

North Shoal Creek's neighborhood planning process kicks off this summer

Neighborhood planning began in Austin in the mid-1990s after Austinites couldn't agree on a comprehensive plan for their entire city. Being Austinites, they then turned their approach upside down and started planning from the bottom up; thus were born individual neighborhood plans.

Now, 20 years and 30 plans later, only three Central Austin neighborhoods lack one: Rosedale, Allandale and North Shoal Creek.

Our turn has finally come: our neighborhood's planning process begins this June. In fact, by the time you read this, you may have already gotten a mailing about it from the Planning and Zoning Department.

NSCNA's March survey results show that "North Shoal Creekers" care about their neighborhood, value its uniqueness, and have a lot of ideas about making it even better. This planning process is your opportunity to turn your ideas into reality by getting them included in our neighborhood's vision for its future. City staff are working hard to make it easy and convenient for you to do this via participation in our neighborhood planning process.

First, they're setting up a website where we can learn about the process and find meeting dates and times. They'll also conduct a statistically valid survey of North Shoal Creek residents. All you need to do is take time to read the information and take the survey.

Next, they'll conduct a series of at least three meetings, all to be held in or near the neighborhood starting in late June. All North Shoal Creek stakeholders renters, homeowners, business owners, and property owners — will be invited. These meetings are crucial. They are your opportunity to voice your ideas, gather support for them, and get them included in our neighborhood plan. Please come to the meetings and please participate in them.

The meetings will culminate in a draft plan that, once approved by North

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IMPORTANT DATES

Mid to Late June: North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Planning Process begins; exact date to be determined July 4th: Neighborhood Independence Day Celebration, 9:00-11:30 a.m., Pillow Elementary School August 22: First day of classes, AISD September 5: Labor Day September 6: NSCNA General Membership Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Pillow Elementary School, 3025 Crosscreek Drive

DON'T MISS OUR NEIGHBORHOOD'S JULY 4TH PARADE AND CELEBRATION! DETAILS ON PAGE 6

Neighborhood News Summer 2016

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

Editor: Sharon Justice

Contributors: Randy Alexis, Brian Brandon, Sarah Brandon, Amelia Cobb, Brian Cobb, Karen Denton, Donna Eagar, Barbara Gaston, Brian Hill, Jennifer Noinaj, Vannezsa Smith, Mary Jane Wier

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

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

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President's Corner: Good neighbors, good friends

I am so grateful to live in North Shoal Creek. I feel blessed to be surrounded by many amazing and talented people. I am thankful for the support of neighbors and friends who reached out and helped out in my recent time of need. I am honored to be a part of an engaged and caring board of directors and part of an association of neighbors who step up, speak up, and engage in neighborhood issues and events.

Thank you to everyone who participated in NSCNA's neighborhood-wide survey in March. The results (outlined in an article on page 5 of this newsletter) show development, safety, and traffic to be top priorities for our residents. These results will drive the work of our committees this year and will also inform two planning processes we will be participating in concurrently this year.

First is the creation of the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Plan. This process will be led by City of Austin staff. It is our opporNSCNA President Amelia Cobb



tunity to have a voice in development and future land use in our neighborhood. Participating lets us impact how the City's new zoning code, called Code Next, will be applied to our neighborhood.

I encourage each and every North Shoal Creek resident to make it one of your priorities to attend and participate in the series of planning meetings (most probably three) that will be occurring this summer.

Second, the NSCNA board of directors is dedicated to completing a Neighborhood Partnership Program (NPP) application by October 1st. The NPP is an opportunity to leverage our neighborhood association funds, sweat equity, and in-kind donations with matching funds from the City of Austin to make needed improvements in our neighborhood. This year's NSCNA

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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 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

For information on joining NSCNA, please see page 12.



NSCNA thanks RBFCU for sponsoring our 2016 newsletters. NSCNA members and their families are eligible to join RBFCU; please visit <u>rbfcu.org.</u>

Update on revised Austin Oaks PUD plan

After revising the plan resulting from the charrette that took place at the beginning of the year, Spire Realty submitted a revised Land Use Plan (LUP) to the City of Austin for review and approval.

The primary revisions from the plan presented at the charrette are the deletion of the proposed new road, the deletion of one proposed new building, and the addition and subtraction of height to respective buildings. The application is still for a Planned Unit Development (PUD) zoning.

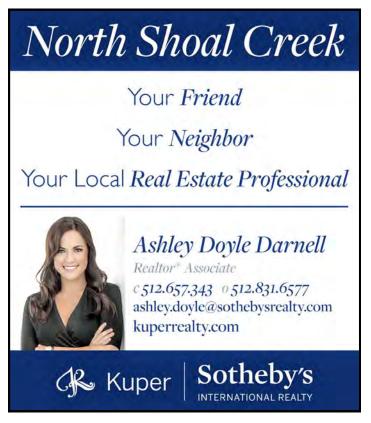
Now that the plan has been vetted and adjusted, we can see the quantifiable impact of the development on our community. Trees, traffic, and building height have always been of the greatest importance to the neighbors throughout this process. The developer proposes to remove 45 Heritage and Protected trees, which would be those 19" or more in diameter. There will also be 15,564 daily trips generated from the site, which is a 381% increase from current counts. The site will have a mixture of office, multifamily residential, retail, hotel and residential, with the tallest building reaching 7 stories.

Spire did include the required Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) with the application. The closest the study comes to North Shoal Creek is the intersection of Steck and Mopac. The report says there will be no traffic mitigation at that intersection even though they acknowledge that it's already failing. The stated rationale is that the primary reason the intersection is failing is development north of the intersection; their rezoning and redevelopment won't substantially add to the issue.

Currently the plan is being reviewed by City of Austin staff. Once there has been enough time for individual departments to review it, the proposal will go to the Environmental Commission, Zoning and Platting Commission, and then to the City Council for approval.

The final plan as well as updates from the city's review can be seen here: https://www.austintexas.gov/devreview/ b_showpublicpermitfolderdetails.jsp? FolderRSN=11183289

Brian Brandon, Development Committee





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Beautification Committee searching for green space

The Beautification Committee is looking around the neighborhood to find space for a community garden and a park. Both need to be on City owned land to qualify for City assistance, and that pretty much limits the search to those parts of Pillow Playground that are City-owned and the rainwater detention pond off Benbrook.

Committee chair Mary Jane Wier first checked the land along Shoal Creek next to KVUE, which many have long eyed as our best possibility for a park. However, that is KVUE's property, and KVUE's President and General Manager Patti Smith says liability issues preclude using it as parkland.

The detention pond is also looking unlikely because the City wants to keep it gated for safety reasons. Austin property, and committee member Sarah Brandon has contacted the City of Austin's Community Garden Coordinator Meredith Gray for help in situating a community garden on some portion of the City-owned land at Pillow.

Also, there are existing garden beds on school property, and the committee is checking into the possibility of caring for those beds on a buddy basis with Pillow students.

Principal Brian Hill is supportive of the idea of a community garden at Pillow, so this part of Beauti-fication's quest is looking doable.

If you want to help establish a community garden or search for park space in North Shoal Creek, please email *beautification@nscna.org*.

> Mary Jane Wier and Sarah Brandon, Beautification Committee

> > realtv

Parts of the block that Pillow sits on are City of

Your North Shoal Creek Specialist



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Survey results: development, traffic, and safety top concerns

The first of what is intended to become an annual survey of North Shoal Creek residents was included with our Spring newsletter and posted online in March. The survey's goal is to identify what is important to residents so the association can use the results in setting priorities for association activities. Eighty-three of you responded, the majority of whom were not NSCNA members.

All residents, whether living in houses, apartments, or condos, should have received either a paper copy of the survey or a postcard directing them to the online survey.

The survey results show the three most important issues for residents to be neighborhood development, safety and traffic. The comments section provides good feedback that the NSCNA Board plans to use to improve membership and increase engagement in neighborhood events and issues.

In terms of neighborhood development, residents see information about city development plans along with representation in development planning to be most important. On safety issues, they view new sidewalks and repair/maintenance of existing ones as very important along with crime prevention tips and alerts. And, not surprisingly, residents rated the volume and speed of traffic in and around our neighborhood as extremely important.

We owe a very big thank you to Media Committee member Jennifer Noinaj who set up the online survey, compiled the results, and produced the survey summary. We also thank each and every one who participated.

Complete survey results are posted at www.nscna.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/ NSCNA-2016-Survey-Summary-Web.pdf



Don't Miss Our 16th Annual North Shoal Creek INDEPENDENCE DAY

Neighborhood Parade and Celebration

Monday, July 4th from 9-11:30 a.m. at Pillow Elementary School

- 9:00 a.m. Gather in the circle drive at the Pillow Elementary School entrance. To be eligible for a prize, register and pick up a number at the Parade Registration Table at Pillow school
- 9:15 a.m. Brief opening ceremony
- 9:20 a.m. THE PARADE BEGINS!! March around the block. Dress Patriotic! Decorate your bikes, trikes, strollers, wagons and pets too. YOU COULD WIN A PRIZE for Best Costume, Best Decorated Bike, Trike, Stroller, Wagon, and Pet

Food and Games:

After the parade, the celebration moves to the tent pavilion on the playground behind the school. Enjoy food, games, and fun activities including face painting, balloon twisting, and a free raffle for the adults.

ALL FESTIVITIES ARE FREE (including the raffle tickets)!!!

The annual North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Parade and Celebration is a great tradition and a fun way to start your Independence Day! Get dressed up, put on your stars and spangles, and join your neighbors in celebrating our nation's 240th birthday.

Want to Help Out?? VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!!

Join our small group of dedicated volunteers and help create a super fun and awesome parade and party for our neighborhood. Please call me at 360-790-1774 or email so-cial@nscna.org or briancobbevergreen@gmail.com to join our July 4th Committee!

See you on the Fourth!

Sponsored by the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association Brian Cobb, Social Committee Chair





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"We really appreciate everything you do, and have done for our family. It's a true blessing to be doing business with someone as yourself, whom we all trust and respect. It really does put your mind at ease knowing that you're in great hands. Thank you so much Peggy!" Risa Kim

Pillow's Page Whole child. Every child. Every Day.



The school year has come to a close and what a year it has been! I am so fortunate to be the principal of a school like Pillow, where the teachers truly care about the success of every student that walks through our doors, no matter their academic or social emotional level. With such a diverse student body, we celebrate our many cultures and value what every student and family brings to our campus.

I have enjoyed each minute of my first year as the principal of Pillow, and I owe it all to my amazing staff and Pillow family. Our staff averages over 10 years teaching experience, and they bring that experience with them each and every day in order to provide a true whole child learning environment.

We have spent the year building on the things that make Pillow great and making adjustments where change was needed. This has allowed us to better meet the needs of our Panthers, and our school is definitely headed in the right direction. If your child will be a new Panther at Pillow next year, we welcome you to the Pillow family! If your child currently attends a different school, but you're interested in having them attend Pillow, we welcome you, too!

We love being the neighborhood school for North Shoal Creek and hope Pillow will be your school of choice when enrolling your student next year. Feel free to visit *my.austinisd.org* to register your kiddo for the 2016-2017 school year, or call our office at 512.414.2350 if you have any questions.

Have a safe and fun summer, and we look forward to next year being even better than this one.

Thank you to the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association for supporting Pillow Elementary, and Go Panthers!

Principal Hill







June 2016

512-459-1500

Here Is How To Sell Your Home Smarter, Not Harder

If you're thinking of selling your home or a rental, smart thing to do is consider a direct sale to a local cash buyer. These are real estate investors loaded with cash seeking to acquire houses, duplexes and vacant lots.

You'll get a quote with a NET figure that you will clear at the closing table. You'll receive a detail comparison on how their offer stacks up against what you could NET through a conventional sale with a real estate agent.

7 Reasons To Skip Listings & Sell To A Direct Cash Buyer:

 Close the sale when it's convenient to you (2) Sell "as is", No inspections, No repairs to pay for (3) No listings, No showings privacy protected (4) No surprises at closing, No extras to pay for (5) No realty commissions to pay (6) Investor will pay all your closing costs
 No loan approvals, No uncertainty with shaky buyers.

Your sale is simple as A-B-C: (A) you pick a date to close, (B) sign a contract, (C) show up at a title company to pick up your check. Service is friendly, no pressure, no games, no hassles. It's a guaranteed sale.

For more information on how to sell your home to a direct cash buyer call Alex Gurevich (512) 773-5673

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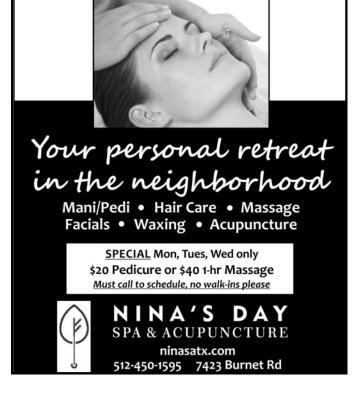


Old Quarry Library July 9th: Windows Start Menu

August 13th: Organize disk w Folders September 10th: Basic Word Processing w Microsoft Word

www.ccaustin.org/beginners-sig/





Neighborhood Garage Sale Recap

The North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association's Social Committee held our neighborhood's 2016 garage sale on Saturday, April 30th. We had over 30 houses participate this year! And Pillow Elementary School's Wild About Reading Program once again teamed up with us and held its fundraiser garage sale to buy Pillow students books for summer reading.

Thank you to everyone who participated: all the

Social Committee members, in particular Jennifer Noinaj who prepared our map and feedback survey; Sarah Brandon who, along with Jennifer, distributed maps of all the sale locations; and to everyone who held a sale, purchased anything, or just came and browsed. Thank you all!

The Committee's focus now turns to our July 4th parade and celebration, and we need volunteers. To help, please email me at social@nscna.org. Hope to hear from you soon.

Brian Cobb, Social Committee Chair

President's Corner

(Continued from page 2)

committees are charged with developing plans to bring together a proposal by October 1st.

Your voice is needed and your participation is vital in both of these processes.

I invite you to join NSCNA, either via our website or by using the form on the back page of this newsletter. Contact a committee chair and join a committee. Participate in the Neighborhood Planning meetings. I hope that, through these important processes, meetings and events, we will get to know one another better, create lasting friendships, and work together to leave a positive legacy to our neighborhood.

Amelia Cobb, NSCNA President

HELP NEEDED! NSCNA needs volunteers to help with our July 4th parade and celebration. To volunteer, please email social@nscna.org

North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Planning Process (Continued from page 1)

Shoal Creek stakeholders (which means those of us who participate in the planning process), will go for approval to the Small Area Planning Committee, then the Planning Commission, and finally the Austin City Council. Once approved by Council, it becomes a sort of zoning ordinance applicable specifically to North Shoal Creek. The goal is to have the plan approved in early 2017.

As meeting schedules and other information become available, the Media Committee will post that information at *nscna.org*. We'll also link to new postings from our Facebook page, via our Yahoo group, and on Next Door North Shoal Creek.

Austinites have a tradition of strong neighborhood pride and identity. Help build our neighborhood's future by getting involved and staying involved in our neighborhood planning process.

Sharon Justice, Editor and Board Member



Sandy Perkins Your neighbor, Your realtor 512-797-7375

Lanier Realty, LLC



Graduate of University of Texas, BA Art, Class of '88 Living and selling in our neighborhood since 1990! With my art and design background, I always assist owners in staging at no cost! Having listed and sold over 70+ homes in our neighborhood, I'm ready to assist you too!

I am currently working with two homeowners who will be making the tough decision to move out of our great neighborhood. I will have their homes coming up in my inventory soon. So if you would like to help choose your new neighbors, please have them contact me and I will be happy to let them know about upcoming listings. Homes are moving very fast in Austin and it helps to have a Realtor who lives in the area on your side.

If you are selling, I will pay for the cost of the required Energy Audit for your home. If you are buying, I will pay for the cost of your recommended Home Inspection. *Decorating our yards with the American Flag since 1990.*

Business and Development News

8000 Burnet (previously the PPG Pittsburgh Paints store) is going to be **Desano's Pizza Bakery.** They'll use off-site parking as well as on-site parking to meet the city's parking space requirement. They're leasing additional spaces from Keystaff, their neighbor to the west. They're also providing a Car2Go space on-site. Don't know when they'll be opening.

Advance work has begun on the **300-unit apartment** building to be constructed at Burnet and Rockwood. A 12-inch wastewater line is going to be replaced by a 15 -inch line, and the service request describes the reason as the "multifamily project located at 8647 Rockwood Lane and 8518 Burnet Road." If you live between the 3000 and 3100 blocks of Steck and the 8200-8300 blocks of Rockwood, expect at some point to deal with torn up streets in your area.

The pink flags that recently appeared in that area are surveyors' flags, and probably are connected to this wastewater line upgrade.

Sharon Justice, newsletter editor



North Shoal Creek Real Estate Information

Single-family homes:

8704 Millway	2b/2b	1,588 sq. ft.	\$447,500
8009 Parkdale	4b/2b	1,631 sq. ft.	\$419,900
8702 Dawnridge Cir.	3b/2b	1,760 sq. ft.	\$340,000
8107 Parkdale	3b/2b	1,415 sq. ft.	\$360,000
8604 Primrose	3b/2b	1,652 sq. ft.	\$389,000
2710 Thrushwood	3b/2b	1,805 sq. ft.	\$524,900

Condos: 2425 2500

2425 Ashdale	1b/1b	656 sq. ft.	\$145,000
2500 Steck	2b/1b	938 sq. ft.	\$205,000
2450 Ashdale	2b/1b	840 sq. ft.	\$150,000

Listings compiled from Zillow.com and Realtor.com websites

OUR ADVERTISERS ARE OUR NEIGHBORS

Please use their services, and please thank them for advertising in the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood News.



In memory of **Montie Simpson** 1929-2016

In March, as we prepared to deliver the NSCNA Newsletter, one of our special, longtime deliverers passed away at age 86.

Montie Simpson was ready to make her deliveries on Millway Drive when she suddenly became ill and passed away a few days later.

Montie and her husband, Roy — who passed away in 1984 — bought their home on Millway Drive in 1973.

Montie was always ready with a smile and a pleasant greeting, and is certainly missed by all who knew her.

The Newsletter Team



North Shoal Creek Neighborhood News Ad Prices: Business Card Size: 3.5"W x 2"H \$30 Quarter Page: 3.5"W x 4"H \$60 Half Page: 7.5"W x 5"H \$115 Full page: 7.5"W x 10" H \$220 10% discount when 3 or more ads are purchased at the same time

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