

NEWCNA News



Northeast Walnut Creek Neighborhood Association **January 2018**

Letter from the President

Vanessa Matocha, NEWCNA President

Let me start by thanking everyone for all the help you have given to NEWCNA in 2017. We had some great speakers for our meetings, the Spring Fling and Fall Festival have been growing in participation, and our Facebook page is growing daily with more community input.

When discussing plans for 2018 during our last officer meeting, we noticed that while our Facebook page is gaining followers, membership in our neighborhood association is not growing.

Facebook is a great place to share news, ideas, and get to know one another, but our NEWCNA dues pay for the newsletter you are reading, the quarterly meeting rental, the picnics, the welcome baskets, they help us fight off unwanted rezoning in our area, and the signage put out for all our neighbors. Without neighbors joining our association, dues can't cover the cost of these items.

Ask yourself: how would our neighborhood have changed if ATCIC had gotten the rezoning for the plot of land on Braker? We would have a drug and mental health rehabilitation clinic right in the midst of our neighborhood and across the street from Graham Elementary.

We encourage you to join our Facebook page, but also join YOUR neighborhood association. There is a membership form in this newsletter along with a list of ways to volunteer. You can also join online and pay with a credit card. Per the bylaws, membership runs from January 1 to December 31 of each year. If you joined at the Fall Festival or after, your 2018 dues were included. If don't know if your 2018 dues are paid, email me at NEWCNAPres@yahoo.com

The first quarterly business meeting is on January 25 at Holy Word Lutheran Church. It is during this meeting that we elect new officers, adopt a yearly budget, and review how the association has done in the last year. We look forward to seeing you and getting your feedback on how to move NEWCNA forward in 2018.

I have been president of NEWCNA for the last 3.5 years and have enjoyed getting to know my neighbors better and working with a great group of individuals that have been officers during this time. It hasn't always been smooth sailing, but those who stuck in there and worked together have made this a much stronger association.

As they say, all good things must come to an end, and it is the time for me to turn the reins over to another who can carry NEWCNA even further in its journey. I want to thank all of you for the support you have given to this organization, your help, your personal emails and letters of encouragement, and so much more. I have grown as a person while working to grow the membership of NEWCNA.

I set many goals for NEWCNA when I started as president and we have accomplished almost all. The City of Austin now contacts us rather than us running them down. That is a huge accomplishment which was a team effort by so many of the NEWCNA members. You showed up, you spoke up, and more importantly you gave when your neighborhood needed help.

Keep it up NEWCNA. Remember, this is your neighborhood and it is only as good as you are willing to make it. Thank you for all your support during my tenure as president of NEWCNA.

Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, January 25th
at 7:00 PM

Holy Word Lutheran Church
10601 Bluff Bend Dr

<https://newcna.wordpress.com>

<https://facebook.com/groups/newcna>

PO Box 140014, Austin, TX 78714

NEWCNAPres@yahoo.com

Officers and Committee Chairs

President

Vanessa Matocha
NEWCNAPres@yahoo.com

Vice President: Four Seasons

Cheryl Richter
cherylrichter1@me.com

Vice President: North Oaks

Luke Keyes
lukeyes@gmail.com

Vice President: Hillside

Sara Appleton
sgapottery@gmail.com

Treasurer

Debra Sue Trinque
dstrinque@gmail.com

Recording Secretary

Kim LeBlanc
kimberly.allison.leblanc@gmail.com

Media Secretary

Andrew Denman
andrew.denman@gmail.com

Zoning Committee Chair

David Matocha
matocha@flash.net

City of Austin

Dial 9-1-1 for Emergencies
Dial 3-1-1 for all other requests including non-emergency police, any City of Austin services, and reporting code violations.

District 1 Council Member

Ora Houston, 512-978-2101
Ora.Houston@austintexas.gov

Other Numbers

512-974-8143, Adam Soliz, APD Officer
512-974-9129, Heather Berryman, Code Compl.
512-280-0075, Abandoned Vehicles
512-974-4343, Household Hazardous Waste

Austin Area Events: Winter/Spring 2018

January 1st-8th — Free Week

Hundreds of Austin bands participate in this annual event with free shows at multiple music venues all over Austin.

<http://freeweek.do512.com/>

January 12th-14th

Austin Home and Garden Show

The Palmer Events Center hosts exhibitions, programs, and more regarding home improvement, landscaping, & gardening.

<http://www.showtechnology.com/event/annual-austin-home-garden-show/>

January 15th — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. March and Festival

Join the march from the MLK statue at the University of Texas to historic Huston-Tillotson University to celebrate Dr. King's legacy for Austin and the world. <http://www.mlkcelebration.com>

Feb 10th—Carnaval Brasileiro Austin

Carnaval in Austin at the Palmer Events Center is one of the biggest Brazilian Carnaval celebrations outside of Brazil. <http://www.sambaparty.com>

Feb 18th

Austin Marathon & Half Marathon

One of the country's premier races attracts nearly 20,000 participants from around the world. Other events include a 5K, live music, finish line festival, and beer garden.

<http://www.youraustinmarathon.com>

February 25th—Chinese New Year

Festivities include face painting and dancing to firecracker displays and traditional Chinese cuisine. The celebration will take place at North Austin's Chinatown Shopping Center.

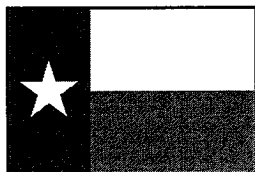
<http://www.facebook.com/ChinatownAustin/>

March 3rd

Texas Independence Day Parade & 5K

Celebrate the great state of Texas and its independence. Featuring a 5K run up Congress Avenue, a parade, and a celebration in the Capitol Rotunda.

<http://www.celebratetexas.net>



March 3rd — Explore UT

Explore UT informs students, parents, teachers, and community members about the importance of higher education through a variety of fun activities on campus.

<https://www.exploreut.utexas.edu>

March 4th—Zilker Park Kite Festival

The nation's oldest kite festival features hundreds of kites and is free to attend. Complete with kite flying contests, food, games and more.

<http://www.abckitefestival.com>

March 8th — Texas Film Awards

The Austin Film Society's annual gala & fundraiser features a catered awards ceremony, live music, and a live auction. This year's event will take place at the newly renovated AFS Cinema.

<http://www.austinfilm.org/texas-film-awards>

March 9th-18th

SXSW Music, Film and Interactive Conference and Festival

More than 50 Austin venues host noted filmmakers, musicians, and multimedia artists from around the world as they showcase music, film and interactive media during this internationally-recognized event.

<http://www.sxsw.com>

March 10th-24th — Rodeo Austin

One of Austin's premier events, featuring Pro rodeo events, daily concerts, livestock show, and more.

<http://www.rodeoaustin.com>

March 17th

St. Patrick's Day Festival

This annual family-friendly festival celebrates all things Irish. Enjoy authentic Celtic music and dancers, Irish language workshops, and the finest Irish imports at nearby Pioneer Farms!

<http://www.stpatricksdayaustin.com>

March 30th-31st

Austin Urban Music Festival

More than 15,000 music revelers converge on Auditorium Shores at Lady Bird Lake to enjoy Austin's only music festival focused on R&B, neo-soul, and hip hop music.

<http://www.urbanmusicfest.com>

Vincentian Family Center

901 West Braker Lane

Thrift Store:

Monday-Saturday 9AM - 7PM

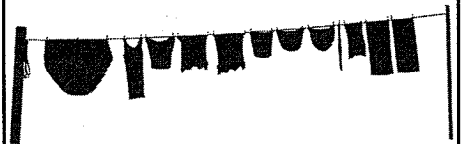
Food Pantry:

Tuesdays 5PM - 7PM

Saturdays 10AM - 12PM

2N1 Salad Bar & Grill:

Monday - Saturday 7AM - 9PM



Ad Rates

Business Card Size \$20

¼ Page \$35 ½ Page \$55

⅓ Page \$75 Full Page \$95

Receive a 15% discount if your ad runs for a year (4 issues)!

Contact NEWCNAPres@yahoo.com

What can you get for just \$0.05 a day? An annual membership to NEWCNA!

Get news affecting your neighborhood between newsletters by joining NEWCNA. As we get information, it is passed on to our members via email.

When you join NEWCNA and provide an email address, you will begin receiving these supplementary updates. We are unable to send these notices to non-members.

Cut off the bottom half of the next page, fill out the membership form, and mail it to the listed address with your payment. Join us today!



2018 Officer Elections

Per the NEWCNA Bylaws, the following officers are to be elected in the even numbered years.

If you are interested in running for any position listed, please contact me at NEWCNAPres@yahoo.com so your name can be added to the ballot. We really need someone to step up for the VP positions. You can find duties for each office on our website: <https://newcna.wordpress.com/about/officers/>

- **North Oaks Vice President:**
Candidates Needed
- **Hillside Vice President:**
Candidates Needed
- **Media Secretary:**
Sara Appleton has agreed to run
- **Treasurer:**
Debra Sue has agreed to run again
- **President:**
Luke Keyes has agreed to run

Bluff Bend Bridge Repaired And Open For Traffic

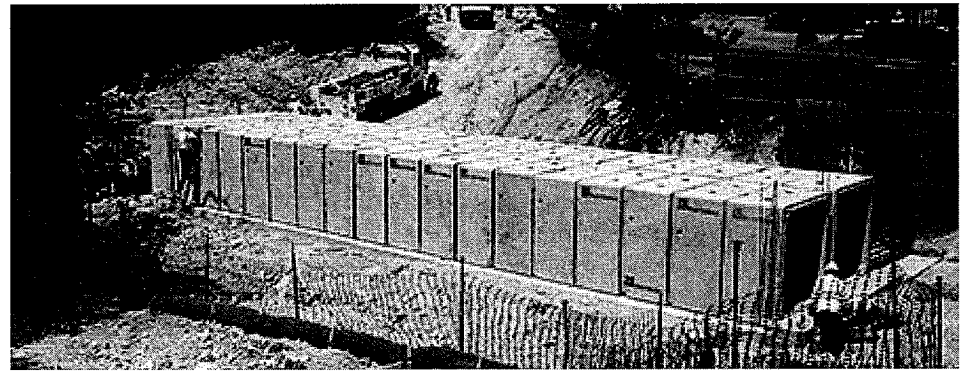
Vanessa Matocha

Our meetings are even easier to get to now. On Thursday, December 7 at 10 a.m. the Public Works Department reopened Bluff Bend Drive.

All work has been substantially completed with the exception of the sidewalk pedestrian rail on the east side of the road and the permanent roadway striping.

To ensure pedestrian safety, water-filled barriers have been placed temporarily where the rail will be installed. The City plans to install the permanent pedestrian rail in early February. Roadway striping will occur in December.

Both forms of work may require a lane closure, but the road should remain open from here on out.



2018 NEWCNA Membership Form

Any resident (owner or renter) is welcome to join the association. Dues are \$20.00 per household and are used to fund newsletters, meetings, picnics, and other association activities. Credit card payments can be made online for an additional \$1 processing fee. Membership runs from January 1 to December 31 each year.

Information provided on this form is NOT used for solicitation; it is only used to send information from the association to active members. *Complete all information below - do not assume we have your information!*

Name: _____ Spouse/Other: _____

Address: _____

Email 1: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email 2: _____ Cell Phone: _____

I would like to help with the following volunteer activities:

- Block Captain Picnics/Social Neighborhood Watch YOM Newsletter Ads Clean-Up

Office Use Only: Status: Renewal New Member

Received on: _____ by _____

Paid via: Cash CC Check # _____ Amt: _____

Deposit Date: _____ Date Sticker Issued: _____

Mail this form and \$20.00 payment to:

NEWCNA
PO Box 140014
Austin, TX 78714

Trees, Streets, and Cars, Oh My!

Vanessa Matocha

I have received many complaints about low hanging tree limbs scraping the tops of cars as they drive down our streets, or even worse having to drive on the other side of the street due to the low clearance.

There has been a question as to whether the homeowner or city is to trim the limbs. After speaking with our new code compliance officer, Heather Berryman, we now know the city will trim the limbs along streets, BUT it must be reported to 3-1-1 or the Street and Bridge Department.

If you see a problem, say something by reporting to 3-1-1 or contact the city at 512-974-8777. Below is information from the city of Austin website <http://www.austintexas.gov/streetandbridge>

The Streets and Bridge operations is composed of professional and technically skilled

staff, Public Works Street and Bridge Operations manages and maintains public right-of-way infrastructure including streets, bridges, sidewalks, guardrails, trees and vegetation. Our five divisions patch potholes, resurface streets, repair utility cuts, maintain the City's medians, right-of-way maintenance on trees, and respond after storms. Services provided by Street and Bridge Operations include:

- Minor Concrete Repair & Construction
- Street Preventative Maintenance
- Right of Way Maintenance (trees + vegetation)
- Bridge Maintenance
- Alley & Roadway Repairs
- Tree Pruning & Trimming
- Sidewalk Services



Volunteer Opportunity Descriptions

Block Captain: Deliver newsletters to specified addresses quarterly. Periodically we have other announcements that need to go out to residents such as notifications about the picnics and social events, neighborhood garage sale, etc. We aim for 10-15 houses per Block Captain.

Picnics / Social: We need people to help plan, set-up and clean-up for NEWCNA social activities.

Yard of the Month: We need people to scout their neighborhood subdivision (North Oaks, Hillside, and Four Seasons) to tell us what yard they feel should receive the award each month from April to October. Come be part of the selection team!

Advertising: We need individuals who are willing to go to businesses, especially in the surrounding area, to ask if they would like to run an advertisement in the NEWCNA quarterly newsletter. Ads help offset the cost of the newsletter.

Clean-Up: Meets periodically to collect trash and debris around the neighborhood as designated by the committee chair. Help keep our neighborhood beautiful!

Neighborhood Watch: This is set up per-block or per-street and only works if people in the designated area are willing to participate. We need at least 50% participation in an area to designate it as a Neighborhood Watch area. If you want one on your street, volunteer to help! Training will be provided.

Let us know about any other opportunities you would like to help with that will benefit NEWCNA. This is your association, it is only as good as the people who help make it great!

Abandoned Vehicle Update

Vanessa Matocha

On October 30, 2017 APD restarted the Vehicle Abatement Unit to handle all vehicle abatement issues city wide.

With the restart of this unit, questions, concerns, and reports regarding abandoned vehicles should be reported to 3-1-1, or the new unit at 512-974-8119.

As a city-wide number, you may have to leave a message, so please provide a description of the vehicle, its location, and the reason you believe it is abandoned. The more information you give will help the Vehicle Abatement Officers.

Below are the criteria for determining if a vehicle is "abandoned":

1. The vehicle is inoperable, is more than five years old, and has been left unattended on public property for more than 48 hours.
2. The vehicle has remained on private property without the consent of the owner or person in charge of the property for more than 48 hours.

A Vehicle Abatement Officer must determine that the vehicle is "VISIBLY" inoperable. Examples of observations are flat tires, fluids leaking, vehicles on jack stand, and obvious missing parts that will hinder the vehicle from operating.

Things that DO NOT determine if a vehicle is abandoned include:

1. Duration the vehicle has been parked at the location.
2. Expired registration/inspection

Cars parked in the front or side yards should still be reported directly to our APD district representative Adam Soliz at adam.soliz@austintexas.gov or 512-974-8143.

Front and side YARD parking is illegal in our neighborhood. NEWCNA officers are working with Councilwoman Houston's office for better enforcement of this ordinance. Municipal court fines can be given to owners of a vehicle parked in the front or side yard of a residence.

Adios to our Media Secretaries

NEWCNA has been very lucky to have two great media secretaries during my tenure.

Jenn Vincent was elected our very first media secretary and you saw some major changes in the appearance of the newsletter and web page. Alas, Jenn, Evan and baby Olive moved to Taylor.

With a great stroke of luck Andrew Denman stepped up and took over. Who thought he could kick it up another notch, but he did! You saw a fresher look and pictures. However, he too has moved out of our area.

Andrew has been gracious enough to put together one last newsletter for NEWCNA even though he has already moved out of Four Seasons. Thank you, Andrew, for all your hard work and especially for this last edition. We wish you well with your new endeavors and know that you will be greatly missed.

NEWCNA MARKET SNAPSHOT

Prepared by Liz Rogers, REALTOR®

Your Neighbor & Four Seasons Resident

Market In A Minute: The dynamics seen in 2017 spanned the entire Greater Austin area. Rapid growth, suburban expansion, rents and purchase prices that seem a bit surreal. Times are changing.

2018 Looking Forward: We will continue to see the landscape change. Increased vertical development is planned for the Domain (think Downtown Austin II), new build homes rising along Dessau Road, and new neighbors will continue to join us through sales within our neighborhoods as seen by the numbers below.....



NEWCNA Metrics	2016	2017
Average Days to Sell	16	25
Homes Sold	21	29
Median Price Range	\$274.9K	\$256K

Status	Address	List Price	Days on Market
Active	1002 Rocky Spring RD	\$260,000	129
	11515 Trinity Hill DR	\$268,000	106
	11305 January DR	\$350,000	22
Pending / Taking Back	11305 April DR	\$249,000	4
Up Offers	11601 North Oaks Dr	\$267,000	63
	11604 North Oaks	\$205,000	113
Sold	11805 Spring Hill	\$217,000	64
	1000 Berrywood	\$270,000	125
	11612 River Oaks TRL	\$299,000	6
	11503 January	\$302,000	106
	909 Fall Creek	\$314,000	11

*Downsizing? Want to move out of Traffic?
Let's Build Your 2018 Plan Together...
Call Me Today.*

LizRogers@Stanberry.com (512) 750-3088 www.facebook.com/lizrogersrealestate/

Texas License #648884; Stanberry Realtors *Data Source - Austin MLS - Dec 2017

Frittata!

Cheryl Richter

Here's something easy to make for breakfast or to serve at a party.

Frittata is a crust-less quiche. Its base is eggs, cheese, heavy cream, and seasonings. You can customize your frittata with chopped veggies such as onions, tomatoes, broccoli or asparagus. Add cooked bacon crumbled or cooked jimmy dean maple sausage. Always use a cheese that can be shredded. One of my favorite combinations is listed below.

- 8 eggs
- ¾ cup heavy cream
- 1 cup shredded sharp cheddar
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1 tube of jimmy dean maple sausage
- 1 cup diced onions
- 1 TSP salt
- 1 TSP black pepper
- 1 TBSP crushed dried parsley

Fry the sausage into crumbles. Season with salt and pepper as you cook it, then drain.

Crack the eggs in large bowl, and whip with fork. Add cream and seasonings and mix. Mix in both cheeses, sausage and onions.

Grease a 9x9 glass pan or a deep glass pie plate. Pour frittata mixture into cooking dish. Get a piece of foil that covers the dish. Grease the foil and lay the foil on top.

Bake 350 degrees for 45 minutes. Remove foil and bake for another 5-10 minutes to brown the top a bit more if need. Use a toothpick to test the center to ensure frittata is done. If not done, continue to bake until done. Remove from oven and let rest 10 minutes before you cut and serve.

Bon Appétit!

APD Crime Stats

Stats are year-to-date for each year, for comparison.

Type	'16	'17
Abandoned Vehicle	11	3
Aggravated Assault (All)	11	9
Aggravated Robbery	4	3
Assault (All)	34	34
Auto Theft	6	5
Burglary (All)	49	41
Check Welfare	3	0
Child Custody Inerfere	5	6
Crash (All)	37	28
Cred/Debit Card Abuse	8	10
Criminal Mischief	26	22
Criminal Trespass Notice	7	6
Custdy Arrst Traff Warr	7	9
Dating Disturbance	5	6
Deadly Conduct	1	0
Disturbance - Other	11	11
Driving W/License Invld	6	4
DWI (All)	10	10
Evading (All)	5	2
Failure to Identify	0	1
Family Disturbance	92	51
Found Property	6	2
Fraud - Other	5	3
Harassment	5	7
Lost Property	6	5
Poss of Drug (All)	10	18
Public Intoxication	2	5
Request to Locate	1	3
Suspicious Person	3	3
Theft (All)	27	19
Traffic Violation - Other	1	1
Viol City Ord - Other	3	9
Viol State Law - Other	0	2
Warr Arrest Non-Traffic	4	3

Streets by Neighborhood

Hillside

- Berrywood
- Blue Spring Way
- Clearwater Circle
- Fall Creek
- River Oaks Drive
- River Oaks Trail
- Rocky Spring Road
- Springhill Drive
- Springwater Circle
- Wedgewood

North Oaks

- Dove Haven Drive
- Glen Cove
- Monterrey Place
- North Oaks Drive
- Oak Haven Cove
- Oak Haven Road
- Oak Trail
- Riddlewood Drive
- Trinity Hill Drive
- Walnut Creek Drive

Four Seasons

- April Drive
- August Drive
- February Drive
- January Drive
- July Drive
- June Drive
- March Drive
- May Drive
- September Drive

Saving Money While Still Doing Your Laundry

Debra Sue Trinqu

As many of you know I am all about saving the environment. Several years ago, I switched from fabric softener and dryer sheets to plastic dryer balls. These worked well, but disintegrated after a couple of years and needed to be replaced.

I recently invested in some wool dryer balls that came in a set of six and were not very expensive. The time it takes to dry a load of clothes has been reduced by 10-15 minutes. Not only am I reducing my trash, I am using less energy.

Along those same lines, I have been using a laundry ball for the past 7 years. One usually lasts 4-5 years before it begins to fall apart. I do not use any detergent, just the ball. I have to set it in the sun for 4 hours each month to recharge the silicone beads inside, but that is all the maintenance it takes. For less than \$30.00, I have 3-5 years of laundry products and I don't have to walk down that aisle of the store.

The catch is you have to get used to no suds and no scents. You can purchase lavender oil for the wool dryer balls which will impart that scent to your clothes, but I am happy to not spend money on that.

These items are readily available from places like Amazon.com and can be delivered to your door in less than a week. I hope a few of you will take a "walk on the wild side", and check out these products.