

MESA PARK MESSENGER

Special Points of Interest:

- Board of Directors meetings are the 2nd Saturday of each month at Milwood Library, 10am. All are welcome.
- Neighborhood Association meetings are quarterly, and the dates will be published as they are set.

MESA PARK NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING, TUESDAY JUNE 27

By Terry Tevis

The quarterly Mesa Park Neighborhood Meeting is on Tuesday, June 27th at the Covenant United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 4410 Duval Road, at 7:00 pm.

Our state Representative, Mark Strama, has requested to address our meeting for the first ten minutes in order to give us an update from the recent Special Session of the Texas Legislature.

Our next speaker is Chris Hoffart, a certified Master

Gardener, who will talk to us about Oak Wilt.

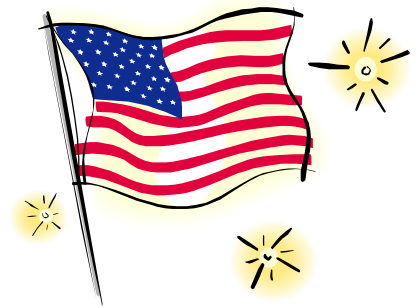
We have invited various organizations to setup tables at the meeting, and to bring handouts and answer questions on many home improvement topics.

Home Depot is having a drawing to give away a free grill to anyone who signs up for a free in-home evaluation of their home improvement installation services.

Also invited are Austin Energy, and a representative of the City of Austin's

National Night Out program. We are in the process of lining up painters, pest control, air conditioning, a handyman, foundation repair, and a roofing company. If anyone wants to recommend additional companies to invite, there is still time. Please have them give me a call or email me at mpnapres@yahoo.com.

We all live in 25+ year old homes, so there should be something for everyone's benefit at the meeting. We're looking forward to seeing you there.



4TH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS FOR MESA PARK

THE QUARRIES SUNDAY, JULY 2

Hyde Park Baptist Church is hosting its annual Celebration at the Quarries, "Liberty", on July 2, 2006.

The event will feature a variety of food including BBQ, fajitas, hot dogs, snow cones and funnel cakes. Meal tickets are \$7.00 for ages 3 and up and can be purchased by calling the church office during business hours at 459-6587.

Also available will be a kid's zone, ceremony and fireworks. The food and play will begin at 5:30 pm, the patriotic concert and service at 8:30 pm and the fireworks at 9:30 pm.

For more information, please call the church office or visit the website at www.hpbc.org.

If you have not seen these fireworks before, we have an excellent view from the neighborhood above the trees. These past years, some neighbors have created their own "July 4th" yard parties to enjoy the view without the crowds.

SCHROETER PARK TUESDAY, JULY 4

MPNA will be organizing a Fun Park Day at Schroeter Park on Tuesday, July 4th, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Bring your family and your pets!

The planned activities are kite flying, a watermelon eating contest, a softball game, and Terry's favorite....a water gun showdown.

MPNA will provide the watermelons, ice cream, and a hot charcoal grill. You just need to bring your family, pets, kites, waterguns, baseball gloves, and/or whatever you'd like to cook.

So please join us and enjoy the gorgeous Austin weather, all at our local Schroeter Park. And the best part, we can walk! We don't have to drive anywhere else to have some summer fun.

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MESA PARK MESSENGER

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A NATIONAL NIGHT OUT BLOCK CAPTAIN?



We need neighborhood volunteers to be Block Captains for our MPNA National Night Out on Tuesday, August 1st.

A block captain/family volunteers to be the "central" point on each of our neighborhood streets for that evening. No effort is too small, so don't feel that volunteering commits you to some elaborate affair. Just saying "I will be in the front yard, and people can gather here!" will be enough, anything above and beyond that is totally up to you.

We are planning individual street parties for 7:00 pm so

that you can meet the neighbors on your street, and then we will move to Schroeter Park at 8:00 pm for a big neighborhood party.

We are still planning the details of what the Schroeter Park party will entail. The City of Austin Fire Department and APD have been invited to be on hand to answer questions regarding home security.

To volunteer to be a block captain, e-mail Terry at mpnapres@yahoo.com. In the July issue of the Messenger, we will publish a list of the streets participating, and which streets still need block captains.

Please know that National Night Out is one of the highest priorities for the MPNA Board of Directors,

as we feel this is a great event to strengthen the sense of community within our neighborhood. We are really looking forward to

meeting our neighbors and keeping our neighborhood safe.

- MPNA Board of Directors



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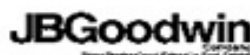
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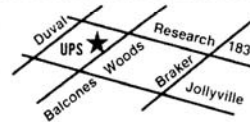
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MESA PARK MESSENGER

HELP YOUR PETS STAY SAFE THIS 4TH OF JULY

Did you know that the busiest time of the year for many animal shelters is right after the Fourth of July?

Most people like to celebrate the Fourth of July with fireworks, but dogs often prefer a quieter holiday. The loud noises generated by fireworks can be very upsetting to dogs, causing extreme anxiety in some cases. Inappropriate behavior caused by this anxiety can range from hiding to destruction of property.

One simple approach to firework anxiety is to consider keeping your pet in a calm, quiet place such as an inside room of the house. Leaving a TV or a radio on may also help to calm the distressed pet.

You should be very careful about leaving your dog outdoors during this time. Even dogs used to spending time in the back yard may find themselves overcome by anxiety from the flashes and booms of fireworks and try to escape to

find a better shelter. You may also want to consider putting your dog on a leash to even go in the back yard.

Also remember to put lots of identification on your pet, especially during the holiday weekend. It's a good idea to have the i.d. tag riveted to your dog's collar rather than using a split ring or "s" hook. Make sure you can get no more than two fingers under the collar so it will not slip off. Put a second collar on the dog in case the first comes off, or is removed by a person trying to call your number.

Another method of coping with anxiety is desensitization. Desensitization requires that the pet be exposed to the anxiety-producing stimulus simultaneously with a positive stimulus in order to teach the pet that it need not be afraid. While this method of anxiety management can be used to help your pet overcome fears, it should be used with caution. If not done correctly, it

could cause even more anxiety and confusion to the pet. It is recommended that you attempt this only after seeking the guidance from a professional animal behaviorist.

There are some pets that have such bad anxiety problems that they can hurt themselves and cause damage to property around them in spite of the owner's best efforts. These animals may benefit from anti-anxiety medication, which should only be used after consulting with your veterinarian.

Medications can curb undesirable behavior, but medication is not for every pet. If given to animals with liver or kidney disease, some medications can make those conditions worse. For this reason, a physical exam and blood work should be done before any medication is given. In addition, the problem should also be managed from with advice from an animal behaviorist.



YARD OF THE MONTH

By Susan Serna

Greetings! As a resident of Mesa Park, I am excited to chair the Yard of the Month committee!

With summer in full swing, there are plenty of great yards to consider for this recognition. If you know of a particular yard that you'd like to nominate to receive Yard of the Month, please feel free to email the address to Susan at sserna@austin.rr.com.

This month's honor goes to:

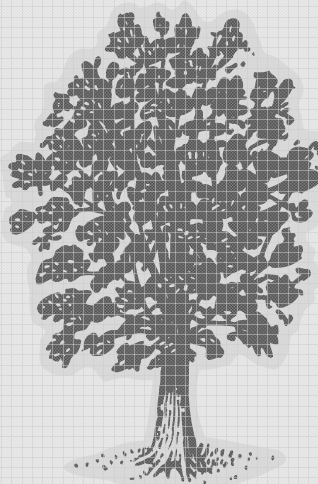
11726 RUNNING FOX!

Congratulations!

NEIGHBORHOOD FLOODING UPDATE

We had several responses to the article in our last newsletter on flooding problems in our neighborhood. At our last MPNA Board meeting, we all agreed that this is a neighborhood problem that we are going to work to get fixed.

An MPNA Flood Committee is being put together, and action steps are in the outline stage. Please let Terry know if you want to be added to the contact list for updates on our progress.



Oak Wilt Reminder:

Hold off pruning those oak trees until the hotter days of July when the Sap Beetle is not active.

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
SAFE TO CUT / PRUNE		DO <u>NOT</u> CUT OR PRUNE OAKS SAP BEETLE ACTIVE			
JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
SAFE TO CUT / PRUNE SAP BEETLE INACTIVE			DO <u>NOT</u> CUT OR PRUNE SAP BEETLE ACTIVE		

JULY 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

JULY 2 — "LIBERTY" @ THE QUARRIES
 JULY 4 — SCHROETER PARK INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION
 JULY 8 — BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
 JULY 10-14 — BULK GARBAGE COLLECTION

AUGUST 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST 1 — NATIONAL NIGHT OUT
 AUGUST 12 — BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
 AUGUST 21-25—LARGE BRUSH COLLECTION

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To place your ad in the Messenger, please contact Claudia at claudia.mpna@gmail.com. The deadline to place your ad in the June issue will be June 15th. Please e-mail your order by then and mail a check payable to "MPNA" to:

MPNA, PMB 104, P.O. Box 200255, Austin, TX 78720

Neighborhood Contacts

President:

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Board Members:

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Oscar Gonzalez, theoscarman@sbcglobal.net, 338-1083

Hon. Board Member:

Val Schroeter, 345-3314

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