One single-family residence on Stillwood was also for rent: 1,523 sq. ft. for \$1,995/month

#### North Shoal Creek Crime Stats: Jan.-Feb. 2015

January 2015: 18 crimes reported

Arrest: 5
Assault: 7
Criminal trespass: 1
Dating disturbance: 1
Family disturbance: 1
Theft: 3

February 2015: 8 crimes reported (partial data)

Assault: 1
Burglary: 2
Family disturbance: 2
Fraud: 1
Theft: 1
Vandalism: 1

Stats from Spotcrime.com; you can view the map at spotcrime.com/tx/austin/north+shoal+creek

## Tables excerpted from the Final Report of the Austin Mobility North Lamar/Burnet Corridor Program

Table F-1: Burnet Road Existing Intersection Level-Of-Service						
	AM Peak Hour LOS		PM Peak Hour LOS			
INTERSECTION	Delay (sec/veh)	LOS	Delay (sec/veh)	LOS		
Burnet Road at W. Anderson Ln	37.5	D	54.2	D		
Burnet Road at Steck Ave	15	В	25.3	С		
Burnet Road at Buell Ave/Ohlen Rd	11	В	18	В		
Burnet Road at Rockwood Ln	5	Α	15.2	В		
Burnet Road at US 183 EB Frtg Rd	155.3	F	143.9	F		
Burnet Road at US 183 WB Frtg Rd	39.9	D	106.1	F		

## Table F-7: Burnet Road Future Year 2031 Intersections Delay and LOS with Long-Term Improvements

	AM Peak Hour LOS		PM Peak Hour LOS	
INTERSECTION	Delay (sec/veh)	LOS	Delay (sec/veh)	LOS
Burnet Road at W. Anderson Ln	62.9	Е	96.5	F
Burnet Road at Steck Ave	46.8	D	49.8	D
Burnet Road at Buell Ave/Ohlen Rd	51.4	D	34.5	С
Burnet Road at Rockwood Ln	9.2	А	16.9	В
Burnet Road at US 183 EB Frtg Rd	246.4	F	240.5	F
Burnet Road at US 183 WB Frtg Rd	72.1	Е	184.3	F

## LOS (level-of-service) grades:

A = delays < .5 second; ideal
B = delays between 5.1 and 15
seconds per vehicle; good
C = 15.1-25 second delays; fair
D = 25.1 to 40 second delays;
lowest acceptable level in urban areas
E = 40.1-60 second delays;
unacceptable
F = > 60 second delays; traffic

Delay time in seconds per vehicle based on traffic studies conducted between 7-9 AM and 4-6 PM in October 2011

exceeds roadway capacity

Source: Final Report of the Austin Mobility North Lamar/ Burnet Corridor Program, Appendix F: Traffic Studies (issued December 2013)



## **INTERESTED IN JOINING NSCNA?**

Dues are \$15.00 per household per calendar year.

Here's how to join:

- ⇒ Visit www.nscna.org and pay with Paypal (\$16.00, including \$1.00 processing fee)
- ⇒ Mail your completed form and check for \$15.00 to NSCNA, P.O. Box 66443, Austin, TX 78766
- ⇒ Join at any of our general membership meetings

Hope we'll be hearing from you soon!



www.nscna.org

