



# Rattan Creek Neighborhood News

Serving Milwood at North Austin MUD #1 since 1983

Distributed Every Other Month By The Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association, Vol. 25, No. 6

December 2010/January 2011

## Around Milwood



### Rattan Creek Community Center

#### Annual Open House

By North Austin MUD 1

Sunday, December 19, 2010

6:00pm to 8:00pm

For rental information contact Community Center staff  
at 257-1255 or via email: [RattanCreek@sbcglobal.net](mailto:RattanCreek@sbcglobal.net).

### Parents Night Out!

Dec. 17 - 6pm to 11pm

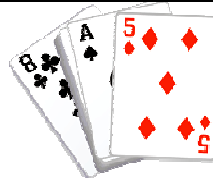
See page 22 for more information!

### Join the RCNA in it's First Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament

On January 14, 2011  
at the Rattan Creek Community Center

Details will be posted by Mid December on the RCNA website:

<http://www.rattancreek.org>



**NO FIREWORKS:** On any North Austin MUD 1 Properties; Rattan Creek Park and Robinson Park, including the parks, greenbelts and soccer fields.

### Christmas Tree Curbside Pick-up

Christmas trees will be picked up at you home, with your normal trash collection, beginning December 27 through mid- January.

Trees must be cut in 4 foot lengths and bundled, to assist our trash contractor in collecting the trees.



Visit our website at


[www.rattancreek.org](http://www.rattancreek.org)

## EVENTS

### December

- Dec 1 Hanukkah Begins 
- Dec 4 Home for Holidays  
Arts and Craft Show  
McNeil HS (pg 8)
- Dec 13 MUD Meeting, 6pm  
RC Community Center
- Dec 16 RCNA Meeting, 7pm  
RC Community Center
- Dec 17 Parents Night Out  
See page 22 for info
- Dec 19 Caroling in the Park  
and Rattan Creek Community  
Annual Open House
- Dec 20 RRISD Winter Break
- Dec 25 Christmas Day

### January

- Jan 4 RRISD returns 
- Jan 14 RCNA Texas Hold 'em  
RC Community Center
- Jan 17 MLK Day - RRISD off
- Jan 19 MUD Meeting, 6pm  
RC Community Center
- Jan 20 RCNA Meeting, 7pm  
RC Community Center

### February

- Feb 16 MUD Meeting, 6pm  
RC Community Center
- Feb 17 RCNA Meeting, 7pm  
RC Community Center
- Feb 21 President's Day -  
RRISD off

### March

- Mar 14-18 Spring Break

RCNA Board of Directors  
P.O. Box 200584  
Austin, Tx 78720-0584

Website: [www.rattancreek.org](http://www.rattancreek.org)

**RCNA Board of Directors:**

**President** Brian Kerman 921-4490  
Email: [brikerm@austin.rr.com](mailto:brikerm@austin.rr.com)  
**Vice-Pres.** Alex Hill 336-1506  
Email: [alex@baileyhillmedia.com](mailto:alex@baileyhillmedia.com)  
**Secretary** Angelia Moore 694-1115  
Email: [AMoore@advsol.com](mailto:AMoore@advsol.com)  
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Email:  
**Ass't Treasurer/Secretary**  
Dallas Hall 257-3494

**RCNA Committees:**

**ACC(Architectural Control Committee):**  
Email: [ACC@RattanCreek.org](mailto:ACC@RattanCreek.org)  
**Events Coordinator:** Dallas Hall 257-3494  
Email: [dallas@rliv.com](mailto:dallas@rliv.com)  
**Membership:** Angie Brown 335-0207  
Email: [af-brown@sbcglobal.net](mailto:af-brown@sbcglobal.net)

**Neighborhood Watch:** Position Open  
Email:

**Website Administrator:** Mark Maxwell  
Email: [maxwell@rattancreek.org](mailto:maxwell@rattancreek.org)

**Newsletter:**

**Editor:** Jo Jones 335-1805  
Email: [jorjones@yahoo.com](mailto:jorjones@yahoo.com)

**Classified Advertising/Teen Services:**  
Kelly Buczek 258-6482  
Email: [kelly@catcradle.us](mailto:kelly@catcradle.us)

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Contact Jo Jones, Editor for info 335-1805

**Milwood Parents Group:** join online  
[www.facebook.com/rattancreek](http://www.facebook.com/rattancreek)

**New Neighbors/Babies:**  
Kathleen Edward 350-2649  
Email: [austinredkat@yahoo.com](mailto:austinredkat@yahoo.com)

**Recipe Corner:** Natasha Randall 996-8531  
Email: [arandall5@austin.rr.com](mailto:arandall5@austin.rr.com)

**Yard of the Month:** Angelia Moore 694-1115  
Email: [AMoore@advsol.com](mailto:AMoore@advsol.com)

*The Rattan Creek Neighborhood News welcomes your letters and guest columns. Neither the Rattan Creek Neighborhood News nor the Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association accept responsibility for the opinions expressed in editorials, letters or guest columns.*

*Guest columns and letters will be printed on as space available basis.*

*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 to:**  
[JoRJones@yahoo.com](mailto:JoRJones@yahoo.com)

Page 2 Website: [www.rattancreek.org](http://www.rattancreek.org)

**Architectural Control Committee Information:**

All submissions for ACC approval will need to be sent to:  
**RCNA-ACC**  
**P.O. Box 200584**  
**Austin, TX, 78720-0584**

Go to [www.rattancreek.org](http://www.rattancreek.org) for submission information.

Or via email: [ACC@rattancreek.org](mailto:ACC@rattancreek.org)

**Need Copies of Your Deed Restrictions:**

You can contact **North Austin MUD 1 Deed Restrictions**  
**15803 Windemere Dr, Ste 600**  
**Pflugerville, TX 78660**

- There is an \$ 8.50 charge for the copies.
- Once you have paid for the copies, a set will be mailed to you.
- Include your legal description (lot, block, section of Milwood), so you get the correct set of deed restrictions for your section.

**How to File a Deed Restriction Complaint:**

- All complaints must be in writing, be sure to list the address of the home in question and the complaint
- The complaint letter must be signed.

Send complaints to: **North Austin MUD 1 Deed Restriction**  
**15803 Windemere Dr, Ste 600**  
**Pflugerville, TX 78660**

**Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association**  
**P.O. Box 200584 – Austin, Tx 78720-0584**  
**Annual Membership Dues – \$25**  
**(January – December 2011)**

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- Add me to the Newsletter Email Blast  
 Add me to the Neighborhood Watch Alert List

Membership:  Renewal  New

I would like to volunteer to assist with:  
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**Additional Voluntary Contribution \$**

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**Thank You For Your Support!!**

## President's Notes

It is hard to believe that the holiday season is upon us. It feels like we just turned our calendars to 2010, beginning the year. Wow, how time flies. The past three years have also flown by. It was three years ago in January, that I assumed the Presidency of your Neighborhood Association. It was an incredible experience working with so many other dedicated and committed volunteers. We all worked together as a group to make Milwood a better place to live. I realized very early in my Presidency just how lucky we are to live here. The community facilities are outstanding and the social programming that the RCNA provides really brings the experience over the top.

But as the old saying goes, "every good thing must come to an end". Effective December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010, I am stepping down as President of the Association, and passing on the reins to Alex Hill. Alex joined our Board close to a year ago and has brought many new and innovative suggestions and ideas to the table. I am confident that Alex will be incredibly successful as we continue to grow the Neighborhood Association.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the many valued volunteers that have stepped forward to help with the wonderful events that we have sponsored. There are a few folks that I would like to single out for a special thank you. Dallas Hall, Angelia Moore, Angie Brown and John Lenz have given so much of their time to our neighborhood. Their invaluable leadership, ideas and vision have helped us to enjoy continued success. I also want to thank Jo Jones for all of her advice, wisdom and direction that she always gladly provided during my term. I was always very comfortable using Jo as my "go to" person.

I hope that everyone will help Alex and the rest of our Board to continue to make Milwood a very special place to live.

One last note. As we enter the holiday season, please be mindful of the speed limits in the district. Remember that lots of folks will be out and about. Please yield to pedestrians and bicycle riders, as we all must share the road.

Wishing you and yours a very happy, healthy and safe holiday season.

Brian Kerman, President  
Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association

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**SAT Noon - 7:30pm**

# Around Rattan Creek

## New Neighbors and Babies:

### New Neighbors:

We would like to welcome the following new neighbors to Milwood:

No New neighbors this issue.



### New Babies

No New Babies to announce.



### Please help us:

*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 Kathleen Edwards at 350-2649, Or email to her at [austinredkat@yahoo.com](mailto:austinredkat@yahoo.com)*

## Milwood Parent Activities



- Looking for a playgroup for your little ones?
- Do you know of a group or want to start one?

Join our facebook group :

[www.facebook.com/rattancreek](http://www.facebook.com/rattancreek) .

## Upcoming RCNA Meetings

Held the third Thursday of each month  
At 7:00 PM

Rattan Creek Community Center  
7617 Elkhorn Mountain Trail

December 16, 2010

January 20, 2011

February 17, 2011



### Jollyville Pediatrics

11851 Jollyville Rd. Ste. 204  
Austin, TX 78759

p: 219-5550 f: 219-5551



*Evelyn Spencer,  
M.D. FAAP*



*Nitzia Cepeda,  
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**December & January Yard Activities: Frost Protection & To Prune or Not?**

**Preventative maintenance** is the name of the game in the winter, with several items listed below. The obvious ones have to do with preventing frost damage. First, a real preventative is to spray plants with liquid seaweed monthly to harden the plants and help them hold moisture. Another method of sealing in the winter moisture is spraying with an anti-transpirant product called Cloud Cover.

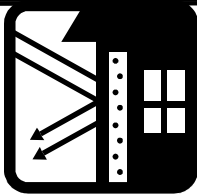
**When a freeze is forecast** (overnight temperature below 25 degrees) there are several ways to minimize damage. Covering cold-tender plants with cloth will hold in the ground heat and keep the cold wind from the plants. Cloth coverings are best because they do not conduct the heat away from the plants and if not removed the next morning, the plants will be OK. Plastic conducts heat away from plants touching it, killing the foliage. The next morning plastic coverings must be removed quickly so the sun will not scald the plants. Plastic draped over a blanket or a cardboard box works well.

**Protecting cold sensitive plants:** Plants like

bougainvillea, plumeria and hibiscus are common non-native cold tender plants that can be harmed by freezing weather. If they are blooming well after a few days under 40 degrees, they will decline and it is time to move them to store. Prune back the bougainvillea and stack the containers on top of each other in a room or shed protected from freezing temperatures. Oriental hibiscus do need light and water every 2 weeks to survive the winter. Citrus in containers can be moved inside if not too heavy. Plants that cannot be moved inside can be protected by building a temporary structure around them. A wooden frame with plastic across it works well. Use a mechanics light or even Christmas tree lights for a heat source on especially cold nights.

**Remember to water thoroughly**, if we continue to have a warm windy spell, the plants need moisture all winter long. Mulching up to 3" deep will conserve soil moisture and mulching also helps protect the roots from freezing. Even if the top growth dies, plants with a strong root system will quickly recover in the spring. If plants look frozen,

*(Continued on page 6)*



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(Continued from page 5)

spray in the morning so the plants will thaw gradually. If parts turn brown, cut this material off and discard it so it doesn't rot and attract bugs and fungus.

**Winter is the time to prune.** While the trees and shrubs are dormant, it is time to cut off broken branches and prune to shape. The Texas Department of Agriculture says "pruning is only helpful to remove dead or diseased wood, for periodic thinning, or for removing branches growing toward and hitting the house. Topping trees is generally not recommended if the tree is growing too fast and out of shape, remove it now and plant a better mannered native tree."

**Pruning cuts should NOT be flush:** they should cut just outside the branch collar, leaving a small stub. The branch collar is the wider area of bark growth where the branch is attached to the trunk. Leaving the collar promotes proper healing by the branch bark over the small stub. Do NOT use pruning paint, it can slow down the healing process by harboring moisture, insects and pathogens and excluding oxygen.

**An exception to the no-paint rule is the live oaks,** where the paint may discourage insect vectors, or carriers, of oak wilt disease. These trees should be pruned in late fall, or winter when the vectors are inactive. (More on that below)

**Live oak trees require special care.** Oak wilt disease is still a serious problem in the Austin Area. We have had several groups of trees in our neighborhood infected that were removed and ditched around to keep it from spreading through touching root systems. The good news is that our trees have been here for hundreds of years and survived many passings of the live oak wilt. It is just another of Mother Natures way of thinning out too dense populations and providing more diversified plants. This is why the Austin Releaf and TreeFolks groups encourage use of many different varieties of trees to assure on- going vegetation after the cyclical invasions of bugs and blight.

**Oak Wilt shows as:** Large areas of leaves dying very quickly. A red oak can die in two weeks. In a live oak tree, the leaves turn brown in symmetrical patterns. This infectious fungal disease is spread by sap-feeding beetles bringing the fungus from an

(Continued on page 7)



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**Milwood Resident – 19 years**  
RCNA Member

(Continued from page 6)

infected tree to your freshly-cut wound. Also the fungus is spread from infected trees through interconnected roots. If you make a cut with an infected saw blade or do not immediately paint fresh cuts, your tree can become infected by the beetles attracted by the fresh sap at the wound.

**To help reduce oak wilt** infection, follow these precautions when trimming live oak trees.

\* Never prune live oak trees in the spring or fall when beetles are active. Prune in the dead of winter before the flush of growth in February or in the heat of July or August. .

\* Always disinfect your saws and clippers before and after cutting each tree. And paint wounds immediately with pruning sealer.

\* Always purchased fully seasoned and dry firewood as oak wilt can be spread by beetles living in green wood. Cover any firewood with clear plastic and bury the edges. Use up all stored firewood by February 15th.

\*The safest way to prune live oaks is to hire a bonded professional to do the work with sterile saws and who will haul off all limbs.

**For more information about Oak Wilt** call the Travis county Agricultural Extension agent or call the Texas Forest Service at 266-9535, they will come and inspect any suspected trees at no cost.

**Remember to water all trees and shrubs** if we have a longer than 2 weeks dry spell. Healthy trees will withstand frosts and diseases better. To strengthen live oak trees, fertilize under and around an area which is 1-1/2 to 2 times the drip zone and water well during December through February when the trees are actively growing and are: dropping leaves, blooming, dropping husks and blooms, and spreading yellow pollen on our cars. This is a critical time for watering and fertilizing your live oak trees. Watering in the night or early morning reduces brown patch and other fungus in lawns.

**Prune shrubs now while dormant**, if done too late in the spring, a spurt of new tender growth in an unseasonable warm spell may be frozen by a late frost.

**Crepe myrtles** can be trimmed to shape or down to pencil sized branches as desired up through mid

(Continued on page 8)



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**John and Sharon Lenz - RCNA Member/Milwood Resident**



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*RCNA Member / Milwood Resident 19 years*

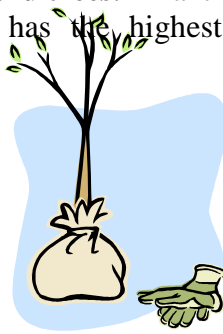
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February. They bloom on new wood so pruning much later in the spring reduces blooming.

**Bright colors from annual plants** can brighten up the entire landscape. Select a few sunny spots and add some flowering annuals like the pansies, flowering kale, calendula, dianthus, snapdragons, and sweet alyssum. Prepare for spring color by adding bulbs such as hyacinths, daffodils, ranunculus, and gay feather. Keep tulip bulbs in the refrigerator at 45 degrees for 45 days or until mid December. If there is no rainfall, it is important to water in the winter. Watering in the mornings prevents brown patch in lawns and other fungus.

**Now is the time to plant shrubs and trees.** Planting in November and January has the highest success of any time of the year.

Happy gardening,  
 Chuck Simms  
 "The Gardening Guy"



HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS  
 ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW

Saturday, December 4, 2010  
 McNeil High School  
 5720 McNeil Road  
 9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
 Admission is Free

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**WINTER WATER AVERAGING - Nov 18 - Feb 18**

More information will be printed on the water bills and also available on the North Austin MUD #1 website: [www.northaustinmud1.org](http://www.northaustinmud1.org).

The District's Rate Order states that bills for sewer service shall be computed (1) on the basis of the average amount of water used by the customer during the winter season based upon the average of the monthly readings of the customer's water meter for the preceding December, January and February billing periods or (2) on the basis of the customer's current monthly water bill, whichever is less.

If a residential customer does not have a history of water usage during the preceding December, January and February billing periods, the customer's monthly sewer bill shall be calculated based upon (1) the customer's current monthly water usage or (2) on the basis of 10,000 gallons water usage per month, whichever is less.

Winter months are used to calculate the sewer averaging because historically customers use less

water this time of year.

If the averaging months are unusually warm, and the majority of residents use larger than normal amounts of water the Board may elect to drop the highest month's usage.

Any resident filling a pool during the averaging months will be allowed to subtract the water used from the usage of the month the water was used. Requests for this must be made in writing to Gary Spoons, c/o North Austin MUD #1, 2601 Forest Creek Dr, Round Rock, TX 78641-1232.

Any resident with a houseline leak during the averaging months may request a reduction in sewer usage. This also must be in writing and have documentation as to the leak and work accomplished to repair the problem.

Gary Spoons,  
Crossroads Utility Service,  
District Manager for North Austin MUD #1



- ❖ New sprinkler system installation – LI 16969
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**Milwood Resident 19 yrs.**  
**Austin Jones Enterprises, LLC.**

## Celebrate the Holidays and Adopt-a-Park in Williamson County By Williamson County Commissioner Lisa Birkman

On Thursday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> from 4-6 p.m., I invite everyone to my annual Christmas party and open house benefiting the Brown Santa program. We will have festive food and music plus Santa Claus!

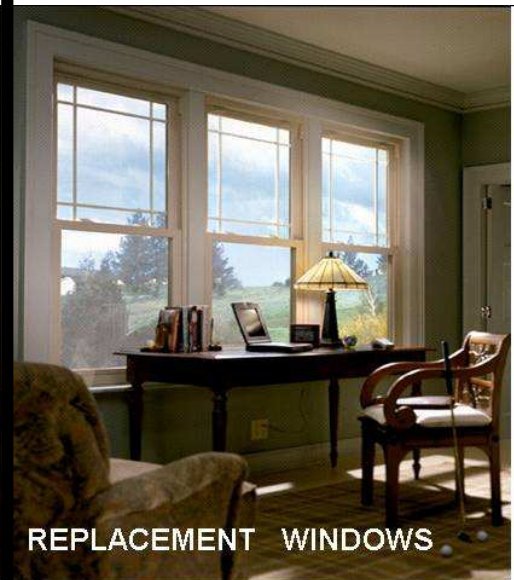
The event will be held at the new J.B. and Hallie Jester Williamson County Annex, located at 1801 E. Old Settlers Blvd., Round Rock. Attendees are encouraged to bring a toy, book or cash donation to Brown Santa. Brown Santa provides assistance to families living outside the geographical city limits of any town or city within Williamson County that does not provide a similar program. Monetary donations to Brown Santa are utilized to purchase toys, books and other items needed to make the holiday brighter for children in families living at or below the U.S. poverty level guidelines.

The Cedar Ridge High School choir will perform. And, if you cannot make the party, Constable Robert Chody and his staff will be collecting toys in marked patrol cars on Friday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9 a.m.-

3 p.m. along Avery Ranch Blvd. (From Rattan Creek, take Parmer Lane north for several miles, past RM 620, past RRISD Stadium, and then take right at the light on Avery Ranch Blvd.) You might see a big, bearded fellow wearing a red suit and hat in one of the patrol cars, as well, helping with the collection of toys!

In other news, the Williamson County Parks Department is seeking community based volunteer groups to participate in its new Adopt-a-Park program. The program is volunteer supported and invites one year partnership opportunities that will help build a sense of community pride and ownership in the county's parks, trails, and facilities. In the Rattan Creek area, the county owns and maintains the Lake Creek Trail plus Champion Park and the Southwest Regional Park are in the vicinity. Volunteer groups can help the county parks through park preservation and care, habitat restoration, special

*(Continued on page 12)*



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**Recipe Corner**

**Cornbread Dressing**

- 1 (9x9 inch) cornbread, cooled and crumbled
- 8 ounces herbed stuffing mix
- ½ tsp ground ginger
- ½ tsp salt
- ¾ cup butter
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 2 cups Turkey/Chicken Broth
- 3 eggs beaten

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

- Butter 3 quart casserole dish.
- Melt butter in a saucepan and sauté the celery and onion for 8 to 10 minutes, or until tender.
- In a large bowl, combine the cornbread, stuffing mix, ginger and salt. Mix in the celery and onion mixture, broth and eggs. Spoon dressing into prepared casserole dish.
- Bake for 30-35 minutes in the oven, or until heated through, and lightly browned on top.

If you have a recipe you love and would like to share with the neighborhood, please send the recipe to Natasha Randall at [arandall5@austin.rr.com](mailto:arandall5@austin.rr.com)

**Chocolate Caramel Popcorn**

- 14 ounces caramels
- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 2 tablespoons water
- 12 cups air popped popcorn(2 cups unpopped)
- 1 cup peanuts or other nut of choice
- 4 squares finely chopped semi-sweet chocolate or 1 cup chocolate chips, melted

**Preheat oven to 300°.**

- Microwave caramels, butter and water in a micro safe bowl on high for 2-3 minutes or until caramels are completely melted. Stir after each minute of heating.
- Combine popcorn and peanuts in a large bowl.
- Drizzle the caramel mixture over the popcorn and peanuts. Mix to coat.
- Spread popcorn out on a greased baking sheet.
- Bake for 20 minutes, stirring after 10 minutes.
- Melt 1 cup of chocolate chips, spread over baked popcorn mixture and stir to combine.
- Spread popcorn out on waxed paper to cool.
- You may need to break some of the pieces into smaller clusters. Store in a covered container at room temperature for up to one week.

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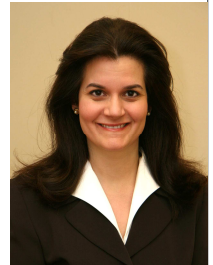
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(Continued from page 10)

events and outdoor education. The groups must be willing to commit to a minimum of one year of service and participate in at least four major events during the service year. The groups must coordinate volunteer efforts around existing park users and document volunteer activities including contributions of time and also, if applicable, financial or in-kind donations. Any projects must be approved in advance by the parks department. Adopt-a-Park forms are available on the website, <http://parks.wilcogov.org/>. More information or completed forms can be sent to: [parks&rec@wilco.org](mailto:parks&rec@wilco.org) or Williamson Co. Parks Dept., 350 Discovery Blvd., #207, Cedar Park, TX 78613. Please call 512-260-4283 for more info.

As always, if my staff and I can be of assistance on any county matter, please contact me at [lbirkman@wilco.org](mailto:lbirkman@wilco.org) or 244-8610. Please note this is a new phone number.

Lisa Birkman,  
Williamson County Commissioner,  
Precinct One

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[www.hswc.net](http://www.hswc.net)



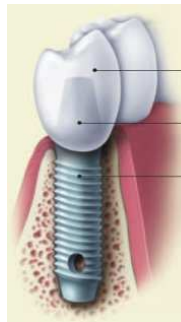
Dr. Kyleen Chen

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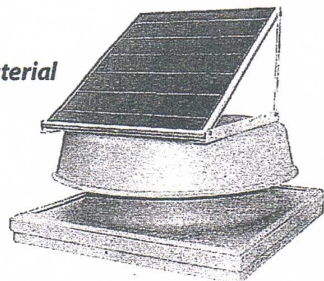


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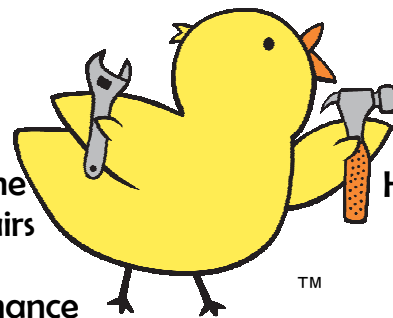
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# Rattan Creek Pool Hours

## December:



**Dec 1-19:**

**Pool Open:**

Mon, Wed, Fri: 12 Noon to 1:30pm  
4:30pm to 8:00pm  
Sat: 12 Noon to 8:00pm  
Sun: 12 Noon to 8:00pm

**Dec 20-31: Winter Holiday Hours:**

**Pool Open:**

Mon-Fri: 12 Noon to 8:00pm  
Sat: 12 Noon to 8:00pm  
Sun: 12 Noon to 8:00pm

**POOL CLOSED: Dec 24, 25, & 26**

**Dec 31: New Years Eve CLOSSES EARLY**

## January:

**January 1: New Years POOL CLOSED**

**Jan 2-3**

Open Swim: 12 Noon to 8:00 pm

**Jan 4- 31:**

Mon, Wed, Fri: 12 Noon to 1:30pm  
4:30pm to 8:00pm  
Sat: 12 Noon to 8:00pm  
Sun: 12 Noon to 8:00pm

**Jan 17:** 12 Noon to 8:00pm

## February:

Mon, Wed, Fri: 12 Noon to 1:30pm  
4:30pm to 8:00pm  
Sat: 12 Noon to 8:00pm  
Sun: 12 Noon to 8:00pm

**Feb 21:** 12 Noon to 8:00pm

## March:



Mon, Wed, Fri: 12 Noon to 1:30pm  
4:30pm to 8:00pm  
Sat: 12 Noon to 8:00pm  
Sun: 12 Noon to 8:00pm

## March 14-18: Spring Break

Mon-Fri: 12 Noon to 8:00pm

## April:

Mon, Wed, Fri: 12 Noon to 1:30pm  
4:30pm to 8:00pm  
Sat: 12 Noon to 8:00pm  
Sun: 12 Noon to 8:00pm

## Pool Applications:

Mail to:

NAM1 Pool  
7617 Elkhorn Mountain Trail  
Austin, Texas 78729

Or Deliver in person, at the pool window, during the following times:

Mon, Wed, Fri from 4:00 - 7:00pm  
Or Sat from Noon - 7:00pm

**All Hours Are Subject To Change**

**Rattan Creek Pool 257-1265**

**Manager: Andrea Sivells**

**Pool managed by  
Clearwater Management: 331-7066**

Pool Application and Rules for Pool Use  
are available online at

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

**Reservations for the Parties at the Pool**

**MUST be made through the pool office or call 257-1265.**

**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 2010/2011 WINTER SESSION**

NAMUD #1 Water Bill Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ Home Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_  
**Bring copy of your water bill with you if coming in person. (Application will be considered incomplete without account number)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 (As it appears on NAM1 bill)  
 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.*

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
**(APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED INCOMPLETE WITHOUT SIGNATURE)**

**If you are applying for a tennis key/membership, YOU MUST SUPPLY AN EMAIL ADDRESS IN ORDER TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE ONLINE RESERVATION SYSTEM. Please PRINT CLEARLY below: (See tennis rules for more info)**

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**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>
_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____

**REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO NORTH AUSTIN MUD #1**

**CHECK MUST BE SEPARATE FROM WATER BILL PAYMENT – DO NOT MAIL APPLICATION W/ WATER BILL**

2011 Winter Fees: Make Checks Payable To North Austin M.U.D. #1 Pool  
 Quantity Check MUST accompany this registration form to be processed.

**ALL ITEMS PURCHASED ARE NON-REFUNDABLE**

_____ Winter In-District Badge	@ \$20 per badge	\$ _____
_____ Annual In-District Badge	@ \$40 per badge	\$ _____
_____ Out-of-District Winter Membership (Up to 4 Badges if needed)	@ \$200 per household	\$ _____
_____ Additional Out-of-District Winter Badge	@ \$50 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 (In-District Only) (KEY IS ONLY VALID November 2010 THROUGH April 2011)	@ \$25 (ONE KEY PER HOUSEHOLD) (KEYS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE POOL)	\$ _____
_____ RCNA Membership (In-District Only) (RCNA Fee Covers Jan-Dec Membership Year)	@ \$25 per household	\$ _____

**NOTE: SUMMER BADGES/GUEST ADMITTANCES ARE VALID THRU 09/15/10 TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**ALL ITEMS PURCHASED ARE NON-REFUNDABLE**

Mail or Deliver to NA MUD 1 Pool 7617 Elkhorn Mountain Trail Austin, Texas 78729  
 Check MUST accompany this registration form to be processed. - NO CASH ACCEPTED!

**PLEASE READ ALL INFORMATION 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 or delivered separately** from your payment for the NAM1 water bill to 7617 Elkhorn Mountain Trail Austin, Tx 78729.
- 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 & 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 & used by **one** person.
- Annual ID badges are good from the beginning of the summer session until the end of the winter session & not a year from the date of purchase. (i.e. valid from May 2010 to April 2011)
- Tennis court locks are changed every 6 months – around the end of April/ or 1<sup>st</sup> of May & end of October or 1<sup>st</sup> of November. Therefore, for continued access, keys will need to be purchased twice a year. **Only ONE key can be issued per household.** Replacement fee for lost or stolen keys will be at the same price of a new key.
- **Tennis court keys currently are available for pick up** at Rattan Creek Pool. If you sign up before Tennis Court locks are changed, then key will be mailed to you (even if your application is brought in person).
- ID Badges, guest passes & tennis court keys are not pro-rated at any time.
- Guest passes can only be used for the session they were issued in & cannot be “carried over” to any other session.
- Please make sure you are filling out the appropriate application for the ID badges, etc., that you are requesting, so that you are referencing the correct information, fees, etc. (The year & session being registered for will be stated above the list of fees.)
- If your child will be three years of age *PRIOR to opening day* of the session being registered for (even if they are not yet 3 at the time of registration), he/she WILL need an ID badge purchased for him/her.
- Applications & payments must be submitted by mail or in person to NA MUD 1(Rattan Creek Pool).  
**NO CASH will be taken at the pool, only checks.**
- ID badges will be issued to members at the pool after your application is processed and your residency is established. If you bring a copy of your water bill with you to the pool, this will help to speed up the process.  
**ID badges are not mailed.**
- Forms of payment accepted for pool & tennis keys are check & money order. ***Credit/debit cards are not accepted at this time.***
- 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.

**Applications are not considered complete unless signed.**

Application, schedules & 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 Association

## Join the RCNA Today and Enjoy Year Round Benefits

Thank you for considering becoming a member of the Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association (RCNA). Hundreds of members strong, our neighborhood continues to prosper with clean and safe parks, exciting neighborhood events, and a new Rattan Creek Community Center. It is RCNA members like you that ensure our Rattan Creek community continues to thrive. Thank you for your continued support & welcome to all new members, we look forward to meeting you.

### Membership Benefits Include

- Voice to the counties, city, and MUD Board on behalf of the neighborhood
- Rattan Creek Neighborhood Newsletter has distributed over 18,000 newsletters annually throughout the neighborhood. In 2011 the new plan is to shift to an online newsletter and a smaller delivered version with information and event reminders.
- Annual Neighborhood events including; Easter Egg Hunt, "Members Only" Pool Party, Fourth of July Parade, Rattan Fest and 5K Fun Run, National Night Out, Caroling in the Park, and much more.
- RCNA Scholarship Fund provides university scholarships of \$500 to high school seniors of RCNA members.
- Neighborhood involvement committees including Neighborhood Watch and Architectural Control Committee.

### Becoming a Member Today

- Dues are \$25 annually, based on a calendar year
- Signing up has never been easier:
  - Visit [www.rattancreek.org](http://www.rattancreek.org) to sign up on-line and pay by credit card
  - Or, mail payment and the completed form below to the address listed

### Questions

- For questions, please contact Brian Kerman at (512) 921-4490 or [brikerm@austin.rr.com](mailto:brikerm@austin.rr.com)  
 RCNA is a voluntary Homeowners Association for residents within the boundaries of North Austin MUD #1.

**Rattan Creek Neighborhood Association**  
**P.O. Box 200584 – Austin, Tx 78720-0584**  
 \$25 Annual Membership Includes Your Entire Household

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership:  Renewal  New

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

I would like to make an additional voluntary contribution to support RCNA events and activities: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Be a part of exciting RCNA events and communications! I would like to volunteer to assist with:  
 Activities  Committees  Newsletter  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your contribution and support.



**North Austin Municipal Utility District #1 Board of Directors notes on the November 17, 2010 Board meeting on Tax Rate, 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:** MALAJO Consulting reported on October 4, 2010:

New complaints received (20), Calls for advice (8), Emails for advice(8), First letters sent (4), Number of cover letters to rental owners: (0), Second letters sent (1), Repeat letters sent (0), Violations sent to MUD attorney (0), Number of cases closed (violations corrected) (1).

**Rattan Creek Park:** Clean up and repair of the trails has been completed.

**Robinson Park:** Clean up and repair of the trails has been completed.

**Rattan Creek Park Pool:**

- McNeil High School team has began practicing early each day.
- It is now Winter Swim Season.
- Pool phone number is **257-1265**.

**Greenbelts and parks and soccer fields:** All fields are open and ready for play. Soccer fields will be closed for maintenance January 4 through February 19.

**Community Center:** Remember the community center rooms are available for rental. A deposit is collected and held to cover any damages.

**Water Loss:** We are still monitoring the district water usage for a water loss.

**Utility Management Company:** Crossroads Utility Service **257-1271** or **246-1400**. The physical address is 2601 Forest Creek Round Rock.

The correct mailing address for the water bills:  
**North Austin MUD 1  
PO Box 4901  
Houston, Tx 77210-4901**

*\* Do not drop your water bills at Southwest Water or the community center.*

*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.*

Jo Jones, Secretary  
NAMUD #1 Board of Directors.

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

**NA MUD #1 Board of Directors:**

Place One - **Keith Collins,** 258-6244  
Treasurer (5/12)

Place Two - **Don Conklin,** 331-1903  
Vice President (5/14)

Place Three - **Jo Jones,** 335-1805  
Secretary(5/12)

Place Four - **Alan McNeil,** 219-8719  
President (5/14)

Place Five - **John Lenz,** 249-7667  
Ass't Treasurer/Secretary (5/12)

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



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General Manager: Gary Spoons

Office: 246-1400  
Fax: 246-1900

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**Thank You!**



The RCNA would like to thank both the Jollyville Fire Department and the Williamson County Sheriff's Department for attending this years Rattan Fest.

**Rattan Fest  
September 2010**

Williamson County Sheriff's Department brought their SWAT vehicle for the children and parents, to check out at Rattan Fest.

Jollyville Fire Department also had their fire truck for folks to check out. Both were a big hit with kids of all ages!

Thank you!

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RCNA Board Member  
Donation made to RCNA Scholarship Fund from every Milwood sale!



# Parent's Night Out

The RCNA will be hosting Parent's Night Out at Rattan Creek Community Center.

**Friday, December 17 from 6pm-11pm**

A Snack will be provided.

Cost will be \$10 per child, or \$5 a child, if you are an RCNA member. Children must be 3 to 10 years old. All children must be potty trained.

Have a great night out or get that Holiday shopping done!

**You must pre-register for this event.**

**Call: Dallas Hall at 257-3494**

Adult Staff will be CPR and First Aid Certified  
Planned activities, playing in the park, movies....  
This event must have 20 children or be canceled.

## POSTALANNEX<sup>+</sup>

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**Shipping with FedEx or UPS**

Offers cannot be combined. Expires 1/31/11

**POSTALANNEX<sup>+</sup>**

**FREE**

**500 Business Cards**

with purchase of 500 business cards. Some restrictions apply. Offers cannot be combined. Expires 1/31/11

## TEEN SERVICES

**ATTENTION TEENS: YOUR ADS RUN FREE, but must be renewed once every 6 months.**

The date at the end of your ad indicates the last month your ad will run. All ads must be submitted in writing and mailed or delivered to:

RCNA c/o Kelly Buczek  
6407 Crowley Trail Austin, Tx 78729  
or email: [kelly@catscradle.us](mailto:kelly@catscradle.us)

**Hannah Winkler, 13** - Pet Care. Has plenty of experience, also has a cat and a dog. Will walk dogs, feed pets, clean out litter boxes, etc. Can work out prices. Available almost anytime. For contact E-mail me at [hannahwinkler@yahoo.com](mailto:hannahwinkler@yahoo.com) or leave a message at 512-258-3404 which will be answered as soon as possible. (1/11)

**Sydney Howells, 13** – I can baby-sit I have 2 years experience. I am American Red Cross certified. We can work out prices. I am available on weekdays in the summer and weekends during the school year after 1 or 2 on Sundays and available Fridays. I love kids so if you need a sitter call 512-466-3410 or email me at [sydney1howells@yahoo.com](mailto:sydney1howells@yahoo.com). (3/11)

**Ellen Brown, 14**- I have been a babysitter and mother's helper for over three years and have experience with children of all ages. I love being with kids and am Red Cross certified. I have very reasonable rates and am very responsible; an all 'A' student. I am most available on weekends and holidays. You can contact me at (512)335-0207 or [ellenbrown7637@gmail.com](mailto:ellenbrown7637@gmail.com). (3/11)

**Taylor Shore, 16**- I have been babysitting since i was 11 years old. I have had alot of experience with kids of all ages, having a younger sister and lots of cousins of my own. I am in the Health and science prgram at my school planning to become a Nurse in the NICU. I currently babysit other kids in the neighborhood and am always looking for other jobs! I would love to watch your kids in the evenings or weekends. My email is [tshor3@yahoo.com](mailto:tshor3@yahoo.com), and my cell phone is (512)934-3181. (5/11)

**Dana Stimson, 16** - Baysitting and pet care services. I get along with kids of all ages and I'm pretty flexible with anything. I am a Junior at McNeil High School and I have plenty of experience with babysitting. Pricing for babysitting varies, and for dog or pet sitting is \$10 for each day. Please call if you're in need for sitting at 512-791-1853 or my home number at 512-335-0473. It doesn't hurt to call and see if I'm available. Thank you! (05/11)

**Adam Ranallo** - Edge, Mow, and blow \$30.00. Exploit College Labor. Call Adam 801-9793 (1/11)

Place your  
*Teen Services Ad*  
**HERE!**  
They are Free  
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Call or Email us today! Milwood Residents for 15 yrs!




# Events Coordinator

The RCNA is looking for a new Events Coordinator.

Dallas Hall will be leaving this position May 1<sup>st</sup>.

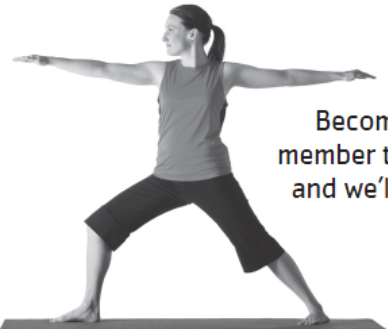
We have all the information for making these events successful in a handy binder! Phone numbers, volunteer list, step by step instructions! You can run with these events. Make them bigger and better. The RCNA is always looking for new ideas.

If interested, call 257-3494.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## GIVE A GIFT OF HEALTH



**Our Gift to You!**  
Become a YMCA of Austin member through Jan. 31, 2011 and we'll pay your joining fee - a \$48 value!

**Northwest Family YMCA**  
5807 McNeil • 335-YMCA  
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# CLASSIFIEDS

**Classified Ad** rates are 25¢ per word, per issue. Deadline for ads is the first of each month for the following month/issue. **Payment in full is required before publication.** Any ads received after the deadline, will be held until the next issues publication. **No exceptions will be made. Send to: RCNA, c/o Kelly Buczek (ph: 258-6482)**

6407 Crowley Trail Austin, Tx 78729 or email: [kelly@catscradle.us](mailto:kelly@catscradle.us)

**NEED ELECTRICAL WORK DONE:**

Affordable and honest. Master Electrician: Julia Ogden will work evenings or weekends. Call 636-3004.MEL# 138490 / TECL# 24477 (1/11)

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**SPANISH TUTORING –**

Retired Spanish teacher with 30 years experience teaching Spanish Levels 1-5. Taught current RRISD Spanish curriculum. Contact Paula Haschke @ 963-2886 or [haschkep@yahoo.com](mailto:haschkep@yahoo.com). (1/11)

**Parents Night Out!**

The RCNA will be hosting Parent’s Night Out at Rattan Creek Community Center.

Friday, December 17

From 6:00 pm until 11:00pm.

Cost will be \$10 per child, with a \$5 discount per child for an RCNA member.

- A snack will be provided.
- Children must be 3 to 10 years old.
- All children MUST be potty trained!

This is a great time to have a night out or get that Holiday shopping done!

**You MUST pre-register for this event.**

**Call Dallas Hall 257-3494**

Adult staff will be CPR and First Aid Certified. Planned activities, playing at the park, and movies.... ***This event must have 20 children or will be cancelled.***

**Yoga in the Park at Rattan Creek Community Center.**

Mondays and Wednesdays: 5:30pm to 6:30pm. Classes accommodate all levels of practice, from beginning to beyond in a relaxed peaceful environment. Our practice begins with breath meditation (pranayama) to foster awareness between mind, body and spirit. A fundamental sequence of poses are practiced in the meditative Hatha flow part of the class with asanas (postures) that vary according to the focus of each class. Mindfulness in movement, breath and thought allows us to experience freedom from our internal and external judgements and attachments. Come and experience enhanced physical, mental and emotional wellbeing through “Yoga in the Park”! Cost: \$10 per class. Contact: [mkaye3@austin.rr.com](mailto:mkaye3@austin.rr.com) . (12/10)

**Faith Montessori House Of Children -**

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[www.faithmontessorihouse.com](http://www.faithmontessorihouse.com) (07/11)

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**512.586.3163**  
cleaning our community since 2004

# Holiday Precautions

If the Weather Bureau issues a Freeze Warning, REMEMBER to follow these guidelines to help prevent you from returning to frozen or busted pipes:

- KEEP YOUR HEAT TURNED ON AT ALL TIMES! Do not turn your heat off even if you plan to be out of town for a few days. Just set your thermostat on at least 60°.
- OPEN ALL CABINET DOORS UNDER THE SINKS to allow heat to circulate and keep the pipes warm.
- ALLOW ALL FAUCETS TO DRIP with a small steady drip of water (running water does not freeze). Don't forget to remove any sink stoppers!!
- WRAP YOUR EXTERIOR FAUCETS or cover with the faucet nipples (can be found at any hardware store).
- MAKE SURE TO TURN OFF THE WATER

TO YOUR WASHING MACHINE, especially if you do not have metal braided hoses. Do not assume you are safe since your washing machine is located in the garage.

### Other items not to forget:

- DON'T FORGET THE PETS!!
- DON'T FORGET TO STOP THE MAIL AND NEWSPAPER.
- ASK A NEIGHBOR / FRIEND TO CHECK ON YOUR HOME.

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

*The RCNA, wish you safe travels and happy holidays to you and yours.*



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Give your Heating and Cooling system a precision tune up.



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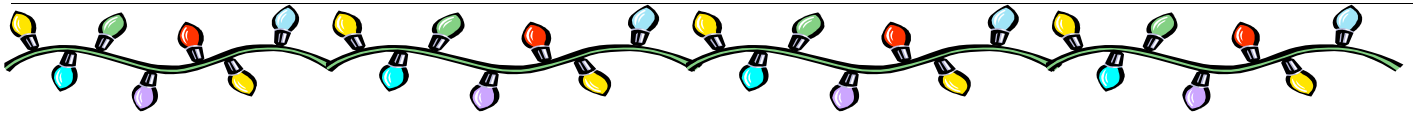
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# Join us and sing Carols around the Bon Fire!

You will need a **flashlight**  
to see your songbooks!

*A fun time is had by all!*

*Sunday December 19th  
at 6:00 pm*



***Be sure not to miss Santa...***

He should arrive about 6:30 PM.

*Santa says "Be Safe! Do not to rush the firetruck!"*

*Unfortunately, at this time of the year,  
Santa is very busy so he can only spend about an hour with us that evening,  
so be sure to come early if you want to see him in person!*

**Don't Forget Your Cameras!**

*In Case of Rain:* we will sing carols and meet Santa inside  
at the Rattan Creek Community Center



**The Rattan Creek Community Center  
will also be open  
from 6:00 to 8:00pm  
Light refreshments will be served.**

