



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. 3

June/July 2004

Upcoming Events Around Milwood

Fourth of July Parade - Sunday, July 4

Come out for this parade. It is a short route, starting at the park at Elkhorn Mountain.

National Night Out - Tuesday, August 3

Law enforcement agencies across the country are encouraging you to participate in this simple step against crime prevention. Basically, it is a Neighborhood Light Party - an opportunity to join in the fun and meet your neighbors!

Rattan Fest - Saturday, Sept. 11 (Patriot Day)

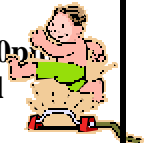
This is our annual festival with a 5K run to start, Arts and Crafts booths, local vendors, an excellent chance for school group fund raising.

We need volunteers with ideas to help us with this event. If you are interested, please call Dallas Hall 257-3494 for more information.

EVENTS

June

- Jun 4 Teen Night 8 -10:30pm
Rattan Creek Pool
- Jun 14 Flag Day
- Jun 16 MUD Meeting, 6:00 pm
9511 RR 620 North
- Jun 17 RCNA Meeting, 7 pm
Rattan Creek Pool
- Jun 18 Teen Night 8 -10:30pm
Rattan Creek Pool
- Jun 20 Father's Day
- Jun 21 Summer Begins



July

- Jul 2 Teen Night 8 -10:30pm
Rattan Creek Pool
- Jul 4 Fourth of July Parade
5:00pm Rattan Creek Park
- Jul 5 Independence Day Holiday
- Jul 15 RCNA Meeting, 7pm
Rattan Creek Pool
- Jul 18 Teen Night 8 -10:30pm
Rattan Creek Pool
- Jul 21 MUD Meeting, 6pm
9511 RR 620 North
- Jul 30 Teen Night 8 -10:30pm
Rattan Creek Pool



August

- Aug 3 National Night Out
- Aug 13 Teen Night 8 -10:30pm
Rattan Creek Pool
- Aug 18 MUD Meeting, 6pm
9511 RR 620 North
- Aug 19 RCNA Meeting, 7pm
Rattan Creek Pool

Teen Nights: At Rattan Creek Pool 8:00 PM to 10:30 PM

June 4th & 18th
July 2nd, 16th & 30th
August 13th

\$2.00 Cover Charge

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

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Email: cvillalpando@austin.rr.com

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Dallas Hall 257-3494

Treasurer

John Lenz 249-7667

Email:

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Membership: POSITION OPEN

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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

RCNA OPEN POSITIONS

?? **RCNA Membership Committee;** *please contact Eric Freeman 947-5204*

?? **Head for Newsletter Distribution;** *please contact Dallas Hall 257-3494*

?? **New Neighbors/Babies Contact;** *please contact Terri Olsem 219-7931 or Jo Jones 335-1805*

?? **Newsletter Advertising Person;** *please contact Jo Jones 335-1805*

?? **Rattan Fest Event Co-Coordinator (Sept. 11);** *please contact Dallas Hall 257-3494.*

We are looking for new volunteers to take over these positions. Please volunteer your time.

Thank you, RCNA

Neighborhood Watch Program

Anyone interested in starting a neighborhood watch program for your block, please contact Chris Villalpando; RCNA Vice-President at 996-8380.

A perfect time for your first block meeting is Tuesday, August 3rd, during National Night Out. Law enforcement agencies across the country are encouraging you to participate in this simple step against crime prevention. Basically, it is a Neighborhood Light Party - an opportunity to join in the fun and meet your neighbors! Participation is easy.

Turn on your porch lights. Remember to lock your doors. Talk with your neighbors. Plan to have a block party on Tuesday, August 3 at 7:00 pm.

Get to know your neighbors!

President's Notes

Friends and neighbors,

Congratulations are in order to our neighbor, friend, and Director Elect Jo Jones. In the May 15th Election, Jo won a seat on the Board of Directors of the North Austin Municipal Utility District.

Sometimes I feel like the central part of my job is reminding people of the basics of Neighbors 101. Each week I witness or get word of yet another variation on “how rude can a person be” or “don’t people realize they live right next to other people”. 9 times out of ten, I agree with the complaint – people in this neighborhood seem to forget the real simple principles of how to show respect to each other, to themselves, and to the community. Sometimes the annoying behaviour is so original it makes you laugh. Other times the offense is so brain-numbing and common that you smack your head wondering ‘when will people ever get a clue’.

So here goes with this months list of tips and pointers on ***‘How NOT To Be Completely Rude To Your Neighbors’***:

? Talk to your neighbors directly with your concerns first. Too often I receive questions on how to file a complaint or enforce the deed restrictions against a ‘problem’ neighbor – only to find out that the complainer has never mentioned their concern to that neighbor even once!

Keep in mind the limits of deed restrictions: the RCNA doesn’t enforce the deed restrictions directly; our biggest weapon is peer pressure; the deed restriction process is slow and best fitted to egregious examples of property neglect; the local law enforcement doesn’t have the resources to handle most minor property complaints (noise,etc) in a timely fashion.

It’s much more effective to do something shocking in today’s age: ***talk to your neighbor***. Sharing your concern directly with a neighbor, respectfully letting them know what behaviour is impinging on you, asking them nicely to maybe mow their yard more than once a year – it is easy, it works, and you meet your neighbors too.

If you haven’t done that yet, don’t even bother thinking about deed restrictions and the long slow

process it entails.

? Treat your neighbors with respect. Speak to them as you want to be spoken to. Listen to them if they share a concern with you.

One of the reasons many people **don’t** share their concerns with their neighbors is fear. They fear a backlash from their neighbor. They fear the rude jerk who, when asked nicely to change something, then yells back or is rude. I’ve seen it happen to me in another situation, someone telling me to ‘mind my own ___ business’. It makes you nervous.

I know I sound like a kindergarten teacher here, but it’s really not too hard to just smile and say ‘Ok, I’ll look in to that’. It’s not hard to be diplomatic to even the most unusual complaint from a neighbor. It’s kindergarten stuff: you speak nicely, now, you hear? It makes me both laugh and shake my head that there are people who can grow up, earn enough money to make a house payment, hold down a job, yet still speak to their neighbors like a simple minded 4-year old when approached about an issue. It’s not hard to learn how to be diplomatic – even if it really isn’t any of their business.

?? Keep your dogs on a leash and under control. It’s the law, and it’s common courtesy. I’ve received several complaints about small dogs being allowed to wander off a leash, and then barking/harassing pedestrians on the street. I have received several letters regarding incessant barking for hours on end, both day and night. I personally have had larger dogs nearly leap over a six foot privacy fence attempting to bite me as I jog by (I

(Continued on page 5)

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Around Rattan Creek

New Neighbors and Babies:

New Neighbors:

Allison Harris and Davis Craig
8029 Rimini Trail



New Babies:

William Francis Blakely, Jr.
Born March 23, 2004,
to William and Anna Blakely
13006 Steeplechase
7 lbs. 1 1/2 oz., 21 1/2" long



Luke Anthony Durden
Born May 3, 2004
to Pam and Roger Durden
13269 Kerrville Folkway
7 lbs, 12 oz., 21" long

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.

We are looking for a new volunteer for this position. If you are interested, please contact Terri at 219-7931 or Jo at 335-1805.

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Austin, TX 78759



Milwood Parent Activities

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

- ?? New playgroup forming for babies (and their Moms) with birth dates from around July/August 2003 to babies due in 2004: Call Lori Poppe at 258-1952 or e-mail at loripoppe@yahoo.com.
- ?? 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? Are you interested in joining a Bunco group? Contact Marcie at 335-6960 or mdeoliveira@austin.rr.com 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.

5/14/04

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(Continued from page 3)

don't smell that bad). It's not the pedestrians job to avoid the dogs. It's the owner's responsibility to keep dogs on a leash while off the property, and to keep them from behaving as a public nuisance.

?? Don't treat your yard like a trash heap. Treating –or mistreating – your landscaping to the point that it is overgrown, ugly, parked with cars, hides small children and large furniture, etc., is not only ugly to look at, but it drives the resale values down, and weakens the neighborhood bit by bit. I don't expect manicured and polished professional landscaping (just look at my yard if you dare); but you need to treat it with respect too.

?Slow down and watch for children as you drive through the neighborhood. Particularly with school out for summer, the number of kids riding their bikes on the neighborhood streets, and chasing after missed soccer balls is going to soar. Several problem areas – the unprotected crosswalk at Rattan Creek Park soccer field; the cross walk near Jollyville Elementary on Amarillo – have become extremely dangerous.

***SIMPLE: SLOW DOWN A LOT** in this neighborhood, watch for people in the streets, and if someone so much as sets a foot in a crosswalk, then you come to a complete stop.*

Enough nagging for the month. Be courteous. Try to talk your problems out first. Drive safe.

Eric Freeman, President
Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association

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National Night Out

Law enforcement agencies across the country are encouraging you to participate in this simple step against crime prevention. Basically, it is a Neighborhood Light Party - an opportunity to join in the fun and meet your neighbors! Participation is easy.

Turn on your porch lights. Remember to lock your doors. Talk with your neighbors. Plan to have a block party on August 5. Let your local law enforcement folks know, so they can stop by for a visit.

When: Tuesday, August 3, 2000 - evening.

Where: Just outside your door.

Why: Properly lighted homes, businesses and streets help cut down on crime and drug activity. Neighbors knowing their neighbors strengthens security for everyone.

LIGHTS ON, MEANS LIGHTS OUT FOR CRIME!

**Travis County Sheriff:
854-9285**

**Williamson County Sheriff:
943-1300**

**Williamson County Constable:
248-3239**

Be sure to include the new neighbors, who you haven't had time to meet yet. This is a good way to get to know who your neighbors are. Always wished your block would get together more often, here is an opportunity. You don't have to be elaborate; try a pot luck dinner or just dessert and coffee.

Recipe Corner

Margarita Cheesecake

- 1 1/4 cups vanilla wafer cookie crumbs
- 1/4 cup unsalted butter, melted
- 3 8 ounce packages cream cheese, room temperature
- 2 cups sour cream
- 1 1/4 cup sugar
- 3 tablespoons Grand Marnier
- 3 tablespoons gold tequila
- 3 tablespoons freshly squeezed lime juice
- 2 teaspoons grated lime peel
- 4 large eggs
- Very thin lime slices (garnish)

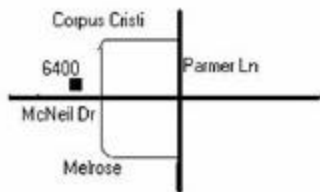
Preheat oven to 350 ° .

?? Mix cookie crumbs and butter in medium bowl until blended. Press mixture onto bottom and 1-inch up sides of 9 inch diameter springform pan with 2 3/4 inch high sides.

- ?? Refrigerate while preparing filling.
- ?? Using electric mixer, beat cream cheese in large bowl until fluffy. Add 1 cup sour cream, 1 cup sugar, Grand Marnier, tequila, lime juice and lime peel and beat until well blended. Add eggs 1 at a time, beating just until blended after each addition.
- ?? Pour filling into crust. Bake until center is softly set, about 50 minutes. Maintain oven temperature.
- ?? Mix remaining 1 cup sour cream, 1/4 cup sugar and 1 tablespoon lime juice in small bowl.
- ?? Pour over cheesecake. Using spatula, smooth top.
- ?? Bake cheesecake 5 minutes longer. Transfer pan to rack and cool completely. Refrigerate until well chilled, at least 4 hours or overnight. Run knife around pan sides to loosen cake. Remove pan sides.

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

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Important Numbers

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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
 Lisa Birkman 248-3238
 Travis, Precinct 2
 Karen Sonleitner 854-9222
Dept of Homeland Security 1-800-BEREDY
Poison Control 1-800-POISON 1
 (1-800-764-7661)
Mail: Balcones Post Office
 11900 Jollyville Rd. 331-9802

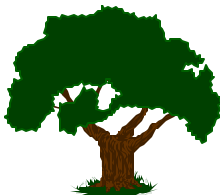
Schools: RRISD 464-5000
 Elementary
 Jollyville 428-2200
 Pond Spring 464-4200
 Live Oak 428-3800
 Middle School
 Deer Park 464-6600
 High School
 McNeil 464-6300
Utilities:
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 City of Austin 494-9400
 Gas
 Southern Union 1-800-700-2443
 Water/Wastewater: NA MUD #1
 Eco Resources 335-7580
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 SBC 1-800-464-7928
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 Texas One Call 1-800-545-6005

Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association
 P.O. Box 200584 – Austin, Tx 78720-0584
Annual Membership Dues – \$20
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June/July Gardening - Keep Your Plants Alive, Not Thriving In The Heat!

Fast Forward---Even without the heavy rains in May, our plants have been growing fast and look great. However, the bad news is that we must shift our thinking ahead to what an Austin summer yard and lawn needs. So...it is time to set your mower as high as possible, mow whenever it needs trimming by 1/3, do not fertilize again until late August, and water deeply whenever you can still see your footprints in the grass after ½ hour.

Unless it rains 1 inch of water every week on your yard, you **NEED** to water your yard and planting beds to keep the plants alive, (not thriving) through the heat of June, July and August. Watch for wilting and then water in early morning for as long as it takes to get water running off. Wait 20 minutes and water again until runoff. This saturates the soil and produces deep roots that grow towards the deep moisture. Wait until you see sign of water stress before watering again. If you have good deep soil and deep roots and 3 inches of mulch on your beds you should be able to only water deeply once a week.

New grass requires more water while the roots are growing so water often enough to dampen the soil to just deeper than the root level. With new seed or sod in full sun, this may be several times per day during a drought with blistering sun and drying wind. Slowly spread out the watering times until October and then just water occasionally for the first winter.

Mature lawns can be watered weekly or less often when the roots are well established and the grass is dense and you mow tall enough so there is shade for the roots.

Do not fertilize grass now, with a high nitrogen fertilizer, it will cause rapid top growth requiring more water. Also, the heat will evaporate the fertilizer and rain will wash it into the creeks. From August to October, spread 1/2 inch of Dillo dirt or other compost to encourage deep turf and roots.

When watering, give all plants a long, deep soaking to encourage a deep root system. To find out how long your watering system takes to output 1 inch of water, put out opened cans around the

water sprinklers to measure the length of time it takes to accumulate 1" of water. This time tells you how long to run the sprinklers. Although, if water runs off before this time is up, move to watering another area for an hour or so and return to sprinkle the area again to complete the full time. The amount of water required by full sun or by shaded areas is greatly different so watch for the wilting and then adjust the length of watering time for each area. This is your most efficient use of water and assures the best survival of the plants

The best time to water is in the early morning before dawn which allows the leaves time to dry before the sun scorches them through the magnifying-glass drops of water on the leaves. It also lessens the possibility of fungus that is encouraged by humidity and darkness. Slowly stretch the time between waterings out to once every 5 or 7 days and you will have healthier plants, save water, and comply with the water conservation guidelines.

(Continued on page 9)



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(Continued from page 8)

Keep a 3" to 4" depth of mulch on the planting beds and around large shrubs and trees to discourage weed growth, help hold in the moisture, and keep the soil and plant roots cooler.

Other tips for summer:

- ?? **If your grass leaves have turned yellow**, water less or spread chelated iron or iron sulfate.
- ?? **Raise the lawnmower blades** as high as you can get them now. Mow often enough so that only 1/3 of the grass blades are cut off. Tall grass develops a deeper, more water efficient root system.
- ?? **Remove old flower heads** from all annuals and perennials. This is commonly called dead heading and encourages new blooms.
- ?? **Cut the seed heads** off the crape myrtles after they finish blooming in late July to encourage another round of flowers.
- ?? **Be sparing with fertilizer on native plants** as they tend to grow rampant and do not bloom as well when over fed.
- ?? **Do not fertilize grass now**, it will just grow fast

and require more water and mowing.

- ?? **Spray crape myrtles** with Cloud Cover or another anti-transpirant to prevent powdery mildew. If the mildew is already present, spray with Benomyl mildew control. Fungus can also be controlled with an application of copper and liquid seaweed, 1 tablespoon to a gallon of water sprayed on the leaves.
- ?? **Mealy bugs** are controlled with Safer Insecticidal Soap sprayed three times at 7 day intervals. This also controls aphids, thrips, scale, whitefly, spider mites, and earwigs. **Thrips leave white fluffy** deposits on twigs and the thrips look much like the deposits. They are more of a problem in hot dry weather and suck the juices from plants damaging them. If you have encouraged lady bugs and other insects, they will help control the thrips. Try washing them off the plants with a hose spray first. Before spraying insecticide which may kill all the insects including the good ones.
- ?? **Use sun screen** and wear a hat to protect your skin from ultraviolet rays which cause sunburn, premature aging and cancer. **To raise the SPF**

(Continued on page 10)

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(Continued from page 9)

of your clothing to SPF30, put all your outdoor clothes in the washer, use the hottest water safe for the fabrics of the clothes, add during the wash cycle a packet of Rit Sun Guard laundry treatment for UV protectant available at the fabric stores with the RIT dye products. It reduces my sun allergy runny nose problem greatly.

Mow and Mulch: Sharpen your mower and raise it to the highest setting. Mulch the lawn by returning the clippings back on the grass. Mulching reduces the need for fertilizer and water and inhibits weed growth. Any sharp mower can mulch if your mowing pattern causes clippings to be recut a second time if needed. For the last 18 years I have been mulching grass back into the yard. I spread Dillo dirt or fertilize lightly after 3 mowings or in May and October, and use no pesticides except Logic in spring and fall and Orthene for spot treatment for the fire ants. The yard looked the best it ever had in '97 when the fall and spring rain made the difference. We may not be so lucky this year.


Newly planted plants in beds, need extra watering for the first 2 years. Water before stress shows or you may kill the plants with small root systems and this is false economy. For new plants; 1st week-water every day; 1st month-water 3 times per week. For the following spring through fall-2 times per week unless it rains more than 1 inch, and; during winter-once per week or as needed.

The goal is to encourage root growth away from the plant so use a leaky hose for watering and cover the soil with 4 inches of mulch to develop healthy plants which will make it through the summer, winter, and look great next year.


Trees in stress: show as trees which are receding (not growing leaves to the tips of the branches this year) or with brown leaf tips. Construction damages tree roots by compacting the soil, or scraping off the topsoil, or by putting fill dirt over the roots. Death occurs from 1 to 3 years later. In general to save trees in stress, since the roots are not working well, we must give more water and

(Continued on page 11)

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(Continued from page 10)

must get fertilizer to the roots that are left. Put a leaky hose 2/3 of the way out the drip line (or farther away for an established tree) and turn on 1/4 turn to slowly let it run for 6 to 8 hours every 10 days (in July and August every 7 days). Water and fertilizer must reach the roots 6 to 8 inches down, and must reach all roots. Tree spikes and top dressing with fertilizer probably is wasted money, (too little area is covered and fertilizer only works when the tree is rapidly growing.) (For live oaks, this is the 140 days February to May).

All our trees need the bark to be protected from lawn mowers and weed eaters and need their roots to be cool and slowly fed. The method recommended by TexaScapes and TreeFolks is to build up a 3 inch deep mulch bed or tree ring. Make it like a donut at least 3 foot wider than the trunk of the tree (this is one of the times when much larger is much better). Use any organic mulch, pine bark, compost, or composted soil mixture like Back to Earth (BTE) composted cotton seed hulls.

Summer flowers will take extra care in mulching

in and watering until they get roots established. A foliar application sprayed on the leaves with a weak fertilizer or liquid sea weed and fish emulsion mixture will encourage blooming and plant growth. **Full Sun native plants** like the **Salvia Greggii**, **Salvia farinacena 'Mealy Sage**, **Salvia Coccinea 'Coral Nymph**, **verbena**, white mist flower, Blue Mist flower (for hummers) and **lantanna** need very little fertilizer, can take the heat, will bloom until mid fall, and are perennials and will come back up again next year.

Shade loving plants include the **heartleaf skullcap** (*Sculellaria ovata*) that grows in shade and the deer don't touch it. It can stand full sun, and partial shade with beautiful violet-blue flowers from April to June, it colonizes readily by interesting bead-like fleshy roots. It reaches 2 foot height and after blooming, makes a lovely ground cover for the rest of the year. It transplants easily. If you have shade you should be able to establish cedar sage (*Salvia roemeriana*). They grow under cedars in the wild, with natural mulch of cedar needles. The early-blooming bright red flower spikes (March to July) attract hummingbirds. Once established, they need little supplemental water. It doesn't care for even reflected heat and light and probably won't like strong west sun. And they are deer resistant. **Tropical sage/scarlet sage** (*salvia coccinea*) will reseed all over your flower beds. Why not dig up the volunteers and transplant them, expanding your bed and reduce the lawn. It requires little water to look best, and will however, limp through the summer heat on Nature's supply. **Inland sea oats** (*Chasmanthium latifolium*) is a clumping perennial grass 2 to 4 feet in height, that likes shade, dappled shade or half day sun. They have beautiful green to tan seed flags in fall, you

(Continued on page 16)

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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: _____			
(As it appears on NAM1 bill)			
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 (Up to 4 ID Badges if needed)	@ \$200 per household	\$ _____
_____ Additional O.D. ID Badge	@ \$20 each additional badge	\$ _____
_____ Guest Admittance (only with ID Badges)	@ \$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 \$ _____

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

June 2004



June 1-30:

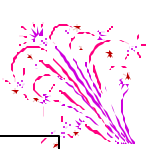
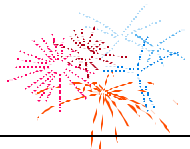
Mon – Fri:	Swim Team	7:00 AM - 11:00 AM
	Open Swim	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Saturdays:	Open Swim	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Sundays:	Open Swim	Noon to 9:00 PM

**Teen Nights: June 4th & 18th
8:00 PM to 10:30 PM
\$2.00 Cover Charge**

July 2004

July 1-11:

Mon – Fri:	Swim Team	7:00 AM - 11:00 AM
	Open Swim	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Saturdays:	Open Swim	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Sundays:	Open Swim	Noon to 9:00 PM



July 4th - Independence Day

July 12-31:

Mon -Fri:	Open Swim	9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Saturdays:	Open Swim	9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Sundays:	Open Swim	Noon to 9:00 PM

**Teen Nights: July 2nd, 16th & 30th – 8:00 PM to 10:30 PM
\$2.00 Cover Charge**

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

**Manager - Mandy Paul
Pool phone - 257-8175**

**Clearwater Management
Phone - 331-7066**

August 2004

August 1-15:

Mon - Fri:	Open Swim	9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Saturdays:	Open Swim	9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Sundays:	Open Swim	Noon to 9:00 PM

August 16th - School Opens



August 16-31:

Mon - Fri	Open Swim	4:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Saturdays	Open Swim	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Sundays	Open Swim	Noon - 9:00 PM

**Teen Night: August 13th – 8:00 PM to 10:30 PM
\$2.00 Cover Charge**

September 2004

Sept 1-15:	Mon - Fri	Open Swim	4:30 PM - 8:00 PM
	Saturdays	Open Swim	11:00 AM - 8:00 PM
	Sundays	Open Swim	Noon to 8:00 PM

Sept 6th: Labor Day Celebration!
Open Swim 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM

September 16th: Pool Opens for Winter Swim

Sept 16-30:

Monday - Wednesday – Friday:	Open Swim	Noon to 1:30PM & 4:30PM - 8:00PM
Saturdays :	Open Swim	Noon - 8:00 PM
Sundays:	Open Swim	Noon - 8:00 PM

NOTES: See other pages for Membership Application for Pool Use.

Applications MUST be submitted to:

ECO Resources
NAM1 Pool Tags
9511 Ranch Road 620 North
Austin, Texas 78726

Once your 2004 application is received and processed, you can take your 2003 badge to the pool for validation.

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

(Continued from page 11)

can use or share the seeds. It is the larval host for some skipper butterflies, so your caterpillar-loving birds will thank you. Caution though, if you plant on thin soil, you must water it, so give it deeper soil, maybe in a low drainage area and it will thrive. **Chile pequin** (*Capsicum annuum*) is an airy perennial growing 2 to 4 feet tall. Your mockingbirds will risk their lives for the red peppers so plant where they can see the cats coming. It takes shade to sun in well-drained soil and does fine on rainfall alone. The **Lyre-leaf sage** (*Salvia lyranta*) hails from East Texas so a little extra water will be needed. It reseeds readily in loose soils and makes a groundcover with an evergreen rosette. It attracts hummingbirds and butterflies. The **Texas aster** (*aster texanus*) is easy to grow in dappled shade with beautiful light blue flowers

Small understory trees and shrubs fill out our landscapes and provide resting and nesting places for birds. These Texas-grown trees and shrubs are adapted to the hot weather. **Desert Willows** (*Chilopsis linearis*) is a full-sun flowering tree.

They are a multistory restaurant for hummingbirds. They begin blooming before the crepe Myrtles and bloom until late fall. They require little water so plant them in a sunny corner of the fence and they can even be planted in summer. **Texas Sages** or Cenizo (*Leucophyllum frutescens*) can grow to be a large bush though they take pruning well. Leaves are light gray and blooms are pink to light blue shortly after a rain. Do not over-water they will grow fast and get leggy. Again, 3 of them in a sunny corner of the fence will do great.

Work toward getting your yard certified as a Best of Texas Backyard Habitat by adding plants to your yard that provide food, protection and cover, water, and a place to raise the young. These plants may provide you with the basis for certifying your landscape at the Best of Texas Backyard Habitats (BTBH) level that will recognize you as a leader in environmental stewardship and wildlife conservation. This program is a merging of the programs called Wildscapes by Texas Park and Wildlife Dept.

(Continued on page 22)



The Critter Nannies

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- ?? **Pet Sitting** - Feed, water, exercise, change litter, cage cleaning, special meal preparation, administer medication and attend to any other special needs your pet or home may have.
- ?? **Dog Walks** - 20 - 30 minute dog walk and playtime, water check.
- ?? **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.
- ?? **Welcome Home Service** - Fresh Milk, bread or goodies waiting for your arrival.

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Milwood Resident- 13 years / RCNA Member



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Milwood Resident/RCNA Member RCNA Event Sponsor

EASTER THANKS!!

Wow! What a fun day. The rain held off, the kids came and everyone seemed to have a great time. Thank you to all the people it took to pull off an event like this.

Boy scout troop 164 : Thank you for helping load and unload.

Girl scout troop 1428 : Thank you for helping staff the baby area, the hunt and clean up after the event.

Thank you for the donations:

Our Egg stuffers: *Elizabeth, Laura and Brian George, Zachary and Katie Drozd, Abbey Sinclair, Jennifer Bader, Alfonso and Vanessa Young ,Rebecca Thomson, Allison Van Horn, Tori Beechinor, Alex Taylor and the kids in Mrs. Zamadics' class at Pond Springs Elementary.*

Stephanie Freeman, Leslie, David and Kathryn Barnes, Cheryl StTorres,

Nancy Hader, The Rebman Family, the Vaughn family, Kathy Tischer, Theresa Callen, Jo Jones, April Bliss and other members of the neighborhood.

I would like to give a special thank you to the *Jollyville Fire Department* and *Constable Gary Griffin* for making our parade a success.

Our activities would not be the same without help from these special individuals in the neighborhood. Get involved in the RCNA. It is a wonderful way to meet your neighbors and be involved in something great.

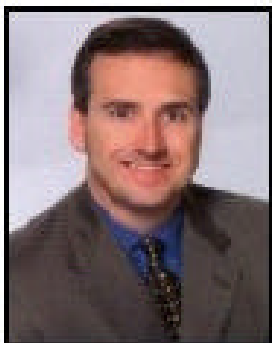
Please remember to pay your dues. It makes events like this one happen.

Thank you Milwood,
Dallas Hall

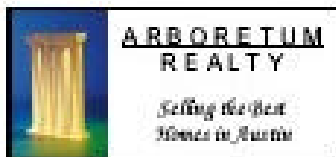


Your Milwood Team

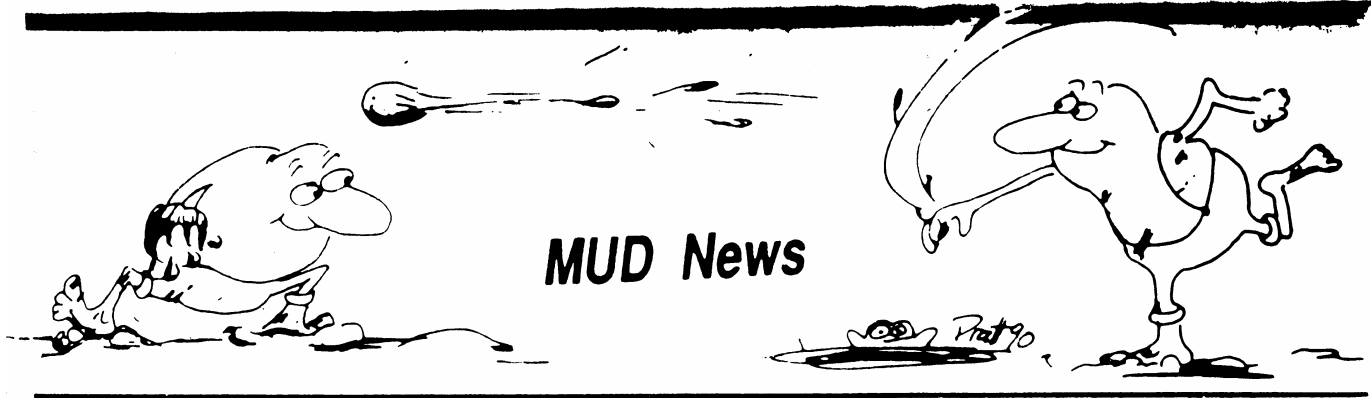
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**North Austin Municipal Utility District #1
Board of Directors Report on Commercial
Development, Parks, and Pool Activities:**

Our contractor for inspections of Restrictive Covenant Violations: The Treasure of the Hills Senior Citizens Community Center, Inc. reported: on May 5, that; there were: 15: new complaints filed, 2 calls for advice, 14 first letters sent, 5 second letter sent, no violations were sent to the MUD Attorney for action, and 11 cases closed (violation corrected).

**Possible Development on Anderson Mill Road
and Parmer Lane corner lot:**

The Board was contacted by an engineering firm about a modification to the land use plan for the retail zoned lot on the South West corner of Anderson Mill Road and Parmer Lane. Trammel Crow representatives have begun working with the Bluffs Home Owners Association (HOW) and the Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association (RCNA) boards. Proposed is a change from all retail to 5.788 acres of retail and 10.212 acres of multi-family. Discussion continues.

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.**

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.

The COA staff decided it was too expensive to actually test the water main along McNeil and the outcome would likely be bad also since it had been abandoned. It was agreed by all that the use of this main should not be considered further...

Three remaining alternatives were subsequently discussed which were: 1) installing rechlorination facilities at the Martin Hill Reservoir, 2) converting the northwest A pressure zone distribution mains within the District to northwest B supply mains. And 3) installing temporary in-line booster stations within the District.

Action on alternative 1) was: The District engineer provided the City staff with information on installing rechlorination facilities. Later correspondence from the City Staff rejected the rechlorination process for multiple reasons.

Action on alternative 2) was: City Staff stated it would be several years before this conversion could actually be completed. The City staff then requested District data so they could properly analyze such an option. The District Engineer has provided the information and Staff responded that the analysis would begin by the end of May. This does not seem to be a short-term solution at this time.

Action on alternative 3) was: It appears that the only near term solution is to install two temporary

(Continued from page 18)

water pressure booster stations within the District. Later discussion confirmed that the pumps are actually 3 pumps with 2 normally running. If one fails, the backup pump takes over the load with no loss of pressure. The approximately \$600,000 funds for the booster pumps will come out of surplus water and drainage funds which must be used for these types of projects. And when the District is annexed by the City, any of these remaining funds will go to the City and thus it will not cost the residents of the district to have the booster pumps installed.

Homeowner’s Insurance Rate Decrease? Work continues, the General Manager is gathering fire water system flow data to be used in our submittal to hopefully reduce our homeowner’s insurance costs due to better fire protection for our homes.

Amarillo Ave. Entrance sign is nearing completion. The stone work and landscaping have been completed. The lighting contract was approved so watch for the lighted sign soon.

Rattan Creek Park Pool: The pool maintenance work continued with 5 pool lights repaired or replaced, note that the cost for 3 was under warranty. The Hurricane Swim Team is busy practicing in the evenings and is changing to mornings on May 21st. The lap swimmers are working out on Tuesday and Thursday. The 5th graders will have graduation parties at the pool and park for Jollyville Elementary on May 21st and for Pond Springs Elementary on May 25th. The RCNA members swim party was very successful, reportedly, all the BBQ was eaten before the rains came.


There will be a lockable bulletin board installed for official announcements and a neighbor’s pin-on board installed on the East side of the pool building.

A pool slide was approved for \$35,000 with installation planned by July 4th.

Rattan Creek Playscape: The Board and the RCNA neighborhood association are looking for volunteers to help in re-designing and replacing the

(Continued on page 20)

A subsidiary of Southwest Water Company



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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
Treasurer (5/08)
kcollins@northaustinmud1.org

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

Place Three - **Jo Jones,** 335-1805
Secretary(5/08)
jrjones@northaustinmud1.org

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

Place Five - **Chuck Simms,** 331-9630
Ass’t Treasurer/Secretary (5/08)
csimms@northaustinmud1.org

Website: www.northaustinmud1.org

(Continued from page 19)

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 and a contract was approved to mow around the plants, refresh the mulch rings, and install 2 support poles on the large trees.

The long-term maintenance schedule was reviewed and Director Simms recommended a change to a Wildflower Managed Mowing program with a mow in summer (May or June) after the wildflowers dropped their seeds and again in winter (December or January) to weaken non-native plants and shrubs. The Board could consider additional mowings if requests from greenbelt neighbors are submitted.

The motion by Director Simms died for lack of a second. Other changes to the Landscape Maintenance Agreement with TexaScapes company as presented in writing by Director Simms were not discussed. Director Simms subsequently resigned from the Rattan Creek Park/Greenbelt Subcommittee due to lack of support. Director Ripperda appointed a new committee to be made of Directors McNeil and Conklin. Director Ripperda moved that no deviations from contracts by any consultant without prior approval of three Board members. The motion was approved.

Other actions by the Board are listed under the area of the work to be performed.

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 certificates have been received and the signs will be installed in all 3 habitat areas 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 has been designed and will be installed soon.

Rattan Creek Park All 3 of the fountains are working now.

Robinson Park Humphrey Drive access road: No change

Robinson Park Drainage projects: The Board approved the clean up of the drainage channel that empties near Anderson Mill Road and on-going mowing of the channel. Also the construction of erosion control cross vane in the East Tributary of Lake Creek near the soccer backstop was approved.

The Board directed Mr. Malish of Murfee Engineering to prepare a Robinson Park map to scale for Mr. Fadal of TexaScapes. Director Conklin was requested to conduct a Robinson Park Subcommittee meeting work session regarding mowing patterns in Robinson Park.

Water and Wastewater service for the #620 Turnpike: No change.

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 the RCNA neighborhood association, Scout troops, and the Hurricanes Swim Team.

(Continued on page 21)

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 20)

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.

The Board held a work session on the Recreation Center on May 12, 2004. The committee was directed to contact architectural firms to begin to select one to design the facilities.

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.

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

Website: www.northaustinmd1.org

Rattan Fest/Patriot Day Planning meeting:

**Anyone interested or has ideas,
please come to the
RCNA meeting at
Rattan Creek Pool 7pm
June 17th.**

**We are looking for ideas
to make this a
memorable festival for all.**

**Volunteers are also needed to
help organize and run
Rattan Fest/Patriot Day
Festivities.**

Or call Dallas Hall at 257-3494

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Health and Safety Tips for Your Pet

It's summer time and that means special care for our pets. Summertime temperatures and humidity, parked cars, jogging, beaches, swimming pools and "the wind in your face" can be hazardous to your pet's health.

Leave your pets at home:

Don't let that eager look as you pull out the keys cloud your judgment. Even if you park in the shade and there's a nice breeze blowing outside, the temperature inside a car can shoot up to dangerous levels within minutes (120 degrees or higher!) even with the windows down. Unlike humans, pets cannot perspire to cool themselves. The movement of air into and out of the lungs allows them to maintain their normal body temperature. Panting and salivation are outward signs that your pet is overheating. When humidity and temperature exceed beyond the point at which these cooling mechanisms can maintain body heatstroke results which - and that can mean permanent brain damage or even death to your pet. So don't take chances with your pet's life - leave him at home!

Shelter:

Dogs and cats need to have a cool place to stay when the summer temperatures soar, either inside or out. When it's really hot, the shade from a tree will not keep your pet cool enough. He needs a doghouse or other shelter to protect from the heat. Dogs and cats can get sunburned just like people. Their ears and noses which are not protected by thick fur are especially susceptible.

Water:

Make sure your pet always has access to cool, clean water, especially in the summer heat. Refill overturned bowls and freshen water, but never give your pet ice water, which can shock the system, and cause severe upsets

Beach and Pool:

If you take your pet to the beach, be sure to provide ample shade as well, and hose him down after he has swum in the salt water. Protect your pet's feet from the hot sand or pavement. Dog's and cat's foot pads are very sensitive to heat and can easily

(Continued on page 24)



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(Continued from page 23)

blister.

While many pets love to swim, chlorinated water irritates your pets eyes, and heat and sunlight around a pool are intense. Never leave your pet unattended around a pool. Once in, a dog cannot get out without help, and may soon panic and drown.

Ticks and Fleas:

Carefully go over your pets body at least once a week to check for fleas, ear mites and tiny bumps or cuts. Bring your pet to the vet for a spring/summer check-up and use a good flea and tick repellent that your veterinarian recommends. This can come in the form of a dietary supplement or a powder or spray.

Hair is a natural insulator whether the it is warm or cool. In the summer, an animal's coat insulates against sun, heat and insect bites. Regular brushing removes dirt and loose undercoat, which cleans and cools your pet. When you brush, check around the ears, between toes, along the legs, at the lower abdomen and base of tail.

Travel:

If you plan to take your pet on a long car trip, take him on several short trips to condition him for the journey. Travel can be very stressful for a pet: try to eliminate as much of the stress as possible. When taking your dog in the car have your pet ride completely inside the car with you, just like any other member of the family. Pets allowed to ride with their heads out the window and those relegated to the back of a pick-up truck are in danger of injury from debris embedding itself in their eyes, nostrils, ear canals, and throat. Pets riding in the back of a pick-up truck can overheat from the sun off reflected roadways or be injured during a rough ride, or actually be thrown out onto the road, if you brake suddenly.

Exercise:

Dogs are naturally designed for sprinting, not for uninterrupted running or jogging. During such exercise, the body temperature rises faster than excess heat can be dissipated. In the summer, exercise of any kind should be cut back and limited to the cooler, early morning or later evening hours.

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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/oGuinevere Morse**

13222 Marrero, Austin, Tx 78729
or email: guineveremorse@yahoo.com
496-0532

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)

Rattan Fest Time

Rattan Fest will be held this year on Saturday, September 11th and the rain date has been set as Saturday, September 25th. Because September 11th is also Patriot Day, we want this years festival to be special.

Booths will be free of charge for those who sign up before September 1st. If sign up is after September 1st or on the day of the event; the charge will be \$10.00 for your booth.

This community event would be perfect for any organization needing to hold a fund raiser at the beginning of the school year.

Artsy - Craftsy type folks, neighbors who have home based business; this is a perfect event to show your stuff. Great way to get a head start on holiday shopping.

Watch the website www.rattancreek.org for more information, as well as the August newsletter.

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13222 Marrero Austin, Tx 78729
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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

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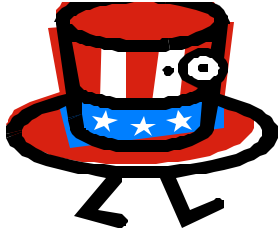
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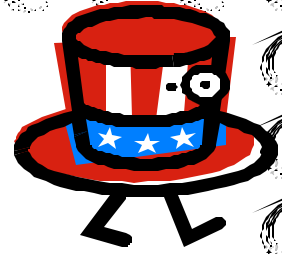
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