

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

by NACA

August 18 Meeting: Ice Cream Social; Volunteer Opportunities

by Ann Teich

Please join us for our **August 18** meeting at Little Walnut Creek Library, (835 W. Rundberg) at 7:00 pm. After a short business meeting, we will have two presenters who will tell you about opportunities to volunteer in the neighborhood:

- **Sari Waxler**, *Mentor Director/Trainer for the Seedling Foundation* (www.seedlingfoundation.net), a local nonprofit that focuses on mentoring children of incarcerated parents and on campus beautification
- **Rebecca Lambdin-Abraham**, *Teacher at Wooldridge Elementary*, organizer of the Wooldridge Elementary School Garden

Afterwards, you'll have an opportunity to enjoy some delicious ice cream provided by HEB and visit with neighbors on the library grounds. NACA officers will be present and will be happy to respond to any comments or questions you have about the neighborhood.



NORTH AUSTIN CIVIC ASSOCIATION (NACA)

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Eleanor Langsdorf..... 512-873-0480

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Matt Myers..... 512-748-2425

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NACN Representative

Gabe Rojas..... 512-468-4455

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Austin, TX 78718
www.naca-austin.org

Newsletter Survey

NACA members responded to the April/May membership drive by sending in about \$1900 in dues and donations, but the newsletter costs about \$720 per month for printing and layout and at the June meeting, President Eleanor Langsdorf said the general fund did not have enough money left after paying bills to cover the printing for the remainder of the year. So, board members have asked that YOU, the residents and members of NACA, answer these questions to help determine what to do about the rest of the year:

1. Do you read the NACA newsletter
(a) every month
(b) sometimes
(c) never
2. Would you like for the newsletter to be
(a) a printed version (only)
(b) an electronic version (only)
(c) both
3. In order to save money, would you prefer to
(a) have a newsletter every other month (8 pages)
(b) to have 4 pages instead of 8 monthly

Send answers to these questions to **Ann Teich** vice president, at annteich@austin.rr.com or call her at **797-7724** by August 20th.

NEXT MEETING

Date..... 08/18
Time..... 7:00 pm
Place..... Little Walnut Creek Library
835 W. Rundberg

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President's Letter

by Eleanor Langsdorf

Like most of you I will be glad when cooler weather arrives. In the meantime, I do what most people in Austin seem to do if they can – stay in an air-conditioned place during the hottest part of the day, run errands early in the day, try to make cold but tasty meals and drink lots of water. This year looks like it will be one for the record book again. And the lack of rain is making the situation worse. As of now, we are still able to water twice a week, following the stage one restrictions. However, continued lack of rain may mean that the city will move to stage two. If that happens, I trust that all of us will accept them and follow them. Failure to do so can lead to fines and causes problems for everyone when water supplies run short.

Changes are coming to city, county and state voting precincts that likely will affect the NACA area and the whole northern portion of the city. If you read the paper or listen to news broadcast you probably know that the city is exploring (again) the idea of single member districts. Both the county and the state are reviewing various revised configurations of voting districts to reflect population growth and changes in where people live. It is important for all voters to stay informed and make their concerns known to those who make these changes.

And, of course, school will soon be in session again. Although it does not seem that many of the local elementary aged children walk to school these days, we always need to be aware in the early morning, between 7 and 7:30, and again in the afternoon around 2:45 for youngsters on foot and on bikes. And parents driving their children to school need to be vigilant and courteous in school zones. Remember, cell phones may not be used in school zones during school hours or when the warning lights are flashing unless the user is parked.

Our City of Austin police department district representative Frank Wilson has been actively involved in NACA. Recently he organized a program designed to get citizens in the Northgate/Rundberg/Colony Creek area involved in helping to improve their streets. He brought together several police and city agencies and local businesses that could

provide information to the residents. Among them were representatives of the robbery unit, the community liaison office, the human trafficking office and code compliance division. Also present were members of the Smile Dental team, Target and HEB employees. Officer Wilson wants to have more of these outreach programs in different parts of NACA. So if you have an idea for a good spot to hold another program or agencies that should be invited, let him know. His phone number is on the front page of the newsletter. His email address is frank.wilson@ci.austin.tx.us

I wish I could personally acknowledge all the people who are making efforts to improve NACA. It is great to see people cleaning up litter from the streets and parks. And though I know some people think that it is nobody else's business if they put unwanted furniture and such on the curb, such behavior makes our neighborhoods look slummy. So, when someone makes a report to code compliance and causes the offending items to be removed, I am grateful. Thanks to all of you, whether property owner, tenant or business operator, for your efforts to keep up the value of our homes and neighborhoods.

I hope to see more of you at our meetings and joining NACA. Every face and membership increases our clout when we talk to city office members.



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*If you have News or Event Information
please contact Linda Moore*

Help NACA Stay Clean & Green Become a Volunteer Recycling Block Leader

by Ann Teich

The City of Austin is looking for volunteer Recycling Block Leaders to help spread the word about recycling in their neighborhoods. Block Leaders are green-minded, active leaders in their neighborhoods whose mission is to unite the community to promote environmental issues and lead the effort in creating a cleaner, greener Austin.

Block Leaders help spread the word about recycling in their neighborhoods. After signing up, they will receive a bundle of educational door hangers and periodic newsletters with recycling news to share with neighbors and an eco-friendly reusable bag. If you are interested in becoming a Block Leader, please visit the city's block leader website at http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/sws/outreach_community_blockleader.htm#about for the sign up form and more information.

You may also call **Lauren Hammond** at **512-974-1956** or e-mail her at block.leader@austinrecycles.com

Parking Changes on Fairfield Drive

by Eleanor Langsdorf

Sometime in the next few months Fairfield Drive from Lamar to Maine will be re-surfaced and re-striped. Bicycle lanes will be included in the street striping. Fairfield from Lamar to Maine is part of bicycle route 47. As part of this work there will be changes to on-street motor vehicle parking. As of June 30, 2011 the plan is to prohibit parking on the north side of Fairfield from Lamar to Jamestown and on the south side from Lamar to 500 feet west of Lamar. Parking will be prohibited on south of Fairfield from Jamestown to Maine. On the rest of the street parking options will not change from what it is now.

An open house was held on June 30 where citizens could get more information and provide feedback. Based on input received that night some changes may have been made to the plans. Final striping plans are available online at <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/publicworks/bicycle-projects.htm>. **Neil Kopper** is the city contact for this project and can be reached at **974-7166**.

Clean Streets Schedule

by Susie Milam

Welcome to all current Beautification Volunteers and those who would like to join the group to help with street cleanup. Volunteers work for two hours on the second Saturday of the month, nine times a year. Bags, gloves, safety vests, long-handled grabbers, and water are provided. Come join the group making NACA a clean neighborhood! For more information, call **Susie Milam (491-9159)**.

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Clean Streets Schedule (2011-2012)

8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

- **September 11, 2011 Rutland (Lamar to Parkfield)**
Meet at H-E-B parking lot, NW corner
- **October 8, 2011 Payton Gin (Lamar to Ohlen)**
Meet in front of Lanier H.S.
- **November 12, 2011 Rundberg (Parkfield to Lamar)**
Meet at Taco More NW corner of Rundberg and Parkfield
- **January 14, 2012 Rutland (Lamar to Parkfield)**
Meet at H-E-B parking lot, NW corner
- **February 11, 2012 Fairfield (Jamestown to Research)**
Meet on Fairfield behind Lanier H.S.
- **March 10, 2012 Rundberg (Parkfield to Lamar)**
Meet at Taco More NW corner of Rundberg and Parkfield
- **April 14, 2012 Ohlen/Research/Payton Gin triangle**
At Brethren Church, 1706 Payton Gin (park on Galewood)
- **May 12, 2012 Payton Gin (Lamar to Ohlen)**
Meet in front of Lanier H.S.
- **June 9, 2012 Mearns Meadow (Rundberg to Parkfield)**
Meet at Quail Creek Park

BOB'S BARBER SHOP

North Park Shopping Center
9616 N. Lamar at Rutland, Ste. #185
Austin, Texas 78753



339-1630

Bob Charlie Brandon
Curtis Big-Un Janie

Recycle Items for Blue Bin

by Linda Moore

The large blue bins from Solid Waste Services are picked up every other week and allows mixing recyclable paper, plastic, aluminum cans and glass in one cart. The following items should NOT be put in the blue recycling cart:

plastic bags and plastic items larger than gallon size, styrofoam (take-out containers), pizza boxes from take-out, food waste, regular garbage, helium and propane tanks, large metal items, wire coat hangers, yard waste and leaves

The blue bins should be at the curb by 6:30 a.m. on date of pickup and removed by 10 a.m. Keep your recycling about 5 feet away from regular garbage cart.

You can flatten cardboard and put it in the recycling cart or cut and fold it 2 ft. x 2 ft. and tie it into manageable bundles next to the cart.

It is against the law to put materials in other residents' carts. Extra recycling can be put in a box or reusable container and will be collected at no extra charge.

If you move, leave the old garbage can and recycling cart

and call 311 to have new carts delivered to the new address.

For a complete list of recyclable materials, visit austinrecycles.com and click on "What Do I Do With?" button.

Artículos de reciclaje que debe colocar en el contenedor azul

Los contenedores azules que provee Solid Waste Management (El servicio de basura de la ciudad de Austin) en los hogares, son recolectados una vez cada dos semanas. En estos contenedores, usted puede colocar papeles (hojas de papel, periódico, revistas), plástico, latas de aluminio y vidrio. Los siguientes productos no deben ser reciclados: bolsas de plástico, contenedores (Continúa en la página 6)

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Wooldridge Elementary School Garden Work Day

by Ann Teich

On May 24, 6 Wooldridge Elementary teachers, 13 students, 1 sibling of a student, and 3 community volunteers (including NACA's Susie Milam) weeded, hoed and shoveled out the old weed-infested dirt from the school's old garden. They fixed the broken garden bed with a new landscape timber and filled the garden beds with new soil, courtesy of Keep Austin Beautiful and Organics by Gosh. They also planted a summer crop for the summer school, science camp, and community to maintain, learn from and enjoy.

Rebecca Lambdin-Abraham, Wooldridge teacher and work day organizer, reported that when they were trying to measure for the square foot gardening, she forgot the tape measure, so she sent a student to get it. A fifth grader asked, "Why don't we just measure with our feet?" They then talked about measuring with different things (a TEKS objective), and he used his foot to measure and mark where the line should go. When the other student got back with the measuring tape, they found out that the student's mark was exactly right.

A kindergartener asked if "little kids" could help, too. Ms. Lambdin-Abraham showed him where the weeds were, and he proceeded to pounce on all the weeds he could see in the bed. He was so excited to show the treasures he was pulling out of the ground.

Rebecca thanks everyone who came out to help and hopes that more volunteers will come forward to help maintain the gardens. There are plans to install 6 new garden beds in August. If you can help, please contact her at rebecca.lambdin-abraham@austinisd.org.

- We weeded, hoed, & shoveled out the weed infested dirt.
- We fixed the broken garden bed with a new landscape timber.
- We filled our garden beds with new wonderful soil (thank you Keep Austin Beautiful and Organics by Gosh)
- We planted a summer crop for the summer school, science camp, and community to maintain learn from and enjoy.

Thank you to everyone who came out and helped! We are always looking for volunteers especially for watering and maintaining our beautiful gardens. Let us know if you're interested in helping out. We are really going to need help when we install 6 new garden beds in August.

(Continuación de la página 4) de plástico de más de 1 galón, poliestireno, cajas de pizza, comida, basura regular, tanques de propano y helio, objetos grandes de metal, perchas de alambre, hojas y basura de el jardín

Los contenedores azules deben estar colocados frente a su casa y en el borde de su calle, antes de las 6:30 am el día de recolección y debe removerlo a las 10:00 am. Ponga su contenedor de reciclaje azul a 5 pies de distancia de su contenedor de basura.

Deshaga las cajas de cartón y pongalas en el contenedor azul de reciclaje, si tiene muchas cajas de cartón puede desacerlas y formar una montón de 2 pies x 2 pies, amarre y coloque al lado de su contendor azul.

Está prohibido por la ley poner sus materiales de reciclaje en el contenedor de otra persona. Si tiene materiales de reciclaje de más, puede colocarlos en una caja o contenedor reusable y serán recolectados sin ningún cargo extra.

Si se muda de su departamento o casa, deje el contenedor de basura y el contenedor azul de reciclaje en su lugar y llame a el 3-1-1 para que la ciudad le mande contenedores nuevos, a su nuevo lugar de vivienda.

Para ver la lista completa de materiales que puede reciclar, visite la página web austinrecycles.com y dele click a el botón que dice "What Do I Do With?"

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311: A Neighborhood's Best Friend

by Ann Teich

Grass in your neighbor's yard over 12 inches? Medians on neighborhood streets or grass near sidewalks overgrown? Trash cans not removed from the street? Buildings or fences in poor or dangerous condition? Trash or debris accumulating on property? Someone having too many garage sales or operating a home business? Signs in the right of way? Stagnant water? Abandoned vehicles? RVs, boats, antique vehicles or sheds improperly placed or stored? Graffiti on fences, light poles, telephone poles, sidewalks, etc.? Hazardous wastes improperly stored?

Call **311** and report the situation!

Be sure to have an address or the names of nearby streets available for the operator. Reports can be made confidentially. Call often and help keep our neighborhood clean and safe.

Austin Safe Routes to School

by Eleanor Langsdorf

An international program, Safe Routes to School (SRTS), works to increase the number and safety of children who walk or bike to school. This year the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Service Department's Family Health and Injury Prevention Program is partnering with several Austin schools on this goal. Funding is provided by the Texas Department of Transportation. In the NACA area Wooldridge Elementary is a participating school.

Alex Ayala, Public Health Educator, plans to work with students, parents and staff at Wooldridge to educate them on how to walk, bike and drive safely. Another goal is providing education about and enforcing safe driving, pedestrian and cycling behaviors. Among the planned activities will be walking school buses, bike trains, walking and biking safety poster/coloring/essay contests, neighborhood clean-ups, and walk-n-roll4-week challenge contest.

If your children attend Wooldridge watch for newsletters and fliers that provide information about activities related to safe routes to school. For more information, contact Alex at **972-5468** or alex.ayala@ci.austin.tx.us.



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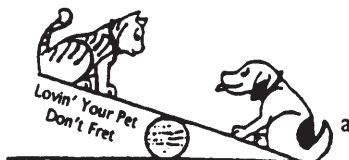
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Walkers Needed In Your Area

Walkers are needed to deliver the NACA newsletter, if you can help on any part of a street listed below, please contact **Mary Tokumaru** email: mtokumaru@inyourhands.org. Thank you to all our volunteers who are keeping our community informed.

AREA 1: Alden Dr (24), Brookfield (54), New Hampshire (19), Sequoia (6)

AREA 2: Hunters Trace (40/Payton Gin-Rndbrg), W Rundberg Ln (12/W of Parkfield), Rutland Dr (60/W of Parkfield), Tronewood (5)

AREA 3: Grouse Meadow + 1201-1205 Rutland(58), Little Elm Park (15), 909-1207 W Rundberg Ln (68)

AREA 4A: 10305-10410 Golden Meadow Dr (26)

AREA 4B: 10501-10612 Golden Meadow + 10503-10600 Little Pebble (48), Lambert Cir (31), Lanshire Dr (84), Topperwein Dr (78), Pine Knoll Dr (55)

AREA 5: Barnhill + 1442-1469 S Meadows (40), Bird Creek(66) + Fieldwood(78) = (144), N Meadows Dr (146) Quail Blvd (6)



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NACA MEMBERSHIP FORM

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- _ Help Maintain Heron Hollow
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- _ Help with Code Enforcement
- _ Be a Beautification Volunteer

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