



Rattan Creek Neighborhood News

Serving Milwood at North Austin MUD # 1 since 1983

Distributed Every Other Month By The Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association, Vol. 19, No. 2

April/May 2004

Around Milwood

Neighborhood Cleanup: April 3rd & 4th

Big Brothers and Big Sisters will have truck for donations on Saturday April 3rd from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm at the dumpster location. Please donate your useable items instead of throwing stuff away.

EASTER WISH LIST!!

We are still in need of Eggs and Candy for this years Easter Egg Hunt . *See page 2 for list of items still needed and date of the last meeting before the event.*

Pancake Breakfast-April 10th Be Sure to Come out and support Boy Scouts Troop # 164

NA MUD#1 Board of Directors Election:

Early Voting: Apr 28-May 11(Weekdays) 11:00am-7:00pm

Election Day: Saturday, May 15th 7:00am - 7:00pm

Voting Place: 12602 Langhoff Cove

Presiding Judge is Cat Summers.

***Anyone residing in the District (North Austin MUD #1) that wants to vote, must be registered 30 days in advance of May 15th.*

EVENTS

April

- Apr 3 Milwood Garage Sale
- Apr 3,4 Neighborhood Clean-up
- Apr 4 Daylight Savings Time Begins: "Spring Ahead"
 Set your clock ahead 1 hour
- Apr 6 Passover
- Apr 9 Good Friday
- Apr 9-11 -RRISD off
- Apr 10 Easter Egg Hunt
- Apr 11 Easter Sunday
- Apr 15 RCNA Meeting, 7 pm
 Rattan Creek Pool
- Apr 21 MUD Meeting, 6:00 pm
9511 RR 620 North
- Apr 28-May 11 (weekdays)
Early Voting -MUD Directors
11:00am-7:00pm

May

- May 1 Scholarship Deadline
- May 8 RCNA "Members Only"
Pool Party
- May 9 Mother's Day
- May 11 Last day of Early Voting
- May 15 MUD Board Election
7:00 am - 7:00 pm
- May 19 MUD Meeting, 6:00 pm
9511 RR 620 North
- May 20 RCNA Meeting, 7 pm
Rattan Creek Pool
- May 31 Memorial Day

June

- Jun 16 MUD Meeting, 6:00 pm
9511 RR 620 North
- Jun 17 RCNA Meeting, 7 pm
Rattan Creek Pool
- Jun 20 Father's Day



Before the Easter Egg Hunt Come Enjoy A Great Pancake Breakfast!

When: Saturday, April 10th

Time: 8:30 - 10:30 am

Where: Rattan Creek Park



**Come and enjoy a great
breakfast and support your neighborhood Boy
Scout Troop # 164
Bring your money!**

RATTAN CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD

RCNA Board of Directors

P.O. Box 200584

Austin, Tx 78720-0584

Website: www.rattancreek.org

RCNA Board of Directors:

President

Eric Freeman 947-5204

Email: eric.freeman@acm.org

Vice President

Chris Villalpando 996-8380

Email: cvillalpando@austin.rr.com

Secretary

Dallas Hall 257-3494

Treasurer

John Lenz 249-7667

Email:

RCNA Committees:

Membership: POSITION OPEN

Safety/Security:

Chris Villalpando 996-8380

John Lenz 249-7667

Email: safety@rattancreek.org

Publicity/Social:

Sam Pherwani s.pherwani@motorola.com

Website Administrator: www.rattancreek.org

Hutch Gregg email: hutchg@austin.rr.com

Newsletter Staff:

Editor: Jo Jones 335-1805

email: JRJones@austin.rr.com

Classified Advertising/Teen Services:

POSITION OPEN

* Please contact Jo Jones 335-1805 for info.

Display Advertising: POSITION OPEN

* Please contact Jo Jones 335-1805 for info.

Distribution: POSITION OPEN

* Please contact Dallas Hall 257-3494 for info.

New Neighbors/Babies:

POSITION OPEN

* Please contact Jo Jones 335-1805 for info.

Recipe Corner:

Stephanie Doherty 249-0253

email: thedohertys@austin.rr.com

Yard of the Month:

POSITION OPEN

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

Easter is almost here!!!

As stated throughout the newsletter, our RCNA Easter Event will be held on the 10th of April. We will have no rain date this year. e are still in need of, well, everything.

Things Needed:

plastic eggs- we stuff about 6000 Easter eggs every year. Over half don't make it back after the Easter hunt. We always need more eggs. Even if they are used for next years Easter Event..

candy- Jolly Ranchers, Star Bursts, variety bags, dum-dums(suckers), hard candy, tootsie roles, crackers, cookies, animal crackers, etc... **(Buying in bulk is wonderful. With Bulk you can get double the candy for about half the price. We buy all our candy at SAMS)**

Everything needs to be individually wrapped!

If you don't have the time to pick something up, we do! Money donations are always greatly appreciated. **Our membership dues pay for events like these.**

Please pay your RCNA dues.

I would like to give a big **THANK YOU** to all our Milwood neighbors who contributed in one way or another last year. When I started helping with the Easter Event five years ago, we spent between \$800-\$500. Last year, after candy and money donations, we spent... are you ready...\$89. WOW!!! Thank you Milwood for you support with this event. It does not go unnoticed!

Easter Committee Date: April 3 4:00(Saturday)

Meetings will be held at my house, kids are welcomed to attend!

Dallas Hall
12301 Kepler Cove 257-3494

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President's Notes

Friends and neighbors,

Our good friend, neighbor, and RCNA board member Jo Jones is running for a spot on the North Austin M.U.D. # 1 Board of Directors. I think she would make an excellent Director. I strongly encourage you to support her and vote for her on May 15th.

Jo has been a resident of our neighborhood for more than 12 years, and a member of the RCNA Board of Directors for nearly that long. Jo has worked diligently to organize the neighborhood and to improve our quality of life. Jo has been involved in organizing nearly every community event in our neighborhood in recent years. As someone who lives amongst you and has listened to your concerns at RCNA meetings for years, Jo knows what concerns are forefront in your mind.

I think Jo would serve you well as a NAMUD#1 director. She has my support, and I hope she will have yours.

As many of you know, the RCNA gives out scholarships each year to graduating McNeil HS seniors from RCNA member households. This year we have a total fund of \$1,500 to give away. To apply, please email your interest to any of the RCNA board members. Applications are due by the May 1st, and will be decided by mid-May. The scholarship application form can be found on page 5. Feel free to contact us for further details.

Our annual members-only pool party is coming up on May 8th at Rattan Creek Pool. \$20 for RCNA membership, and then you get all the brisket and swimming you can handle. Sounds like a bargain to me.

The M.U.D. Board is looking for input on two major projects at Rattan Creek Park.

First, the board is planning on re-designing and rebuilding the playscape at Rattan Creek Park within the next year. From simple retrofitting to complete replacement, the board has the mission to make the heavily used play area better, newer, and (as always) safer. The Board and the RCNA neighborhood association are looking for volunteers to help in re-designing and replacing the playscapes next year. Please contact Directors Don Conklin [dconklin@northaustinmud1.org] or Alan McNeil [amcneil@northaustinmud1.org] to be added to the committee that will guide this project.

Secondly, the board is considering converting the existing Rattan Creek Pool operation building into a recreation center building. As you may recall from

previous newsletters, the board has had funds reserved for years now to build a Rec center for the district residents, but for various reasons the project has yet to break ground and begin. One of the stickier issues has long been finding the right location for the building. So the board has circled back to the possibility of placing the Rec center at Rattan Creek Park, adjacent to the pool.

The Rec center might include, in their own words, “a small meeting room, a large recreation room, a kitchen, rest rooms and showers and changing rooms, and storage spaces for Scout troops, and the Hurricanes Swim Team. The feasibility of a fitness center is being examined, and we are reviewing the facilities at Anderson Mill MUD.”

Personally, I think a Rec center would be great for our property values. I also think that locating it at Rattan Creek Park has the potential to be a very good solution.

As with the playscape project, the M.U.D. board is seeking input on this project. Again, please contact MUD directors Keith Collins [kcollins@northaustinmud1.org] and Chuck Simms [csimms@austinmud1.org] to give your opinion.

The more input we give to the board, the sooner the projects will be built, and the more to our liking they will be.

Your neighbor,
Eric Freeman
President, RCNA

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Around Rattan Creek

New Neighbors and Babies:

New Neighbors:

Lisa and Jason Ramsdell
6905 Tesoro Trail



Raju and Kumari Mamuhewa
and children Jesse and Faith
13524 Albania Way

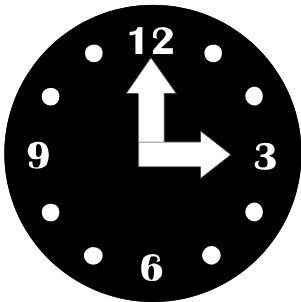
New Babies:

No New Babies this issue



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.

Don't Forget !!
set your clocks ahead 1 hour April 4th



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Milwood Parent Activities

Looking for a playgroup for your little ones? *Here are a couple to chose from:*

- Playgroup for children born between July 2001 and July 2002: Call Angela at 336-9067
- Playgroup for children with birth dates in Fall 1996 and Spring/Summer of 1997: Call Candance Kreiling at 331-9773
- Arbor Homeschool Group: Weekly playdays, monthly field trips and various other activities. All ages welcome! Contact Toni McKinley at 250-0496 or e-mail at tmckinley1@yahoo.com for places and times we meet.

Post a message!

- Would you be interested in meeting other moms at the playground?
- Do you like to scrapbook and would like to do it with others?

Contact Marcie at 335-6960 to have your message posted.

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.

3/14/04

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RCNA Member/Milwood Resident

RCNA Event Sponsor

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

**Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association 2004 Scholarship Award Program
3 - \$500 scholarship awards available.**

Responses must be postmarked no later than May 1st.
Finalists will be advised before the RCNA meeting on Thursday, May 20th .

Criteria:

High School Seniors limited to RCNA member families.

Academic achievement.

Public service and community activities.

2-4 page written essay discussing a piece of literature you read during your high school years
and how it made an impact on your thinking.

Finalists should be prepared to answer questions-interview format with the RCNA Board if required.

Application:

Date _____ Signature: _____

Contact phone number _____

Legal name in full _____

Permanent Address _____

College(s) planning to attend Fall 2004 _____

Name of High School _____

Name of High School Language Arts Instructor _____

Current cumulative GPA _____ on a scale of _____

List activities, awards or special recognition you have received: _____

Briefly list work experience: _____

(If you have more activities, work experience, and/or awards than the space allows, choose only those you consider most significant. Attach a resume if available.) Return application form, essay and resume (if available) to
RCNA Scholarship, P.O. Box 200584, Austin, TX 78720-0584.

Recipe Corner

Decorating Easter Eggs

Glittered, beribboned, or stenciled eggs are a beautiful alternative to the traditional solid-color variety.



Preparing the dye

The easiest way to dye eggs is with liquid food coloring. Bring 3 cups of water to a boil and remove from heat; add 2 tablespoons white vinegar and 2 to 3 drops of food coloring, or more for a deeper color. Dye the eggs until they reach the shade you desire. Remove the eggs from the dye, blot with a paper towel and let dry completely before decorating.

Preparing the eggs

You can dye hard-boiled or raw eggs. The smoother the egg, the better the dye will take.



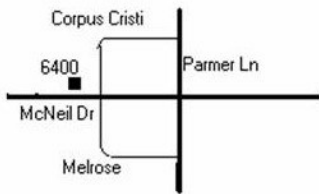
Before dyeing, rub eggs with white vinegar to remove impurities, and to aid dye absorption. For muted colors, try dyeing brown eggs. When dyeing eggs, always work with clean hands—do not use hand cream because the oil can affect how the dye takes. If you plan to keep your decorated eggs, they should be left raw, then blown hollow after dyeing, otherwise the egg shell will float on top of the dye.

Blowing eggs

Blown eggs can be kept and enjoyed year after year. It's best to blow the eggs after the decorating is complete, except if your instructions specify otherwise. Working over a bowl, pierce one end of a raw egg with a pin. Pierce the other end, and use the pin to enlarge the hole slightly and break yolk. Blow out insides using an egg-blowing tool or a rubber ear-syringe (available at pharmacies), forcing contents of the egg out through the larger hole into a bowl. Do not let the liquid touch the shell.

Anyone interested in submitting a recipe: please send it to Stephanie Doherty at thedohertys@austin.rr.com.

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Cell: 512-627-4113

Fax: 512-219-1477
Email: scusick@austin.rr.com

Time to Renew Your RCNA Membership

Last year, 2003, the RCNA only had 475 out of 2800 households send in their **\$20 annual dues**. We are lucky to live in a neighborhood where our dues are voluntary. Many neighborhoods and especially the new ones, the dues are mandatory. Most neighborhoods pay \$10+ each month, our dues are only \$20 a year. many neighborhoods cannot believe that we are only a voluntary organization and yet are able to produce the amount and type of activities and newsletter that we have.

What activities you ask?

For instance, the *Annual Easter Egg Hunt*. Every year we have more and more children, but less and less funds to work with. Many folks have voiced that we should have more eggs/prizes for the children. Well, that takes money and volunteers. With the dwindling participation in the neighborhood association (both monetary and volunteers), events such as this will inevitably suffer. Yes, we do get donations of candy and eggs, but we always need to buy more.

Other scheduled events include the *“Members Only Pool Party”*- the Pool Party is a catered event for those that do pay their dues - *sort of a reward*. *“Rattan Fest”* has a few costs, for items like the T-Shirts for the run, signs we use, or other items needed. *“Caroling in the*

Park”-the song books are printed, so again a small cost. The *“Neighborhood Wide Garage Sale”*- that is held twice a year, the RCNA pays for the ads and signs to bring folks to our neighborhood.

The dues also help fund our scholarship program, last year we gave out three scholarships to RCNA members children, totaling \$1500, this year we have voted again to give out 3 scholarships totaling \$1500 in May.

In 2001, a hard decision was made to reduce the frequency of the newsletter, due to rising costs, the economy and lower association participation, the RCNA had to cut down expenses. We feel that the newsletter is such a vital part of our neighborhood communication, that rather than just the folks who paid their dues receiving the newsletter, we would rather reduced the frequency and deliver to the whole neighborhood. Now the newsletter comes out on the even months.

***Please pay your \$20 for the year.
Thank you for your
support, we depend on you!!***



Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 200584 – Austin, Tx 78720-0584
Annual Membership Dues – \$20
(January – December 2004)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail: _____

Membership: Renewal New

I would like to volunteer to assist with:

Activities Committees Newsletter

Thank You For Your Continued Support!!



We Depend On It!!

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April/May Gardening

Gardening in April: Plant some perennials for summer color for years to come. In partial shade, plant Texas Gold yellow columbine in well-prepared soil and they will bloom all summer and provide light-colored foliage all winter. They may freeze if you do not cover them on those 3 freezing nights. The beautiful yellow shooting star appears above the foliage in March and April. The migrating hummingbirds find it when they arrive in the spring. The attractive light green foliage makes a good ground cover under deciduous trees and oak trees with high crowns. On ideal sites the columbines re-seed and spread. The Blazing Star is a new selection that has red in the bloom just like our local species.

The low growing oxalis has shamrock-looking leaves with small white flowers and also will survive our winters and come back every year. The Bearded iris also makes an excellent groundcover. Plant them in full sun for blooms in March, April, or May depending on the selection. Buy the rhizomes boxed or growing in containers. The blooms come in white, yellow blues, maroons and bi-colors. Iris rhizomes must be planted so the top of the rhizome emerges from the soil. They may rot if planted too deep or under deep mulches. Irises are Xeriscape plants that even without mulch will prosper in our heavy dry soil. For best results, thin out iris rhizomes every three or four years.

Daylilies bloom in early summer after irises and have attractive sword-like foliage that is less stiff than iris. In full sun or part shade they make a good groundcover.

There are a number of blue flowered salvias that the hummingbirds and butterflies love. The blue salvias require full sun to bloom well. The Indigo Spires blooms well and grows to four feet in good soil. If you can find *Salvia guaranitica*, it has a spectacular blue-purple bloom. Sages grow well in full sun with Mexican Bush sage and the Mealy Blue sage reaching 30 inches tall and as wide. Another blue flowered plant is plumbago which reach three feet tall with clusters of vinca-sized light blue blooms for the butterflies when grown in morning sun or dappled shade. Firebush tubular red blooms are a hummingbird favorite growing well in full sun and increasing in size each year after freezing back each winter.

Shrubs which do well in either sun or shade are the dwarf yaupon holly and the nandina (available in full size, compacta and dwarf sizes) and both

have red berries all winter. I have had great luck also with some white begonias in large pots in the mostly sunny area in front of our house. Sun loving plants include the family of salvia Greggii, which can be white, pink and red, sometimes called the red tropical sage. Prune by a third in July and get another flush of color in the fall.

And of course for a vine, try the mostly sun loving coral honeysuckle which provides nectar for the hummingbirds from April until late fall. A good climbing plant but not destructive like the English ivy with its attaching tendrils.

Look over the grasses at the nurseries also. Some only get to 12 inches and make nice accent plants with interesting texture and color. For partial shade groundcover, I have a lot of Inland Sea Oats that spreads from the flag looking seeds but is not too aggressive. Pretty green grass all summer, grows to 18 inches at most and has pretty dry stalks with seed flags all winter. If you have some large areas, check out the other tall grasses which are easy to grow and with minimum maintenance.

Fire ant control Logic or Award may be available at the farm stores. If so, spread when the

(Continued on page 9)



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(Continued from page 8)

dew has dried, soil temperature is above 60 degrees, and it is 2 to 3 hours before the rain. Within a week or two, the growth regulator will start reducing the ants in the mound and the worried workers try to start new mounds. Sprinkle Logic everywhere except within 4 feet of mounds. These principles apply to any insecticide, the idea is to spread it when the bugs are active and foraging for food and will pick it up and take it down to the queen. For fast control of fire ant mounds where you walk or play, sprinkle 2 teaspoonfuls of Orthene powder on each mound. It smells bad so the cats, dogs, and kids will leave it alone and it will kill that hill of ants.

Water Be sure to water new small plants especially well and soak new larger shrubs and trees well also. New plantings need water every day for a week, every 2-3 days for a month, and then weekly to twice a month during spring through fall if there is no rainfall. When they really start growing they NEED water and sparing it for the first 2 years is false economy. Replacing plants is expensive.

Mulch to minimize water needs, spread 3 to 4 inches of mulch in the beds under all flowers, shrubs and trees to cool the soil and hold in the moisture. I especially like cypress mulch because it is stringy and heavy and stays in place when watering. That pretty wood mulch not only looks good but it is helping your plants survive the heat. Note the way the trees, shrubs, and beds are mulched at the Rattan Creek Park, TexaScapes does an excellent job of mulching to keep the weeds away from plants and minimize water needs.

Do Not buy sandy loam or peat moss. Sandy or chocolate loam is fine clay which we have too much of already. **Buy a garden or yard mix** with a lot of composted organic matter and sand in it. Also, **do not buy peat moss** because it is very acidic and in our alkaline soil and alkaline water, peat moss decomposes very rapidly leaving large holes in the soil, exposing the roots to air and killing them. You can watch trees planted with a lot of peat moss wilt and die within 2 years.

Composted material is available in bulk or in bags. A common bagged compost is cotton burr hulls with the brand name Back to Earth (BTE) with a rainbow on the bag. Use it in planting amending the existing soil and as mulch around all plants to just outside the drip line to slowly feed and keep cool the roots of all plants and trees. And don't forget the fine Dillo Dirt that provides slow release of nitrogen and organic matter for our soils. Composted material is too strong to use only as soil to grow plants, use it for top dressing and mulch.

Vines on trees??, I had another call on this the other day and vines growing up tree trunks (or houses) is not good. I had some great looking English ivy growing up a cedar elm tree, it looked great until some fungus got into it. The ivy all died and took many hours work to pull it out of the bark. It appeared to injure the bark also because the bugs hid from the birds and they burrowed under the bark creating a lot of problems. I have seen similar problems from Asiatic jasmine let to grow up trees that eventually damaged the tree. So clip climbing vines off near the ground periodically, you will save a lot of time and maybe the life of the tree.

Gardening in May: Watch for brown patch fungus in established St. Augustine lawns, making an ever expanding circle of dead grass leaves and stems. If they are soft and mushy, it is the fungus. Treat with compost or a fungicide (liquid copper or Bordeaux mix) Brown patch fungus is in the earth all of the time but it multiplies and kills some of the grass roots when the temperature and humidity are just right. Late fall and early spring are the usual trouble times. It never goes away, just is subdued until next season so treat it lightly and be ready for next season again. Such is the way of

(Continued on page 10)

**Elect Jo Jones
for North Austin MUD#1
Director, Place 3**

Milwood resident for 12+ years
Active with the RCNA for 10+ years
Newsletter Editor for 3+ years

*I believe it is important to have someone who
resides in the district representing us!*

As a community, we have many tasks that impact our property values. As your MUD Director, I promise to help with:

- Keeping up the appearance of the neighborhood.
- Building a Community Center for use by residents.
- Creating a Property Owners Association to keep local control of our parks and pool after annexation.
- Making neighborhood safety issues and concerns a top priority.
- Managing our MUD's finances in a fiscally responsible way. If we continue to reduce our debt, our tax rates may be lowered.

Vote for Jo Jones

NA MUD #1, Place 3 May 15, 2004

Political ad paid for by Jo Jones for NAMUD#1, Place 3.
13119 Green River Trail, Austin, Tx 78729 Sandy Cusick Treasurer

(Continued from page 9)

life's small irritations, treat them when they appear and enjoy life the rest of the time.

If your grass has dead patches, it could be white grubs eating the roots. The white grubs are the larval stage of the May or June beetles (or Junebugs). The warm season grasses like Bermuda, zoysia, St. Augustine, and buffalo grass are attacked by the June beetles and southern masked chafer. The damage shows in summer (that's why they are called Junebugs) and fall months when the larger c-shaped creamy white larva actively feed.

Damage shows as irregular shaped areas of weakened or dying grass where the grass lacks vigor and is vulnerable to invasion by weeds. Weakened grass has less root system and is easily pulled out. If you dig around in the soil a bit you will find the grubs in the top few inches of the soil in the root zone. Treatment is most effective when the grubs are 1/2 inch long or less. Treatment is most effective when applied after a rain or a thorough soaking of the turfgrass to force the grubs close to the surface to get air. Insecticides include Dursban, diazinin, merit and Oftanol.

Check newly planted roses, shrubs and trees if weather is windy, and refirm soil around roots, and check supports and ties. Remember to remove ties

from rubbing on plants as soon as possible because any tie constricts flow of sap under the bark. And plants develop faster and with stronger trunks when not supported too long.

Check for powdery mildew, black spot, or leaf spot and treat with a commercial fungicide or 2 table spoon full of baking soda and a few drops of kitchen detergent in a gallon of water. Rain will wash your treatment off, so repeat after every rain.

Soak all plants including the lawn grass deeply rather than sprinkle lightly when watering to force the water down deep so the roots will grow down to it develop deep strong root systems. Apply 1 inch of water at a time and most times of the year it will last for 5 to 7 days.

Water trees Water the entire area 1-1/2 times beyond the drip line to encourage roots to grow out where they will capture as much rainfall as possible. Water the area slowly until the water runs off. Wait 30 minutes and water again until the water stands or runs off. This process forces much of the air out of the soil that allows the water to go as deeply as possible. Remember tree roots on live oak trees (and most others) are 8 inches deep or more and that is where the water must go to help the plant grow. If you want a large tree fast, water

(Continued on page 11)

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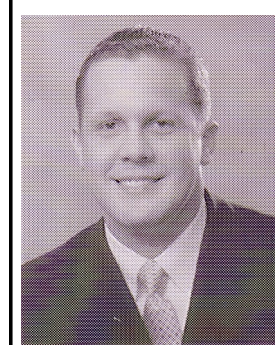
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(Continued from page 10)

more often, it really makes a difference.

Fertilize blooming plants with compost, bone meal or spray with a mixture of liquid seaweed.

Plant some annuals for summer color. Plant Ageratum, Begonias, Caladiums, Celosia, Coleus, Dahlia, pansies, dianthus, Impatiens, marigolds (French and African) Petunias, Portulaca, Salvia, Verbena, vinca, or zinnia. Remember that the colorful plants usually require a lot of sun, they may not bloom at all or as well in full shade. And, if they are in pots in full sun, you must water daily in the heat of the summer. You can move them to partial shade or build an overhead shade, or of course plant a tree for shade.

Some shade tolerant flowers include: Iris, daylilies, hollyhocks, Turks cap, rosemary, oregano, thyme, mint sorrel, columbine, and parsley. Ground covers do well in partial to full shade so try English ivy, Lilorope, monkey (mondo) grass, Asiatic jasmine, or wild petunias (ruellas). There are many taller bunch grasses available now and some of them will do well in partial shade like the 18 inch tall inland sea oats. Some plants are low growing and some tall. Intersperse or build a backbone in

your beds with shrubs like the dwarf crepe myrtle, oleanders and the red yucca, all will do OK in a lot of sun. Areas not in full sun have reduced water needs and a fully grown bed provides a lot of it's own shade.

Note that all the **above plants are perennials** and will come up every year. Some shade tolerant bloomers which are annuals are the begonias, geraniums, and petunias. If in pots and taken in or covered during the freezes, some of these annuals will bloom for years.

Mulch to prevent weeds, conserve water, and control soil temperature. Put on at least 3 inches of mulch to suppress the weeds, save water, and decrease the soil temperature.

Fertilize the summer lawn with a slow release fertilizer like Dillo Dirt, compost, Milorganite, or Sustane. If you have a bag of high nitrogen fertilizer (high first number) apply at 1/2 the rate on the bag of for a shot of growth now. If it says slow release on the bag, it will take longer to dissolve and feed the grass and a slightly heavier application is OK. Do not let piles of it stand, it will burn the grass and soil. .

Set your mower up to the highest setting to encourage deep roots and let the taller grass shade the roots to minimize soil drying. If you noticed the grass in Rattan Creek Park, it is now being mowed taller per the recommendation of the City of Austin water audit.

Pinch back mums to encourage branching and cut back **salvias** by 1/3 after the first blooms start to drop to stimulate a second blooming in late summer.

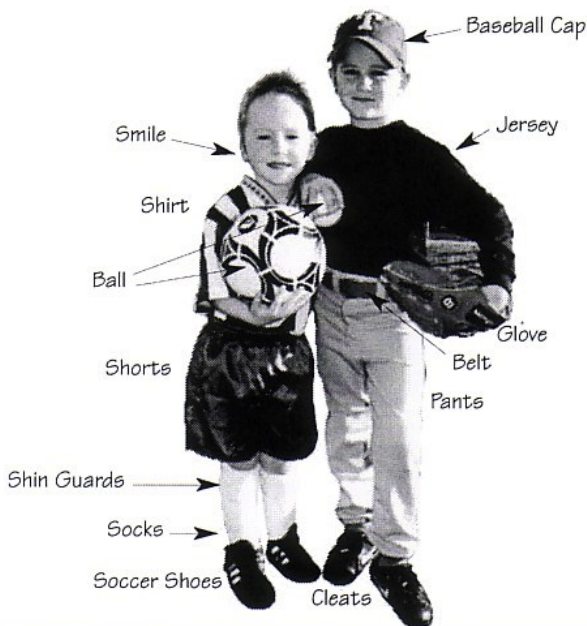
Prune climbing roses and early flowering shrubs that have finished blooming to encourage the next bloom cycle.

Watch roses for black spot and powdery mildew -- keep the ground clean of diseased leaves and spray with liquid seaweed and fish emulsion to

(Continued on page 18)

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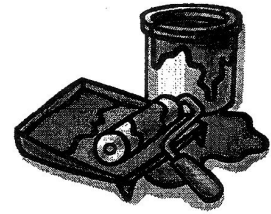
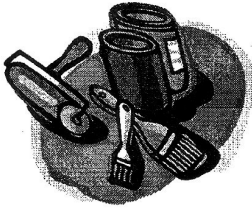
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**WILLIAMSON COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY
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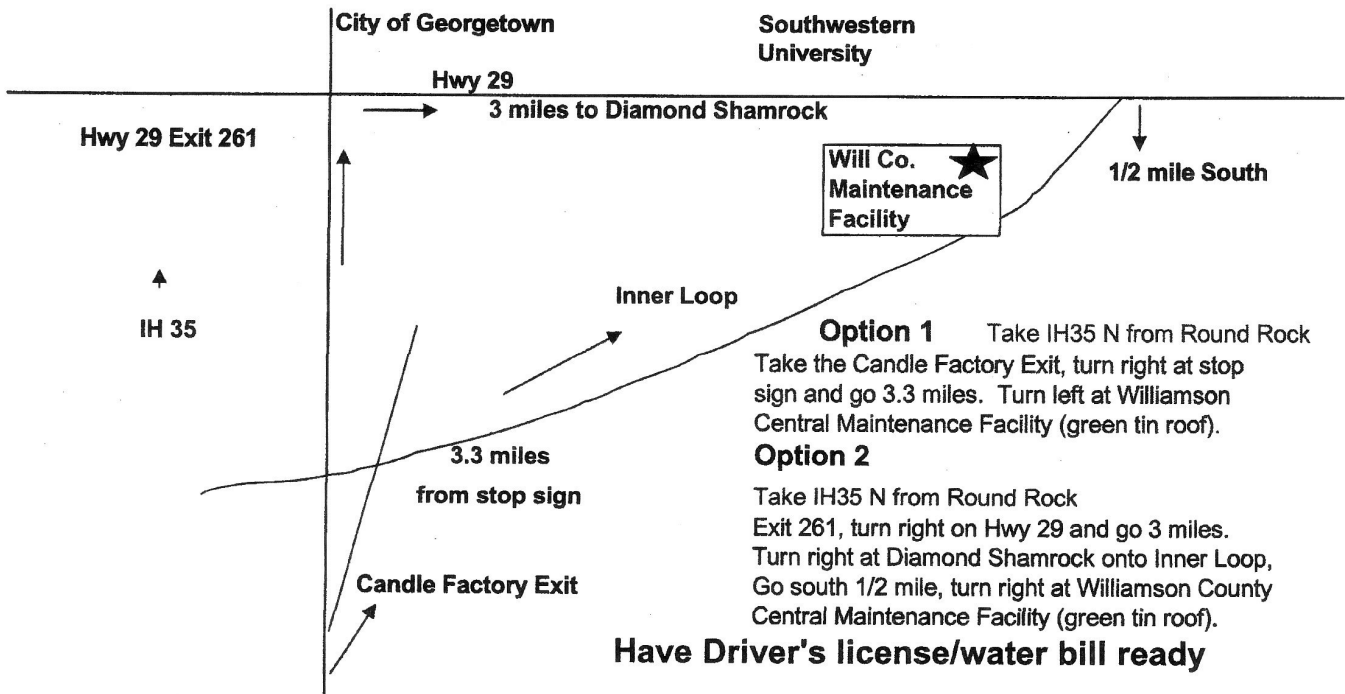
Items accepted include:

- | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------|-------------|----------|
| Pesticides | Herbicides | Paint | Cleaners | Solvents |
| Pool chemicals | Paint thinner | Stain | Fertilizers | Lacquer |
| | Varnishes | Poison | | |



The following items **will not** be accepted:

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------|-----------|
| Trash | Ammunition | Tires | Explosives | Fireworks |
| Radioactive Materials | | Gas Cylinders | Flares | |
| | Smoke Detectors | Medical Wastes | | |



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

- All members receiving ID 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 admittances can only be purchased by a member of the pool. All guests must be accompanied by a pool member.
- Three guest admittances will be assigned with each ID badge purchased. Six admittances will be assigned with each annual pass. (Complimentary admittances are not issued with ID badges purchased for replacement of a lost or stolen badge.)
- A check made payable to North Austin M.U.D. #1 (NAM1) Pool must accompany the application to be processed.
- A check for pool ID badges, tennis key and/or RCNA **must be mailed separately** from the payment for the NAM1 water bill.
- Replacement fees for lost or stolen ID 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 ID badges, please specify for whom the annual ID badges are to be assigned to, as each ID badge can only be assigned to **one** person.
- ID badges can be picked up at the pool (during the summer session) on Wednesdays and Saturdays, 2 PM to 8PM, after your application is processed at ECO Resources. **Each** person for whom an ID badge is purchased (ages 3 and older) will need to have their picture taken at the pool office before the badges will be issued. No additional paper work will need to be completed at the pool, but identification will need to be shown. (If registering prior to the summer session, ID badges may be picked up March 1st – April 30th on weekends, Noon to 6PM.)
- Members registering by 5:00 PM on Tuesdays will be able to pick up ID badges at the pool beginning on Wednesday. Members registering by Noon on Fridays will be able to pick up ID badges at the pool beginning on Saturday.
- Annual ID 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 2003 to April 2004)
- 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. **Only ONE key can be issued per household.**
- ID Badges, guest passes and tennis court keys are not pro-rated at any time.
- Please make sure you are filling out the appropriate application for the ID badges, etc., that you are requesting. (The application should state the year and session being registered for above the listing of fees.)
- If your child will be three years of age *PRIOR to opening day* of the session being registered for, he/she WILL need an ID badge purchased for him/her.
- Only ID badges will be available at the pool. All applications and payments must be submitted by mail or in person to ECO Resources.

Receipts will not be accepted for admittance into the pool – NO EXCEPTIONS.

ALL INCOMPLETE OR INCORRECT APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED WITHOUT 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
APPLICATION FOR SUMMER/ANNUAL SESSION 2004**

NAMUD #1 Water Bill Account No. _____ Home Telephone Number _____	
(Application will be considered incomplete without account number)	
Name: _____	
<small>(As it appears on NAM1 bill)</small>	
Address: _____	ZIP _____
Emergency Contact: _____	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 below)
(Badges required for ages 3 and up)

	Date of Birth
_____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____

NO REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE TAKEN AT THE POOL.

2004 Summer Fees:	Make Checks Payable To North Austin M.U.D. #1 Pool	
Quantity		
_____ Summer In-District ID Badge	@ \$20 per badge	\$ _____
_____ Out-of-District Membership <small>(Up to 4 ID Badges if needed)</small>	@ \$200 per household	\$ _____
_____ Additional O.D. ID Badge	@ \$20 each additional badge	\$ _____
_____ Guest Admittance <small>(only with ID Badges)</small>	@ \$2 each (one time use)	\$ _____
_____ 10 Guest Admittances	@ \$15	\$ _____
_____ Tennis Court Key (In District Only)	@ \$15 (ONE KEY PER HOUSEHOLD)	\$ _____
_____ RCNA Membership (In-District Only)	@ \$20 per household	\$ _____
_____ Annual In-District ID Badge	@ \$40 per badge	\$ _____
SUMMER 2004 ID BADGES & GUEST ADMITTANCES VALID THRU 09/15/04		
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

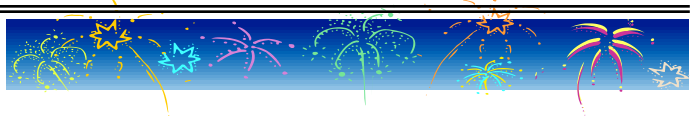
(In District Members Only)

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.

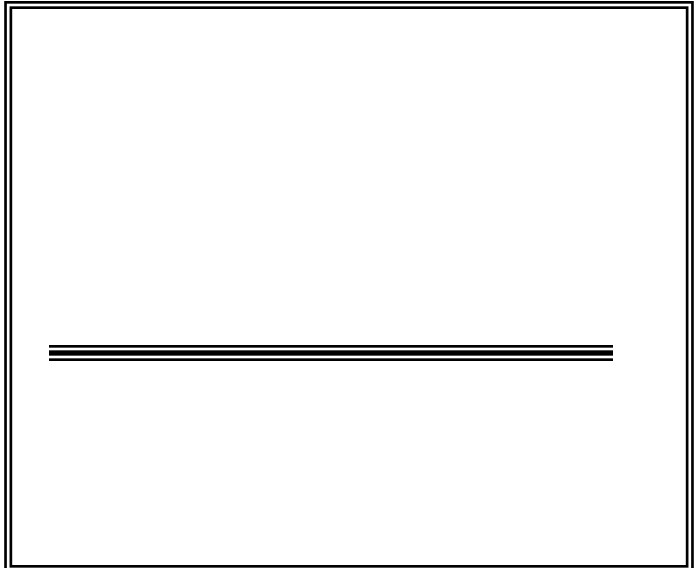
North Austin Municipal Utility District No. 1 Rattan Creek Pool Spring/Summer Schedule 2004



***Rattan Creek Pool is Managed
by Clearwater Management***

**Manager - Tony Watt
Pool phone - 257-8175**

**Clearwater Management
Phone - 331-7066**

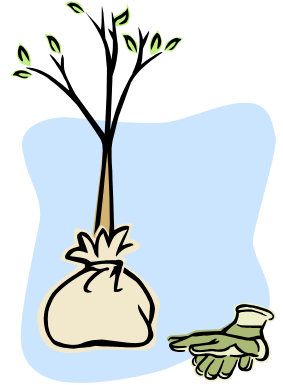


ALL HOURS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. TO VERIFY HOURS, CALL 257-8175 (POOL).

(Continued from page 11)

keep healthy. Mulch helps prevent soil and fungal spores from splashing back onto plants. Resort to a fungicide if severe spots or mildew persist because a few minutes of spraying may save the plants.

Happy gardening,
Chuck Simms
 e-mail: charlesvsi@aol.com



RCNA Positions Open
Volunteers Needed:

- RCNA Membership Committee
- Head for Newsletter Distribution
- New Neighbors/Babies Contact
- Newsletter Classified/Teen Services
- Newsletter Advertising Person



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- **Pet/Post Op Day Care** - New puppy assistance, post operative check ups, SQ Fluids and injections.
- **Pet Taxi Service** - Pick up & drop off to your veterinarian, groomer or other location.
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What You Need To Know About Municipal Utility Districts

What is a MUD?

A Municipal Utility District (MUD) is a political subdivision of the State of Texas authorized by the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to provide water, sewage, drainage and other services within the MUD boundaries.

How is a MUD created?

Developers must petition the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality to create a MUD. Developers are prohibited from serving or placing employees, business associates, or family members on the MUD Board of Directors. Developers must pay for or put up a letter of credit equal to 30% of the cost of subdivision utilities. This requirement ensures against "fly-by-night operators" who are not committed to the success of the MUD. The "30% rule" also offers protection to MUD residents in the event that a subdivision is not built according to schedule. Unless they are voting residents within a MUD, developers have no authority or control over the MUD's Board of Directors. If they are voting members of a district, they have the same

power to vote and attend Board meetings as any other resident.

How does a MUD work?

The publicly elected Board of Directors manages and controls all of the affairs of the MUD subject to the continuing supervision of the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality. The Board establishes policies in the interest of its residents and utility customers. A MUD may adopt and enforce all necessary charges, fees and taxes in order to provide district facilities and service.

How does North Austin MUD#1(NA MUD#1) work?

The NA MUD #1 Board of Directors consists of 5 elected Directors. The NA MUD#1 Board of Director elections are held every other year, staggering 2 or 3 directors positions each election year.

Who is eligible to run for NA MUD#1 Board of Directors?

A person interested in running must be 18 years or older and either be a resident or

(Continued on page 24)

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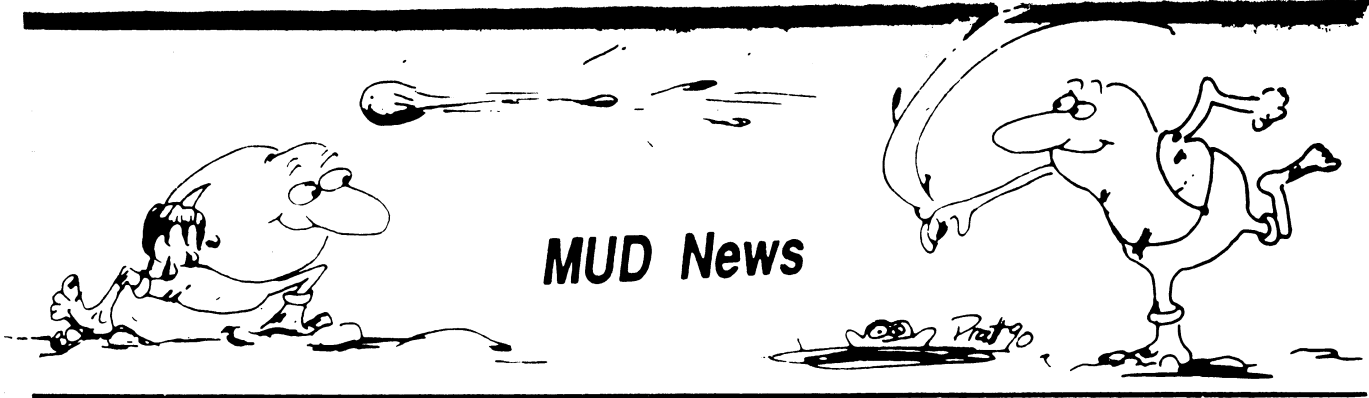
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North Austin Municipal Utility District #1 Board of Directors Report on Commercial Development, Parks, and Pool Activities:

Our contractor for inspections of Restrictive Covenant Violations: The Treasure of the Hills Senior Citizens Community Center, Inc. reported: in February: there were: 2: new complaints, 2 calls for advice, 19 first letters sent, 1 second letter sent, 0 violations sent to the MUD Attorney for action, and 1 case closed (violation corrected)

District Water Pressure: At the Board meetings since April, District Manager Gary Spoons and District Engineer David Malish have reported that the City of Austin (COA) recently has had trouble maintaining water pressure in our section of town and are varying it on a 2 day cycle.

In January, February, and again in March, the COA plan is to begin testing of the water main along McNeil. Due to rains, the work was rescheduled again.

Homeowners Insurance Rate Decrease? No activities reported this month.

Rattan Creek Park Pool: The pool maintenance work continued and the pump room electrical sys-

tem was replaced, the bathhouse interior painted, and the exterior will be painted when it is dry. There were 2 lifeguard certification classes held. A group called the Dance Skins held 4 training sessions in the pool for 40 to 60 women.

The McNeil HS team has reduce their use of the pool to 2 to 3 days a week. The Hurricanes Swim team plans a sign up day in April.

Rattan Creek Playscape: The Board and the RCNA neighborhood association are looking for volunteers to help in re-designing and replacing the playscapes next year. Please contact Directors Don Conklin or Alan McNeil to be added to the committee that will guide this major project this year.

Rattan Creek Greenbelt: The Parks Landscaping committee of Chuck Simms and Alan McNeil reviewed the remediation tree planting by Williamson County that was helped by cool rainy weather. A border marking system will be developed in April or May. The long-term maintenance schedule is being reviewed and changes will be submitted to the Board in April for approval.

The Best of Texas Backyard Habitat certification process work by aci Consulting continues. The project also includes the manufacture and placement of 2 educational signs for each of the 3 natural areas in the greenbelts of Rattan Creek and Robinson parks. The certification program is a merging of the National Wildlife Federation Backyard Habitat and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Wildscapes designation for backyards, parks, and natural areas that meet the requirement of providing food, water, and protection for birds and other wildlife. The two programs have been merged in Texas under the Best of Texas Backyard

(Continued on page 21)

Deed Restriction Violations:

Deed restriction violations must be submitted in writing to:

**Senior Citizens Center
408 Ridgewood
Cedar Park, Tx 78613**

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

(Continued from page 20)

Habitats program. The certificates have been applied for and the signs will be installed in the next month.

Eagle Scout Projects: The Board is working with Eagle Scouts from Boy Scout troops 169 and 259 to develop projects that will benefit our community. Directors Don Conklin and Chuck Simms are coordinating these projects. A picnic and nature observation platform near the Gypsy Oak may be designed and installed as one project.

Robinson Park Soccer Fields: continue to be well used. The Motorola Soccer players are there over the noon hour several days a week.

Rattan Creek Park: The additional concrete channels to extend the drainage ditch West of the sand volleyball court has been completed. A new water fountain will be installed for tennis courts 3 and 4.

Easement along Lake Creek behind the Bluffs sections 40A and 40B: As a part of the Board's goal of getting all property ownership transferred

from Milburn Company and the Joint Venture to our District, the parcel of 21 acres of greenbelt of the East Tributary of Lake creek from the Anderson Mill bridge that goes West and then North to under Parmer Lane has been transferred to the District.


The main channel of Lake Creek will continue to be controlled by Williamson County and possibly in the future after our area is annexed, transferred to the COA.

The final papers were signed to close out all Milburn / Contentental Homes / D.R. Horton debt and activities in NAMUD#1. They will be reimbursed from escrowed bond funds for their infrastructure expenses as provided by law

Robinson Park Humphrey Drive access road is in place: No change. The final payment is being held until repairs are made and the project is given final approval by our District Engineer David Malish. The contractor has agreed to honor the warranty and will repair or replace the material. The Board requested a letter from our Lawyer Sharlene Collins requesting timely repairs. The contractor confirmed his intention to repair the road and is waiting for dry weather.

(Continued on page 22)

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335-7580

**General Manager
Gary Spoonts**

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 2647, Cedar Park, Texas 78630-2647

NA MUD #1 Board of Directors:

Place One - **Keith Collins,** 258-6244
Ass't Secretary/Treasurer (5/04)
kcollins@northaustinmud1.org

Place Two - **Don Conklin,** 331-7669
Treasurer (5/06)
dconklin@northaustinmud1.org

Place Three - **Terry Ripperda,** 512-793-2160
President (5/04)
tripperda@northaustinmud1.org

Place Four - **Alan McNeil,** 219-8719
Vice President (5/06)
amcneil@northaustinmud1.org

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

Website: www.northaustinmud1.org

(Continued from page 21)

Water and Wastewater service for the #620 Turnpike: Approval for the connections and relocated master meter for the water service for the Turnpike tollbooth area is close.

After the dimensional drawings for a vault with 6 check valves were submitted to Mr David Rinn as he requested, he challenged that they could not test from above. He requested that such ability to test be certified. Eco Resources Inc. obtained that certification.

He then objected to the use of 6 check valves and insisted that double back flow preventers be used instead. The drawings were prepared for his approval.

Then he realized that these backflow requirements were a severe "overkill" for a District that is solely served by the City of Austin. Mr Rinn then rescinded his request and allowed the use of a single 16 inch check valve.

It appears now that all the conditions of the City and TTA have been met. The connecting facilities, however, remain under construction.

Toll Road Turnpike activity for #183 and #183A are creating questions: The Neighborhood Association of Southwestern Williamson County (NASWC) has been very active lately working against the proposed plan by the CTRMA (Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority) to and TXDOT to change the status of #183 from McNeil and #620 to a toll road. The Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association president Eric Freeman has been following this issue. In this situation, the MUD Board of Directors has no special standing.

For more information about this subject, and the large area neighborhood association see <http://www.naswc.org> and for information about the Regional Mobility Authority see <http://www.ctrma.org> If you work or do shopping to the West of McNeil along U.S. 183, this could effect your travel costs and time greatly. Again these changes to toll roads are in the early discussion stage, but could become reality without some dissenting input from those of us that will be effected.

Amarillo sign to be replaced: The Board approved reconstruction of the automobile dam-

aged stone sign. It will be similar in appearance to the one at the Parmer Lane and Tamayo entrance, but smaller to fit the lot that it shares with a SWB company building

A NAMUD #1 Recreation Center building: We are discussing the remodeling of the Rattan Creek Pool operation building to include a small meeting room, a large recreation room, a kitchen, rest rooms and showers and changing rooms, and storage spaces for Scout troops, and the Hurricanes Swim Team.

The feasibility of a fitness center is being examined, and we are reviewing the facilities at Anderson Mill MUD. Their Fitness Center has from 300 to 450 members and is well used. Are you interested in this kind of facilities? Please let us know.

Director's Keith Collins and Chuck Simms are the Recreation Center committee and we are looking for suggestions. What type of a facility would be a real asset to our neighborhood? Please go to the NAMUD#1 web site to e-mail your thoughts to us, or give us a call.

(Continued on page 23)

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Honey Do's - Does your list look like this?

1. Plant new Bushes, Trees and Flowers, Trim hedges
2. Assemble the new Bookcase, Bicycle, and Bed
3. Install that new Ceiling Fan with the light kit
4. Repair the Deck, Fence, and Holes in the drywall
5. Add Shelves and storage to the Kids Room

***Small jobs that need doing:
call Jeff Fanta at 801-0526***

\$20.00 hr and it is off your mind, and your List!

(Continued from page 22)

Chuck Simms, Secretary,
NAMUD #1 Board of Directors. Phone: 331-9630

Website: www.northaustinmd1.org

Safety News

Spring is upon us folks and that means the residents and children of the neighborhood will be outside more as the weather warms up. The RCNA wants to have a safe spring and summer this year. That is why we want to remind everyone to please watch your speed throughout the streets in our neighborhood. Local law enforcement has shown a greater presence in the neighborhood and will be enforcing the posted speed limits and traffic laws.

It has also been brought to our attention that there are several portable basketball goals being placed in the right of way (roads). This poses a significant risk to neighborhood motorists and to the hoopsters. Please ensure that your basketball goals are not in the street.

Have a safe spring!

Chris Villalpando
RCNA Vice President & Safety Coordinator

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birthday, anniversary, baby
shower, business, etc.

(Continued from page 19)

property owner in the district.

When are elections held?

For 2004 NA MUD #1 Board of Directors
Election:

Early Voting: Apr 28 - May 11
(Weekdays) 11:00am-7:00pm

Election Day: Saturday, May 15th
7:00am-7:00pm

Voting Place: 12602 Langhoff Cove
Presiding Judge is Cat Summers.

Who can vote?

Anyone residing in the District (North Austin MUD #1) that wants to vote, must be registered to vote at least 30 days in advance of election.(ie. by April 15, 2004 for election day of May 15, 2004)

How do MUDs provide for parks, pools and recreation facilities?

In addition to their common functions of water and wastewater service, MUDs are legally empowered to engage in conservation, irrigation, electrical generation, firefighting, solid waste collection and disposal, and recreational

activities (such as parks, swimming pools, and sports courts). A MUD can provide for itself the recreational amenities that are approved by the Board of Directors and funded by the District.

Will my taxes be higher in a MUD?

MUD tax rates, like all property tax rates, vary according to property values and debt requirements. MUD rates generally decline over time as the MUD is built out and operating and debt service costs are shared by more homeowners.

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Summer Tips: Bugs Be Gone

Springtime is here along with all the new plants, animals, and insects that come with it. As Austinites, we take pride in our unseasonably warm winters. However we have to deal with the potential pest problems that come along with those mild winters. **DON'T WORRY!** With a little preparation you can minimize problems that you may normally have. Some of the most common problems we deal with this time of year are carpenter and fire ants in the yard; pharaoh ants (sugar ants), spiders, and roaches inside the house; and fleas inside and outside the house.

QUICK TIPS

1. Look for any existing pests around your home.
2. Determine what environment they prefer.
3. Do what you can to eliminate or alter this environment.
4. Discover possible mechanical methods to use to reduce pests.
5. Understanding the pest's biology will always make it easier to deal with pest issues!

PESTS & INFORMATION

TERMITES: What we typically deal with in this area are subterranean termites. They typically live in the ground and need food and moisture to survive. The termites are constantly foraging for food, which is wood or other cellulose products. **If** you have plumbing leaks this may attract them to your home. Plumbing leaks must be corrected or you cannot control termites. **If** you stack wood or paper near your home this can be another potential attraction to your property. Anywhere there is a penetration of the slab there is a possible point of entry. On the outside look for tubes of dirt going up your foundation. Inside is a little harder but if sheet rock crumbles or you find pinholes covered with mud this can also be a sign. **If** you fear that there is a problem call a professional as treatment is more specialized than other pest treatments

CARPENTER ANTS: Unlike termites, carpenter ants do not eat wood, but they burrow into wood to make a nest.

Outside carpenter ants can live in the trees. **If** your trees touch or hang over your home trim them back. **If** you have damp or rotted wood, this will attract carpenter ants and they will spread out from there. They are also common in hollow core doors and around window areas.

SPIDERS: Finding spiders is generally a sign that you have other pests in your home. **If** you move plants from the outside into the homes you could be bringing them this way. **If** you think that you have a problem with brown recluse or black widow spiders you should call a

professional as the health risk are serious with these spiders.



FLEAS: From the phone calls we have been receiving it appears that it is going to be a bad year for fleas. The flea that we battle is the cat flea. This doesn't mean that dogs are immune from them. **If** you develop a problem with fleas you will have to treat infested areas. Flea larva is attracted to dark areas, so treat underneath furniture, underneath cushions, and all areas that your pets travel. On the outside of the house mow before any treatment, rake leaves, and concentrate on clearing the shaded areas. Remember that the pupae stage of the flea is protected from the treatment and it can take up to 21 days for this cycle to emerge.

PEST MANAGEMENT: The best approach to pest management is to cut off the point of entry before they become an inside problem, or eliminate outside conditions, which give them a chance to get established. It is important to check weather stripping around doors and windows and the gaps around plumbing. Weep holes at the lower base of homes are another common entry point. To control weep holes, stuff steel wool into these areas to prevent entry. Compost piles are areas that ants and many other pests will reside in, so make sure that they are moved away from your house. **If** you mulch your flowerbed it may be necessary to apply insecticides periodically, as this is a prime area for insects.

We hope this information will be of use to all of you.

Should you have any questions, need advice, or would like one of our professionals to help you with a pest problem please call us Roberts Termite and Pest Control at 512-444-0132.

There are many new bait products on the market that can be used to minimize spraying chemicals on the inside of your home. Our goal is to treat the pest environment with the most effective and least toxic products that will do the job.

Ask for RJ Avalos, 444-0132

Your Neighborhood Fire Department - A Little History

The neighborhood you live in is serviced by a unique fire department, with a long history in the area and quite a few traditions for such a small department.

First of all, we must explain a little known fact: we are not just a fire department. We are MUCH more than that! Like all fire departments in the central Texas area, we are a multi-function emergency response department. We respond to fires (grass, house, car, trash, train, etc.), medical calls, hazardous materials calls, animal rescues, water rescues, people rescues, flooding, natural disasters, weather emergencies and any other type of call that people need us at. If no one else can do it, call the fire department!

We are also community education department. We go to schools, day cares, businesses, scout troops or any other group that requests us and help educate them on fire safety. The best thing we can do is prevent a fire from happening and we do that by teaching you to be safe. Starting this year, we will also be going to all of the elementary schools and other businesses in the area and teaching fire safety to the students using our new Fire Safety House. This is a trailer that helps us teach home

fire safety and what to do in an emergency.

When we're not running calls or educating the community, we are out doing inspections to hopefully help prevent fires and to be prepared if one does occur. We inspect all of the schools, day cares, foster homes, and businesses in the area. We also inspect all of the fire hydrants to make sure they will work if we need them.

We always try our best to be out in the community as much as possible, just so you know we are there if you ever need us. If you see us driving around in one of the big, red trucks, give us a wave. And, if you happen to be passing by one of our two stations (9218 Anderson Mill Rd & 12507 Mellow Meadow Dr), feel free to stop by and ask questions or just take up-close look at the station and trucks.

You can learn more about the Jollyville Fire Department at our website: www.jvfd.org

Talk to you next issue!

Be Safe!



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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: kelly@buczek.org**

Melanie Bivone, 11 - I love animals! I will check on your pets every day. I will make sure to have fun with them. They will be very happy when you get back! I will check the mail for you and bring in the newspaper. I will also water your plants. I was voted Student Council President of my school. I am very responsible. I made this promise to you and I will keep it! Ask for Melanie at 331-5240. (4/04)

Stacy Baker, 14 - Certified, experienced babysitter. I'm great with kids! I'm responsible, dependable and hard working. I love to play games with kids. I know CPR and the Heimlich maneuver. I can baby-sit in both Milwood and Forest North subdivisions. I can also watch your pets while you are away. I will walk your dog, bring in the newspaper, the mail and water your plants. References available. 918-0201. (4/04)

Tyler Ray, 16 - Babysitter and Tutor 632-1781 I love working with kids, whether it's watching them, helping them with any core class, or even both. I can tutor in math, reading, writing, history, science and French; from 1st grade to 8th grade. (4/04)

Rebecca Thomson, 15 - Need a babysitter? I'm certified, responsible, experienced, and great with kids of all ages, as well as children with special disabilities. References upon request. Call 249-9633. (6/04)

Megan Tschida, 13 - (DeerPark Student) I'm a Certified Baby-sitter who loves kids of all ages. I am very responsible and experienced. I am available anytime. References available. Please call 512-918-1546 or my cell is 619-4854. (08/04)

Jonathan Chaltain, 17 - Will mow, edge, weed-eat, and bag leaves for reasonable prices. To receive a free evaluation, please call (512) 219-8778. (08/04)

Ryan Mire, 17 - Not enough time to get around to mowing the lawn? Look no further. I mow, edge, weed-eat, bag leaves (if necessary), and overall clean up. My prices are reasonable. For a free

price evaluation please give me a call at: (cell) 799-2310; (home) 250-2104. I am interested in both weekly and one time jobs. (08/04)

Volunteers needed for Newsletter Delivery

Head of Newsletter Delivery Needed: This job entails staying in touch with section heads and block captains. If block captains move out, helping to locate new block captains. Accepting delivery of newsletters from printer, and delivering on to section heads once every two months, as quickly as possible to help speed delivery to the neighborhood.

A Block Captain delivers newsletters door to door on a specific street for a range of house numbers, once every two months. You help keep us in touch with the neighborhood.

Block Captains are needed for:

Earp Way Tovar Kingman
Portland Varcella Margit (12700 block)
The Section Head sorts the newsletters and delivers to the houses of the block captains, on streets close to yours. It is mostly car work.

A Section Head is Needed for: Kerrville Folkway, Luckenbach, Shiner, Amarillo, Hondo Bend, and Corpus Christi.

If you take on one of these volunteer positions, please remember, if you are moving, to let the Head of delivery know **before** you move. That way we can try and help find a replacement to keep your area informed.

We have limited volunteers and sections of the neighborhood currently do not receive their newsletters because their block captains have moved away and we do not know it.

If you are in one of these sections, please think about volunteering for one of these positions, or if you are not receiving your newsletter, at least call us and let us know you are not receiving your newsletters.

**Thank you,
Dallas Hall 257-3494**

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified Ad rates are 25¢ per word, per issue. Deadline for ads 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 issues publication. **No exceptions will be made.** Send to: **RCNA, c/o Kelly Buczek 6407 Crowley Trail Austin, Tx 78729 or email: kelly@buczek.org 258-6482**

Volunteer Needed to handle the Classified / Teen Services Advertising. Anyone interested, please call Jo Jones 335-1805 or Kelly Buczek 258-6482.

MANICURES, PEDICURES, WAXING, THREADING - licensed beautician Milwood resident. Very reasonable rates. By appointment only. Call Sonu's Beauty Corner 336-7478, pherwani@juno.com (6/04)

Camping Store HQ - <http://www.campingstorehq.com> - For all your camping needs! (6/04)

MASSAGE EXPERIENCE YOU CAN TRUST. 10 year anniversary special. 1 1/2 hours, \$65 office @ Duval & 183 Anita Rodman 343-7878 (10/04)

True Grit Painting (Low Cost House Painting) – Reasonable and Reliable. Milwood Resident, RCNA Member. 218-1445. (12/04)

Montessori School – Outstanding Montessori Program Licensed child care home. Ages 18 months and up. For More Information call 250-0280. (12/04)

Got that sinking feeling you need a new home cleaner? – Finally, personal care and attention to your home cleaning needs. EB cleaning services. Eloisa B. Alvarez 848-0470, 257-0052 eb@cleaning.com www.ebcleaning.com. (4/04)

Neighborhood Photographer - Portraits, weddings, events and family. Reasonable rates, Milwood resident discount! Call Dave 250-9070 (4/04)

Carpet Cleaning - Large area \$50! Call Stacy 250-9070 (4/04)

Mary Kay Manicure/Pedicure Spa Parties - Have an awesome girl's night or mother/daughter party! Wedding and photo session make-overs available. Call Stacy 250-9070 (4/04)

MASSAGE THERAPY – Personal touch, affordable price. \$10 off new clients. \$35.00/hr mothers day special. Gift certificates available. Barbara R.M.T. 336-1350/918-1824 (4/04)

GOLF LESSONS - \$30/hr. \$125 for a series of 5 on course playing lessons. Nick 422-8934 GET YOU GAME IN SHAPE FOR SPRING. (4/04)

PIANO LESSONS – DEGREED and experienced instructor. All ages and levels welcomed. 331-2856. (2/05)

MaryKay – Julia Hall 257-1067 796-7718 juliah@marykay.com www.marykay.com/juliah. Milwood Resident discount. (2/05)

TRASH DISPOSAL INFORMATION:

FOR BULK PICKUP:

That means large items like old sofas, washers, dryers, etc.

Call Waste Management at 272-4341

FOR LIMB AND BRUSH PICKUP:

All tree limbs and brush must be cut into 3' to 4' lengths, tied and bundled together, and placed at curbside for pickup by Waste Management on your regular garbage pickup day.

Call Waste Management at 272-4341

HOME CHEMICAL WASTE COLLECTION:

Call City of Austin at 974-4343

Important Numbers

Ambulance 9 - 1 - 1

Fire: Jollyville Fire Department
Emergency 9 - 1 - 1
 Administrative 258-1038

Sheriff: Emergency 9 - 1 - 1
 Williamson County
 Administrative 943-1300
 Travis County
 Administrative 854-9285

Crime Stoppers 1-800-253-STOP

County Commissioner
 Williamson, Precinct 1
 248-3238
 Travis, Precinct 2
 Karen Sonleitner 854-9222

Dept of Homeland Security 1-800-BEREADY

Poison Control 1-800-POISON 1
 (1-800-764-7661)

Mail: Balcones Post Office
 11900 Jollyville Rd. 331-9802

Schools: RRISD 464-5000
 Elementary
 Jollyville 428-2200
 Pond Spring 464-4200
 Live Oak 428-3800
 Middle School
 Deer Park 464-6600
 High School
 McNeil 464-6300

Utilities:
 Electric
 City of Austin 494-9400
 Gas
 Southern Union 1-800-700-2443
 Water/Wastewater: NA MUD #1
 Eco Resources 335-7580
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2004 RCNA
“MEMBER’S ONLY”

POOL PARTY

Saturday, May 8 12:00 TO 5:00 P.M.

Rattan Creek Pool

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Music

Food
Catered by
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Served
1:00-2:30

Beer

Drinks



Party

The RCNA is throwing a party
in appreciation for those neighbors
who have paid their 2004 Membership dues.

*Where else can your whole family have this much
fun for only \$20 a year?*

**If you haven't already joined the RCNA,
you can join at the pool party!**

(a list of those who joined the RCNA via pool registrations at NAMUD #1, by 4/30/04 will also be used)

Remember ONLY RCNA MEMBERS will be allowed in!!

Join your neighborhood association and Join us for a day of fun at the pool!

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Offer good at 8701 W. Parmer Lane only



RCNA Member's Annual Easter Egg Hunt



*Saturday April 10
10:00 am
Rattan Creek Park*



Exclusive Area For Wobblers and Toddlers in the Kiddie Corral

Open from 9:30 to 11:00 am

Young ones can hunt at their own pace.

Don't Forget Your Camera - Photo Opportunity with the Easter Bunny!

“The Big Hunt”



*Parade with the
Easter Bunny and Fire Engine
Will start at 10:10 am*

Decorate Your Wheels and Join In The Fun!



**The Hunt will begin
AFTER the Parade!!**

Ages: 7-10 will *HUNT FIRST* at 10:30am

**Ages: 4-6 will *FOLLOW* at 10:50am
(Eggs will be restocked for the second wave!)**

Remember:

The Boy Scouts are Cooking Pancakes from 8:30 to 10:30 !!!

