



Neighborhood Plan nears completion; open house set for December 9

by Sharon Justice, NSCNA Media Chair (<u>newsletter@nscna.org</u>)

North Shoal Creek's official neighborhood planning process, which began October 1, 2016, is now nearing its close. According to Jeff Engstrom, Senior Planner with the City of Austin Planning and Zoning Department (PAZ), the final plan will be presented to the neighborhood at an open house on Saturday, December 9 at Pillow Elementary School (starting time yet to be determined).

By the time this newsletter arrives, you should have received through the mail a postcard notification from PAZ giving you information about the open house. Also, the final plan itself, along with its accompanying FLUM (or Future Land Use Map), will have been posted online for all of us NSC residents to review at <u>http://www.austintexas.gov/department/north-shoal-creek</u>.

The plan's review period will extend for a couple weeks after the open house. NSCNA's Board and its Development Committee urge you to read the plan, attend the open house, and give PAZ staff feedback on it. Our neighborhood plan is an important milestone for North Shoal Creek. If it is to be successful, it must have the support of North Shoal Creek residents and business owners.

During the planning process, North Shoal Creek stakeholders—including homeowners, renters, and local business owners—came together in a series of six workshops to address issues such as community character, land use, and mobility. Additional input was also gathered via a community survey. PAZ staff have posted slide presentations from each meeting along with the results of the survey at this link: <u>http://austintexas.gov/page/north-shoal-creek-meeting</u>-and-survey-results.

Those of us who took part in the process were aware that the plan we were creating will define our neighborhood's future quality of life. We aimed for a middle ground that would allow our neighborhood to grow along with Austin but which would also keep our residential core intact, with pleasing, substantial buffers between it and adjacent commercial areas.

WHAT'S INSIDE

 (Continued on page 11) Neighborhood Plan Open House

IMPORTANT DATES

- ⇒ December 9, time TBD: North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Plan Open House, Pillow Elementary School
- ⇒ December 18, 6-8 p.m.: Luminaria Walk, Pillow School Track. Volunteers, please come at 4 p.m. to set up
- ⇒ January 9, 2018, 6:30-8 p.m.: General Membership Mtg., Pillow Library

Neighborhood News Winter 2017

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

Editor: Sharon Justice

Contributors: Tara Bowman, Sarah Brandon, Amelia Cobb, Amy Culbertson, Donna Eagar, Jennifer Noinaj, Kenneth Webb, and Kevin Wier.

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President's Corner: Your voice matters

by Amelia Cobb, NSCNA President (president@nscna.org)

Our North Shoal Creek neighborhood planning process is nearing completion. The City of Austin Planning and Zoning Department (PAZ) will present its final draft of the first-ever North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Plan on Saturday, December 9, at Pillow Elementary School (the time will be announced via postcards to all neighborhood residents and businesses).

The open house will be an important step for the NSC Neighborhood Plan, which is intended to guide future development in our neighborhood. After the open house, our plan will go before the city's Small Area Planning Joint Committee, then to the Planning Commission and finally to Austin City Council for adoption.

The open house is your opportunity to review the neighborhood plan draft and the NSC Future Land Use Map (FLUM) and to make your comments. This is the time to voice your concerns and comments.

Soon after Thanksgiving, PAZ staff will post the final draft and the FLUM on the City of Austin website at <u>http://www.austintexas.gov/department/north</u> <u>-shoal-creek</u>. I encourage each of you to take time to engage in this process.

To help shepherd the plan toward adoption and to make sure the neighborhood's voice continues to be represented in the process, <u>the NSC Neighborhood Plan Contact Team is to be formed</u>.

The members of the contact team will be the designated stewards and advocates of their neighborhood plan, working with city staff toward the implementation of their recommendations, reviewing and initiating amendments to the plan, serving as community points of contact, and working on behalf of other neighborhood stakeholders. For more information, or to express interest in serving on the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Plan Contact Team, please contact Margaret Valenti at 512-974-2648 or e-mail <u>Margaret.valenti@austintexas.gov</u>.

I encourage you to engage in this final stage of our NSC Neighborhood Plan.

Remember and act: Your voice matters!



Wíshíng you a very

NORTH SHOAL CREEK

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

happy holiday

season!

CodeNEXT— should North Shoal Creek oppose or support it?

by Sharon Justice, NSCNA Media Chair (<u>newsletter@nscna.org</u>)

CodeNEXT, Austin's rewrite of its land development code, is both important and contentious. If approved by the Austin City Council, it will define **what** can be built in Austin, **where** it can be built, and **how much** can be built.

City staff are working now to get the third draft of CodeNEXT ready for release February 12, 2018. Draft 3's original release date was November 28, but city officials decided extra time was needed for the CodeNEXT project team to consider all the feedback received on Drafts 1 and 2. This extension was a victory for several local groups arguing that CodeNEXT is too important and expensive to be done hurriedly, a position supported by NSCNA's board.

NSCNA's development committee has been evaluating the likely effects of CodeNEXT on North Shoal

Creek. So far, the committee has been committed to constructive engagement in the CodeNEXT process, but recent developments have led the committee and the board to decide it's time to place the issue before the NSCNA membership.

So the upcoming NSCNA General Membership Meeting will be dedicated to considering and deciding what our association's stance should be — should NSCNA go on record as opposing or supporting CodeNEXT? The meeting will be from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on January 9, 2018, at the Pillow Elementary library.

This issue has come to a head because opponents of CodeNEXT are considering filing a lawsuit challenging the legality of CodeNEXT, and NSCNA has been asked to help support and fund the lawsuit. (Continued on page 4) CodeNEXT



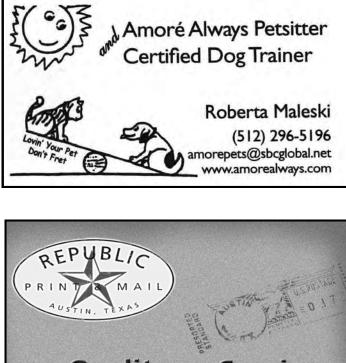
(Continued from page 3) CodeNEXT

Also, a petition drive has been organized to require voter approval of CodeNEXT, and NSCNA has been asked to support the petition. The board and the committee want your input on both of these questions. Please come to the January 9 meeting at Pillow Elementary School and participate in making these decisions.

Here are some resources to help you learn more about the issues surrounding CodeNEXT:

- *www.codenexthub.org*: this is a site created by several local news organizations that pulls together articles about CodeNEXT. Contributors include the Austin American-Statesman, Austin Monitor, Austin Chronicle, Community Impact *Newspaper*, and NPR station KUT.
- The city's official CodeNEXT webpage is ٠ https://www.austintexas.gov/codenext.
- The highest-profile pro-CodeNEXT group is • Evolve Austin, a coalition of some 30 local organizations. Go to https://evolveaustin.org for the group's webpage and to *https://* evolveaustin.org/partners to see a list of the participating organizations.
- A major anti-CodeNEXT group is Community • Not Commodity; its website is <u>https://</u> communitynotcommodity.com/.

Please mark the January 9 meeting on your calendar and plan to attend. We hope it will be a stimulating but civil example of grassroots democracy.









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December 2017

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Winter Issue



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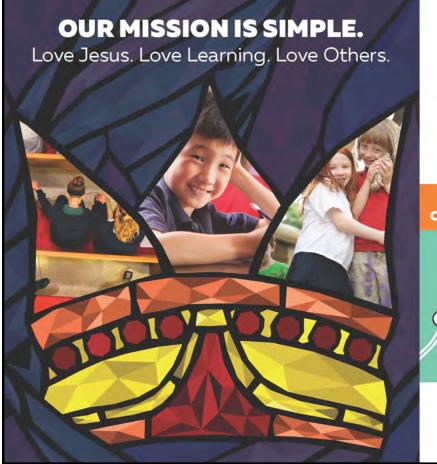
DECEMBER 18TH, 6 - 8 PM AT PILLOW SCHOOL TRACK COMPLIMENTARY HOT COCOA AND COOKIES WILL BE SERVED

Want to help set up? Meet us at Pillow's covered pavilion at 4PM on Dec 18th.

NORTH SHOAL CREEK

Take a break from the hurly-burly of the holiday season with a stroll around NSCNA's 2017 Luminaria Walk at the Pillow Elementary School track. Then, enjoy hot cocoa and cookies while visiting with neighbors beneath Pillow's pavilion. *Hosted by the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association Social Committee, Tara Lane Bowman, Chair.*

Volunteers are needed at 4 p.m. to assemble and set out the luminarias and then after to disassemble them and clean up. To volunteer, please email <u>social@nscna.org</u>. Happy Holidays to All!





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December 2017



Here's an easy way to help Pillow clip Box Tops for Education!

Did you know that box-top clips — which are found on hundreds of product packages — are worth 10 cents each to schools? Look for them on the products you buy; each time you notice one, clip it and tuck it in a baggie. Once you have a bunch of them, drop them off at the Pillow Elementary School office. Pillow's goal is \$400; that equals 4,000 box tops, so please start watching, clipping and saving!

Redeemer Lutheran School and St. Louis Catholic School also take part in the Box Tops for Education program, so if your family includes their students, start clipping box tops for them too.

Go to <u>www.boxtops4education.com</u> for more information on Box Tops for Education.



IF YOU LIVE IN NORTH SHOAL CREEK, WHETHER YOU RENT OR OWN, JOIN US NOW FOR 2018! Dues are \$15.00 per household. You can join online via PayPal at www.nscna.org/join, or fill out the membership form on the last page of this newsletter, bring the form with you to our next membership meeting or mail it with a \$15.00 check payable to NSCNA to: NSCNA Membership/ PO Box 66443 / Austin, TX 78766-0443

OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2018, 6:30-8:00 P.M. PILLOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY



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We interviewed 3 agents and after Peggy left our home for the first time my husband and I knew she was the one. She has a definite formula, having done this for 25 years and knowing our neighborhood like the back of her hand, and it was clear she keeps on top of the market and current trends.

Selling a home is always stressful, and ours had a major remodel on top of it while we were dealing with buying a home and settling in North Carolina at the same time, but Peggy had it all covered."

June Solomonson Seller of 8612 Melshire Read the entire review at www.facebook.com/peggylittleatxagent



Winter Issue

Cap Metro revisions offer compromise on threatenedroutes 19 and 491By Sharon Justice, NSCNA Media Chair (newsletter@nscna.org)

Modifications made since Cap Metro announced its Connections 2025 transit plan offer something of a reprieve for two routes serving North Shoal Creek. Initially, the changes in the plan—described by Cap Metro as the most significant transformation of its bus network in 30 years—appeared to be a net negative for North Shoal Creek, but the new revisions paint a rosier picture. **Route 491 (Allandale)**—a special service route meant to meet the needs of older and mobility-challenged residents and ridden primarily by residents of the Village Christian Apartments—originally was to be canceled as well. Like Route 19, its ridership was too low to justify its cost. Cancellation, however, would have left no substitute for the door-to-door service Route 491 currently

Route 19 (Bull Creek), which runs along Steck and Rockwood, initially was to be canceled effective June 2018, when most of the plan's changes are to go into effect. Now the route will continue to operate into 2019 but will be converted to a "Mobility Innovation Zone pilot project." Because Route 19's ridership was deemed not high enough to justify continuing it as a regular bus route, some type of substitute service possibly similar to a pilot project recently begun in the Mueller area—will replace it at some point in 2019. The Mueller project, a free ride-hailing bus service called Pickup, allows riders to arrange on-demand transit trips using a mobile app.

Route 491 (Allandale)—a special service route meant to meet the needs of older and mobility-challenged residents and ridden primarily by residents of the Village Christian Apartments—originally was to be canceled as well. Like Route 19, its ridership was too low to justify its cost. Cancellation, however, would have left no substitute for the door-to-door service Route 491 currently provides, so residents and staff of the apartments worked with Cap Metro staff to find a compromise that would reduce frequency but not entirely eliminate the route, whose lift-equipped vans ferry passengers between the apartments and the Seton Hospital area, with stops along the way. Now, when June 2018 arrives, Route 491's current Tuesday-Thursday-Saturday schedule will be reduced to once a week on a day to be determined.

Route 323 (Anderson) will be extended across MoPac to near Far West Boulevard in the west and to the Norwood Walmart in the east. It will continue to serve the North Lamar Transit Center.



JANUARY 28 OPEN HOUSE FEBRUARY 1 INFORMATION MORNING MARCH 7 FUTURE COUGARROUNDUP PRE-K AND K

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In Memory of Shirley Lavinia Webb June 28, 1933 -October 29, 2017

Longtime North Shoal Creek resident Shirley Lavinia Steele Webb, wife of current NSCNA board member and a previous NSCNA president Kenneth Webb, passed away on Sunday, October 29, 2017.

Shirley and Kenneth met on a blind date in September of 1951 and became engaged two weeks later. They married December 30, 1951 and were married for over 65 years at the time of her death. They moved to North Shoal Creek in 1971.

Shirley was a remarkable woman — an excellent seamstress and an avid reader, she enjoyed painting, square-dancing, playing games, traveling, researching genealogy, and making everyone laugh and have fun. She was NSCNA's "unofficial" photographer, and group photos were her specialty. Every board member and many volunteers can remember Shirley getting everyone in a group sorted out by height, all eyes open and everyone smiling just as she said "cheese." Her photos were flawless.

Shirley's love of family and life, outgoing personality, contagious laughter and ever-present smile will be missed by all who knew her.

Sandy Perkins, 512-797-7375



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Community garden now operating after pie party kick-off

by Sarah Brandon, NSCNA Vice President (<u>vp@nscna.org</u>)

The North Shoal Creek Community Garden is finally
done!cation time, only one plot of 19 remains available
for rental. An annual rental fee of \$25 confers ac-

The volunteer team started construction of the garden in March, and now—with all the beds built, the fence up, and the water finally running—the plots are soon to be turned over to the 18 people who have signed up to rent one so far.

To kick things off, the NSCNA community garden and social committees hosted a fall fund-raiser and pie party on October 28. Stopping by to see the garden's progress were the Sustainable Food Center's Sari Albornoz and Meredith Gauthier, coordinator of the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department's Sustainable Urban Agriculture and Community Gardens program.

The standout moment came during the "golden shovel ceremony," symbolizing the garden's readiness for planting and representing the triumph and pride of all involved. As everyone gathered around to watch NSCNA Vice President Sarah Brandon's first scoop of soil in one of the garden beds, the shovel broke in half! It was a moment that represented the way all of us who have worked on the garden felt—perhaps a little broken in half ourselves at this point—but it brought a laugh from all.

Plots will be officially handed over to the renters at an event scheduled for the evening of January 4, 2018, at a time and site to be determined. At publi-

LOCAL BUSINESS NEWS

Tiff's Treats has moved its headquarters from 8900 Shoal Creek Boulevard to 8310 N. Capital of Texas Highway, Bldg. 1.

A demolition permit filed in June for 8647 Rockwood, previously Crump Plumbing Supply, has been approved by the City of Austin. It was filed by Big Red Dog Engineering representing Sackman Enterprises. cation time, only one plot of 19 remains available for rental. An annual rental fee of \$25 confers access to each plot from January 1 through December 31. E-mail *gardenchair@nscna.org* if you are interested in renting the remaining plot.

We are asking anyone interested in being involved in the garden to read over the draft bylaws at *http://www.nscna.org/garden_documents/* for a ratification vote at the event.

The garden committee is transitioning from constructing the garden to its actual operation. This will require a leadership team to assist with volunteer outreach, fund-raising, compost and tool coordination and other issues. Whether or not you have rented a plot, if you want to be a part of our team to ensure the garden's success, please consider coming on board. Descriptions of the positions are listed in the bylaws on the website.

Reach out to *gardenchair@nscna.org* with questions or visit our website at <u>www.nscna.org/garden</u>. Our bylaws are posted on our website.



(Continued from page 1) Neighborhood Plan Open House

We spoke against turning Burnet Road and Anderson Lane into "canyons" of high rises, arguing instead for a variety of building heights and uses as well as green spaces and shade. We called for supporting and keeping our existing local businesses as well as preserving our existing affordable housing. Please come to the open house and give your feedback. We want to know if we succeeded, and—if we didn't—what needs to be changed.

NSCNA's Board and Development Committee thank you for your participation in this important process.

OPEN HOUSE	North Shoal Creek Real Estate				
2708 Thrushwood Dr.	3bd 2ba	1,565 sq.ft.	\$447,500		
8213 Briarwood Ln.	3bd 2ba	1,376 sq.ft.	\$409,000		
8217 Briarwood Ln.	3bd 2ba	1,383 sq.ft.	\$397,500		
3000 Boxdale Dr.	3bd 1ba	919 sq.ft.	\$320,000		
8507 Rockwood Ln.	3bd 2ba	1,144 sq.ft.	\$418,500		
8711 Primrose Ln.	4bd 2ba	2,054 sq.ft.	\$399,900		
Condos:					
2600 Penny Ln.	2bd 2ba	834 sq.ft.	\$144,900		
7920 Rockwood Ln.	1bd 1ba	672 sq.ft.	\$182,300		
2425 Ashdale Dr.	1bd 1ba	652 sq.ft.	\$129,900		
2425 Ashdale Dr.	2bd 2ba	973 sq.ft.			
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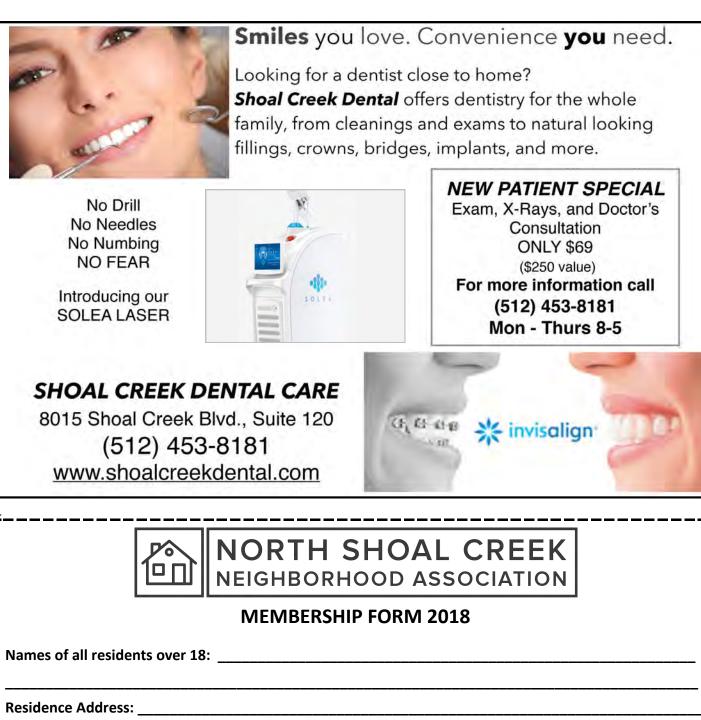
The North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association (NSCNA) holds five membership meetings a year, on the first Tuesday of these months: January, March, May, September and November. Membership meetings are held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Pillow Elementary School Library, 3025 Crosscreek, All meetings are open to the public.

For information on joining NSCNA, please see page 12.

North Shoal Creek Neighborhood News ad prices: Business-card size, 3.5 inches wide by 2 inches high, \$30. Quarter-page, 3.5 inches by 4 inches, \$60. Half-page: 7.5 inches by 5 inches, \$115. 10% discount when three or more ads are purchased at the same time.







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