



Summer is upon us

Predicting the weather in Austin seems sort of like guessing whether my Trudy's margarita will have salt or not – sometimes yes, sometimes no, but pretty good regardless. After that last cold spell in April, though, my bet is that summer is here with all that it brings – heat, swimming pools, kids-who-don't-realize-how-cool-summer-break-really-is, and the NUNA 4th of July celebration.

Thanks in advance to Carole LeClair, as she's agreed to organize this year's festivities again. Look for mails from her, give her all the help we can, and look forward to a great day in Hemphill Park on July 4!

Change is in the air! This is a great neighborhood, we've got great people, and every so often it makes sense to look at "what could we be doing better"... We have some things we are trying that I want to tell you about. I'm also highlighting 3 ways you can help NUNA, and I would love feedback on any/all of these things.

Newsletters

Businesses. We are going to start making the NUNA newsletter available at neighborhood businesses, so look for us at Wheatville and beyond! (Thank you, Julie!)

On-time delivery. We've heard that some of you are getting your newsletters after our membership meetings. We're working to get newsletters delivered before meetings, so look for more info shortly – and I hope you are reading this before our June meeting. (Thank you, Trish)

New columns. Take a look through the newsletter – there are some changes straight from the creative force of Clayton! (Thank you, Clayton)

Meetings:

Signs. Our NUNA signs are in, and by the time you read this they should be sprouting around the neighborhood as a reminder of meetings. Look for these signs to show

up in the week before each General Membership Meeting (GMM), and then to disappear until the next meeting comes around. (Thank you, Eileen)

Programs. We're brainstorming on ideas for programs that will be interesting and useful to our neighbors (Thank you, Mary Ingle!) and want your input. Interesting in composting? Gray water systems? Noise management? Email nuna-austin@gmail.com and let us know what you want to hear about!

Three ways you can help, June 2013

5 minutes. Join the NUNA mailing list. Nuna-Residents@YahooGroups.com is our fastest way of communicating out to the neighborhood. We currently have 232 members, so I know there are neighbors we are missing! See the ad on page 4 if you want more information on joining.

1-2 hours/month. Care about our parks? Our parks are a central part of the character of NUNA, and I'm looking for someone who has passion, and 1-2 hours per month, who wants to help make a difference in the future of our parks!

30 minutes. Care about stealth dorms? I know there are neighbors in NUNA who care about the issue of Stealth Dorms, and their impact on older, central Austin neighborhoods. Take a look at <http://StopStealthDorms.com>, and make your thoughts known to our city leaders.

As Lee Elementary lets out for the summer, you will see more of me and my family roaming NUNA – and I look forward to running into neighbors out and about. Thanks again for reading this far, and for your help with making NUNA the place we all want to live!

-Michael Riley

NEXT NUNA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

First English Lutheran Church
Monday, June 3, 2013
6:30 p.m.

AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order**
Approve Minutes
- II. **Guests:** Tom Hatch, from Austin Parks will present final plans for Sparky Park. We need to discuss these and vote on them
- III. **Reports**
CANPAC - Mary Ingle
Treasurer - Jan Moyle
Quadrant Leaders' Reports -
Dick Holland, Mary Ingle, Rick Iverson and Laurie Marchant
- IV. **Items for Action:**
Vote on Sparky Park plans
- V. **Old Business:**
Feedback on NUNA neighborhood signs
Discussion on July 4th celebration
Discussion on what neighbors want at NUNA meetings
- VI. **New Business:**
- VII. **Adjourn**

Editor's Note

Big thanks to Beth Goulart Monson for her new column, The Dish. We are honored to have an experienced food writer giving us the skinny, or perhaps in this case, the fat, on what's happening in our neighborhood food scene. To learn more about Beth and her foodie talents see: www.bethgoulart.com

I am grateful to Dick Holland for his NUNA trivia question (see page 15), a new regular addition to the newsletter, and Doug Plummer for sending in a photo of the month (see page 3). Not only do we have what is likely Texas's highest urban density in our neighborhood, we may also have the highest talent and smarts density, too. Thanks, contributors.

In addition to updates and announcements from Doug Plummer (Sparky Park!), Carole LeClaire (Fourth of July!), and Bill Bednar (Parks!) in this issue, we have a new writer, the tech-savvy Scott Sloan informing us on why all the excitement about Google Fiber and what cool things it could mean for us. And thanks for taking out the trash, honey (we're married).

Lastly, I'm excited to announce a new column, title borrowed from that Sesame Street song we all know--"The People in Your Neighborhood," in which we will interview someone in our 'hood who we would like to know more about. This month we talk to Maria Orozova, the founder of The Mod Studio, the marketing firm that kindly designed our NUNA logo and lays out our newsletter for us. We love that logo and the wheat grasses blowing in the breeze. Thanks! Read on, cause....

Oh, who are the people in your neighborhood, In your neighborhood, in your neighborhood Say who are the people in your neighborhood -- The people that you meet each day?

Thanks for reading,
Clayton

Unapproved Meeting Minutes

April 1, 2013, 6:30 pm

First Item--Development review committee met:
Chris and Alexis Bauserman trying to build a garage. In order to access the garage from the alley, the City wants them to pave it but the neighborhood association does not want the alley.
Motion to support to not pave the alley and that the Bauserman's are allowed to access to their garage by Steve Tomlinson.
NUNA does NOT want that alley paved. Possible drainage problems. Increased impervious cover.
Bill Bednar seconds the motion. All ay. Motion to the city of behalf of NUNA.
Guest from Austin Energy Rebates:
Rebates available totaling \$3200--the most ever offered combined with low interest loans.
Insulation, ducts, weather stripping, etc. www.austinenergy.com links for solar rebate program
Can be combined.
3.99% or lower interest to help with improvements.

Extended to April 14th.

Once this ends--they will be offering more \$\$ for Solar. Change of net metering to 12.8 cents per kilowatt hour.

Rebate on a 5kw system is 12,500 and then there is a tax credit, plus the continuous credits.

Report from CANPAC -Central Austin Neighborhood Planning Commission

Perry Mansion wants to put in townhouses for rental and a boutique hotel of 50 units and they want an urban farm and Chez Panisse style restaurant.

Clark Lida is the current owner. Online at perrymansion.com David Hartmann.

Hancock neighborhood voted against 90 to 20.

Bill Bednar made a motion that we agree to the donated funds agreement by Austin Parks Foundations for new contract fees for Adams Hemphill and Sparky Parks. NUNA agrees for Michael Riley to sign the agreements. Seconded by Jan Moyle. Approved.

Bill B. made a motion to spend up to \$250.00 plus a quarter page in the newsletter for neighborhood associations signs. Mary seconded. Unanimously passed.

Mary Ingle moved that we approve the minutes from last meeting. Clayton seconded. Approved.

Pam made a motion to approve the slate of NUNA officers. (remain the same) Bill Bednar seconded. Approved.

Photo of the Month



By Doug Plummer

Vivid Signs of Spring--A Poppy from Doug's Front Yard

2012-2013 NUNA OFFICERS

President Michael Riley - NunaAustin@gmail.com
Vice President Steven Tomlinson - steven@abporter.org
Secretary Eileen Gill - eileenpgill@gmail.com
Treasurer Jan Moyle - moylejan@gmail.com

NW Quadrant Representative

Rick Iverson - Iver506@sbcglobal.net

SW Quadrant Representative

Laurie Marchant - Laurie@alexandermarchant.com

NE Quadrant Representative

Mary Ingle - casamia22@att.net

SE Quadrant Representative

Dick Holland - rh02@txstate.edu

Austin Neighborhoods Council Representative - vacant

CANPAC Representatives

Mary Ingle, Bill Bednar
(Laurence Miller as alternate)

Development Review Committee (DRC)

Steven Tomlinson - steven@abporter.org

Parks Committee

Bill Bednar, Julie Willis

Internet Server Host

Pallasart Web Design

Parking Permits

Eugene Sepulveda - Eugene@abporter.org

Newsletter Design

The Mod Studio - www.themodstudio.com

Newsletter Distribution Overall Distribution: Trish Tang. Route Distributors: Debi Rivier-Harris, Don Carnes and Pat Campbell, Rick Iverson and Joe Sosa, Daphny Ainsley, Paul Kens, Carole LeClair, Vicki Ford, Alegria Hibbits, Homer Parsegian, Michael Riley, Clayton Maxwell (with Jim and Jan Moyle as permanent subs)

Newsletter Ads

Julie Willis - Julie_willis@outlook.com

Newsletter Editorial

Clayton Maxwell - nunanews@gmail.com

Mary made the motion to give Douglas Plummer the face of NUNA to speak to COA re: Parking Benefit District. Approved.

Bill moves to Motion to approve funds \$500.00 for NUNA July 4 Celebration.

Seconded by Clayton. Approved.

Voted on Motion by Mary and seconded by Bill for Laurence Miller to be CANPAC alternative for NUNA. Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Gill, NUNA Secretary

Design Efforts for Sparky Building Continue

By Doug Plummer

NUNA Neighbors met in two lively design sessions to look at some preliminary design ideas for the “repurposing” of the Sparky Park Substation building. On April 27 and May 11, Kim McKnight, a Project Coordinator for The Austin Parks and Recreation Department and Tom Hatch, the lead architect of hatch + ulland owen Architects welcomed neighbors to the meeting. Kim presented an overview of concepts discussed in earlier design meetings and Tom Hatch showed early sketches/ideas for how the building might be renovated. Some of the items presented included a stunning glass curtain wall on the back half of the building, a shade awning on the back of the building that incorporates some of the metal elements from the old electrical towers, and the new locations of some basic features such as the bathroom and storage areas. Neighbors also discussed the merits of leaving in versus taking out the (non-structural) iron girders in the building.

Participants were excited by the ideas and expressed a lot of enthusiasm that with these improvements in place, the building would become a highly used structure by neighbors. Some neighbors inquired about how the building would be reserved/rented, and who could do so. PARD agreed to look into some of the reservation methods that are currently being used and to offer some options for neighbors to consider.

The final meeting to review the design ideas will be at the NUNA General Membership meeting on June 3 at 6:30 PM at the first English Lutheran Church, 30th Street and Whitis. If you would like to see what all the excitement is about, please come take a look at the drawings on June 3.

Neighborhood Notes

Companion Café

Have you heard about Companion Café, the neighborhood dinner at First English every Wednesday from 6 to 7:30? Members of

Join the Discussion!

Listserves are a great way to become more connected with your community. The North University Yahoo Group is a hands-on, public communications resource, helping neighbors inform, communicate, and build a stronger community. The list is inclusive, open to anyone who lives in the North University Neighborhood and to people who have a material interest here, such as operators of a business, non-profit, or civic process. One can subscribe by sending E-mail to:

nuna-residents-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

or by visiting the Yahoo! Groups site at:

groups.yahoo.com/group/nuna-residents

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@crimeatx is a crime watch Twitter feed that promotes crime prevention and public safety awareness in our area. It was established by the Central Austin CDC in January 2012 to help inform and prepare the returning student community in the immediate aftermath of the NYE attacks and murder of Esme Barrera. To sign up or learn more, visit twitter.com/crimeatx and tweet with the hashtag #NORTHUNIVERSITY.

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the church prepare a good meal for just \$4 and the dinner is open not just to parishioners, but to the entire neighborhood. Just to whet your appetite--Chicken Marsala and Pasta with Garlic Butter were on the menu last week. Yum. In the First English Lutheran Fellowship Hall at 3001 Whitis.

Know Your Watering Rules

Please review the Stage 2 lawn watering rules on the City of Austin website below—fines are hefty, so be informed: <http://austintexas.gov/department/stage-2-watering-restrictions>

Distributing Thanks

Big thanks for Trish Tang for taking over the newsletter distribution duties. It's no light job hauling big boxes of newsletters around and we appreciate your time and energy.

Lee Elementary Video

If you haven't had a chance yet, check out this video made by a Lee Elementary Student about the stealth dorms slated to be built across from Lee Elementary playground:

<http://stopstealthdorms.com/2013/05/06/safety-concerns-from-lee-elementary-community/>

New Column: The People in Our Neighborhood

Spotlight on Maria Orozova and The Mod Studio

NUNA resident Maria Orozova founded her boutique marketing firm, The MOD Studio, five and a half years ago when she was twenty five-years-old. Since then, the firm—which happens to be the talent behind the NUNA logo and newsletter design and layout—has won 23 American Graphic Design awards, and last year Maria was named one of the magazine Graphic Design USA's “People to Watch in 2012.” So, we caught up with this design and marketing maven at the round table in her Mad Men-esque office, where she told us about her business, why she loves NUNA, and how, if you are trying to stoke your social media presence, you shouldn't Tweet unless you do it right.

Clayton Maxwell: How long have you lived in NUNA?

Maria Orozova: I moved in Fourth of July weekend in '06, so about seven years. I can remember that weekend so clearly because everyone was celebrating with fireworks and here we come, moving trucks and all. But I love it. I love NUNA.

CM: What do you like most about it?

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Maria Orzognu

MO: I love being able to walk places. We walk to Texas French Bread all of the time. Chango's and Torchy's are also close enough to walk. It's especially fun when the weather is nice. Just walk your dog, go get some brunch. It's really a great location all around plus I'm so close to my office. It takes me ten minutes to get anywhere.

CM: Maria, you have a slight accent that I can't place.

MO: I am from Bulgaria originally.

CM: Ahh, ok. So, The MOD Studio just celebrated its 5th anniversary.

MO: We did. It's crazy! I started my business out of our spare bedroom over there in NUNA and in a little bit of time, we've grown a lot. We do a lot of marketing campaigns. When I first started we would do one-off projects. You know, a website here, a logo there. And now we get hired to do complete marketing overhauls, so that's really exciting. And being able to work with some larger clients is always exciting.

CM: Yes, I saw you have some impressive clients—the University, City of Austin, Ballet Austin, The Four Seasons Residences...

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NEXT NUNA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

First English Lutheran Church

Monday, June 3, 2013

6:30 p.m.

MO: Yes, we work with the Cultural Arts division of the City of Austin. I bet everybody probably says this, but we LOVE everyone we work with. I think we tend to attract positive people and we do a really good job for them. A lot of how the business has grown is through referrals, so having that many folks out there spreading the word has been a good thing for us.

CM: On your website there are so many services listed that you offer, what you call "capabilities:" marketing, design, digital ... What would you say is your specialty?

MO: We kind of do it all. Each person here has a specific expertise. If we need a complete design overhaul we work with Callic, our marketing strategist, and do all the research on who the target market is, etc... and then Bianca will step in and develop the design... Orlando handles our development, so even though it seems like it is a lot, we really do it all. We can take the whole project and give one cohesive campaign back.

CM: What have been some of your favorite projects?

MO: We work with Four Seasons Residences downtown and they have been so great to work with. We have a big IT client out of Dallas and we do a lot of their email programs. It's been interesting to be on the cutting edge of what's coming out, what newest tablet is, what software upgrades are out there, so that project has really been exciting.

CM: You yourself must be pretty tech-savvy in order to manage your clients' web presence and all the latest trends in the social media side of marketing.

MO: Well, if you want to be competitive and provide your clients with the best and latest knowledge you have to keep up with what's happening. Social media marketing is evolving so quickly that you have to always be educating yourself so that you can then turn that around and help your clients take advantage of it.

CM: So if I am starting a small business and I come to you, how would you help me?

MO: First, I would help with brand identity. So, naming and im-

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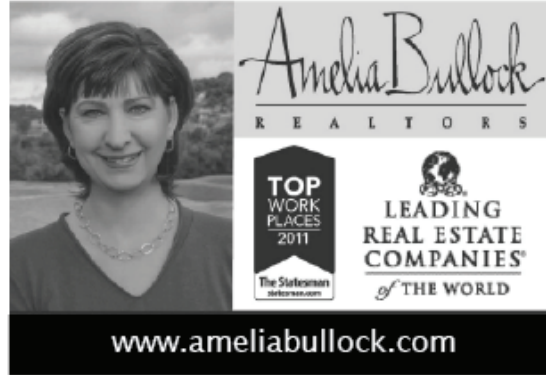


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agency and getting that established. And then getting you a web presence, depending on what the media is...and then yes we can do the business cards and any kind of collateral-- leave-behinds, brochures, etc.

CM: You launched this business when you were only twenty-five. How did you know this is what you wanted to do?

MO: I always knew that I wanted to do this, have my own agency. I am kind of a work-a-holic. And I have an attention to detail that makes me want everything to be perfect. At a certain point I thought, well, if this is who I am anyway, I might as well do it for myself. I wanted to create a good work environment. It's tough work to have your own business, but it has been so rewarding.

CM: Amazing that you had the drive to start this business and work so hard at such a young age. Did you grow up in Bulgaria?

MO: I did but I moved to the US with my family when I was 12.

CM: I wonder if people work harder in Bulgaria.

MO: Perhaps. I mean, I just know I've seen my parents always work hard. I grew up that way and I'm not a big relaxer anyway. I don't really know how to not be that way. Also, I feel like my

parents moved the family here to give me a better life, so I should take advantage of that. I know this is cheesy, but I kind of live everyday without any regrets...just being authentic, being who I want to be.

CM: And you also just founded a new blog, Fab is the New Black, didn't you?

MO: Yes. I love it, but it's so much more work than I expected. Honestly, I don't know what I was thinking. But we do have a good team of contributing writers, so I feel like we get some relevant content out there...it's fun. I'm kind of a girly girl; I love fashion and pretty stuff.

CM: Well, you have a great sense of style; so it's good you have a way to express it.

My last question, do I really have to have a Twitter account to be taken seriously in the land of social media?

MO: No, if you are not going to be updating it. It's better not to have it than to have something irregular and outdated. Before you do it, be clear about what your goals are and realistic about what your pattern should be-- then your followers will know what to expect. A lot of people hire us and we tweet and Facebook on their behalf. We use scheduling tools—you can do things in real time, but also preschedule. So we can do that for people. It's bet-



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ter, though, for your potential customers, your target market, to think—"Oh, she doesn't twitter", than for them to think, "Oh she hasn't updated in a really long time." Are you not a fan of Twitter?

CM: No- maybe The MOD Studio can do it for me.

The Dish

By Beth Goulart Monson

We haven't had a kitchen for 8 weeks. It's a good thing: When our massive remodel is done, we'll have a dishwasher! We'll have an oven that functions as people expect ovens to function in the developed world, and a stove up to the task of cooking an authentic steak frites.

Even with two little kids, living without a kitchen hasn't been horrible. It's given my family an excuse to explore more deeply the thriving foodscape around NUNA.

Take the tacos. We knew about the friendly freshness of Changos, but we hadn't made the trip down the hill to Taco Joint before construction started. The buzzwords here are cheap and authentic, with pleasantly greasy breakfast tacos starting at \$1.50 apiece. For lunch, my husband Kris loves the sirloin-and-caramelized onion Street taco (\$3.50), while I prefer the fried fish taco with fresh cabbage slaw, cilantro, and cojita (\$3.50). And no, despite the name, you don't need a bonafide case of the munchies

to partake.

In the last newsletter, I raved about YaYa Café. That was before I'd had their pho. For the uninitiated: Get initiated. Pronounced like "foot" without the "t," it's a traditional Vietnamese soup full of noodles and vegetables and the meat (or tofu) of your choice. You can even get meatballs or a sliced eggroll swimming around in the bowl. We may not have another cold, rainy day for months, but when we do, you'll find me steaming my face over a bowl of pho at YaYa Café.

While speaking of soup, I would be remiss if I didn't mention the daily soup specials at Texas French Bread. \$10.95 gets you a cup of soup, a half sandwich, tortilla chips and salsa. One recent Thursday my toddler and I shared the carrot & ginger soup and pimiento cheese sandwich. I recommend both. (I also recommend a lot of napkins if your toddler is determined to feed himself bright orange soup.) Finally, on the soup front, have you caught the ramen buzz? It's the latest trend and no, to answer my mother's first question, it's not quite the same as the stuff that comes five-for-a-dollar in cellophane packets. You can pay far more for way more complexly flavored ramen at East Side King, behind Hole in the Wall on the Drag. But my favorite bites at this trendy joint are the veggie meshi (\$7; essentially roasted-until-they-caramelize Brussels sprouts over seasoned rice) and the beet home fries (\$7). Yes. Beet home fries. They're really good.

We like to play a game we call "Guess the Department" while we wait for our food at picnic tables on the deck, here. Curiously well dressed for grad students? Likely architects. Complaining about their advisor's demands on their time? Well, that doesn't much narrow it down, now does it?

This is the first installment of a new NUNA Newsletter series about everything food in the neighborhood. If you have a tip, a funny story, or a beef, email me at nunadish@gmail.com.

Bon appetit, y'all.

Searching for Answers on Google Fiber

By Scott Sloan

Yesterday, as I drove back into Austin on I-35 after a family trip to San Antonio, I saw a billboard advertising Google Fiber with its rainbow bunny logo. The buzz about Google Fiber, which last month Google officially announced is coming to Austin in 2014, is growing. What does it mean for you and our neighborhood?

First of all, what is Google Fiber? It is really a modern infrastructure project to provide selected cities, including parts of Austin, a new ultra high speed internet network. A better network means significantly faster, cheaper internet access. If you are into bits and bytes, Google Fiber connection speeds are one gigabit (1,024 megabits) per second for both download and upload. This is roughly 100 times faster access than what most Americans have (In comparison, the AT&T U-verse Max Plus that I currently have advertizes an 18 Mbs download. AT&T does not market upload speeds because they are less than 3 Mbs). From a consumer perspective, this means web sites load instantly; one can upload photos in seconds and no buffering or waiting no matter what the game, video or movie. You will be able to view, publish, stream and dream faster.

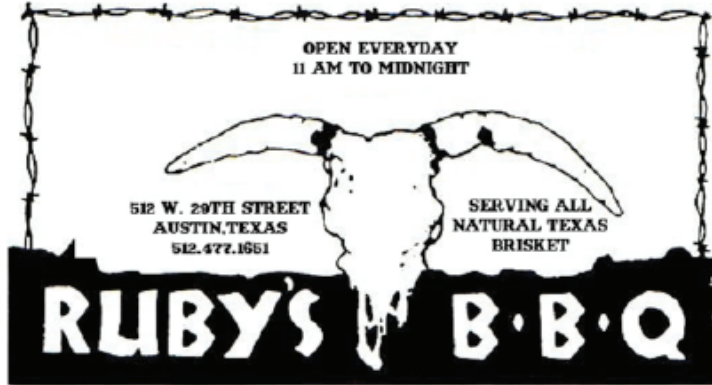
From a city of Austin perspective, Google Fiber should drive innovation, spawn new businesses and enable new services (health care, education, gaming, who knows what really). This should lead to job creation and add to Austin's distinctively creative vibrancy. As a professional in the technology industry, this will mean more employment choices.

Google plans to start connecting homes in Austin by mid-2014. Few details for the Austin service are available now, but they are expected to be similar to those of Kansas City (MO and KS), the first US Google Fiber city. In Kansas City, the basic price for 1 gigabit Internet access is \$70 a month. Internet plus cable TV costs \$120 a month. The company also offers a slower basic broadband package that is free for seven years once a \$300 network construction cost is paid. This should lead to more access



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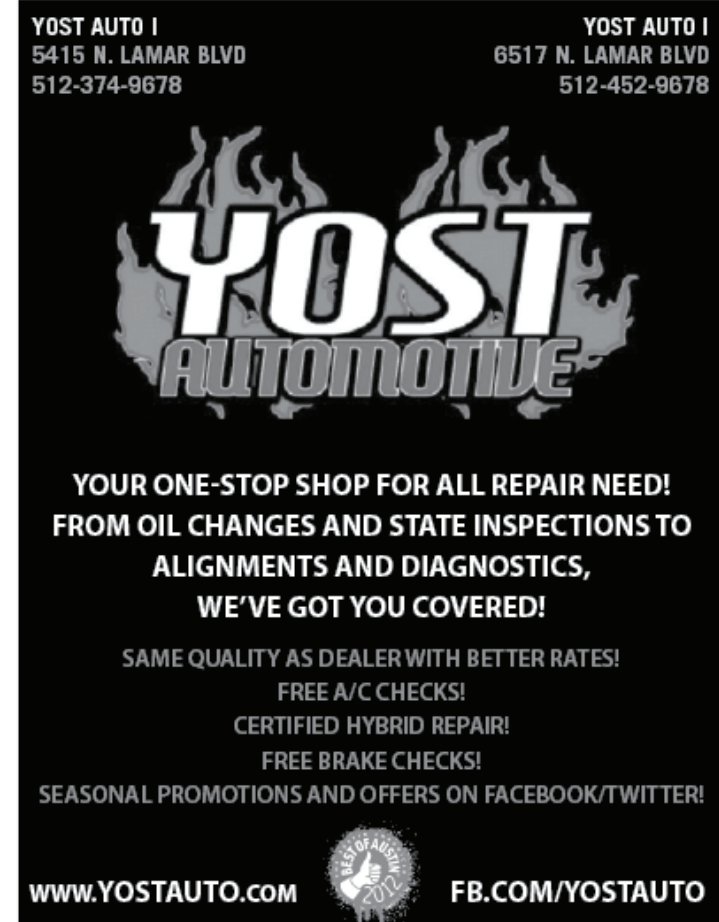
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for less privileged families— thereby helping with the digital divide issue and further democratizing the internet. Options for small business and select institutions like schools, hospitals, and libraries will be introduced as well. Google will work with the City of Austin to determine a list of public institutions that will receive free Gigabit connections. Even if you don't subscribe to Google Fiber or aren't in one of the first fiberhoods (what Google is calling their service areas), Google's presence will force Time Warner, AT&T, and Grande to deliver a better service at a more competitive price in Austin.

The priorities for building out Google Fiber will be determined by residents' response, but specifics on how this process will work have yet to be shared. To stay plugged into the process and ensure N.U.N.A is a priority fiberhood, please visit <https://fiber.google.com/cities/austin/> and enter your email address to express your interest. Google Fiber should be a great solution for internet traffic in Austin (and make working at home even easier). Maybe Google's driverless cars will help alleviate Austin's notorious vehicular traffic issues! Stay tuned for further news on our drive for Google Fiber as more information becomes available and the Google team begins their community outreach.

For more general information on Google Fiber, please see <https://fiber.google.com/about/>



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Update on Dorm Duplex Development Across from Lee Elementary

Our last newsletter included an article about how the Hancock and Lee Elementary communities have organized to oppose the dorm duplex project (currently 3 large duplexes are being considered in the City of Austin's Permitting Department), a property owned by Kevin Cutsinger and Ross Cole at 718 Harris Avenue across the street from Lee Elementary School. Please see <http://stopstealthdorms.com> for more information on how these developments are impacting Austin's urban family neighborhoods, to sign a petition, to encourage the City to act, or to share your story.

Following is an update on the development from HNA member Mary Sanger:

Kevin Cutsinger and Ross Cole filed for building permits on 3 small lots under SF-3 zoning for 18 bedrooms, coupled with 18 parking spaces accessed from the public alley. Until Mike Hebert filed an appeal with the Board of Adjustment, the City Planning and Development Review Department (PDRD) was about to let them get away with building what is effectively a small apartment project across the street from Lee Elementary School and on the



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banks of Waller Creek.

Eighteen-plus motor vehicles entering and exiting the alley will be a safety threat to the children of Lee Elementary as they go to and from school. Cutsinger wants to build in the 100-year flood plain, and Watershed Protection has ruled that he does not need to file a site plan for that reason.

It has been alleged that Cutsinger violated numerous city ordinances when he demolished the old ChildCraft Day Care building, and Code Enforcement said they do not have jurisdiction over these types of violations.

Weeks ago, the Lee PTA and four neighborhood presidents wrote to Howard Lazarus (Public Works) and Lee Austin (Transportation) and asked for a safety study. Neither Mr. Lazarus nor Mr. Austin replied in writing. They only sent two staffers to a meeting at the school; what they had to say was not helpful, and there has been no follow-up.

The Heberts have taken legal action on 2 fronts: they sued the city to enjoin it from overburdening their alley, asking for an injunction to prevent more than two vehicles per lot having access to the public alley. Mr. Hebert also filed an appeal to the Board of Adjustment for an interpretation of the zoning code to the effect that Cutsinger is entitled to build only one building per site and that legally and practically he is building an apartment project on

a single site. SF-3 zoning limits the building to 6 bedrooms. As a result of the appeal to the BOA, PDRD has put on hold the issued building permit for 718 Harris, presumably until May 13th when the BOA appeal is set for hearing.

So far, the City Attorney's office has vigorously opposed the Heberts' suit for an injunction.

Park Cleanup Report

Bill Bednar, Julie Willis, and Laurence Miller say many thanks to the neighbors who turned out for the cleanup of Adams-Hemp-hill Park on Saturday April 20. We had about 35-40 people, includ-



Julie Willis and Kris Monson in the muck

ing a sizeable number of kiddos, who showed up at 9:00 AM sharp to be assigned into work-ing parties. One group went down to the bridge at Wheeler Street to trim back that mes-quite blocking the path. Others grabbed bags and pickers and swept the entire park on both sides of the street for trash. We

got several bags full out of the area just across East Drive from Trudy's. And of course we had lots of magnificent swamper who rolled up their sleeves and rooted out what seemed like a ton of brush and undergrowth from the creek bed. Hooray for manager Wes Vertz at Trudy's Restaurant, who supplied breakfast tacos, orange juice, and coffee. Special thanks also to the intrepid Ivey Kaiser at Keep Austin Beautiful, who outfitted us with trash bags, trash pickers, work gloves, and tools. We got finished about noon, and the project was a great success. Thanks again to all those who participated. Just go look at the park!!

NUNA Volunteer Needed

NUNA is looking for a willing volunteer to serve as the neighborhood's ANC (Austin Neighborhood Council) representa-tive for 2013. The Austin Neighborhood Council is currently composed of 88 neighborhoods within the City of Austin. ANC provides a great opportunity to meet new people, learn about new ordinances and issues that might impact your neighbor-hood, and improve your knowledge of the City of Austin processes and departments. This job entails attendance at the

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**Time to get your Stars and Stripes On!
11th Annual NUNA 4th of July Parade
and Splash Party!**

10 AM at 32nd and Hemphill Park

Come help NUNA celebrate our nation's birthday in proper style. Decorate your favorite mode of transportation (feet, stroller, scooter, bike, pet or vehicle) to join in the fun.

Meet at the corner of 32nd and Hemphill Park at 10am sharp on Thursday, July 4th. Our very own firefighters from Station #3 will be there to lead the parade. After showing all those other neighborhoods what patriotic looks like, come and hang out around the park bench for some refreshments and a splash or two on the inflatable water slide!

It's hard to believe but this will be the 11th year for our parade.

If you would like to help out, please feel free to bring some refreshing watermelon, drinks or breakfast items for us all to snack on. If you would like to contribute to the cost of renting the water slide, any donations would be appreciated. Look for the donation jar or NUNA officer at the after party.

(ps: Thanks, Carole LeClair, for organizing and for writing this up for the newsletter!)



Patriotic Baby



Kelly Willis waves a flag

monthly ANC general membership meetings, which fall on the 4th Wednesday of every month, and monthly ANC central sector breakfast meetings which convene the first Tuesday of most months. The monthly meetings have great informative programs about any number of topics. Depending on one's disposition, this volunteer position is actually enjoyable and f-u-n! If you are interested in this position, please contact NUNA President, Michael Riley at NunaAustin@gmail.com, or Mary Ingle, CANPAC representative at 320-8449.

"Structures of Kindness"

The other day I was venting to a very wise friend about the greed and self-interest of some people I know, let's call them "The Evil Ones." I ranted to my friend, who just happens to be a brilliant psychologist and Zen priest, how The Evil Ones had it all wrong and were doing terrible greedy things, and as I spoke I noticed that my friend, let's call him Flint, was watching me with a slightly pained look in his eyes, which made me conscious that I must be making some very indignant, angry faces. I paused. This is not attractive-- and bad for the wrinkles not to mention the nervous system.

And because he often has just the right book at hand, Flint then read me a few lines from an essay called *The Structures of Kindness* by the late Irish thinker, John O'Donohue. Here is an excerpt,

"There is a kindness that dwells deep down in things; it resides everywhere, often in the places we least expect. The world can be harsh and negative; but if we remain generous and patient, kindness inevitably reveals itself...Despite all the darkness, human hope is based on the instinct that at the deepest level of reality some intimate kindness holds sway."

"Oh, that's great," I said, still feeling fired up and a tad righteous. "I am going to mail that to The Evil Ones."

"Actually," he said, wink in eye, "I was thinking you might want to read it every morning yourself."

Ah, yes. That was it-- he was right, I was the one who needed a little reminder about kindness. Blame and indignation weren't getting me anywhere.

But I needed to ruminate a bit over O'Donohue's words. Do I believe that? That there is some form of kindness holding sway despite all of the harsh and negative? Hey, back off you habitual inner skeptic! Ssshhhh...Give me a little room to think this over. And so I read the essay repeatedly over a few weeks and considered if it felt true to me. And I decided that these words were more than rosy wishful thinking. Yes, there is bad stuff that needs to be fought against or stood up to and get angry about--all of

that. AND there is a lot of kindness at the same time. You get angry bombers in Boston AND you get amazingly fearless people running in to help in that critical moment when things are boiled down to sheer instinct. For many, the natural instinct is kindness.

I also considered how, in less dramatic terms, in my own neighborhood, my day-to-day reality is one of unbidden kindness. I see it holding sway all of the time in these seemingly small but very thoughtful, and important ways. Like Mary Gay knocking on my door to tell me that the parking police were about to ticket me because I hadn't put the new residential parking sticker on my car yet. Neighborly Solidarity. Or how she came over to let us know that our three-year-old was sitting by himself on top of the station wagon in the driveway. She doesn't have to go out of her way, but she does--again and again. Or smiling Rimal, the sweet 3rd grade girl across the street who is moving back to New Delhi this summer and who often leaves treats for my kids on the doorstep or takes care of neighbor Jane's pugs. And Laurie Marchant, who sometimes sends a few of her warm baked scones to us up the hill--sharing her enviable baking talents (and calories) with us. Or when Darian across the street went out of her way to call me while I was on holiday in San Francisco to tell me there was an unknown shirtless man sitting in my driveway and did he belong there? (yes, he did, he was my eccentric college professor who was housesitting and apparently liked to sit in my driveway shirtless to read). Or Neighbor Paul, as I call him, who brought me beautiful pictures of Carlisle wearing cat ears at his daughter's birthday party. Or Jane who is always leaving little things at our front door--her extra bags of potting soil or stacks of drawing paper for the kids. And Julie Willis giving my son all of her boys' old Star Wars toys when they'd outgrown them. Small gestures, but they make a HUGE difference--no one had to do these things, but they did anyway. Kindness.

Once I started thinking about it, I saw kindness over and over, particularly on Laurel Lane.

So, I'm still not happy about The Evil Ones, but maybe I don't feel so volatile and adrenaline-amped about them. And maybe, if I pause, I have to admit that they might not REALLY be so evil deep down. I'll need a new name for them.

TRIVIA QUESTION:

by Dick Holland

Which UT President lived in the compound at 34th and Guadalupe, now owned by Nancy and Rick Iverson?

Email your answers to nunanews@gmail.com.



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