

News Northwood from

www.northwoodna.com

May/June 2013

Upcoming Events

July 4 parade



Bring flags to wave and decorated wagons and bikes to ride for the annual Independence Day parade. 10:00 AM. Meet at Oak Creek Cove (just west of Timberside). From there the route is Oak Creek to Manhasset. Anyone who wishes a longer parade route, we suggest continuing to Council Bluff, turning left and going up Tamarack to Manhasset.

At Manhasset we will end the parade and have some refreshments. Everyone is invited to stop and meet neighbors in the shade (or continue with a longer parade if you prefer). If you have questions, call Cheryl at 244-4638. See you at 10:00 on July 4! ☺

2013 Dues are Due! see page 4

Neighborhood Notes

Vice President position open

Our vice president has moved from Northwood recently so that position is now open. If you would like to get involved and help keep Northwood the wonderful neighborhood it is, contact any of the officers; their information is on the last page.

Oak wilt survey!

We are nearing the end of oak wilt season. The tiny nitidulid “sap” beetles visit infected trees and get the spores on them and then land on a recently-cut healthy oak tree and infect it. Avoid pruning or injuring oaks from February to June, and immediately paint wounds on oak trees year round.

If you see someone trimming oak trees without painting and are not comfortable talking to them, call 911. The police will talk to them.

If you have oak trees and they do not appear to be healthy, contact one of the Association officers; we will ask the Forester check your tree. For details on oak wilt, visit texasoakwilt.org. ☺

Fast Internet (Google Fiber) is coming!

Google’s Fiber - blazing fast gigabit internet - is coming to Austin. Google announced they will

Oak Wilt Alert: only prune and paint oak trees when it is very hot or very cold, then prune and immediately paint (you can use latex spray paint). Avoid pruning between February and June when the beetles transmitting the fungus are most active.



install the gigabit speed fiber in “fiberhoods” (sections of Austin) where at least 30% of the residents sign up. At this gigabit speed a season’s TV show can be downloaded in 30 seconds.

For more information or to indicate interest and help Northwood be one of the first “fiberhoods”, sign up at fiber.google.com/cities/austin/.

Still studying? See khanacademy.org -

If you or your kids need help with math, the sciences, humanities, economics, computer science or more, check out www.khanacademy.org/ It has thousands of free video tutorials on a wide range of topics. Great for K-12 and college students - and anyone who wants to learn. &

Find Family fun in Austin - freefuninaustin.com

If you are looking for fun activities for families, visit www.freefuninaustin.com/ &

Family Health

Boomers face silent hepatitis C virus risk

by MedSpring

Many baby boomers’ bodies may be harboring a silent killer: Hepatitis C. In fact, the federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends testing for anyone born between 1945 and 1965 as early diagnosis and treatment can help prevent liver damage, cirrhosis, liver cancer and other complications.

The CDC recommends that everyone born during 1945 through 1965 get a blood test for Hepatitis C. This recommendation was made because:

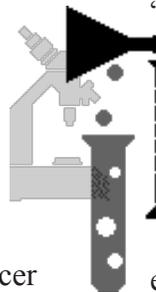
There are high rates of Hepatitis C in people born during 1945-1965. People born during 1945 through 1965 are 5 times more likely than other adults to be infected. In fact, 75% of adults with Hepatitis C were born in these years.

Testing can help prevent deaths from Hepatitis C: The numbers of people who will develop serious health problems and die from Hepatitis C are expected to rise rapidly in the coming years. Early diagnosis and treatment can help prevent liver damage, cirrhosis, and even liver cancer. It is estimated that one-time testing of everyone born during 1945 through 1965 will prevent more than 120,000 deaths.

There is a lack of awareness: Many people with Hepatitis C do not know that they have Hepatitis C. One-time testing of everyone born during 1945 through 1965 would find an estimated 800,000 undiagnosed Hepatitis C cases.

The Hepatitis C virus is a contagious, blood-borne infection affecting the liver. Baby boomers may have contracted the disease numerous ways, including through a simple blood transfusion, injection drug use or an organ transplant performed prior to 1992. While baby boomers comprise only 27 percent of the U.S. population, the CDC estimates they account for 75 percent of the Hepatitis C cases and 73 percent of deaths related to the virus.

“This simple, one-time blood test can mean the difference between life-saving treatment and serious, even deadly, liver disease,” said Dr. Jon L. Belsher, M.D., MedSpring’s Chief Medical Officer. “The Hepatitis C virus is dangerous, especially to baby boomers, as it can go unnoticed for years with most people experiencing no symptoms.”



MedSpring centers are able to administer the Hepatitis C blood test during regular center hours of 9am-9pm daily. Walk-ins are welcome, and appointments are also available. For more information, visit the Hepatitis C information page on MedSpring’s website. MedSpring Urgent Care has six centers in [Austin](http://austin.com), three in Chicago and five in Houston.



Based in Austin, Texas, MedSpring's 14 Urgent Care centers focus on delivering quality care and exceptional service. For more information, including patient reviews and savings compared to an ER, please visit www.medspring.com or find us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). ☞

Home & Family Safety

Have a safe summer

From North Austin Coalition of Neighborhoods

While many families take summer vacations, criminals visit neighborhoods looking for vehicles with valuables. Always lock your car.

Check www.krimelabb.com for information about local crimes.

- Often criminals will use children. If you see a kid that you do not recognize, and (s)he is carrying a cell phone and a backpack, take the time to ask questions, ensure the kid is OK, and is in your neighborhood for the right reasons. Sadly, APD has arrested kids as young as 8 years old in these rings.
- Over 40% of houses last year were broken into through the front door. If you have a dead-bolt/strikeplate that is not correctly installed, it only takes 2 kicks and 20 seconds for a criminal to get through your front door. The quickest, cheapest fix is to simply replace the screws holding your strikeplate to the frame with 3 inch screws - and it costs less than \$2. You might also want to check out this website, which shows you how to make your front door even more secure: www.familyhandyman.com/DIY-Projects/Home-Safety/Home-Security/how-to-reinforce-doors-entry-door-and-lock-reinforcements
- Keep all items out of sight in your vehicle. Things that you may consider of little value (such as a gym bag) could still be the target for a break-in.

- Know your "five" neighbors - those on both sides and the three across the street. Be aware of what vehicles they drive, and share contact information. If any of your "fives" are out of town, park an extra car in their driveway. ☞

New flood web site - atxfloods.com

Austin is still in a drought, and droughts are typically broken by a heavy rainfall, which creates floods and closes low water crossing roads. A new web site, www.atxfloods.com/ lists when lower water crossings are closed. There are also smart phone apps available.

The most important thing to remember about flash floods is NEVER drive past road-closing barriers. That is a class B misdemeanor, you could be fined up to \$2,000... and it could cost your life. It only takes 6 inches of running water to float a small car; 2 feet will float most vehicles. *Turn around, don't drown!* ☞

Screening Sun Screens for Safety

From www.ewg.org/2012sunscreens/ and doctoroz.com

The Environmental Working Group (EWG) review the labels of 1,800 sunscreens, moistures, makeup and lip products with SPF ratings. More than 75% did not meet their standards in 2012. The 2013 report is due out by the end of May.

Look for:

- active ingredients of zinc oxide, titanium dioxide, Mexoryl SX or avobenzone (3%).
- SPF 15 - 50 depending on your skin type
- water resistant for beach or pool

Avoid

- Oxybenzone, a hormone disruptor and skin allergen
- Vitamin A, (retinyl palmitate) caused cancer in laboratory animals
- High SPF - misleads consumers ☞





Northwood Real Estate Update

As of 5/16/13

By Linda Holmbeck, REALTOR® - Horizon Realty Austi

Current Active Listings = 3

- List prices range from \$205,000 - \$227,000
- Active listings range from 1336 SF - 1397 SF

Pending Listings = 2

- List prices range from \$235,000 - \$239,900
- Pending listings range from 1508 SF - 1731 SF

Sold houses in Northwood in last 45 days = 5

- Average Sold Days on Market = 19 days
- List price range was \$219,000 - \$249,999
- Sold houses ranged between 1375 SF - 2845 SF

Austin’s real estate market had the strongest April finish since 2007. The biggest challenge in the market right now is low inventory with active listings down almost 25% compared to the same week in 2012.

Multiple offers are common with over 97% of homes selling at or above list price. Houses are spending about a third less time on the market than they did one year ago. ☺

General & Continuing News
Yard of the Month

April yard of the month - Francis and Bill Rison, 3700 Northfield, with help from their designer Robin Moore of Robin’s Garden Designs and to Manuel Soto, owner of Austin Gardeners, and his crew. All of them had water conservation and deer in mind when choosing plants. Large flower beds were cut along the perimeter of the front and side of the house. Sky pencil hollies are next to the house, accenting the white limestone. The beds are filled with dwarf yaupon, Mexican feather grass, Mexican honeysuckle which has an orange blossom, burgundy loropetalum which has a light pink blossom, yellow lantana, and sadankwa. Large boulders and a dry river

bed created out of river rocks added interest.

The beds at the curb have copper canyon daisy, salvia greggii, sadankwa and Mexican bush sage with lavender blooms. On either side of the front door there are 2 large dark pots filled with copper canyon daisies and smaller pots of red geraniums beneath each large pot. Around the bird bath are autumn ferns. Along the porch on the side of the house are more varieties of salvia, angel trumpet, upright rosemary, firebush, Jerusalem sage and purple lantana. The beds were filled with mulch to capture and hold in as much moisture as possible.



Join the Northwood email and discussion groups!

If you want to get neighborhood news that is “hot off the press”, send a blank email to NorthwoodNbrhdAssn-subscribe@yahooogroups.com. We also have a discussion group where neighbors can discuss issues or ask questions, and a Facebook page. To join either discussion go to our web site northwoodna.com ☺



2013 Due\$ are due

The 2013 dues are due. They are \$15 and are for the calendar year 2013. The dues pay for the gift certificates for the yard of the month and help pay for the newsletter and some of the special activities.

To join the Northwood Neighborhood Association, either complete the form on the back of this newsletter and mail a check to the treasurer at the address listed on the form OR use the PayPal option on the web site, www.northwoodna.com. ☺

Dues must be current to be eligible for financial assistance for treatment of oak wilt



Police neighborhood contact



Our neighborhood police contact is Officer Michael Whetston. Contact him at 974-5553 or Michael.Whetston@austintexas.gov. To just report an incident, call 311. &

Police report

The City's Crime Viewer is available at www.austintexas.gov/GIS/CrimeViewer/

Street	Crime	Time
March		
Lovage	DWI - Felony	1:21
April		
Oak Creek	Abandoned Vehicle	8:51
Oak Creek	Disturbance	21:39
Woodchester	Family Disturbance	11:45
Timberside	Leaving the scene - accident	17:27
Tamarack	Theft	
Palfrey	Burglary of Vehicle	8:29
Timberside	Leaving the scene of an accident	17:27
May		
Pegasus	Criminal Mischief	
Pegasus	Vandalism	

Unclassified

Kid's Bible Club July 8-11

Location: 12602 Palfrey Dr. drop off starting at 5:30, camp runs from 5:45 - 7 PM for kids K-4th. Send your kids over to enjoy fun games and Bible lessons lead by teenagers. Questions? Contact Megan, megparra@gmail.com 512-736-6189 &

Officers:
 President Cheryl Vanek 244-4368
 NorthwoodPresident@gmail.com
 Vice President vacant
 Secretary Rosalia Nassaux 826-3111
 NorthwoodSecretary@gmail.com
 Treasurer Nancy Grijalva 218-9492
 NorthwoodTreasurer@gmail.com
 The News from Northwood is a publication of the Northwood Neighborhood Association
 Editor Donna Blumberg 244-7500
 northwoodna@yahoo.com



You can also find crimes by zip code at www.krimelabb.com and subscribe to alerts at www.spotcrime.com/

Any time you see a person or vehicle that doesn't seem to belong, get as detailed a description as possible and notify the police – call 311 (or 911 if they are still present).

Calendar

- July 4 Parade
- October 12 Fall Garage Sale
- December Holiday lights contest

Classified Ad rates:
 Business card \$15
 1/4 page \$35
 1/2 page \$60
 Full page \$85



My priority is to focus on your real estate goals

Linda Holmbeck, REALTOR®
www.austinhomesbylinda.com
Your neighbor on Timberside

HORIZON REALTY
Austin



I've lived in Northwood for more than 22 years and have been a REALTOR for 13. We live in one of the most unique and desirable neighborhoods in North Austin.

Austin is currently a seller's market, so I would love the opportunity to meet with you if you're considering buying or selling. I'll focus on your individual needs and provide you with the highest level of service.

Call me for information about my money-saving move-up program

512-653-4644

THE HANDIEST MAN
KEN METCALF

4500 Oak Creek Dr. Austin TX 78727 512-501-0132 metcalf.ken@gmail.com



\$19 Youth Physicals at

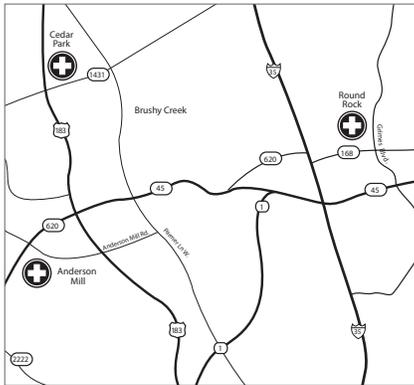
MedSpring Urgent Care



(512) 402.6240
www.MedSpring.com

MedSpring is pleased to offer standard youth sports or camp physicals for a flat rate of \$19. Simply print and redeem the coupon below at any of our six Austin MedSpring locations. We have physicians on-site from 9am-9pm every day of the week. Walk-ins welcome, or call ahead to schedule an appointment.

North Austin



ANDERSON MILL

11521 N. Ranch Rd. 620
Austin, TX 78726
(620 & Anderson Mill, next to HEB)

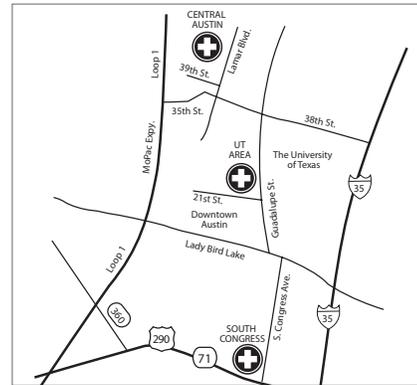
CEDAR PARK

1335 E. Whitestone Blvd.
Cedar Park, TX 78613
(1890 Ranch Shopping Center, near Cinemark)

ROUND ROCK

1820 Gattis School Rd.
Round Rock, TX 78664
(NW corner of AW Grimes and Gattis School)

Central and South Austin



CENTRAL AUSTIN

3906 N. Lamar Blvd.
Austin, TX 78756
(across from the Heart Hospital)

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AREA

2120 Guadalupe St.
Austin, TX 78705
(on the Drag across from the Ransom Center)

SOUTH CONGRESS

208 W. Ben White Blvd.
Austin, TX 78704
(at Congress & Ben White next to P.Terry's)

physicians on-site 9am-9pm every day • we treat a wide range of illnesses and injuries • we accept most major insurance plans • read thousands of patient reviews online at MedSpring.com/reviews

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\$19

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Must present coupon at time of visit.
Normally \$29



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