



A Message from the NWACA President

– Chris Hajdu

Recently, we had an incident in the neighborhood where individuals posing as construction workers knocked on a homeowner's door and when the door was opened, forced their way into the home, tied up the resident, and burglarized the home. We've also recently had several reports of bogus door-to-door salespeople and generally pushy solicitors in our area. I've heard from several residents that they will not open their door unless they are expecting someone who has an appointment or recognize the visitor.

Here are a few pointers from our website, that I thought were relevant:

- Acknowledge you are home if someone knocks. Burglars sometimes knock before breaking in, in order to gauge whether anyone is home.
- Do not feel obligated to open the door. If someone claims they need help, offer to call 911 or a tow truck to assist them, but talk through a closed door.
- Insist on Identification. If possible, get details from the person and call to verify. Legitimate workers will wait while you verify; suspicious ones will likely leave.
- Report suspicious activity via 311 and dangerous or threatening behavior via 911.

For more guidelines like these and information on starting up a neighborhood watch, please see our neighborhood watch page:

<http://nwaca.org/category/library/neighborhood-watch/>

As of the writing of this article, water utility construction work is STILL ongoing on Far West Boulevard. We are hopeful that the

work will be done sometime in November and we truly appreciate the patience all of you have shown and ask that you all hang in there just a little longer. Related to this construction, we will be soliciting feedback soon on the temporary lane marking changes that have been in place at the Far West and Mesa intersection. We are trying to wait until after the construction is completed so people will have the opportunity to experience that intersection without the construction in progress.

Also, a gentle reminder that November through December is the deer-mating season in Texas, also known as the "rutting season." During this time, deer are paying more attention to one another than to humans and cars. You'll likely see more large male deer in the area than usual, and at times females will be scurrying ahead of them. Be careful, as they may dart in front of walkers, runners, cyclists, and moving cars. As you run, walk or go out with your pets, give the deer plenty of space. Keep dogs on a leash at a safe distance from the deer.

To report an injured or dead deer, call 311, and be prepared to provide a precise address where the animal can be located. Given the frequency with which cars and deer collide, it would be prudent to check your auto insurance to see if you have the coverage for "Collision – Other" that applies to such incidents to make sure you are covered.

Let the City Help You Save Money

– David Hogan

On Saturday November 5 the NWACA Tree and Environment Committee will host a "City Rebate Workshop." This workshop will explain opportunities that abound to help you save money and protect the environment. City staff from Austin Energy, Austin Water, and Austin Resource Recovery

will offer literature, explain their programs, and answer questions.

Each department will describe what is available and why it's beneficial for the residents and the environment. Then groups will gather at tables staffed by the departments to pick up literature and ask questions. This event will be held Saturday, November 5 at 1:30 PM, in classroom B18 of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church at 8134 Mesa Drive (SW corner of Steck and Mesa).

New to the Neighborhood?

If this is the first time you're seeing our newsletter, welcome to the NWACA neighborhood! Our boundaries are Mopac, RM 2222, Loop 360, and Spicewood Springs Road. There are about 4100 other households who are your neighbors and are happy you're here!

This newsletter is one way to keep up with what's happening here, but there's a lot more available, too. Check out the quick link For New Neighbors on our web site at www.nwaca.org Then, please join us as a dues-paying member; there's a form you can use at the end of the newsletter, or you can join online.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Austin Citywide Information Center.....512-974-2000 or 311
Emergency, Police..... 911
Non-emergency (coyote sightings, compliance issues) 311
To check status, go to: <http://www.austintexas.gov/departments/myaustincodestatus>
APD District Representative, Office Darrell Grayson...512-974-5242
District 10 Councilmember, Sheri Gallo.....512-978-2110
Contact to enroll in the District 10 weekly newsletter:
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.....www.district10austin.com

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The NWACA Board meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, except December. Please visit our calendar at www.nwaca.org to see the specific time and location. If you wish to speak at a Board meeting, please send email a week before the meeting, so that we can get you on the agenda.

NWACA is bordered on the north by Spicewood Springs Road, on the west by Loop 360, on the south by RM 2222, and on the east by Mopac (Loop 1).

ADVERTISING INFO

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NWACA AND NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

NOV 1, 8 AM

Kneaded Pleasures

Communications Committee

NOV 2, 8:30 AM

Kneaded Pleasures

Crime and Safety Committee

NOV 5, 9 AM TO NOON

Allen Park, 6413 Westside Dr.

It's My Park (Fall) – Cleanup activities all around the preserve;

Sign up at <http://austinparks.org/volunteer/impd/>

NOV 5, 9 AM TO NOON

Stillhouse Hollow Preserve, 7810 Sterling Dr.

It's My Park (Fall) – Cleanup and Trail Maintenance;

Sign up at <http://austinparks.org/volunteer/impd/>

NOV 5, 1:30 PM

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 8134 Mesa Dr. B18

City Rebate Workshop – NWACA Tree and Environment Committee

NOV 6, 2 PM

Kneaded Pleasures

Parks Committee

NOV 9, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Mangia Pizza.

NWACA Monthly Board Meeting

NOV 12, 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Bull Creek District Park

Monthly NWACA Work day at the park;

sign up at www.nwaca.org

NOV 17, 6:30 TO 8:00 PM

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Huffman Hall

Community Input Session on updating Bull Creek District

Park – Austin Parks and Recreation Department and other

City staff will gather ideas for renovation of the park

NOV 22, 5 PM

Temple Beth Shalom, 7300 Hart Lane

NWACA Zoning and Transportation Committee

DEC 4, 2PM

Kneaded Pleasures

Parks Committee

DEC 6, 8AM

Kneaded Pleasures

Communications Committee

DEC 7, 8:30 AM

Kneaded Pleasures

Crime and Safety Committee

DEC 10, 9 AM TO NOON

Bull Creek District Park

Monthly NWACA Work day at the park;

sign up at www.nwaca.org

IT'S ALL BALCONES FAULT

- Rich Denney



In 1895-96 a survey of Travis County reported nine-tenths of the population lived "east of the Balcones scarp, .. to the west being but sparsely populated." If Anglo settlement was slow to move west into the hills, the hills were by no mean unoccupied. Many a story of early Austin involved raids in which the Indians made good their escape to the "mountains" west of town; that is, to our neighborhood. At Austin's founding, our neighborhood was in the domain of the Indians, notably the Penateka

Comanche who made the Texas hill country their home.

On Loop 360 near Bluffstone Drive is a history marker. Here's a bit from that marker:

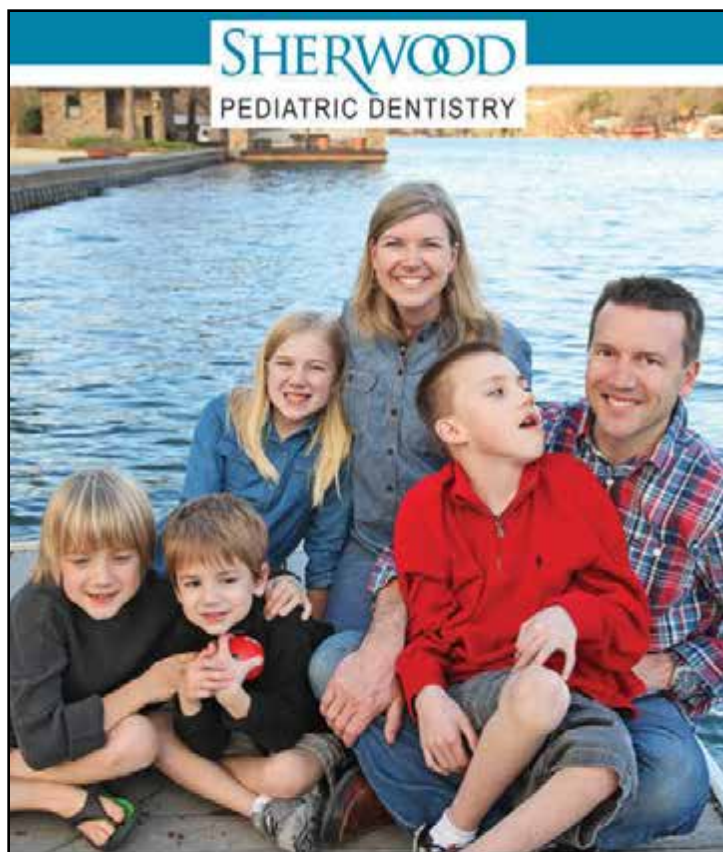
Balcones Fault Aids Colonization of Texas

Curving through the center of Texas from Hill County south and west to Uvalde County is the rugged escarpment-fault called Balcones. The abundance of natural resources associated with this geologic formation affected the pattern of colonization in Texas. The numerous springs and wooded hills of the escarpment and adjacent fertile prairies attracted Indian tribes and Spanish colonists before the area was permanently settled by Anglo-American pioneers. Spanish explorer Bernardo De Miranda in 1756 named the formation "Los Balcones", meaning "Balconies." Part of El Camino Real, the "King's Highway," skirted the fault line.

Balcones Fault is arguably the defining geologic feature of our neighborhood. Today we know what attracts us to Northwest Hills: its beauty, great schools, and location. But what would Native Americans have found so attractive about our neighborhood? Let's read the landscape from their perspective.

While Northwest Hills is today not known for great water pressure, back then it was a different story, with an abundance of springs: historic Spicewood Springs, Stillhouse Springs (named for the stills that produced moonshine during prohibition), and the springs that feed Bull Creek. Springs probably dotted the mesa in old times, such as the grotto springs of the Dell Jewish Community Campus. And just north, the headwaters of Walnut Creek and Shoal Creek, both prominent in Austin history related to Indians.

(Continued on Page 4)



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(Continued from Page 3)

Then there are the hills themselves, called “mountains” back in the day. High ground allows one to see (game, friends, foe) and be seen (signaling). Cat Mountain at 928 ft. is a myth buster that Mount Bonnell at 775 ft. is the highest point in Austin. It would have provided exceptional observation of the Bull Creek valley.

Besides the utilitarian value of caves and rock shelters -- often a source of springs and shelter -- people in general seem attracted to caves and often play into the mythology of Native Americans. In our area are a number of caves, sinkholes and rock shelters which may well have drawn Native Americans. Stillhouse Spring flows

from the back of a rock shelter; sinkholes dot the limestone around Stillhouse Hollow Nature Preserve. And then there’s “Dead Dog Cave” buried beneath Luby’s parking lot!

Finally, location, location, location. What makes the neighborhood attractive to us – handy to everywhere, lying on several key roads – probably made it attractive to Indians. Several trails are nearby, like an offshoot of El Camino Real referenced on the historical marker. And just north of the neighborhood is a source of several types of flint prized by Native Americans since prehistoric times: Georgetown Flint and Brushy Creek Black.

So who would blame the Indians back in the day if they escaped into the mountains west of Austin? After all, it’s all Balcones Fault.

RIDING THE FAR WEST SHUTTLE (#661)

– Jonathan Kaplan

Ever wonder how to get to the University of Texas campus quickly during the day and avoid having to pay for parking? This month we continue our series of articles on how to access the Capitol Metro transportation system by exploring the ins-and-outs of the #661 bus route (commonly known as the Far West or UT Shuttle).

UT has one of the largest university shuttle systems in the country, which Capital Metro runs on behalf of UT. Capital Metro is currently working to integrate the UT shuttle system into its broader network and is phasing out the older burnt orange and white buses that have been used on the ten UT shuttle routes and is replacing them with newer buses that have Capital Metro’s blue paint scheme and fare boxes.

Anyone can ride the #661/Far West Shuttle provided they pay the standard local bus fare. UT faculty, students, and staff may ride the shuttles or any other Capital Metro bus for free with a valid UT id card.

In the Far West neighborhood, the #661/Far West Shuttle has stops on Wood Hollow behind H-E-B, on North Hills between Wood Hollow and Village Center Drive, in front of the Dell

Jewish Community Center Campus on Hart Lane, and two more on Wood Hollow between Greystone and Far West. After picking up passengers at these stops, the shuttle travels without stopping to the UT campus via MoPac, 38th Street, and Guadalupe before stopping on Dean Keaton one block east of Guadalupe at Whitis. From that stop the shuttle also picks up passengers before returning to Far West.

During normal operations, the #661/Far West Shuttle runs from 6:56 AM to 12:37 AM Monday through Friday. It runs every 5 to 45 minutes depending on time of day and takes 20 to 25 minutes to get from Far West to Dean Keaton at Whitis.

The Far West Shuttle lets riders off two blocks north of the Student Union, Cactus Café, and the UT Tower. The stop for the 40 Acres Shuttle, which operates on a loop around main campus, is adjacent to the Far West Shuttle stop. Riders can transfer there for easy access to Bass Concert Hall, the LBJ Presidential Library, the Blanton Art Museum, and the Harry Ransom Center. Riders can also walk one block back to Guadalupe to transfer to any

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(Continued from Page 4)

number of local buses, including the #1, #3, and 9, as well as MetroRapid routes #801 and #803.

People wishing to take the Far West Shuttle but not living close to a stop can park and ride using free on-street parking on Hart Lane and Wood Hollow across from the stops.

A map of the shuttle route and a complete schedule are available at www.capmetro.org. Because the UT shuttle system runs only when classes are in session, riders are advised to also check the UT shuttle service calendar at the Capital Metro website when planning their trip.

In the next issue of the newsletter, there will be an article on how to make use of the #320 bus route. Future issues will have articles on Capital Metro's strategic planning process, Connections 2025, and its implications for our neighborhood as well as other transportation topics. If you have specific questions about Capitol Metro service that you want addressed in future issues, please send a note to nwacainfo@gmail.com.

BULL CREEK DISTRICT PARK MASTER PLANNING

– City of Austin PARD

The Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) kicked-off the Bull Creek District Park planning process on September 17, 2016. Parks and Recreation Department staff conducted outreach and a park user survey in Bull Creek District Park. The survey was also made available online, and 135 residents and park users completed the survey. The purpose of the outreach and survey was to raise awareness about the master planning process, and collect feedback from park users regarding desired park improvements and primary concerns. The survey data will be used to develop the concept plan for the park. Survey results are available online at this link:

http://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Parks/Planning_and_Development/Survey_Data_10-3-16__002_.pdf

PARD is hosting two community meetings to present concepts for the Bull Creek Master Plan. The Plan will serve as a guide for future park renovations and development. One was held in October. The second is on November 17.

Bull Creek District Park - Community Meeting

November 17, 2016, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Huffman Hall

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

8134 Mesa Drive, Austin, Texas

The project's \$750,000 budget comes from the City of Austin's 2012 General Obligation Bond. Funding will be allocated for park development, design, permitting, and the first phase of construction.

Background - Bull Creek District Park's unique property provides water-oriented recreational activities. The park's trails connect to a larger trail system in the Bull Creek Greenbelt, which are popular with hikers and dog owners. The 48-acre District Park was acquired in 1971 with federal funding and has three parking areas, restrooms, water fountain, picnic tables, and a sand volleyball court.

For project information, contact Project Manager Gregory Montes at Gregory.Montes@austintexas.gov or 512-974-9458, or visit this web page: <http://austintexas.gov/bullcreekplan>

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WILDFIRE DRILL ON VALBURN CIRCLE

– Joyce Statz

Saturday, October 8th, the Austin Fire Department (AFD) held their first Wildfire Operational Readiness Exercise (ORE). With 3 fire engines and a ladder truck, 21 members of the AFD performed a drill along Valburn Circle and the adjoining area of Valburn Drive. Neighbors received a test emergency message on their home phones, and those registered with warncentraltexas.org also got the message on cell phones and in email.

AFD first gathered at the entrance to Valburn Circle to plan for a case of fire in the greenbelt below Valburn Circle facing 360. They then positioned their equipment along Valburn Circle. Next, they focused on reviewing the homes facing the greenbelt on Valburn Circle, then went to the ones across the street, and as time allowed, they went to those along Valburn Drive. Where homeowners were home, AFD talked to them, then walked about the property. They put green ribbons on things that were especially good – like hoses connected to faucets, and they put red ribbons on things that represented risk in some way – perhaps a tree trunk if that tree's canopy touched the house. After walking a property, they put a green ribbon at the street to indicate the house was defensible or a

red flag if it was not defensible. In a real wildfire, houses that are not defensible would be left alone, while the defensible ones would be the focus to save from fire. With limited crews, the focus is on the homes that are more likely to be saved.

Some things we observed from this exercise:

- It takes about 8 minutes for fire trucks and crews to get to the fire site.
- It takes 20-30 minutes for a crew as large as 21 firefighters to get oriented to the site (they're from all parts of the City), figure out where the fire is, and decide which teams go to which houses, and get their equipment positioned.
- Their first priority is to contact people at each house, urge them to evacuate (in most wildfire cases), then walk around each house and be sure it's hardened against fire. This may require pulling down gutters that have debris in them or knocking down a section of wooden fence that's up against the house, unless it's possible to open a gate on the fence to keep fire away from the house.

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(Continued from Page 6)

- Only when the people are safe, do they turn to dealing with the fire.

AFD expects to be doing several exercises like this each year. There are many greenbelts like the one behind Valburn Circle, where neighbors and AFD need to collaborate to minimize the risks of wildfire to people and property. Since 2013, neighbors throughout NWACA have been learning about risks and taking measures to harden their homes against wildfire. The key area of focus is 30 feet around the home, where homeowners need to keep it clear of dead vegetation and leaf debris, and provide a defensible space in which AFD can work during a wildfire event.

Any homeowner who wants to have their home evaluated for wildfire risk can get a free evaluation from certified evaluators by signing up this link: <http://nwaca.org/firewise-request/>

NWACA BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: D'LITES

—Janice Green



The vibrancy of our NW Hills neighborhood is due in large part to the small businesses that populate the nooks and crannies of our commercial arteries. This column introduces us to such establishments that thrive in our 'hood and earn our support by

conveniently meeting our needs and providing us pleasures. And what greater pleasure than ice cream?!

Meet Alicia and Doug French, owners of D'Lites ice cream shop on Mesa Drive.

After completing graduate school, Doug and Alicia counted themselves among the young adults who refuse to leave Austin after college. They describe themselves as “nutritional nerds” who

knew they wanted to start their first business. When they put all of that together they opted to create a food emporium that specializes in the word DIET. How? By providing TREATS for dieters of all kinds – whether the diet issue is based in calories, fat, sugar, carbs, cholesterol, paleo or gluten.

The core product for the French's emporium is D'Lites ice cream, a recipe developed 25 years ago by a Florida gal with serious health issues. In addition to addressing the above diet issues, this creamy dessert is also certified KOF-K, has no artificial sweeteners and one-fifth the sugar of frozen yogurt. Theirs is one of two Austin locations where D'Lites ice cream can be found, but the French's shop is wholly owned by them, not a chain. Doug and Alicia provided all the sweat equity in the design and creation of their Mesa Drive store which offers indoor and outdoor seating, plus a comfy sofa and conversational area inside.

Flavors change daily, are posted on a big board in the shop and website, and offer a major taste tease: chocolate espresso, peanut butter chocolate, key lime pie, orangesicle, strawberry, chocolate macadamia nut, to name only a scoopful. The ice cream may be healthy, but I warn you the toppings are not! It is available in soft serve and hard-packed for a take-home dessert to complement those heavier winter meals.

Their emporium also carries an array of dark chocolates, Quest Bars, no-cal and no fat salad dressings, and other specialty dietary items.

Doug and Alicia selected their Northwest Hills location for a variety of reasons: near a major intersection and school, a health-conscious and varied neighborhood with lots of walkers. Doug said they were awed by the welcoming attitude of customers when they opened on Memorial Day, 2015.

The day I visited D'Lites, two Rockwellian scenes caught my eye: a gentleman came in for his daily soft chocolate cone and relished every swirling tier that Doug began preparing as soon as he stepped through the front door – and a father with a young son who sat and shared their mixed cup of flavors with gusto. You just can't help but smile when ice cream is on the tip of your tongue!

D'Lites is located at Suite 204B at 8127 Mesa Drive. Check website for hours: www.mydlights.com.

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AUSTIN OAKS UPDATE

– Chris Hajdu

After more than two years of discussion and iteration of plans, the Austin Oaks PUD application is finally going through the City's public hearing process. The Environmental Commission considered it on September 21st and October 5th. The Commission was unable to get a majority vote to either support or oppose the PUD as being environmentally superior to standard zoning. To make a recommendation, a majority of the commission (6 members) needed to be in agreement. There were 7 members present, and they could not reach a consensus.

The Zoning and Platting Commission is scheduled to hear the case on October 18th (after this issue goes to press), so please monitor the NWACA web site for updates on their deliberations, after which the case should go to City Council.

Throughout the past two years, NWACA has been providing updates to the neighborhood about the case and offering opportunities for public input. In January, we collaborated with other neighborhood groups and the property owner to host a design charrette. We used this industry standard process for inclusive and transparent community participation, after consulting with experts in the field. The NWACA Board is comfortable with the resulting vision/plan from the charrette and with the process of refinement that follows as part of the charrette process, to get the plan to the point that it is ready for decision-makers. We created a subcommittee to carefully review the updates filed with the city since the charrette (and amended over time to address feedback from a variety of stakeholders), with the goal of verifying that the final submission is in keeping with the vision and substance of the charrette outcome. That subcommittee dedicated hundreds of hours

to reviewing all aspects of the updates including meetings with several city departments; reviewing issues, concerns, and questions from other stakeholders in the neighborhood; and holding conversations with the developer regarding each item that needed improvement, clarification, or adjustment to be in keeping with the vision and substance of the final charrette outcome.

Because we found that the final submission is indeed in keeping with and is representative of the plan that resulted from the charrette, the NWACA Board passed a resolution at its September meeting, saying essentially that. (You can see the resolution on the NWACA web site, along with the minutes of the September Board meeting.) We also appreciate that the concerns, objections, and issues raised by many stakeholders beyond NWACA played a vital role in getting improvements included in the final submission.

We took a survey early in this process to get feedback on what aspects mattered to residents. That informed much of how we assessed the project and also led to our determination that the charrette process was the best way to get maximum community involvement. We've been asked why we haven't simply polled residents again recently. Simply put, an issue this big with this many facets is incredibly hard to boil down to a yes/no poll. That is why you won't see ZAP or the City Council taking a poll or a city-wide vote on any one development such as this but instead they deliberate and act as a representative local government to make decisions. If you feel strongly about this issue, the decision makers at the city are the best ones to contact to make your opinions known.

CONSIDERING OUR 4-WAY STOPS

– David Whitworth and Ben Luckens



*Mesa Dr. & Far West Blvd.
Sketch of Proposed Lane Designation*

The 4-way stop at Far West and Mesa has been re-striped since June as part of a pilot program that is being extended through the rest of the school year. Mesa and Far West are both one lane in each direction, and a previous effort to mitigate queuing at the 4-way stop added double lanes at the intersection only. This worked for some time, but as traffic increased, the level

of confusion has increased. Periodically, two cars at the intersection would both try to drive straight through and merge quickly back into a single lane, creating hazardous situations.

The current attempt to improve the intersection provides directional arrows for each side of the intersection, so those in the

left lane can turn left or go straight while those in the right lane must turn right only. What we have seen is that the queues are longer in the morning, when the work commute coincides with the school cross walk; and queues are also longer at 5 PM, but not as bad as in the morning. In both cases, the discomfort is short-lived and the longer queues do appear to function smoothly until the congestion passes.

The reason for this restriping effort to bring clarity to the intersection came about when a child was hit riding his bike to school. The intersection does appear to be safer and easier to understand now. Something similar is in place at Mesa & Greystone, however only the Mesa lanes received directional lane striping. Please keep monitoring these intersections and let us know your thoughts later in the year when NWACA sends out a survey to the neighborhood. The main reason NWACA has not issued a survey sooner is that the Far West and Mesa intersection hasn't yet been well tested, since Austin Water Utility began their work about the same time as the restriping, installing their own traffic control devices and closing portions of lanes.

(Continued on Page 10)

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NWACA News

(Continued from Page 8)

Perhaps it's useful to remind everyone about strategies to use at a 4-way stop. Here's advice from <http://www.texashighwayman.com/laws.shtml#4WayStops>

"A lot of people might be surprised, but there is no specific Texas state law regarding who goes first at a four-way or all-way stop. The only applicable law states that drivers must stop and may enter the intersection only when it is safe to do so (§545.151). So that leaves the right-of-way assignment up to the drivers. To that end, there is a widely accepted convention that most drivers use to remove the guesswork. Basically, it's first-come, first-served. Implementing it is easy: when you stop at an all-way stop, look around and see who's already stopped. When they've all gone, it's your turn! If two or more people get there at the same time, then the protocol is that the person on the right should go first, and it should follow clockwise from there.

Be aware, however, that some municipalities as well as other states do have laws that codify the order above."

NWACA SPECIAL PROJECT FUNDS AWARDED

— Vicki DeWeese

The NWACA Board recently voted to approve an application for its special project funds that was submitted by neighbor, Gary Prant, to purchase recycling containers to reduce trash and encourage recycling in our neighborhood parks.

According to the City of Austin, about half of the trash picked up in our neighborhood parks is recyclable. While interested in recycling, the Parks and Recreation Department does not have the funds to put containers in all parks. Our District Parks Manager, Alberto Perez, assured us that if NWACA purchased the containers, PARD would install them and service them on a daily basis as part of standard trash runs.

NWACA will fund the purchase of five recycling containers to be placed in strategic locations in our neighborhood parks. Two recycling containers will be placed at Bull Creek District Park, one container will be placed at Murchison Pool, one at the park

at Lakewood Drive and Loop 360 and one at the park at Old Spicewood Springs Road and Loop 360.

Through the generous donations of neighbors and our ongoing membership drive, NWACA will be able to continue to fund special projects through our community. Please join or renew your membership today!

SPECIAL THANKS TO MEMBERS

— Membership Committee

NWACA thanks members who generously contributed to the Oak Wilt Fund, the 4th of July Parade Fund, and the Park Fund, between August 13 and October 13, 2016.

Donations to the Oak Wilt Fund provide financial assistance to property owners dealing with oak wilt. Donations to the 4th of July Parade Fund help NWACA to host the best 4th of July parade in Austin! The Park Fund helps us revitalize parks in NWACA with projects such as cleanup days.

- Amy and Wayne Baker
- Jane Bloor
- Robert Bracewell
- Stan Brooks
- Mark and Pat Curry
- Sandra and Duane Dicus
- Alberto Garcia and Lisa Mersky
- Evan Gremont
- Mignon McGarry and Mike Hull
- Pat and Bob Kahn
- Thomas and Donna Lee Kelly
- Alan and Wanda Sanderson
- David Schele
- Barbara and Dennis Thomas
- Chris and Blythe Wilson

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30 Day Sales Summary

SOLD									
ADDRESS	# S	# Bd	# Bth	# G/P	# POOL	YB	ACRES	SQ.FT.	LIST PRICE
6910 Hart #111	1	1	1/0	0/1	Yes	1973	.036	655	\$135,000
6501 E Hill #304	1	2	2/0	0/0	No	1968	.031	1037	\$194,900
3431 North Hills #108	1	3	2/0	0/2	No	1968	.049	1247	\$200,000
6501 E Hill #220	1	2	2/0	0/1	Yes	1968	.034	1156	\$209,000
4711 Spicewood Springs	2	2	2/0	0/1	Yes	1985	.134	1403	\$309,000
7146 Chimney #C	1	2	2/0	2/0	Yes	1980	.093	1421	\$319,000
5002 Smokey #B	1	3	2/1	2/0	No	1985	.161	1620	\$342,500
3704 Williamsburg	2	2	3/0	2/0	No	1984	.073	1761	\$369,000
7903 Mesa Trails	1	2	2/0	2/0	No	1982	.117	2178	\$450,000
4213 Endcliffe	1	3	2/0	2/0	No	1970	.226	1984	\$525,000
6206 Mountain Villa	M	4	3/1	2/2	No	1985	.302	2378	\$568,950
7913 Comfort	2	3	2/1	2/0	No	1998	.113	2193	\$575,000
3911 Walnut Clay	2	4	3/1	2/0	No	1985	.254	2861	\$619,999
4006 Sierra	1	3	2/0	2/0	No	1962	.304	2258	\$599,000
6607 Candle Ridge	2	3	2/0	2/0	No	2002	.200	3028	\$649,900
5810 Trailridge	1	3	2/0	2/0	No	1957	.389	1955	\$635,000
3613 laurel Ledge	2	3	2/1	2/0	Yes	1976	.324	2555	\$779,000
7800 Linderwood	2	4	3/1	2/0	Yes	1978	.294	3289	\$949,500

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HOW DO I GET RID OF OLD PHARMACEUTICALS OR EXPIRED DRUGS?

— Joanie Arrott

Did you know that Austin Resource Recovery maintains two permanent kiosks for the safe and proper collection of old pharmaceutical items? Anyone can drop by during a business day, 8 to 5 p.m. to turn in unwanted prescriptions that you don't want lying around your house. They recently took over responsibility of the kiosk located at the University of Texas campus, specifically at the Forty Acres Pharmacy at 100 W. Dean Keeton Street. The city also recently added a permanent disposal kiosk in the lobby of Constable Precinct 5 in downtown Austin at 1003 Guadalupe Street. Information about what materials are accepted can be found here: <http://www.austintexas.gov/drugs>.

Walgreens also recently introduced a drug take-back program at a few area locations including Central Austin (4501 Guadalupe Street), Northwest Austin (11724 Research

Blvd), and Cedar Park (710 N Bell Blvd). These locations all maintain a disposal kiosk to provide a safe and convenient way to dispose of unwanted, unused, or expired medication at no cost, year-round. Kiosks are available during regular pharmacy hours. More information can be found here: <https://walgreens.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=53cf1b54abf34c4bacdec863e5c56391>.

Proper disposal of medicines prevents accidental poisoning of children and pets, misuse of medication, and unnecessary release of toxic chemicals to the environment. It is estimated that close to 60,000 children in the United States are accidentally poisoned by medicines each year. Pharmaceuticals are also being detected in the environment, and there is genuine concern that these compounds, even in small concentrations, could be impacting human health or aquatic organisms.

CAR AND DEER: MINIMIZING CRASH DAMAGE

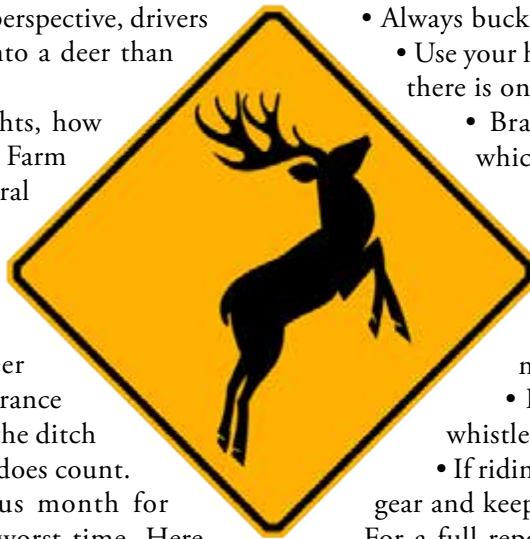
— Public Service Announcement

A recent report points out how collisions with deer are rising and the danger is getting worse. Across the country one in every 164 drivers will hit a deer this year. In Texas, the odds are one in 288. To put it in perspective, drivers have a better chance of smashing into a deer than being audited by the IRS.

If you see the deer in the headlights, how should you react? Researchers at State Farm Insurance caution against your natural instinct to swerve to avoid it. It's better to brake, keep the wheel straight, and brace for impact; there will be fewer injuries and less damage. In addition, hitting a deer won't count against you on your insurance record, while hitting another car or the ditch or a tree will be a collision... which does count.

November is the most dangerous month for hitting deer. Dusk to dawn is the worst time. Here are some safety tips on how to minimize your chance of colliding with a deer.

- Slow down, particularly at dusk and dawn



- If you see one deer, be prepared for more deer to cross the road

- Pay attention to deer crossing signs

- Always buckle up, every trip, every time

- Use your high beams to see farther, except when there is oncoming traffic

- Brake if you can, but avoid swerving, which could result in a more severe crash

- Remain focused on the road, scanning for hazards, including animals

- Avoid distractions, like devices or eating, which might cause you to miss seeing an animal

- Do not rely on products such as deer whistles, which are not proven effective

- If riding a motorcycle, always wear protective gear and keep focus on the road ahead.

For a full report, including experience stories and test examples regarding the advice, see this link:

<http://keyetv.com/news/local/danger-of-hitting-deer-going-up-in-texas>

READ WATER BILLS CAREFULLY

— Joyce Statz

When you look at your water bill section on Water Service, if there's ever a notice below your Total Current Charges line that tell you that "Your water meter read has been estimated" look at things carefully. It may mean that a person didn't read your meter, or it may mean that Austin Water's billing system is trying to do you a favor. In my case that artificial intelligence favor cost us \$31 until I dug to the bottom of the problem. Because the system saw a month's billing as much higher than the same month of the prior year, it decided to use an estimate that matched the prior year. However, that meant that the next month's bill was way off – costing us a lot more, because that incorrect initial reading put our usage into the higher-cost brackets for the water used. Chasing down the details with the City, we got the problem resolved, but I'll be watching to be sure this doesn't happen again!

CITY SERVICES FOR COYOTE MANAGEMENT

— Public Service Announcement

The City of Austin's Wildlife Educator is holding seminars about coyote management throughout the City and one will be scheduled in the NWACA area soon. Meanwhile, here are some of the available outreach activities as part of the City's Coyote Management Program:

- Call 512-978-0514 at any time with questions or to request a speaker to come out
- Request a free, voluntary yard or property audit, where a wildlife educator and/or an animal services officer walks the area with you and talks about ways to decrease or eliminate coyote sightings
- Austin Animal Services now has the ability to set up wildlife cameras free of charge (with night vision), and plans to have a wildlife camera lending program in the near future

As always, if you see a coyote, make a lot of noise and scare it away. If you look at it and walk away, you are teaching it that it's "ok to keep coming around there."

VEHICLE AT RISK?

— Public Service Announcement

These are the most commonly stolen vehicles in Austin in 2015:

1. Honda Accord
2. Ford F150
3. Honda Civic
4. Chevrolet Silverado
5. Ford F250
6. Dodge Ram 1500
7. Toyota Camry
8. Toyota Corolla
9. GMD Sierra
10. Chevrolet Tahoe

Is your vehicle one that thieves tend to steal? If so, take extra care to protect it by locking it when parked and putting it in the garage when you're home.

NWACA WINDOW DECALS

— Debra Danziger

NWACA window decals are now available for \$3. Show your neighborhood pride and spirit with an official NWACA membership window decal, perfect for your vehicle.

The decal measures 3"x3" and sells for \$3 online at:

<http://nwaca.org/donations/>

Order yours today!

WHY JOIN NWACA?

The Northwest Austin Civic Association is your neighborhood association. NWACA represents you on issues like crime prevention, transportation congestion and excessive speeds, zoning concerns, and wildfire prevention. NWACA plans the annual 4th of July Parade, organizes election forums, sponsors an annual neighborhood garage sale, recycles household waste, publishes this newsletter, and much more! Your support makes it all happen! Join us.

Prevent Oak Wilt

PLAN AHEAD - PRUNE

NOV thru JAN

- **Beetles Inactive**
- **Dormant Season**
- **Coldest Months**

NWACA MAILING LIST IT'S FAST AND FRIENDLY

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You can also read your newsletter on the Peel, Inc. iPhone and iPad app. Search the AppStore for 'Peel, Inc.' Download the App, then subscribe to this newsletter on the App.

NWACA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Send annual dues of \$25 with this form to:
NWACA, P.O. Box 26654, Austin, TX 78755

Homeowner Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____

_____ Zip _____

Email #1 (kept private; print): _____

Email #2 (kept private; print): _____

Phone (with area code): _____

Date: _____

ANNUAL DUES: \$25

(Optional) 4th of July Parade Contribution:

\$10___ \$20___ Other ___

(Optional) Oak Wilt Fund Contribution:

\$10___ \$20___ Other ___

(Optional) Parks Fund Contribution:

\$10___ \$20___ Other ___

*You can also pay via PayPal by going to www.nwaca.org,
selecting the Get Involved Tab, and choosing Join/Renew*

Volunteers are always needed on our committees.

Please mark those on which you'd like to actively participate.

- Civic Engagement
- Communications
- Crime and Safety/Neighborhood Watch
- Events/ 4th of July
- History
- Parks
- Sponsorship
- Transportation
- Tree and Environment
- Wildfire Prevention

Help Keep our Wildlife Wild!

NWACA advises residents to NOT feed wildlife. Many well-intentioned individuals do so out of concern for the wildlife they are feeding. However, intentional and unintentional feeding of wildlife attracts predators to the wildlife being fed. Additionally, an association with humans and food contributes directly to habituated behaviors of animals like coyotes and feral hogs, which then become aggressive in pursuit of a food or prey attractant. Please eliminate food attractants from your yards for the safe enjoyment of our streets, parks and playgrounds for neighbors and pets.



*If you would like this yard sign, please send email to
nwacainfo@gmail.com*

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DUE: November 30th



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(first name, last initial)

Age: _____

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