

nwacanews

NORTHWEST AUSTIN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

AUGUST 2019

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 8

Message from the Board Back to School and Happy Fall!



It is hard to believe summer is almost behind us! I hope everyone enjoyed the NWACA pool party at Murchison Pool on July 20th.

AISD schools start on August 20th, which means there will be lots of pedestrians and cyclists on our roads and school buses to

watch for early in the morning and mid-afternoon. Please be careful while driving! Thanks to your generous donations, Constable Sam will be patrolling the NWACA area to help keep our streets safe. If you would like to donate to the Constable Fund, you can send your check to NWACA, P.O. Box 26654, Austin TX 78755, or you can go to www.nwaca.org to pay by credit card or through PayPal.

Save the Date! Sign up begins September 1st for the NWACA Garage Sales, a benefit for NWACA members. We furnish the signs for your yard and advertise your sales in the Austin American

Statesman, Craigslist, Facebook, and Nextdoor. You keep all your proceeds. What a deal! Sales take place in each participant's yard on Saturday, October 5th, from 8 a.m. – 12 noon. To participate, sign up at www.nwaca.org after September 1st under the Get Involved Tab, Garage Sale Sign-Up. If you haven't joined NWACA yet, you can do that, too.



Are you ready for some football? NWACA members, stay tuned to our weekly NWACA Notes email, and our Facebook page. NWACA is partnering with neighborhood restaurants to host NWACA members at watch parties for out-of-town Texas Longhorn football games. We're also working with Cap Metro to provide transportation. The first game will be UT vs. Rice, Saturday, September 14th. Game time

is 7:00 p.m. and our host will be Austin Terrier located at 3435 (Continued on Page 2)

New to the Neighborhood?



If this is your first copy of our newsletter, welcome to the NWACA neighborhood! The map shows our boundaries – Mopac, RM 2222, Loop 360, and US Highway 183 (Research Boulevard). There are about 13,500 households who are your neighbors and are happy you're here!

This newsletter is one way to know what's happening in NWACA, but there's much more. Check out the quick link *For New Neighbors* on the home page at www.nwaca.org and visit our public Facebook page. Use the *Membership* button on the home page, or use the form at the end of this newsletter to become a member of NWACA. Members have access to the weekly **NWACA Notes** and the ability to join the NWACA closed Facebook group, to keep in touch with each other and with the latest news about NWACA.

Welcome to NWACA!

ARE Y

ARE YOU A NWACA MEMBER?

Receiving the newsletter does not guarantee membership.

Not sure? Visit nwaca.org to confirm!

Here are 5 great reasons to join today!

GREAT NEIGHBORS = GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD Together, we can continue to do great things for our neighborhood!

STAY INFORMED ABOUT ISSUES THAT AFFECT YOU

We are actively involved in our community and advocate for our residents.

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS

We encourage friendships among residents through our events - July 4th parade, National Night Out, Recycling Collection, Garage Sales, and more!

PROTECT AND IMPROVE OUR COMMUNITY

Learn about fire safety, crime prevention, oak wilt, environmental concerns, park development, wildlife management, zoning/planning, and more!

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY

We are deeply invested in building strong relationships within our business network to positively impact our neighborhood.

Together we can make a difference!
JOIN TODAY @ NWACAORG/JOINRENEW

NWACA EVENTS CALENDAR

Aug 4, 2 PM

Parks Committee Biderman's

Aug 13, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

NWACA Board Meeting Galaxy Cafe

Aug 17, 9AM - Noon

Monthly park beautification in the park and on trails; sign up at: https://www.givepulse.com/recurring/364990?event=NWACA-Third-Saturday-Park-Clean-Up
Bull Creek District Park

Aug 19, 4 PM

Communications Committee
Galaxy Cafe

Aug 27, 5 PM

NWACA Zoning and Transportation Committee Temple Beth Shalom, 7300 Hart Lane, r.201

Sep 1

Signup begins for Annual Garage Sales on October 5, 2019 NWACA web site

Sep 8, 2 PM

Parks Committee Biderman's

Sep 8, 2 PM

Tree, Environment, and Wildlife Committee
Epoch Coffee

Sep 10, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

NWACA Board Meeting Galaxy Cafe

Sep 14, 7PM

Texas Longhorn Football Watch Party - UT vs. Rice; limited to first 50 NWACA members to sign up with Robyn Nunis at nwacainfo@gmail.com Austin Terrier, 3435 Greystone Drive

Sep 16, 4PM

Communications Committee Galaxy Cafe

Sep 21, 9AM - Noon

Monthly park beautification in the park and on trails; sign up at: https://www.givepulse.com/recurring/364991?event=NWACA-Third-Saturday-Park-Clean-Up

Bull Creek District Park

Sep 24, 5 PM

NWACA Zoning and Transportation Committee Temple Beth Shalom, 7300 Hart Lane, r.201

Sep 28, 6-8 PM

NWACA Neighborhood National Night Out event - visit with first responders and enjoy music, dance and martial arts performances, food, and conversation
Randall's Parking Lot - Mesa Plaza
Mesa at Spicewood Springs Rd.

Message from the board (Continued from Cover)

Greystone Drive. In addition to great food, craft beer, and wine, the restaurant should have their full liquor license by game time. This event will be limited to the first 50 NWACA members to sign up. For more information, or to sign up, contact Robyn Nunis at nwacainfo@gmail.com by September 7th. More details will be emailed to participants. Let's support our neighborhood businesses!



Join us on Saturday, September 28th, for the second annual NWACA National Night Out in the Mesa Plaza Randall's parking lot. We had so much fun last year joining our first responders and neighbors for food and fun! This year, Ryan Perry's band, Shotguns Ready, will be entertaining us. So, bring your lawn chairs, your families, including your furry family

members, to meet new neighbors, visit with familiar neighbors, see cool vehicles, and thank our first responders for all they do for our community. Watch for updates in our next newsletter, in NWACA Notes, and on Facebook. For more information, to sponsor, or to volunteer, contact Connie Lundgren at nwacainfo@gmail.com.

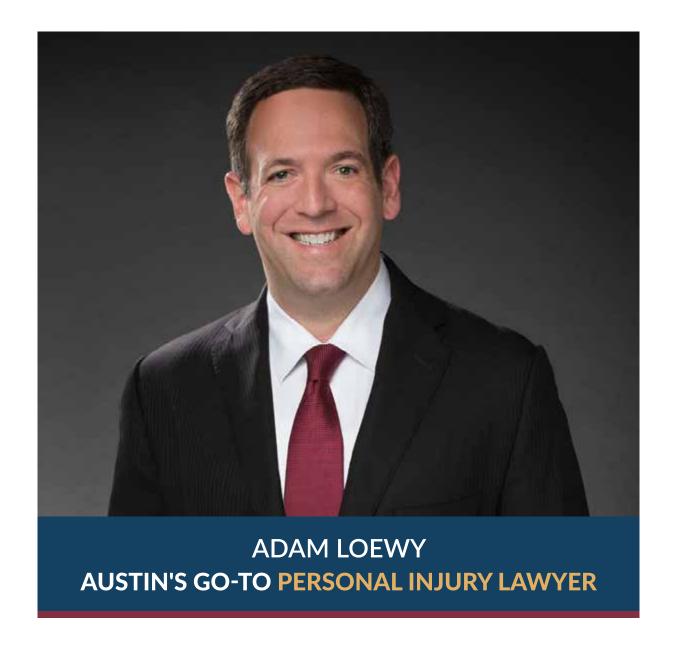


Lastly, while summer may be coming to a close, it's still wildfire season. If you haven't yet done so, now is a good time to sign up for your free Firewise evaluation. The Firewise team will let you know if there are any aspects that put your property at greater risk during a fire.

Embers are a huge hazard as they fly long distances, spreading fires quickly. You'll also be given handouts to learn how to prepare in the event of an evacuation; preparation for your pets is included, too.

Here's to cooler days ahead! We are so fortunate to live in this special place and we look forward to continuing to build upon the community spirit of our neighborhood, working with both residents and businesses. We are just a click away at www.nwaca.org, via email at nwacainfo@gmail.com, or through Facebook Messenger.





LOEWY LAW FIRM

HELPING INJURED TEXANS

LoewyFirm.com (512) 280-0800

Car Crashes | Bicycle Crashes | Drunk Driving Crashes | Child Injuries | Boating Accidents

Motorcycle and ATV Accidents | Slip and Fall Injuries | Other Serious Injuries

KEY CONTACTS

Austin Citywide Information Center512-974-2000 or 31
Emergency, Police
Non-emergency (coyote sightings, compliance issues) 31
To check status, go to: http://www.austintexas.gov/department/
myaustincodestatus
APD District Representative,
Officer Darrell Grayson512-974-5242
District 10 Councilmember, Alison Alter512-978-211
Enroll in the District 10 monthly newsletter:
district10@austintexas.go
www.district10austin.com

2019 NWACA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Vicki DeWeese, President Chris Hajdu, Vice-President Louri O'Leary, Secretary Julie DePalma, Treasurer

- Caroline Alexander
- Ioanie Arrott
- Brad Banister
- D D 1: 1
- Roger BolickRuven Brooks
- Aaron Daniels
- Aaron Daniels
- Julie DePalma Tracey Fine
- Charlie Galvin
- Richard Grayum
- Bridget Keating

- Rachel Lance
- Connie Lundgren
- Robert Nash
- Mike Polston
- Julie Rawlings
- Christopher Roddy
- Teri Schock
- Julie Waidelich
- Chris "Kaz" Wojtewicz
- Monique Wright

Each of the Board members can be reached at: nwacainfo@gmail.com

The NWACA Board meets on the 2nd Tuesday 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 US Highway 183 (Research Boulevard), on the west by Loop 360, on the south by RM 2222, and on the east by Mopac (Loop 1)

PEEL ADVERTISING

Please support the advertisers that make the NWACA News possible. If you are interested in advertising, please contact THE PEEL sales office at 512-263-9181 or <u>advertising@peelinc.com</u>. The advertising deadline is the 8th of the month prior to the issue.

Back to School August 20th - Here's What You Need to Know!

– Teri Schock

It's hard to believe the summer break is almost over for students, and a new school year is about to begin. AISD's first day of school is Tuesday, August 20th.

Hill Elementary welcomes a new principal this year – Jack Drummond. Mr. Drummond was formerly the assistant vice principal at Hill and acted as interim principal when Principal Newton was assigned to Murchison Middle School.

Construction continues at Doss Elementary and Murchison Middle Schools. Doss students will continue at their temporary location, Lucy Reed Elementary, for another year.

Don't forget about the events leading up to the first school day.

DOSS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

August 15th-Meet the Teacher: 5:30 - 7:30 pm at Lucy Reed Elementary

August 20th-Kinder Coffee & Kleenex - 7:45 - 8:45 am

HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

August 14th-Class lists are posted on the front door at 4 pm

August 15th-Teacher Helper Day 9 am to 2 pm, Kindergarten Back to School Night 6 pm

August 16th-Meet the Teacher/Open House from 11:00 am-1:00 pm August 17th-New Student Play Date 10:00 am

MURCHISON MIDDLE SCHOOL

July 31st or August 7th 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Matador Transition Camp for incoming students who will be in 6th grade at Murchison Middle School for the 2019-2020 school year. Transition Camp is also open to any student of any grade who will be new to Murchison in 2019-2020. Register here for Transition Camp: bit.ly/MMS2019TC

Murchison will be releasing a new bell schedule that was not available at the time of this article. Please see the website (http://www.murchisonmatadors.org/) and Facebook page (facebook.com/MurchisonMats/) for details.

ANDERSON HIGH SCHOOL

Check the school website for more information at: www.andersononline.org/

The **TROJAN TIMES** weekly e-newsletter brings you the most up-to-date campus news in a timely fashion. Subscribe by going to the www.andersononline.org home page and clicking on **Trojan Times Newsletter** under Popular Links.

Follow the Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/andersonhighschool/ and on Twitter @AHSnewss (there are 2 s's).

Sign up to receive the **DAILY SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS**. These announcements are read and posted for the students each day. Stay informed about important school announcements, athletic events, accolades about the students, and more. Go to: http://bit.ly/2xN9JkM to subscribe to the announcements.

A copy of the AISD 2019-2020 school calendar can be found here: https://www.austinisd.org/sites/default/files/dept/calendar/AISD_Calendar_2019-2020.pdf.

NWACA 2019 Parade Float Contest

- Louri O'Leary

What an exciting Fourth of July Parade we had in 2019! This was my first time to volunteer as the Float Contest Coordinator and I want to thank fellow Board members Roger Bolick and Brad Banister for all their help! Also, a big shout out to Charlotte Banister – Youth Contest Assistant.

We had nine distinguished judges: Tracy Sheridan with Doss Elementary School, Beth Newton with Murchison Middle School, Stephanie Winfrey with Hill Elementary School, RoLanda Williams with Anderson High School, and our five outstanding youth judges – Elle Miles, Olivia Rubio, Calia Couch, Mia Schock, and Mackenzie Stogner.

We were thrilled to have eight float entries! Girl Scout Troop 2026: Dream Big (*Grand Champion Winner*); NW Hills Friday Night Crew: Christmas in July (*Best Team Spirit Winner*); Shirley McPhail School of Dance (*Most Patriotic Winner*); The Homesville Realty Group: Northwest Hills is my Jam; Cruise Planners/ ATX World Travel; HEB # 096 Partners: Let Freedom Ring; Gnarly Gneighbors: Force of July; and the Trojans Youth Lacrosse Association. We hope to see you all again in the 2020 parade!

An award banner was provided to each of the winning entries just prior to the start of the parade. Winners were announced by Senator Kirk Watson during the Opening Ceremony.



Dream Big Float



Shirley McPhail School of Dance Float



Float Judges



Christmas in July Float



"Market Knowledge You Can Depend On!"

Connie Lundgren ABR, CNE, CIPS, GRI

connie.lundgren@evusa.com 512.619.4101



NWACA Sponsored Garage Sales October 5, 2019

- Mike Polston

This year's NWACA Garage Sale day is October 5, 2019, 8 am to 12 noon; the event is for NWACA members only. If you're not a member, please join us! Go to www.nwaca.org to join today! Then, do yourself a favor: walk around your home and find anything that YOU DON'T REALLY NEED or WANT. Someone else is interested in what you are ready to clear out. The old adage "one person's junk is another person's treasure" definitely applies. Participating in the annual NWACA Wide Garage Sales is easy, as we do the advertising for you, bringing customers to your sale.

Garage sale registration begins on the NWACA website on September 1, 2019. Registering allows us to connect with people planning to hold a garage sale at their home. NWACA will post the neighborhood sales' locations on the NWACA web site and place notices in the Austin American-Statesman, on Craigslist, and on the NWACA Facebook page. NWACA provides participants with yard signs and, also, deploys signs around the neighborhood. Like last year, we anticipate supporting 40 to 60 garage sales. Good luck as you clean out your closets!



We are passionate about creating beautiful, healthy smiles through restorative, preventative, and cosmetic dentistry.

Because we believe a beautiful, confident smile creates a lasting impression!

Book your Appointment Today!



BEAUTIFUL, NATURAL SMILES LOOK YOUR BEST TODAY!

Pain Free Laser Dentistry
Gag Free Impressions
Implants and Cosmetic Dentistry

SHOAL CREEK DENTAL CARE

8015 Shoal Creek Blvd., Suite 120 512.453.8181 www.shoalcreekdental.com



Understanding City Code: Vehicle and Trailer Parking

– Alan Carson

During walks with my dog, I frequently see city code violations involving motor vehicles and trailer parking, including mobile homes. The City of Austin has posted information on this subject on the internet; you can access it by searching for Austin Texas Ordinances online. For each of the instances described here, the appropriate code section is given.

Near my home, I usually see a camper parked on the street at least nine days out of ten. Section 12-5-11 states that a self-propelled motor home (camper) may not be parked on a public street or alley for more than 72 hours. The section defines what is meant by a self-propelled motor home, so that is not in question.

In our neighborhood an existing home is being completely refurbished. The homeowner has temporarily moved into a mobile home that is parked in his driveway. The mobile home is also used as an office. According to Section 25-2-1207, a mobile home may be used as an office on a construction site. However, this mobile home was also used as a residence by the owner and his family. This is in violation of the code, which requires that all occupied mobile homes must be located in a mobile home park or other licensed location. Note that there is a difference between a mobile home and a recreational trailer, as defined in the code.

On a busy street nearby there is a home that often has a car parked in the front yard. This is prohibited by Section 12-5-29. Front or side yard parking must only be in paved or otherwise designated locations.

I have seen a trailered boat parked on another busy street in the area. According to Section 12-5-10, a trailer or other non-motorized equipment designed to be towed by a vehicle may not be parked on a public street.

Section 9-1-2 says that junked or abandoned vehicles, if left on public property for more than 48 continuous hours, are a public nuisance, and the person responsible can be prosecuted. As to storage of vehicles in a residential area, Section 25-2-893 states that there must not be more vehicles stored at a residence than there are licensed drivers. Additional vehicles must be stored in the garage.

Although not a vehicle or trailer, garbage carts are wheeled and are parked on the street. They must be returned to their storage area on private property by 10 PM on the designated collection day and should be placed at the curb by 6:30 AM on collection day, but not prior to 8 PM the evening before, according to Section 6.1.1.

These restrictions may seem onerous, but I lived seven years in a country where they had few codes, and didn't enforce the ones they did have. What a difference in quality of life between here and there.



History Interview: Louis ("Punch") and Jody Riffe

- Carol Jones

"Punch" Riffe got his nickname from having a twin sister named Judy, after the popular "Punch and Judy" puppet show. Then he married a woman named Jody, so the nickname has fit him all his life.

His family has a long history in Austin. Punch has paperwork showing that his great-great grandfather, Abraham Riffe, purchased 100 acres at Turkey Creek near present-day Emma Long Park in 1873. His great-grandfather was listed as a Stationary Engineer, and his address was simply noted as "Lake Austin."

Later, his grandfather lived and worked on the lake closer to town, near where the future Lamar bridge would be built. His first job was bringing water to the men who were building a road to Mt. Bonnell. As a diesel engineer, he maintained the water pumps that filled the locomotives. The family farmed their lakeside land, with crops so plentiful that the grocery stores would send their employees to harvest produce for the stores.

When Punch's father and his brothers were kids, they were friends with the Faulk family, and ran around with John Henry and Hamilton Faulk. They would visit at the Faulk's house (which later became Green Pastures restaurant), where Mrs. Faulk would serve them fresh baked bread and butter. When John Henry Faulk had a radio talk show in

New York City, he would sometimes tell of his adventures with the Riffe boys.

Punch's other grandfather leased 25 acres on Lake Austin Boulevard at the corner of present-day Red Bud Trail. They had cattle, horses, goats, and other farm animals. The goats liked to run across the street to chase the golfers on the municipal golf course. One time when Punch was a toddler, his mother saw him grabbing the horns of a cow, with the cow lifting him up and down repeatedly. When his mother ran to get him, he was still holding on. He says that was the extent of his rodeo experience.

Tom Miller Dam was completed in 1940. Below the dam was a very popular fishing area on the island. It got so crowded that there was a full-time policeman living and working there. There was also a man who sold bait and ran a water taxi back and forth to the island. There was no low-water bridge at that time.

German POWs were brought in from Camp Swift to clean up the construction debris from the dam. One day, somebody in the house shut the window in the house and said "you kids stay in." A German POW had walked off the work detail right by the house and started up

(Continued on Page 9)

. . .

We are driven by one simple principle:

You should have a stellar real estate experience.

And that means minimal stress, fewer headaches, and less uncertainty — with an outcome that makes you smile.

Ready to get started? We'll guide you on this journey.



Homesville Realty Group

Paul & Marquette Reddam 512.789.0869 paul@homesville.com homesville.com



. . .

. . .

COMPASS

History Interview (Continued from Page 8)

the boulevard toward town. Military officials captured him about an hour later.

Toward the end of the war, The University of Texas built barracks on the land for apartments to house the GIs who would go to UT under the GI Bill. The family house was moved up the boulevard near present-day Exposition Boulevard. For spending money, the kids would sell loose golf balls they found to the golfers. Back then, movies cost 9 cents for kids at the Capitol Theatre, in the old Hancock Opera House on 6th Street. Comic books were 3 for a quarter.

After his family moved to Newning Avenue in Travis Heights, they would ride the bus downtown to see midnight movies at the Paramount Theater. They felt perfectly safe walking back home at 2:00 a.m. As a teenager, Punch worked at Weber's Root Beer stand on south Congress (now Torchy's Tacos) for \$.15 an hour plus tips. Business was good. After three summers, he was able to buy a 1936 hotrod Ford.



Vol. X - Page 357 COUSTY OF THAVES # ENOUGH LED BY THESE PROSENTS, that 1, Christia: Frede Lok Walker, of the County of France in the State aforecase for and in consider tion of the sum of Seven hundred and fifty coin dellers to me in hand paid by abrehes diffe of the County of Travis in the State of Texas, have granted burgained, sold and released; andby these preceine do grant, bargain, sell, relea and convey unto the said abroham Biffe all that tract or parent of land situa ted in Provis County, Texas on the hast bank of the Colorado River, beginning at the mouth of Furkey Creak, a tributery of the Colorado; themes north to Conner's branch, theree down soid branch, with its meanders, to the Colorado Biver. Thence up said river with its mounters to mouth of furney Creek, the place of beginning, Containing one bundred scree; being the same tract of land sold to me by Mancy Simpton at per deed dated 9th Lecenter, 1570 and reported in Travia County Records, Book "V" pages 555 & 550. In seld feed my name in enumeaucly epolled "intohe" instead of Walker (There is reserved out of anid br four acresmoreor less, previously sold to Ir. Philips unich is not intended t be herein conveyed, to seld Abroham Riffe). Together with all and singular the rights, members, Asymptianents, and apportendings to the same belonging or in No board and to be all and suggester The promoter of the formation of the bear and anywhere incident or apportening out the cold abraham histo, his heire and as igns, and I do hereby bind heirs, executors and administrators to warrant and forever defend all and singular the sand promises unto the said atrohem Riffe, beire and assign against every portion or persons showed ever languity olsiming or to claim the came or any part thereof. Sitness my bank thin the ge Christian Frederick Dalker (Scal) day of January A. D. 1873. THE STATE OF TELLS & COURTY OF TR. VIS & BAFOLE the undersigned authority on this 8th Jany. 1873 personally appeared Christian Preserick Walker to me well known who schnowledge to me that he had subscribed and executed the foregoing instrument in writing, for the consideration, uses, and purposes therein stated. In witness whereof I sercunto place my hard and the seal of the District Court of Travis County, a. R. Morris, Clerk by Frank Brown, Deputy this tth January 1872. Piled Jameser 8th 1872 at 12 statust 1

Punch and his wife Jody built their first house on Barton Hills Drive in 1966. The neighborhood was very secluded and friendly. Then, since they both worked north, they decided to look for a house in Northwest Hills. They found a house being framed up near north Mesa Drive in 1972, and they were able to make some adjustments in the floor plan. They still love their home, 47 years later.

It was delightful to speak with Punch and Jody Riffe. Do you have memories of old Austin, or of Northwest Hills? Contact nwacainfo@gmail.com.



Free Estimates on New A/C Systems
Fast 7-Day A/C Repairs
Energy Audits • Weatherization
Duct Repair & Replacement

Home & Handyman Repairs
Remodels & Additions
Senior Accessibility Upgrades
Painting / Staining
Drywall & Popcorn Removal
Decks & Fences / Install & Repairs

"We have been keeping Austin comfortable for over 40 years." – The Yamin Family





Assisted Living as unique as you are.

There's only one place where elevated assisted living meets an urban location overflowing with life:

The Suites at Maravilla @ The Domain.

Imagine first class comforts, services & amenities, combined with attentive expert support when the need arises—all in the midst of a dynamic, endlessly inspiring community.

We invite you to learn more about the quality services and lifestyle awaiting you.

Move-ins Summer 2019



Independent & Assisted Living
Memory Care & Rehabilitative Services

Maravilla Austin.com

Contact our Information Center to learn more:

(512) 575-4261

3220 Feathergrass Court, Suite 120 • Austin, TX 78758

At The Domain, between the iPic Theater and Dillards, across from Maggiano's outdoor patio.





Fix It; Don't Throw It Away

- Adapted from Austin Resource Recovery Web Site

Did your blender suddenly stop working? Is your child's favorite toy a little worse for wear? Is there a fallen hem in your favorite shirt? At a Fix-It Clinic, you can learn to repair these items and more, alongside skilled volunteer coaches with repair know-how.

Fix-It Austin aims to foster community and educate citizens about the value of repair and reuse. Through Fix-It Clinics, consumers can learn useful repair skills on everyday items. Repair keeps items out of landfills and fosters a more circular economy. Since starting the program, Austin Resource Recovery (ARR) has organized 19 events including 397 attendees, and it has diverted 1,803 materials from our waste stream.

Fix-It Clinic events are open to the public and free of charge. All ages are welcome, and organizers ask that you RSVP for planning purposes. Consider volunteering your skills at a clinic. Organizers are always in need of repair coaches for electronics and tech, appliances, clothing and accessories, and jewelry. Coaches will work directly with clinic attendees to guide them in fixing their broken items.

Help Austin reach our goal of Zero Waste by 2040: attend, volunteer, or host a Fix-It Clinic near you! Visit the ARR website for more information: http://austintexas.gov/fixitclinic.

Fact Sheet on Fences

– Joyce Statz





FIREWISE USA Residents reducing wildfire risks

Over the last several years, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has issued a series of fact sheets that help homeowners harden their homes against wildfire. The nine fact sheets issued to

date are on the NWACA web site for you to peruse; go to www. nwaca.org and enter "fact sheet" in the search bar.

Common features of NWACA neighborhood landscapes are privacy fences made of wood and perimeter fences that may be chain link, wood, a combination of metal and plastic, and occasionally a composite product like Trex*. When putting up a new fence or replacing an old one, consider the location of that fence and how it can affect the home's resistance to wildfire. In all cases, a fence that is noncombustible is safer in a wildfire than a combustible fence. However, when a homeowner wants a privacy fence that is completely opaque, there are few known good options that are noncombustible. (Here's an opportunity for some enterprising engineer – lots of money could be made!)

Two aspects of a wildfire threaten fences, embers and flames from something that is on fire. Embers that land in wood fence crevices



and corners can readily ignite, such as where vertical and horizontal members meet. Flames that are burning on grass or debris next to a wood fence can ignite the fence. Wood fences are often referred to as "fuses" or "wicks" by firefighters, since fire on a burning portion of a fence carries the fire along to whatever connects to it. For many of

(Continued on Page 13)





REALTY AUSTIN





I live here. I sell here.



Brian Copland
REALTOR®
(512) 576-0288
briancopland@realtyaustin.com

NWACA NEIGHBORHOOD REALTOR®

Just Listed in Northwest Hills 6006 Mesa Drive, Austin, TX 78731

Rare opportunity to own a home featuring a pool and a panoramic view from the large, flat yard. With 4 beds, 4 living spaces and a loft, there is room for everyone. Contact me for a private showing.



briancoplandaustinrealtor



@brianatx12



austinhomeandcondo.com



4800 Burnet Road - 512.458.1100 Lunch M-F 11-4 Happy Hour Every Day 4-6 Dinner Su-Th 4-10 & F-Sa 4-10:30 gustoitaliankitchen.com

The neighborhood's favorite spot for happy hour!

DRINK . TASTE . ENJOY



Bring this ad in for a complimentary antipasti or primi dish with the purchase of a pizza, pasta, panini, or principale dish.

LIMIT ONE PER TABLE. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS. EXPIRES 12.31.19.

Fact Sheet on Fences (Continued from Page 11)

our homes, a house is connected to the fence, generally just below wooden eaves. If the fence is on fire, the flame can easily reach the eaves and then travel into the house.

As you consider new fences or maintenance of existing fences, follow these guidelines:

- Use noncombustible fences whenever that is an option. In our Firewise evaluations, we have seen several creative approaches to privacy fences: one that used horizontal metal members and one that was composed of a mixture of metal stakes with wood slats between them. Neither of these will form a "wick."
- If using wood fences, be sure that the final segment which attaches to the house is noncombustible. Common approaches here include a masonry segment or a metal segment as the final 4-foot or 8-foot section, sometimes functioning as the gate.
- For a wood fence with a long run, include noncombustible posts or segments in the design. Homeowners sometimes use brick pillars distributed every 15 or 20 feet of the fence. This design will disrupt any wick action of the fence.
- Lattice fences made of wood or plastic are especially problematic because they provide many opportunities for embers to lodge and smolder; avoid these as much as possible in our wildfire-prone neighborhood.



Shannon Jones

Don't listen to what they say. Go see for yourself.

737-881-0002

www.ATXworldtravel.com shannon.jones@cruiseplanners.com facebook.com/ATXworldtravel

FLST# 39068 • CST# 2034468-50 • HST# TAR-7058 • WAST# 603-399-504

Questions from Neighbors

- Joyce Statz, aggregator

This month, we need to make a correction to what we published last month, and we have one new item.

First a correction regarding our question from last month: Why is it important to stay on the trails at Stillhouse Hollow Preserve?



Our article included this comment: Also remember to keep your dog on a leash - their paws cause the same types of damage as people.

This was an error, and I apologize! As the sign says, no pets are allowed in Stillhouse Hollow. This is true in general for our preserves, since they are delicate areas in need of protection.

A follow up question might be "Where can we take dogs to play outdoors?" Some of our local parks, like Bull Creek District Park, allow dogs if they are leashed, and many neighbors enjoy taking their dogs to that park. We also have a nearby off-leash dog park that you may not have noticed, since it's just across Mopac from much of our NWACA neighborhood. That's the Great Northern Detention Basin Off Leash Dog Area at the Great Northern Dam. You can see a map of it at this link: https://tinyurl.com/basinmap





It's a 10-acre green space maintained by the Austin Watershed Protection Department, with lots of room to run and play. (See the photo of the broad expanse of green space.) Dogs should stay away from the detention pond water, though, since it may not be safe for them. You can enter the green space from three access points. At the point were Far West Boulevard meets the MoPac access road, there

is a bicycle/pedestrian path to the Great Northern Dam area from which you can access the off-leash dog area. You can also enter from Shoal Creek Boulevard, between Stoneway Drive and Dover Place (see photo) or from Great Northern Boulevard, just south of Pinecrest Drive.

Another off-leash dog area that is fairly close to the neighborhood is at Emma Long Park at 1600 City Park Road. Also known as Turkey Creek Dog Trail, this 193-acre area inside Emma Long Park has a 2 mile trail that follows Turkey Creek and goes through the creek at some points.

(Continued on Page 14)

PSA on Email Safety

- Carol Jones



You probably already know that poorly written emails containing bad grammar that ask you to click links or provide personal information are scams. And there really isn't a Nigerian prince who will give you his fortune if you send him some money first. But scammers are getting cleverer with every passing year.

To be safe, it's best to never click on links in an email, as these links can be an easy way to introduce

viruses or malware into your computer. You can sometimes hover your cursor over a link and see if it is spoofing (hiding) the actual link at the bottom of your screen.

Even if it seems you've received a legitimate email from your banking institution or other known entity, or you've received an invitation to connect from LinkedIn, open a fresh new browser tab and type the link there yourself. It may seem overly cautious, but even tech-savvy people can get fooled by skilled hackers. Better safe than malware-sorry!

Here is a screenshot of a scam email I recently received on my iPhone, where the word "HERE" in blue was a link. In addition to the use of "Dear User" instead of my name, and the grammar errors (I counted 5!), the email also contains a threat. Any time an email threatens an action against you if you don't click a link, you can be certain that it is a scam. Just like how the IRS will never phone you and threaten to arrest you if you don't give them your Social Security number, Apple will never threaten to close your account for not clicking a link.

If you receive a suspicious email, report it to your email provider! I reported this particular email to reportphishing@apple.com.



Questions From Neighbors (Continued from Page 13)

There are a dozen off leash dog areas in Austin described at this link: http://www.austintexas.gov/department/leash-areas

What's the TXDOT program that helps stranded motorists on local highways?

The TXDOT HERO program. Its goal is to improve safety and keep traffic moving along 138 miles of I-35, US 183, US 290, SH 71 and Loop 1 in the greater Austin area. HERO trucks operate from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. If you need assistance, you can reach the HERO program by calling (512) 974-HERO (4376). For more information see this link: https://my35construction.org/about/HERO-assistance

If you have questions you'd like answered, please send them to us at nwacainfo@gmail.com.

Special Thanks to Members

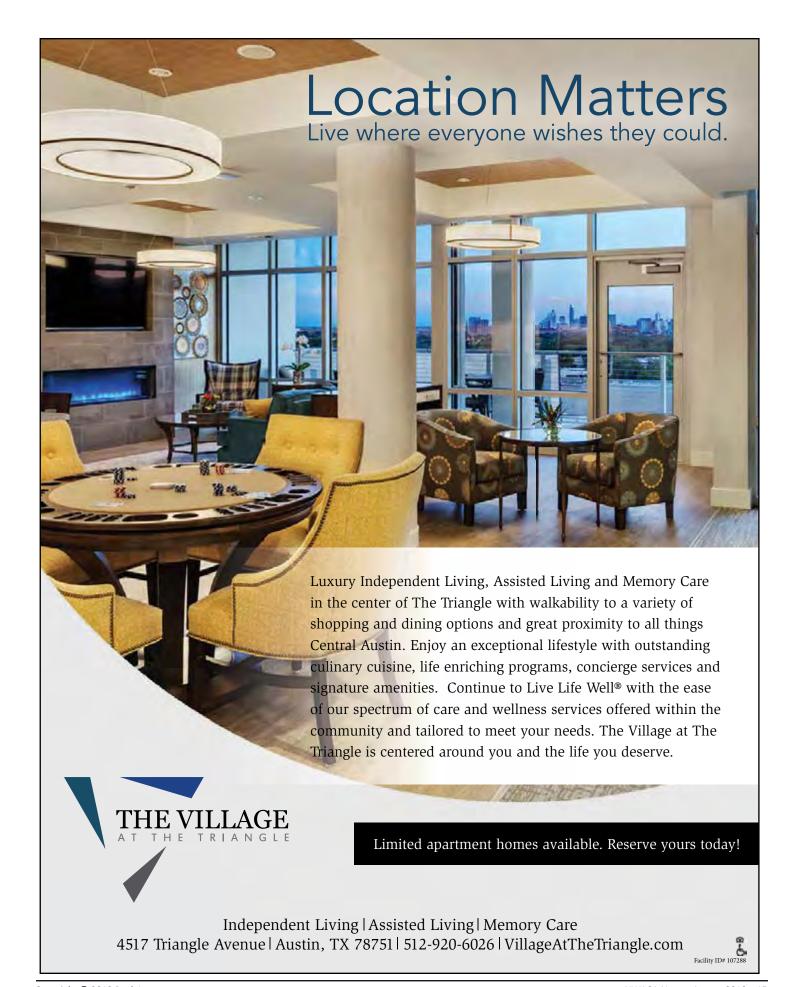
- Membership Committee

NWACA thanks members who generously contributed to the 4th of July Parade Fund, the Park Fund, and the Constable Fund, between June 15, 2019 and July 15, 2019.

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 do events in our parks and revitalize parks in the NWACA area. The Constable Fund helps us provide the patrol activities of the Travis County Constable.

- Arch and Sylvia Bell
- Janis Cartwright
- Ellen Fenwick and Bobby George
- Robert Foster
- Karen Friese
- Hugh Higgins, Jr.
- Susan Kelley and John Thomas
- · Mick and Mary Koffend
- Sharon and Bob Latsha
- Sydelle Popinsky and Charles Mandelbaum
- Arnold and Margit Orange
- Tom Rogers
- Camille Seaton
- Byron Smith
- Connie and Robert Stout
- Elaine Thomson
- (and apologies to anyone whose donation we might have missed!)





Tawny Crazy Ants

- Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service



The Tawny Crazy Ant, also known in Texas as the Rasberry Crazy Ant, was originally discovered by pest management professional Tom Rasberry (hence the name) in Harris County in 2002. Since then, the ants have been distributed to other parts of the state via people, plants, materials, and other things and are currently

confirmed in 40 Texas counties.

Distribution map of Texas counties with confirmed presence of tawny crazy ants (in red).

Tawny crazy ants are about 1/8" and orangish-brown in color. With a good hand lens or microscope, you can see 12 segmented antennae, 1 node, and a circle of hairs at the tip of the abdomen. These ants can be confused with other ants, so if you are unsure of what you have check with your local Extension office.

Tawny crazy ants have a cyclical population level throughout the year with populations peaking in late summer, decreasing in the fall and then beginning to build again in the spring. Tawny crazy ants are capable of biting, but do NOT sting like fire ants. They are mostly nuisance pests, but can reach extraordinary population levels (in the millions) and can become a problem if they get into electrical equipment. Tawny

crazy ants do not have nests or mounds like fire ants; they tend to nest under things- rocks, landscape timbers, flowerpots, etc.

For more information on this particular ant species go to http://urbanentomology.tamu.edu/ants/rasberry.html

Treatment Options

- Removing harborage areas- fallen limbs, rocks, leaf litter, etc. These ants will nest under pretty much anything on the ground, so you may want to remove anything that is not necessary.
- Alter moisture conditions (crazy ants prefer moist, humid conditions)- reduce watering, repair any water leaks, and improve drainage
- Eliminate honeydew producers from area. Crazy ants tend honeydew producers such as aphids, whiteflies, hoppers, mealybugs and scale insects.
- Use pesticide sprays to treat infested areas- under rocks, along landscape edging, etc. Pesticide sprays can also be used to create a barrier around the outside of the home. Piles of dead ants may build up in treated areas. If this occurs, remove dead ants to keep the pesticide barrier maintained.
- Hire a pest management professional (PMP). PMPs have access to pesticides that are unavailable to homeowners for tawny crazy ant treatment and they also have experience dealing with pest problems regularly.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www. urban-ipm.blogspot.com



Micromobility Regulations in Austin

- Public Service Announcement

E-scooter lovers and haters rejoice! City Code is now amended to include micromobility devices, establishing enforceable regulations which will increase safety for residents and visitors. The revised regulations went into effect Monday, July 1, 2019, and provide rules and guidance on the use of micromobility devices in the public right of way. Below are our top seven things you need to know when riding.

Micromobility regulations in Austin City Code:

- 1. Applies existing traffic rules and regulations to micromobility devices (i.e., riders MUST obey all traffic signals, signs and other traffic control devices applicable to vehicles)
- o Riders MUST NOT travel in the opposite direction of adjacent motor vehicles in the roadway.
- 2. Modifies existing use of sidewalks to be inclusive of micromobility devices and bicycles
- o Riders must yield to pedestrians on sidewalks and in crosswalks and must not hinder the movement of persons with limited mobility or other sidewalk users.
- 3. Modifies existing parking regulations to clearly define where micromobility devices and bicycles may and may not be parked

- o Micromobility devices may not be parked in a manner that obstructs pedestrian or vehicle traffic, transit stops, shelters, or platforms; on any part of an accessibility ramp for persons with disabilities, or in any manner that would restrict the movement of persons with disabilities; in designated and marked special use zones, including commercial service zones, passenger loading zones, customer service zones and valet zones.
- 4. Prohibits use of portable electronic devices when operating a micromobility device don't text/selfie and ride
- 5. Restricts use of micromobility devices for children unless they wear a helmet
- 6. Prohibits multiple riders on a micromobility device designed for one rider
- 7. Provides police officers authority to issue citations for noncompliance with City ordinances
 - o \$20 on first conviction
 - o \$40 on subsequent convictions

Learn more about micromobility in Austin at Austin Texas.gov/Micromobility

Make sure your REALTOR® is the savviest in the room.



As an esteemed Austin real estate veteran, Dochen Realtors is the professional firm that you need at your side. Dochen
REALTORS
dochenrealtors.com
512.345.2227

Уin @ f

How do I Leave no Trace?

- Public Service Announcement



The Austin Parks Foundation reminds us of some key principles.

With over 300 parks within Austin, we have our work cut out for us to push for important park maintenance. However, there are a few things we can do while enjoying our parks to help improve our outdoor spaces. Here are ways to honor the seven principles of the Leave No Trace initiative:

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare

Make sure to consider the weather, terrain of the natural area, and any rules or regulations of the park or greenspace beforehand! Look at the City of Austin's Park Rules before you leave and check on the latest park news on the Austin Parks and Recreation Department website.

2. Travel on Durable Surfaces

Stay on existing trails while hiking. Hiking on rocks and gravel rather than grass and vegetation also helps leave no trace.

3. Dispose of Waste Properly

Pack it in, pack it out! Many parks have bins available for trash and recycling, so it's important to make sure your trash ends up in the right place. Don't forget to bring bags for any trash, leftover food, or pet waste!

4. Leave What You Find

Preserve outdoor spaces by trying not to damage trees, plants, and other natural objects. Avoid digging trenches, introducing nonnative species, and make sure to preserve cultural and historical artifacts.

5. Don't Play With Fire!

Before heading outdoors, take a look at the Burn Ban Status to stay in the clear. If possible, bring a camp stove or use on-site grills. Never leave a fire unattended, and fully extinguish it before leaving the site.

6. Respect Wildlife

Give native wildlife space when in an outdoor area. It's important not to disturb or feed animals, store your food in places that wildlife cannot access, and avoid making loud noises or sudden movements around them. Make sure any pets are on leashes!

7. Be Considerate of Others

Treat others respectfully, yield to other trail uses, and avoid loud voices and noises to preserve the natural experience for everyone else.

If we all work individually to keep and preserve the natural beauty of our parks and greenspaces, more Austinites can enjoy the outdoors this summer. Keep these seven principles in mind the next time you head out to a park!











If you have a home to sell, we know you have options and invite you to call us first. We can help sidestep the stressful listing process and definitely shortcut the sale time.

We maintain a rolodex of active Buyers seeking homes in Northwest Hills. Our clientele consists of many families leasing nearby or that have outgrown their home. Our goal is to have a process is smooth and accommodates your timeline.

Call me for a consultation!

O: 512.264.4160 | M: 512.431.4823 WWW.DOUGLASRESIDENTIAL.COM



It's Hard To Stop A Trane®

\$50 OFF ANY HVAC REPAIR

\$300

BUY BACK on OLD EQUIPMENT with NEW EQUIPMENT PURCHASE \$1000 TRANE REBATE 0 %
SPECIAL
FINANCING

-Sales, Service, Maintenance -All makes and Models



Your Locally
Owned and
Operated Business!
Serving Texas since
1991

Sign up with our Annual HVAC Maintenance Spring/Fall Tune up for only \$109 a year!

In partnership with



512.339.7700

Info@ArrowServiceCenter.com www.ArrowSvcCenter.com

*With approved credit. Offer varies by region. Ask For Details.

Tips for Packing a Healthy School Lunch

by Stephany Pando, cooksmarts.com, edited for space

Packing lunches for your back-to-schoolers is no easy task. It takes time and planning. Plus, every parent knows that just because you pack it, doesn't guarantee your kids will actually eat it.

However, this doesn't mean you have to fill your kids' lunchboxes with pizza and cookies everyday. Below we offer 5 tips for how to pack a nutritious lunch that your kids will look forward to eating and you'll feel good about giving them.

Tip #1: Get Your Kids Involved

- Give your kids healthy food options from each food group and let them make the final decisions on what goes in their lunch.
- Take your child grocery shopping with you and let them have a say (to a certain extent) in what goes into the cart.
 This promotes feelings of responsibility and empowerment.
- Designate a part of your kitchen as the "lunch packing station" and spend some time there with your kids the night before to get lunch ready for the next day.

Tip #2: Turn Healthy Foods into Fun Foods

- Use cookie cutters to make shapes out of bread, deli meat, cheese, or a melon-baller for fruit.
- Use kid-friendly skewers to make colorful food kebabs.
- Create a theme for the day and have all of the foods in their lunch relate to the theme

Tip #3: Make Your Own Snacks – and limit processed ones

Kids rely on snacks to keep their energy up, but the type of snack is important to consider. Packaged snacks tend to lack important nutrients and can be high in sugar, sodium and saturated fats. Take control of what is in your kids' snacks by making them yourself!

Tip #4: Incorporate All Food Groups

A balanced diet includes all of the food groups. Luckily, there are so many different ways to enjoy each food group:



Home

A word that should evoke everything comforting and wonderful. Let me help you find your home.

Vivia Robertson

Realtor, GRI, ABR, Kuper Sotheby's International Realty

> 8911 N Capital of Tx Hwy, Bldg. 2, Ste. 2220 Austin, TX 78759

- Fruits: fresh, frozen, dried, canned, baked (think apple chips!) or pureed.
- Vegetables: fresh, frozen, or baked (think kale chips!)
- Lean protein: baked chicken, deli meats, hard boiled eggs, beans or nuts (be aware of nut allergy regulations at your child's school).
- Low-fat dairy: milk, cheese or yogurt
- Whole Grains: pita, sandwich bread, tortillas, wraps, and pastas

Tip#5: Encourage Hydration

It's recommended that school-aged kids drink between 6-8 cups of water a day (even more in hot weather or if their activity level is high).

- Let your child pick out their favorite water bottle and encourage them to drink the whole thing at least twice at school. They'll be more inclined to do it if they feel like they are completing a challenge!
- If the "flavor" of water is too boring for them, throw in a few pieces of frozen fruit to sweeten it up and keep it cooler.

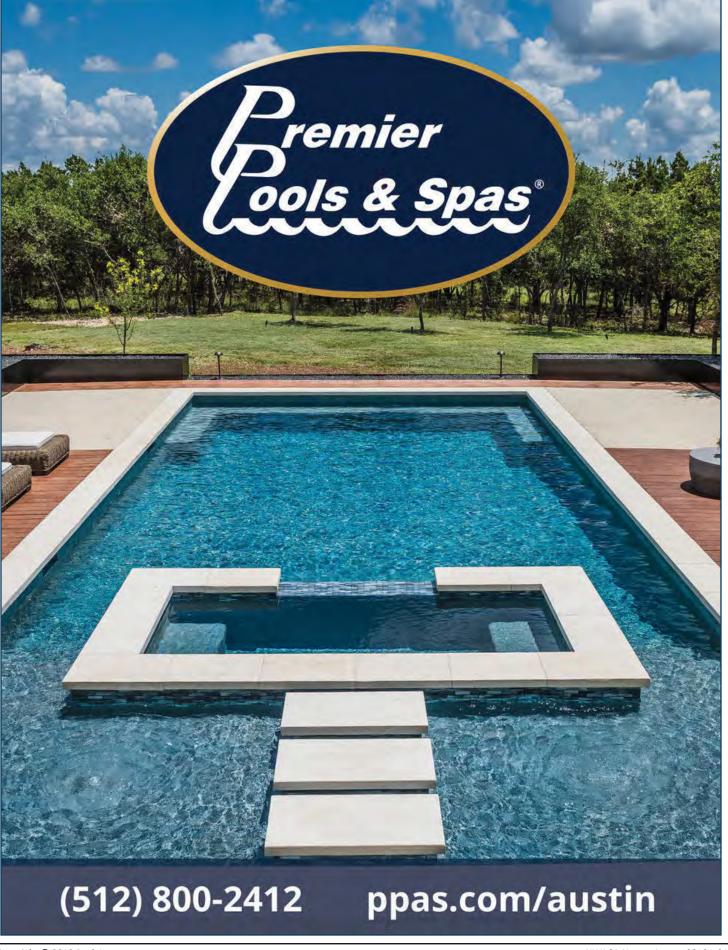
With these tips in mind, you and your child are ready to start out the school year on the right foot. Good luck – and happy packing!



Prevent Oak Wilt

PLAN AHEAD - PRUNE NOV thru JAN

- · Beetles Inactive
- · Dormant Season
- Coldest Months



NWACA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Send annual dues of \$25 with this form to:

NWACA, P.O. Box 26654, Austin, TX 78755

Name(s):

Street Address: _____ Zip_____

Email #1 (kept private; print): _____

Email #2 (kept private; print):

Phone (with area code):

ANNUAL DUES: \$25

(Optional) 4th of July Parade Contribution:

\$10____\$20___ Other ____

(Optional) Parks Fund Contribution:

\$10___ \$20___ Other ___

(Optional) Constable Fund Contribution:

\$10____\$20___Other ____

You can also pay via PayPal by going to nwaca.org
and selecting Membership

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





The NWACA News is a publication of the Northwest Austin Civic Association, produced and distributed by Peel, Inc. At no time will anyone be allowed to use the NWACA News content, or loan said content, to others in any way, shape, or form, nor in any media, web site, print, film, email, electronic copy, fax, or other means, for the purpose of solicitation, commercial use, or any other use for profit, political campaigns, or other self-amplification, under penalty of law, without written or expressed permission from the Northwest Austin Civic Association.

DISCLAIMER: Articles and ads in this newsletter express the opinions of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Peel, Inc. or its employees. Peel, Inc. is not responsible for the accuracy of any facts stated in articles submitted by others. The publisher also assumes no responsibility for the advertising content with this publication. All warranties and representations made in the advertising content are solely that of the advertiser and any such claims regarding its content should be taken up with the advertiser.

- * The publisher assumes no liability with regard to its advertisers for misprints or failure to place advertising in this publication except for the actual cost of such advertising.
- * NWACA is not responsible for the content of advertising. NWACA is responsible only for the content of our articles.
- * Although every effort is taken to avoid mistakes and/or misprints, the publisher assumes no responsibility for any errors of information or typographical mistakes, except as limited to the cost of advertising as stated above or in the case of misinformation, a printed retraction/correction.
- * Under no circumstances shall the publisher be held liable for incidental or consequential damages, inconvenience, loss of business or services, or any other liabilities from failure to publish, or from failure to publish in a timely manner, except as limited to liabilities stated above.

NWACA REAL ESTATE

NORTHWEST HILLS AND WESTOVER HILLS MARKET REPORT UPDATE

LSYMES	This Month		Year-to-Date				
	June 2019	June 2018	Change	2019	2018	Change	
Single Family Sales	31	23	34.8%	136	117	16.2%	
Condo/Townhome Sales	16	21	-23.8%	100	81	23.5%	
Total Sales	47	44	6.8%	236	198	19.2%	
Sales Volume	\$27,607,350.00	\$25,217,100.00	9.5%	\$133,052,334.00	\$111,959,013.00	18.8%	
Months of Inventory	1.3	2.4	45.8%	N/A	N/A	N/A	

WINE	This Month		Year-to-Date				
	June 2019	June 2018	Change	2019	2018	Change	
List Price	\$868,975	\$856,384	1.5%	\$853,978	\$814,597	4.8%	
List Price/Sqft	\$307	\$281	9.3%	\$300	\$279	7.5%	
Sold Price	\$749,526	\$793,709	-5.6%	\$776,981	\$745,000	4.3%	
Sold Price/Sqft	\$284	\$267	6.4%	\$291	\$273	6.6%	
Sold Price/Original List Price	96.9%	97.1%	-0.2%	97.5%	98.2%	-0.7%	
Days on Market	41	32	28.1%	51	44	15.9%	

^{*}Based on single family home sales

WIDIAN	This Mo	onth	Year-to-Date			
	June 2019	June 2018	Change	2019	2018	Change
List Price	\$775,000	\$765,000	1.3%	\$749,900	\$750,000	-0.01%
List Price/Sqft	\$294	\$268	9.7%	\$292	\$271	7.7%
Sold Price	\$695,900	\$760,000	-8.4%	\$700,000	\$720,000	-2.8%
Sold Price/Sqft	\$284	\$255	11.4%	\$286	\$269	6.3%
Days on Market	23	23	0.0%	15	9	66,7%

*Based on single family home sales



HIGHLIGHTS:

- Year-to-Date Sales Volume is up 18.8% from 2018.
- Single Family Home Sales in June 2019 are up 34.8% from June 2018.
- Average Sales Price in June 2019 is down 5.6% from June 2018.
- Average Sold Price/Sqft is up 6.4% from June 2018.
- Median Sold Price/Sqft is up 11.4% from June 2018.

CONSIDERING A CHANGE IN 2019?

NOW is a great time to start the conversation. Feel free to contact me for a **FREE** market analysis or to discuss the best updates to consider for a future sale.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR UPDATES, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT JULIE WWW.NESTPROPERTIESAUSTIN.COM

JULIE WAIDELICH

SOURCE: ABOR MLS including data through June 30, 2019. Data based on NWACA Boundaries: MOPAC/HWY 360/2222/SPICEWOOD SPRINGS

NAC

IF YOU DON'T LIKE WHERE YOU LIVE

MOVE.

YOU ARF NOT A TREE

YOU'VE GOT OPTIONS. LET'S GO SEE THEM!



Dawn Lanier, ABR, GRI

REALTOR® Coldwell Banker United Realtors® 9442 N Capital of TX Hwy, 1-625 Austin, TX 78759

For exceptional real estate service and maximum exposure of your property, contact me today!



COLDWELL BANKER E GLOBAI

512-914-2072 | dawnlanieratx@gmail.com | DawnLanierSellsAustinTexas.com