



# Rattan Creek Neighborhood News

Serving Milwood at North Austin MUD #1 since 1983

Distributed Every Other Month By The Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association, Vol. 21, No. 1

February/March 2006

## Around Milwood

### Notice to Residents of North Austin MUD #1:

The following changes will be happening this year:



**Rattan Creek Park:** The playscape area will be under construction. Phase 1 of 2 has begun. Phase 1 is the replacement of one swing set and the tire swing. The old playscapes will have to be removed for the preparation necessary for the new playscapes this Spring. The new playscapes will be ADA compliant.

We do have another park, Robinson Park, located at the corner of Humphrey and Amasia, that will be open and available for use during this time.

### Tennis courts management:

The MUD district has decided to hire a professional tennis court management company to manage and handle the new tennis court rules and regulations that will be going into effect beginning this Spring. Also brought to attention is the fact that some folks do not observe proper tennis etiquette and attire. Please try to be courteous to your fellow tennis players.



**Robinson Park:** The youth soccer fields at Robinson Park had goals added in the middle to deter adult play. It appears we were having several adult leagues from out of the district using and abusing the youth fields. These changes were made to prevent any further destruction of these fields.



Look to the website: [www.northaustinmud1.org](http://www.northaustinmud1.org) for more information, as well as an update in the April/May issue of the Rattan Creek Newsletter.

## EVENTS

### February

Feb 14 Valentine's Day 

Feb 15 MUD Meeting, 6:00pm  
9511 RR 620 North

Feb 16 RCNA Meeting, 7:00pm  
7600 Windrush

Feb 27 RRISD Staff Development

### March

Mar 13-17 Spring Break

Mar 22 MUD Meeting, 6pm   
9511 RR 620 North

Mar 23 RCNA Meeting, 7pm  
7600 Windrush

Mar 25-26 Neighborhood Wide  
Garage Sale—pg 10

### April

Apr 1 Jollyville Elementary  
Spring Fling 11:00-3:00

Apr 1-2 Neighborhood Wide  
Clean-up - Pg 11

Apr 2 Time Change-Spring ahead

Apr 13 RRISD Bad Weather  
Makeup Day

Apr 13 Passover

Apr 14 Good Friday

Apr 15 Easter Egg Hunt  
Rattan Creek Park 

Apr 19 MUD Meeting, 6 pm  
9511 RR 620 North

Apr 20 RCNA Meeting, 7 pm  
Rattan Creek Pool

### May

May 13 RCNA "Members Only"  
Pool Party 1-5pm 

May 14 Mother's Day

May 17 MUD Meeting, 6 pm

May 18 RCNA Meeting, 7pm

Visit our website at  
[www.rattancreek.org](http://www.rattancreek.org)

RCNA Board of Directors  
 P.O. Box 200584  
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*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](mailto:JRJones@austin.rr.com)*

# Block Captains and Section Heads Needed for Newsletter Delivery:

We need Block Captains for the following streets:  
**Athens Trail (35) Part of Amasia (26)**

Block Captains deliver newsletters 6 times a year to homes on their street. If your street is one of the ones mentioned above, you will not receive newsletters until someone steps forward to deliver to your block. Newsletters are available at the sign at the Rattan Creek Park. *Numbers in ( ) is the number of houses.*

We need Section Heads for

## Athens Trail Area

(Athens Trail includes Portland, Moscow, Albania & Bolivia)  
 Section Heads receive a bulk count of newsletters for their section of the neighborhood. They are responsible for the delivery of the newsletters to the block captains of their section.

**A big Thank You to Al Delbarrio for volunteering to be a block captain!**


*If you would like to volunteer as a block captain please contact Jennifer or Dave at 257-3380.*

**If you need copies of your Deed Restrictions:**

You may contact Armbrust & Brown (Attorney for the MUD district) at 435-2360. Ask for Katherine Thompson.

- There is a charge for the copies.
- You will need your legal description (ie. lot, block, and section of Milwood)

Once you have paid for the copies, a set will be mailed to you.



## Hurricane Swim Team Registration

**Friday, April 21 6-8 pm - YMCA on McNeil**  
**Saturday, April 22 10-12 am-Rattan Creek Pool**

*All families need to bring at least 2 checks, calendar for volunteer sign-up & information regarding their child's Doctor & contact #.*

**For more information:**  
**E-mail: [kgreen25@austin.rr.com](mailto:kgreen25@austin.rr.com)**

## President's Notes

Happy New Year Rattan Creek neighbors, family and friends. I'm finding it hard to believe it's **2006**. Did anyone else have to cross out and initial checks? Our focus this issue as it is always this time of year is membership.

Membership in your Neighborhood Association is going to be my primary focus! Everyone we do and would like to do starts here. **We need you to join.** Unlike most neighborhoods' associations Rattan Creeks' is **completely voluntary.** Last year the board discussed different options to increase membership and we believe most people would join if it were more convenient.

Soon you will be receiving a flyer to your door with a self-addressed envelope please take the time to fill it out and send it in with your **\$25** contribution. You can also look on the back of this news letter and cut it out and send it in or pay by Paypal, just go to our web site <http://www.rattancreek.org/membership.htm> and click on the Paypal link.

That's correct only **\$25 annually.** Read the

flyer or RCNA Dues for 2006 on the back of this letter and see all that your contribution goes toward.

Next, for all you super neighbors who have joined in the past and are joining this year please talk to the friends around you and ask them if they are members. If they are not ask them to join us. Which brings me to a higher level of commitment, volunteering. **Your neighborhood needs you!** The amount of time you spend could be very little and not even regular. We need Committee Members, Block Captains (Newsletter), Section Heads (Newsletter) and people to help with events.

I myself don't have a lot of time. My daughter Kathryn was born 11-20-05, with her in addition to my two-year-old son Peter; I don't have the time I'd like to as President. If I haven't taken the time to return phone calls or get back to you I apologize.

I also want to let our neighbors know that the system of mail pick needs to be streamlined, right now it is too slow. Our board is looking into ways to make it faster. I conclude by thanking everyone who has given/will give their time and money to help make Rattan Creek the beautiful place it is to live.

See you around the Neighborhood.

John Lenz, President

Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association



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or call your neighbor

**Cindy Scott 970-0599**

# Around Rattan Creek

## New Neighbors and Babies:

### New Babies:

*Kathryn Anne Lenz  
Born November 20, 2005,  
weighing 7lbs, 14 ozs.  
To John and Sharon Lenz and  
big brother Peter Joseph Lenz*



### New Neighbors:

*No New Neighbors*



*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 Kelly Buczek at 258-6842, Or email to her at [kelly@catscradle.us](mailto:kelly@catscradle.us)*

## The Critter Nannies



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## Milwood Parent Activities

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

- New playgroup for babies/toddlers born between September 2004 and August 2005. Email Sheila at [sheila\\_dhir\\_hughes@yahoo.com](mailto:sheila_dhir_hughes@yahoo.com). If you don't have email, feel free to call 257-3672.
- Playgroup for babies (and their Moms) with birth dates from around July/August 2003 to 2004: Call Lori Poppe at 258-1952 or e-mail at [loripoppe@yahoo.com](mailto:loripoppe@yahoo.com).
- 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](mailto:tmckinley1@yahoo.com) for places and times we meet.
- Do you work out of your home? If you are self-employed or otherwise office out of your Milwood house, how would you like a little company? We can get together over coffee once a month or so and keep up with what's going on in the world. Please call Susan Morrow at 257-2737 or e-mail me at [smorrow@wordsarewe.com](mailto:smorrow@wordsarewe.com).
- Moms in Touch International <http://www.momsintouch.org> for McNeil High School meets at 13025 Muldoon Dr. Wednesdays from 1-2 p.m. This is a prayer group for Moms who have a student enrolled at McNeil High. We pray for our students as well as the staff and administration of McNeil. Please contact Annette Anderson, 250-5137 or for more information : [andersonhome@austin.rr.com](mailto:andersonhome@austin.rr.com).

**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 starting a Bunco group? **Contact Jennifer at 257-9383** or [jenjacoby@hotmail.com](mailto:jenjacoby@hotmail.com) to have your message posted.

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

**February/March Gardening**

**Planting Time** is almost here, although, we can still have a freeze past Valentines day and into mid March.

**Plant some colorful annual plants.** For spring and summer color, try carnations, mums, petunias and bluebonnets. A small bed or some pots with some annual flowers provides a spot of color for your yard at a nominal cost. They are more visible and easier to maintain if they are near a door or window to enjoy and to remind you to water, fertilize, and deadhead them periodically.

**Most of the herbs** do well in pots and make your front entrance smell great after a rain or when you water them. Try Rosemary, Thyme, Basil, Mints (a dozen types, great for adding to tea), or a couple of Chile Pequin (has small red peppers). Use pots bigger than you think you need,(but small enough to move in or out of the sun) remember, plants grow, and several plants in a pot make a bushy bouquet quickly. A pot can make a pretty touch to the **front sidewalk, deck, patio, or driveway.**

Improve the look and value of your home.

**Perennial flowers and shrubs** will come back each spring and provide many years of enjoyment.

**For full sun** areas there are the lemon colored and the hot pink Verbenas, Blue and White Mist-flower, several types of Lantana, Mealy Blue Sage that spread well and bloom all summer in full sun.

For **partial shade** the red and yellow Texas Gold Columbine are great plants (mine stayed green all winter), nice lacy, blue green foliage and they bloom most of the summer with an occasional foliar feeding of liquid seaweed or something. They really need compost for mulch to do well in mottled shade. The Fall Asters, Purple Coneflower, Tropical Sage, Turks Cap and Zemenia all bloom in partial shade and will attract and feed butterflies and hummingbirds and birds to your yard. A very relaxing sight.

**Trees** - It is always time to plant trees so if you have been putting it off, select a few 1 to 5 gallon

*(Continued on page 7)*



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# Rattan

## Learn to Swim Program

by Clearwater Management - 331-7066

**Qualified Instructors** **2006** **For Ages 3 to Adult**

**COST:** \$45.00 per student,

**Swimming Lessons:** **Sign up Starting May 6 at the Pool 12:00 noon**

8 - 25 minute lessons

Student/Teacher ratio - **1:5**

Monday - Thursday sessions, Friday used as makeup day if necessary..

**MINIMUM** of three (3) students per class.

### LESSON SKILL LEVELS AVAILABLE

-TOT BEGINNER (under 3 yrs. old Private Only) ( **Contact Pool Manager for all Private Lessons** )

-BEGINNER

-INTERMEDIATE

-ADVANCED BEGINNER

<b><u>SESSIONS:</u></b>	<b><u>DATES:</u></b>	<b><u>CLASS Times For Each Session</u></b>
SESSION I	May 30 - JUNE 9 (T-F)	9:00 - 9:30 AM
SESSION II	JUNE 12 - JUNE 22 (M-TH)	9:45 - 10:15 AM
SESSION III	JUNE 26 - JULY 7 (M-TH)	10:30 - 11:00 AM
SESSION IV	JULY 10- JULY 20 (M-TH)	Evenings: 5:30- 6:00PM
SESSION V	JULY 24 - AUGUST 4 (M-TH)	6:15 - 6:45 PM

**No Lessons on Holidays**

*We reserve the right to eliminate or combine class times if there are not enough students signed up to fill a class at a particular time.*

Tear off and Return

### Swim Lesson Registration

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Class Level: \_\_\_\_\_ Session: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Existing Swimming Skill: Beginner \_\_\_\_\_ Advanced Beginner \_\_\_\_\_ Intermediate \_\_\_\_\_

*Instructors will evaluate the student's skills and may move to another level class*

(Continued from page 5)

trees and start growing the beauty and shade you'll enjoy for years. Remember, deciduous trees on the South and West side of the house to block the summer sun and let in the heat after the leaves fall in the winter. Large shade trees include the Cedar Elm, Chinquapin Oak,, Bigtooth Maple, the Chinese Pistache, and the large Burr Oak.

**Some of the evergreen favorite trees** are: Large Live Oaks, and smaller trees Texas Mountain Laurel (for a small tree with beautiful and fragrant blooms in the spring), Cherry Laurel, Southern Wax Myrtle, Yaupon holly , Montezuma Cypress do lose their leaves for a short time.(plant in a low spot, they need a lot of water to stay green).Some pecan trees but require a lot of spraying etc, so check with the Travis County Extension office for a variety that will do well in your neighborhood.

**For under story size trees** with beautiful spring blooms, plant and enjoy the Mexican Plum, Texas Redbud, Texas Persimmon (a bit dirty with dropping fruit, so put one or three in a corner), or Desert Willow in full sun, or the Possumhaw with the scarlet red berries visable this time of the year.

**Shrubs for sun/part shade** include the Argarita, Bear Grass, Cherry Sage, Dwarf Wax Myrtle, Dwarf Yaupon Holly, Evergreen Sumac, Glossy Abelia, the Hawthornes,and a large bush with green changing to white to purple berries that the Mocking Birds love, the American Beautyberry.

**Remember to water new plants** weekly to monthly during dry spells for the first year, periodically for the first 2 years to establish the roots. After that your watering can be determined by how fast you want the plants to grow.

**Tree folks says** to be sure to have a wide ring of soil covered with mulch around the base of the tree, at least 3-4" deep mulch will stretch out the time between waterings. As it decomposes it provides food for earthworms and other little soil builders. Earthworms bring rich subsoil to the soil surface and decompose organic matter into invaluable compost. They also leave tracks in the soil which allow moisture and air deep down where your tree roots need them.

Check the moisture level of your tree at least once per week . When the soil is dry 1" below the

(Continued on page 8)

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(Continued from page 7)

surface, water the tree slowly and deeply. Recommend at least 5 gallons per week for the first year and double that the second. That's for a well mulched tree. It takes much more water for trees without good mulch cover of the soil.

**Add Compost** - As always, add composted material to beds and lawns for slow release fertilizer and to add organic matter to our Blackland Prairie heavy clay soil. If you have very little soil over layers of limestone, you need organic matter also. The nurseries have composted material by the bag and by the truck load. Several of our neighbors split a 6 yard truck load of Dillo Dirt to share the cost of the delivery truck every year or so in Spring or Fall. It sure makes great looking flowers and grass and helps lower the pH of our alkaline soil which releases the nutrients to the plant roots. Dillo Dirt is available in bags now at many of the local nurseries.

**Tree Care Should Wait** - We can still have a freeze through Valentines day so pruning fertilizing and cleanup of yards should wait until late February. These activities stimulate new growth

that can be easily killed by a late frost. Most plants require warm nights (when the soil is really warm) before much growth starts in the spring.

Since I had a virus or fungus under the bark of one of our live oak trees a few years ago, and I talked to a dozen or more people and got a short course in live oak maintenance. As I remember it, live oak trees grow for 120 days from February to May when they shed their leaves, grow the yellow flowers, drop them and grow new leaves. This is the time to fertilize and provide extra water to live oak trees. The main roots are 8 to 10 inches down and require access to oxygen from the soil.

**I you have compacted soil in your yard** where the water and air do not reach the roots, the best treatment is to rent an aerator, run it over your yard and then fertilize with 1/8 to 1/4 inch of Dillo Dirt. If you have a sprinkler system, mark the location of the heads and stay away from the sprinkler heads.

If your trees are in real stress have a tree company inject some liquid fertilizer every square foot to beyond the drip line. Then water deeply

(Continued on page 9)

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(Continued from page 8)

with a soaker hose every week for 2 years. This saved my tree but usually such drastic measures shouldn't be required if most of the roots haven't been paved over or severed.

**Do NOT smother tree roots**, with more than 2 or 3 inches of soil, mulch, rocks, or anything over the roots of trees (especially Live Oaks). It will reduce the ability of the roots to gather oxygen, exclude carbon dioxide, and limit water flow. This greatly slows the growth of the tree and some trees will die.

One of our neighbors recently put 5 to 6 inches of 2-3 inch river rock in his backyard under 3 large Live Oaks where the shade and pacing dog had turned the St. Augustine grass into mud. By early January, one tree was quickly losing leaves and the other two did not have nice shiny leaves. After we looked at them, we called in an expert from Davey Tree (was Caldwell Tree) who suggested waiting until spring to see if they grew out. The deep stones were not helping it grow and so the owner removed down to a couple of inches at most. They were also

going to deep fertilize the trees in the Live Oak growth season of mid January to March when they drop leaves, bloom, pollinate, drop blooms and hulls, and grow new leaves. This early spring fertilization usually does wonders for the strength and growth of live oak trees.

**Pruning and Maintenance** - At a Xeriscape Garden Club meeting Pat Wentworth discussed pruning and maintenance of trees. Pat is very involved in the local state and international arborist associations, has his own company and comes well recommended. His answer on how to fertilize trees was do what nature does; put 2 or 3 inches of compost and 4 inches of mulch under the tree extending 1 1/2 times beyond the drip line. I was surprised to learn that the Austin area native trees have such a wide spread root system to help the trees to quickly capture rain water before it runs off.

**The trees around new homes** have been stressed by cut roots and the compaction of the soil by construction equipment. A practical process to loosen up our heavy black clay soil includes:

(Continued on page 12)

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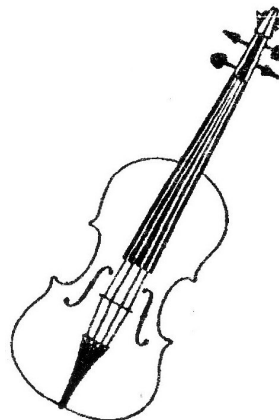
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The Bluffs at Milwood





# RATTAN CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD WIDE GARAGE SALE



## Sat March 25 & Sun March 26

This year, at the request of the MUD and the Sheriff's Dept. and for safety reasons; the RCNA has agreed to hold the Neighborhood Garage Sale the weekend **BEFORE** the Neighborhood Wide Cleanup (April 1 and 2).

### Here's how it works:

- The RCNA runs ads for a neighborhood wide Garage Sale, giving the boundaries of our neighborhood.
- There are a few signs on the major roads to get folks into the neighborhood, but from there it is up to you to bring the folks to your home.
- Each person will have the garage sale at his/hers own home. If you want to do one, but do not want to do it alone, talk to your neighbors!
- The RCNA will advertise the hours as 8:00 am to 1:00pm for Saturday and Sunday.  
*If you do not want to participate on Sunday, do not leave your signs out.*

## Need A Patio Cover? How About A Screen Room?

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**Neighborhood Wide Clean-up**  
**Saturday April 1st and Sunday April 2nd**  
**at the Tamayo Bridge**

The MUD district arranges with the disposal company to begin delivering dumpsters to the area by the Tamayo bridge on Friday the 31st of March and lasts until the dumpsters are full on Sunday April 2nd. ***You can not start dumping until after the boy scouts have setup camp—which is usually about 5pm on Friday.***

**You will need your ECO Resources (water) bill.**

***\*Remember Sunday: when the dumpsters are full -That's it!!***

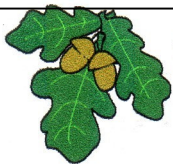
**A separate chipping site will be available. Limbs and bushes will be directed to the chipper site.**

***Please do not bring any hazardous materials to the clean up.  
This includes old batteries and motor oil.***

**\*\* The Boy Scouts will be directing the drop offs\*\***

Please remember to be courteous to our Boy Scouts.

The Boy Scouts man the dumpsters, as part of their community service.



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(Continued from page 9)

- 1) Go in with your neighbors to rent an aerator to loosen up the soil;
- 2) Fertilize with a slow release fertilizer (urea based) or 1/8 to 1/4 inch of Dillo dirt and;
- 3) Water it in well every week for several months during the growing season. Tree spikes or any strong fertilizer spread on the grass feeds the top few inches where the grass roots are, but will not get the fertilizer down to the tree root hairs 8 to 10 inches deep where it is needed. Nothing migrates through our heavy clay soil quickly.

**Prune Trees and Shrubs** - Prune now only to remove dead branches, diseased, crossing, rubbing, damaged branches, narrow weak crotches, or multiple main stems (try for only one main stem). When pruning, make the cut beyond the branch collar leaving a small stub. A flush cut requires the bark of the trunk to eventually close the wound and is much slower growing than the branch collar bark, which will quickly enclose the nub. Do NOT paint the cuts on any trees (except for live oaks to keep away the beetles carrying the live oak fungus).

Late February is time to **prune the lovely crepe**

**myrtle trees**/bushes that can be pruned down to wood the size of a pencil. They bloom on new wood, so pruning helps the new branching and the blooming if not done too severely.

If they are the large variety and must be made smaller, use the old maintenance trick and cut off near the ground at an angle, 1/3 of the largest trunks. Next year, prune the new growth for shape and cut out another 1/3 of the largest trunks. In 3 years you will have a healthy new cluster of trunks with heavy flowering provided by the massive root system developed over the years. Aggressive top pruning will work ok but it makes ugly stick trees for a few months.

**Plant some things now** and begin to build the future yard you want. Your kids will even want to help if they get to participate in the planning, buying, planting and watering. Enjoy gardening it improves your outlook and life -- you deserve it.

Happy gardening,  
 Chuck Simms  
 "The Gardening Guy"



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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 Summer or Winter ID badge purchased. Six admittances will be assigned with each Annual ID badge. (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 and used by **one** person.
- Annual ID badges are good from the beginning of the summer session until the end of the winter session and not necessarily a year from the date of purchase. (i.e. valid from May 2005 to April 2006)
- The Tennis Courts will be under a professional management service. **Please watch the North Austin website for more information.** Tennis court keys will be issued on a Summer or Winter season basis. New keys will be issued at the beginning of each season. Guest fees will apply. **Only ONE key can be issued per household.** Replacement fee for lost or stolen keys will be the same as a new key.
- ID Badges, pool or tennis 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 list 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, Inc.
- ID badges can be picked up at the pool after your application is processed at ECO Resources, Inc. **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.
- Forms of payment accepted for pool and tennis keys are check, cash and money order. Credit/debit cards are not accepted for payment.
- In the event a check is returned by your bank, your water account will be posted with the fees for items purchased, plus a returned check fee.
- All applications MUST be signed to be considered complete.
- Application, schedules and other information on district facilities is available on the district's website ([www.northaustinmud1.org](http://www.northaustinmud1.org)).

**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 & TENNIS COURTS**

Application to Use Recreational Facilities and Release of Liability

**PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING – INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED  
APPLICATION FOR 2006 SUMMER SESSION**

NAMUD #1 Water Bill Account No. _____ Home Telephone No. _____	
<b>(Application will be considered incomplete without account number)</b>	
Name _____	
<small>(As it appears on NAM1 bill)</small>	
Address _____	ZIP _____
Emergency Contact Name _____ Emergency Phone No _____	

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.*

<b>Applicant Signature:</b> _____	<b>Date:</b> ____/____/____
<b>(APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED INCOMPLETE WITHOUT SIGNATURE)</b>	

**Household Members Attending Pool:** All members receiving badges must be listed below. (Badges required for ages 3 and up)

<u>Member Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Member Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____

**NO REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE TAKEN AT THE POOL**

<b>2006 Summer Fees:</b>	<b>Make Checks Payable To North Austin M.U.D. #1 Pool</b>	
Quantity		
_____ Summer In-District Badge	@ \$20 per badge	\$ _____
_____ Out-of-District Winter Membership <small>(Up to 4 Badges if needed)</small>	@ \$200 per household	\$ _____
_____ Additional Out-of-District Winter Badge	@ \$20 each additional badge	\$ _____
_____ Winter Guest Admittance (only w/ badge purchase)	@ \$2 each (one time use)	\$ _____
_____ 10 Winter Guest Admittances (only w/ badge purchase)	@ \$15	\$ _____
_____ Tennis Court Key Summer (In-District Only) <small>(KEY IS ONLY VALID THROUGH SEPT 30, 2006)</small>	@ \$25 (ONE KEY PER HOUSEHOLD)	\$ _____
_____ RCNA Membership (In-District Only) <small>(RCNA Fee Covers Jan-Dec Membership Year)</small>	@ \$25 per household	\$ _____
<b>SUMMER BADGES &amp; GUEST ADMITTANCES VALID THRU 09/15/06</b>		
<b>Check MUST accompany this registration form to be processed.</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

**Mail or Deliver to ECO Resources, 9511 Ranch Road 620 North, Austin, Texas 78726**

# North Austin Municipal Utility District No. 1 Rattan Creek Pool Winter Schedule 2005/2006

## February 2006

February 1-26: Open Swim:  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday:  
    Noon-1:30pm & 4:30 to 8:00pm  
Sat : Noon-8:00pm  
Sun : Noon-8:00pm

**Pool Closed for Maintenance:  
February 27 through March 10**

## March 2006

March 11-31: Open Swim:  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday:  
    Noon-1:30pm & 4:30 to 8:00pm  
Sat : Noon-8:00pm  
Sun : Noon-8:00pm

March 13-17 Open Swim  
    Noon-8:00pm

## April 2006

April 1-30: Open Swim:  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday:  
    Noon-1:30pm & 4:30 to 8:00pm  
Sat : Noon-8:00pm  
Sun : Noon-8:00pm

April 14-16 Open Swim  
    Noon-8:00pm

*Closed for Easter: April 17*

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

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

**Clearwater Management  
Phone - 331-7066**

## May 2006

### Summer Schedule Begins:

May 1-23: Open Swim:  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 12:00-1:30pm  
Sat : 11:00am-9:00pm  
Sun : Noon-9:00pm

Tuesday & Thursday: Lap Swimmers Only  
    7:00pm to 9:00pm

**May 13:** Pool closed until 5pm:  
*RCNA "Members Only" Pool Party*

**May 24: Last Day of School,**  
*pool is open after school is out - 9:00pm*

**May 25-May 31:**  
**Open Swim:** Mon - Fri: 11:00am-9:00pm  
Sat : 11:00am-9:00pm  
Sun : Noon-9:00pm

**The Hurricane Swim  
team will use the  
pool for practice  
May 1 through May  
23 each weekday evening.**



### Note for Lap Swimmers:

***Lap swimmers are allowed to swim  
Tuesday and Thursday 7 to 9 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

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

**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.
13. Coaching activities, other than by parent/guardian, are prohibited except as provided by Pool Manager, McNeil High School or the Hurricane Swim Team.

**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

*(Continued on page 17)*

(Continued from page 16)

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.  
 Sunday hours are 12 Noon to 9 p. m.

**WINTER SCHEDULE**

Weekday hours are 12 noon to 1:30 pm &  
 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.

**Questions or Problems at the Pool:  
 Contact the Pool Manager  
 or Bill Burke at 331-7066.**

**Private Park for use of residents of North Austin  
 MUD #1 and their invited guests.**

**Tennis Court Rules:**

Court Hours: 7:00 AM- 10:00 PM  
 ( In District Members Only)

1. Tennis Play Only. Soccer tennis is prohibited.
2. No glass containers.
3. No alcoholic beverages inside court area.
4. No pets, bicycles, skateboards, skates or motorized vehicles are allowed on the courts.
5. No dangerous or offensive conduct or offensive language will be allowed.
6. Time limit of 60 minutes is observed when others are waiting.
7. 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.
8. A maximum of (4) players are allowed per tennis court at any time.
9. A member may have a maximum of three (3) guests at one time on the court. Guest fees may apply.
10. Gate should be locked at all times.
11. Proper tennis attire must be worn at all times.
12. No unauthorized private lessons allowed.
13. Check in will be required for all tennis court reservations.

Watch for more information about the tennis court changes, as our new Tennis Court Manager comes on board at [www.northaustinmud1.org](http://www.northaustinmud1.org).

Court keys may be purchased at ECO Resources.

**Sport Court Rules:**

Court Hours: 7:00 AM – 10:00 PM

- No glass containers.
1. No alcoholic beverages inside court area.
  2. No pets, bicycles, skateboards, skates or motorized vehicles are allowed on the courts.
  4. No dangerous or offensive conduct or offensive language will be allowed.
  5. Time limit of 60 minutes is observed when others are waiting.

*The resident must be present at all times when the court is in use.*

**Violators are subject to removal, privileges revoked and possible prosecution.**

**North Austin MUD # 1  
 District Manager: ECO Resources  
 335-7580**

## Easter News!

Yes, it is hard to believe, but it is almost that time of the year again. As I have always stated, Easter is one of my favorite holidays. I greatly enjoy the Easter hunt and have always felt it has been a great success. But as always, the success is because our community seems to truly pull together for this event.

**Things needed:**

please remember all candy, cookies, crackers ...MUST be individually wrapped.

**Tot area: ages 0-4:**

Dum-dums, suckers, chocolate candy (without nuts), kisses, animal crackers, crackers, cookies....

**Older ages: 4-10:**

Dum-dums, suckers, chocolate candy, hard candy, tootsie rolls, variety bags....

**Volunteers Needed:**

**Egg Stuffers:**

Each plastic egg is stuffed with a piece of candy. We are stuffing over 7,000 eggs this year.

**Event Volunteers:**

We are also looking for volunteers to assist during the event as well as setting up fences the morning of the event.

*Anyone interested in helping this year, please call Dallas at 257-3494.*

Last year we had a large turn out, we are expecting at least this many or more as surrounding neighborhood are not having their Easter Egg Hunts. In the past RCNA has spent \$500 in putting on this event. Due to lack of dues being paid each year the RCNA can not continue to sponsor the Easter Hunt for that amount. I am asking the community to step in and donate candy and funds. This is a wonderful event, let's make this Easter Hunt just as special as years past.

Thank you,  
Dallas Hall 257-3494  
13201 Kepler Cove



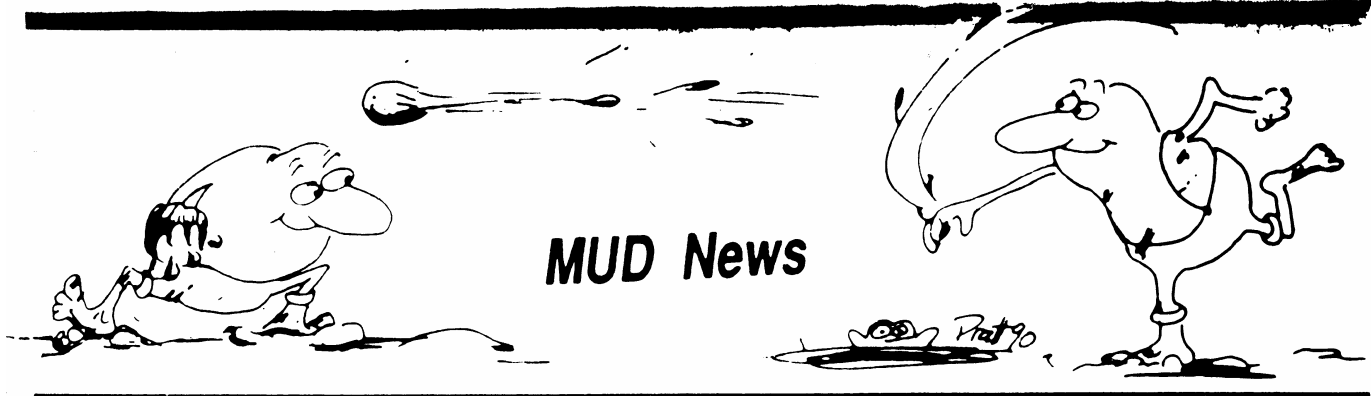
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**North Austin Municipal Utility District #1 Board of Directors Notes on the December 2005 Board meetings on Commercial Development, Parks, and Pool Activities:** *Note that the Board reviewed and approved minutes of meetings are available on the NAMUD#1 web site listed below.*

**Our contractor for inspections of Restrictive Covenant Violations:** The Treasure of the Hills Senior Citizens Community Center, Inc. reported on December 28, 2005, that; there were: 4 new complaints received, 2 calls for advice, 3 first letters sent, 3 second letter sent, 0 repeat letter sent, 1 violation was sent to the MUD Attorney for action, and 10 cases closed (violation corrected). This last violation may go to court in early February.

**Development on Anderson Mill Road and Parmer Lane corner lot: (No change.)**

**Development on Parmer near McNeil**  
(Progress) The Starbucks Coffee and Little Woodrows upscale sports bar are open for business. The Wachovia bank, WhataBurger, and Cold Stone Slab ice cream business are open and several others are in the final stages of opening. The District Manager and Engineer have essentially completed

**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.**

checking the plans and providing water meters to all the businesses in this development.

**Traffic Light:** The City of Austin Traffic Department quickly developed a plan to relieve traffic congestion on McNeil Drive due to traffic flow from the development on the McNeil Drive side. A traffic light is in place at the intersection of Heineman Dr and McNeil Drive now, at the side of the HEB strip center, by CiCi's Pizza . This was a good job done by the COA Traffic Department folks as initiated and followed up by the RCNA Safety and Development committees. Our Thanks go to the RCNA volunteers for making this happen so quickly.

**Homeowner's Insurance Rate Decrease:** (No Change) Work continues, our General Manager continues to work with the Jollyville Independent Fire Department to gather data to be used in our submittal to hopefully reduce our homeowner's insurance costs due to better fire protection for our homes.

**Rattan Creek Park Pool:** (Activity) We have not had any accidents during this period. One of the Rheem gas water heater lost a bearing in the pressure pump. A replacement is on order. The Ignition system also went out and is expected to be back in operation by January 16<sup>th</sup>, The McNeil HS swim team was moved to Anderson Mill MUD pool to swim during this period. The two new tarp replacements are in and in use. The Stroke improvement class has been doing well this year. The tri-athlon members are starting their spring training.

**Rattan Creek Playscape:** (Activity) The small children swing set broke badly and was removed.

*(Continued on page 20)*

(Continued from page 19)

This lower area is phase one of the playscape renovations with a new swing set, tire swing, to be installed by late February (weather permitting). The existing pea gravel and borders will be removed, a drainage system installed, new borders built and special wood fiber material installed around the play equipment. ADA compliant trails will be added for handicapped access to all equipment.

The Board held a special meeting at the park with contractors and developed plan options for the two different age playscapes. Another special meeting was held on January 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM to make the final decisions about equipment selection and location. The playscape committee of Alan McNeil and Jo Jones presented quotes for the old equipment removal, for excavation work, for the drainage system, and for the purchase and construction of the new equipment. There will be Orange barriers surrounding the work areas with illustrations of the new equipment posted so you will know what to expect. This phase II work will hopefully be completed by early May.

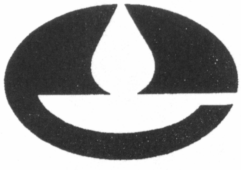
**Rattan Creek Greenbelt and Park: (On Going)**

The trails are mowed and trimmed weekly. The winter cleanup of the greenbelts continues. The soccer fields have been fertilized and spot over-seeded and will be closed and roped off for a time to allow the turf to repair itself. You may notice extra watering as needed also.

**Soccer Fields Closed:** All soccer fields will be closed for maintenance and re-growth of the turf in the fields every year from January 1 to February 15 and again from June 1 to July 15. The fields will be marked with signs and Williamson County Sheriff security officers will enforce closure.

**The Sign Committee (On going):** Directors Jones and Simms stated the new signs have been installed, replacing old and missing signs in all the parks and the greenbelt access entrances. With the new signs installed, the Board of Directors has formally adopted a list of rules for the parks and amenities that is posted on the Website. The statements on the signs and the revised list of rules allow better enforcement of the rules by the Williamson County Sheriffs department. New rules

(Continued on page 22)



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**Water and Wastewater Management,**  
**Parks and Pool Management,**  
**Utility Maintenance**

**335-7580**  
**General Manager**  
**Gary Spoons**

*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*

**IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

**Ambulance** 9 - 1 - 1

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

**Sheriff: Emergency** 9 - 1 - 1  
 Williamson County  
 Non-Emergency 943-1300  
 Travis County  
 Non-Emergency 974-0845

**Crime Stoppers** 1-800-253-STOP

**County Commissioner**  
 Williamson, Precinct 1  
 Lisa Birkman 733-5380  
 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  
 Texas Gas Service 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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(Continued from page 20)

and signs for the Tennis Court will be in place soon, see below.

**Tennis Court Management Company hired:** ( New) The Board has received many complaints about unfair use by some members, improper use of the courts for kick ball, skate boarding, etc which tear the nets and damage the court surface. Our new manager will provide an on-site person during high tennis activity times and will manage a court reservation system from an office in the East end of the Pool building. After the contract is signed and the new rules for use and the new cost structure is in place this information will be posted on the East side of the Pool Building and on the NAMUD#1 web site listed below.

**Security Agreement with Williamson County Sheriff Department:** (New) The Robinson Park vandalism repair costs were \$2400.00 in September. Appropriate charges have been filed against the responsible individuals. Our thanks go out to the Williamson County Sheriffs Department. A new contract has been signed with the Williamson County Sheriffs Department. They will

provide 4 extra duty officers with 25 hours per month each. You will see them in marked cars, patrolling our District so watch your speeding. They have been doing a great job for the District, and please thank the deputies when you see them patrolling in the neighborhood. If you have special concerns, contact our General Manager Gary Spoons as always, or the Sheriffs Department directly.

**Eagle Scout Projects:** (On Going) Eagle Scout candidate Ryan Freidberg from troop 146 has completed the construction phase of his project to uncover, explore and provide protection for the hand dug well under the Gypsy Oak tree on Anderson Mill Road. The educational sign will be ordered and installed soon.

**Robinson Park Amasia Playground:** (Activity) The park has been hit many times by vandals, the Board is discussing ways to deter future vandalism. Over 40 cubic yards of mulch from the Fall Cleanup mulching is being stored in the park will be spread over our parks as time allows.

(Continued on page 23)

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**Rattan Creek Park Master Plan:** (Activity) The District engineer prepared a historical schedule of the on going development in the park since the preparation of the master plan in the early 1980s. Comments from the City of Austin Planning Department are pending.

(Still stalemated) Directors 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.

**North Austin MUD #1 Website:** (Ongoing) Additional information about the park rules and tennis court rules will be added as approved for use by the Board.

*Note that these are unofficial notes about the Board activities. After Board approval at the next meeting the official minutes of the meetings are posted on the web site.*

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

**Website: [www.northaustinmud1.org](http://www.northaustinmud1.org)**

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10930 Crystal Falls Parkway  
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[www.hswc.net](http://www.hswc.net)**

## Parmer-McNeil Plaza

Since my last report, progress on the site has continued as expected. Whataburger is nearing completion and will likely be open by the time this is printed. Several other tenants are working on the interiors of their units, including Washington Mutual, Great Clips, Cold Stone Creamery, Curra's Grill, T-Mobile, Nationwide, Alpha Nails, and Best cleaners. Starbucks, Little Woodrow's, and Wachovia Bank have been open for several months. A pizza place is expected in the same building as Little Woodrow's, and rumored prospects include a burrito restaurant, a sandwich shop, and a pool supply store. Several units are still available for lease.

The owners of the retail center and Wachovia bank cooperated and split the cost to erect a fence behind the Wachovia pad. This new fence is taller than initially planned and is constructed of very-high quality, overlapping cedar pickets. This blocks a significant amount of light from the bank, the Shell Station, McNeil Road and Parmer Lane. The majority of homeowners at that end of Marble Falls Cove are extremely pleased with the result and are very grateful to the developers for adapting their plans, paying the added cost, and responding quickly and thoroughly to residents' complaints.

I have not had much contact with the owners, property manager, leasing agent or architect in recent weeks. In November there was a flurry of calls and messages to the developers from several homeowners with complaints and requests for more trees for screening, fewer lights on the property, a taller fence, and other issues. Some residents were less pleasant than others in expressing their concerns. Since then, the parties I had previously dealt with have been hesitant to communicate with anyone from the neighborhood. The exception continues to be the owner of Little Woodrow's, who has repeatedly shown himself to be a friend of the neighborhood.

Complaints to me regarding disturbances from the site have diminished significantly. This is probably due to several factors including Little Woodrow's hiring a security guard to patrol the

*(Continued on page 24)*

(Continued from page 23)

parking lot, residents in the surrounding area learning to live with the presence of the businesses, and the crowds thinning out a bit as the newness of the establishments has worn off. Additionally, Little Woodrow's management continues to do their best to keep disturbances to a minimum.

Many residents on Marble Falls Cove, Corpus Christi Drive, and New Boston Bend (and even others who do not live adjacent to the site) have indicated great concern about the lack of screening between the site and nearby homes. These folks are worried about both quality of life and property values. One idea that has been discussed periodically for over a year and half is to provide screening on the MUD side of the property line, along the top of the Corpus Christi water detention pond, behind the northern half of Parmer-McNeil Plaza.

At various times homeowners have inquired as to whether the MUD or the RCNA could plant trees along the fence. I have discussed this with

the MUD board, the RCNA board, and several homeowners on multiple occasions. However, the reason this plan can not be pursued is, quite simply, the lack of a water source. Successfully planting new trees at the top of this "dam" would require a tremendous amount of water, every few days for many months. The sprinkler system on the commercial side of the fence is low on the hill -- trees high on our side would not benefit from their regular watering. Otherwise, there is no other water source nearby. It would be virtually impossible to keep any young tree alive in this climate without near constant watering. Let's all hope that the trees on the developers' side of the fence will grow tall and wide quickly. But remember that these may never provide adequate screening for your own home. The best advice to all residents is to add screening on your own property.

Please call with any questions or comments,

Michelle Dent ,  
Development Liason  
331-0248

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 Austin, Tx 78729  
 or email: [guineveremorse@yahoo.com](mailto:guineveremorse@yahoo.com)  
 496-0532


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**ADAM RANALLO, 16**—Edge, mow, blow \$25 most lawns. Call me on my cell: 801-9793 (3/06)

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## County News: By Williamson County Commissioner Lisa Birkman

### Plans Underway Again for Lake Creek Trail

Williamson County has begun to work on the design of a new hike and bike trail in the southwestern part of precinct one. Nearly 1.5 miles of trail that will run along Lake Creek connecting Parmer Lane to Broadmeade Avenue, crossing through the Town and Country Optimist Fields, are in the design stage.

Williamson County will build a portion of the trail, while the other approximately 1,750 feet will be built by a private developer but remain open to the public. The primarily concrete trail will include one free-span pedestrian bridge and two low water crossings. The trail runs along the Lake Creek Channel, a flood control project of Williamson County completed in 2003. The project includes a small trailhead with 20 parking spaces and park benches situated on 13 acres recently acquired by the county. The trailhead will be located near where Braes Valley Drive ends in the Forest North neighborhood.

BWM Group, who also did an initial plan

for the trail in 2003, has been hired to design, bid and oversee construction of the project. The trail will take approximately six to eight months to build and is estimated to cost \$593,276. It primarily will be funded by Capital Metro/Build Greater Austin fund, which is a rebate given to the county from the sales tax collected in the Capital Metro service area to fund neighborhood mobility projects, with additional funding coming from county park bond funds approved by the voters in 2000.

For more information on this project and other county issues, visit the county's web site, [www.wilco.org](http://www.wilco.org) or contact my office at 733.5380 or [lbirkman@wilco.org](mailto:lbirkman@wilco.org).

Lisa Birkman  
Williamson County Commissioner,  
Precinct 1



## Recipe Corner : Broccoli, Potato and Bacon Quiche



**Tanya Nicole Margala**  
Newport Beach, CA  
Bake-Off® 42 (Orlando, 2006)

***Perfect for supper or brunch, this hearty quiche can be made in just minutes with frozen vegetables & refrigerated pie crusts.***

Ingredients:

- 1 bag (19 oz) Green Giant® frozen roasted potatoes with broccoli & cheese sauce
- 1 Pillsbury® refrigerated pie crust (from 15-oz box), softened as directed on box
- 4 eggs
- 2/3 cup whipping cream
- 7 slices bacon, cooked, crumbled (about 1/3 cup)
- 1 cup finely shredded Parmesan cheese (4 oz)
- 1 cup finely shredded Cheddar cheese (4 oz)
- 1/2 teaspoon dried basil leaves
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon parsley flakes
- 1/8 teaspoon salt, if desired
- 1 teaspoon finely chopped fresh chives

Preparations Directions:

1. Heat oven to 350°F. Cook frozen potatoes with broccoli and cheese sauce in microwave as directed on bag.
2. Meanwhile, place pie crust in 9-inch glass pie plate as directed on box for One-Crust Filled Pie.
3. In large bowl, beat eggs and whipping cream with wire whisk until well blended. Stir in cooked potato mixture and remaining ingredients except chives. Pour filling into crust-lined plate; spread evenly. Sprinkle chives over filling.
4. Bake 30 to 40 minutes or until edge of filling is light golden brown and knife inserted in center comes out clean. Let stand 5 minutes before serving. Makes 8 Servings

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[www.pillsbury.com/bakeoff/AFR/finalist\\_recipes.asp?tab=0](http://www.pillsbury.com/bakeoff/AFR/finalist_recipes.asp?tab=0)

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# Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association

*Serving Milwood at North Austin MUD #1 since 1983*

## It's Time To Pay Your RCNA Dues for 2006!

Membership in the RCNA runs on the calendar year system. Dues are \$25.00 annually. Would less than 7 cents a day be too much to make it possible for 3 students to get a scholarship for College or University? What if it made it possible for hundreds of kids to enjoy an Easter Egg hunt at the park, or provided a few hundred paid members a free lunch at the Member's Pool Party?

Your money helps the RCNA handle issues that arise in our community, as well as events that everyone in our community can participate in and enjoy. You would be surprised to know how far 7 cents a day can go to make these events possible. Compared to other neighborhoods that pay anywhere from \$15 a quarter to \$25 or more monthly, our dues are a bargain. January is the time to renew your membership in RCNA!

### What do I get for my \$ 25 a year, you ask?

**Newsletter:** Your dues help pay for the Newsletter, which is now delivered to all the homes, in our district six (6) times a year, through a voluntary block captain system. If you do not receive your newsletter, please contact Jennifer or Dave at 257-3380.

**Scholarship Fund:** 3 scholarships, currently \$500 each, are given to community minded students preparing for college. The family must be a current RCNA member, for the applicant to be eligible.

**Committees:** As our neighborhood grows older, we are faced with many new challenges. This past year, we had to adapt to the addition of the commercial development at Parmer and McNeil. The RCNA felt a liaison between the developer and the neighbors would be advantageous. A committee that would have the clout of our neighborhood association, approx. 2650+ homeowners, behind them was created.

A possible new committee that we are working on forming, is an Architectural Control Committee; currently being handled by the builder, who is longer in our area, nor does he have an interest in maintaining the integrity or appeal of our neighborhood.

The RCNA strives to be the voice for our neighborhood to the County, the City, and the MUD Board.

### Events:

**Easter Egg Hunt, 2 Neighborhood Wide Garage Sales, Annual "Members Only" Pool Party, Fourth of July Parade, Teen Nights at the pool, Rattan Fest and the 5K Fun Run, and Caroling in the Park.**



**Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association**  
P.O. Box 200584 – Austin, Tx 78720-0584  
Annual Membership Dues – \$25  
(January – December 2006)

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E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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