

Greater Round Rock West News

Greater Round Rock West Neighborhood Association Newsletter May - 2006 Page 1 of 8



Possible county annex to be built on
Deepwood Drive next to the Kresbach pool

Public Meeting Monday, May 15 at 7pm

Cafeteria of Deep Wood Elementary School
705 St. Williams Dr, in Round Rock

County Commissioner Lisa Birkman will explain
the current proposal and answer questions

See Page....
.....3

The GRRWNA recommends all interested parties attend this meeting
to let the county know exactly where they stand on this issue.

NEXT GRRWNA MEETING – Very Important!

Tuesday, MAY 16th - 7:00 p.m.

Topics: 1. ***WEST SIDE RECREATION CENTER***
2. ***Possible County Annex on Deepwood Dr***

Jim Nuse, City Manager and Rick Atkins, our parks and recreation director will be here to talk to us about the needs assessment for the new West Side Recreation Center. They will brief us on the process of obtaining the community's input on possible locations, what services will be available, and other issues regarding the center. We will also be discussing the county's desire to locate their annex in our neighborhood as discussed in the announcement above

Please make every effort to attend! And, bring some neighbors



got neighbors? sure you do! grrwna.org

Greater Round Rock West News

Greater Round Rock West Neighborhood Association Newsletter May - 2006 Page 2 of 8

Contents	page
Letter from President	3
Assoc. Board Members	2
GRRWN Assoc. News	3-5
Help Wanted Adds	5
Neighborhood News	6
Round Rock News	6
Thanks to our Sponsors	7
Registration form & New Member Policy	8

Head Lines:

GRRWNA Community Feeds the Homeless ...4

Logo Contest ...4

CONTRIBUTIONS ...4

New Neighborhood Help Wanted Section ...5

July 4th parade ...5

National Night Out ...5

Running Season is Here ...6

TXU ...6

Don't Forget to Vote ...6

Do You have a Computer?

Do you receive e-mails from the GRRWNA?

No? - Would You Like To?

A great FREE way to learn the most up-to-date news possible about our neighborhood is to register with us.

All names and e-mail addresses are for Association use ONLY.

Your privacy will be protected.

Register online at www.GRRWNA.org

Or send in the form on the back of this newsletter

GRRWNA OFFICERS

President

Mike Freeman – mike_freeman@grrwna.org

Vice President

Mike Price – mike_price@grrwna.org

Safety Officer

Joy Fairchild – joyfair@austin.rr.com

Information Officer

Don Harris - don_harris@grrwna.org

Secretaries

JoAnne Blando – joanneblando@sbcglobal.net

Pam Griggs – pgriggs2@austin.rr.com

Treasurer

Don Yenni – DYenniJr@aol.com

At Large Board Members

Chad Chadwell – chad_chadwell@grrwna.org

Michelle Fox – michelle_fox@grrwna.org

Richard King – richard_king@grrwna.org

Web Site Administrator

Becky Truitt –

Newsletter Editor

Relda Comer

got neighbors? sure you do! grrwna.org

Greater Round Rock West News

Greater Round Rock West Neighborhood Association Newsletter May - 2006 Page 3 of 8

Letter From the President

Dear Neighbors,

It has been a wild ride the last couple of months. The ramp closure issue has consumed much of our time and has about run its course. We know that the ramps are closing. Period. We also know that the City of Round Rock is working very hard with TXDoT, Williamson County, and the Federal Government to secure funding for the improvements to I-35 that will minimize the effect the ramp closures will have on us. While it will most likely be a severe inconvenience for us for the next two to three years, I sincerely believe that once all of the roads in the area (SH 45, the O'Connor Extension, and several other projects) are completed, the traffic through our neighborhood will be considerably below the levels we are experiencing now.

Close one door, open another. The next issue on our plate appears to be Williamson County's desire to build an annex on the east side of Deepwood Drive just north of the Kresbach Pool. This annex, along with the usual offices for license renewal, Sheriff and Constable offices, the Commissioner's office, and so-forth, is also slated to include probation offices. For the past couple of weeks, myself and a couple of other members of the association have been investigating this issue to determine whether or not it would be good for the neighborhood. My research has included several meetings, one of which included our information officer, Don Harris, Commissioner Birkman, and an attorney that works with the county on land acquisition issues. During this meeting, we discussed the possibility of keeping the probation offices at their current location on Mays and moving the rest of the annex to the proposed location. The Commissioner indicated that this was not likely but that she would look into the possibility. I indicated at that meeting that the neighborhood might go along with the annex if the probation offices were not included. I have since changed my mind and I have informed the commissioner of this change of position

The GRRWNA Board has voted unanimously to oppose the building of this annex in our neighborhood. On Wednesday, May 3rd, Commissioner Birkman issued a press release announcing a public hearing on the issue the day before our neighborhood meeting. This meeting will take place in the Deep Wood Elementary cafeteria at 7:00 pm on Monday, May 15th. Also on the 3rd, the neighborhood issued it's own position statement opposing the annex. That statement can be viewed at www.grrwna.org. This meeting will be a perfect opportunity for us to show the county how serious we are about this issue. I encourage you to forward a copy of our press release to anyone you feel would have an interest in this issue. This would include the parents of any students from schools that will feed into Chisholm Trail Middle School and Round Rock High School as both of these schools are adjacent to where the proposed annex will be built. This topic will also be the main discussion at our regular neighborhood meeting the next night, Tuesday, May 16th. The Commissioner has been invited to attend our meeting, however; she has informed me that she will not be available that evening. I have given her the opportunity to send representatives to the meeting. PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND BOTH OF THESE MEETINGS.

Now, to the fun stuff. What an exciting time in the life of our association. I believe that we have more people involved now than we have in many, many years. We have a full slate of officers, a 4th of July Parade Committee, a National Night Out Committee, Zone Captains, Block Captains, all kinds of neighbors working to make our association a better one, but..... We can always use more help. In order to recruit volunteers, we need to be able to get the word out quickly when a need arises. Right now we only have e-mail addresses for about 322 out of over 1600 residents. Sometime in the next 30 days, our block captains will be knocking on your door to register you with the association. Please help us. Your information will be kept private. The only purpose of our database is for YOUR association to communicate with you.

With a complete database, a couple of things happen. One, we are able to mobilize quickly if an issue that affects our neighborhood comes up. (ramp closures, probation offices) two, we can distribute our newsletter by e-mail and eliminate the huge cost we have of printing the newsletter. Please help us help you.

Finally, my sincere thanks to all of the neighbors who have stepped up to volunteer. This time last year I was pulling my hair out trying to find help. I know we all lead busy lives but if each resident could step up and do ONE thing each year, WOW, just imagine what our association could accomplish.

Sincerely,



Mike Freeman

got neighbors? sure you do! grrwna.org

Greater Round Rock West News

Greater Round Rock West Neighborhood Association Newsletter May - 2006 Page 4 of 8

GRRWNA News

GRRWNA Community Feeds the Homeless

As the old year drew to a close and the promise of the new year beckoned us, neighbors and friends in the community worked together to provide food, clothes and blankets to those who had no place to call home or community.

Over 60 families worked together and even donated their Christmas money toward this effort. They made sandwiches, purchased cases of water and food bars, made homemade breakfast tacos, donated and organized a room full of food and delivered and visited with the homeless at the ARCH (Austin Resource Center for the Homeless) that serves the central Texas area.

According to Round Rock Police Dept, we do not have a homeless population, so we went where the homeless were. Our children helped assemble bags of toiletries and candy and understood that this was going to go to someone who had nothing. I know, as an adult, I forget that for many people, homelessness is their life and that small things like having clean sox, a disposable razor or even a toothbrush and toothpaste is a luxury! How fortunate we are!

So, on New Year's Day 2006, early in the morning, there was a great caravan from Round Rock to the ARCH to distribute blankets, clothes, gloves, sox, toiletries, food, hot breakfast tacos, bottled water, sandwiches, snacks, and fresh fruit. That morning, our spirit and concern united our community with the homeless community.

There were over 100 men, women and even a mom with a baby that stood in line, politely thanked us and then were caught unawares when we stayed to visit with them! We brought our gifts humbly and treated them with respect and dignity. We were told later, that usually they ran out of food and blankets before they ran out of people in need - and there were blankets and food left over this time - (we also have 100 more blankets for them!). The gifts of time and treasure from our community was an inspiring way to start the New Year.

It truly was a gift - to us, to meet neighbors, make new friends and talk about doing this on a routine basis. It wasn't hard to do - it just took people who cared and the community of Round Rock cares! Thank you!
Respectfully submitted...Linda S.

GRRWNA needs a logo!

Entries will be accepted until June 1
Winners will be announced by June 15th and will receive a prize

So.... All you artists and graphic designers-in-hiding, get started and help us come up with an identifying logo that identifies our neighborhood as the greatest around. This logo will go on our website, newsletters, letterhead, and any other correspondence developed by the association.

send entries and any questions you might have to

CONTRIBUTIONS



If you have not made a 2006 contribution to the association, please consider doing so at this time. We have a couple of large events coming up (4th of July Parade, National Night Out) and we need your financial help to fund these projects and the other activities of the association. You can contribute by sending a check to GRRWNA - P.O. Box 1928 - Round Rock, TX 78681 or you can contribute with a credit or debit card at

<http://www.grrwna.org/financial.html>

got neighbors? sure you do! grrwna.org

Greater Round Rock West News

Greater Round Rock West Neighborhood Association Newsletter May - 2006 Page 5 of 8

New Neighborhood Help Wanted Section

GRRWNA has started a new program. We will be running a weekly "Help Wanted" e-mail for business owners living in the neighborhood or neighborhood businesses. The initial guidelines are: The add will run for 2 weeks and will be clearly marked "GRRWNA Help Wanted Classified" so that you may delete it easily if you are not interested. We are asking for a \$50 donation for a business with a retail location and a \$20 donation for a home-based business. The best way to do this is online at

<http://www.grrwna.org/advertising.html> Please contact Mike for further information 310-9229

mike_freeman@grrwna.org



July 4th parade

Machelle Henderson is our Chairman this year!

Here are some of the great things she has planned:

- Tons of participants (if you are interested in being in the parade, contact Machelle)
- New route
- Pancake breakfast
- Contests such as: Best Decorated Bicycle (for kids) **Best Decorated Lawn Mower (all ages) - riding, push, vintage etc. **Best Decorated Vintage Automobile **Best Decorated Cat or Dog
- Gather at 8:30, parade to start about 9:00
- Much more.....

The next meeting will be June 7th Contact Machelle for more information - Machelle@MachelleHenderson.com

HELP WANTED

Office Help and Installers needed
Applications are being accepted at:

Anchor-Ventana
1609 Chisholm Trail
Round Rock, TX 78681

Must be able to pass a drug test.
Background Check Required

Roof estimators & roof repairmen
needed Must have experience
in all types of residential roofing.

Patio Installer Must have experience in
aluminum insulated and pan covers. Also
must have experience in installing
aluminum shade arbors.

Gutter Installers Must have experience
in all types of gutter installation.

Applications are being accepted at:

The Freeman Company
3103 N. IH 35
Round Rock 78664 255-1295
(Behind Interstate Lanes Bowling Center)

Must pass a drug test and
background check.

WARNING: if this works and we
want to expand, it is going to take a
couple of volunteers to administer
the program because Mike already
has a full plate dealing with the rest
of the GRRWNA issues.



Help wanted

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 1st. Last year's event was very successful and we have even bigger plans for this year's night out. We already have several volunteers but to plan such an awesome event we need lots of people! Please contact Mike at 310-9229, 736-8075, or mike_freeman@grrwna.org.

got neighbors? sure you do! grrwna.org

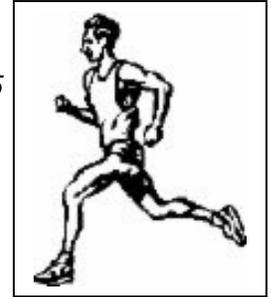
Greater Round Rock West News

Greater Round Rock West Neighborhood Association Newsletter May - 2006 Page 6 of 8

Neighborhood News

Running Season is Here

As one of the long time runners in the neighborhood, logging ~25,000 miles in the last 25 years, I have seen a lot of things change over time. First, a big "thank you" to the courteous car drivers and the dog owners who keep their pets off of the street. This is really a great neighborhood for running! However, I have recently noticed some drivers becoming more aggressive toward runners. Please be aware that most of us run on the street instead of the sidewalk for two reasons:



- 1) the asphalt is much more forgiving on your leg joints
- 2) the sidewalks present a very uneven surface with all of the driveways cutting across them.

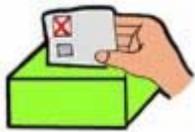
It is the runner's responsibility to stay out of the way of cars, but please don't yell at us to use the %\$#& sidewalk, as has happened to me a few times recently. At stop signs, drivers used to always yield to us, but now there is an increasing trend for them to blast on through. Once again, it is the runner's responsibility to keep from getting hit, but please be watchful and yield to us, as you should to any pedestrian. There is room for both of us on the road, let's just be courteous and respectful of each other.



TXU has put a temporary hold on replacing our transformers. They should resume work in the fall.

Round Rock News

Don't Forget to Vote!



This Sat, May 13

School Board Elections



Possible Sale of McNeil Park - proceeds for Old Settlers

For more information go to

<http://www.roundrockisd.org/home/index.asp?page=1747>

<http://www.ci.round-rock.tx.us/>

got neighbors? sure you do! grrwna.org

Greater Round Rock West News

Greater Round Rock West Neighborhood Association Newsletter May - 2006 Page 7 of 8

When you support the following businesses, please find a manager and let them know you appreciate their support of our association

Special Thanks
to



FM 620 & IH 35
Round Rock
255-6600

for their contributions
to our association

Special Thanks
To

Office DEPOT
Taking Care of Business

La Frontera
600-0053

For
Discounted Printing
of our Newsletter

Thanks to the following businesses
for their support of our association

Hoody's Sub Shop

1206 Round Rock Ave - 244-7166

Gino's Pizzeria

1701 S. Mays - 218-9922

Pflugerville Dairy Queen

1701 F.M. 1825 - Pflugerville

Thanks To
**Round Rock
Albertson's**

For their contribution
of gift cards as prizes for
our Christmas
Decorating
Contest

got neighbors? sure you do! grrwna.org

Greater Round Rock West News

Greater Round Rock West Neighborhood Association Newsletter May - 2006 Page 8 of 8

Registration Form for the Greater Round Rock Neighborhood Association

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

e-mail: _____ e-mail: _____

Address: _____ Round Rock, TX 78681

Home Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

I am available to contribute in the following areas:

serving on the board assist in newsletter prep help distribute flyers / newsletters

being a block captain assist w/ membership drive serving on planning team/committee

Nominating committee July 4th Parade committee National Night Out committee

judging contests assist with the web site assist with one time projects

I have experience that I feel would be valuable in the following areas:

.....

The Greater Round Rock West Neighborhood Association has adopted a new membership policy. Everyone living in the boundaries of the association is automatically a member. No longer are dues REQUIRED.

That being said, the association still needs funds to operate and we are asking for a voluntary contribution from each household. These contributions fund the various activities of the neighborhood such as printing the news letter, the July 4th parade, National Night Out activities, and many other issues that come up during the year. The suggested contribution is \$25 per household. If you are unable to contribute that much or you feel the amount is to high, please at least contribute something. If you feel compelled to contribute more, please do. Keep in mind that most homeowner associations have mandatory dues of \$350 or more each year.

Due to our new membership restructuring, we ask that you send in your contribution for 2006 as soon as possible so that we may finalize our new budget for 2006. If you paid dues in October, November, or December of 2005 it is not necessary to contribute again now unless you wish to do so. We are very excited about the change and we look forward to serving all of Greater Round Rock West!

Contributions can be made by either mailing a check to GRRWNA, P.O. Box 1928, Round Rock, TX 78680 or you can contribute by credit or debit card at: <http://www.grrwna.org/financial.html> *Please include this form if you mail your contribution* If you would like to make an additional contribution, you may do so on our website at www.grrwna.org . This contribution is NOT tax deductible.

For more information, e-mail: info@grrwna.org

got neighbors? sure you do! grrwna.org