



Rattan Creek Neighborhood News

Serving Milwood at North Austin MUD # 1 since 1983

Distributed Monthly By The Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association, Vol. 16, No. 9

November 2001

Holiday Precautions!

I realize that we are talking about Austin weather, but it has been known to get cold and freeze around Thanksgiving. If the Weather Bureau issues a Freeze Warning, remember to follow these guidelines to help prevent frozen or busted pipes:

- **KEEP YOUR HEAT TURNED ON AT ALL TIMES!** Do not turn your heat off even if you plan to be out of town for a few days. Just set your thermostat on at least 60°.
- **OPEN ALL CABINET DOORS UNDER THE SINKS** to allow heat to circulate and keep the pipes warm.
- **ALLOW ALL FAUCETS TO DRIP** with a small steady stream of water. (running water does not freeze) Don't forget to remove any sink stoppers!!
- **WRAP YOUR EXTERIOR FAUCETS** or cover them with the faucet nipples (you can buy them at the hardware store).
- **MAKE SURE YOU HAVE METAL HOSES AT THE WASHING MACHINE**, no matter where your washing machine is located.

Other items not to forget:

- **DON'T FORGET THE PETS!!** They need water and food and dry warm bedding.
- **DON'T FORGET TO STOP THE MAIL AND NEWSPAPER**, or ask a friend to pick it up daily.
- **ASK A NEIGHBOR / FRIEND TO CHECK ON YOUR HOME.**

These are just a few precautions that may save you some headache and heartache after you return.

We, at the RCNA, wish you safe travel and happy holidays to you and yours.

EVENTS

November

- Nov 2 Fall Festival—Tutor Time**
6:30 pm –8:30 pm
- Nov 5 Ad Deadline– Dec Issue**
- Nov 6 Jollyville PTA Meeting**
Parent Education:
Saving For College
- Nov 14* MUD Meeting, 6pm**
100 Congress Ave, ste 1300
- Nov 15 RCNA Meeting, 7pm**
Rattan Creek Pool
- Nov 21-23 RRISD**
Thanksgiving Break
- Nov 22**
Thanksgiving Day



December

- Dec 2 Motive Communications**
Motive Bison Stampede—10K
- Dec 9 Caroling in the Park-6 pm**
Sing around the Bon Fire
and Santa Arrives
- Dec 14 Winter Holiday Starts**
- Dec 15 Holiday Light Contest**
(deadline for nominations!)
- Dec 19 MUD Meeting, 6pm**
100 Congress Ave, ste 1300
- Dec 20 RCNA Meeting, 7pm**
Executive Board Meeting
- Dec 17-20 Holiday Contest Voting**
(Be sure to leave your lights on!!)
- Dec 25 Christmas Day**

January

- Jan 3 RRISD begins**
- Jan 5 Newsletter Deadline**
(February/March Issue)



RCNA Board of Directors
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Austin, Tx 78720-0584

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Recipe Corner:

Stephanie Doherty 249-0253
email: thedohertys@austin.rr.com

Yard of the Month:

Jon and Gina Martin 331-1109

The Rattan Creek Neighborhood News welcomes your letters and guest columns. Letters must have a verifiable signature. Guest columns and letters will be printed on as space available basis. Neither the Rattan Creek Neighborhood News nor the Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association accept responsibility for the opinions expressed in editorials, letters or guest columns. The Rattan Creek Neighborhood News reserves the right not to publish any submissions and the right to edit all submissions. Mail to the following address:

Jo Jones, RCNA Editor, 13119 Green River Trail, Austin, Tx 78729 or e-mail: JRJones@austin.rr.com

"Caroling In The Park"

Around the Bon Fire and the
Arrival of Santa



**Sunday, Dec 9
6 pm**

The Jollyville Fire Department will be bringing Santa from his sleigh to our park, to meet with each little boy and girl, who would like to see Santa before Christmas.

He should be arriving about 6:30 PM.

"Don't forget to thank the Jollyville Fire Department for all their participation throughout the year with our events."

MOM AND DAD's:

*Here is a photo op for you to get pictures of the children with Santa at no charge!!
Don't forget your cameras!*

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Martin's Jewelry Box

**8650 Spicewood Springs Road, #202
331-1109**



Jon Martin, Owner RCNA Member/Milwood Resident

President's Notes

Remodeling, Building, and Speeding (Oh my!)

Yes, our neighborhood does have an Architectural Control Committee. Thank you for asking. Just as there is a process for reporting deed restriction violations, there is a process for requesting approval for structural changes to our homes. Most remodeling contractors are aware of the procedure, but it is the *homeowner's responsibility* to submit plans for home improvements or additions or any other visual changes planned for the property. I am not making this up!

Included in the paperwork we signed when we bought our homes were legal promises we made to abide by the restrictive covenants. They are defined in your original recorded Warranty Deed and in the Municipal Utility District Notice(s). For architectural control questions, contact Milburn Homes: Kate Forbes at 345-4663, Ext. 1255.

The North Austin MUD is seeking our input concerning a recreation building in the neighborhood. Although I have some ideas, I

would like to hear from an architect in the neighborhood with input about what and where to build. Email ideas to me at richardmiller@austin.rr.com or directly to the NA MUD at www.northaustinmud1.org. (don't forget to thank them for lowering the tax rate about 5%.)

Finally, your complaint of the month was about speeding cars, especially in school zones. I don't need a radar gun to confirm this. A car traveling 40 mph moves about 60 feet per second - that means you pass four houses more quickly than you can change a CD or answer a cell phone. Even with increased traffic "cutting through" the neighborhood from 183 to Parmer, about 80% of speeders ticketed live in this neighborhood. Y'all just slow it down, and tell your teenagers to do the same. You're already home.

Richard Miller
President RCNA



casual contemporary community

WE'RE MOVING!

Starting November 18th,
we will be having services at our new location
in Lake Creek Village Center. See map.



The Site is located on the second floor next to Serranos in the Lake Creek Village Center just one mile west of Lakeline Mall.

We currently meet @ **Jollyville Elementary**
6720 Corpus Christi Dr. **Service Time 10:30 AM**
Nursery & Children's Classes available during service.
Come early for coffee, juice, and donuts!

NHCC@jump.net 388.0270
www.nhcconline.org

Tutor Time

Around Rattan Creek

New Neighbors and Babies:

New Neighbors:

Bob and Mona Covey and their children Sam, Jeff and Libby
7924 Luling Lane

Karen, Dave and Austin Torges
8224 Luling Lane



No New Babies

If you know someone has just moved into the neighborhood, or just had a baby, help us to welcome the new folks and/or congratulate our neighbors on their special event.

Please contact Terri Olsem at 219-7931, Or email to her at terriolsem@aol.com.



Milwood Parent Activities

Infant Play Group (0 - 6 months): Starting a new group! Contact Ilana Miller at 331-7203

Young Toddlers (12 - 18 months): Started new group in August 2001. Call Elizabeth Pollard-Grayson at 401-0139

Young Toddlers (18 months to 24 months): Call Jackie Gibbons at 257-2230.

Toddlers (3 years): Started a new group in June 2001. Call Julie Oliver at 258-5661

Toddlers (Children with birth dates in Fall '96 & Summer/Spring of '97): Call Candance Kreiling 331-9773

Toddlers (4 years): Meets every Wednesday at various homes. Call Nancy 219-5216 for locations.

Children (7 years plus): Meeting several times a weeks for coffee, swimming, lunch, etc..... Contact Mary Jane Tagtow 219-6780. Calendar available.

Home schooling Group (all ages): Annette Anderson 250-5137.

Are you interested in a group activity not listed? There may be others interested in the same activity. Call Marcie at 335-6960 to get your name listed for a new group.

Milwood Parents...

Please contact Marcie De Oliveira for updates, new groups, changes or reports on activities at 335-6960 or by e-mail - mdeoliveira@austin.rr.com

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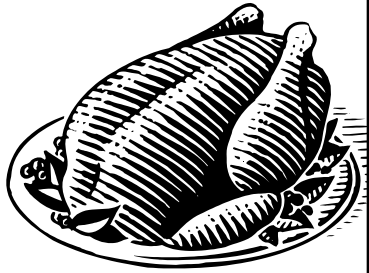
RCNA Scholarship Fund Donation for each sale I make in Milwood!

Recipe Corner

Perfect Roast Turkey

Serves 12-14

If your roasting pan only fits sideways in the oven, turn the pan every hour so the turkey cooks and browns evenly.



- 1 20-21 lb. fresh whole turkey (giblets and neck removed from cavity & reserved)
 - 1 1/2 cups (3 sticks) unsalted butter, melted,
+ 4 TBSP unsalted butter, room temperature
 - 1 bottle 750-ml dry white wine
 - 2 tsp salt
 - 2 tsp freshly ground black pepper
 - Your choice of stuffing
 - 1 cup dry red or white wine, for gravy (optional)
 - Giblet Stock
1. Rinse turkey with cool water, pat dry with paper towels. Let stand for 2 hours at room temperature.
 2. Place rack on lowest level in oven. Heat to

- 450°. Combine melted butter and white wine in a bowl. Fold a large piece of cheesecloth into quarters and cut into a 17 inch, four layer square. Immerse cheesecloth in the butter and wine; let soak.
3. Place turkey, breast side up, on a roasting rack in a heavy metal roasting pan. If the turkey comes with a pop-up timer, remove it; an instant read thermometer is a much more accurate indication of doneness. Fold wing tips under turkey. Sprinkle 1/2 tsp each salt and pepper inside turkey. Fill large cavity and neck cavity loosely with as much stuffing as they hold comfortably; do not pack tightly. (Cook remaining stuffing in a buttered baking dish for 45 minutes at 375°.) Tie legs together loosely with kitchen string (a bow will be easy to untie later). Fold the neck flap under, and secure with toothpicks. Rub turkey with softened butter, and sprinkle with remaining salt and pepper.
4. Lift cheesecloth out of liquid and squeeze it slightly, leaving it very damp. Spread it evenly over the breast and about halfway down the sides of the turkey; it can cover some of the leg area. Place turkey, legs first, in the oven. Cook

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

- for 30 minutes. Using a pastry brush, baste cheesecloth and exposed parts of turkey with butter and wine. Reduce Oven temperature to 350°, and continue to cook for 2-2 1/2 more hours, basting every 30 minutes and watching pan juices; if the pan gets too full, spoon out juice, reserving them for gravy.
5. After the third hour of cooking, carefully remove and discard cheesecloth. Turn roasting pan so that the breast is facing the back of the oven. Baste turkey with pan juices. If there are not enough juices, continue to use butter and wine. The skin gets fragile as it browns, so baste carefully. Cook 1 more hour, basting every 30 minutes.
 6. After the fourth hour of cooking, insert an instant read thermometer into the thickest part of the thigh. Do not poke into a bone. The temperature should reach 180° (stuffing should be between 140° and 160°) and the turkey should be golden brown. The breast does not need to be checked for temperature. If legs are not yet fully cooked, baste turkey, return to oven and cook for another 20-30 minutes.
 7. When fully cooked, transfer turkey to a serving

platter, and let rest for about 30 minutes. Meanwhile, make the gravy. Pour all the pan juices into a glass measuring cup. Let stand until grease rises to the surface, about 10 minutes, then skim it off. Meanwhile, place roasting pan over medium-high heat. Add 1 cup dry red or white wine or water, to the pan. Using a wooden spoon, scrape the pan until liquid boils and all the crisp bits are unstuck from the pan. Add giblet stock to the pan. Stir well, and bring back to a boil. Cook until liquid has reduced by half, about 10 minutes. Add the defatted pan juices, and cook over medium-high heat 10 minutes more. You will have about 2 1/2 cups of gravy. Season to taste, strain into gravy boat, and serve with turkey.

***If you have a recipe you would like to share,
please email it to Stephanie Doherty;
thedohertys@austin.rr.com.***

Lee Anne Renfrow

Nickels for New York

Young or old, all of us wish there was a way for us to help those affected by the tragedy in New York. But three fifth grade students from Pond Springs Elementary decided they could make a difference right in their own front yard.

Kaylyn Smith, Megan Tschida and Kayla Lopez spent three evenings this week collecting "Nickels for New York" from drivers in their neighborhood. These girls made signs, set up a table on a street corner, and started flagging down drivers to throw money into plastic milk jugs decorated with large red crosses. Soon after they started they were joined by other neighborhood kids who wanted to help collect the money and others handed out free lemonade to anyone who stopped. The other kids involved were Bridget Moses, Kristin Pollock, Andrew Moses, Brecken Anderson, Kelly Moses, and Allison Bulkley.

The Fundraiser was a great success due to the overwhelming generosity of those traveling through the neighborhood. These kids raised \$603.00 during the three evenings they spent collecting money. On Friday, September 21st, the whole group headed down to deliver the money to the Red Cross Office. With a little thought and initiative, everyone can contribute to the New York relief effort.

Pictured:

Back Row (left to right): Brecken Anderson, Kristin Pollock, and Kayla Lopez.

Front row: Andrew Moses, Bridget Moses, Kaylyn Smith, and Kelly Moses.

Not Pictured: Taylor Young, Megan Tschida, and Allison Bulkley.

Ramsey & Phillips, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants

Jaime Phillips, CPA
RCNA Member & Milwood Resident

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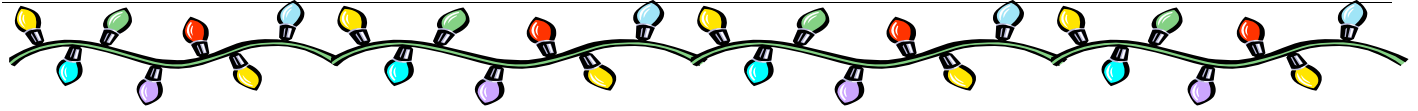
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Holiday Lights/Decorating Contest

Nominations will be accepted
December 1 through December 15

To Nominate a home: call
Richard Miller (RCNA President) at 331-6838
or email to RCNA@austin.rr.com

Judging will be between
December 17 – December 20
Be Sure To Leave Your Lights ON!!



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email: culinarycreations@prodigy.net

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

- All members receiving badges must be listed, with birthdates, for the application to be considered complete. (Children under three attending the pool do not need to be listed.)
- Guest passes can only be purchased by a member of the pool. All guests must be accompanied by a pool member.
- One complimentary pass, which can be used three (3) times, is issued with each badge purchased. Two (2) passes will be issued with each annual pass. (Complimentary passes are not issued with badges purchased for replacement of a lost badge.)
- A packet of ten (10) guest passes consists of four (4) cards totaling ten (10) uses.
- A check made payable to North Austin M.U.D. #1 (NAM1) Pool must accompany the application to be processed.
- The check for the pool, tennis key and the RCNA **must be mailed separately** from the payment for the NAM1 water bill.
- Replacement fees for lost or stolen badges are as follows:
 Summer / Winter Badge: \$5.00 each Annual Badge: \$10.00 each
- If purchasing a combination of summer only / winter only and annual badges, please specify for whom the annual badges are to be assigned to.
- All badges and passes will be mailed out and are not available for pickup (even if registering in person)
- Annual badges are good from the beginning of the summer session until the end of the winter session of the same year and not necessarily a year from the date of purchase. (i.e. valid from May 2001 to April 2002)
- Tennis court keys are good from (approximately) the first of May until the end of April of the following year. New keys will need to be purchased at this time every year.
- Please make sure you are filling out the appropriate application for the tags, etc., that you are requesting. (The application should state the year and session being registered for above the listing of fees.)

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

PLEASE ALLOW TWO (2) WEEKS FOR PROCESSING

RATTAN CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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

Application to Use Recreational Facilities and Release of Liability

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING – INCOMPLETE APPS. WILL BE RETURNED

NAMUD #1 Water Bill Account No. _____ Home Telephone Number _____
 (Application will be considered incomplete without account number)

Name: _____
 (As it appears on NAM1 bill)

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Emergency Contact Person: _____ Telephone Number: _____

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

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:** ____/____/____
 (Application will be considered incomplete without signature)

Household Members Attending Pool: (All members receiving badges must be listed) (Badges required for ages 3 and up)	Date of Birth	Tag I.D. Number (To be filled in by NAM1)
_____	____/____/____	_____
_____	____/____/____	_____
_____	____/____/____	_____
_____	____/____/____	_____
_____	____/____/____	_____

NO REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE TAKEN AT THE POOL.

2001 Winter Fees:

Make Checks Payable To North Austin M.U.D. #1 Pool

<i>Quantity</i>		
_____	Winter In District Badges @ \$20 per badge	\$ _____
_____	Out of District Membership (Up to 4 Badges if needed) @ \$200 per household	\$ _____
_____	Additional O.D. Badges @ \$20 each additional badge	\$ _____
_____	Guest Passes (only w/ badges) @ \$2 each (one time use)	\$ _____
_____	10 Guest Passes (only w/ badges) @ \$15	\$ _____
_____	Tennis Court Key (In District Only) @ \$15 each	\$ _____
_____	RCNA Membership (In District Only) @ \$20 per household	\$ _____
_____	Annual In-District Badges @ \$40 per badge	\$ _____

All WINTER/ANNUAL Badges & Passes valid thru 4/30/02
Check MUST accompany this registration form to be processed. **Total** \$ _____

Mail or Deliver to ECO Resources, 9511 Ranch Road 620 N., Austin, Texas 78726

Rattan Creek Park, Pool and Court Rules and Regulations

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

Pool Rules and Regulations

Identification

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

General Requirements and Conduct

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

Adult Supervision

1. Children under ten (10) years of age must be accompanied by a parent/guardian or authorized baby-sitter at all times while inside the fenced pool area, unless approved by Pool Manager.
2. Parents are required to provide written authorization naming a specific approved baby-sitter to attend their children under 10 years old at the pool. The baby-sitter must be fourteen (14) years of age or older and be a pool member or have a valid guest pass.

Guest Policy

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

Private Parties

1. Adults eighteen (18) years and older holding a pool I.D. may make reservations to use the pool for a private party when the pool is not open for regular operating hours. All parties must terminate (all participants departing the facility) by 11:30 p.m.
2. Reservations must be made at least four (4) days in advance with the Pool Manager. Reservations are confirmed by a \$50.00 deposit. A reservation is not confirmed until the Pool Manager receives the deposit. The cost for rental of the pool is \$10.00 per hour

plus lifeguard fees.

3. Persons responsible for any parties must hire lifeguards. Lifeguards must be those guards that are under contract with the District.
4. Any damages resulting from a private party will be the responsibility of the lessee.

Wading Pool

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

Pool Hours (as posted at the pool)

SUMMER SCHEDULE

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

WINTER SCHEDULE

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

General Information

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

Tennis/Sports Court Rules and Regulations

(In District Members Only)

1. No dangerous or offensive conduct will be allowed on the courts.
2. No pets, bicycles, skateboards, or motorized vehicles allowed on the courts
3. No alcoholic beverages are allowed inside the fenced court area.
4. No glass containers are allowed inside the fenced court areas.
5. A playing time limit of one hour (60 minutes) will be observed when other members are waiting to use the facilities.
6. Tennis courts one and two are subject to reservation by tennis leagues, not to exceed five (5) hours a week as posted at the courts.
7. A member may have a maximum of four (4) guests at a time on the sports courts.
8. At the discretion of the District Manager, certain specialized activities on the courts may be arranged.
9. A maximum of (4) players are allowed per tennis court at any time.
10. Soccer tennis is strictly prohibited.

Questions or Problems

Contact the Pool Manager or
Bill Burke at 331-7066.

**North Austin Municipal Utility District No. 1
Rattan Creek Pool Winter 2001-2002 Schedule**

October 2001

October 1 - 31: Pool Open - Winter Swim
Monday - Wednesday - Friday
12:00 - 1:30 PM, and
4:30 to 8:00 PM.
Saturday - Sunday 12:00 - 8:00 PM

October 9 : School Holiday
Pool Open: 12:00 to 8:00 PM (each day)

November 2001

November 1 - 30: Pool Open - Winter Swim
Monday - Wednesday - Friday
12:00 - 1:30 PM, and
4:30 to 8:00 PM.
Saturday - Sunday 12:00 - 8:00 PM

**November 21 - 23 : Thanksgiving Holidays:
Pool Closed**

Pool Closed: November 22 (Thursday)

December 2001

December 1 - 14: Pool Open - Winter Swim
Monday - Wednesday - Friday
12:00 - 1:30 PM, and
4:30 to 8:00 PM.
Saturday - Sunday 12:00 - 8:00 pm

December 14 - January 2, 2002: Winter Holiday

Pool Open: 12:00 to 8:00 PM daily

Pool Closed: December 24 & 25
(Friday & Saturday) and
January 1 (Monday)



***McNeil High Swim Team is swimming at
the Rattan Creek Pool.***

MHS practice = Monday- Friday 7:00 to 9:00 AM

***Swim Meets will be posted but usually occur on
Saturday mornings.***

**Rattan Creek Pool is
Managed by
Clearwater Management
Phone - 331-7066**

**Manager - Raine Maggio
Assistant Manager - Tony Watt
Pool phone - 257-8175**

**See other pages for Membership Application for
Pool Use.
Tags MUST be purchased by mail or in person at:**

**ECO Resources
NAMUD No.1 Pool Tags
9511 Ranch Road 620 North**

Winter Yard Care

The good news is that nothing really needs to be done to our lawns until spring. Guilt we imported from some other state may have us raking leaves, fertilizing, mowing, scalping, etc. You really do not have to do all that work.

Lawn maintenance for new yards usually means do not fertilize until it has been mowed at least 5 times. This allows the roots to get established before the fertilizer forces leaf growth at the expense of the strong root growth which is the goal.

The exceptions are winter seeded grasses like rye and fescue and new sod, which can be fed a slow release fertilizer. Look for those with ratios such as 3-1-2, 12-4-8, or 15-5-3. Avoid the weed-and-feed products because they stop grass seed germination and can cause irreparable damage to tree roots. Take the time to calculate the square footage of your lawn, since most fertilizer applications are calculated that way. Then use half the recommended rate for the winter application.

New seeded grass will require watering to keep the seed moist, but not saturated during this initial growth time. During hot windy days, you may have

to water 4 to 5 times per day until germination. If young plants are allowed to dry out, they will die. After about 2 weeks the root system should be established and the watering frequency can be reduced to every 5 days for a month or so. Then water as an established yard.

New sod should not be deprived of water because drying causes shrinking between sod squares. Until the time when a corner of a section of sod can no longer be easily lifted, the soil beneath the sod needs to be kept moist. It is imperative to use the sprinkler lightly and often during this period. When the grass looks green and begins to stand up, it is rooted and you can cut back on watering to every 3 days (except when it rains) for at least 2 weeks. Then you can begin the 5-day watering cycle. If you have an irrigation system shorten the on-timing as needed and set the timer for watering in the early morning hours before dawn. . If we have an exceptionally cold or hot winter, increase watering to help the grass survive.

Lawn Maintenance for Established grasses in our winters includes mowing a bit shorter with the

(Continued on page 14)



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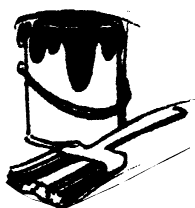
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(Continued from page 13)

clippings left on to decompose and feed the grass. Do NOT scalp any lawn grasses, this is a bad carryover from other parts of the country and it will damage Austin lawns. Since our best months to fertilize are March and October the established grasses are going dormant now and it is probably best to wait until March to fertilize.

If we have a hot week or so with strong drying winds, water the grass to help it survive. It will better survive freezing weather also if it is wet. Throughout the winter, study the grass carefully before and then after watering and then wait to water until it shows some signs of drought stress. The signs of drought stress are:

- A dull purplish cast to the lawn.
- Tracks show up in the lawn after someone walks across it
- Leaf blades begin to roll or fold together.

Water before dawn for a short time which allows drying in the morning and minimizes fungus problems during the cool winter months.

Raking and Removing Leaves continues to be required only for the tough live oak leaves. Most of the other leaves can be left in place mulched with your mower and will just decompose and add some

organic matter in the soil.

Winter Color from annuals planted in pots in the sun include the pansies, Johnny jump-ups, stock, alyssum and chrysanthemums which come in many colors. ** For part shade areas, plant English primrose. ** Perennials include the begonias that do well in pots in part sun and survive our winters without protection except in very hard freezes. **In full sun areas the swordlike foliage of the bearded iris or the Cemetery Iris are Xeriscape plants which make good ground cover in sunny areas with minimum water. Prepare the bed by digging in 6 inches deep 2 inches of compost. If your soil is heavy, dig in some masonry or green sand. Plant the rhizomes on the surface of the soil and use mulch sparingly because they tend to rot if too wet. They grow best if thinned out every 3-4 years in late fall. You can start new beds and share the extra rhizomes with neighbors. Daylilies grow well in the same conditions as the iris except they need to be planted 3-4 inches deep and covered with 3-4 inches of mulch.

Winter growing plants include the Texas Gold columbine that is a hybrid from the native columbines. The light green leaves grow all winter and

(Continued on page 15)

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(Continued from page 14)

they will have shooting star yellow flowers on stalks from 2 to 3 feet high from early March through the fall if you prune out the dead stems periodically. They grow best under deciduous trees like cedar elms or high crowned live oak trees as they like some direct sunshine for better flowering. The Texas Gold columbine is a weak perennial so you can expect to lose a few plants each winter. They do re seed well if you have good soil with 2-3 inches of compost and not too much mulch under them. In any case buying a couple of plants to fill in the holes is a pleasant spring task.

Attractive shrubs include the possemhaw holly that loses its leaves in the winter leaving the attractive red berries. Nandinas have red berries and attractive fern like foliage the year around and show the most color when planted in full sun. While Nandinas are not native plants but they do naturalize to our soil and climate very well and require very little extra watering once they are established.

Build some hardscape for more use of your outdoors areas like adding a sidewalk or patio in places where the grass died due to foot traffic or too much sun or shade. There are many kinds of

paving stones and blocks available at the home and garden stores. In this climate we only need a couple of inches of nice clean masonry under the pavers and a hard edge to keep them in place. You will need dig down and put the sand in to lay the pavers.

Before starting paving, check the slope by using a line level or run some water or watch the rainfall on the area to be paved. Be sure to slope the pavers away from the house so the water drains away and do not make a low spot for puddles to collect mud, leaves and be hard to clean up. Any extra dirt can be placed into other low areas where water stands or you can build a raised bed with the soil.

The Audubon Society Started an Urban Habitat program with the goal to provide information and hands-on help for both public projects (like schools and parks) and backyard habitats for homeowners. Our committee had an organizational meeting and if you might be interested in joining, let me know by e-mail and I'll get you on the mail list.

I have worked toward a bird and critter habitat in our yard for years but have not gotten really serious about only adding plants and features that will provide the wildlife essentials of food, shelter and

(Continued on page 16)

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(Continued from page 15)

water. Should be interesting and fun.

Texas Parks and Wildlife has a good program and a book called "Texas Wildscapes Gardening for Wildlife". The only thing lacking is a list of plants that will actually grow and succeed here in Austin which our Audubon program should develop. More as the program develops.

Happy Gardening, Chuck Simms.
E-mail: charlesvsi@aol.com



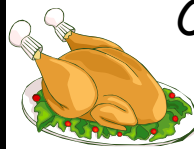
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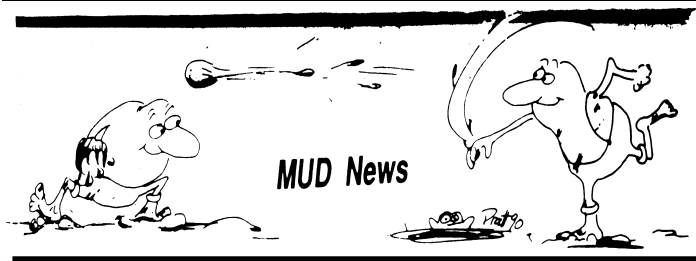
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Place Five - **Chuck Simms**, 331-9630
Secretary (5/04)
csimms@northaustinmud1.org

Website: www.northaustinmud1.org



**North Austin Municipal Utility District #1
Board of Directors Report on Commercial
Development, Parks, and Pool Activities:**

The contract for Pool Operation *No Change*, by Clearwater Management is being reviewed by Bill Burke and Board members Alan McNeil and Don Conklin.

Water Rates Stay the Same, Tax Rate Reduced. The Board voted to continue the existing water rates and to reduce the tax rate from \$0.58 to \$0.55 per hundred dollars assessed valuation. Note that your actual tax cost may go up or down depending on the change in assessed value of your property.

Rattan Creek Park Watering is been managed now for the germination of the winter rye grass. We will water often enough to keep the seeds moist. After the first cold snap starts the dormant period for the Bermuda grass we may have to mow the grass shorter to let the sun warm the germinating seeds.

We added another water meter from in the Tamayo Drive water line to separate the irrigation water usage from the pool water usage. This will provide us more data to use in managing the two irrigation systems in the park. District Manager Gary Spoons, TexaScapes, and Chuck Simms are also preparing a drought contingency plan for the district.

The Robinson Park Trail project: Work has not started yet, still working on it. .

Rattan Creek Trail : Two concrete trickle channels were installed in the trail behind the apartment complex to allow the storm water flow without washing out the decomposed granite. More work will be done at the turnaround circle where the detention pond overflow washed out some of the granite.

Rattan Creek Restoration: *No change*, the project is being planned for late this year. LCRA and some other organizations are planning a

conference on natural creek restoration this fall where we will be able to get more information on this type of project. We may have the first restored natural creek channel in the state of Texas.

The Reserve at Rattan Creek *No Change.* (Alexan Rattan Creek) apartment project on Parmer Lane at Dallas continues to work with the District Engineer and District Manager on the fire control water system changes to reduce MUD cost and liability.

The JPI Apartment Development: construction along Parmer Lane continues with 3-story buildings being completed and a water control pond being built near Lake Creek.

The Williamson County Lake Creek Channel Improvement Project that is upstream of the Palmer Lane bridge continues. The stream bed control attempt by putting a small rock dam washed out after recent rains. Still ugly and much work to be done to restore the vegetation.

The Amber Oaks Corporate Center which is down 620 from The State Farm Insurance offices on the corner continues to build commercial office buildings. They are now building a road parallel to Briarwick to provide access to the last row of buildings.

Indian Oaks Neighborhood wastewater connection: *No change.*

A NAMUD #1 Recreation Center building: *No change:* is being discussed by the Board. We met with the Jollyville fire department who said that the City of Austin does want future use of the proposed fire station site on East Dallas Drive. Keith Collins and Chuck Simms are the Board committee and we are looking for suggestions so go to the NAMUD#1 web site to e-mail your thoughts to us.

Chuck Simms Secretary,
NAMUD #1 Board of Directors.

(**Website:** <www.northaustinmud1.org>)

Covenants, Restrictions, Architectural Control:

Restrictive covenants are tools to protect the investment you make in your home. They are legal promises a property owner makes when purchasing real estate. When we bought our homes we were given at least 3 documents: 1. Owner Policy of Title Insurance, 2. Original recorded Warranty Deed , and 3. Municipal Utility District Notice(s). These documents define the “covenants, conditions, restrictions, reservations and charges...” which pass with the property and every owner of the property. Under Texas law, the MUD can enforce these covenants to protect its tax base that maintains the value of all of our homes. .

The Bluffs sections also have a Home Owners Association (HOA) that was formed by Milburn Co. in the newest sections (40A & 40B called the Bluffs). Their HOA has some enforcement authority, along with the MUD. The HOA is administered through PS Property Management Company, Inc. who can be contacted at 251-3740.

In all sections of the MUD, the covenants and restrictions are administered by the MUD who contracts with a company called:

“Deed Restrictions Enforcement Committee (DREC) of the Treasure of the Hills Senior Citizens Community Center Inc.”

The mailing address is:

***Deed Restriction Violation
Treasury of the Hills
408 Ridgewood,
Cedar Park, TX 78613.***

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

The Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association (RCNA) officers may be able to help you to define a problem as something covered by Williamson

County Law, or Covenants and Restrictions, or Architectural Control. They can be contacted by phone or e-mail as listed in the RCNA Newsletter.

Complaints about possible covenant and restrictions violations by another resident must be made in writing to the Deed Restrictions Enforcement Committee (DREC) at the above address.

Note that different sections of the MUD have different restrictions so some things that are in violation in one section may not be in violation in another section. The DREC has copies of the covenants for each of the sections and will provide you a copy for your section for a small fee. The DREC determines the validity of a complaint and notifies the offenders, requesting action to bring the property in compliance with the covenants and restrictions. If after several notices no action has been taken, the DREC turns the matter over to the MUD Board of Trustees and the District Law office who may choose to file suit against the property owner. Note that the loser of the suit must pay the legal fees for both parties. The MUD has not lost a suit yet.

The Architectural Control Committee (ACC) is also defined in our Municipal Utility District Notice(s). The ACC must review and approve the plans for construction improvements or any additions or visual changes you are planning to make to your property or home. You must submit plans to the ACC 30 days before beginning construction. You will receive a response within 30 days. For Architectural control questions, contact Milburn Homes: Kate Forb at 345-4663 Ext. 1255.

NAMUD #1 is moving into a new construction phase with all new construction being apartment complexes and commercial property. One of our best tools to maintain the property values of our homes is active enforcement of the Covenants, Restrictions and Architectural Controls.

Chuck Simms Secretary,
NAMUD #1 Board of Directors.
(Website: www.northaustinmud1.org)

Deed Restriction Violations:
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Classified Ad rates are 25¢ per word, per month. Deadline for ad's is the first of each month for the following month/issue. **Payment in full is required before publication.** Any ads received after the deadline will be held until the next month's publication. **No exceptions will be made.** Send to:
RCNA, c/o Kelly Buczek 6407 Crowley Trail
Austin, Tx 78729 or email: kellyb@usa.net
258-6482

MaryKay - Julia Hall 257-1067 or 796-7718, email: juliahall@austin.rr.com.
 Website: www.marykay.com/juliah. *Milwood Resident discount.* (8/02)

Tupperware!! April Bliss, Milwood Resident, call 658-3915 (4/02)

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BeautiControl Cosmetics-Julie Lucas. 331-9531. New Clients Welcome. (12/01)

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EBay PowerSeller & Consultant seeks employment selling your merchandise on eBay or training you for same. Businesses & Individuals. 250-2491.(12/01)

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Discovery Toys- Let me help make your Christmas shopping easy! Brandie Kennedy 388-1009 tbkenedy@qwestonline.com, www.DT-families.com/brandie_toys (11/01)

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Garage Sale Guru-Let me help you plan your next garage sale. I've attended over 500 garage sales in Austin in the last 2 years, most of them in Milwood. I'll provide all supplies you need (tables, clothes racks, tags, street signs, etc.) as well as pricing information. 657-9817 or Odilia_Alvarado@yahoo.com Milwood Resident.(11/01)

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TEEN SERVICES

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

RCNA, c/o Kelly Buczek 6407 Crowley Trail
Austin, Tx 78729 or email: kellyb@usa.net

Laura Pevoto, 12. Need a responsible babysitter? I am certified, responsible, cautious, and great with kids. Lots of experience. References upon request. Also great with pets. 331-8493. (12/01)

Claire Pevoto, 13. Certified babysitter, experience with all ages. Available for daytime and night-time sitting. References upon request. Call 331-8493. (12/01)

Eric Blankenship, 15 – “Bling Blingin Car Cleanin” detailing service. I will clean the interior, exterior and wax your car, truck, van or boat. Excellent prices. Services available at any location. Call today for a quote and appointment: (512)335-2787. (01/02)

Rebecca Thomson, 13 - Need a babysitter? I have worked with kids of all ages as well as Special Education children with a wide range of disabilities. I am certified, responsible, cautious and playful. References available upon request. Call 249-9633. (4/02)

