

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

By Mary Gay Maxell

Being your co-president during the neighborhood planning phase has been **LOTS** of fun! Yes, I really mean that. I have learned so much about zoning, land use planning, the City of Austin bureaucracy, and developer mindsets. And I have met many **GREAT** people in the process.

It has been an extremely worthwhile experience, and I am happy to have served in this capacity for a period of time. It is time for me to leave and go to Tahiti (just kidding!), and take a long vacation so I can recharge my batteries and come back to do other things.

I will continue to be involved in the wings, so to speak, but we **REALLY NEED MORE NEIGHBORS** to be involved with the neighborhood association. This is a particularly crucial time to have the **MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION** from the neighborhood. Our city is changing, and it is changing in the central city. Time to be awake and alert to what is going on around us!!

So, my last words as I leave this position are: **JOIN US IN PROTECTING OUR NEIGHBORHOOD THAT WE LOVE SO MUCH!**

Thanks again. *N*

WHAT A LONG, STRANGE TRIP IT'S BEEN

by Jerry Roemisch

It's been since 2000 that I've served as either NUNA President or Co-President with Rick and Mary Gay. (During that period, I did get one year off for bad behavior while Rick took the reins alone.) And, much like a Grateful Dead tour, the journey's been a good one, albeit sometimes strange.

It's been strange how much time and energy so many neighbors enthusiastically volunteered. It's been

NUNA Meeting

Monday, February 7, 2005, 7 p.m.
First English Lutheran Church
30th and Whitis

Agenda

- Slate of officers
- Funding
- Dues are due
- Historic home--Burnham
- Subcommittee for the neighborhood plan
- Zoning requests

strange how seven querulous neighborhoods became a band of united brothers (and sisters) under the CANPAC banner. It's been strange how the financial generosity of so many NUNAites continues to fill the funding lifeline that keeps Karen McGraw's vast neighborhood planning resources available to us.

So, our collective presidencies end with a bang of neighborhood accomplishment and only a faint whimper. If you haven't yet contributed to NUNA, or if you can give again, now is the best of times to do it. Our investment in a comprehensive, codified Neighborhood Plan becomes the preservation linchpin protecting the value of your home and the historical beauty of our area. We could not have done it without Karen's expertise. The only debt we want to owe her is a debt of gratitude. Please write a check to NUNA today.

Thanks for being such wonderful neighbors. *N*

HELLO GOODBYE

by Rick Iverson

In the last newsletter we wrote that NUNA still owed Karen a little over \$6,000 for her hard work on the NCCD. As I sit down to write this article, we have reduced this figure to a little over \$3,000. That remainder is less than 10 percent of the total amount billed; albeit (and thankfully!) at a very reduced hourly rate.

But those are just the facts, which don't begin to tell the story.

In response to letters and pleas in the newsletter, some staunch residents have sent checks on four different occasions; most donors have given at least twice. The number of folks responding with donations far exceeds any of our expectations.


Sooooo where are we? Mary Gay has written so many letters to all of you that she plum wore her arm out. That's a lot of letters over several years. She needs a rest and we are giving her one. Other kinds of fund raisers are in the offing, so stay tuned.

Several already experienced members of the planning team have agreed to stand for officers in NUNA. These people will continue to do outstanding work for all of us. Please come to the bi-monthly meetings and put a face with their names. They will need your support.

Our planning team has worked closely with other CANPAC neighborhoods, but none more closely than Heritage. We had the same goal of significantly rolling back multi-family zoning in our single family districts and we both were successful in this endeavor, very successful. We worked with the other 'hoods to achieve their priorities.

As such we became much more attuned to the workings of city government. Members of the Board of Adjustments, the Planning Commission, and the City Council all have their own individualized visions of where Austin should be going, and now they've heard from us, loud and clear.

But they will still need to hear from us, now more than ever. So if you want to have a say in how NUNA is going to look next year, in five years, in ten, twenty, thirty years, get involved!

That's it for now. See you on the sunny side of the street. 

The OCIE SPEER HOUSE, 108 West 33rd St. by Pam Morris


Built in 1926, the Ocie Speer House at 108 West 33rd is tied to many significant individuals who have contributed to Austin and Texas history. Edwin Kreisle designed the house in the Spanish Colonial Revival style, complete with a chimney with the original occu-

nant's initials, "OS." Mr. Kreisle is credited as being the first local architect to integrate the attached garage in residential architecture.

Ocie Speer was admitted to the Texas Bar Association in 1890 and elected county attorney for Fisher County without the benefit of law school. A workaholic, he authored over 2,700 opinions, several treatises, and some books, many of which are still relevant today. A Treatise on the Law of Married Women (1901) and an opinion he wrote on a woman being appointed to a vacant office brought him to the attention of Miriam "Ma" Ferguson. He represented her when she was barred from candidacy for governor, and successfully had her name put on the primary ballot. This earned him a slot on the Supreme Court of Texas and brought him to Austin in 1925, specifically to 108 West 33rd St. His wife Annie died in 1928.

After a short period in private practice, he served as counsel to the state banking commissioner from 1933-1939, and as assistant attorney general for 10 years under Grover Sellers and Price Daniel. Notably, he argued the case concerning the Tidelands controversy in federal court. The case involved title to 2.5 million acres of submerged land in the Gulf, which Texas had acquired as an independent nation in 1836. The federal government acknowledged Texas's title to the land until oil was discovered, at which point federal officials asserted ownership. Speer later served as counsel to the State Banking Commission.

Speer sold his home to his daughter Sallie Speer Thorne in 1947 for \$5,000. When she died her husband sold the property to Edwin and Carolyn York, in March 1950. York worked as an assistant to Texas Adjutant General in the early 1910s, and served as chairman on the State Industrial Accident Board. When York passed away in 1951, honorary pallbearers at the service included Governor Allan Shivers, Chief Justice John E. Hickman, Senator Tom Connally, Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, Congressman Homer Thornberry, Vice President John Nance Gardner, Secretary of State Cordell Hull, and former Governor William P. Hobby.


Several other notable residents followed. Joan and Clarke Burnham bought the home from Walter and Rosa Meyer in 1976. Clarke has been a professor at the UT Department of Psychology since 1965, and Joan is currently the director of the Texas Inmate Families Association, Inc. The house received the Historic Landmark Designation in 2004, but they still await the Historic Landmark plaque. 

SUBCOMMITTEE TO ENFORCE NEW NUNA PLAN

A new subcommittee will be getting organized and informed about the NUNA NCCD neighborhood plan in order to serve as a "watchdog group" for the enforcement of our plan. Without a mechanism of this nature, our plan will not be enforced adequately because the City of Austin does not enforce the rules in a consistent manner. A document like our NCCD requires a citizen presence to ensure that the new guidelines and regulations be followed.

NUNA neighbors who have accepted membership on the new subcommittee are:


Scott Barnes, Colleen Daly, June Hawley, Mary Ingle, Rick Iverson, and Scott Morris. We are delighted that six people are WILLING to serve! We need MORE volunteers, however. The work of being the eyes and ears for the neighborhood plan will become easier as more people become involved.

So, if you are interested in serving on a working subcommittee that has a LARGE hand in determining how our plan is implemented, PLEASE contact either Mary Gay Maxwell at 472-5958, or Mary Ingle at 320-8449. Thanks! 

FUND RAISING IN THE HOMESTRETCH!

We have made good progress on lowering our debt to Karen McGraw. We have reduced the debt to \$3393 since the last letter went out after January 1. Thanks to all who have donated to our final effort!!

WE ARE IN THE HOMESTRETCH NOW! Thanks to all who have helped out.

Donations can still be sent to: Mary Gay Maxwell, 111 Laurel Lane, Austin, TX 78705 



Central Texas TREE CARE

*Winter Storms are Just Around the Corner...
Properly maintained trees suffer significantly less damage.*

Owned & Operated by Experts * Certified Arborist * Insured

- Affordable, competitively priced and personalized service
 - Attention to detail larger companies overlook
- Pruning, Removals, Cabling/bracing, Diagnostics and More

**Call Today for a Free Consultation
973-9090**

www.centraltexas tree care.com

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS


Animal Control	472-7387
Austin Police Dept. Rep.	974-5342
City of Austin, main switchboard	499-2000
Dead Animal Collection	499-2111
Dumping (Creek/Storm Drain Concerns)	499-2550
Electric Trouble Reports	322-9100
Garbage/Recycling Collection	499-2111
Pothole Complaints	440-8444
Street Sign (Trouble)	457-4850
Zoning Changes/Review	499-6370

(Off.) 477-2529 *Serving All Natural
Texas Brisket* Catering
Dine In
Take Out
Delivery



29th & Guadalupe 11 am - Midnight
512-477-1651 Open Seven Days
rubysbbq@jump.net (Fax) 474-4294

RUBYS B.B.Q



derbydog industries

creative services

Colleen Daly

manuscript editor
book doctor
writing coach
ghostwriter
private-publishing consultant

(512) 236-8710
[phone and FAX]
Austin, TX 78705
colleendaly@austin.rr.com

Recycling Tip:

Habitat For Humanities RE-Store

Habitat For Humanities has a new building materials recycle store offering new and used building materials at discounted prices! Of course the original phenomenon still resides in East Austin at 310 Comal. Habitat RE-Store in Austin has raised enough revenue to build ten additional homes each year and diverted 1252 tons of material per year from our landfill. Visit, donate & purchase materials now as well at their newest location located at 7434 North Lamar. To contact the Lamar store call 225-9264. To contact the Comal store call 478-2165 Or just visit the RE-store website at www.RE-store.com.

NUNA NEWS

The North University Neighborhood Association (NUNA) is accepting new sponsors/advertisers for the neighborhood newsletter, the NUNA NEWS. The NUNA NEWS is distributed six times per year (February, April, June, August, October, December) with a circulation of approximately 750 households in the North University area (boundaries at Guadalupe St., 38th St., Duval St., and 27th St.). The advertising rates are offered on an annual basis and are available in five different sizes:

Ad Size & Annual Cost:

Single business card size

2" x 3 1/2" \$150.00

Double business card size

4" x 3 1/2" (or 2" x 7") \$250.00

In addition to the hard copy ad in the NUNA NEWS, ads will be displayed continuously on the NUNA website and first time sponsors will be announced on the NUNA Residents e-mail list.



Suzanne Pringle

Realtor

*Your North University and
Aldridge Place Specialist*

Call today for a free market analysis
on your property.

472.3336 Ext. 3127 • 217.1047 Mobile
aveone.com • pringle@aveone.com

AvenueOne
P R O P E R T I E S

NUNA DUES ARE DUE NOW

The modest NUNA dues (\$10 per individual or \$15 per family) are due **at the beginning of each year**. This pays for the publishing of the NUNA NEWS and occasional neighborhood related projects (a park bench, for one).

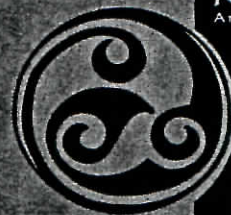
To pay your dues: make the check out to "NUNA," c/o Ed & Faye Carpenter, 3305 Speedway, Austin, Texas 78705.

2004 NUNA OFFICERS

Co-Presidents	Mary Gay Maxwell	472-5958
	maxwell@nuna-austin.org	
	Jerry Roemisch	423-6986
	roemisch@nuna-austin.org	
	Rick Iverson	451-1011
	iverson@nuna-austin.org	
Co-Vice Pres.	Scott Barnes	454-7325
	barnes@nuna-austin.org	
	Mary Ingle	320-8449
	ingle@nuna-austin.org	
Secretary	Jan Moyle	469-9304
	moyle@nuna-austin.org	
Treasurer	Ed/Faye Carpenter	472-6698
	carpenter@nuna-austin.org	
Webmaster	Rusty Jackson	479-0571
	jackson@nuna-austin.org	
Marketing and Sales Representative	Suzanne Pringle	478-2855
	pringle@nuna-austin.org	
APD Representative	Off. Michael Crumrine	974-5342
	Michael.Crumrine@ci.austin.tx.us	

Newsletter Distribution:

Larry Neumann, Mary Lehmann, Rick Iverson, Scott Barnes, Jo Ann Diller, Jack Keever, Don Carnes, Will Bozeman, Jerry Roemisch, Ed & Faye Carpenter, Scott Morris, Linda Roark, Carol Journeay, Pam Morris and Mary Ingle deliver the hard copy version by hand. Rusty Jackson delivers the electronic version (PDF).



Relax & Rejuvenate
A mindful and nurturing approach to deep tissue massage

\$10 off first visit

Therapeutic Massage
Kate McMorrow, rmt
512.916.3508

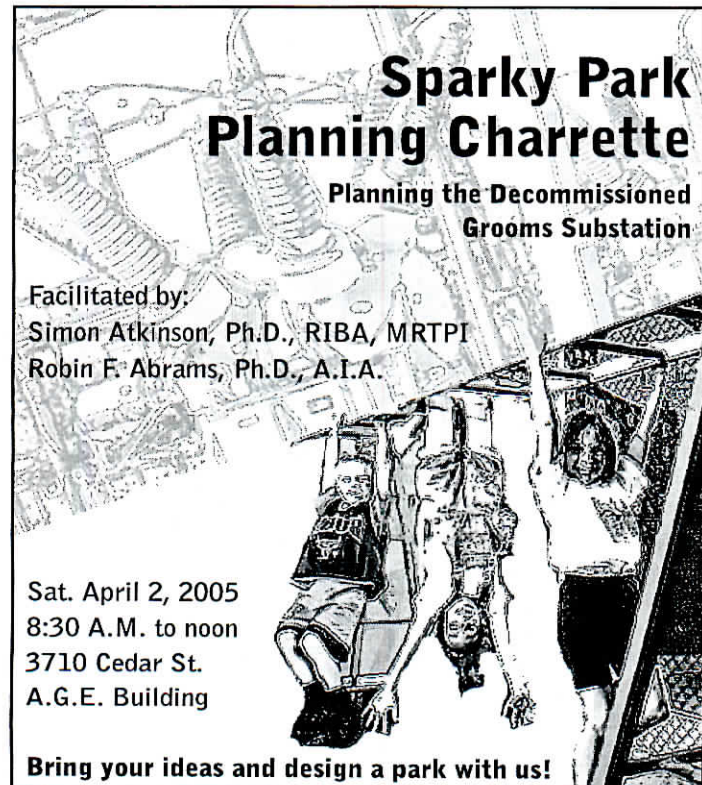
PLAN A PARK
by Mary Ingle

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!
You and your neighbors are invited to:

AN ARCHITECTURAL CHARRETTE

at the A.G.E. Center
3710 Cedar Street
Saturday, April 2
8:30 a.m. until noon

From the University of Texas, architects extraordinaires, **Simon Atkinson and Robin Abrams** will conduct this pocket park charrette. A charrette is a planning session that involves creativity and great ideas. So stoke and soothe your creative juices by participating. This will be a great opportunity for all ages: the young, medium, and "otherwise" residents of NUNA to offer their input during the beginning stages of **planning a local park!** The charrette will start



**Sparky Park
Planning Charrette**
Planning the Decommissioned
Grooms Substation

Facilitated by:
Simon Atkinson, Ph.D., RIBA, MRTPI
Robin F. Abrams, Ph.D., A.I.A.

Sat. April 2, 2005
8:30 A.M. to noon
3710 Cedar St.
A.G.E. Building

Bring your ideas and design a park with us!

NUNA Meeting

Monday, April 4, 2005, 7 p.m.
First English Lutheran Church
30th and Whitis

Agenda

- Election of officers
- Report on the April 2nd park-planning charrette
- News from the newly elected presidents
- Report from the NCCD subcommittee
- Treasurer's report
- Other business

promptly at 9 a.m., but from 8:30 until 9:00 there will be time for coffee and socializing.

The reason that NUNA is sponsoring this **free planning event** is due to the **de-activation of the North Austin Substation**, nestled between two allies in the northeast-erly section of NUNA. Located on Grooms Street between 37th and 38th streets, the substation, which is the property of Austin Energy, is slated to be given to the City of Austin Parks Department after the electricity is re-routed to 38th Street on those lovely, large rust-colored poles. At last check, the substation is still actively buzzing away, and many of us eagerly await the departure of the buzzing noises and the generators!

In the Central Austin Combined Neighborhood Plan (CAC-NP), Objective 6.4 specifies a desire for the preservation of green spaces, including pocket parks "in areas where [they are] needed and desired" (page 113). On page 114 of the plan, a recommendation (#8) has been made for the conversion of the Grooms Street electric substation to park and recreational use. NUNA would like to convince the Parks Department that a **neighborhood park would be a necessary and wonderful addition** to urban life here. As well, the substation building is historic in nature and should be preserved.

We would appreciate your feedback and support of this neighborhood desire for **green space in NUNA**. Please mark your calendars for April 2, 2005.

NUNA Super Doctor by Jan Moyle

Carla Underhill, NUNA resident and family practice physician, was named one of the Texas Super Doctors in the December issue of Texas Monthly. Texas physicians were surveyed to find which doctors they would recommend, and Carla was one of six Austin family practitioners to receive this honor from her peers. In addition to being a great doctor, Carla is an Ironwoman triathlete.

Congratulations, Carla! 

\$2700+ and Dropping!

NUNA still owes Karen McGraw money for all her expertise writing our neighborhood plan for us, but we are making progress! We still owe her over \$2700, so PLEASE write your check TODAY to: NUNA Defense Fund, and mail or take your check to:

Mary Gay Maxwell

111 Laurel Lane, Austin, TX TX 78705.

Any amount will be gratefully accepted!

Many thanks to all of you who have donated to our neighborhood plan!

A NEW PLACE FOR ART by Mary Ingle

In early January a new, well-lighted place called the **Sculpture Academy of Austin** opened at 4910 Burnet Road. The entrance holds an atrium-style art gallery filled with clay and bronze sculptures that emphasize not only classical figure sculpture but also abstract sculpture forms. Adjacent to the atrium gallery is a large classroom room for figure drawing; from there one can find another larger workroom for classes in sculpture and clay work. Students have the option of taking structured classes or just completing artwork for a minimal user's fee.

Outside under a shaded tin roof resides a beautiful, new computerized kiln for firing artwork in a well-ventilated and safe location. Surrounding the back of the building, in front of a large landscaped parking lot, are shaded porticos containing workstations where classes in welding, and stone and wood carving are held. This new location — not far from NUNA — has everything located under one roof for the making and completion of sculpture!


The Sculpture Academy of Austin's founder and director is **Al Carp**, formerly the director of the Austin Sculpture Center (ASC), a non-profit group, which was housed on the premises of Elisabet Ney Museum. Al saw a need for a new sculpture group in a more visible location and since the ASC knew for a number of years that they would have to move from the Ney Museum, it seemed like the right time for this

former New Englander and electrical engineer to break away from the ASC and pursue his goal: the establishment of a properly outfitted school dedicated to sculpture. Mr. Al Carp, a man with a vision, is committed to the arts. He believes that Austinites want the arts and art classes to be more visible and available locally. One way of achieving this goal is to have a facility where **a wide variety of classes** can be taught and where more sculpture can be created. He saw this need and filled the gap with the Academy, which, unlike the ASC, is not a non-profit organization. Al is working with **informal classes for UT** since their facilities, particularly for welding, and available workspaces on campus are so limited. He also intends to pursue accreditation for the Academy so that students will have the option to take **casual or accredited classes at all levels, from beginner to advanced.**

The Academy has a number of options for creating many art forms on site, unlike the former ASC group, which had to send out its bronzes to an off-site foundry because of the zoning requirements (CS) and negative environmental impact to the surrounding Hyde Park Neighborhood.

At present, the Austin Academy of Sculpture offers an array of **23 classes in figure drawing, sculpture, bronze casting, welding, and stone and wood carving.** The classes range from 3- to 4-day workshops to 8-week classes. All of the instructors are working artists (some are from the former ASC group, and one instructor is from ACC) with teaching experience. In fact, many of the instructors/artists are well known to this community such as the talented Arye Shapiro and Beth Shoen, not to mention the artist-in-residence, Steve Dubov. **The current spring schedule will begin on Saturday, March 19.**

NUNA would like to applaud the efforts of Al Carp and wish the best for this new Academy. We would all like to see the arts flourish in Austin!

For more information concerning these classes and this organization, visit www.austinacademy.com 

The 2nd (& Last) Drink & Drown Garage Sale
May 7, 2005
404 West 33rd Street



Central Texas TREE CARE

*Winter Storms are Just Around the Corner...
Properly maintained trees suffer significantly less damage.*

Owned & Operated by Experts * Certified Arborist * Insured

- Affordable, competitively priced and personalized service
 - Attention to detail larger companies overlook
- Pruning, Removals, Cabling/bracing, Diagnostics and More

Call Today for a Free Consultation
973-9090

www.centraltexas tree care.com

**Proposed and Approved
Slate of Officers
(to be voted on at the April 4 meeting)**

Co-presidents
Scott Barnes
Mary Ingle

Co-vice presidents
Bill Bednar*
Colleen Daly

Secretary
Jan Moyle

Treasurers
Ed & Faye Carpenter

Webmaster
Rusty Jackson

Austin Neighborhood Council Representative
Mary Lehmann*
Mary Ingle (alternate)*

Newsletter editor
Pam Morris

Marketing and sales representative
Suzanne Pringle*

Quadrant leaders
Scott Morris (northwest)
Julia Spencer (southwest)
Kathy Lawrence (northeast)*
Volunteer Opportunity (southeast)

*proposed for or accepted nomination after last Steering Committee meeting and therefore not yet approved


HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Animal Control	472-7387
Austin Police Dept. Rep.	974-5342
City of Austin, main switchboard	499-2000
Dead Animal Collection	499-2111
Dumping (Creek/Storm Drain Concerns)	499-2550
Electric Trouble Reports	322-9100
Garbage/Recycling Collection	499-2111
Pothole Complaints	440-8444
Street Sign (Trouble)	457-4850
Zoning Changes/Review	499-6370

(Off.) 477-2529 *Serving All Natural
Texas Brisket* Catering
Dine In
Take Out
Delivery

29th & Guadalupe
512-477-1651
rubysbbq@jump.net 11 am - Midnight
Open Seven Days
(Fax) 474-4294

RUBY'S B.B.Q


derbydog industries
creative services

Colleen Daly
manuscript editor
book doctor
writing coach
ghostwriter
private-publishing consultant

(512) 236-8710
[phone and FAX]
Austin, TX 78705
colleendaly@austin.rr.com

Recycling Tip:

What to do with old running shoes

Just because you've bought a new pair of running shoes doesn't mean you should toss out the old pair. You can wear them for household chores such as mowing the lawn or gardening. Many stores (including RunTex) offer a discount on new shoes if you turn in your old shoes. Those old shoes can then be recycled to other people who would be perfectly happy to wear them.

Nike has a Re-Use A Shoe program that is an environmentally friendly way to put your old shoes to good use. They grind up old shoes and uses them to resurface running tracks, soccer fields and football fields. Nike accepts all brands and types of athletic shoes—except shoes with metal cleats. For more information on their program, go to:

www.nike.com/nikebiz/nikebiz.jhtml?page=27&cat=reuseashoe

The goal is to reuse 2 million pairs of shoes annually.

NUNA NEWS

The North University Neighborhood Association (NUNA) is accepting new sponsors/advertisers for the neighborhood newsletter, the NUNA NEWS. The NUNA NEWS is distributed six times per year (February, April, June, August, October, December) with a circulation of approximately 750 households in the North University area (boundaries at Guadalupe St., 38th St., Duval St., and 27th St.). The advertising rates are offered on an annual basis and are available in five different sizes:

Ad Size & Annual Cost:

Single business card size

2" x 3 1/2" \$150.00

Double business card size

4" x 3 1/2" (or 2" x 7") \$250.00

In addition to the hard copy ad in the NUNA NEWS, ads will be displayed continuously on the NUNA website and first time sponsors will be announced on the NUNA Residents e-mail list.

NUNA DUES ARE DUE NOW

The modest NUNA dues (\$10 per individual or \$15 per family) are due **at the beginning of each year**. This pays for the publishing of the NUNA NEWS and occasional neighborhood related projects (a park bench, for one).

To pay your dues: make the check out to "NUNA," c/o Ed & Faye Carpenter, 3305 Speedway, Austin, Texas 78705.

2004 NUNA OFFICERS

Co-Presidents	Mary Gay Maxwell	472-5958
	maxwell@nuna-austin.org	
	Jerry Roemisch	423-6986
	roemisch@nuna-austin.org	
	Rick Iverson	451-1011
	iverson@nuna-austin.org	
Co-Vice Pres.	Scott Barnes	454-7325
	barnes@nuna-austin.org	
	Mary Ingle	320-8449
	ingle@nuna-austin.org	
Secretary	Jan Moyle	469-9304
	moyle@nuna-austin.org	
Treasurer	Ed/Faye Carpenter	472-6698
	carpenter@nuna-austin.org	
Webmaster	Rusty Jackson	479-0571
	jackson@nuna-austin.org	
Marketing and Sales Representative	Suzanne Pringle	478-2855
	pringle@nuna-austin.org	
APD Representative	Off. Michael Crumrine	974-5342
	Michael.Crumrine@ci.austin.tx.us	

Newsletter Distribution:

Larry Neumann, Mary Lehmann, Rick Iverson, Scott Barnes, Jo Ann Diller, Cindy Keever, Don Carnes, Will Bozeman, Jerry Roemisch, Ed & Faye Carpenter, Scott Morris, Linda Roark, Carol Journeay, Pam Morris and Mary Ingle deliver the hard copy version by hand. Rusty Jackson delivers the electronic version (PDF).



Suzanne Pringle

Realtor


*Your North University and
Aldridge Place Specialist*

Call today for a free market analysis
on your property.

472.3336 Ext. 3127 • 217.1047 Mobile
aveone.com • pringle@aveone.com

AvenueOne
P R O P E R T I E S

Tuesday August 2 is Neighborhood Night Out

It is time once again to gather at the park bench, so turn on the porch light and head down to the park to meet and greet your neighbors. Bring your lawn chairs and good humor, and join us at 7 p.m. on the corner of 32nd and Hemphill Park! The NUNA Steering Committee will supply cool drinks and snacks; Ed and Faye Carpenter will supply their open palms for your dues (\$15). We'll hold a very short meeting and leave plenty of time for howdys and catching up with each other. Looking forward to seeing you there! 

Sparky Park Happenings in NUNA

By Mary Ingle

I am happy to announce that NUNA will have a park where the old North Austin substation was housed on Grooms Street. This will happen through the Parks and Recreation Department's (PARD) Adopt a Park Program, which is in partnership with the City. Rick Iverson, Ryan Beard and I have met with the PARD and Austin Energy representatives about this project, affectionately known as Sparky Park. NUNA will need to raise funds for installing and maintaining the park for the long term; to support this effort, we will apply for non-profit status for our organization. On August 2, at Neighborhood Night Out in Hemphill Park, we will request a resolution from the neighborhood to proceed with the non-profit designation, 501 and 501 3c status, for which one of our vice presidents, Bill Bednar, has volunteered to do the paperwork! Thank you, Bill!

So far, NUNA has sponsored two charrettes, or park planning sessions with the expertise of Robin Abrams and Simon Atkinson, both professional architects. The first session on April 2, 2005, generated much enthusiasm from the neighborhood and a diversity of park ideas, most of which were tranquil and passive, in nature. At the second session held on May 28, 2005, Simon and Robin revealed three compositions for this park. These plans may be viewed at: <http://www.terrapod.com/nuna/>


In addition, Steve Sadowsky, the City's Preservation Officer, has initiated the process for designating the existing substation building as historic, since the substation building is the only example extant in Travis County. After Austin Energy completes remediation, which entails the removal of asbestos and lead paint, NUNA will be able to use this building for a meeting place.

NUNA Meeting

Tuesday, August 2, 2005, 7 p.m.
32nd & Hemphill Park at the bench


Agenda (limited)

- Welcome
- Treasurer's Report (bring your dues!)
- Updates on Neighborhood Happenings
- Resolution for non-profit status


The final planning session, or charrette will be August 27, Saturday from 9 am-noon at the A.G.E. building, 3710 Cedar, in the dining room. This will be a chance to revise and compose a fourth park plan that incorporates elements from the other three plans. Please mark your calendars and join NUNA in this exciting adventure! This is an opportunity to have a hands-on experience in planning a park from beginning to end. It is also a chance to set an example of an appropriate green space to accommodate the proposed growth and density within the central city. This project truly reflects smart, central-city planning set forth in our NCCD! 

NUNA NEEDS YOU!

by Scott Barnes

We would like to announce that NUNA has a new temporary web address, <http://www.main.org/nuna>. We are looking for a volunteer who has an interest in computers and web pages. If you would like to help out as Webmaster for the NUNA neighborhood web site, please contact Mary Ingle at 320-8449 or Scott Barnes at 454-7325. 

And Yet Another Web Site!

For those of you who wish to relive the glorious moments of our Fourth of July parade around Hemphill Park, visit www.aldridgeplace.org. You'll find photos of patriotic tykes on bikes, Ross Pringle's shoes, cute babies and proud parents, and lots of smiling neighbors waving flags. There's a link to the Austin Parks survey, and a blog, too. It's a very cool website that Rusty Jackson is hosting to promote neighborhood communication. Check it out! 

Reports from the ANC Meetings in May and June 2005

By Mary Ingle

NUNA representation at the Austin Neighborhood Council (ANC) keeps our organization in touch with what is happening not only in Austin, but also in Central Texas.

The May meeting featured Jim Walker and Rodney Erheart from Envision Central Texas (ECT). The discussion included the efficient use of bond monies for projects such as Mueller Airport. There was also discussion about affordable housing: how to invest in the infrastructure citywide, how to address accountability, and how to avoid a regressive tax on the middle class. After all, it seems to have been forgotten that affordable housing is about people! Jim Pederson and Yvonne Gils presented on the Reclaimed Water Initiative (RWI). Reclaimed water or "gray water," which usually is discharged into the Colorado River, may be used to water plants on golf courses, park trees and shrubs, and possibly city trees in the right of way. This water may be channeled through separate pipelines through the City of Austin. There are specific plans for these new pipelines available.

The ANC also voted to collect money from all the neighborhoods in ANC for a fan drive in memory of Mary Lou McClain, the former president of the Board for Austin Elder Care and the late wife of newly elected City Council member Lee Leffingwell (for whom CANPAC, which included NUNA, hosted a fund-raising party prior to the City Council election). NUNA made a contribution to this fan drive.

NUNA DUES ARE DUE NOW

The modest NUNA dues (\$10 per individual or \$15 per family) are due **at the beginning of each year**. This pays for the publishing of the NUNA NEWS and occasional neighborhood related projects (a park bench, for one).

To pay your dues: make the check out to "NUNA," c/o Ed & Faye Carpenter, 3305 Speedway, Austin, Texas 78705.



Central Texas TREE CARE

*Winter Storms are Just Around the Corner...
Properly maintained trees suffer significantly less damage.*

Owned & Operated by Experts * Certified Arborist * Insured

- Affordable, competitively priced and personalized service
 - Attention to detail larger companies overlook
- Pruning, Removals, Cabling/bracing, Diagnostics and More

Call Today for a Free Consultation

973-9090

www.centraltexastreecare.com



Suzanne Pringle

Realtor

*Your North University and
Aldridge Place Specialist*

Call today for a free market analysis
on your property.

472.3336 Ext. 3127 • 217.1047 Mobile
aveone.com • pringle@aveone.com

AvenueOne
P R O P E R T I E S

2005 NUNA OFFICERS

Co-Presidents	Scott Barnes	454-7325
	barnes@nuna-austin.org	
	Mary Ingle	320-8449
	ingle@nuna-austin.org	
Co-Vice Pres.	Bill Bednar	478-0077
	bednar@nuna-austin.org	
	Suzanne Pringle	478-2855
	pringle@nuna-austin.org	
Secretary	Jan Moyle	469-9304
	moyle@nuna-austin.org	
Treasurer	Ed/Faye Carpenter	472-6698
	carpenter@nuna-austin.org	
Marketing and Sales Representative	Suzanne Pringle	478-2855
	pringle@nuna-austin.org	

NW Quadrant Rep:	Scott Morris
SW Quadrant Rep:	Julia Spencer
NE Quadrant Rep:	Mary Ingle
SE Quadrant Rep:	open position
ANC Rep:	Mary Lehman

Newsletter Distribution:

Larry Neumann, Mary Lehmann, Rick Iverson, Scott Barnes, Jo Ann Diller, Cindy Keever, Don Carnes, Will Bozeman, Jerry Roemisch, Ed & Faye Carpenter, Scott Morris, Linda Roark, Carol Journeay, Pam Morris and Mary Ingle deliver the hard copy version by hand. Rusty Jackson delivers the electronic version (PDF).

The June ANC meeting focused on the topic of rewriting the Land Development Code, presented by George Adams, City Project Manager. There was concern that the rewritten Land Development Code could negatively affect every neighborhood in the city, and could render all Neighborhood Planning and NCCDs inoperative. \$750,000 has been earmarked for this endeavor; the City Council will decide on the consultant on July 28, 2005. We must all be vigilant and attend the public sessions! Your neighborhood support and participation will be needed! Next, Claire Berry reported on legislation which affects neighborhoods. Then Karen Cox from Travis County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) spoke on the dire need for volunteers to speak on behalf of children who are leaving abusive families. If you are interested in volunteering, call 459-CASA for more information. In closing, Kevin Lewis, from the South Lamar Neighborhood Association, spoke about a community building workshop given by Dr. George Lakoff at St. Edwards University on June 25.

Final Payment for NCCD Completed?

By Mary Ingle

I want to thank all of you who have contributed to the NUNA Defense Fund for your generous support during the past three years. I am happy to announce that Karen McGraw, the author of our NCCD, has been paid in full. The fundraising was a long journey, but a successful one! We now have to raise \$2,500 to pay a generous, neighborly couple who lent NUNA \$3,000 last summer for a payment to Karen. We have already raised \$500, but we still need your help to finish the task at hand. Please help us in our efforts to pay our debt in a timely fashion to these generous friends of NUNA. Make your checks to: NUNA Defense Fund, c/o Mary Gay Maxwell, 111 Laurel Lane, Austin, TX 78705. Thank you so much for your support.

NUNA Neighborhood Planning Team Report

By Scott Morris

The North University Neighborhood was first subdivided over 100 years ago, but subsequent development and land use changes have left unusual abutment and usage patterns not addressed in modern site development regulations. Because NUNA needed a working neighborhood plan, especially for our residential areas, the NUNA Neighborhood Conservation Combining District (NCCD) was created to replace some of the city's site development code with regulations that make sense for our area. Following are some of the techniques the NCCD is using to make sure new construction is compatible with existing homes.

Front setback averaging is one way of harmonizing new infill construction with existing homes. To determine the placement of a new house from the street, the distance from each house on the block to its front property line

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Animal Control	472-7387
Austin Police Dept. Rep.	974-5342
City of Austin, main switchboard	499-2000
Dead Animal Collection	499-2111
Dumping (Creek/Storm Drain Concerns)	499-2550
Electric Trouble Reports	322-9100
Garbage/Recycling Collection	499-2111
Graffiti Hotline	974-1028
Pothole Complaints	440-8444
Street Sign (Trouble)	457-4850
Zoning Changes/Review	499-6370

is averaged to establish a minimum setback for a given block. This allows for more leniency on blocks that have existing structures very close to the street, while unifying the block's appearance. The maximum setback allowed is five feet from the minimum.

Porches are valued assets to central neighborhoods. They act as the interface between outside and inside, while creating a welcoming social space. The NCCD creates an incentive for new porch construction by allowing them to extend beyond the front setback by a maximum of 8 feet if the house has a setback of at least 25 feet.

Front-yard fences have an immediate visual impact on a block, and are specifically addressed in the NCCD. They are the membrane between public and private use, as well as an extension of the built environment. The NCCD limits the height of fences in the front yard to 4 feet, and allows an open-space-to-solid-material ratio of 1:1.5.

There are several projects under way in and around NUNA. You can view the site plans and permits in the city's Development Review Case Viewer. Simply plug in the site plan number listed with each project. http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/gis/reviewcases/rcase_table_search.cfm

2815 Guadalupe
Guadalupe Condos
Site Plan SP-05-0040C

3100 Guadalupe
Retail shell and parking for 3110
Building Plan BP-05-5869T

3016 Guadalupe
Guadalupe 31
Site Plan SP-04-1156C

3110 Guadalupe
(The old Half Price Books property)
Building Plan BP-05-6656Q

3423 Guadalupe
Barlin Tract
Site Plan SP-05-0659CS

3007-3011 Speedway
Speedway Condos
Site Plan SP-05-0045C

If you are interested in learning more or participating on this team, please e-mail Scott Morris at smorris@nuna-austin.org. He can also be reached at 371-7961.

The NCCD and a link to a city-maintained website for the Central Austin Combined Neighborhood Plan can be found on NUNA's web site: nuna-austin.org.

New Developments in NUNA

by Mary Ingle

There are a few new construction projects happening in NUNA. One of the first projects is located at 2815 Guadalupe. This proposed project, under the direction of architects Reed and Cotera, will consist of two separate, five-story buildings connected by an exterior pool on the second floor. There are also appropriate plans for landscaping between the buildings, and the streetscape has a pedestrian-friendly orientation. The project will be an example of mixed-use (MU) zoning, which houses retail shops on the ground floor and residential apartments on the upper four floors. The most remarkable aspect of this development concerns the parking arrangements: there will be two underground parking levels and a smaller, surface-parking area for the retail component. The project should near completion in late July, 2006.

Another property renovation has begun at 3007, 3009, and 3011 Speedway. Within our NCCD, this area has a height limitation of 40 feet. The owner is adding an extra floor to the formerly two-story apartment buildings, which will then be marketed as condominiums. The extra floors will actually make this project more aesthetically pleasing, and help it fit more fluidly into the surrounding neighborhood.

NUNA's beloved, neighborhood grocery, Wheatsville Food Co-op, at 3101 Guadalupe, is considering expansion and renovation. Currently Wheatsville is conducting a feasibility study, but there are plans for an extensive membership drive to raise funds for this expansion. The proposed construction will include a second floor on the existing footprint of the main building; the general purpose is to incorporate all of the working, shopping and storage space under one roof. Currently Wheatsville has a couple of storage and working spaces in separate sheds in the back parking lot. In keeping with "green" principles, Wheatsville also wants to incorporate the use of solar energy, rainwater collection and xeriscaped plantings into the design. It also wants to maintain the patio element, which is friendly and inviting to pedestrian traffic, but change the entrance of the building. The architectural consultants are the Antenora Architects, who designed Penn Field, Zen Restaurant, and the University Federal

Credit Union on Guadalupe at 46th Street. Since NUNA is always concerned about issues of parking, Wheatsville plans to maintain the front parking lot, for the most part, and add a few more spaces by removing the adjunct storage sheds in the back parking lot.

Finally, the Public Works Department will begin to replace and repair sidewalks and handicap ramps, curbs, and gutters on the south side of 38th Street from Guadalupe to I-35, starting July 25th. This project will take several months to complete.

New Developments Adjacent to NUNA

by Mary Ingle

In case you were wondering about some empty lots along the west side of Guadalupe near Wheatsville Co-op, here is an update! The property is in the Heritage Neighborhood and housed the former Ray's Steak House. It will be developed as a mixed use (MU) project, with retail on the ground floor and three stories of residential condos on the upper floors. The project, has a height limit of 40 feet and will have a pedestrian orientation.

The project at 3200 Guadalupe, former location of Half Price Books, will house some eateries, including Boomerang Pies, as well as Celebrations, a local business that sells jewelry, stationery, and novelties. Gelato's, another local business, will move into the former Half Price Rare Books building at 3100 Guadalupe. Its cool treats will be especially welcome this time of year!

NUNA NEWS

The North University Neighborhood Association (NUNA) is accepting new sponsors/advertisers for the neighborhood newsletter, the NUNA NEWS. The NUNA NEWS is distributed six times per year (February, April, June, August, October, December) with a circulation of approximately 750 households in the North University area (boundaries at Guadalupe St., 38th St., Duval St., and 27th St.). The advertising rates are offered on an annual basis and are available in five different sizes:

Ad Size & Annual Cost:

Single business card size 2" x 3 1/2"	\$150.00
Double business card size 4" x 3 1/2" (or 2" x 7")	\$250.00

In addition to the hard copy ad in the NUNA NEWS, ads will be displayed continuously on the NUNA website and first time sponsors will be announced on the NUNA Residents e-mail list.

Transforming the North Austin Substation into Sparky Park: Latest News and Progress

By Mary Ingle

Austin Energy's former North Austin substation, which is on Grooms Street between 35th and 37th Streets, is sandwiched between two alleys but situated among single-family residences, making the location ideal for transformation into a "pocket park." Since the Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PAR) has little experience in creating such parks, NUNA is lucky to have architects Simon Atkinson and Robin Abrams on our design team, since they are national experts in pocket park development.

On Saturday, August 27, NUNA sponsored another Sparky Park design planning session, or "charrette," with our architects. The event was well attended by enthusiastic neighbors. Simon and Robin reviewed the three previous design proposals and asked each participant to express any opinions about the pros and cons of each design. To complement this discussion, they also compiled new ideas to be incorporated in revised design plans. When the new plans are available for review, a meeting will be held to discuss them. Keep checking the website, <http://www.nuna.org>, for details on the final charrette.

On August 30, a group composed of two NUNA officers and two of the proposed park's immediate neighbors met with the Parks and Recreation Department (PAR) and Austin Energy (AE) to discuss the North Austin substation decommissioning and what additional steps would need to be taken to make the park a reality. These include setting a decommissioning schedule, getting neighborhood soil sample results, and remediating the substation building (removing lead paint, asbestos, and PCB contamination in some of the coiled fixtures). AE may have funds available to plant more trees, and is also investigating the possibility of getting some seed money for the park from the company associated with the site's existing cell tower. Discussions with PAR addressed neighborhood commitments and future formal agreements between PAR and NUNA.

NUNA Meeting

Monday, October 3, 2005, 7 p.m.
First English Lutheran Church
30th & Whitis

Agenda

- Introduction of the APD District Representative
- Treasurer's Report (bring your dues!)
- Update on Sparky Park
- Revision of NUNA By-Laws
- Neighborhood Planning Team Report

PAR's Stuart Strong outlined the necessary steps for converting the North Austin substation into a park. The first is for NUNA to get a design plan together and submit it for approval, which we are currently doing through the charrette process. Then we will need to draft a site plan so the Watershed Protection Department can review it and issue a permit. The site plan would be presented to the Zoning and Platting Commission, and then proceed to the Austin City Council for approval. At this point, blueprints would be drawn up under the city's name. Next, NUNA and PAR would engage in a Park Improvement Agreement, which would require the neighborhood to have 501(c)(3), or tax-exempt status. At the same time, an Operation and Use Agreement would be drafted to establish the parties' various responsibilities. For example, the neighborhood might be responsible for handling park building reservations, and PAR might be in charge of landscape maintenance. In the interim, NUNA could enter into a temporary agreement with the City of Austin called the "Adopt A Park Program" (not to be confused with the Parks Foundation's program of the same name), which would enable NUNA to bypass some red tape and take advantage of the upcoming winter planting season.

Work on achieving these goals is already under way. The substation was originally slated for decommissioning on September 21, 2005, but Austin Energy moved up the date to take advantage of available funding. Immediate changes to the site include re-

removal of transmission lines, mineral oil, and of some equipment on the individual transformers; additional soil sampling is being conducted. The electrical towers' latticework will also be removed soon, as will two of the smaller towers' concrete slabs to allow access by larger equipment such as cranes and trucks. One transformer is scheduled for immediate removal, while the other two may take longer. Austin Energy's decommissioning schedule depends on funds and equipment availability; emergencies such as hurricane relief or restoration of regional electrical power after storms will take priority over Sparky Park. Green spaces will be at a premium in the future, so I think that this project truly reflects and complements smart, central-city planning that is compatible with our NCCD goal of protecting NUNA's single-family character.

Roving ANC Reporter's ANC Update for July and August

By Mary Ingle

Every fourth Wednesday, the Austin Neighborhood Council (ANC) convenes at the Austin Energy Building on Barton Springs Road. In July, Mayor Pro Tem Jackie Goodman spoke to us about how neighborhoods should approach the new City Council. She said that the present Council may not be aware of how hard some neighborhoods have worked over the years to create neighborhood plans, and some members may need more background knowledge of our ordinances and codes. Ms. Goodman noted that in the past, the

NUNA DUES ARE DUE NOW

The modest NUNA dues (\$10 per individual or \$15 per family) are due **at the beginning of each year**. This pays for the publishing of the NUNA NEWS and occasional neighborhood related projects (a park bench, for one).

To pay your dues: make the check out to "NUNA," c/o Ed & Faye Carpenter, 3305 Speedway, Austin, Texas 78705.



Central Texas TREE CARE

*Winter Storms are Just Around the Corner...
Properly maintained trees suffer significantly less damage.*

Owned & Operated by Experts * Certified Arborist * Insured

- Affordable, competitively priced and personalized service
 - Attention to detail larger companies overlook
- Pruning, Removals, Cabling/bracing, Diagnostics and More

Call Today for a Free Consultation

973-9090

www.centraltexastreecare.com



Suzanne Pringle

Realtor

*Your North University and
Aldridge Place Specialist*

Call today for a free market analysis
on your property.

472.3336 Ext. 3127 • 217.1047 Mobile
aveone.com • pringle@aveone.com

AvenueOne
P R O P E R T I E S

2005 NUNA OFFICERS

Co-Presidents	Scott Barnes	454-7325
	barnes@nuna-austin.org	
	Mary Ingle	320-8449
	ingle@nuna-austin.org	
Co-Vice Pres.	Bill Bednar	478-0077
	bednar@nuna-austin.org	
	Suzanne Pringle	478-2855
	pringle@nuna-austin.org	
Secretary	Jan Moyle	469-9304
	moyle@nuna-austin.org	
Treasurer	Ed/Faye Carpenter	472-6698
	carpenter@nuna-austin.org	
Marketing and Sales Representative	Suzanne Pringle	478-2855
	pringle@nuna-austin.org	


NW Quadrant Rep:	Scott Morris
SW Quadrant Rep:	Julia Spencer
NE Quadrant Rep:	Mary Ingle
SE Quadrant Rep:	open position
ANC Rep:	Mary Lehman

Newsletter Distribution:

Larry Neumann, Mary Lehmann, Rick Iverson, Scott Barnes, Jo Ann Diller, Cindy Keever, Don Carnes, Will Bozeman, Jerry Roemisch, Ed & Faye Carpenter, Scott Morris, Linda Roark, Carol Journeay, Pam Morris and Mary Ingle deliver the hard copy version by hand.

City tended to support the neighborhoods' interests, but now, business interests weigh more heavily with them. She said that it all depends on how information is laid out to the Council; if there is a zoning proposal before them which seems like a good idea, then they may not understand why the neighborhoods oppose it. Her advice was that it is important for neighborhoods to approach the process in the same way a company would market a new product—with a solid, comprehensive, and concise presentation, especially now that they are up against well-funded developers with armies of well-prepared assistants and fancy multimedia displays. She reminded us to stick to the pertinent facts and use slide presentations and photos. She also recommended that neighborhood leaders talk to the Council aides and staff members in order to forge positive ongoing relationships.

The rest of the meeting focused on discussion of specific zoning cases affecting neighborhoods, such as the Miller Maverick property at 910 Poplar, an issue that the Central Austin Neighborhood Planning Advisory Committee (CANPAC) has been closely monitoring; the city bond package and how neighborhoods will be served by these monies; a comparison of neighborhood association structures (incorporated vs. unincorporated); and how to protect restrictive covenants, which neighborhoods might eventually have to litigate.

The August meeting of ANC conflicted with the city-wide meeting that the Historical Society and the City conducted about local historic districts. I felt that this meeting would clearly be of interest to NUNA, since we had previously organized a committee to gather information for an honorific National Historic District designation. I chose to attend the Historical Society meeting, but noted that more than half of the members of ANC were at this meeting, so I guess I was in good company! 


A Thank-You to a Good Neighbor

By Mary Ingle

On behalf of the neighborhood, I would like to extend a special thank-you to an anonymous NUNA resident and his crew. This commercial landscape architect, who also donated the use of his machinery and tools, has been providing a great service to the neighborhood for over a year. His private group of workers has been doing what the Parks Department would do if they had the funding and the staff: they periodically clean out the creek bed in Hemphill Park when vegetation starts to grow out of control. Our neighbor feels strongly about helping out his neighborhood by lending his services to the community. What a

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Animal Control	472-7387
Austin Police Dept. Rep.	974-5342
City of Austin, main switchboard	499-2000
Dead Animal Collection	499-2111
Dumping (Creek/Storm Drain Concerns)	499-2550
Electric Trouble Reports	322-9100
Garbage/Recycling Collection	499-2111
Graffiti Hotline	974-1028
Pothole Complaints	440-8444
Street Sign (Trouble)	457-4850
Zoning Changes/Review	499-6370

wonderful citizen! All of us in NUNA extend our sincere thanks! 

NUNA Neighborhood Planning Team Report By Scott Morris

NUNA reached two important milestones last month. August 26th was the first anniversary of the NUNA Neighborhood Conservation Combining District (NCCD) and the Central Austin Combined Neighborhood Plan (CACNP).

Last winter, the NUNA formed the Neighborhood Planning Team (NUNA-NPT) to continue the work of the NCCD and CACNP. This group of motivated neighborhood representatives serves to sustain into the future the knowledge and intent that went into the plan.

The NUNA-NPT has held a series of meetings to review NUNA's NCCD ordinance and track project implementation. The NPT ensures that city staff members are following the NUNA NCCD and the Land Development Code when property owners apply for building permits, or when enforcement action is indicated. Residents who are in the planning stages of a project and would like information on the NCCD, or who want to schedule a presentation to the NPT may contact Scott Morris: smorris@nuna-austin.org or 512-371-7961.

Recent enforcement work addressed a chronic parking issue. With all the new sidewalks, curbs, and ramps being poured on 38th St., NUNA Co-President Scott Barnes saw an opportunity to seal off illegal curb cuts that enabled front-lawn parking. He met with the city parking enforcement officer on site, and the results were outstanding. A confirmation of the city's commitment to this code can be seen today as new concrete curbs replace old curb cuts leading into lawns.

The NUNA-NPT is assisting in securing bond money for NUNA capital improvement projects. Last month, at the request of the Bond Election Advisory Committee (BEAC), capital improvement projects included in the neighborhood plan were discussed and prioritized for this bond cycle. This list was forwarded to NUNA's umbrella group, CANPAC, the oversight body for our seven-neighborhood plan area. BEAC meetings and hearings will be scheduled this fall to allow neighborhood groups to examine the city's recommendations and compare them with neighborhood plan recommendations.

The NUNA NCCD and a link to a city-maintained website for the CACNP can be found on NUNA's web site: www.nuna-austin.org. Membership in the NUNA-NPT is open to all NUNA residents with an interest in land use. Please contact Scott Morris if you would like to join.

Local Historic District Establishment

Authorized

By Scott Barnes

In December 2004, the Austin City Council authorized the establishment of local historic districts. The city's Historic Landmark Commission is currently meeting regularly to draft both the nomination forms and the documentation necessary for administering this long-awaited program. On August 24 at Kirby Hall, the Heritage Society sponsored a well-attended meeting on the soon-to-be-established districts; it featured a detailed presentation by Steve Sadowsky, who is our city's preservation officer.

According to Mr. Sadowsky, local historic districts are designed to protect, enhance, and preserve areas of the city such as North University, which are rich with historical and architectural significance. Such a district would have a specific geographic or thematic definition, and at least 51% of the buildings must contribute to the historic character of the district. In order to be considered "contributing," the structures should be at least 50 years old and must retain enough design and material integrity to preserve a historic appearance. Homes or buildings that have had extensive architectural modification over the years may have lost their historic significance, despite their age. The addition of vinyl siding, aluminum windows, or other significant exterior alterations of the original structure greatly reduces the likelihood that such a building would be considered "contributing."

Local historic districts have been proven to be among a neighborhood's most effective preservation tools. Besides increasing public awareness of the area's

special character, the districts would affirm the goals in our NCCD by establishing design standards for new construction, providing property tax incentives for rehabilitating historic structures, and making it more difficult to demolish or relocate contributing buildings. Dilapidated buildings which are to be owner occupied may have their City property taxes frozen for seven years at the pre-rehabilitation rate, provided that the structure would contribute to the district. Furthermore, in order for a demolition to occur in such a district, a Certificate of Appropriateness would be required. Under the current process, a building must meet the higher standard of Landmark Status in order to be saved, which is why so many older homes are still being lost.

If current demolition policies are allowed to continue in the central city, how would this change the look and feel of our neighborhood over the next 10, 20, or 30 years? The first step is for the neighborhoods themselves to identify areas worthy of such a district, and then to complete a soon-to-be-available Local Historic District Nomination Form. This process would include a comprehensive survey and inventory of each building within the proposed boundaries, as well as a general history of both the area and its occupants.

For more detailed information, please visit the Heritage Society website at <http://www.heritagesocietyaustin.org/localdistricts>.

NUNA NEWS

The North University Neighborhood Association (NUNA) is accepting new sponsors/advertisers for the neighborhood newsletter, the NUNA NEWS. The NUNA NEWS is distributed six times per year (February, April, June, August, October, December) with a circulation of approximately 750 households in the North University area (boundaries at Guadalupe St., 38th St., Duval St., and 27th St.). The advertising rates are offered on an annual basis and are available in five different sizes:

Ad Size & Annual Cost:

Single business card size

2" x 3 1/2"

\$150.00

Double business card size

4" x 3 1/2" (or 2" x 7")

\$250.00

A Peaceful, Livable Neighborhood?

By Scott Barnes

A recent article in the Austin-American Statesman describes the North University area as "the refuge of grads or upper classmen who've gotten the summer camp rowdiness of East Riverside Street and West Campus out of their systems and just want a place that's quiet and close to campus". It also refers to the unique mix of college students and longer term residents who call this place home. This diversity within NUNA encompasses all ages, ethnic groups, and income levels, and key to the success of this melting pot within our neighborhood is the respect and courtesy that our residents from different backgrounds have always demonstrated towards each other to achieve a peaceful coexistence.

Within recent weeks there has been a rise in reports of disturbances occurring in campus area neighborhoods, including ours. These incidents range from excessively loud late night parties to public intoxication. None of the behaviors that typically result from these activities is conducive to neighborhood peace and security. To address this situation, NUNA is coordinating efforts with other affected single-family neighborhoods close to the University, and the initial support from city staff and the Austin Police Department has been encouraging. One short term goal is to seek enforcement of existing codes, such as the noise ordinance, which prohibits making noise which is audible to an adjacent residence between 10:30 PM and 7 AM. We are also asking for monitoring of under-age drinking which is suspected to be occurring at some of the loud parties, and for prosecution of those who are publicly intoxicated. Neighbors have witnessed inebriated individuals get behind the wheel after some of these parties, thus endangering the lives of both the driver and innocent citizens they may encounter on the road.

Longer-term goals may be asking the City to reconsider the occupancy levels of current single-family dwellings. The current level, which is six, is much higher than the national average, and some college towns such as Lubbock only allow for two unrelated adults per dwelling. We may also need to consider extending the open container law north to 38th Street to put the reins on public outdoor drinking. In the meantime, if you are being disturbed by late night noise or other disruptive behavior, please do not hesitate to call 911 to report the situation. NUNA has a long-standing commitment to protect the quality of life of its residents.



NUNA Meeting

Monday, December 5, 2005, 7 p.m.
First English Lutheran Church
3001 Whitis

Agenda

- Daryl Slusher-guest speaker
- Bylaws Update
- Update on Sparky Park

Noise in NUNA Again!

By Mary Gay Maxwell

The plague of the North University Neighborhood (and others around UT also) is NOISE, in particular loud parties, and drunk and disorderly people shouting, wreaking havoc on our yards and streets, and invading the peace of our homes. We have noticed that this has increased dramatically this Fall since September, and we are taking steps to put a stop to it in a more effective manner than previously. We are in the process of working with APD, with City staff and the City Manager, and with City Council members in order to come up with a more lasting solution to this issue.

The reasons we have decided to take decisive action at this time are: 1) we have assisted the city in planning for increased density in our area, and now we need their help in assisting us with this issue which we anticipate will be an unintended consequence of density; and 2) we are aware that with more people will come more noise unless the issue is addressed now. In fact, the noise has escalated this year already, and we believe there are several reasons for this: 1) binge-drinking among college students which seems to be a current phenomenon, and 2) the use of single-family houses for multi-family purposes, i.e., renting to too many unrelated adults. This has resulted in a number of unofficial "frat houses" and "rooming houses," neither of which are permitted in single-family zoned areas.


We have met with APD officers who have jurisdiction over our neighborhood, Commander Smith, Sergeant McDonald, and Officer Vargas. They are very willing to be of assistance, and a number of actions have been taken and others are planned. A list of "problem properties" has been compiled for our neighborhood in order for APD to send out a warning letter to those properties that have been reported at least twice in the past few months for

noise violations. The officers have asked that neighbors who are having difficulty with noisy parties, and loud, drunken, or aggressive behavior by people congregating at the parties, call 911 in order to document the problem for APD and to request aid from APD.

Without documenting properties that are problematic, the Police Department cannot utilize the warning letter approach. So it is to your advantage to call 911 in order that APD can assist us. APD has also requested that you call 911 rather than trying to stop the problem yourself, because you put yourself at risk of being accosted or assaulted.

In the past, there have been problems during the Christmas light extravaganza on 37th Street. We discussed this with the officers. Commander Smith is willing to station two officers in the Christmas lights block on 37th Street to assist with maintaining order while the thousands of visitors pass by to view the lights. We do not want a repeat of past incidents involving intoxicated visitors, and we hope that this will deter anything of that nature occurring this year.

The noise issue is the result of many other factors besides the need for more police presence in the area. The City of Austin has been lacking in code enforcement personnel, and the permitting of non-complying structures has occurred too many times in our area. These are the properties where many of the problems occur. In addition, there is an ordinance in effect that allows up to 6 unrelated adults to live in a single-family dwelling. There is a need to change that rule and to reduce the occupancy limit for unrelated adults in our single-family neighborhoods, which serves to open the door to unofficial "frat houses" and "rooming houses," and to unruly, out of control parties.

Austin is experiencing "growing pains," and developing a method for dealing with unnecessary noise in densely populated areas is one of the many challenges we are facing as a city as we become larger. Interestingly, New York City manages its noise issues far better than Austin does! There are ways to regulate noise of various kinds and to make our city a pleasant place to live. If we are to grow through increasing density in the central core rather than contribute to more urban sprawl, we must address these issues. 



sit. stay. good dog.
**AUSTIN
 CANINE
 CENTRAL**
 Home of Joyce Morgan Dog Training
 Visit Our NEW Facility at 720 Brentwood St
512 458 8800

2005 NUNA OFFICERS

Co-Presidents Scott Barnes 454-7325
 Mary Ingle 320-8449
 rusticusmus2000@yahoo.com

Co-Vice Presidents
 Bill Bednar 478-0077
 wcbedar@bednarlaw.com
 Suzanne Pringle 478-2855

Secretary Jan Moyle 469-9304

Treasurer Ed/Faye Carpenter 472-6698

Marketing and Sales Representative
 Suzanne Pringle 478-2855
 pringle@aveone.com

NW Quadrant Representative
 Scott Morris

SW Quadrant Representative
 Julia Spencer

NE Quadrant Representative
 Mary Ingle

SE Quadrant Representative
 open position

Austin Neighborhoods Council Representative
 Mary Ingle

Newsletter Distribution
 Larry Neumann, Mary Lehman, Rick Iverson,
 Scott Barnes, Joe Sosa, Jo Ann Diller, Jerry Roemisch,
 Cindy Keever, Don Carnes, Ed Carpenter, Faye Carpenter,
 Pam Morris, Scott Morris, Mary Ingle, Carol Journeay,
 Mary Gay Maxwell, Alan Denman, Jacquelyn Sorcic,
 and Jan Moyle.



Suzanne Pringle

Realtor

*Your North University and
 Aldridge Place Specialist*

Call today for a free market analysis
 on your property.

472.3336 Ext. 3127 • 217.1047 Mobile
 aveone.com • pringle@aveone.com

AvenueOne
 P R O P E R T I E S


Sparky Park Update

By Mary Ingle

If you've walked by the former North Austin Substation on Grooms Street recently, you've probably noticed some dramatic changes in the landscape of the electrical yard. The lattice towers and scaffoldings have been removed along with one of the transformers and many of the concrete pads. Slowly but surely Austin Energy is thoroughly transforming the space so that a pocket park might eventually come into being. We certainly are excited about the transformations!

To make the park financially viable, Austin Energy and NUNA are working out an agreement with T-Mobile, a cell phone company which occupies the cell tower closest to Grooms Street. This agreement would make up-front "seed" money available for starting the park to the tune of \$99,353 for a four-year term, with the option of renewal between the cell phone company, Austin Energy, and the neighborhood. These initial monies will be paid all at once in January and probably will reside in a capital fund created for this park by the City Manager. Austin Energy has also volunteered mitigation money to buy some trees for the park; the amount will be determined soon.

Along with these financial arrangements, other agreements need to be drafted as well. Bill Bednar and Ryan Beard are working on a use agreement for the park and the substation building. Terms for how to use the building, reserving the space, who will keep the key, etc. are being written up in his document. Another document, a 501 non-profit status for the neighborhood is also being drafted by Bill Bednar; along with the ability to raise money and have tax deductions for donors with this non-profit status, new bylaws for NUNA are also being written. On November 7, NUNA hosted an open Steering Committee meeting for the whole neighborhood to review the new bylaws. As one can imagine, the process is slow; we will need to meet again to finish reviewing the document. The completed bylaws will be ratified by the whole neighborhood. All neighbors are encouraged to participate in this process.

Regarding the status of the park, we are in the early stages of planning, the design phase. To date, we have had three planning charrettes with architects Simon Atkinson and Robin Abrams. We are eagerly awaiting the revisions of the plans from our last meeting on August 27. Stay tuned to the web-site, <http://www.main.org/nuna>, for the date and time of our next meeting to review the final plans, or call Mary Ingle at 320-8449 to be informed of the next meeting. 

What Is CANPAC, Anyway?


By Mary Gay Maxwell

Good question! CANPAC is the Central Austin Neighborhoods Planning Area Committee, comprising representatives of seven neighborhoods: West University, Shoal Crest, Heritage, North University, Hancock, Eastwoods, and University Area Partners. CANPAC was organized prior to the City of Austin's planning process for future land-use and new zoning of all the properties in our area of the city. As most of you know, the planning process

took about three years of hard work on the part of many neighbors and on the part of the CANPAC representatives. We met with landowners and homeowners, UT students, commercial interests, and City staff, to work out future land-use and zoning categories that would be satisfactory for all interested parties. The new "Combined Central Austin Neighborhoods Plan" was approved by the Austin City Council in August, 2004.

CANPAC is still active, and we are now an official neighborhood registered with the City of Austin, so that we can continue to receive notices of any requests for zoning changes or alterations in the new plan. Currently, the Coordinator of the group is Mary Gay Maxwell, former co-president of NUNA. NUNA has other representatives to the group as well. We are in the process of establishing official voting status rules for the group, but we ALWAYS welcome visitors to our meetings. If you have an interest in attending a CANPAC meeting, please contact Mary Gay at 472-5958.

There are two items which are currently being worked on: 1) noise problems in all of our neighborhoods, and 2) prospective changes in the UNO district. The UNO (University Neighborhood Overlay) District is the area known as "West Campus." During the planning process, an overlay was placed on the West Campus area allowing for increased heights, up to 175 feet. Just one year after the plan was completed, there is pressure to increase the heights in the core of the UNO area to 220 feet. This is an item that will be discussed at length in the CANPAC group.

The noise issue has been a chronic problem in all of our neighborhoods, but this year the problem has escalated. In the coming years, it could potentially become worse because of the plan for increased density in the planning area. Density will impact our neighborhoods in many ways, one of which is increased noise. We are addressing the issue with the City of Austin staff, the City Council, and the Austin Police Department. 



Cats Love Housecalls

*Compassionate Veterinary Care
in the Comfort of Your Home*

Dr. Cecilia Burnside, DVM

8127 Mesa Drive, Suite B206, #330
Austin, TX 78759


512.343.9200

www.catslovehousecalls.com

Roving ANC Reporter's Update for September and October

By Mary Ingle

In September, the Austin Neighborhood Council (ANC) program focused attention on the City's Code Enforcement Program with Leon Barba and Keith Leach as presenters. They spoke about structural reorganization in Solid Waste Services and in the Watershed Protection Developmental Review Department, with the addition of **more code inspectors** for accessing situations and violations. The next topic, Austin Energy's Conservation Vision featured Roger Duncan who elaborated on the pilot "Plug-in Program" for electric cars. The goal of this program is to spread nationally with its roots in Austin. Austin's Mayor Wynn has heartily endorsed the program. Austin Energy wants all neighborhood organizations to become aware of this new program; and NUNA will welcome former Council Member Daryl Slusher to give a presentation on the new Plug-in Program at the next NUNA meeting on December 5.

The October meeting of the, ANC covered a presentation of the County and City Bond elections. County Court Judge Samuel T. Biscoe and County Commissioner for Pct. 2 Karen Sonleitner explained the 5-year cycle of County Bonds; Jim Walker spoke about the City Bond package. Neighborhoods are encouraged to put together a plan or "wish-list" for improvements. We also learned from Mr. Walker that the bond issue concerning sidewalks is only for repair, not for new sidewalks. Afterwards, Katie Larsen, a senior staff-member for Austin planning, informed the group of a pilot Parking Benefit District Program, which accrues money from paid parking either in the form of meters or parking "chips" on the street (which can be activated by cell-phone users). The program was designed to discourage spill-over parking into neighborhoods from business districts and to reinvest the collected money for neighborhood projects such as sidewalks. A possible advantage of paid parking is that it can be coupled with the Residential Permit Parking Program. The deadline for submitting requests for this program was November 19, 2005. 

NUNA Neighborhood Planning Team Report


By Scott Morris

The Central Austin Combined Neighborhood Plan contains many recommendations for projects in NUNA, but it identifies no means of funding them. Bonds, an appropriate tool for funding capital improvement projects, could help realize some of these plan goals. Since the neighborhood planning process is relatively new, and the last bond election was held in 2000, funding items in a neighborhood plan with bond money is a novel approach. In February 2005, the City

Council directed staff to prepare for a possible bond election in May 2006. Council also empaneled the Bond Election Advisory Committee (BEAC) to serve as a fact-finding body and liaison to neighborhood groups. The NUNA Neighborhood Planning Team met in August to discuss and recommend projects from the Central Austin Combined Neighborhood Plan. The NUNA-NPT selected the following recommendations:

- Build new sidewalks on University Ave. from 30th St. to 31st St., 32nd St. from Speedway to Duval St., 34th St. from Guadalupe to Speedway.
- Remove obstacles from the right of way on Guadalupe Street, specifically the light poles in the sidewalks between 32nd St. and 34th St.
- Install a bike lane along Guadalupe St. between 24th St. and 45th St.
- Provide pedestrian-oriented lighting along the perimeter of the Hemphill Park that complements the historic character of Aldridge Place.
- Provide funds to convert the electric substation on Grooms to a park/recreation use.
- Finally, not included in the plan, addressing the frequent flooding of the roadways and properties in NUNA caused by Waller Creek.

Representatives from the NUNA-NPT presented these six recommendations to BEAC in two public hearings in October, corresponded with committee members, and held discussions with City staff. It is not known whether any of the plan recommendations were in the BEAC recommendation. In the days to come, BEAC will finalize their recommendations and forward them to City Council in January.

Membership in the NUNA-NPT is open to all NUNA residents interested in the subject of land use. Please contact Scott Morris at smorris@nuna-austin.org or 371-7961 if you would like to join. The NUNA NCCD and a link to the city's web-site for the Central Austin Combined Neighborhood Plan can be found on NUNA's web-site: nuna-austin.org. 

Notice of Meeting for Variance Request

When: December 14, 2005 6:30 p.m.

Where: 3710 Cedar St., AGE Building Dining Hall

The NUNA Neighborhood Planning Team will hear a request to endorse a variance application for 117 Laurel Lane. The variance sought will reduce the minimum lot size from 7,000 to 6,300 sq.ft. to accommodate a two-family use so that a 330 sq.ft. guest-house can be built.