

Prez Letter

Hello neighbors,

I hope everyone affected by our recent storm is doing OK! Just a bit spooky to see 40-60' pecans flapping in the wind like clothes on the line. My dogs insisted that we retreat to an inner room for a spell, our youngest gave me a distinct look of "yo dummy, move it!" while I was watching limbs fly by the windows!

Other than the storm everything looks pretty calm in the 'hood at the moment. We have progress on the north side of the neighborhood in safety and traffic issues, with a few blocks implementing Resident Parking Permits, and "No Parking" signs on the 700 block of Bouldin to avoid emergency vehicle blockage. Enforcement is also forthcoming so please warn your visiting guests, having them towed is not a good way to keep friends.

I went to an election watch party a couple of weeks ago and caught up with some friends and neighborhood activists. Found out that our precinct had a turn out of 11.13%, 286 out of 2,570 voters. I was pretty underwhelmed. Citywide turnout was ~5% so we looked better but, woohoo, 5% just OK'd \$300+ million in bonds and elected half our city council. Pretty sad!

Fortunately, I also met up with a gal who has been doing this a long time and she managed to cheer me up. I remember snagging these from her: "Those that show up make the decisions!" and "Never underestimate the power of a few dedicated people to change the world,..indeed, it is the only

See Prez - continued on pg 3

MEETING

BCNA General Assoc. Meeting

Tuesday, June 10, 2008 6:45 pm.

Becker Elementary School

Agenda:

Police District Rep Intro/Presentation

City Code Enforcement Presentation

Parks Report * Zoning Report

Neighborhood email list - Go to

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BCNA/> or link from the

Bouldin Creek website

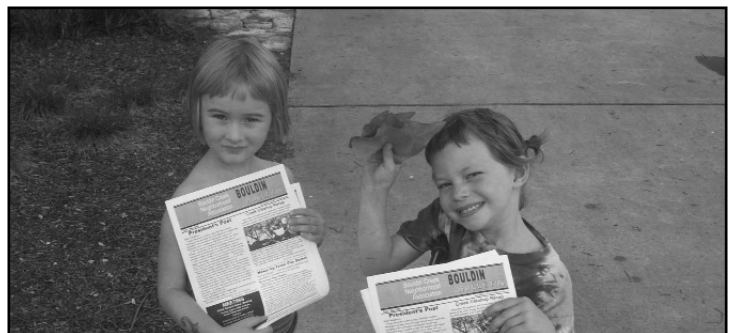
Parks Update - Spring 2008

We are lucky to have as much parkland as we do in our neighborhood. Ever since I moved into this area almost 20 years ago, I've been impressed with the efforts of scores of neighbors who maintain and improve our green spaces. While we tend to treat them as "our" parks, they belong to all citizens of Austin and are under the stewardship of the City's Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARD). PARD has been under-budgeted for many years and is supportive of neighborhood associations that adopt parks in their areas.

Last June, the BCNA General Association passed a resolution directing the BCNA Parks Committee to find a solution for different user groups to share our 54 acre West Bouldin Creek Greenbelt (bordered by the railroad tracks and S. 6th Street, generally from Barton Springs Rd south to Annie St.) The committee was also asked to establish guidelines for maintaining existing bike jumps, as well as a plan for environmental remediation, including the replacement of non-native plants with native ones. The committee was asked to report back to the Association in June of 2008.

The good news is that much progress has been made. The Parks Committee has been meeting monthly since last summer. We contacted PARD and the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department (WPDRD) to ask for guidance. Watershed Protection showed great interest in the well-being of the greenbelt, particularly regarding erosion along the creek banks.

See Creek - continued on pg 3



These two neighbors were at odds in the ongoing battle of old vs. new. How did they resolve their dispute? They came together through volunteering for the neighborhood association delivering newsletters in the green zone.

News Up From The Street

We have 7 color-coded zones for newsletter distribution and representation. Boundaries are described on the back page.

Brown Zone: Stuart Hampton

Hail, hail, rock and roll!

The Brown Sector turned into the green zone early on May 15th when that storm blew in from the West, shredding the oak tree canopies and piling up a carpet of ball moss and twigs across the roads and porches. The golf-ball sized hail also did its magic drumming, busting a few west facing windows and producing a crazy ballpeen hammer pattern of indentations on car roofs and hoods.

Best I can tell, all the local wildlife took shelter and are doing well. One of my cats did come downstairs from the garage apartment in the back of our lot after the storm had passed to personally complain about my total mismanagement of the weather during the previous hours, before returning in a huff. The Tibetan Buddhist monks who had been staying at a house next to the yoga center off of Copeland, and who have a deeper insight into the impermanence of life and the limits of human action, related to the sudden storm with much more equanimity.

Green Zone: Cynthia Schiebel

The wastewater project down 2nd Street is moving along...no pun intended. Neighbors report a great success with saving an



American Elm. They were persistent with their concerns until the city arborist came out and concluded that the city would need to bore the section in front of the tree to save the root system. Yea!

The street closures have created some additional impact on the Polvo's parking situation, making it a little tighter along Johanna. Neighbors do report that the street workers are receptive to input and welcome conversation.

We did not have quite as much tree damage from the storm - but stacks of limbs are seen about. We also had a fox sighting this week at Mary and 3rd - run, Foxy, run!

Blue Zone: Jim Middleton

Check out the new historical marker in front of Becker Elementary School on W. Milton. The marker was awarded to Becker by the Texas Historical Commission for recognition as the original site of the Bouldin homestead, one of the first pioneer families to settle Austin south of Town Lake. A ceremony was held on Friday, May 9, to place the marker in the ground in front of the school. The party then moved to Becker's backyard for a "History Making" spring fest.

Meanwhile, construction continues on the new Twin Oaks Branch Library. According to John Gillum, Austin Public Library's Facilities Planning Manager, "the project management team believes that the scheduled opening in August, 2009 should prove eminently doable."

Property Value Alert

If you're serious about keeping up with Bouldin property values, or just curious, subscribe to Bouldin RE Alert. Send us an email with "Bouldin Alert" in the subject line. You'll be notified if there's a new listing in Bouldin, with address, photos, price and complete details on the property.

Bill Ley: Realtor, Lawyer
BillLey@austin.rr.com (512) 917-2467
30 years experience 28 years in South Austin



Harlequin Pet Services

Pet sitting, dog walking & pet taxi

Content Love Knowles

contentlove@yahoo.com
http://www.austindogwalk.com
512.442.7657 office
512.945.9816

We take care of your animals in your home while you are working or out of town!
Now serving south, east, and central Austin -
Mention this ad for a 10% discount on your first booking!

Keep your lawn healthy and beautiful with



grasshopper lawncare

Complete lawn maintenance for your home or business.

Sign up online. Pay online.

It's that easy.

www.grasshopperlawncare.net

Serving the Austin area.
Weekly or bi-weekly service
starting at just \$20/week
go online, or call 512-560-9575 for more information

Prez - continued from pg 1

thing which has ever changed it.” - Margaret Meade

She also noted, You basically have 4 kinds of neighbors;

1) Those that don't care - we need to try and engage them and help keep them informed (they often bitch the loudest!)

2) Those that are new and/or uninformed - we need to engage and educate. If you are in a suburb or other entity with homeowner rules you have certain legal protections pertaining to zoning and who/what can go up next door, and the homeowners association probably has the money to hire lawyers. ‘Course you pay fees and have certain rules such as where you can place your swing set and how your yard and house is maintained. Us bubbas sometimes have problems with these! What inner city neighborhoods have are council appointed boards and commissions, often malleable by politics and money.

3) Those that care and stay informed, but are just too busy with jobs, kids, etc. They expect to stay informed, submit opinions and have their reps act.

4) Volunteers who are willing to be representatives and act! To all the volunteers, thank you! It took a lot of work just to get our first RPPs and bike lanes worked out but it is moving forward.

We always need more volunteers, if nothing else but more plans for fun and neighborhood gatherings. So you fun loving folks please step up and offer ideas and time.

Have a good summer and I hope to see y'all at the next Association meeting, Tuesday June 10. - Gary

Creek - continued from pg 1

They offered to fund an environmental assessment of the whole area, followed by stakeholder meetings in which the best uses would be discussed, and a subsequent master plan

for the greenbelt. It was a generous offer, considering that these studies cost upwards of \$50,000.

Watershed Protection does not have staff to perform the work themselves; so they will contract with the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center to do the assessment. A similar arrangement has worked well for Pease Park in the past. The assessment was scheduled to start in early spring, at the beginning of the growing season, and be completed by the end of May. However, the Wildflower Center became part of the University of Texas system last year, and a new contract needs to be worked out. The last update from WPDRD was that the

assessment might be completed by October - with meetings and plan development taking us to the end of the year.

Even though we had hoped for a quicker resolution, the Parks Committee feels it is worth the wait to have the assessment completed properly. It will be of invaluable help in our planning for years to come. We will therefore ask the General Association at the June meeting for a one-year extension to the motion approved last year. While we hope to be done sooner than June 2009, we are dealing with several factors outside of our control.

Parks Committee meetings take place the fourth Thursday of every month, 6:30 p.m. at 704 W. Gibson. I invite neighbors to get involved either by attending meetings or helping out on work-days in either of our parks. Workdays are generally announced

See Creek - continued on pg 4

FARM TO MARKET GROCERY



EAT LOCAL
78704

Groceries, Specialty Items,
Cold Beer & Fine Wine,
Prepared Foods, Fresh Flowers

1718 SOUTH CONGRESS AVE. • 512-462-7220
WWW.FM1718.COM
OPEN DAILY 8AM-8PM



MORNING STAR
TRADING COMPANY

1919 S. 1st St.
476-1726
Open Mon-Sat
9am-6:30pm.

Relaxing Massage
& Complete Massage Supply Store
~
Soothing Aromatherapy
Exfoliating Salt and Sugar Scrubs
Moisturizing Body Wraps
~
Gorgeous Jewelry and Other
Delightful Treasures
Established 1991



DESIGN
breauxdesign
a landscape company

creating **intuitive** environments
with an ecological **approach**

land design
project administration
consultation

512.418.6164
stephen@breauxdesign.com

The Herb Bar “Best place to cure what ails you”



Explore our Oasis of Earthly Delights!

- extensive array of natural health and bodycare products
- comprehensive collection of herbs
- great gift ideas and much more!

www.theherbbar.com

200 West Mary • 444-6251 Mon.-Fri. 10-6:30
Sat. 10-5

BCNA Officers

President: Gary Hyatt

447-1607, gary@evastreetproperties.com

V. P. Neighborhood Issues: Jody Zemel

447-0261, nonalignedgeek@gmail.com

V. P. External Affairs: Mateo Scoggins

462-9791, mcscog@swbell.net

Communications Director: Ronnie Dittmar

442-8120, ronnedittmar@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer: Gavin Wilson

693-4527, gavinlohr@yahoo.com

Secretary: Sara Clark

444-8154, sclark@scottdoug.com

Committee Chairs

Parks & Green Spaces Chair: Ingrid Weigand

443-8141, urpprods@earthlink.net

Zoning Committee Chair: Brad Patterson

326-4956, bradfordpatterson04@yahoo.com

Community Policing Committee Chair: vacant

Webmaster: Cory Walton

462-1646, coryography@swbell.net

Newsletter Advertising: Kris Hyatt

447-5402, kris@evastreetproperties.com

BCNA Email List Admin: Chuck Furlong

531-3574, chuck@furlong.com

Sector Representatives

Green Zone: Cynthia Schiebel

445-0153, cschiebel@austin.rr.com

(N/S:Oltorf to Mary; E/W: R.R. trks to S. First)

Lavender Zone: Vanessa Morgan

657-6623, vlmorgan@gmail.com

(Oltorf to Johanna; S. First to S. Congress)

Yellow Zone: Darren Peterson

771-8836, info@chickendog.net

(Johanna to South of the Deaf Sch.; S. First to S. Congress)

Blue Zone: Jim Middleton

441-2030, jmiddleton7@austin.rr.com

(Mary to Monroe; RR tracks to S. First)

Pink Zone: Matt Coldwell

442-3007, mattcold@sbcglobal.net

(Monroe to Gibson between RR tracks to S. First @ Gibson to Christopher between S. 5th & S. First)

Orange Zone: Jesse Bennight

444-1840, jbennight@austin.rr.com

(Gibson to Christopher between RR tracks & S.5th: Christopher to Barton Springs Rd between RR track and Bouldin)

Brown Zone: Stuart Hampton

442-1198, shampton@hoovers.com

(Copeland to Barton Springs Rd: S. 2nd to South First)

BCNA Schedule

General Association meetings: Held at Becker Elementary School, every other month on the 2nd Tuesday.

Next Meeting: Tuesday June 10, 2008

Steering Committee meetings: Every Month, first Monday.

Bouldin BULLETIN publication: Every other month, two Fridays before the General Association meeting.

Creek - continued from pg 3

through the BCNA group e-mail list.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can get in touch with me directly at urpprods@earthlink.net or at 443-8141. Ingrid Weigand - BCNA Parks Committee

SOUTH AUSTIN COMMUNITY ACUPUNCTURE



2041 S. Lamar
acupunctureworldheadquarters.com
(512)707-8330



"We Know What You Want"

- 21 year Bouldin resident
- 23 years Real Estate experience

kris@evastreetproperties.com

Kris
Sorenson-Hyatt
447-5402
Broker • Realtor

Serving
Bouldin & Beyond

cell 762-8235

Bouldin Creek Neighborhood Association Membership Form

____ I'd like to join the Neighborhood Assn, here's my recommended \$25 annual dues.

____ Count me in as a Business Advisor. Here's my recommended \$50 annual dues.

Name _____ Phone _____

Property Address _____ Email _____

Mailing Address (if different from above)

Please mail this form
with payment to:

**Gavin Wilson,
BCNA Treasurer
1906 Eva St.
Austin TX 78704**

write checks to:
'BCNA'