

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

by NACA

May 17th Meeting

The May 17 NACA meeting will be focused on an update of the work our **APD District Representatives** are doing in the NACA and N. Lamar/Georgian Acres areas and on household hazardous waste disposal. Officer Frank Wilson, the NACA DR, and Officer Ray Kianes will speak about efforts to control crime in the Rundberg/IH 35 area and work being done with apartment managers in the NACA area to keep their residents safe and healthy.

Dawn Whipple, program manager for the City of Austin's Household Hazardous Waste Facility, will be our other speaker.

The meeting is at 7 p.m. at Little Walnut Creek Library, 835 W. Rundberg.

Membership Drive

By *Brian R. La Cour*

I was recently talking to a friend in a nearby neighborhood who was complaining about having to pay \$30 a month for her neighborhood association dues. I could not help but laugh. Many neighborhood associations charge much more, I thought, and I know of no one who feels their dues are worthwhile or wisely spent. I said that my neighborhood association has only voluntary dues, and those are a mere \$15 a year. "Sure," she said, "but does your neighborhood have a pool like ours?" "No," I had to admit, "but our neighborhood will soon have a community center with a pool, fitness center, and more amenities than your neighborhood association could possibly provide – all made possible by the hard work and dedication of a few residents."

As of March, only 90 NACA residents paid their 2012 dues. This is but a tiny fraction of the vast number of residents that NACA serves. If you are reading this article, chances are you have never joined NACA. Maybe you don't have the time, or the money, or maybe you just don't see the point. I'm willing to bet, though, that you are frustrated by some problem in your local area that you feel needs to be addressed. *(Continued on Page 3)*

NORTH AUSTIN CIVIC ASSOCIATION (NACA)

President

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

Vice President

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Brian La Cour512-837-2324

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Frank Wilson.....512-974-8135

ANC Representative

John Green512-339-2301

NACN Representative

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

**PO Box 180803
Austin, TX 78718
www.naca-austin.org**

NEXT MEETING

Date 05/17

Time 7:00 pm

Place..... Little Walnut Creek Library

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President's Musings

By Eleanor Langsdorf

As I walked on the gravel path leading to Cook School today I realized that the ground is once again showing cracks. To me this means the recent rains have done little to ease the effects of the months long drought Austin and all of Texas have been

enduring. So once again I'll watch lawns and plants suffer and wither. I need to work on planting more plants that can survive on little water in my landscape and conserve my watering times for my trees. Since trees offer shade for our houses everything we can do to save them is vital.

At the same time that I recognize that the drought is not over, grass and weeds seem to grow an inch a day as some rain still falls. Of course, as the weather warms and gets back up to 90 and above, the growth will slow. But for now it seems lawns need to be mowed every 5 or 6 days. I hope everyone is able to keep up.

And now we are also able to see the effects of the drought of the last 20 plus months on trees, shrubs and bushes. Many of them have died or suffered severe die-back. So it is time for residents to trim and/or remove the dead branches and plants. If you were offered a tree recently through the City of Austin and Tree Folks I hope you accepted the offer and have a new tree to help with the goal of greening Austin and creating cool spots all over the town. Just give the tree its needed 15 – 20 gallons of water every week and in a few years that tree will be providing shade and shelter. And since many of the trees offered are varieties of oak the trees should live a long time.

On a different note I want to remind you that it is important to vote in the upcoming May election for city council members. And, if you are not registered, please register after the election so that you can vote in the big election in the fall when we get the chance to elect state and federal officials including the president. Registering is easy and can be done by picking up a registration card at the library, filling it in and dropping it in the mail. A change of address can be done on line by going to the Travis County voter link. The turn-out in NACA and the greater north Austin area is not as good as it should be, given the large number of people who live here. So, find out about the issues and the candidates, attend any candidate forums you learn about and VOTE!!!! One way north Austin can have some influence on city council members is by showing them that we care by voting in every election.

BOPA Collection at the Clocktower

By Brian Almon

Batteries • Oil • Paint • Antifreeze

Here's your chance to clean out that garage or shed! Bring your old batteries, oil, paint, and antifreeze to **the Clocktower at Rutland and Stonebridge Dr. between 10 am and 1 pm on Saturday, May 26.** Brian Almon on behalf of NACA will transport these items to the Hazardous Waste Facility in far South Austin.

- Oil, paint and anti-freeze need to be in closed containers.
- If bringing car or boat batteries, a cardboard box would be appreciated (*but not necessary*).

This is a great opportunity for all of us to get things cleaned out.

Please do not bring household cleaners, pesticides, fertilizer, tires, etc. to this drop-off site as we are limited as to what we can collect and transport. We hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity.

Please email **Brian Almon** at almonfamily@gmail.com with any questions.

Linda Moore
Amelia Bullock Realtors

Your Neighborhood Realtor 512-577-1015

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If you have News or Event Information please contact Linda Moore

(Continued from Page 1) Maybe you just need information. Maybe you need to know how others have dealt with this problem. Maybe you just need to be heard.

NACA operates using a small, unpaid volunteer army who dedicate their precious free time to help improve the neighborhood. We operate on a shoestring budget, with barely enough money to pay for the newsletter and the (mandatory) insurance to cover liability for our volunteers. We rely on dues, donations, and advertising to make ends meet, and every year it gets harder. Without your support, we just can't do it.

So, if you've never been a member before, try it! A mere \$15 gives you a voting voice at our monthly meetings and a chance to be heard and make a difference. Meetings are held every third Thursday of the month, except July and December, and we usually meet at the Little Walnut Creek library. Many people choose to enhance their commitment by volunteering their time or joining at the Silver (\$25) or Gold (\$50) level. Whatever seems appropriate to you, your support is greatly appreciated.

Send your check to NACA using the membership form on Page 8.

Talking Trash

By Linda Moore

Austin Resource Recovery (the guys who collect our trash) need residents to keep the trash and recycling carts at least 5 feet apart and away from mailboxes, cars and not on top of the water meter. The automatic arms that lift up the carts cannot do their job if the carts are too close together.

Here are some other guidelines for trash collection:

- Put the handle of the cart toward your house.
- The trash and yard trimmings must be out by 6:30 a.m. on collection day
- Bag your trash to help prevent loose items from blowing out and littering the area

If you have more trash than will fit in the cart with the lid closed, it must be put in a trash bag and tagged with an Extra Trash sticker (\$4 plus tax) or you will be charged a fee of \$8 per bag plus tax to pick it up.

Do not put carts in the path of the mail truck or on top of a water meter.

For more information, go to www.austinrecycles.com

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SECCION EN ESPAÑOL

Reunión NACA el 17 de Mayo

La reunión de el 17 de Mayo de la asociación civil de el Norte de Austin (NACA) se enfocará en el avance que los Representantes de el Distrito de el Departamento Policial de la ciudad de Austin están desarrollando, en el area Lamar/Georgian, también hablarán de como desha cerse apropiadamente de los desperdicios de alto peligro que se encuentren en su hogar. El Oficial Frank Wilson, Representante de el Distrito NACA, y el Oficial Ray Kianes, hablarán de el esfuerzo que hace el departamento para controlar el crimen en el area de Rundberg/ IH 35 y el trabajo que estan haciendo junto a los gerentes de los departamentos en renta de el area, para mantener a los residentes seguros y sanos.

Dawn Whipple, Gerente de el Programa de Desecho Apropiado de Materiales de Alto Peligro de el Hogar de la Ciudad de Austin, tambien dará una charla ese día.

La reunión será a las 7 p.m. en la Biblioteca Little Walnut Creek en la 835 W. Rundberg

Campaña de Membrecía

Recientemente hablaba con una amiga que reside en un vecindario cercano y quien se quejaba de que tenia que pagar \$30 a el mes por su asociación de vecinos. Al oír esto no pude evitar reirme. Muchas de las asociaciones de vecinos cobran mucho más, y no se de nadie que piense que su dinero está siendo gastado de manera inteligente. Le dije que mi asociación de vecinos solo tiene una cuota de pago voluntaria y que solo son \$15 a el año. "Claro" me dijo ella "pero tu vecindario no tiene albercas como las de nosotros", "No", tuve que admitirle," pero nuestra comunidad pronto tendra un centro comunitario con alberca, gimnasio, y muchas otras amenidades que tu asociación de vecinos no tiene - y todo a sido posible gracias a el duro trabajo y dedicación de algunos residentes."

En Marzo, solo 90 residentes de NACA pagaron su cuota de el año 2012. Esta es solo una pequeña fracción de la gran cantidad de residentes que vive en el area de NACA. Si usted está leyendo este artículo, pueda que nunca haya sido miembro de la asociación NACA. A lo mejor no tiene tiempo, dinero o quizás no crea que hay alguna razón por la que tenga que contribuir. Estoy dispuesto a apostar que esta frustrado con algun problemas en su comunidad y que usted cree necesitan ser arregladas. Quizas usted solo necesita información. Quizas necesite saber como otros

han enfrentado algún problema o quizás necesite ser escuchado.

La Asociación Civil de el Norte de Austin (NACA) opera usando un grupo pequeño de voluntarios que no reciben pago y quienes dedican su tiempo libre para ayudar a mejorar el vecindario. Operamos con un presupuesto bien limitado, con poco dinero para pagar esta gaceta de información, y el seguro mandatorio que pueda cubrir a lo voluntarios de la asociación. Solo contamos con las cuotas voluntarias pagadas por residentes como usted, por donaciones y las propagandas que se ponen en la gaceta de información, y cada año es mas duro. Sin su soporte, No prodriamos seguir sirviendole.

Si nunca a sido miembro, intentelo! Solo \$15 le da el derecho a voz de voto en nuestras reuniones mensuales, el chance a ser escuchado, y ha hacer la diferencia por su comunidad. Las reuniones son cade tercer Jueves de el mes, exepto en Julio y Diciembre, y usualmente nos reunimos en la biblioteca Little Walnut Creek. Muchos recidentes pueden aumentar su cuota al ofrecer su tiempo como voluntario o puede forma parte de nuestro Paquete Plata ayudando con \$25 a el año, nuestro paquete Oro son \$50 a el año. Puede contribuir con lo que usted crea apropiado, su apoyo es muy apreciado.

Mande su cheque a la Asociación (NACA) llenando la planilla de membrecía que se encuentra en la página 8 de esta gaceta.

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Full Page.....	\$200 per issue

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In Honor of Officer Jaime Padron

By Ann Teich

The NACA Board extends its deepest sympathy to the family, friends, and co-workers of Austin Police Officer Jaime Padron who lost his life in the line of duty on April 6, 2012. Officer Padron responded to a call made by employees at the Walmart at 12900 N. IH 35 regarding an intoxicated male. He was shot and killed by the suspect, Brandon Daniel, after a brief physical altercation.

Officer Padron was a decorated Marine Corps and served with distinction in the Austin Police Department before losing his life.

Officer Padron worked out of the Lamplight Village APD substation and is survived by two young daughters. Those wishing to donate to the "Padron Children Fund" may do so by visiting any Chase Bank or through the 100 Club of Central Texas (www.100clubcentex.com) or the Greater Austin Crime Commission (www.austincrime.org).

Help Wanted

By Susie Milam

One or two people to do a low-profile, low-impact job for NACA. It doesn't take a lot of time or energy. Intrigued?

H-E-B has agreed to collect plastic bottles and aluminum cans in their staff break room and give the collection to NACA to sell for our trash pickup program and other beautification projects. We need one or two people who are willing to stop by once or twice a week and check to see if the containers (one for each material) are full and the bag needs to be hauled away. If so, the full bags can be brought to my house (half mile from H-E-B) and dropped off on the driveway. If you shop at H-E-B anyway, this is something you could do while you're there.

If you would like to sign up for this duty, let me know. I will go with you to H-E-B to show you what the process is and introduce you to the manager.

Susie Milam 491-9159

Extension of W. Rundberg Lane

By Brian Almon

West Rundberg Lane is a major east-west street for our neighborhood. We use it frequently to reach our neighborhood from Interstate 35 and Lamar. Unfortunately, for some unknown reason, W. Rundberg was not extended beyond Metric to reach Burnet Road. The City of Austin heard our concerns in 2010 and included \$1,400,000 in the 2010 City bond package to complete the connection to Burnet Road.

During the workshop for the 2012 Bond Development program, Darlene Watkins **Urban Rail Program Marketing & Communications Public Outreach Austin Transportation Department - Darlene.Watkins@[austintexas.gov](mailto:darlene.watkins@texas.gov)**, was asked about this project. Is it reasonable to expect street improvements to be completed before asking voters to approve money for more improvements? Ms. Watkins finally responded with the following information.

The City has recently acquired design drawings and the services of the engineer. There still is some land to be acquired, so the project schedule is dependent on that being completed. You can decide for yourself if you want to contact the City regarding additional bond proposals since the City cannot complete previously funded projects in a timely manner.



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Austin Animal Center Offers Free Pet ID

By Ann Teich

Beginning April 7, the Austin Animal Center is offering residents of Austin and Travis County free pet ID tags, collars and Home Again microchips in an effort to keep pets out of the shelter system. These will be available daily from 11:00AM to 7:00PM at the Austin Animal Center, 7201 Levander Loop in East Austin.



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Walkers Needed

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.

AREA 1: no walker needed

AREA 2: Hunters Trace(40/Payton Gin/Rndbrg), Rundberg Ln(12/W of Parkfld), Rutland Dr.(60/W of Parkfld), Trone-wood(5)

AREA 3: Kirschner Pl. + Tina Ct.(22), Grouse Meadow + 1201-1205 Rutland(48), 1103-1127 Rundberg + 9302 Collinfield(28)

AREA 4A: Oak Hollow Cir. + Oak Hollow Dr.(30/W of Quail Valley)

AREA 4B: Lambert Cir. (31), Golden Meadow + Little Pebble(48/N of Mearns Meadow), Kramer Ln(4/W of Prkfld)

AREA 5: Barnhill + 1442-1469 S. Meadows(40), Bird Creek(66), Fieldwood(78), Meadgreen Dr. (E. of Prkfld) + Meadgreen Ct. + Humington Dr.(40), N Meadows Dr.(153), Quail Blvd.(6)

Bulky Pickups Performed by Allied Waste

By Matt Myers

As part of a Good Neighbor Agreement, Allied Waste of Austin currently provides six bulky item collection days per year in the North Austin Civic Association. Since we started this program in June of 2003, we have performed 51 bulky collections and collected over 812 tons of material which has saved the City of Austin over \$30,800.00!

Each bulky collection performed by Allied Waste targets ten selected streets and occurs on a selected Saturday of the month. Door hangers are placed at each residence on the selected streets at least one week before the collection occurs. The door hangers indicate in English and Spanish what is acceptable and unacceptable to put out. Acceptable items must be placed to the curb by 7:00am on the designated Saturday. Several rear-load trucks will collect items from 7:00am until 9:00am. If possible, please do not park cars close to the area where items are placed. After our trucks leave the area, items placed out after that time will not be collected by Allied Waste and you will probably have to wait until the next bulky item collection provided by Austin Resource Recovery (formerly City of Austin Solid Waste Services) which typically occur twice a year. Austin Resource Recovery typically takes one to two weeks to collect bulky items in the area.

The following is a list of the acceptable items:

Appliances such as ovens, washers and dryers., barbeque grills (fuel and charcoal must be removed), doors (wood or metal only), furniture, lawn mowers (fuel and oil must be removed), lumber, mattresses, pallets, railroad ties and utility poles (no more than 6 feet long), rolled metal fencing, tree trunks less than 4 inches in diameter and no more than 3 feet long, carpet

The following is a list of the unacceptable items:

Refrigerators or freezers, any freon, propane or devices containing mercury, anything with a title of ownership (automobile chassis, motorcycles, trailers, boats etc.), hazardous materials (paints, solvents, pool chemicals), car batteries, passenger or truck tires, sheet glass or glass doors, construction debris (bricks, rocks, aggregate, cinder block, stone, mortar, insulation, flooring, shingles, steel roofing)

Thank you for cooperating with these guidelines and helping to keep the neighborhood as clean as possible. If you have any questions about these services, please contact **Matt Myers at 748-2425.**

NACA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Enclosed are my dues for 2012

*\$15 for Regular Membership, \$25 for Silver Membership,
or \$50 for Gold Membership*

- Help Deliver Newsletter
- Help Maintain Heron Hollow
- Attend City Council/Planning Commission Meetings
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Check here if you do not want name and address on the NACA website.