



Rattan Creek Neighborhood News

Serving Milwood at North Austin MUD # 1 since 1983

Distributed Every Other Month By The Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association, Vol. 21, No. 3

June/July 2006

Around Milwood

If you need copies of your Deed Restrictions:

You may contact Armbrust & Brown (Attorney for the MUD district) at 435-2365. Ask for Katherine Dulany.

- There is a charge for the copies. Once you have paid for the copies, a set will be mailed to you.
- You will need your legal description (ie. lot, block, and section of Milwood), so you get the correct set of deed restrictions for your section.

Block Captain Needed for Newsletter Delivery:

We need a Block Captain for the following street:

Athens Trail (35)

Block Captains deliver newsletters 6 times a year to homes on their street. If your street is one of the ones mentioned above, you will not receive newsletters until someone steps forward to deliver to your block. Newsletters are available at the sign at the Rattan Creek Park. *Numbers in () is the number of houses.*

A big Thank You to Ted Morris for volunteering as a Section Head and Jim & Creola Burns for becoming block captains!

If you would like to volunteer as a block captain please contact Jennifer or Dave at 257-3380.



Volunteer Needed:

For the Teen Ads & the Classified Ads. Beginning immediately for the Aug/Sept issue and on. Please contact Jo at 335-1805.

Visit our website at

www.rattancreek.org

EVENTS

June


Jun 8 Teen Night-8:00-10:30pm
Rattan Creek Pool
\$2 Cover Charge 

Jun 14 MUD Meeting, 6pm
9511 RR 620

Jun 15 RCNA Meeting, 7pm
Rattan Creek Pool

Jun 22 Teen Night-8:00-10:30pm
Rattan Creek Pool
\$2 Cover Charge

July

Jul 4 Independence Day 
9:00 am "Fourth of July Parade"

July 6 Teen Night-8:00-10:30pm
Rattan Creek Pool
\$2 Cover Charge

July 15 Newsletter deadline
Aug/Sep Issue

July 19 MUD Meeting, 6pm
9511 RR 620

July 20 RCNA Meeting, 7pm
Rattan Creek Pool

July 20 Teen Night-8:00-10:30pm
Rattan Creek Pool
\$2 Cover Charge

August

Aug 3 Teen Night-8:00-10:30pm
Rattan Creek Pool
\$2 Cover Charge

Aug 14 RRISD Starts
*tentative date

Aug 16 MUD Meeting, 6pm
9511 RR 620

Aug 17 RCNA Meeting, 7pm
Rattan Creek Pool

RCNA Board of Directors

P.O. Box 200584

Austin, Tx 78720-0584

Website: www.rattancreek.org

RCNA Board of Directors:

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VOLUNTEER NEEDED **OPEN**

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email: arandall5@austin.rr.com

The Rattan Creek Neighborhood News welcomes your letters and guest columns. Letters must have a verifiable signature. Guest columns and letters will be printed on as space available basis. Neither the Rattan Creek Neighborhood News nor the Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association accept responsibility for the opinions expressed in editorials, letters or guest columns. The Rattan Creek Neighborhood News reserves the right not to publish any submissions and the right to edit all submissions. Mail to the following address: Jo Jones, RCNA Editor, 13119 Green River Trail, Austin, Tx 78729 or e-mail: JRJones@austin.rr.com

Wow! What a Successful Easter Hunts!!!!

I would like to thank everyone that made the Easter Event such a huge success. I have never had so many Teen Volunteers! Our teens staffed almost the entire Easter Hunt! I even had time to take pictures and hunt with my three children.

We also had about \$100 in candy donated and \$35 dollars in cash donated. We, RCNA, have not seen this much participation and donations in quite a few years. We were able to spend about \$100 less this year! We did, however, lose about a quarter of our eggs this year. We had neighbors in the surrounding areas attend this year. I did not announce that we recycle the eggs. If you have any used or unused eggs...We would love to have them!

I would like to personally thank those who contributed time, candy or monetary donations:

A special thank you to: Kathy and Jim Compton Thank you for all the help the past 2 years! And a special thank you to: John and Valerie Burmeister, S. Harrison and family, The Hodges family, Kenyon Phillips, Vu family, Kennedy family, Frankhauser family, Ghdie family and friends, George family, Shippling family, Natasha Randles, Mary Weibert, Rita Connelly, Marty Smith, Chuck and Mary Ellen Simms, Brad and Jo Jones and Becky.

Thank you to Pack 164 for the wonderful Pancake Breakfast!!!

And as always, a big thank you to our RCNA board members. Without such a dedicated group of individuals, Milwood would not have events like these.

I would also like to thank the **Springwood Girl Scouts** for stuffing our 7000 eggs!

Troop 134: Leaders Mysti Strader and Alica Barnes

Mallory Strader, Natalie Barnes, Coral Barnes, Paige Newcomb, Anne Cao, Sana and Asna Momin, Catherine Willis, Casey Bushee, Samantha Laney, Zoey Laney, Libby Welge and Varsha Nathan

Troop 1770: Leaders Jamie Mollenhauer and Karen McElhinney

Amber, Annabel, Dayna, Kristin, Phoebe, Kylie, Elizabeth, Shannon, Skyeler, Amelia, Julia and Jadzia

Troop 1084: Leaders Janet Mandeville and Laura Hargrave

Morgan Mandeville, Aubrey Cobern, Mariah Castano, Lilly Hargrave, Emily Sun. Siblings: Nathan Mandeville, Henry Hargrave, Pam Cobern

Troop 923: Leader Michelle Billett

Ariana Billett, Tamara Billett, Savannah Bowdoin, Tivia Carpenter, Schila Challenger, Anna Haug and Autumn Lavender

Troop 906: Leader Sharon Harrison

Maddy Campillo, Katy Cirillo, Katie Drozd, Jordan Grubb, Sara Harrison, Caroline Kelly, Zoe Laney, Alexis Partridge, Sarah Robinchaux, Courtney Sell and Dana Harrison

Troop 1113: Leader Cheryl Quartaro

Amy, Emma and Chad Quartaro, Catherine and Jessica Arjet, Maranda and Emily Ferris, Shannon and Casey Holt, Joanna and Hallie Casey, Madeleine Jenkyn, Jessica and Heather Stude, Sarah Young, Skylar and Celia Neuendorff, Zoe Cattin-Roy

Troop 915: Molly Nelson and Angel Nelson

Troop 569: Leaders Heidi Pickerill, Dallas Hall, Amy Weir-Hartman and Jenifer Federico

Katie Pickerill, Zoe Shurley, Lilia Federico, Julia Block, Frances Chiu, Anna Arroyo, Catherine Hall, Kathleen Hartman, America Osoro, Catherine Van Bramer and Emily Hall

**Thank you all very much!
Dallas Hall**

President's Notes

Howdy Rattan Creek neighbors and friends. Can you believe it's summertime already? I can from the heat, but it seems like it was just Christmas. There are so many things to cover in my notes this month that a will touch on as many as I can. We had the Easter Egg Hunt, and Pool Party. The playscapes in the park have been completed. We have received and are reviewing the scholarship applicants. Your neighborhood board is working on association membership and ways to make it better. The kids are out of school. We're personally going on vacation (at least the kids are, I don't know how much of a vacation Disney will be for me and my wife).

The Easter Egg Hunt was awesome, I hope everyone with children came and had as much fun as our family. Thank you for the volunteers who helped work the event, the Girl Scouts for stuffing the 7000 plus eggs, and the Boy Scouts for the pancakes. And huge thanks to Dallas Hall for making the event happen. While we're thanking Dallas also do it again for the next event the Pool Party.

Dallas and Peggy planned this super event as well. I think everyone had a great family time. The BBQ was excellent (when is BBQ ever bad) and the adult beverages didn't stink. The water was cool and refreshing! Congratulations to our door prize winners, I

hope your enjoying the Ice Cream, Coffee, and other prizes. Again Dallas and your neighborhood association made this happen.

Since we're on the subject of the pool party we appreciate all who joined the RCNA at the party. Membership is doing much better than last year, but there is much room for improvement. Last year our final number of households who were members was just under 400. This year we already have 450 or so and we hope to go up to 600 plus. That sounds good until you understand that there are around 2900 households in Rattan Creek. If you haven't joined yet please do, if you have ask your neighbors and tell them about all the fun. One of the many people working behind the scene on membership is Brian Kerman. He has volunteered long hours and is doing an awesome job on membership, including bring the list of members to date. If your name wasn't on the list at the party please forgive us, we're trying. The RCNA has also been discussing member cards and with some work will have something for next year. If you have any thoughts on cards or anything else please come to our meeting (third Thursday 7:00 p.m. at the pool) or contact me with them.

The playscapes in the park have been completed. I wish they had rock walls when I was a kid! Look to our MUD news more information on the playscapes and other things in the park.

School is out and with it the speed in the neighborhood also seems to increase. Please keep within the posted speed limit and encourage your teenagers to do the same.

Enjoy the summer, vacations, and I'll tell Mickey, Donald and the gang Rattan Creek says Howdy!

John Lenz, RCNA President



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Around Rattan Creek

New Neighbors and Babies:



No New Babies



No New Neighbors

If you know someone has just moved into the neighborhood, or just had a baby, help us to welcome the new folks and/or congratulate our neighbors on their special event. Please contact Kelly Buczek at 258-6842, Or email to her at kelly@catscradle.us

Springwood Girl Scouts Service Unit would like to thank NA Mud #1, Clearwater Management and the RCNA for their donations to their end of the year Pool Party! It was a blast!!! Thanks for making it so special.

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Milwood Parent Activities

Looking for a playgroup for your little ones? Here are a couple to chose from:

- New playgroup for babies/toddlers born between Sep 2005 – Aug 2006. Contact Kerry Crowe at 250-8945 or kerrycrowe@yahoo.com.
- Playgroup for babies/toddlers born between September 2004 and August 2005. Email Sheila at sheila_dhir_hughes@yahoo.com. If you don't have email, feel free to call 257-3672.
- Playgroup for toddlers (and their Moms) with birth dates from around July/August 2003 to 2004: Call Lori Poppe at 258-1952 or email at loripoppe@yahoo.com.
- Stroller-walking group. We meet at the Rattan Creek Park on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:30. If you are interested, call Dallas at 257-3494.
- Playgroup for children with birth dates in Fall 1996 and Spring/Summer of 1997: Call Candance Kreiling at 331-9773
- Arbor Homeschool Group: Weekly playdays, monthly field trips and various other activities. All ages welcome! Contact Toni McKinley at 250-0496 or e-mail at tmckinley1@yahoo.com for places and times we meet.
- Do you work out of your home? If you are self-employed or otherwise office out of your Milwood house, how would you like a little company? We can get together over coffee once a month or so and keep up with what's going on in the world. Please call Susan Morrow at 257-2737 or e-mail me at smorrow@wordsarewe.com.

Post a message! Would you be interested in meeting other moms at the playground? Do you like to scrapbook and would like to do it with others? Are you interested in starting a Bunco group? **Contact Jennifer at 257-9383** or jenjacob@hotmail.com to have your message posted.

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June/July Gardening: Keep Your Plants Alive; Not Thriving In The Heat!

Fast Forward---Even without the heavy rains in May, our plants have been growing fast and look great. However, the bad news is that we must shift our thinking ahead to what an Austin summer yard and lawn needs. So...it is time to set your mower as high as possible, mow whenever it needs trimming by 1/3, do not fertilize again until late August, and water deeply whenever you can still see your footprints in the grass after 1/2 hour.

Unless it rains 1 inch of water every week on your yard, you **NEED** to water your yard and planting beds to keep the plants alive, (not thriving) through the heat of June, July and August. Watch for wilting and then water in early morning for as long as it takes to get water running off. Wait 20 minutes and water again until runoff. This saturates the soil and produces deep roots that grow towards the deep moisture. Wait until you see sign of water stress before watering again. If you have good deep soil and deep roots and 3 inches of mulch on your beds you should be able to only water deeply once a week.

New grass requires more water while the

roots are growing so water often enough to dampen the soil to just deeper than the root level. With new seed or sod in full sun, this may be several times per day during a drought with blistering sun and drying wind. Slowly spread out the watering times until October and then just water occasionally for the first winter.

Mature lawns can be watered weekly or less often when the roots are well established and the grass is dense and you mow tall enough so there is shade for the roots.

Do not fertilize grass now, with a high nitrogen fertilizer, it will cause rapid top growth requiring more water. Also, the heat will evaporate the fertilizer and rain will wash it into the creeks. From August to October, spread 1/2 inch of Dillo dirt or other compost to encourage deep turf and roots.

When watering, give all plants a long, deep soaking to encourage a deep root system. To find out how long your watering system takes to output 1 inch of water, put out opened cans around the water sprinklers to measure the length of time it

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takes to accumulate 1" of water. This time tells you how long to run the sprinklers. Although, if water runs off before this time is up, move to watering another area for an hour or so and return to sprinkle the area again to complete the full time. The amount of water required by full sun or by shaded areas is greatly different so watch for the wilting and then adjust the length of watering time for each area. This is your most efficient use of water and assures the best survival of the plants

The best time to water is in the early morning before dawn which allows the leaves time to dry before the sun scorches them through the magnifying-glass drops of water on the leaves. It also lessens the possibility of fungus that is encouraged by humidity and darkness. Slowly stretch the time between waterings out to once every 5 or 7 days and you will have healthier plants, save water, and comply with the water conservation guidelines.

Keep a 3" to 4" depth of mulch on the planting beds and around large shrubs and trees to discourage weed growth, help hold in the moisture, and keep the soil and plant roots cooler.

Other tips for summer:

If your grass leaves have turned yellow, water less or spread chelated iron or iron sulfate.

Raise the lawnmower blades as high as you can get them now. Mow often enough so that only 1/3 of the grass blades are cut off. Tall grass develops a deeper, more water efficient root system.

Remove old flower heads from all annuals and perennials. This is commonly called dead heading and encourages new blooms.

Cut the seed heads off the crape myrtles after they finish blooming in late July to encourage another round of flowers.

Be sparing with fertilizer on native plants as they tend to grow rampant and do not bloom as well when over fed.

Do not fertilize grass now, it will just grow fast and require more water and mowing.

Spray crape myrtles with Cloud Cover or another anti-transpirant to prevent powdery mildew. If the mildew is already present, spray with Benomyl mildew control. Fungus can also be controlled with an application of copper and liquid seaweed, 1 tablespoon to a gallon of water sprayed on the

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leaves.

Mealy bugs are controlled with Safer Insecticidal Soap sprayed three times at 7 day intervals. This also controls aphids, thrips, scale, whitefly, spider mites, and earwigs. **Thrips leave white fluffy** deposits on twigs and the thrips look much like the deposits. They are more of a problem in hot dry weather and suck the juices from plants damaging them. If you have encouraged lady bugs and other insects, they will help control the thrips. Try washing them off the plants with a hose spray first. Before spraying insecticide which may kill all the insects including the good ones.

Use sun screen and wear a hat to protect your skin from ultraviolet rays which cause sunburn, premature aging and cancer. **To raise the SPF of your clothing** to SPF30, put all your outdoor clothes in the washer, use the hottest water safe for the fabrics of the clothes, add during the wash cycle a packet of Rit Sun Guard laundry treatment for UV protectant available at the fabric stores with the RIT dye products. It reduces my sun allergy runny nose problem greatly.

Mow and Mulch: Sharpen your mower and

raise it to the highest setting. Mulch the lawn by returning the clippings back on the grass. Mulching reduces the need for fertilizer and water and inhibits weed growth. Any sharp mower can mulch if your mowing pattern causes clippings to be recut a second time if needed. For the last 18 years I have been mulching grass back into the yard. I spread Dillo dirt or fertilize lightly after 3 mowings or in May and October, and use no pesticides except Logic in spring and fall and Orthene for spot treatment for the fire ants. The yard looked the best it ever had in '97 when the fall and spring rain made the difference. We may not be so lucky this year.

Newly planted plants in beds, need extra watering for the first 2 years. Water before stress shows or you may kill the plants with small root systems and this is false economy. For new plants; 1st week- water every day; 1st month-water 3 times per week. For the following spring through fall-2 times per week unless it rains more than 1 inch, and; during winter-once per week or as needed.

The goal is to encourage root growth away from

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the plant so use a leaky hose for watering and cover the soil with 4 inches of mulch to develop healthy plants which will make it through the summer, winter, and look great next year.

Trees in stress: show as trees which are receding (not growing leaves to the tips of the branches this year) or with brown leaf tips. Construction damages tree roots by compacting the soil, or scraping off the topsoil, or by putting fill dirt over the roots. Death occurs from 1 to 3 years later. In general to save trees in stress, since the roots are not working well, we must give more water and must get fertilizer to the roots that are left. Put a leaky hose 2/3 of the way out the drip line (or farther away for an established tree) and turn on ¼ turn to slowly let it run for 6 to 8 hours every 10 days (in July and August every 7 days). Water and fertilizer must reach the roots 6 to 8 inches down, and must reach all roots. Tree spikes and top dressing with fertilizer probably is wasted money, (too little area is covered and fertilizer only works when the tree is rapidly growing.) (For live oaks, this is the 140 days February to May).

All our trees need the bark to be protected from lawn mowers and weed eaters and need their roots to be cool and slowly fed. The method recommended by TexaScapes and TreeFolks is to build up a 3 inch deep mulch bed or tree ring. Make it like a donut at least 3 foot wider than the trunk of the tree (this is one of the times when much larger is much better). Use any organic mulch, pine bark, compost, or composted soil mixture like Back to Earth (BTE) composted cotton seed hulls.

Summer flowers will take extra care in mulching in and watering until they get roots established. A foliar application sprayed on the leaves with a weak fertilizer or liquid sea weed and fish emulsion mixture will encourage blooming and plant growth. **Full Sun native plants** like the **Salvia Greggii**, **Salvia farinacena** 'Mealy Sage', **Salvia Coccinea** 'Coral Nymph', **verbena**, white mist flower, Blue Mist flower (for hummers) and **lantanna** need very little fertilizer, can take the heat, will bloom until mid fall, and are perennials and will come back up again next year.

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(Continued from page 8)

Shade loving plants include the **heartleaf skullcap** (*Scutellaria ovata*) that grows in shade and the deer don't touch it. It can stand full sun, and partial shade with beautiful violet-blue flowers from April to June, it colonizes readily by interesting bead-like fleshy roots. It reaches 2 foot height and after blooming, makes a lovely ground cover for the rest of the year. It transplants easily. If you have shade you should be able to establish cedar sage (*Salvia roemeriana*). They grow under cedars in the wild, with natural mulch of cedar needles. The early-blooming bright red flower spikes (March to July) attract hummingbirds. Once established, they need little supplemental water. It doesn't care for even reflected heat and light and probably won't like strong west sun. And they are deer resistant. **Tropical sage/scarlet sage** (*salvia coccinea*) will reseed all over your flower beds. Why not dig up the volunteers and transplant them, expanding your bed and reduce the lawn. It requires little water to look best, and will however, limp through the summer heat on Nature's supply. **Inland sea oats** (*Chasmanthium latifolium*) is a

clumping perennial grass 2 to 4 feet in height, that likes shade, dappled shade or half day sun. They have beautiful green to tan seed flags in fall, you can use or share the seeds. It is the larval host for some skipper butterflies, so your caterpillar-loving birds will thank you. Caution though, if you plant on thin soil, you must water it, so give it deeper soil, maybe in a low drainage area and it will thrive. **Chile pequin** (*Capsicum annuum*) is an airy perennial growing 2 to 4 feet tall. Your mockingbirds will risk their lives for the red peppers so plant where they can see the cats coming. It takes shade to sun in well-drained soil and does fine on rainfall alone. The **Lyre-leaf sage** (*Salvia lyranta*) hails from East Texas so a little extra water will be needed. It reseeds readily in loose soils and makes a groundcover with an evergreen rosette. It attracts hummingbirds and butterflies. The **Texas aster** (*aster texanus*) is easy to grow in dappled shade with beautiful light blue flowers

Small understory trees and shrubs fill out our landscapes and provide resting and nesting places

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Please join us for
Vacation Bible School

June 12-16, 2006

9:00 a.m. to Noon

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The Bluffs at Milwood



(Continued from page 9)

for birds. These Texas-grown trees and shrubs are adapted to the hot weather. **Desert Willows** (*Chilopsis linearis*) is a full-sun flowering tree. They are a multistory restaurant for hummingbirds. They begin blooming before the crepe Myrtles and bloom until late fall. They require little water so plant them in a sunny corner of the fence and they can even be planted in summer. **Texas Sages** or Cenizo (*Leucophyllum frutescens*) can grow to be a large bush though they take pruning well. Leaves are light gray and blooms are pink to light blue shortly after a rain. Do not over-water they will grow fast and get leggy. Again, 3 of them in a sunny corner of the fence will do great.

Work toward getting your yard certified as a Best of Texas Backyard Habitat by adding plants to your yard that provide food, protection and cover, water, and a place to raise the young. These plants may provide you with the basis for certifying your landscape at the Best of Texas Backyard Habitats (BTBH) level that will recognize you as a leader in environmental stewardship and wildlife conservation. This

program is a merging of the programs called Wildscapes by Texas Park and Wildlife Dept. (TPWD) and called the Backyard Wildlife Habitat program by National Wildlife Federation (NWF). Now both organizations are working together with a common program to raise consciousness about wildlife habitat creation and restoration. Habitat loss is occurring at an alarming rate nationwide and locally and is the most significant threat to wildlife populations in the US

You have heard how canaries were used to take down into the coal mines, when the birds dropped over, the air was not fit for people also and the mine would be evacuated. All the birds that we used to see flitting about in and above the trees are our own canaries. We need to and can improve our breathing and living environment, one yard at a time.

We can all help improve our neighborhood environment and the joy of living in our yards by improving our own landscape as a habitat for birds, butterflies, caterpillars, moths, snakes, frogs, lizards, lady bugs, praying Mantis, ...the list of natural wildlife goes on and on.

(Continued on page 11)

Need A Patio Cover? How About A Screen Room?

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(Continued from page 10)

If you are interested in the BTBH program, you can visit the web sites for Wildlife Diversity Branch at www.tpwd.state.tx.us/wildscapes or at www.nwf.org/backyardwildlifehabitat or call (585) 461-3092.

Happy Gardening and Critter Watching,
 Chuck Simms,
 "The Gardening Guy"



Going Out Of Town?

Before you head out of town on vacation this summer, make sure you take these simple precautions so the old homestead is in good shape when you return. Every year, 6 million home burglaries occur in the United States, most of them during the summer months. Vacations provide burglars with plenty of time to break into empty homes, remove large items, and leisurely search for valuables and sensitive information. These days, you need to be just as concerned with thieves stealing your identity as your big-screen television and Grandma's silver.

Your goal is to make sure your home is well-secured and to create the illusion that someone is home at all times. Here are the major areas you should be concerned about:

DOORS AND WINDOWS: Make sure every opening is securely fastened. Doors should have deadbolt locks with a 1-inch "throw" and reinforced "strike plates" with 3-inch screws. Do not rely on your automatic garage door for security. Disable the automatic door opener (most have an "Off" switch, or you can simply unplug it from the power source) and secure the door with a strong padlock or other locking device. Properly secure all sliding glass doors by placing a wooden

(Continued on page 22)



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Recipe Corner By Natasha Randall

Easy Sloppy Joes

- 1 ½ lbs – 2 lbs. of hamburger meat
- 1 8oz can roasted garlic flavored tomato sauce
- 1 8oz can basil, garlic & oregano and flavored tomato sauce
- Hamburger Buns

In a large sauce pan cook hamburger until done or no pink remains. Drain the hamburger then add both cans of tomato sauce and cook until heated through. Salt and pepper to taste. Serve on hamburger buns with your favorite toppings. Makes 6-8 servings

Strawberry Lemonade

- 1 ½ cups fresh lemon juice (approx. 8 lemons)
- 1 10oz carton slice frozen strawberries with sugar
- ½ cup sugar
- 6 cups water

Puree strawberries in a blender. Mix together lemon juice, strawberries, sugar and water in a 2 qt. pitcher. Serve cold. To make it more like a slushy or icee blend the lemonade in the blender with ice. Enjoy!

Big Red Homemade Ice Cream

- 6 cups Big Red carbonated beverage
- 2 cans Eagle Brand Milk
- 1 10oz carton slice frozen strawberries with sugar
- 1 package Dream Whip (mixed according to package directions)
- 4 eggs well beaten

In a large bowl add all ingredients together and mix well. Place mixture into your ice cream maker and mix until the ice cream thickens or is set-up. Serve immediately or transfer to an airtight container and store in the freezer.

Note: This is a very large recipe! This will fill the large 5 quart old time ice cream makers that use the ice and rock salt. If you have one of the ice cream makers that have a 1 ½ quart bowl that you place in your freezer, only about ¼ of this recipe will fit into a bowl at one time.

If you would like to submit a recipe for the RCNA Recipe corner, please send it to Natasha Randall at arandall5@austin.rr.com.



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**PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY
BEFORE COMPLETING APPLICATION**

- All members receiving ID badges must be listed, with birthdates, for the application to be considered complete. (Children under three attending the pool do not need to be listed.)
- Guest admittances can only be purchased by a member of the pool. All guests must be accompanied by a pool member.
- Three guest admittances will be assigned with each Summer or Winter ID badge purchased. Six admittances will be assigned with each Annual ID badge. (Complimentary admittances are not issued with ID badges purchased for replacement of a lost or stolen badge.)
- A check made payable to North Austin M.U.D. #1 (NAM1) Pool must accompany the application to be processed.
- A check for pool ID badges, tennis key and/or RCNA **must be mailed separately** from the payment for the NAM1 water bill.
- Replacement fees for lost or stolen ID badges are as follows:
Summer / Winter Badge: \$5.00 each Annual Badge: \$10.00 each
- If purchasing a combination of summer only / winter only and annual ID badges, please specify for whom the annual ID badges are to be assigned to, as each ID badge can only be assigned to and used by **one** person.
- Annual ID badges are good from the beginning of the summer session until the end of the winter session and not necessarily a year from the date of purchase. (i.e. valid from May 2005 to April 2006)
- The Tennis Courts will be under a professional management service. **Please watch the North Austin website for more information.** Tennis court keys will be issued on a Summer or Winter season basis. New keys will be issued at the beginning of each season. Guest fees will apply. **Only ONE key can be issued per household.** Replacement fee for lost or stolen keys will be the same as a new key.
- ID Badges, pool or tennis guest passes and tennis court keys are not pro-rated at any time.
- Please make sure you are filling out the appropriate application for the ID badges, etc., that you are requesting. (The application should state the year and session being registered for above the list of fees.)
- If your child will be three years of age *PRIOR to opening day* of the session being registered for, he/she WILL need an ID badge purchased for him/her.
- Only ID badges will be available at the pool. All applications and payments must be submitted by mail or in person to ECO Resources, Inc.
- ID badges can be picked up at the pool after your application is processed at ECO Resources, Inc. **Each** person for whom an ID badge is purchased (ages 3 and older) will need to have their picture taken at the pool office before the badges will be issued. No additional paper work will need to be completed at the pool, but identification will need to be shown.
- Forms of payment accepted for pool and tennis keys are check, cash and money order. Credit/debit cards are not accepted for payment.
- In the event a check is returned by your bank, your water account will be posted with the fees for items purchased, plus a returned check fee.
- All applications MUST be signed to be considered complete.
- Application, schedules and other information on district facilities is available on the district's website (www.northaustinmud1.org).

**ALL INCOMPLETE OR INCORRECT APPLICATIONS WILL BE
RETURNED WITHOUT PROCESSING**

RATTAN CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

NORTH AUSTIN MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 - RATTAN CREEK PARK POOL & TENNIS COURTS

Application to Use Recreational Facilities and Release of Liability

**PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING – INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED
APPLICATION FOR 2006 SUMMER SESSION**

NAMUD #1 Water Bill Account No. _____ Home Telephone No. _____	
(Application will be considered incomplete without account number)	
Name _____	
(As it appears on NAM1 bill)	
Address _____	ZIP _____
Emergency Contact Name _____	Emergency Phone No _____

I have made application for use of the District's recreational facilities on behalf of myself and the listed members of my family and our guests. I understand that the District's recreational facilities are for use of authorized persons only, and agree that all use by me, my family and our guests shall be in accordance with the District's "Rattan Creek Park Pool, Court Rules and Regulations." I agree that the District does not, by the providing of recreational facilities, assume any responsibility or liability to our guests or us. We assume all responsibility for, and waive any claim against the District for accidental injury, property damage or death arising out of the use of these facilities by any of our guests or us. We agree to indemnify and hold harmless the District, its directors, agents, employees and consultants whether paid or volunteer, from any and all claims by us or our guests which may arise out of use of the District's recreational facilities. If this application is on behalf of any minor children, the application represents that the applicant is the legal guardian of said children and fully responsible for such children, and authorized to execute this application and release on their behalf. I understand that the children, if under ten (10) years of age, must be accompanied by a person fourteen (14) years of age or older when using the District's facilities. *I further understand that I am responsible for any damage to District facilities caused by my family, my guests or myself.*

Applicant Signature: _____	Date: ____/____/____
(APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED INCOMPLETE WITHOUT SIGNATURE)	
TO BE NOTIFIED WHEN APPLICATION IS PROCESSED VIA EMAIL, PLEASE PROVIDE ADDRESS BELOW:	

Household Members Attending Pool: All members receiving badges must be listed below. (Badges required for ages 3 and up)

<u>Member Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Member Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____

NO REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE TAKEN AT THE POOL

2006 Summer Fees:	Make Checks Payable To North Austin M.U.D. #1 Pool	
Quantity	Check MUST accompany this registration form to be processed.	
_____ Summer In-District Badge	@ \$20 per badge	\$ _____
_____ Annual In-District Badge	@ \$40 per badge	\$ _____
_____ Out-of-District Summer Membership (Up to 4 Badges if needed)	@ \$200 per household	\$ _____
_____ Additional Out-of-District Summer Badge	@ \$20 each additional badge	\$ _____
_____ Summer Guest Admittance (only w/ badge purchase)	@ \$2 each (one time use)	\$ _____
_____ 10 Summer Guest Admittances (only w/ badge purchase)	@ \$15	\$ _____
_____ Tennis Court Key Summer (In-District Only) <small>(KEY IS ONLY VALID THROUGH SEPT 30, 2006)</small>	@ \$25 (ONE KEY PER HOUSEHOLD)	\$ _____
_____ RCNA Membership (In-District Only) <small>(RCNA Fee Covers Jan-Dec Membership Year)</small>	@ \$25 per household	\$ _____
	Total	\$ _____
SUMMER BADGES/GUEST ADMITTANCES VALID THRU 09/15/06 ANNUAL VALID THRU 04/30/07		

North Austin Municipal Utility District No. 1 Rattan Creek Pool Summer Schedule 2006

June 2006



June 1-30:

Swim Team: Mon-Fri: 7:00-11:00 am
Baby Pool area only: (Moms & Tots only)
 Tues & Thurs 9:00am-11:00 am
Open Swim: Mon - Fri: 11:00am-9:00 pm
 Sat : 11:00am-9:00 pm
 Sun : Noon-9:00 pm

Hurricane Home Swim Meets: June 10 & 24
Pool Hours: Sat: 1:00pm - 9:00pm

Teen Nights:
June 8 & June 22: 8:00-10:30pm
\$2.00 Cover Charge

July 2006

July 4th: Independence Day

July 1-11:

Swim Team: Mon-Fri: 7:00-11:00
Baby Pool area only: (Moms & Tots only)
 Tues & Thurs 9:00am-11:00 am
Open Swim: Mon - Fri: 11:00am-9:00pm
 Sat : 11:00am-9:00pm
 Sun : Noon-9:00pm

Hurricane Home Swim Meets: July 8
Pool Hours: Sat: 1:00pm - 9:00pm

July 15-31:

Open Swim: Mon - Fri: 9:00am-9:00pm
 Sat : 9:00am-9:00pm
 Sun : Noon-9:00pm

Teen Nights:
 July 6 & 20: 8:00-10:30pm
\$2.00 Cover Charge

***Rattan Creek Pool is Managed
by Clearwater Management***

Manager - Mandy Paul
Pool phone - 257-8175

Clearwater Management
Phone - 331-7066

August 2006

August 1-13*:

Open Swim: Mon - Fri: 9:00am-9:00pm
 Sat : 9:00am-9:00pm
 Sun : Noon-9:00pm

August 14th: School Starts*

August 14-31*:

Open Swim: Mon - Fri: 4:30pm-9:00pm
 M, W, F Open Swim: Noon to 1:30pm
 Sat : 11:00am-9:00pm
 Sun : Noon-9:00pm

Last Teen Night:
 August 3 : 8:00-10:30pm
\$2.00 Cover Charge

** August Pool hours may change depending on
RRISD calendar changes.*

September 2006

Sept 1-17:

Open Swim: Mon - Fri: 4:30pm-9:00pm
 M, W, F Open Swim: Noon to 1:30pm
 Sat : 11:00am-9:00pm
 Sun : Noon-9:00pm

Labor Day: Sept 4: Open Swim 11:00 - 9:00pm

Sept 17-30:

Open Swim:
 M, W, F: Noon to 1:30pm & 4:30 - 8:00pm
 Sat : Noon-8:00pm
 Sun : Noon-8:00pm

NOTES: See other pages for
 Membership Application for Pool Use.
Applications MUST be submitted to:
 ECO Resources
 NAM1 Pool Tags
 9511 Ranch Road 620 North
 Austin, Texas 78726

ALL HOURS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. TO VERIFY HOURS, CALL 257-8175 (POOL).

Rattan Creek Park, Pool and Court Rules and Regulations

Rules are established and adopted by the North Austin Municipal Utility District #1 Board of Directors
Pool Identification tags and tennis court keys must be purchased through the District Manager
ECO Resources 9511 RR 620 N, Austin, Texas 78726-2908

Pool Rules and Regulations

Identification

1. Pool is available to District residents who have paid tag fees and their guests. Out of District memberships are available. Only individuals with tags may enter pool area.
2. Identification tags must be worn by swimmers at all times.
3. Report lost or stolen I.D. tags to the pool manager. Replacement tags can be purchased through ECO Resources for a \$5.00 fee.
4. Use of pool I.D. tags by any one other than the swimmer listed on the current year's registration form will lead to forfeiture of that I.D.

General Requirements and Conduct

1. Conduct by any person deemed to be dangerous, unwarranted, or offensive is grounds for discipline by the lifeguards. Offensive behavior in particular, will be dealt with on an individual basis and could result in suspension from the pool. Any individual suspended three times may also lose all pool privileges for the season.
2. Running, jumping, skipping, or any activity other than ordinary walking in the pool area is strictly prohibited.
3. Bicycles and skateboards must be walked in front of the pool entrance for safety. No motorized vehicles are permitted in the park. No pets are allowed in the fenced pool area. Pets must be on a leash while in the park.
4. Pool may close for five (5) minutes each hour as a safety precaution
5. Floating devices are not allowed in the pool. Water wings or swim rings for non-swimming children may be used if accompanied by parent or approved baby-sitter.
6. Glass containers of any type are not allowed inside the fenced area or in the bath house area.
7. No cutoffs or street clothes are allowed in the pool.
8. Only lifeguards are to be on the lifeguard stands.
9. No person shall talk to, shout at, or in any manner distract a lifeguard while on the lifeguard stand except in the case of an emergency.
10. Only masks approved by the Pool Manager will be allowed in the pool.
11. One lane will normally be designated for lap swimming at all times, additional lanes may be added at the discretion of the Pool Manager.
12. No smoking or alcoholic beverages are allowed in the fenced pool area.
13. Coaching activities, other than by parent/guardian, are prohibited except as provided by Pool Manager, McNeil High School or the Hurricane Swim Team.

Adult Supervision

1. Children under ten (10) years of age must be accompanied by a parent/guardian or authorized baby-sitter at all times while inside the fenced pool area, unless approved by Pool Manager.
2. Parents are required to provide written authorization naming a specific approved baby-sitter to attend their

children under 10 years old at the pool. The baby-sitter must be fourteen (14) years of age or older and be a pool member or have a valid guest pass.

Guest Policy

1. Guest(s) must be accompanied by a registered pool member and submit a valid guest pass for admission. Pool members must accept responsibility for their guests.
2. Guest(s) must register with the gate keeper upon admission to the pool facility and sign a waiver of liability.

Private Parties

1. Adults eighteen (18) years and older holding a pool I.D. may make reservations to use the pool for a private party when the pool is not open for regular operating hours. All parties must terminate (all participants departing the facility) by 11:30 p.m.
2. Reservations must be made at least four (4) days in advance with the Pool Manager. Reservations are confirmed by a \$50.00 deposit. A reservation is not confirmed until the Pool Manager receives the deposit. The cost for rental of the pool is \$10.00 per hour plus lifeguard fees.
3. Persons responsible for any parties must hire lifeguards. Lifeguards must be those guards that are under contract with the District.
4. Any damages resulting from a private party will be the responsibility of the lessee.

Wading Pool

1. Children taller than a height set by the Pool Manager will not be allowed in the wading pool.
2. Lifeguards will not monitor the wading pool. Children in the wading pool must have a parent or baby-sitter present at all times.

Pool Hours (as posted at the pool):

SUMMER SCHEDULE

Weekday hours are 11 a. m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday hours are 11 a. m. to 9 p. m.
Sunday hours are 12 Noon to 9 p. m.

WINTER SCHEDULE

Weekday hours are 12 noon to 1:30 pm
& 4:30 to 8:00 pm.
Saturday Sunday and Holidays 12:00 to 8 pm.
Winter Maintenance closing will be posted at the pool.

General Information

1. At the discretion of the Pool Manager and as approved by the District Manager, certain periods of the normal open hours may be set aside for specialized activities such as, adults only swim, swim lessons, swim meets, and other special events.
2. Hours may be shortened before and after school starts, and during swim team season. Check the Pool Bulletin Board for scheduled events and scheduling changes.

Tennis Court Rules:

(In District Members Only)

1. Tennis court hours 7:00 am – 10:00 pm.
2. All players must sign in on court reservation sheet before beginning play.
3. Guest fees are \$5 per guest and are to be paid before beginning play. Checks only, No cash will be accepted. Guest fees are to be paid at pool.
4. A member may have maximum of 3 guests at one time on the court; guest fees will apply. A member must be present on court with their guests.
5. All tennis court reservations will be handled through the tennis management. Tennis court reservations may be made up to 3 days in advance. Please call the Tennis Office to make a reservation at 219-9577.
6. Reservations need to be made at least 24 hours prior to playing in order to be guaranteed. Same day reservations will be treated as walk-on reservations.
7. Members have 15 minutes to make their reservation before the court will be declared open.
8. Walk-on play will be monitored by tennis office and members will be asked to sign in before playing. Singles play will be limited to 1 ½ hours and doubles 2 hours. Walk-on players are not guaranteed court availability.
9. Special tennis activities such as league play and park tennis socials will be scheduled through tennis management.
10. A member may reserve no more than one am and one pm reservation per day.
11. Proper tennis attire should be worn at all times. The shirt rule will be enforced.
12. Tennis courts for tennis play only. No Soccer tennis.
13. No glass containers or alcoholic beverages permitted on the courts.
14. No offensive language or offensive/dangerous conduct will be permitted.
15. Application and payment for court keys **MUST** be submitted to ECO Resources. Picture and key to be picked up at tennis office located at the pool. Absolutely no applications will be taken at pool. Guest fees are to be paid at pool. * **All household members using the courts will need a photo taken (at the pool).**
16. No unauthorized tennis lessons allowed. Please see tennis management.
17. No pets, bicycles, skateboards, or motorized vehicles allowed on courts.

Rattan Creek Park is a private park and the tennis courts of Rattan Creek Park are for the use of residents of North Austin MUD #1 and their guests. The resident must be present at all times when court is in use. Violators are subject to removal, privileges revoked and possible prosecution.

**Questions or Problems
at the Tennis Courts:
Contact the Tennis Coordinator
at 219-9577**

Sport Court Rules:

Court Hours: 7:00 AM – 10:00 PM

No glass containers.

1. No alcoholic beverages inside court area.
2. No pets, bicycles, skateboards, skates or motorized vehicles are allowed on the courts.
4. No dangerous or offensive conduct or offensive language will be allowed.
5. Time limit of 60 minutes is observed when others are waiting.

The resident must be present at all times when the court is in use.

**Violators are subject to removal,
privileges revoked
and possible prosecution.**

**North Austin MUD # 1
District Manager: ECO Resources**

**Private Park for use of residents of North Austin
MUD #1 and their invited guests.**

Rules For Use of District's Parks / Greenbelts

- 1) Curfew for the District's Parks and Greenbelts shall be 10:00pm to 6:00am, other than pavilions, sports courts and tennis courts, which shall have a curfew of 10:00pm to 7:00am.
- 2) No destructive activities shall be permitted in the District's Parks. The discharge of firearms, pellet guns, air soft guns, paint ball guns, bows and arrows, sling shots and other hazardous items shall be prohibited.
- 3) Golfing within the District's Parks and Greenbelts shall be prohibited.
- 4) Disorderly conduct and offensive language shall not be permitted in the District's Parks and Greenbelts.
- 5) Motor driven vehicles and equipment are not allowed in the District's Parks and Greenbelts, except as authorized by the District.
- 6) Children under the age of eighteen shall not be permitted to smoke within the District's Parks and Greenbelts.
- 7) No glass containers shall be permitted in the District's Parks and Greenbelts.
- 8) No alcoholic beverages shall be permitted in the District's Parks and Greenbelts without prior District approval
- 9) All pets must be on leash and under the physical control and restraint by their owners at all times in all parks and greenbelts. Droppings must be removed by the owner.
- 10) No amplified music will be permitted in the District's Parks and Greenbelts without specific, prior Board authorization.
- 11) The District reserves the right to change or impose additional restrictions on use as situation warrants.

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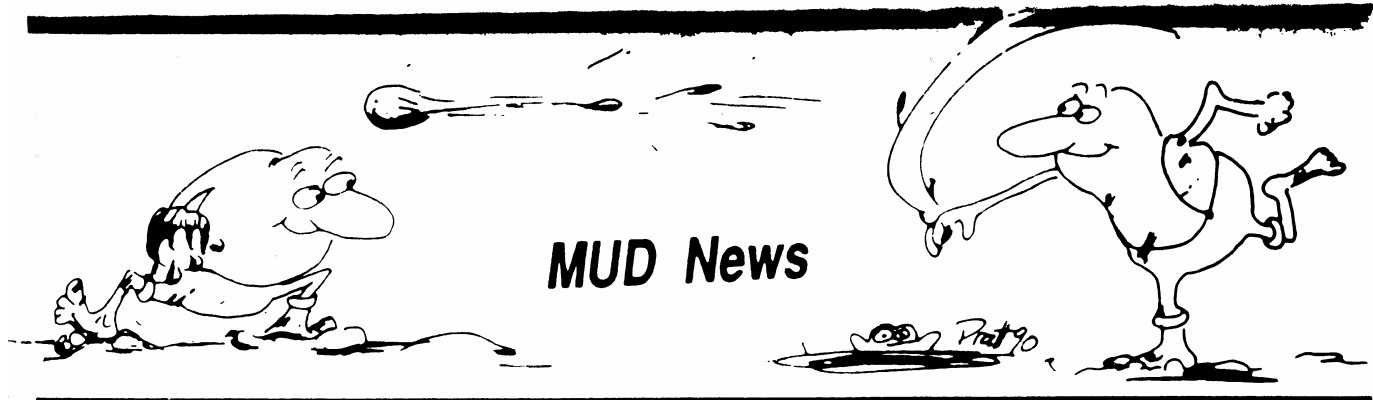


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North Austin Municipal Utility District #1 Board of Directors Notes on the April 2005 Board meetings on Commercial Development, Parks, and Pool Activities: *Note that the Board reviewed and approved minutes of meetings are available on the NAMUD#1 web site listed below.*

Our contractor for inspections of Restrictive Covenant Violations: The Treasure of the Hills Senior Citizens Community Center, Inc. reported on April 27, 2005, that; there were: 12 new complaints received, 7 calls for advice, 7 first letters sent, 3 second letter sent, 0 repeat letter sent, 0 violation was sent to the MUD Attorney for action, and 6 cases closed (violation corrected).

Development on Anderson Mill Road and Parmer Lane corner lot: (No change.)

Development on Parmer near McNeil
(Progress) Many new businesses are in the final stages of opening. The District Manager and Engineer have essentially completed checking the plans and providing water meters to all the businesses in this development.

Rattan Creek Park Pool: (Activity) The Hurricane Swim Team has begun their use of our pool until 11:00 each weekday. Moms and their tots

are being allowed to use the baby pool area on Tuesday and Thursdays from 9:00 to 11:00 am. This is on a trial basis while the swim team is using the pool.

Rattan Creek Playscape: (Activity) The play-scapes are complete. The rock seems to be a big hit.

Rattan Creek Greenbelt and Park: (On Going) The trails are mowed and trimmed weekly. The winter cleanup of the greenbelts continues.

Soccer Fields Closed: Please remember that our soccer fields are for the youth of this district. The soccer fields will be closed beginning in mid summer for field care. Watch for signs on the fields. It is important that we take the time twice a year to keep our fields healthy.

The Sign Committee (On going): The Board of Directors has formally adopted new rules for the parks and amenities and they will be posted on signs throughout the parks and on the Website. The addition of these signs and the revised list of rules allow better enforcement of the rules by the Williamson County Sheriffs department.

Tennis Court Coordinator: (change) The new Tennis Coordinator has resigned. The MUD board will be actively looking into other possibilities for tennis court reservations and management.

Security Agreement with Williamson County Sheriff Department: (New) A new contract has been signed with the Williamson County Sheriffs Department. They will provide 4 extra duty officers with 25 hours per month each. You will see them in marked cars, patrolling our District so watch your speeding. They have been doing a great job for the District, and please thank the deputies when you see them patrolling in the neighborhood. If you

Deed Restriction Violations:

Deed restriction violations must be submitted in writing to:

**Senior Citizens Center
408 Ridgewood
Cedar Park, Tx 78613**

Be sure to include the address in question, nature of your concern and your name and address.

(Continued on page 20)

(Continued from page 19)

have special concerns, contact our General Manager Gary Spoons as always, or the Sheriffs Department directly.

Eagle Scout Projects: (No Change) Eagle Scout candidate Ryan Freidberg from troop 146 has completed the construction phase of his project to uncover, explore and provide protection for the hand dug well under the Gypsy Oak tree on Anderson Mill Road. The educational sign has been ordered and should be installed soon.

Robinson Park Amasia Playground: (Activity) This park has been hit many times by vandals, the Board is discussing ways to deter future vandalism.

Rattan Creek Park Master Plan: (Activity) The District engineer prepared a historical schedule of the on going development in the park since the preparation of the master plan in the early 1980s. Comments from the City of Austin Planning Department are pending.

Recreation Center: (Still stalemated) Directors Keith Collins and Chuck Simms are the Recreation Center committee and we are looking for

suggestions.

North Austin MUD #1 Website: (Ongoing) Additional information about the park rules and tennis court rules will be added as approved for use by the Board.

Note that these are unofficial notes about the Board activities. After Board approval at the next meeting the official minutes of the meetings are posted on the web site.

Chuck Simms, Assistant Secretary, 331-9630
NAMUD #1 Board of Directors.

Website: www.northaustinmud1.org

Architectural Control Committee Information:

DR Horton is in the process of handing over the ACC functions to the RCNA.

Until the RCNA and North Austin MUD 1, posts the new information on their websites and notifies the residents of the new information regarding the ACC, residents are asked to please send your ACC inquires through Gary Spoons c/o ECO Resources 9511 RR 620 North, Austin, Tx 78726.



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Austin, Texas

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**335-7580
General Manager
Gary Spoons**

**Mailing Address:
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NA MUD #1 Board of Directors:

Place One - **Keith Collins,** 258-6244
Treasurer (5/08)
kcollins@northaustinmud1.org

Place Two - **Don Conklin,** 331-1903
Vice President (5/10)
dconklin@northaustinmud1.org

Place Three - **Jo Jones,** 335-1805
Secretary(5/08)
jrjones@northaustinmud1.org

Place Four - **Alan McNeil,** 219-8719
President (5/10)
amcneil@northaustinmud1.org

Place Five - **Chuck Simms,** 331-9630
Ass't Treasurer/Secretary (5/08)
csimms@northaustinmud1.org

Website: www.northaustinmud1.org

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Ambulance 9 - 1 - 1

Fire: Jollyville Fire Department
Emergency 9 - 1 - 1
 Administrative 258-1038

Sheriff: Emergency 9 - 1 - 1
 Williamson County
 Non-Emergency 943-1300
 Travis County
 Non-Emergency 974-0845

Crime Stoppers 1-800-253-STOP

County Commissioner
 Williamson, Precinct 1
 Lisa Birkman 733-5380
 Travis, Precinct 2 854-9222

Dept of Homeland Security 1-800-BEReady

Poison Control 1-800-POISON 1
 (1-800-764-7661)

Mail: Balcones Post Office
 11900 Jollyville Rd. 331-9802

Schools: RRISD 464-5000
 Elementary
 Jollyville 428-2200
 Pond Spring 464-4200
 Live Oak 428-3800
 Middle School
 Deer Park 464-6600
 High School
 McNeil 464-6300

Utilities:
 Electric
 City of Austin 494-9400

Gas
 Texas Gas Service 1-800-700-2443

Water/Wastewater: NA MUD #1
 Eco Resources 335-7580

Phone
 SBC 1-800-464-7928

Trash/Recycling/Large Item Pickup
 Round Refuse 255-4980

Before U Dig: (call 48 hrs before you dig)
 Texas One Call 1-800-545-6005

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RCNA Member, Milwood Resident



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(Continued from page 11)

dowel in the track to keep the door from sliding open, and install vertical bolts so that the sliding portion cannot be lifted from the track.

LIGHTS: Keep the perimeter of your home well-lit. Low-voltage outdoor lighting operated by a timer or photocell is a cost-effective way to discourage intruders. Create the illusion that you are home by using timers inside the house on lamps, radios and TV sets. Set them to turn on at various times as if you were at home.

MAIL AND PAPER: If you ask one trusted neighbor to pick up mail and newspapers each day, it limits the number of people knowing of your absence.

CAR IN DRIVEWAY: If your absence means no cars in your driveway, ask your neighbor to park his or her car in your driveway.

GARBAGE: On trash day, ask your trusted neighbor to put one of his or her trashcans in front of your house to keep up the lived-in illusion.

HEATING AND COOLING: Turn an electric water heater off (for winter vacations, turn it to the lowest setting); leave only the pilot light burning on a gas water heater. In the summer, leave the air conditioning on at a setting of about 85 F to control humidity. (In the winter set the heat to 50 F to keep things from freezing.)

REFRIGERATOR, FREEZER AND ICE-MAKER: The week before a vacation is a good time to clean out the refrigerator and freezer. Once you are ready to leave and have emptied the appliances of perishables, turn them to their lowest settings and the icemaker off. If it does not have a switch, lift the wire arm or disable as necessary.

ELECTRONICS: To protect against lightning damage, unplug all but one television, one radio and a few strategic lamps (those you will set with

timers), as well as all microwave ovens, extra phones, computers and so on.

ANSWERING MACHINE: Do not record a message that indicates you are on vacation and don't let incoming messages accumulate. A very long "beep" tells a burglar that there are lots of messages in the "In" box, and that can mean only one thing: No one is home!

PETS: Don't forget the family pets. Yes, most of them can be fairly self sufficient, but with this heat and humidity, we need to make sure that our family pets have both water and shade to help them stay cool. Be sure to leave the vets number handy, just in case.

ASK A NEIGHBOR OR FRIEND: to look in on your place every few days, just to be safe. Be sure to give them an emergency contact number.

For information on evaluating your home's current safety measures; assessing your home's entry points; finding out what attracts and discourages burglars; and learning how to implement a cost-effective security program, visit the Burglary Protection Council Web site:

www.burglaryprevention.org.

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 Austin, Tx 78729
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Free e-Alerts require enrollment in Personal Online Banking.

Non-refundable foreign currency exchange and intermediary and beneficiary bank fees may apply to wire transfers.

Deposits at Washington Mutual are FDIC insured.

Parmer-McNeil Plaza

Businesses now operating at Parmer-McNeil Plaza include Washington Mutual, Cold Stone Creamery, Wirelesslink, Whataburger, Starbucks, Little Woodrow's, Nationwide Insurance, VP Salon & Gifts, Best Cleaners, Alpha Nails, and Wachovia. Curra's Grill is finishing the interior of their unit and is accepting applications for employment. Music City Cycles has begun construction, as has a spa/hot tub store. Other tenants expected to begin construction soon include Schlotzsky's, Chipotle, KC Dental, and a pizza and wings restaurant. Several units are still available.

I speak with the owner of Little Woodrow's every month, reporting concerns and getting his perspective on issues such as parking availability and noise disturbances. While some degree of noise and inconvenience to those homes closest to the site may be inevitable, I do believe this business owner is controlling what factors he can to minimize his impact on our lives. He has instructed his staff to avoid throwing trash in the dumpster after 10 pm. My own home is behind the bar and I am very well aware of when glass bottles are hitting the bottom of the dumpster. While there are exceptions to the 10 pm rule (I'd call it 10:30ish --but that is still very reasonable given the nature of their business), very late night dumping, say when they close at 2:00 am is very, very

rare). I give them credit for doing their best to follow this self-imposed policy.

It is in our best interests to maintain a positive relationship with all of the businesses in order to receive consideration. Animosity will only hurt us, and if in some extreme case, any of them were to cease to do business here, we have no idea what type of business owner we might be dealing with the next time around. That said, I want to hear about disturbances or nuisances that are unreasonable, and I will discuss any rational complaint with the owner on behalf of the neighborhood. Otherwise, any person wanting to contact the bar or other businesses on their own has the right to do so.

Many neighborhood residents are concerned that the site does not have enough parking for the bar and the various restaurants that will be open late in the evening (Curra's will likely be open until midnight). It seems as though even when the main lots and smaller strips on the site are not full, there is some "spillover" onto the nearby streets to the north. Maybe these patrons do not know whether or not they can park in front of the banks or behind the large buildings. Some homeowners are reporting noise, litter, and general disturbances by patrons parking on Corpus Christi Drive and nearby corners.

To address the parking issue, and to improve the

(Continued on page 24)

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**Humane Society of Williamson County
10930 Crystal Falls Parkway
(512) 260-3602
www.hswc.net**



Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 200584 – Austin, Tx 78720-0584
Annual Membership Dues – \$25
(January – December 2006)

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Phone _____

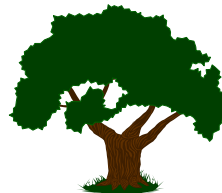
E-mail: _____

Membership: Renewal New

I would like to volunteer to assist with:

Activities Committees Newsletter

Thank You For Your Continued Support!!



We Depend On It!!

**Or pay your dues online
at www.rattancreek.org
by using paypal.**

(Continued from page 23)

situation for their patrons, Little Woodrow's is considering hiring a valet service for weekend nights. In addition to being convenient for patrons, this would reduce traffic on the site and would hopefully prevent parking on the street to some degree.

For those of you who have asked why the RCNA or the NAMUD1 haven't been able to stop this, there are absolutely no parking restrictions on our streets and we have no legal means of implementing any. This site and the surrounding streets fall in Travis County, not Williamson and not the City of Austin. If Milwood residents want to try to have parking restrictions imposed on our streets, I suggest contacting the Travis County Commissioner's Court. Karen Sonleitner is our precinct Commissioner. The number at that office is 854-9222. She already has a long list of traffic and safety concerns from a group of residents that live in the area, and I believe this issue is on that list. I do not know the status of these requests/complaints but more voices, more volunteers to help with this task can only help. There is nothing that the RCNA can do about cars that are legally parked on the street. Neither the RCNA nor the MUD have the authority to restrict parking on our roads. The roads in Milwood at Rattan Creek are managed by the county and the county historically does not put restrictions on parking on residential streets.

The most significant disturbance, according to many

nearby homeowners, is the noise created by motorcycles on the site. Unfortunately, little can be done to alleviate this. Some use the Corpus Christi entrance/exit and some use Parmer or McNeil. The former disturb residents near the north end of the site more, whereas the latter disturb residents behind the site (on Marble Falls) to a greater degree. Even if Little Woodrow's staff asks these patrons to use one entrance instead of the other (as has been requested by some homeowners), there will be homeowners elsewhere who are unhappy about it. Simply put, motorcycle engines are very loud. Which entrance these customers use is not going to cause a significant reduction in the noise -- they will be coming and going from Little Woodrow's (and other businesses) and it will be loud when they do. If anyone has any suggestions about this, I'd be happy to hear them but I do not have any realistic ideas to improve the situation.

There has been regular middle-of the-night dumpster service, several times a week, waking a lot of folks in the vicinity of Marble Falls Cove (and probably elsewhere). Months ago the Parmer-McNeil Plaza property manager agreed to ask his waste services contractor to limit emptying the dumpsters to after 7 am, Monday-Friday. However, there are two dumpsters that are managed by specific businesses directly. These are the dumpsters belonging to Whataburger and Shell. Thus far, these businesses have either been unwilling or unable to limit the service

(Continued on page 26)

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RCNA, c/o Jo Jones
13119 Green River Trail Austin, Tx 78729
or email: jrjones@austin.rr.com

IN-HOME MONTESSORI SCHOOL - Licensed child care home. 250-0280. (7/06)

MaryKay – Julia Hall 257-1067, 905-4444. Milwood resident discount. juliah@marykay.com or www.marykay.com/juliah. (7/06)

"Home Sweet Home" Pet Sitting Services - Offering happiness to your pet, security to your home and peace of mind to you. 799-3767 for reservations or visit www.austinpetsitting.com (7/06)

CHILDREN'S CONSIGNMENT – Why pay a small fortune for your children's summer clothes?? Save Gas, Time & \$\$\$ at Li'L One's Consignments 183 & Oak Knoll Village. Gently used Brand Name clothes (0-14), cribs, equipment, dance leotards, tap shoes, maternity, strollers, toys, candles, shower gifts and more!! Come see us from 10:00 to 6:00, Mon-Sat or call 219-1974. (7/06)

PIANO LESSONS – Piano lessons for children and adults. Degree in piano performance and pedagogy. 18 years teaching experience. North-West Austin location. Member of the Music Teacher National Association. Please call 331-2856, or visit www.snmusic.com (7/06)

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LOW COST HOUSE PAINTING - Reasonable and reliable. Over 200 homes painted in Milwood. Milwood resident. 633-2605. (1/07)

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ATTENTION TEENAGERS: Your ads run free but **must be renewed once every 6 months.** The date at the end of your ad indicates the last month your ad will run. All ads must be submitted in writing and mailed or delivered to: **RCNA c/oGuinevere Morse**

13222 Marrero
Austin, Tx 78729
or email: guineveremorse@yahoo.com
496-0532

ASHLEY LLOYD, 14 - Babysitter -- Red Cross Babysitting course certified, very responsible, would like to baby-sit on weekends. Have experience with children of various ages. 659-2890 (11/06)

Ashley Mitchell and Sarah Payne, 15-- Certified babysitters (all ages), experienced pet-sitters (feeding, walking, etc.), and reliable house-sitters (watering plants, retrieving mail, etc.). We are responsible and dependable. References available on request. Rates are flexible. Call Ashley at 335-8349 or Sarah at 335-0943 (11/06)

Kelly Moses, 13-- Out of town and need help with your animals? I can watch your pet whether it be large or small. I am very experienced with caring for animals and I have cared for many handicapped pets. I'm well organized, reliable and will play with your pets so they don't get lonely. You can call my home phone number, 219-6786, and you can tell me what you need. Thanks (11/06)

Andrew Moses-14 and Ryan McCluskey-14
Want to take the summer off? Need a break? Want the perfect lawn with out getting up from that chair that you love? Then let us help. We will mow, weed whip, and blow, for an extremely reasonable price. Please call this number to schedule a date for us to come out. (512)-219-6786 or (512)-331-8280 . (1/07)

(Continued from page 24)

to daylight hours. Additionally, whenever a unit is under construction there will likely be a dumpster nearby which may be emptied more often and at odd hours. Since this is temporary, the builders /businesses are unlikely to take our requests into consideration. I personally will not be able to contact every business as it is completing its interior to address this issue. Anyone else who wishes to do so may certainly try. Fortunately, construction is a temporary phase and all dumpsters with the exception of the Whataburger and Shell will eventually fall under the Parmer-McNeil Plaza property manager's contract.

I have been reporting on a long list of issues for nearly two years. I've wanted our community to know what is happening and that I and others are trying to maintain our quality of life as much as possible. But I do not want to give the impression that life in our homes has degraded significantly as a result of the development. I do not want what is printed here to impact anyone's ability to sell their house or cause any ill-will toward the businesses on the site. All in all, the motorcycles and the dumpster schedule are the main issues that are bothering homeowners. But even taking those issues into consideration, most residents report that although we miss our beautiful wooded view, the commercial development has not impacted our home lives to a significant degree.

As always, if you witness any suspicious activity or

experience disturbances on your property or the retail site, call the Travis County Sheriff's Office at 974-0845, or call 911 if it is a true emergency.

Anderson Mill Road Development near Live Oak Elementary

I've received several inquiries regarding the project on Anderson Mill Road near Live Oak Elementary. This lot is not in NAMUD1 but is in the Springwoods MUD. Chuck Simms of our MUD board did some sleuthing on his own to find out that this is going to be a large apartment complex. The builders will not go through our district for any permits, applications, water, waste water, or other service. There simply is no connection to NAMUD1 -- no process for reviewing plans and no avenue for us to gather information on this project. As such, neither NAMUD1 nor the RCNA will have details on this site. Thanks, as always, to Chuck for going the extra mile to find out what he could.

Please call or write with questions.

Michelle Dent
331-0248
michelledent@makuch.org



KIM HENG
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since January 2006



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From 7pm to close
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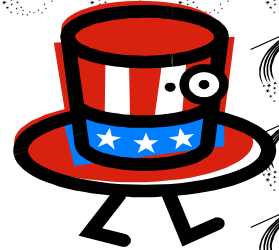
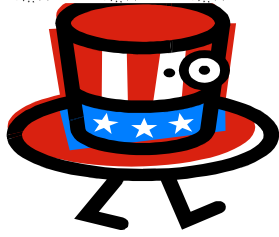
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