



## What's News



**The Greater Austin Chamber and IBM** launched the Austin Innovators and Entrepreneurs Series in November to encourage collaboration among Austin's regional entrepreneurial community. | 16

**Northwest Austin retailer Wonko's Toys & Games**, which sells collectible toys and a selection of strategic board, role playing, card and miniature war games, relocated to a larger space in early November. | 5

## What's Inside



**The 2010 Holiday Retail Guide** is a list of locally owned retailers for the holiday gift-giving season. | 19

**The 2011 Healthcare Directory** inside this issue shares local resources and healthcare news.



## What's Online

www.impactnews.com



**Mayor Lee Leffingwell** has revealed plans to spur economic and job growth within Austin as part of his new Economic Development Plan. Leffingwell is expected to implement the plan throughout the community in early December.  
more.impactnews.com/10678

**The Harmony School of Political Science** is expected to break ground before the end of the year in Northwest Austin.  
more.impactnews.com/10374

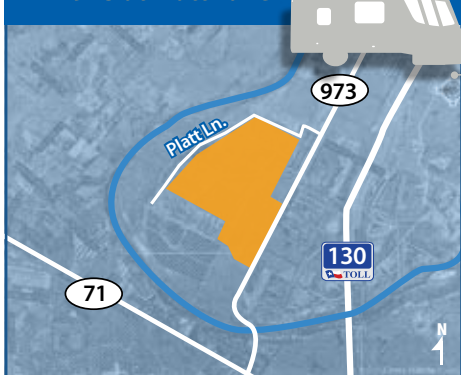
# Nonprofit proposes RV park for the homeless in Northwest Austin

The City of Austin has proposed two pieces of property for the Mobile Loaves & Fishes Community First! Village. City staff is gathering community feedback on the two sites before presenting them to City Council for approval.

### 10414 McKalla Place



### FM 973 at Platt Lane



Source: City of Austin

## Story Highlights

- Mobile Loaves & Fishes RV park could be at Burnet Road and Braker Lane
- Village would provide homes to help approximately 150–175 chronically homeless people

By Beth Wade

The City of Austin and nonprofit Mobile Loaves & Fishes have partnered to create an RV park that would provide a home for chronically homeless individuals.

The city and MLF recently proposed two possible sites for the project: one in Northwest Austin near the corner of Braker Lane and Burnet Road at 10414 McKalla Place and the other located near Austin-Bergstrom International Airport on FM 973 and Platt Lane.

"We have proposed to the city for a number of years, 'City, if you will provide us with a tract of land, anywhere in the city—we don't care where it is—we have two requirements for that tract,' MLF President Alan Graham said. "We need the entitlements—the zoning, utilities, etc.—to do what we're proposing, and secondly, we need a transportation link or the ability to solve the transportation link."

The announcement of the Northwest Austin site drew mixed reviews from neighbors. Most who opposed the Northwest Austin location cited the possibility of diminished home values, increased crime and decreased urban renewal in the area.

"If the organization is really interested in our community, let's get them when they're young [before they become homeless]," said Ashlee Parker, a Windsor Park resident. "We only have one library and one park in our

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## Major retailers pause developments in The Domain

Select projects move forward even through weak economy

By Joseph M. de Leon

For years, the buzz surrounding retail developments in Northwest Austin held that national upscale retailers Saks Fifth Avenue and Nordstrom would move into The Domain. While these projects are on hold, other Domain projects, including Whole Foods Market, a 9-acre park, a Fiat dealership and many smaller retailers, continue to progress despite difficult market conditions.

Chad Marsh, managing principal for Endeavor Real Estate Group, said Nordstrom and Saks Fifth Avenue representatives had agreed in 2006 to open stores at The Domain under Endeavor management. When the economy dipped, all parties jointly decided to put the agreement on hold pending a stronger marketplace.

"I don't see that developing in the foreseeable future—we've pressed the pause button on that



Whole Foods Market is expected to open for business in spring 2013. The project will be smaller than originally planned and will break ground late next year.

but have not pressed play again yet," Marsh said. "We stay in touch with them and hope to eventually bring them to The Domain, but at this time, there are no

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## Springwoods MUD annexation effective Dec. 31

By Beth Wade

The City of Austin's annexation of the Springwoods Municipal Utility District and some surrounding areas will be completed Dec. 31, and about 824 acres, once located within the city's extrajurisdiction, will become part of the city and begin paying city property taxes.

The annexation will end a three-year process and complete an agreement between the city and the MUD, which is a political subdivision authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to provide water, sewage, drainage and other services, and set a tax to provide facilities and services.

The Springwoods MUD, formed in 1979, is located east of US 183 between Pond Springs Road and Parmer Lane in Williamson County, with land north and south of Anderson Mill Road totaling 468 acres. The annexation will also include approximately 356 acres of non-MUD area to fill the holes within Springwoods MUD and make a continuous city boundary, City Planner Virginia Collier said.

"Having one continuous boundary makes it easier for providing public safety," Collier said, adding that it helps because there is no question of who is in the county and who is in the city in neighborhood pockets.

Residents of the Springwoods area already receive water and electricity from the city, but their police, fire, road maintenance and solid waste services were provided by the county or emergency services district and private providers. After annexation, the city would provide all services.

The MUD could hold an election in May to continue on as a limited district that would maintain the park and swimming pool, provide solid waste services and enforce deed restrictions. The

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## General Manager's Note

An abundance of food, family and time off from work are just a few things we have to be thankful for during this time of year.

While Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays, there is a part of it I never quite embraced like the rest of society—Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, when our favorite retailers open at crazy early hours to offer discounts and specials galore.

My disconnect does not stem from the specials offered or even shopping, but something about getting up before sunrise to fight gridlock crowds is where I get a bit lost. I am sure my friends, and even relatives, will be rubbing shoulders with some of you this coming Friday. In fact, my wife's cousin already has an active game plan for the entire day.

While Northwest Austin is full of great

shopping, there is one thing I would ask you to try and remember before you head out: Keep some local. Check out the study in our feedback section below if you need any idea why. I am not advocating for people to bypass the big box chain stores altogether, I have my favorites like every-one else, but just imagine if we all redirected some spending here locally what an impact that would have. We all cherish those mom and pop shops that make our city unique, so let's be sure to help them out when we can.

See our 2010 Holiday Retail Guide on Page 23 if you need any help getting started.

Travis Baker  
tbaker@impactnews.com

## Reader Feedback

**Of every \$100 spent at a locally owned business \$45 stays local versus \$14 of \$100 spent at a national chain store. Do you plan to shop locally this season?**

*Yes. I like to support the local economy by shopping at local businesses.*

**54%**

*No. Local businesses are too expensive. I prefer to shop at the national chain stores*

**6%**

*Yes. I like to shop at local businesses because there are more eclectic choices for gifts*

**11%**

*Maybe. I can't find all of the things I need at local businesses, but I may buy some things locally.*

**26%**

*No. I want to be able to buy most of my gifts in one place. I don't want to run around to lots of different stores*

**3%**

Results from an unscientific web survey, collected 10/27/2010–11/10/2010  
See more poll results at [impactnews.com/polls](http://impactnews.com/polls)

## impactnews.com



### Local jobs

Post your résumé and search for local jobs at [impactnews.jobing.com](http://impactnews.jobing.com).

### September employment trends

Central Texas unemployment—**6.8%**

Down from 7.2% in August

State unemployment—**7.9%**

Down from 8.4% in August

National unemployment—**9.2%**

Down from 9.6% in August

Government added 2,700 jobs since August. The education, health, leisure and hospitality sectors added 1,400 jobs.

Source: Charla Lovelace, Jobing.com



### Online-exclusive content

Visit the Northwest Austin home page for up-to-date community news, information and a full calendar of local events. Find us online at [impactnews.com/northwest-austin](http://impactnews.com/northwest-austin).



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## In This Issue



"It's a hand-up model to give them an opportunity to heal and rediscover their purpose in life. The goal is to get them up off the streets and integrate them back into the community so they have a purpose-filled life."

—Alan Graham

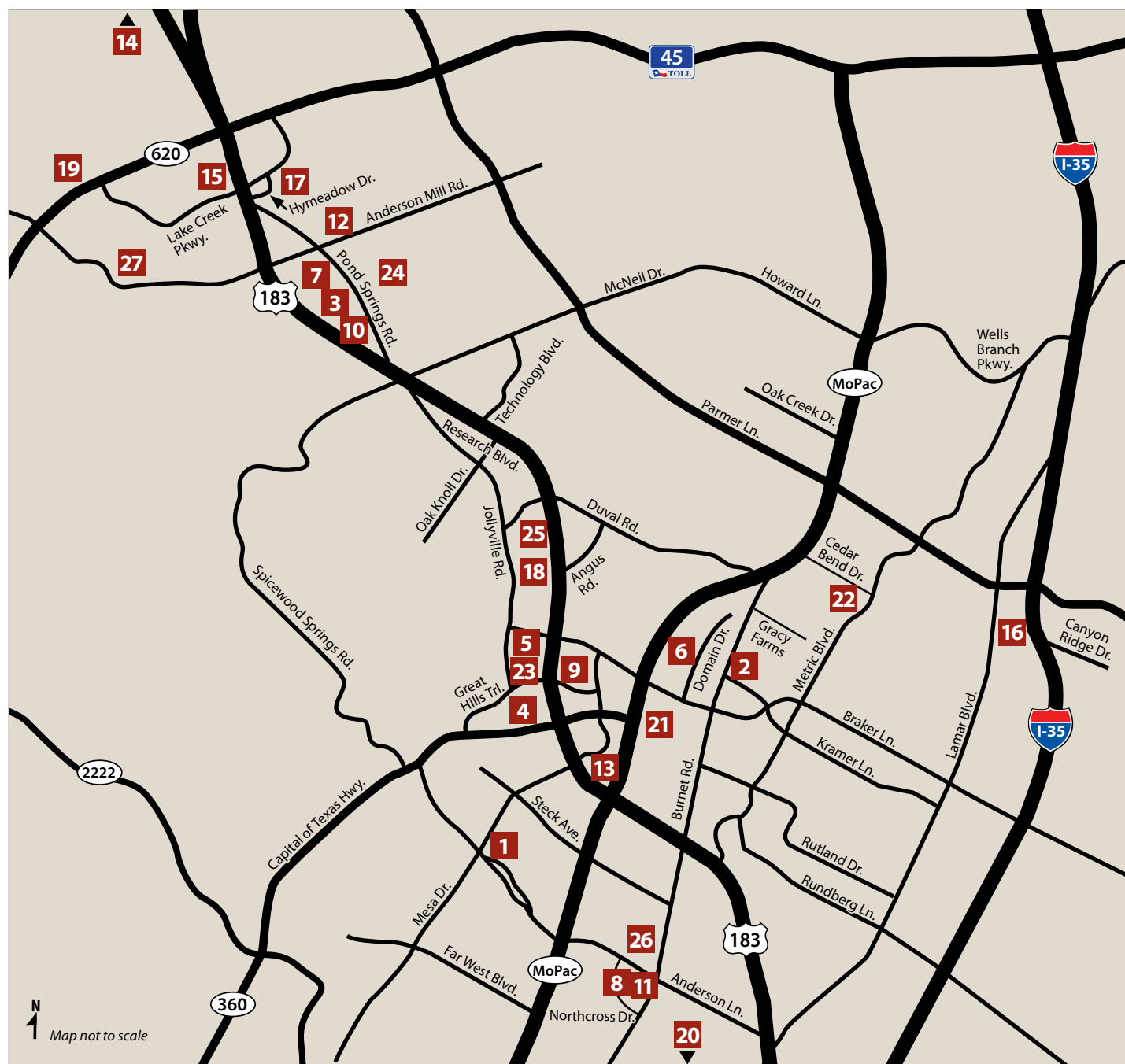
Mobile Loaves & Fishes president on the Community First! program that provides a chronically homeless individual with a used RV to call home



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# Community **Impacts** | Northwest Austin



## Now Open

**1** **Anabelle's Casual Dining**, 8105 Mesa Drive, Ste. A, opened in September to offer healthy comfort food. Owner Kim Martens emphasizes fresh ingredients and serves breakfast, lunch and dinner all day. Open Mon.–Sat. 7 a.m.–9 p.m. Call 795-2062.

**2** Owner Robert Yamaguchi opened **Bamboo Bistro**, 11101 Burnet Road, Ste. A-100, Oct. 18, offering a mixture of Chinese and Thai cuisine in a casual setting. The restaurant features dine-in seating, as well as a drive-thru and delivery within three miles. Call 821-0022 or visit [www.bamboobistoroonline.com](http://www.bamboobistoroonline.com).

**3** Michelle Cusimano opened **Bentley's Biscuits and Bones**, 13359 US 183 N., Ste. 405, in August. Named for Cusimano's 8-year-old yellow Lab, the dog bakery and retail store sells homemade dog treats, including cakes, high quality food and pet-related items. Open Wed.–Fri. 10 a.m.–6 p.m. and Sat.–Sun. 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

Call 918-3900 or visit [www.bentleysaustin.com](http://www.bentleysaustin.com)

**4** **Blue Ribbon Restaurant** opened in the Renaissance Austin Hotel, 9721 Arboretum Blvd., Oct. 26. The restaurant serves home cooked–style dishes and cocktails and can seat 100 people inside and 20 guests outside on a patio that overlooks The Arboretum. Open daily 2 p.m.–1 a.m. Call 343-2626 or visit [www.renaissanceaustin.com](http://www.renaissanceaustin.com).

**5** California-based Smile Brands Inc. opened its third Austin area location of **Castle Dental**, 10710 Research Blvd., Oct. 17. The office offers general dentistry, oral surgery, pediatric dentistry and orthodontics. Castle Dental accepts many insurance plans and has a discount program for people without insurance. Open Mon.–Fri. 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Call 568-3560 or visit [www.castledental.com](http://www.castledental.com).

**6** Bryan Hantes and Patrick Taylor opened convenience store **The Corner Market**, 11010 Domain Drive, Ste. 112, in

The Domain Sept. 10. The store sells a wide selection of wine and beer, soft drinks, frozen foods, groceries, produce, toiletries, household cleaning supplies, and a selection of prepared foods from Tacodeli and The Green Cart. Wine tastings are available on weekends. Open daily 7 a.m.–11 p.m. Call 382-5304 or visit [www.thecornermarketaustin.com](http://www.thecornermarketaustin.com).

**7** Luis Delgado opened an office for information technology consulting firm **The Critical Update Inc.** in September at 13284 Pond Springs Road, Ste. 301. The business, founded in Delgado's home in 2003, provides computer maintenance and technical support to individuals, small businesses, medical and legal offices, community groups and nonprofit organizations. Open Mon.–Fri. 8 a.m.–6 p.m. and available by appointment. Call 336-2970 or visit [www.thecriticalupdate.com](http://www.thecriticalupdate.com).

**8** Rhonda Nunez and Katrina Samela opened the second location of **Paradise Cosmetic Med Spa** in November. The office in the Gallery of Salons,

2525 W. Anderson Lane, Ste. B-14, uses laser therapy for hair removal, noninvasive fat reduction, body contouring, skin tightening, tattoo removal and spider vein removal. Open Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–7 p.m. and Sat.–Sun. by appointment. Call 757-9300 or visit [www.paradisecosmeticmedspa.com](http://www.paradisecosmeticmedspa.com).

**9** Bill Bong, Clint Harris and Todd Hendren opened the second location of **Promise Pizza**, 10225 Research Blvd., Ste. 110, Oct. 23. The chain offers carry out and delivery only of pizza, calzones, wings and salads. Open Sun.–Thu. 11 a.m.–9 p.m. and Fri.–Sat. 11 a.m.–10 p.m. Call 345-7492 or visit [www.promisepizza.com](http://www.promisepizza.com).

**10** Michael Hembree opened **Shawn Michael Salon**, 12845 N. Research Blvd., in November. The shop provides hair styling, coloring, manicures, pedicures and waxing services. Clients can book a private space for bridal parties. Open Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–7 p.m. and Sun. 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Call 219-9833 or visit [www.shawnmichaelsalon.com](http://www.shawnmichaelsalon.com).

**11** **Walmart**, 2525 W. Anderson Lane, held a grand opening Oct. 27 for its Northcross location. Construction on the 98,000-square-foot retail center was completed in September. The store includes a grocery section, garden center, 1-hour photo lab and a tire and lube service center. Open daily 5 a.m.–1 a.m. Call 354-3702 or visit [www.walmart.com](http://www.walmart.com).

**12** Phillip Viccinelli opened the second location of **Washatopia**, 9030 Anderson Mill Road, Nov. 15. The 3,800-square-foot self-serve laundry offers a fully attended upscale space with 84 eco-friendly washers and dryers that use coinless debit cards. Free gourmet coffee, a spacious seating area, free Wi-Fi, a children's play corner and a wash and fold service are available. Open daily 7:30 a.m.–9 p.m. Call 963-2065 or visit [www.washatopia.com](http://www.washatopia.com).

A new office of Bethesda, Md.–based **Interface Financial Group** opened in August. Becky Spohn provides short-term working capital to small businesses from her Northwest Austin home office. Available by appointment. Call 814-0196 or visit [www.interfacefinancial.com/spohn](http://www.interfacefinancial.com/spohn).

Nonprofit **Serve512** launched Oct. 1 and provides assistance to Austin-area service industry employees by offering discounts to lower the cost of living in Austin. By paying an annual fee of \$120, participants receive discounts on medical insurance, gym memberships and alternative health care providers, as well as discounts at other participating Austin restaurants and bars. Call 514-6144 or visit [www.serve512.org](http://www.serve512.org).



## Relocations

**13 Bed Bath & Beyond** moved from the Great Hills Station shopping center to 9333 Research Blvd., Ste. A-4, Oct. 27. The location offers shoppers two new departments: fine china and Harmon health and beauty products. Open Mon.–Sat. 9 a.m.–9:30 p.m. and Sun. 10 a.m.–7 p.m. Call 418-8232 or visit [www.bedbathandbeyond.com](http://www.bedbathandbeyond.com).

**14 Kids Wheels** moved from 12308 RM 620 N., Ste. B, in Austin to 519 N. Bell Blvd. in Cedar Park in September. Kids Wheels sells electric riding toys for children, including motorcycles and Jeeps. The store also carries battery packs, chargers, electric car parts, play tents and gas-powered scooters and skateboards. Open Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Call 257-2399 or visit [www.kidswheels.com](http://www.kidswheels.com).

**15 Eric Dow** moved **Wonko's Toys & Games** to a larger location, 13776 US 183, Ste. 116, in early November. The 5-year-old shop sells collectible toys and a wide selection of games, including strategic board games, role-playing games, card games and miniatures war games. Dow provides space for tournaments for games, including Dungeons & Dragons, Warhammer and Yu-gi-oh! Open Tue.–Sat. 11:30 a.m.–7 p.m. and Sun. noon–7 p.m. with extended hours for game play. Call 335-1000 or visit [www.wonkos.com](http://www.wonkos.com).

## Under Construction

**16 The Boy Scouts of America Capitol Area Council** began construction of the Frank Fickett Scout Training and Education Center, 12500 N. I-35, in June. The education center will include office space, room for meetings and a retail Boy Scout shop. The building will serve as the regional volunteer training hub for a 15-county area surrounding Austin. Construction is expected to be complete by June. Call 926-6363.

**17** Model homes for the developing **Lake Creek Park neighborhood**, located south of Lake Creek Parkway and Hymeadow Drive, will be ready in November, and the first houses are expected to be ready for move-in before the end of the year. The approximately 90-home project started in March and features houses built by Scott Felder Homes and David Weekley Homes. The one- and two-story houses will start at \$220,000 and range in size from 1,600 square feet to 3,000 square feet. Call Scott Felder Homes at 418-5420 or David Weekley Homes at 821-8888.

## In The News

**18** The **Ninth Annual Texas Classic Car Show**, held in October, raised more than \$30,000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Central and South Texas. The event, held at Rudy's County Store and Bar-B-Q at 11570 Research Blvd., featured approximately 250 classic cars and was free and open to the public. All money received from registrations, raffle ticket sales, the silent auction, t-shirt sales and donations were included in the funds raised. Visit [www.cstx.wish.org](http://www.cstx.wish.org).

**19 Hill Country Christian School of Austin** staff and students honored Headmaster Bill McGee Oct. 26, for receiving the 2010 Paideia Inc. Award for Leadership. The award is given to one U.S. headmaster who demonstrates outstanding school leadership. McGee has served as headmaster of the school, located at 12124 RM 620 N., since 2008. The school serves nearly 500 pre-kindergarten through 12th grade students. For details, visit [www.hccsa.org](http://www.hccsa.org).

**20** The **For the City Center** held a ribbon cutting Oct. 5 to celebrate the launch of a nonprofit hub located at 500 E. St. Johns Ave. The center is a collective of nonprofit offices, including Austin LifeGuard, Capital Area Food Bank, Caring Family Network, Communities In Schools' "ASPIRE" and The For The City Network.

The center includes space on its unfinished second floor for up to 10 more nonprofits. Call 961-5587 or visit [www.forthecity.org](http://www.forthecity.org).

**21 Mighty Fine Burgers, Fries and Shakes**, 10515 N. MoPac, Ste. 205, installed EyeClick interactive displays in October in its dining area to share restaurant news while entertaining patrons. The display shows the chain's community-related efforts, recycling campaign and status of fundraising efforts benefiting Austin Habitat for Humanity. London-based EyeClick specializes in developing interactive digital content in public spaces. For details, call 524-2400 or visit [www.mightyfineburgers.com](http://www.mightyfineburgers.com).

## Anniversary

**22 Pizza Paradise**, 1921 Cedar Bend, celebrated one year in business in November. Call 833-5656 or visit [www.pizzaparadise.com](http://www.pizzaparadise.com).

## Closing the Doors

**23 360 Primo Coffee Shop**, 9828 Great Hills Trail, closed in October.

**24 Baby Jungle**, 13233 Pond Springs Road, Ste. 307, closed Oct. 15, after a change in ownership in August.

**25 Joe's Crab Shack**, 11680 Research Blvd. Ste. A, closed in October. The chain's downtown Austin and Round Rock locations will remain open.

**26 Shoe Boxes**, formerly located at 2438 W. Anderson Lane, Ste. B2, is no longer in operation, as of October.

**27 Sprinkles Frozen Yogurt**, 10700 Anderson Mill Road, closed in October.

News or questions about Northwest Austin?  
E-mail [wnanews@impactnews.com](mailto:wnanews@impactnews.com).



**2** Bamboo Bistro opened in the Austin Commons shopping center in October, offering Thai and Chinese cuisine in a casual dining atmosphere.



**3** Michelle Cusimano sells homemade dog treats and bakes cakes for canines at Bentley's Biscuits and Bones.



**6** Bryan Hantes opened The Corner Market at The Domain with partner Patrick Taylor to offer residents and shoppers a convenient place to buy necessities, wine and craft beers.



**15** Owner Eric Dow, relocated Wonko's Toys & Games to a larger location in early November to expand tournament offerings and offer customers more space to play games.

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Business Profile | LiteFoot Bikes



David Dennis sits on his Longhorn-themed gasoline-powered bicycle, which is modified to reach speeds of more than 40 mph. LiteFoot Bikes sells and services motorized and electric bicycles.

By Joseph M. de Leon

When a friend asked for help with a bicycle project in 2007, David Dennis ordered a gasoline engine conversion kit to fit the bike. A motorized bicycle called a Schwinn Whizzer, popular in the 1950s, inspired the work.

As the slumping economy made working in the bank industry unappealing, Dennis decided to stop tinkering and start selling the road cruisers instead.

"I've always loved screwing

around with things," Dennis said.

"I like to take things apart, but putting them back together is sometimes something else."

It took more than a week of constant tinkering to get the machine to work reliably.

"When you put together something for the first time and you don't have an example, it's like putting a puzzle together with no picture to refer to," Dennis said.

Once his first bike was roadworthy, he realized he was sitting on a



A standard gas-powered bicycle sells for about \$700, can travel more than 50 miles on one tank of gas and has a max speed of about 30 mph.



Many bike owners personalize their rides with custom handlebars, engine upgrades, stickers, custom rims and saddlebags.



Electric bicycles cost about \$1,250, max out at about 20 mph and travel about 30 miles on a single charge. Pedaling can push the range to 50 miles.

potential business opportunity. "Everywhere I went, people stopped me on the street and asked where they could get one," he said.

Dennis founded LiteFoot Bikes in South Austin in 2008. The name refers to the pedal assistance riders receive from electric motors or gas engines mounted on the bicycle. He moved the shop to Northwest Austin in May 2009 for better real estate.

A base model for a gas-powered bicycle costs about \$700 and can cruise at about 30 mph. LiteFoot is the only Austin company that custom builds motorized bikes.

"We really custom-build bikes that are tailored to our customers," Dennis said. "We can keep

it stock or deck it out with all the bells and whistles, and a lot of customers really like making it their own."

LiteFoot also offers electric bicycles for those who prefer a quieter, greener ride. Electric bicycles cost about \$1,250, can travel up to 50 miles on an eight-hour charge and need little upkeep.

On average, the store sells about 18 bikes per month with the record being 32 in August 2009.

LiteFoot Bikes' sales are poised to improve since the company was recently awarded a contract with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service to be the exclusive provider of motorized and electric bicycles to the on-base shopping center at Fort Hood.

Dennis and his employees are building 25 bicycles to be delivered to the base in November.

"We're finally getting some traction," Dennis said. "So far it's been credit cards and nail biting, but I think people are finally seeing that these bikes are really cool and useful."



**LiteFoot Bikes**  
13686 Research Blvd., Ste. 104  
351-3555 • [www.litefootbikes.com](http://www.litefootbikes.com)

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## Business Profile | Gallery of Pets



Gallery of Pets owners Joe and Glenda (pictured) Bone's blue and yellow macaw, Bailey, converses with patrons in the store. His vocabulary includes 40 to 50 words.

By Beth Wade

At the age of 17, Glenda Bone's love of pets led her to purchase her first pet store, The Blue Reef, in Grand Prairie, Texas. She later sold that store and moved on to other ventures, but the desire to own another store was always in the back of her mind.

"My parents used to call me Elly May from 'The Beverly Hillbillies,'" Glenda said. "She would drag home every animal around, and my parents would call me Elly May because I would be bringing home everything from puppies to kittens to baby birds. It didn't matter; I would drag it home."

Glenda and her husband, Joe, decided to purchase Gallery of Pets in 2006 after the original owners, Marge and Bob Bowen, decided to sell the store after almost 30 years in business. Glenda had previous pet shop owner experience, and Joe had sold pet supplies as a wholesaler to pet stores.

The couple, who also own an aquarium maintenance and cleaning business, had visited the shop to purchase supplies and heard about the Bowens' plans to sell the store.

"It's an awful lot of work, but it is rewarding," Glenda said. "We get to meet a lot of people that are animal people, and usually animal people are pretty good people. They're usually compassionate."

The store features a large selection of bird supplies including cages, seed and a large selection of toys and accessories, as well as the birds themselves. In July the couple added approximately 1,000 square feet to the store to expand the bird supply selection.

"We have mostly birds. We get hand-fed birds that are raised in Texas," Joe said. "We get them when they are very young and we hand feed them. That way, they will bond with people, they are much easier to handle, and they are less likely to bite."

All of the birds go through a process of socialization and isolation before sent

home with their new owners. Joe and Glenda put the bird in a cage with another bird and then in a cage alone. If the bird does not lose weight and continues to eat on its own, it can be taken home.

"Once they can maintain their weight, we know they are going to be all right in a cage," Joe said. "If you just take a bird and pull him out of a group and send it home, sometimes it will starve to death."

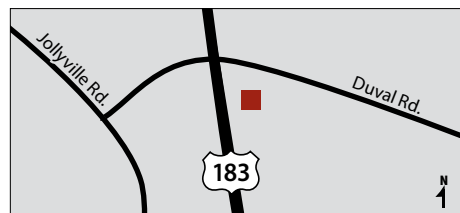
Along with having a large selection of birds and bird products, the store's big seller is dog and cat food. Most of the food selections are gluten-, corn- and soy-free, Joe said, because it is common for dogs and cats to have food allergies to those products.

"Very few of our foods will have those in it, but we prefer to sell grain-free foods to keep the allergies down," Joe said. "If a dog is scratching, and he doesn't have fleas, that could be the cause."

The store also has a variety of freshwater and saltwater fish and fish supplies, and the couple are in the process of renovating the saltwater fish area to replace the older aquariums and update the space.

Aside from owning Gallery of Pets, Joe and Glenda Bone operate three other businesses:

- **Aquarium Beautiful:** Aquarium maintenance and cleaning service, which serves the Austin area
- **Natural Selection Enterprise:** Books about gemstones and fossils sold at gem shows
- **Bird Dog & Cat Fish:** An online pet supply store at [www.birddogandcatfish.net](http://www.birddogandcatfish.net)



**Gallery of Pets**  
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345-8920 • [www.galleryofpets.com](http://www.galleryofpets.com)

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Community Events

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November

25 20th Annual ThunderCloud Subs Turkey Trot

The turkey trot benefits Caritas of Austin and includes a five-mile run and one-mile walk. Food, entertainment and vendors will also be provided. 9:30 a.m. • \$18-\$21 • Race begins at The Long Center, 701 W. Riverside Drive • [www.thundercloud.com](http://www.thundercloud.com)

26-27 Rachel Feinstein comedy show

Rachel Feinstein from NBC's "Last Comic Standing" and "The Onion" contributor performs her comedy act. • 10:30 p.m. Fri., 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Sat. \$15 • Capitol City Comedy Club, 8120 Research Blvd. 467-2333 • [www.capcitycomedy.com](http://www.capcitycomedy.com)

28 The Perfect Cookie Exchange

Williams-Sonoma staff members teach participants how to host the perfect cookie exchange and share cookie recipes. • 11 a.m.-noon • Free • Williams-Sonoma, 9722 Great Hills Trail, Ste. 150 • 338-4080 [www.williams-sonoma.com](http://www.williams-sonoma.com)

30 Madden NFL 11 Tournament

Xbox 360 players ages 12 and older are invited to participate in this one-day competition; registration is available day of event. • 6:30 p.m. • Free • Austin Public Library Milwood Branch, 12500 Amherst Drive 974-9880 • [www.ci.austin.tx.us/library](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/library)

December

1 Journey to Bethlehem

Children and adults can experience life during biblical times, including shopkeepers making crafts, a farmers market, folk dancers and a stable with animals to pet. • 6-7:30 p.m. • Free • Covenant Presbyterian Church, 3003 Northland Drive, Eaton Hall • 334-3042 • [www.covenant.org](http://www.covenant.org)

Spicewood Springs Branch Mystery Book Club

The group, which meets the first Wednesday of the month, will determine the "Best Mystery of 2010" book list. • 7-8:30 p.m. • Free • Austin Public Library Spicewood Springs Branch, 8637 Spicewood Springs Road • 974-3800 [www.ci.austin.tx.us/library](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/library)

2 Conversations With Speaker Series: "Austin's Healthcare Issues"

Charles Barnett and Norm Chenven discuss various factors that influence health care in the Greater Austin area. • 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. • Free

Concordia University Texas, 11400 Concordia University Drive, Bldg. A auditorium • 313-5302 [www.concordia.edu](http://www.concordia.edu)

Glenn Beck Live: Broke

Commentator Glenn Beck discusses via satellite how the American economy has crumbled and how it can be fixed. • 7 p.m. • \$20 • Regal Arbor Cinema, 9828 Great Hills Trail • 326-3264 [www.glennbeck.com](http://www.glennbeck.com)

4 Asian Holiday Bazaar

Enjoy holiday teatime, snacks, Asian artwork and crafts. • 10 a.m.-3 p.m. • Free • Asian American Cultural Center, 11713 Jollyville Road • 336-5069 [www.asianamericanccc.com](http://www.asianamericanccc.com)

Austin Sports Expo

Participants can learn about pursuing an active lifestyle, discover ways to keep health costs down and pick up a group or individual sport. The expo includes more than 30 exhibitors including vendors, workshops, door prizes, information booths and refreshments for adults and children. • 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free • Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Road • 796-7651 • [www.austinsportsexpo.com](http://www.austinsportsexpo.com)

Holiday Craft Fair

The event will have more than 50 booths offering homemade crafts, refreshments and vendors. Participants can have breakfast and a photo with Santa and McNeil High School choir will perform. Proceeds benefit McNeil Project Graduation. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. • Free • McNeil High School, 5720 McNeil Drive • 657-6225 [www.mcneilpg2011.wordpress.com](http://www.mcneilpg2011.wordpress.com)

2010 Homestyle Holiday Hoedown

Guests can enjoy holiday snacks, craft making and games while musicians play; children's music band Biscuit Brothers performs. • 6-8 p.m. • \$10 • Pioneer Farms, 10621 Pioneer Farms Drive • 837-1215 [www.biscuitbrothers.com](http://www.biscuitbrothers.com)

4-5 20th Annual Christmas Bazaar

Guests can enjoy refreshments, information booths, craft vendors, a silent auction and quilt raffle. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat. and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Sun. • Free • St. Thomas More Parish Activity Center, 10205 RM 620 N. • 258-1161 • [www.stmaustin.org](http://www.stmaustin.org)

5 22nd Annual Holiday Swing

Sentimental Journey Orchestra and The Studebakers perform at this benefit dance that includes free lessons, refreshments and an Art Deco luxury cruise theme; proceeds benefit Project Transitions.

Holiday Sing-Along & Downtown Stroll

By Bobby Longoria

Austinites are invited to gather in festive holiday cheer at the 2010 Holiday Sing-Along & Downtown Stroll, hosted by the Downtown Austin Alliance.

The event begins with caroling at 6 p.m. at the Capitol grounds, led by John Aielli, host of the KUT 90.5 show "Eklektikos." At the end of caroling, the holiday tree in front of the Capitol will be lit at 7 p.m., marking the beginning of the stroll down Congress Avenue.

The avenue will embody holiday cheer with music, art, shopping and more. Vacant spaces along the avenue will be decorated by design firms chosen by the alliance, and musicians will play along the street.

The Sustainable Food Center will be hosting a holiday farmers market at the event. With sponsorship from Caritas of Austin, Santa will be at his workshop on the avenue for visits.

6-9 p.m. • Free • Texas Capitol, 201 E. 14th St. • 469-0476 • [www.downtownaustinholidays.com](http://www.downtownaustinholidays.com)



The Downtown Austin Alliance is hosting the Holiday Sing-Along & Downtown Stroll, which seeks to unite the Austin community with caroling, music and holiday cheer. Since 1993, the alliance has sponsored the Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Capitol, which occurs soon after caroling at the Capitol grounds.

8 p.m.-midnight • \$75 • Dell Jewish Community Campus, 7300 Hart Lane • 735-8000 [www.projecttransitions.org](http://www.projecttransitions.org)

**Worth the Trip**

**11-12 Holiday Home Tour in Taylor**  
Taylor hosts a holiday home tour Dec. 11 and 12 featuring eight historic homes. Running from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday and from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, the tour begins at Taylor First National Bank, 200 N. Main St. Tickets may be purchased at the bank during tour times or in advance at Frill's, Kunisch Wellness Center and Dental Professionals of Taylor. Tickets for the tour are \$12 (general admission), \$10 (seniors) or \$5 (children). Call 352-2287 or visit [www.taylorheritagesociety.org](http://www.taylorheritagesociety.org).

11 Round Rock Symphony Holiday Spectacular

The Round Rock Symphony performs holiday musicals including selections from Vaughan Williams and Bach and a traditional holiday sing-along.

7:30-9 p.m. • \$20 (adults); \$15 (students and seniors); free (children younger than 12) • C.D. Fulkes Auditorium, 300 W. Anderson Ave., Round Rock 264-5368 [www.roundrocksymphony.org](http://www.roundrocksymphony.org)

14 Spicewood Springs Branch Book Club

The group, which meets the third Thursday of the month, will determine the "Best of 2010" book list. 1:30-3 p.m. • Free • Austin Public Library Spicewood Springs Branch, 8637 Spicewood Springs Road 974-3800 • [www.ci.austin.tx.us/library](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/library)

15 Social Media for CEO's Boot Camp

Participants learn how to generate leads and sales with social media. • 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. • Free • The Westin Austin at The Domain, 11301 Domain Drive • 877-861-0010 • [www.splashmedia.com](http://www.splashmedia.com)

17 "Polar Express" Pajamarama

Children make holiday crafts, sing songs, enjoy cookies and hot chocolate and listen to a bedtime reading of the story "The Polar Express." Participants are encouraged to wear pajamas and bring a pillow. Advanced tickets are required. • 6-8 p.m. Free • Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Drive • 989-3188 • [www.wblibrary.org](http://www.wblibrary.org)

See Page 27 for more holiday events in Austin.

Calendar events must be submitted by the second Friday of the month. Submit events to [calendar@impactnews.com](mailto:calendar@impactnews.com) and find our Central Texas calendar online at [www.impactnews.com/calendar](http://www.impactnews.com/calendar).

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Neighborhood Dining | The Water Tank Bar and Grill



Charles Anderson said it is his goal for people to have fun when dining at The Water Tank Bar and Grill. Anderson and his business partner, Ray McEachern, bought the neighborhood bar in 1994.

By Rebecca LaFlure

On a Tuesday afternoon about a dozen Austin residents relax with a cold drink at The Water Tank Bar and Grill. Some exchange jokes with the bartender—who they know by name—while others play pinball or watch sports replays on ESPN. Regulars account for more than half of the bar’s customer base, co-owner Charles Anderson said, and it is the comfortable and inviting atmosphere that keeps bringing them back.

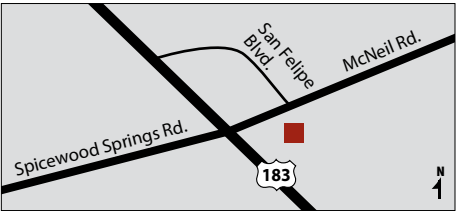
“We just have a lot of real friendly, neighborhood people,” he said. Anderson and his business partner, Ray McEachern, bought the neighborhood bar at 7309 McNeil Road in 1994. At the time the bar served only beer and had a limited menu, but it has since expanded to a full bar and grill with food items ranging from tacos to chicken fried steak. The bar originally opened as The Water Tank in 1986. Though Anderson is not certain where the name comes from,

he suspects it has something to do with the City of Austin water reservoir located half a block down the road. Anderson said his one goal when operating The Water Tank is for customers to have fun. Neon beer signs cover the walls and big screen TVs are set on ESPN. The bar features multiple pool tables, an arcade room, jukebox and a large stage where musicians play Monday and Wednesday nights. On nights with no live music at the venue, people of all ages belt out their favorite tunes on a karaoke machine. In addition to beer and other alcoholic beverages, The Water Tank serves fresh, never frozen, food. Anderson said the most popular items are hamburgers (\$4.99–\$7.99)—half off on Monday nights—and 8-ounce New York strip steaks (\$13.99 with two sides). One-dollar tacos on Tuesdays are also hit, he said. After a long night of karaoke, customers can come back in the morning for sausage, bacon and omelets. A breakfast menu is served every Saturday and Sunday until 3 p.m. Anderson said while the food is good, it is the friendly staff that sets The Water Tank apart. “We just want everyone to enjoy themselves,” he said.

**At a glance**  
**Prices:** Moderate  
**Atmosphere:** Casual  
**Alcohol:** Full bar  
**Live music:** Wednesdays at 8 p.m.; open mic night every Monday. Karaoke Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights.  
**Other attractions:** Pool tables, shuffleboard, jukebox, arcade games, dance floor



The Swiss mushroom burger (\$7.99) is a popular choice at the Water Tank Bar and Grill. All burgers are half off Monday nights.



**The Water Tank Bar and Grill**  
7309 McNeil Road  
331-9831 • [www.austinwatertank.com](http://www.austinwatertank.com)  
Mon.–Fri. 11 a.m.–midnight, Sat. 10 a.m.–1 a.m.  
Sun. 10 a.m.–midnight

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# Local History | Austin State Hospital



Austin State Hospital administrative offices, pictured in 1945, are now located in the hospital's original building, built in 1857. Prior to 1925 the hospital was known as the Texas State Lunatic Asylum.

By Beth Wade

The Austin State Hospital was created in 1856 when then Texas Gov. Elisha Pease signed a bill from the Sixth Texas Legislature to establish the Texas State Lunatic Asylum, which was the first of its kind west of the Mississippi River. Construction on the hospital started in 1857.

The hospital opened with 12 patients May 11, 1861, in a lime-stone three-story building, which still stands and serves as the hospital's administrative offices.

Through the years, the hospital has added buildings to manage growth. The original three-story building remains, as well as the power plant built in 1895, the main gate house from 1904 and the laundry built in 1911. Other buildings were destroyed by fire or demolished to make way for newer facilities. At its peak in 1965, the hospital had approximately 3,254 patients.

In its early days, the hospital was self sustaining. Patients and staff helped grow food,

and livestock was kept on the grounds to produce meat and dairy products.

After 1896, new dormitories were built and a sewing room, a tailor shop, a bowling alley, a carpenter shop, a main dining hall, a kitchen, a chapel, a dairy room, an ice factory and a female infirmary were added to the grounds, according to "History of State Lunatic Asylum" by James Fowler.

At the time it was built, many believed that individuals with mental illness could regain their sanity in a stress-free, "idealized environment," according to the hospital's history. The asylum was built to provide a "healthy diet, exercise, fresh air, rest, a daily routine, social contact and a kind but firm approach."

In 1925, the name was changed to Austin State Hospital after the Legislature removed the words "lunatic" and "insane" from state institution names. There are 10 other state hospitals in Texas.

While the hospital began as a way to isolate patients from the outside world in the hopes of easing their mental stress,

the stresses of various eras still had their effects on the hospital. Throughout several periods of time the hospital was overcrowded and in disrepair. During the Depression, repairs were left unmade as resources were redirected. Later during World War II, personnel and resources were directed toward the war effort, caring for the mentally ill became a low priority and no treatment program existed, according to Fowler.

Desegregation began following the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

After desegregation, the hospital was divided into nine treatment areas, including specialty programs such as the Children's Psychiatric Unit and the Alcohol Rehabilitation Center. Today, the hospital has three large services: Adult Psychiatric Services, Specialty Adult Services and Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Services.

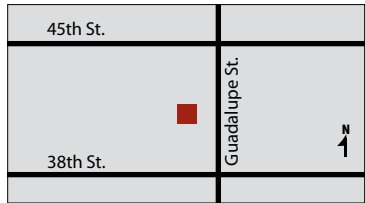
The adult services program consists of eight acute adult admission units, and the specialty services includes a Medicare-certified older adult unit, deaf services and longer-term cognitive

and multiple disability units.

The children's services includes programs for children up to the age of 12, an adolescent girls unit and an adolescent boys unit. The hospital has a maximum capacity of 299 patients and serves a 38-county region for adults and 71-county region for child/adolescent services.



Patients often worked various jobs around the hospital grounds, including in the laundry room, as pictured here in 1898.



**Austin State Hospital**  
4110 Guadalupe St.  
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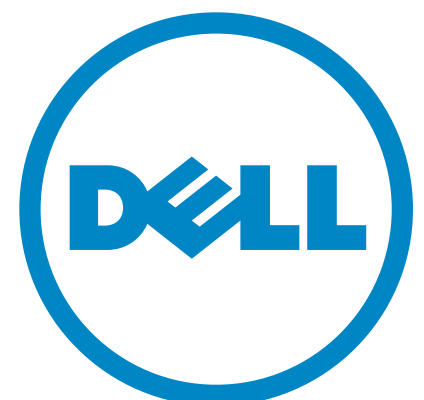
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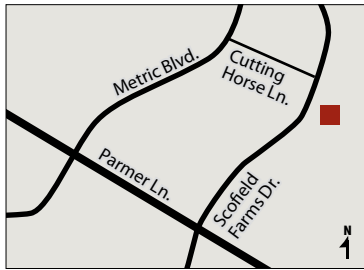


## City Council Notes | Recent news

Compiled by Staff

### Partnership improves park

The Austin Parks and Recreation Department completed a \$25,391 project in October at Scofield Farms Neighborhood Park, 12901 Scofield Farms Drive. Workers installed a 10-by-20 picnic shelter, which completed an improvement that was started in May 2008 as a partnership between residents and the department. Other improvements included a volleyball court, trails and trees. For details call 974-6700 or visit [www.ci.austin.tx.us](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us).



### Former Asian chamber leader appointed to Asian American Resource Center board

Austin City Councilwoman Randi Shade appointed Erica Estetter to the Asian American Resource Center Advisory Board Nov. 4. Estetter is the former executive director of the

Austin Asian American Chamber of Commerce.

The center, which is expected to be completed in 2012, will be built on about 15 acres near the intersection of Cameron Road and Rutherford Lane. The project will include an amphitheater, reception center, meeting rooms and offices, a Main Street-style retail area, classrooms and a performance hall.

The next planning workshop for the center is Dec. 9 from 10 a.m. to noon in room 1101 of City Hall, 301 W. Second St.

### Survey finds Austin residents satisfied with city services

City staff contracted with Kansas-based ETC Institute for an annual city survey. The firm specializes in helping local governments gather data from residents to enhance community planning.

Among the survey's findings presented Oct. 14 to City Council:

- Improvements to sidewalks, streets and police service should be the city's priority, if officials want to improve resident satisfaction ratings.
- Residents collectively expressed the lowest satisfaction for parks

and code enforcement services, which ETC attributed to Austin's rapid growth.

- Residents' satisfaction level with City of Austin services ranks higher than the national average.
- Austin has among the most satisfied residents compared to 28 benchmark cities with a population greater than 250,000 that were included in the survey.

### Council approves items related to WTP4

The council approved several items during its Oct. 28 meeting related to the construction of Water Treatment Plant 4 and the Jollyville Water Transmission Main.

A \$2.24 million purchase agreement to acquire about 13 acres of land at 10900 RM 2222 was approved. The land is needed for working shafts, material storage and a staging space for both the Jollyville and the Forest Ridge water transmission mains.

Sharon Blythe, representing the Spicewood Springs Tunnel Coalition, opposed the item and said it would endanger the area's habitat. She added that the city's parks and recreation board voted 7-0

not to take action until environmental studies were completed.

City staff said some studies have been completed, but not the specific requests made by the board. Staff said additional assessments will be done once the project is further along in the design process.

The council voted 4-3 on the item, with council members Chris Riley, Laura Morrison and Bill Spelman voting against.

The council also approved a \$36,911 construction contract with Central Road and Utility Ltd. for WTP4 Bullick Hollow Roadway Improvements for the treatment plant's raw water pump station. Left-turn lanes will be added on the road, the pavement will be widened and restriped and utilities will be relocated.

The item passed 4-3 with Riley, Morrison and Spelman opposing.

### City partners with TDS for recycling needs

The City of Austin launched a new contract with Texas Disposal Systems for the processing of its single-stream recycling materials effective Oct. 1. The new system does not affect customers or

change how items are collected biweekly through the curbside services and 90-gallon blue carts.

"By taking our recyclables to TDS, we're not only supporting a local business, we're also saving on transportation and processing fees," said Bob Gedert, the Solid Waste Services director. "Our goal is to continue to provide excellent service to our customers, promote waste reduction and increase resource recovery."

The contract at this point is a short-term, one-year contract with options to extend.

For more information visit [www.austinrecycles.com](http://www.austinrecycles.com).

### Upcoming Austin City Council meetings

**Dec. 9 and 16**

Sessions begin at 10 a.m.  
Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second St.

Meetings are broadcast on municipal TV cable Channel 6 and on 88.7 FM radio, starting at 1:30 p.m. Meetings are streamed live and available for reviewing on the Channel 6 website, [www.ci.austin.tx.us/channel6](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/channel6). The video is also viewable by agenda item and presentation. Visit [www.ci.austin.tx.us/council](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/council) for more information, including transcripts, schedules, agendas and archived video.

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## Nonprofit Profile | Foundation Communities



Courtesy Foundation Communities  
Volunteer Terry Kearns helps Foundation Communities' clients prepare documents for the 2009 tax season. The organization needs more than 1,600 volunteers to help during tax season.

By Joseph M. de Leon

When Candice Coleman was 15 years old, she dropped out of school and had to rely on the kindness of friends and strangers.

These days, she owns a house, is attending college and owns a personal training business, Fit4Purpose. The 24-year-old's change in fortune started when

she learned about Foundation Communities' free tax preparation service in 2004.

"The tax center took the burden out of figuring out where and how to prepare my taxes," Coleman said. "I feel incredibly ahead of the game, when I get it all done."

Foundation Communities

offers apartment and duplex communities and support services that help people with low- to moderate-income reach their educational and financial goals. The help can come in the form of coaching, financial literacy classes, grants, social activities and tax preparation assistance.

Free tax preparation is offered to those who earn a maximum adjusted gross income of \$50,000 a year for a family of four.

While many people may not be thinking about filing income tax returns yet, the nonprofit is recruiting volunteers and providing training in December and early January to prepare for next year's tax season. No financial background is needed and free training is offered to help volunteers pass an Internal Revenue Service certification.

Keary Kinch, director of communications for the group, said its staff recruits more than 1,600 volunteers for the tax centers every year and at least one-third comes from Northwest Austin.

The nonprofit's Community Financial Center, 2600 W. Stassney Lane, is open all year and

also offers help with financial coaching, small-business or self-employment issues and finding money for college.

Prospective students can apply for grants and find scholarships. The Cash for College program is funded by the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation.

Clients can set up Individual Development Accounts that include dollar-for-dollar matching up to \$2,800. Recipients can use the money to start or expand a business, pay for school or as a down payment on a house.

Tax preparation services are offered at seven neighborhood centers open January through April. A center serves North Austin at the Goodwill Community Center, 1015 Norwood Park Blvd.

Linda Paulson, tax services coordinator, said the tax service is the most common way clients enter the nonprofit's system. Volunteers prepared more than 18,000 tax forms this year for more than \$30 million in returns.

"This is not just about taxes—it's about capturing the tax moment to education our clients about financial literacy," Paulson

said. "That tax return is usually the biggest chunk of money they receive all year. We show them how to leverage that money."

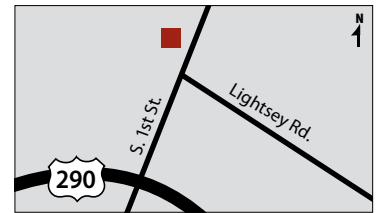
For Coleman, success means having a plan for her two boys, Jeremiah, 4, and Jacob, 2. She has joined every program Foundation Communities offers.

### Volunteers needed

Foundation Communities is looking for those who want to help others reach their goals. Volunteers needed:

- English as a Second Language instructor
- Financial coach
- Job coach
- Learning center helper
- Tax preparer and FAFSA preparer
- Translators for American Sign Language, Arabic, Asian languages and Spanish
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# Community Corridor | Burnet Road from Braker Lane to Esperanza Crossing

Compiled by Beth Wade

Since The Domain opened in March 2007, businesses along Burnet Road have continued to sprout up, including the Austin Commons shopping center which is home to several restaurants, a flooring store and a physical therapist. Also located nearby, culinary education center Le Cordon Bleu and the Gracy Farms Center.

## Banks

**1 Amplify Credit Union**, 2608 Brockton Drive, was founded to serve IBM's Texas employees in 1967, but later changed its name to Amplify Credit Union and opened up membership to anyone who lives, works or attends school in Travis, Williamson, Hays, Caldwell or Bastrop counties. Call 836-5901 or visit [www.goamplify.com](http://www.goamplify.com).

**2 BBVA Compass**  
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421-5846 • [www.bbvacompass.com](http://www.bbvacompass.com)

**3 IBC Bank**  
11400 Burnet Road, Bldg. 46  
397-4595 • [www.ibc.com](http://www.ibc.com)

## Businesses

**4 Abraham's Shoe Repair** has been doing basic shoe repair for men's and women's boots and shoes since 1992 at 11005 Burnet Road, Ste. 103. The store originally opened downtown in 1947. Owner David Abraham also offers a shoeshine service at the shop. Call 835-1683.

**5 Capital Food Mart** located at 11005 Burnet Road, Ste. 122 sells Shamrock gasoline. The convenience store also offers breakfast and lunch items. Call 836-7432.

**6 CRT Flooring Concepts** offers a variety of floor coverings, including tile, wood, laminate, carpet and natural stone. The store also offers wall tiles and installation. The Austin Commons location at 11101 Burnet Road, Ste. A-150, opened in January 2009. Call 997-9812 or visit [crtflooring.com](http://crtflooring.com).

**7 Shane Book** opened **Fishy Business** at 11005 Burnet Road, Ste. 116 in 2009, offering saltwater aquariums, as well as saltwater fish, live coral and rocks. Book also has a setup service and gives advice to new aquarium owners. Call 284-8090 or visit [www.fishybusiness.com](http://www.fishybusiness.com).

**8 GoGreenBanners.com**, 11005 Burnet Road, Ste. 112, opened in 2009 and provides environmentally sensitive, custom-printed fabric banners, backdrops, table covers and displays. The company does not use solvent inks or PVC vinyl in its manufacturing process. All materials are machine washable. Visit [www.gogreenbanners.com](http://www.gogreenbanners.com).

**9 Sports Therapy and Advanced Rehabilitation, or STAR Physical Therapy**, was founded in Austin in 2003. The center's Northwest Austin location in Austin Commons, 11101 Burnet Road, Ste. A-170, opened in August 2009. Call 835-5000 or visit [www.starphysicaltherapyaustin.com](http://www.starphysicaltherapyaustin.com).

**10 Dick Cohalla** has been serving **State Farm** clients in Austin since 1975. Located at 11005 Burnet Road, Ste. 114, his office offers auto, fire, life and health insurance as well as financial services through State Farm Bank. Call 837-4210 or visit [www.dickcohalla.com](http://www.dickcohalla.com).

## Restaurants

**11 Bamboo Bistro**  
11101 Burnet Road, Ste. A-100  
821-0022 • [www.bamboobistoronline.com](http://www.bamboobistoronline.com). See Page 4 for more information.

**12 Canary Hut Pub**, 11005 Burnet Road, Ste. 108, is a neighborhood karaoke bar with daily drink specials. Canary Hut has a sister location, Canary Roost, located at 11900 Metric Blvd., Ste. D. Call 837-7117.

**13 Detour Domain Neighborhood Bar** opened in March at 11101 Burnet Road, Ste. B-120, offering residents, what owner Mike Sanchez calls "an old-school dive bar with a little bit of class." The bar features daily happy hour drink specials until 7 p.m. Call 719-4141.

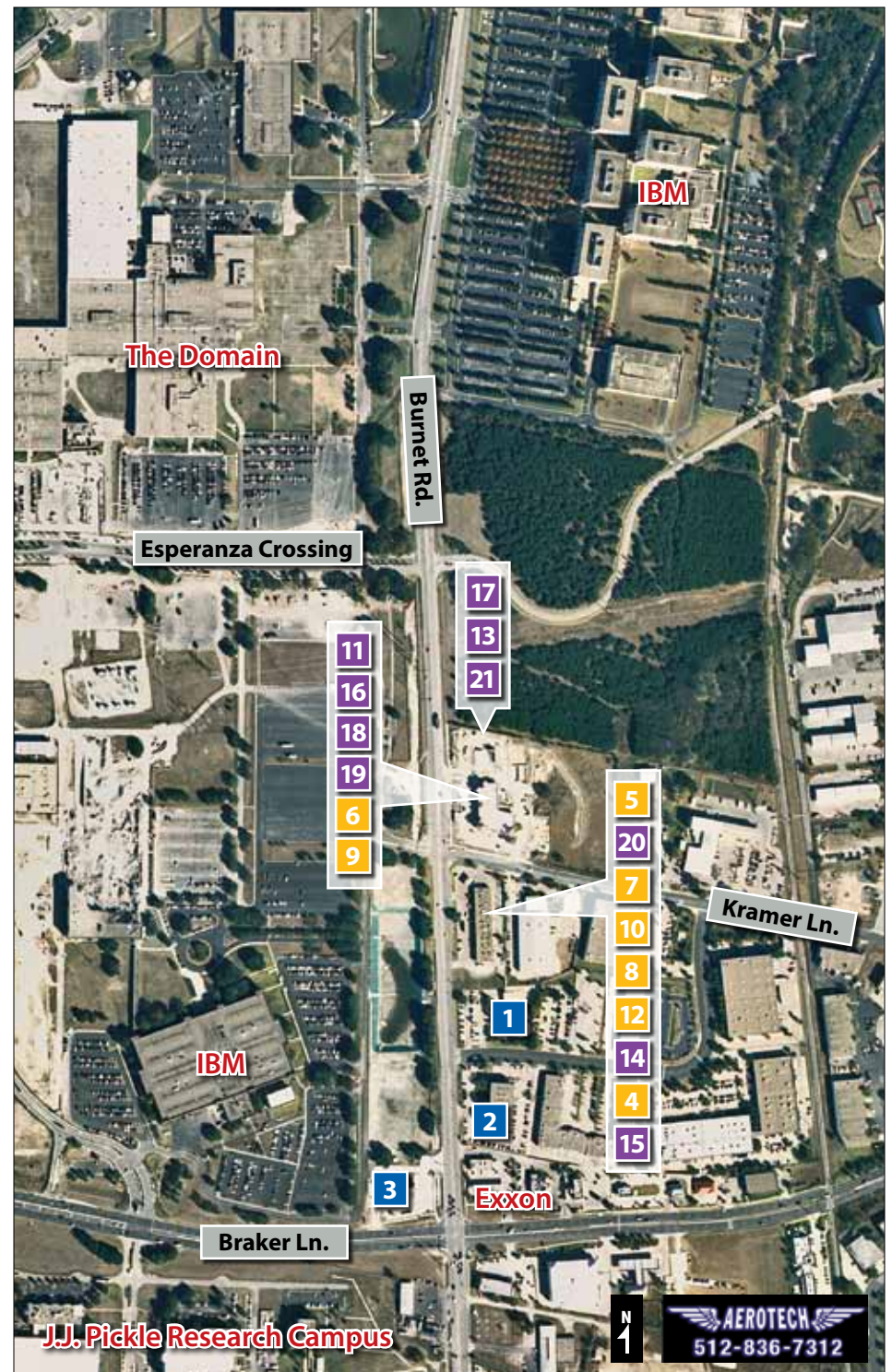
**14 Donut-7** owner Kun Shinn has been offering customers breakfast tacos, kolaches and donuts at 11005 Burnet Road, Ste. 104, since 1993. Call 837-9221.

**15 Golden Lake Chinese Buffet** has operated its Chinese food buffet at 11005 Burnet Road, Ste. 100, for about seven years. The restaurant also offers several traditional Chinese dishes, as well as sushi, and some Korean and Vietnamese selections. Catering is also available. Call 832-8989 or visit [www.goldenlakechinesebuffet.com](http://www.goldenlakechinesebuffet.com).

**16** Locally owned franchise **Firehouse Subs** opened in Austin Commons, 11101 Burnet Road, Ste. A-120, in June 2008. The sandwich shop offers steamed, top quality deli meats in a firefighter-themed atmosphere. Call 821-3473 or visit [www.firehousesubs.com](http://www.firehousesubs.com).

**17 Freebirds World Burrito** in Austin Commons, 11101 Burnet Road, Ste. B-130, opened in August 2008 offering build-your-own burritos, burrito bowls, tacos, quesadillas and salads. Call 836-9700 or visit [www.freebirds.com](http://www.freebirds.com).

**18 Froots**, 11101 Burnet Road, Ste. A-130, opened in 2008. The restaurant offers a variety of healthy dining options, including smoothies, salads and wraps. Call 833-6483 or visit [www.froots.com](http://www.froots.com).



**19 Lick It Bite It Or Both**, an ice cream and cupcake shop that puts a twist on the traditional cake and ice cream combination, opened in February. The store, 11101 Burnet Road, Ste. A-140, mixes and bakes all cupcakes and ice cream on-site from scratch. Call 835-2684 or visit [www.lickitbiteitorboth.com](http://www.lickitbiteitorboth.com).

**20 Subway**, 11005 Burnet Road, Ste. 118, serves hot and cold 6-inch and foot-long sandwiches. Call 973-8335 or visit [www.subway.com](http://www.subway.com).

**21 Ryu of Japan**, 11101 Burnet Road, Ste. B-100, opened in 2009 and serves traditional Japanese cuisine. Call 973-9498 or visit [www.ryuofjapan.com](http://www.ryuofjapan.com).



**4** Abraham's Shoe Repair owner David Abraham



**7** Fishy Business owner Shane Book



## RV park

CONTINUED FROM | 1

neighborhood. That would be a more proactive approach.”

City of Austin Health and Human Services Director David Lurie said the city is still looking at the two proposed sites, and staff has not developed a timeline for when they would go to City Council for final approval of the project.

“The city is trying to break the homeless cycle,” Lurie said. “No decision has been made. We are out here trying to determine if [the Northwest Austin location] is a good site.”

City staff is working with the two communities to gather feedback before a site is selected.

“It could be that neither site is selected, and we have to go back and look for another one,” Graham said.

Community members are encouraged to voice opinions to the City Council, Lurie said at a community meeting. The city could host more informational meetings, but there are no more scheduled in Northwest Austin at this time, Graham said.

### Site selection

City staff was first directed by council June 24 to seek approval from the Federal Aviation Administration to use a parcel of land near ABIA for the park or to find a piece of city-owned property and report back within 60 days.

“At the end of the process, after we looked at that, that really was not feasible and was not something that we were going to gain FAA approval for,” said Burt Lumbreras, assistant city manager for Community Services. “I think the City Council recognizes that Mobile Loaves & Fishes does some tremendous work in the community, and they work very hard to find affordable places to live for those with little to no income.”

To determine what sites in its inventory could be used for the project, city staff used a set of criteria, including the size of the site, occupancy and zoning of the site and its proximity to transit.

Utility connections, proximity to needed facilities, such as health care, and the characteristics of the site, including

the terrain, were also considered.

If selected, MLF would have to pay approximately \$5 million to develop it, and enter into a lease agreement with the city, Graham said.

While no lease agreement has been made, Guernsey said there would most likely be a provision that would tell MLF it would either have to share the property or give it back to the city.

The McKalla location is on the city’s surplus property list and could also be developed by the city for the Kramer Lane Service Center, which offices different city departments, if the operation needed to be moved, said Planning and Development Review Department Director Greg Guernsey.

Residents who attended a community meeting in late October were concerned with the site being used as a residential development because it was occupied by a chemical company and is zoned for limited industrial. A previous attempt at developing the site led to the discovery of potentially hazardous materials.

“The city remediated the site,” said Molly Scarbrough, City of Austin planner. “Most of the site is OK for residential development, but there is a small area within the site that has been marked off that hasn’t been tested enough to be OK’d for residential.”

Guernsey said the city has already taken care of the chemical issue. He added that zoning changes would not be required because the development would be considered a commercial use, which is allowed under the current zoning.

### Creating community

MLF began the Community First! initiative in 2005 to provide permanent housing for chronically homeless, unaccompanied individuals with a disability who have been continuously homeless for more than a year or have had at least four episodes of homelessness in three years.

The program serves approximately 45 people in 40 RVs located at RV parks throughout Austin, Graham said. The campers are purchased by MLF, but can be donated, he said. The Community First! Village, which is a new model for the nonprofit, will be the first of its kind in Austin.

Potential residents must qualify to live



Mobile Loaves & Fishes President Alan Graham stands in front of one of his Community First! RVs, which houses a chronically homeless individual. The program may build an RV park in Northwest Austin.



▲ Mobile Loaves & Fishes owns approximately 20 RVs in an RV park in Southwest Austin with a community center in a converted manufactured home.



## COMMUNITY FIRST!

The Mobile Loaves & Fishes Community First! model focuses on providing homes for chronically homeless individuals and creating a sense of community, MLF President Alan Graham said.

To qualify to live in a Community First! Village RV, individuals must:

- meet the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s definition of chronically homeless—an unaccompanied disabled individual who has been continuously homeless for more than one year or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years,
- fill out an application, be fingerprinted and submit to an FBI criminal background check,
- provide evidence of homelessness for one year in the Austin area and
- abide by civil laws and community rules.

Source: Mobile Loaves & Fishes

◀ Chronically homeless individuals who move into Mobile Loaves & Fishes Community First! housing will pay about \$325 a month to rent an RV.


there and be able to contribute to the community. Rent for an RV would be \$325 a month, which would include water and \$60 worth of electricity. The resident would be required to pay for additional electric usage, Graham said.

At capacity, which is expected to be 100 RV lots and 50 camper cottage units, the park could serve 150–175 individuals. The plans call for on-site, 24-hour management, community rooms, offices, laundry

facilities, restrooms, gardens and trails to be incorporated into the park.

“It’s a hand-up model to give them an opportunity to heal and rediscover their purpose in life,” Graham said. “The goal is to get them up off the streets and integrate them back into the community so they have a purpose-filled life.”

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# Technology Report | IBM, chamber partner to boost small businesses



At the inaugural Austin Innovators and Entrepreneurs Series meeting IBM Fellow John Cohn said he often makes a fool of himself to encourage children to pursue technology careers. Cohn emphasized the ripple effect of the unplanned consequences of innovation.

By Joseph M. de Leon

Business leaders gathered in Northwest Austin in early November to encourage collaboration among Austin’s regional entrepreneurial community.

The Austin Innovators and Entrepreneurs Series, an effort between the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce and IBM Venture Group, held its first session Nov. 4 at IBM Corporation’s campus on Burnet Road. More than 350 people gathered to listen to speakers John Cohn—an IBM leader and a former cast member of Discovery Channel’s

“The Colony”—and Mayor Lee Leffingwell, who spoke via video conference.

By providing access to IBM’s resources, the series hopes to grow a base of innovative companies. The series will offer programs throughout the year for those interested in the technology industry, including entrepreneurs and investors. Area entrepreneurs will be invited to participate in free bimonthly forums intended to provide an opportunity for networking, public discussion and collaboration among technology leaders.

The program is part of a larger effort known as The Greater Austin Technology Partnership, which the chamber initiated in September. The partnership will develop and help direct a long-term strategy for the technology industry in Austin, which will include business attraction, retention and expansion as well as encouraging startups, according to a chamber news release.

The partnership is an effort to bring together industry leaders, educators, entrepreneurs, investors and local government officials to further grow a local foundation of innovative high-tech companies.

Susan Davenport, senior vice president of global technology strategies for the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce, said about 100,000 people in the area work in the technology industry, which provides about a quarter of the region’s overall payroll. This makes technology one of Austin’s primary economic drivers.

The chamber’s current economic development strategy makes plans five years out, Davenport said. Helping technology businesses flourish is a priority because of its strong influence on the local economy.

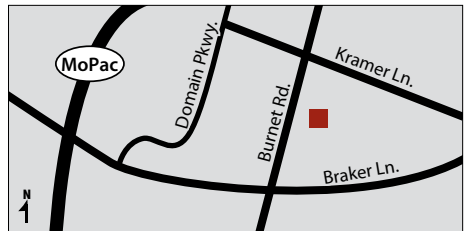
“This partnership is a way to ensure that technology, academic and local leaders are at the table as we develop the long-term vision for Austin’s technology future,” Davenport said. “We’re talking about looking 10 to 20 years out.”

Barry Mayer, chairman of the chamber’s board and president of Tokyo Electron U.S. Holdings, recognized the need for the partnership and advocated for its development.

“Our businesses and our lives are rapidly changing through new technology innovation and its application,” Mayer said. “The fact is we are educating our young people for jobs that don’t exist today. It is, therefore, critical we bring tech’s brightest executives and entrepreneurs to the table to help guide the chamber’s work.”

## Greater Austin Technology Partnership

The Great Austin Chamber of Commerce plans to launch the Greater Austin Technology Partnership in January 2011. The group will continue to offer the Austin Innovators and Entrepreneurs Series throughout 2011 at IBM Austin’s Executive Briefing Center.



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## Inside Information | 'Austin City Limits' studio heads downtown

By Bobby Longoria

For 36 years, "Austin City Limits," the longest running music series in American television history, has been taped from Studio 6A on The University of Texas campus, but it will soon move to a custom-made venue downtown that producers say will attract a larger audience and retain the same intimate setting for which the show became famous. "ACL" had its final taping in Studio 6A with Lyle Lovett Nov. 8.

Construction on the venue is to be completed in January. The show announced its new schedule Nov. 19, with the first taping to happen as soon as February 2011.

"ACL" Executive Producer Terry Lickona said although Studio 6A once fit 800 people, its capacity was reduced to 320, and as the show's popularity grew, it became apparent that a larger space was needed.

"Moving to a new space that we could design from scratch and accommodate for more people has been a goal for a long time," Lickona said. "Having a full-time music venue that operates year-round—as opposed to a festival—will hopefully have as much or more impact."

### Expanding beyond the city limits

The show, which was restricted to only 10,000 square feet, will expand into a three-story venue that will contain 85,000 square feet of studio space with a capacity of 2,700 people. The venue—dubbed The Moody

Theater—is being constructed alongside the new W Hotel at the corner of Lavaca and Second streets. "ACL" tapings will be intimate, with an audience of no more than 800 people, Lickona said.

"ACL" will operate in the venue 45 days out of the year. The venue will be available for other live music events that will utilize its total capacity for the rest of the year.

"The studio is exciting for what it's going to do for Second Street and downtown," said Elaine Garza, founder of Giant Noise, The Moody Theater's public relations firm.

### Going to the rock show

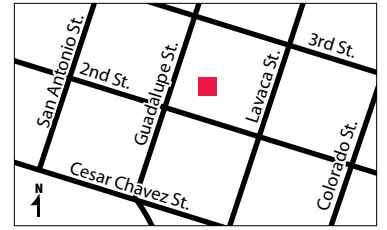
By spring 2011, Austinites will be able to approach the corner of Lavaca and Second streets, see the studio's cube-like appearance and enter a large courtyard with a statue of Willie Nelson in the front. A staircase brings patrons to the first floor of the venue where a bar and public deck overlook City Hall. An exterior staircase on the southwest corner of the building goes up another two stories and provides a view of Lady Bird Lake.

When entering the venue, patrons will see the stage with a large backdrop illustrating the skyline of Austin. "ACL's" new home will be the only venue in Austin, and one of three in the nation, to be certified for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design—or LEED—which means it follows green building standards.

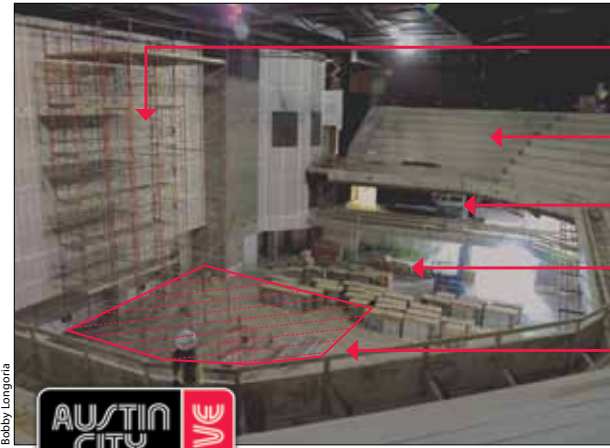
While the move may detract from the tradition of attending an "ACL" taping in Studio 6A, Lickona said it will not affect Austin's uniqueness.

Days before a taping, chosen radio stations, typically KGSR or KLBK, announce a location and time for people to pick up free tickets. Tickets do not guarantee entry.

"There is nothing more gratifying than bringing great music to great people wherever they are through 'ACL,'" Lickona said.



**310 W. Second St.**  
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### New "ACL" venue layout

**New backdrop:** will illustrate the skyline of Austin including landmarks such as the Capitol and The University of Texas clock tower

**Third level:** stadium seating, with the farthest seat from the stage about 75 feet away

**Second level:** some seating and box suites with couches and private bars

**Floor level:** general admission standing room, may be lined with seats on occasion, bars will be located on either side

**The "ACL" stage:** can shift in size for either a full-size live show or reduced by 2 feet during tapings to accommodate for cameras



"ACL's" new studio space downtown can hold up to 2,700 people. During "ACL" tapings the third floor will be curtained off and only 800 people will be allowed in on the venue's first and second floors to provide a more intimate experience.



Courtesy Austin City Limits

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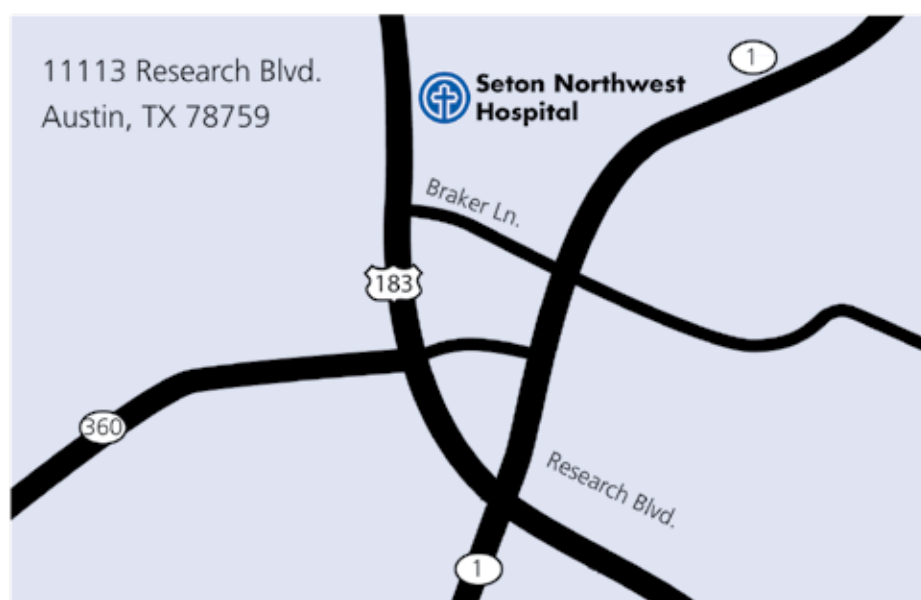
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# Holiday Retail Guide

Compiled by Joseph M. de Leon

## Children



Learning Express sells toys for young children.



Once Upon a Child offers used children's clothing.

### 1 Learning Express

9607 Research Blvd. • 795-9770  
www.learningexpress.com

### 2 Li'l One's

12518 Research Blvd., Ste. J • 219-1974  
www.lilonesconsignments.com

### 3 Once Upon a Child

13376 US 183 N. • 335-3004  
www.ouac.com

### 4 Rock-A-Bye Baby Kids

10740 Research Blvd., Ste. 120  
231-0166 • www.rbbk.com

## Clothing & shoes

### 5 Bella Maui Boutique

10000 Research Blvd., Ste. 131 • 372-1600  
www.serendipitymaui.com

### 6 Foot Solutions

10225 Research Blvd., Ste. 330 • 241-0051  
www.footsolutions.com/austin

### 7 InStep

9901 N. Capital of Texas Hwy., Ste. 120  
346-4400 • www.instepaustin.com

### 8 Just Between Us

13233 Pond Springs Road • 250-0746  
www.jbu4resale.com

### 9 Second Looks

8108 Mesa Drive • 345-5222  
www.secondlooksaustin.com

### 10 Second Run

9012 Research Blvd. • 451-8080  
www.secondrunaustin.com

### 11 Skye Salon and Boutique

13359 US 183 N. • 336-2639  
www.ahairskin.com

### 12 St. Thomas Boutique

The Domain, 11600 Century Oaks Terrace,  
Ste. 128 • 835-8300  
www.stthomasdomain.com

### 13 Tiny's Western Shop

8403 Research Blvd., Ste. A • 476-1277

### 14 Total Relief Footwear

13492 US 183 N., Ste. 250 • 996-0002  
www.totalrelief footwear.com

## Gifts

### 15 Austinites

13343 US 183 N., Ste. 217  
782-0691 • www.myaustinites.com

### 16 Countryside Nursery

13292 Pond Springs Road • 249-0100  
www.countrysideaustin.com



Second Run is a vintage boutique and theater.



Michelle's Patisserie makes cakes and treats.

CONTINUED ON | 20

**Finally! A cool gift idea!**

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1700 W. Koenig Ln • 512-467-6767 • suntint.com

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facelogicspa.com  
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- Repair all major brands
- Screens/Drives/Motherboards/Spyware/Viruses

**Downtown Austin:** 24th & Rio Grande 474-6060  
M-F 10-6 Sat 11-4

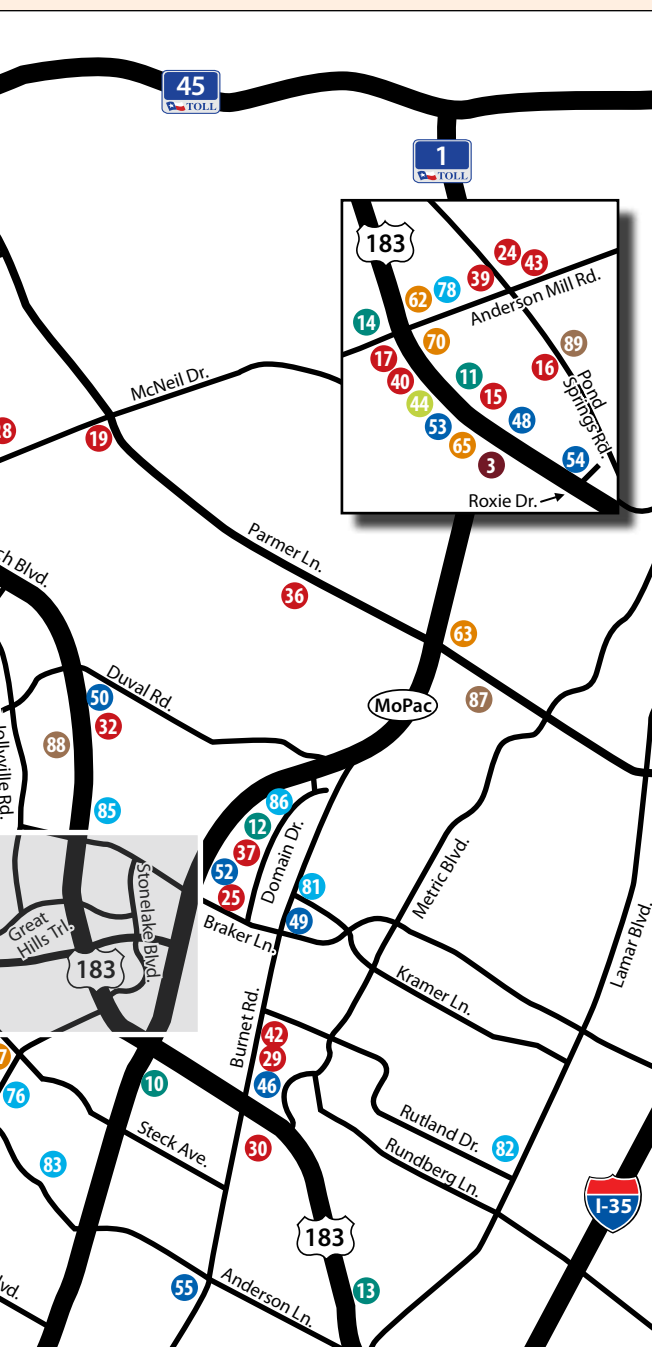
**Cedar Park:** 1890 Ranch Shopping Ctr 260-9393  
M-F 10-7 Sat 10-5 Sun 12-5 (next to Half Price Books)

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While supplies last. Expires 12/15/10.



**49 Fishy Business**

11005 Burnet Road, Ste. 116  
284-8090 • [www.fishybusiness.com](http://www.fishybusiness.com)

**50 Gallery of Pets**

11689 Research Blvd., Ste. 107  
345-8920 • [www.galleryofpets.com](http://www.galleryofpets.com)

**51 Lucky Dog**

9414 Anderson Mill Road, Ste. 300  
331-7222  
[www.luckydogaustin.com](http://www.luckydogaustin.com)

**52 Metrodog**

11011 Domain Drive, Ste. 116  
466-7297  
[www.austinmetrodog.com](http://www.austinmetrodog.com)

**53 Pet Supplies Plus**

13450 Research Blvd., Ste. 112  
996-0407 • [www.petsuppliesplus.com](http://www.petsuppliesplus.com)

**54 River City Aquatics**

12108 Roxie Drive, Ste. A  
219-7200 • [www.rivercityaquatics.com](http://www.rivercityaquatics.com)

**55 The Zoom Room**

7739 Northcross Drive, Ste. H  
371-1223 • [www.zoomroomonline.com](http://www.zoomroomonline.com)

## Sports & hobbies

**56 Artisan Stain Glass & Custom Framing**

10700 Anderson Mill Road, Ste. 110  
336-9442 • [www.artisanglass.us](http://www.artisanglass.us)

**57 Austin Strings**

13276 US 183 N., Ste. 201  
918-1863 • [www.austinstrings.com](http://www.austinstrings.com)

**58 Bicycle Sport Shop**

10947 Research Blvd. • 345-7460  
[www.bicyclesportshop.com](http://www.bicyclesportshop.com)

**59 Buck's Bikes**

12530 Research Blvd. • 250-9550  
[www.bucksbikes.com](http://www.bucksbikes.com)

**60 Card Traders of Austin**

8650 Spicewood Springs Road, Ste. 128  
250-0958 • [www.cardtradersofaustin.com](http://www.cardtradersofaustin.com)

**61 Cycle Nation Powersports**

13806 US 183 N. • 331-6686  
[www.cyclenationpowersports.com](http://www.cyclenationpowersports.com)

**62 Heritage Firearms**

13497 US 183 N., Ste. 350  
219-1122 • [www.theonlinegunshop.com](http://www.theonlinegunshop.com)

**63 HobbyTown USA**

2500 W. Parmer Lane, Ste. 80  
246-8904 • [www.hobbytown.com](http://www.hobbytown.com)

**64 LiteFoot Bikes**

13686 Research Blvd., Ste. 104  
351-3555  
[www.litefootbikes.com](http://www.litefootbikes.com)

**65 Marmalade Skies**

13450 Research Blvd., Ste. 229  
695-1694  
[www.marmaladeskiesaustin.com](http://www.marmaladeskiesaustin.com)

**66 Music City Cycles**

7212 McNeil Drive, Ste. 201  
336-2453 • [www.musiccitycycles.com](http://www.musiccitycycles.com)

**67 Nelo's Cycles**

8108 Mesa Drive, Ste. B-105  
338-0505 • [www.neloscycles.com](http://www.neloscycles.com)

**68 New Tech Tennis**

7208 McNeil Drive, Ste. 207  
250-8417 • [www.newtechtennis.com](http://www.newtechtennis.com)

**69 Scubaland Adventures**

11416 RM 620  
257-2000 • [www.scubaland.com](http://www.scubaland.com)

**70 Soccer USA**

13359 US 183 N., Ste. B-403  
257-8560 • [www.esoccerusa.com](http://www.esoccerusa.com)

**71 The Stitching Studio**

9725B Anderson Mill Road • 219-0321  
[www.austinstitchingstudio.com](http://www.austinstitchingstudio.com)

**72 Wonko's Toys & Games**

13776 US 183, Ste. 116  
335-1000 • [www.wonkos.com](http://www.wonkos.com)

**73 World Wind Kites**

7208 McNeil Drive, Ste. 204 • 250-9454  
[www.worldwindkites.com](http://www.worldwindkites.com)

CONTINUED ON | 22



**HOUSE OVERSTUFFED FOR THE HOLIDAYS?**



**Call Candlewood Suites & mention this ad for a \$59 studio suite.**  
When calling to schedule, please press 4.  
Offer good through Nov. 24th through Jan. 9th.  
[www.candlewoodsuites.com/austintxnw](http://www.candlewoodsuites.com/austintxnw)  
9701 Stonelake Blvd  
512.338.1611



**Call Staybridge Suites and mention this ad for an \$89 studio suite with daily breakfast and free wireless.**  
Rate available Dec 17th-Jan 9, 2011.  
[www.staybridge.com/ausarboretum](http://www.staybridge.com/ausarboretum)  
10201 Stonelake Blvd  
512.349.0888

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# Holiday Retail Guide

CONTINUED FROM | 21

## Tasty treats

- 74 Ann's Kitchen Cakes**  
8650 Spicewood Springs Road, Ste. 112  
335-4545 • [www.annskitchen.com](http://www.annskitchen.com)
- 75 Con' Olio Oils & Vinegars**  
10000 Research Blvd., Ste. 130  
342-2344 • [www.conolios.com](http://www.conolios.com)
- 76 Cookies in Bloom**  
8127 Mesa Drive, Ste. 204-B • 345-7875  
[www.cookiesinbloom.com/Austin](http://www.cookiesinbloom.com/Austin)
- 77 Cupprimo**  
8650 Spicewood Springs Road, Ste. 105  
335-7746 • [www.cupprimo.com](http://www.cupprimo.com)

- 78 Dream Bakery**  
9422 Anderson Mill Road, Ste. B  
219-1235 • [www.dreambakery.com](http://www.dreambakery.com)
- 79 Silver Spoon Bakery**  
10515 N. MoPac, Ste. 120 • 462-0922
- 80 Kellie's Kandies and Cookies**  
12233 RM 620, Ste. 114  
537-9866 • [www.kellieskandies.com](http://www.kellieskandies.com)
- 81 Lick It Bite It or Both**  
11101 Burnet Road, Ste. 140A  
835-2684  
[www.lickitbiteitorboth.com](http://www.lickitbiteitorboth.com)
- 82 Lucky Bakery**  
9616 N. Lamar Blvd., Ste. 138  
836-8332 • [www.lucky-bakery.com](http://www.lucky-bakery.com)
- 83 MadCakes**  
3808 Spicewood Springs Road, Ste. 102  
795-9285 • [www.madcakes.com](http://www.madcakes.com)
- 84 Michelle's Patisserie**  
12233 RM 620, Ste. 114  
433.6860  
[www.michellespatisserie.com](http://www.michellespatisserie.com)
- 85 Tiff's Treats Cookie Delivery**  
11011 Research Blvd. • 349-2200  
[www.cookieelivery.com/austin](http://www.cookieelivery.com/austin)
- 86 Viva Chcolato!**  
The Domain, 3401 Esperanza Crossing, Ste. 104  
339-8482 • [www.vivachocolato.com](http://www.vivachocolato.com)
- 87 ABC Liquor**  
2121 W. Parmer Lane, Ste. 105  
836-8790
- 88 Gunter's Liquor**  
11150 Research Blvd., Ste. 103  
343-2123

## Wine & spirits



Helios offers a studio and supplies for glass art projects.

- 89 Johnnie's Liquor Store**  
13201 Pond Springs Road • 249-7244
- 90 Queens Liquor**  
12518 Research Blvd., Ste. H • 335-4200

Although *Community Impact Newspaper* attempted to include all locally owned retailers in the area we define as Northwest Austin, this list may not be comprehensive. If you were left off, please e-mail us at [nwafedback@impactnews.com](mailto:nwafedback@impactnews.com).

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**12881 Pond Springs Rd • 335-8093**





# Holiday Festivities



Compiled by Kate Hull and Niamh Marnell

## Chuy's Children Giving to Children Parade Nov. 27

Featuring festive holiday floats, giant balloons, famous children's characters, marching bands and Santa Claus, the parade is a fun way to teach children about giving. Spectators bring toys, which they can give to Santa's helpers, who will be lining the parade route. The toys go to Operation Blue Santa Program, a nonprofit organized by the Austin Police Department that gives the toys to children in need for the holidays. The parade begins 11 a.m. at Congress Avenue and 11th Street and ends at the intersection of Congress Avenue and Cesar Chavez Street. [www.chuysparade.com](http://www.chuysparade.com)

## Christmas at the French Legation Museum Dec. 4, Dec. 10 and throughout December

The French Legation historic house museum, originally built to serve as the diplomatic outpost for King Louis Philippe of France in the Republic of Texas in 1841, will present holiday festivities throughout December. Mid-19th century French practices and American Victorian decorations will be displayed all December, and tours will be available Tuesday through Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. • Adults (\$5), seniors 62+ (\$3), teachers and students (\$2)

Visitors can also see Père Noël who will make a short trip to the museum. Visits with the traditional French "Santa" are free. Professional photography will be available for purchase • Sat., Dec. 4, 9–11 a.m.

Also, Christmas Tidings, a free holiday open house, will include warm refreshments, live music and community fellowship at the candlelit museum in East Austin • Sat., Dec. 10, 6–8 p.m. • 802 San Marcos St. 472-8180 • [www.frenchlegationmuseum.org](http://www.frenchlegationmuseum.org)

## Zilker Tree Lighting Ceremony Dec. 5

The Zilker Tree Lighting Ceremony remains a tradition in Austin. Arranged around the Moonlight Tower, the tree is composed of 39 streamers, each holding 81 multicolored bulbs, totaling 3,159 lights. It stands 155 feet

tall and is topped with a 10-foot double star that shines with 150 frosted bulbs • Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Road • 6 p.m. • Free

## Pioneer Farm Christmas Candlelight Tour Dec. 10–11 and 17–18

Jourdan-Bachman Pioneer Farm presents Ebenezer's Journey where Charles Dickens' classic tale "A Christmas Carol" will be re-enacted at the farm's historic sites with audience participation. The festivities include holiday lights, family activities and a one-man stage play of "A Christmas Carol" by award-winning actor Damien Gillen at the farm's Town Square stage. No reservations are necessary. 7–10 p.m. • \$12 11418 Sprinkle Cut-Off Road • 837-1215 • [www.pioneerfarms.org](http://www.pioneerfarms.org)

## Austin Symphony's Christmas Sing-Along Dec. 14

The Austin Symphony presents its annual free Christmas Sing-Along Concert at Riverbend Centre, a holiday tradition for more than two decades. Families gather each year to sing along with the Austin Symphony Orchestra and chorus. Guests will include Dr. Seuss' The Grinch, Frosty the Snowman, Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer and Santa Claus. Admission is free, but tickets are required for admission and will be available Dec. 1 on a first-come, first-served basis at the Symphony Box Office, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Riverbend Centre, 4214 Capital of Texas Hwy. • 8 p.m. • 476-6064 or 1-888-4-MAESTRO (toll-free) [www.austinsymphony.org](http://www.austinsymphony.org)

## Armadillo Christmas Bazaar Dec. 15–24

The holiday arts and music festival is a three-decade-old holiday tradition in Austin and a retail attraction that draws about 40,000 shoppers. The event features fine art, distinctive gifts, refreshments, a full bar and live music. Evenings and weekends before 7 p.m. (\$4), evenings and weekends (\$7), children 12 and under (free) • Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez St. • 447-1605 [www.armadillobazaar.com](http://www.armadillobazaar.com)

## Cut Your Own Christmas Trees

### B. Evergreen Farms Christmas Trees



Evergreen Farms is a choose-and-cut Christmas tree farm. Customers can take a wagon ride or walk to pick out their perfect Christmas tree. Evergreen Farms furnishes tools for cutting and harvesting, poles for measuring and saws for cutting trees free of charge. Evergreen farms will also clean and shake the tree and provide netting and rope for transportation. Activities at the farm include tetherball, hopscotch, bean bag toss and horseshoes. There is also a nature trail, farm animals and a gift shop. Weekends offer several more activities, including a campfire with free marshmallows, cider and coffee, pine cone painting and food from the concession stand, including the famous Elgin sausage. All farm activities are free. Trees are \$7 per foot for trees up to 8 feet tall. Open daily after Thanksgiving • Weekends, 9 a.m.–dark • Weekdays, noon–dark • 242 Monkey Road, Elgin • 281-4833 [www.evergreen-farms.com](http://www.evergreen-farms.com)

### Elgin Christmas Tree Farm

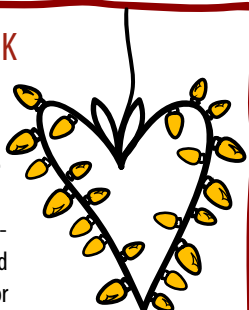
Take a hayride into the fields to cut a Christmas tree at the Elgin Christmas Tree Farm. Trees range in price from \$25 to \$124. Bow saws are provided. Customers can fill other Christmas tree needs in the Christmas Cottage, which sells tree stands, decorations and gifts, including some handmade items and Texas-made candles and jellies. Other highlights include the Crazy Maze, made from wood posts and netting; hay stacks and a hay maze for children; several picnic areas; a play area and pavilion; and animals including Sweetie Pie the pig, Larry the Llama, Goober the Horse, Sally the Basset Hound, a herd of pygmy goats and their babies, rabbits and ducks. Open daily after Thanksgiving Mon.–Sat., 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Sun., noon–5:30 p.m. • 120 Nature's Way, Elgin 281-5016 • [www.elginchristmastreefarm.com](http://www.elginchristmastreefarm.com)



## Holiday FUNraisers

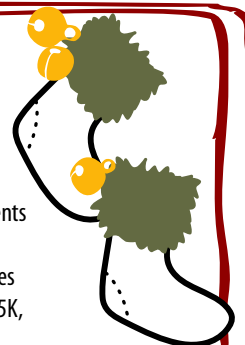
### Third Annual McDonald's Lights of Love 5K Dec. 3

The Lights of Love benefiting Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin and Central Texas will take place at 5 p.m. at the Mueller Hangar, 4550 Mueller Blvd., celebrating the holiday season with holiday lights, pictures with Santa Claus and Ronald McDonald, and holiday crafts. Registration is \$28 for timed runners and \$25 for untimed. Visit [www.lightsoflove5k.org](http://www.lightsoflove5k.org) for more information.




### Jingle Bell 5K Dec. 5

The 22nd Annual Jingle Bell 5K benefiting Mothers Against Drunk Driving will take place at The Domain, 11410 Century Oaks Terrace, along with live music, refreshments, kids' games, photographs with Santa and a wellness fair. All events are included in the registration fee. Bells will be ringing as runners jingle their way through downtown Austin to celebrate the mission of MAAD that promotes life, hope and progress in Central Texas. Call 445-4976 or visit the hosts of the 5K, Red Licorice Events, at [www.redlicoriceevents.com](http://www.redlicoriceevents.com) to register.







## Baby It's cold outside - coats for kids keeps kids warm

**HOW YOU CAN HELP:**

- Volunteer your time to sort and distribute coats Dec. 7th-Dec. 11th.
- Donate gently used coats to any area Jack Brown Cleaners through Dec. 8th
- Donate \$15 to provide a brand new coat to a child

**DOES YOUR KID NEED A COAT:**

Bring your kids and proof-of-need to Palmer Event Center DEC 11<sup>TH</sup>

**Coats for Kids**

**KVUE** **AUSTIN** **JACK BROWN CLEANERS** **KASE 101**

**MORE DETAILS:**  
[www.jlaustin.org/coats](http://www.jlaustin.org/coats)  
**(512) 467-8982 ext. 231**

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# Annexation

CONTINUED FROM | 1

city does not have the authority to enforce deed restrictions, Collier said.

After annexation, the MUD's board of directors would have to call an election and propose an additional tax rate.

"I anticipate that [the board] will vote to approve that," said Gregg Krumme, Springwoods MUD's attorney. "Ultimately the voters will have to decide whether the limited district will stay around or not."

If approved, the limited district would be in effect for a 10-year period. If the limited district does not gain voter approval, the city would provide those services and the city would absorb the MUD's facilities within 60 days of the election, Krumme said.

"Residents and property owners just adjacent to the city limits use a lot of city services and drive on roads that are paid for with city tax money," Collier said. "By including them in the tax base, people [will] pay for services they're using."

The 356 acres of non-MUD

land will receive all of its services from the city. Those residents could continue using a private solid waste hauler for up to two years, Collier said.

Based on the most recent estimates from the city in February, residents with an assessed home value of \$161,446 will see an increase in property taxes and fees of about \$47 a month if a limited district is in place and about \$32 without a limited district. The estimates were completed with the 2009 tax rate. However, the final bill will depend on a home's value and tax and fees approved by the city in September 2011.

Residents will receive their first tax bill including City of Austin property taxes in October.

The city first listed Springwoods MUD for annexation in 1997, but on the eve of annexation, an agreement was struck between the city and residents to postpone annexing the MUD, Krumme said.

"When the district entered into the Strategic Partnership Agreement, they were replacing an existing agreement that just extended the date out," he said. "So the reason they entered into any agreement was because if

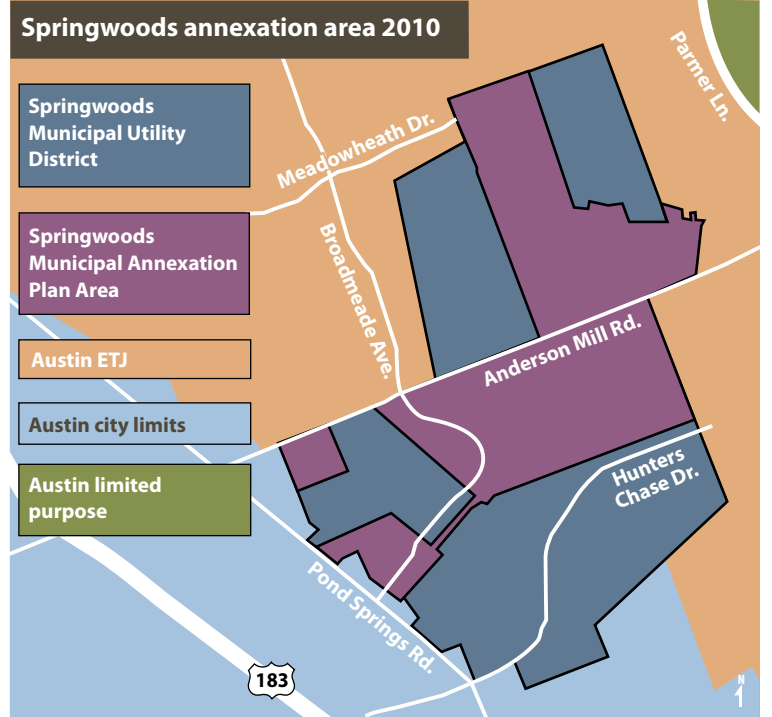
they didn't, they were going to be annexed in 1997."

The annexation received mixed reviews from residents who were concerned about increased costs. Others were in favor of annexation because of the addition of city ordinances.

"My personal opinion is that most people would rather not be annexed, but I think most of the residents understand that the district entered into an agreement with the city with regard to annexation, and we are moving forward in accordance with that agreement," Krumme said.

The final reading of the annexation ordinance was Nov. 18.

Comment at [more.impactnews.com/10625](http://more.impactnews.com/10625)



Source: City of Austin

## Annexation definitions

**Municipal Utility District:** It is a political subdivision of Texas that is authorized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to provide water, sewage, drainage and other services. A MUD may adopt and enforce necessary charges, fees and taxes to provide facilities and services.

**Austin full purpose:** Austin provides municipal services, voting privileges and taxing authority and regulates land development. The

Springwoods MUD could hold an election in May to create a limited district for 10 years and maintain its own recreational facilities and solid waste services and enforce deed restrictions.

**Austin limited purpose:** The area has city ordinances, regulations and zoning codes but no city taxes or full municipal services. Residents may vote in City Council and charter elections but not on proposals to issue bonds. Areas must convert to full purpose jurisdiction after two years unless property owners consent to waive this requirement.

## Extraterritorial jurisdiction:

This is unincorporated land within five miles of Austin's boundary that is not within the city limits or ETJ of another city in which Austin is authorized to annex land. The city regulates land subdivision with limited authority over the creation and expansion of special districts, such as municipal utility districts. No city taxes are collected, and no services are provided other than land development review. ETJ residents may vote on city referendums that impact ETJ residents.

Source: City of Austin

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# Retailers

CONTINUED FROM | 1

concrete plans.”

The uncertain economy also delayed plans for Whole Foods Market to move from its current location in the Gateway Center to The Domain, Marsh said. A smaller version of the Austin-based upscale market is being planned, but he said the store will not be ready for shoppers for at least three more years.

Whole Foods representatives announced plans earlier this year for three new Austin stores: at Hill Country Galleria, The Shops at Arbor Trails and its move into The Domain.

Plans originally called for a more than 100,000-square-foot space for Whole Foods at The Domain and a 250,000-square-foot, 10-story office building above the store, but the sour economy put an end to the office project, Marsh said.

Whole Foods plans to move into a 55,000-square-foot space at The Domain. Design and permitting work is under

way to prepare for construction, which is planned to start in the fourth quarter of 2011, for a projected opening date in spring 2013. The building will include an approximately 115-car parking area underneath the market.

The project will take about 20 months to build with about eight months of that time devoted to meeting Whole Foods’ strict building specifications.

“Each Whole Foods store is unique, as opposed to a Walmart that just stamps them out,” Marsh said. “This will be a uniquely crafted and complicated project, but it will be a very nice space when it’s all said and done.”

## Residences, park in development

Endeavor plans to open a 9-acre park at the same time it opens its first multifamily development at The Domain.

Marsh said the 300-unit project is in the conceptual phase and plans call for ground to break before the end of 2011, but no completion date has been set.

Marsh expects to complete a roughly mile-long hike-and-bike trail before spring 2013 that will allow pedestrians

and cyclists a more leisurely pace than is available on surrounding public roads.

Plans call for arrows and shared bike lanes to be painted on The Domain’s largest collector street, Alterra Parkway, which is partially completed and scheduled to open with the completion of the Whole Foods Market construction.

## Dealership to open

Nyle Maxwell Family of Dealerships was awarded rights Oct. 21 to become among the first new U.S. Fiat dealers. The former Round Rock mayor and owner of the auto group said the recent economic slowdown presents an opportunity to expand, hire and take chances.

The 6,000-square-foot showroom is planned to open in February 2011 and is expected to employ about 25 workers. Maxwell hopes to earn an Alfa Romeo franchise in 2012.

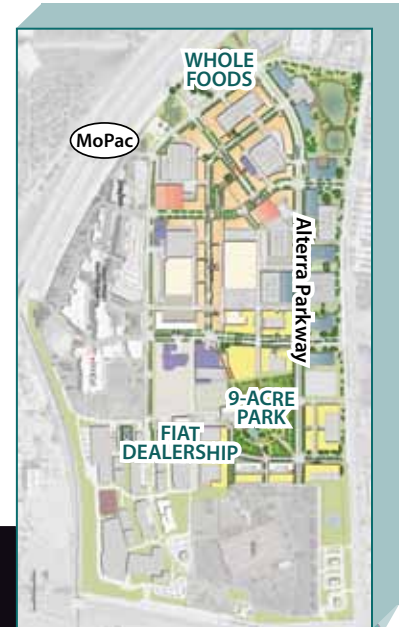
“I think it’s a good bet that Fiat is going to do well here in Central Texas and the Austin market,” Maxwell said. “Nation-wide, we may be coming out of a recession, and certainly some local families have felt the tight economy, but in general, Central

Texas hasn’t felt the pain of the recession like the rest of the country.”

For the first two years, the dealership will offer a single model, the Fiat 500, but it will be available in 14 colors and will include dozens of options, Maxwell said.

“The Domain gives us the right advantages for demographics, visibility and a wonderful centralized location,” Maxwell said. “It’s really an exciting time for us to be able to offer this state-of-the-art, very fashionable lifestyle automobile in Austin.”

Comment at [more.impactnews.com/10627](http://more.impactnews.com/10627)



## Northwest Austin’s most prominent shopping centers

Endeavor and Simon Property Group staffs continue recruiting new stores and assessing the best options for tenants to improve the shopping experience at The Domain and Simon’s Arboretum at Great Hills, Gateway Shopping Center and the Shops at Arbor Walk properties.

Nearly 20 new stores have opened this year in the area’s four most prominent shopping destinations, and several major developments are planned at The Domain, including a 9-acre park and a Fiat dealership.

### 1 The Domain

The mixed-use development built on 304 acres of former IBM property is located at 11410 Century Oaks Terrace.

#### Latest openings:

- Silver Dagger
- Papaya
- The Corner Market
- MetroDog

#### Future projects:

- Fiat dealership (February 2011)
- Whole Foods Market (spring 2013)
- Park and trails (spring 2013)

### 2 Arboretum at Great Hills

The mall that opened in 1985 offers traditional retail, classic apparel, home furnishings and several dining options.

#### Latest openings:

- Connections Dating

- Knotting Hill Photography
- Ray’s Watch and Jewelry Repair

#### Future projects:

- Two unnamed restaurants expected to move into the former T.G.I. Friday’s and former Serrano’s spaces sometime in 2011.

### 3 Gateway Center

With anchor stores that include Whole Foods Market, REI and Old Navy, Gateway is made up of national and niche local retailers.

#### Latest openings:

- TD Ameritrade
- Texas Running Company
- Gateway Nails & Spa
- Urban Mattress

#### Future projects:

- No other future plans have been announced

### 4 The Shops at Arbor Walk

Located at 10515 N. MoPac, the center opened in 2006 and offers guests national big-box retailers The Home Depot and Marshalls.

#### Latest openings:

- Aspire Salon and Spa
- Plato’s Closet
- Vitamin Cottage Natural Grocer
- Sam Moon Trading Co.

#### Future projects:

- Two remaining pad sites have been leased, and plans call for the construction to start in 2011.
- Two restaurants are expected to open in 2011, but Simon representatives declined to provide names.
- One service retailer is expected to move in sometime in 2011.



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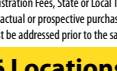
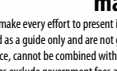
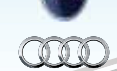
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**2010 Subaru Outback 2.5i**  
**\$23,350**

2.5L H-4cyl, Variable transmission, 9,714 miles. Stock Number: ZP4031. Vin: 4S4BRCAC5A3314215. Model Code: ADB

**2010 Audi Q7 3.0 Premium SUV**  
**\$54,900**

4 door SUV, 3.0L V-6 cyl, Automatic transmission, 9,233 miles. Stock Number: AD5537. Vin: WA1LMAFE0AD000921. Model Code: 4LB5RL

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## Residential Real Estate | Neighborhoods at a Glance

### Anderson Mill Village – 78729

This neighborhood, located east of US 183 and south of Toll 45, is close to shopping centers and is 2 miles to Lakeline Station commuter rail stop. Nearby Old Settlers Park includes athletic fields and hike and bike trails.

#### Round Rock ISD schools

- Forest North Elementary
- Deer Park Middle School
- McNeil High School

#### Featured homes



#### 9612 Woodvale Drive

3 Br/2.5 Ba | 2,476 sq. ft. \$199,900  
Agent: Evelyn Herczeg, 627-9400  
Horizon Realty



#### 9722 Moorberry St.

3 Br/2 Ba | 1,380 sq. ft. \$158,500  
Agent: Lucy Tschirhart-Sheffield, 784-3048  
Sheffield Properties



#### 9709 Copper Creek Drive

3 Br/2.5 Ba | 1,644 sq. ft. \$155,000  
Agent: Bing Yang, 579-1420  
All Side Realty



#### 9747 Anderson Village Drive

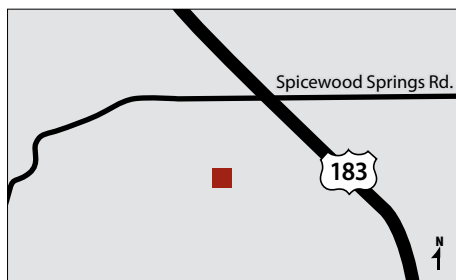
3 Br/2 Ba | 1,356 sq. ft. \$149,995  
Agent: Jeff Connally, 363-8917  
Austin Metro Realtors

### Sierra Vista – 78759

Located west of US 183, this neighborhood is nearby shopping and recreation, including the Arboretum at Great Hills and several city parks, such as Bull Creek Park.

#### Austin ISD schools

- Davis Elementary School
- Murchison Middle School
- Anderson High School



#### Featured homes



#### 6205 Harrogate Drive

4 Br/2 Ba | 2,360 sq. ft. \$335,000  
Agent: Faith Staires, 426-3115  
RE/MAX Austin Skyline



#### 10912 Sierra Oaks

4 Br/2.5 Ba | 2,309 sq. ft. \$319,900  
Agent: Janis Gillia, 310-2211  
Home Select Realty



#### 6109 Harrogate Drive

4 Br/2 Ba | 2,352 sq. ft. \$342,500  
Agent: Arlene Maze, 789-1892  
Carol Dochen Realtors Inc.



#### 11005 Sierra Nevada

4 Br/2 Ba | 2,226 sq. ft. \$322,900  
Agent: Brad Brown, 797-0626  
RE/MAX Austin Skyline

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Residential Real Estate | Market Data

Market Data provided by Austin Board of Realtors  
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On the market (October 2010)

Price range	Number of homes for sale / Average days on market				
	78727	78729	78750	78758	78759
Less than \$149,000	26 / 58 days	3 / 416 days	15 / 65 days	75 / 139 days	37 / 93 days
\$150,000–\$199,999	52 / 89 days	34 / 131 days	23 / 91 days	25 / 92 days	28 / 81 days
\$200,000–\$299,999	49 / 73 days	21 / 339 days	28 / 113 days	9 / 128 days	41 / 85 days
\$300,000–\$399,999	4 / 122 days	3 / 0 days	41 / 108 days	2 / 390 days	39 / 96 days
\$400,000–\$499,999	1 / 108 days	-	16 / 81 days	2 / 455 days	29 / 96 days
\$500,000–\$599,999	-	-	5 / 96 days	1 / 27 days	7 / 97 days
\$600,000–\$799,999	1 / 214 days	-	4 / 78 days	-	1 / 182 days
\$800,000–\$999,999	-	-	1 / 10 days	-	-
\$1 million +	-	-	-	-	1 / 170 days

Market Data include condominiums, townhomes and houses.

Monthly home sales

Month	Sold / Median price				
	78727	78729	78750	78758	78759
Oct. 2010	16 / \$182,450	17 / \$196,900	27 / \$299,000	15 / \$129,900	26 / \$294,450
Oct. 2009	31 / \$209,000	26 / \$181,600	35 / \$313,600	31 / \$133,300	36 / \$260,750
Sept. 2010	20 / \$220,900	18 / \$204,911	32 / \$302,450	13 / \$119,900	27 / \$345,000
Aug. 2010	20 / \$183,930	14 / \$181,000	26 / \$307,400	13 / \$92,900	33 / \$260,000
July 2010	22 / \$208,700	21 / \$179,900	26 / \$353,500	15 / \$134,900	30 / \$362,400
June 2010	26 / \$192,498	21 / \$172,000	47 / \$298,900	33 / \$115,000	39 / \$315,000
May 2010	44 / \$206,992	26 / \$201,000	37 / \$324,000	35 / \$124,000	47 / \$240,700
April 2010	32 / \$218,200	38 / \$209,925	52 / \$235,880	31 / \$133,000	44 / \$285,200
March 2010	27 / \$189,900	20 / \$195,148	39 / \$215,000	30 / \$131,250	31 / \$290,000

Property Listings


Northwest Austin								
ZIP code	Subdivision	Address	Bed/Bath	Sq. ft.	Price	Agent	Agency	Phone
78726	Anderson Mill Estates	11202 Centennial Trail	3br/3ba	2,850	\$350,000	Anita Kleinert	Amelia Bullock, REALTORS	327-1286
78726	Canyon Creek West	10100 Barbrook Drive	4br/2ba	2,847	\$315,000	Doreen Dillard	Coldwell Banker United REALTOR	346-1799
78726	Canyon Creek West	11419 Barbrook Cove	3br/2ba	1,831	\$230,000	Pamela Buske	RE/MAX Capital City II	704-4672
78727	Ashton Woods Condo	13900 Ashton Woods Circle	3br/2ba	1,918	\$222,000	Carol Cedato-Olivarez	Keller Williams Realty	844-6444
78727	Milwood	5915 Avery Island Ave.	3br/2ba	1,693	\$194,500	Torre Shanks	Amelia Bullock, REALTORS	346-9951
78727	Scofield	12736 Withers Way	3br/2ba	2,096	\$209,900	Catherine Collins	Stanberry & Associates	297-8131
78727	Whispering Valley Condo	4501 Whispering Valley Drive	2br/2ba	1,119	\$159,000	Suzie Gole	Keller Williams Realty	791-4223
78750	Gardens Balcones Community Inc.	11558 Spicewood Parkway	2br/2ba	1,559	\$221,000	Gail Huebel	Keller Williams Realty	848-3477
78759	Cima Oaks Condo	8501 Cima Oak Lane	2br/2ba	1,506	\$223,250	Debbi McCall	Coldwell Banker United REALTOR	691-6788
78759	Great Hills	6008 Chictora Cove	4br/3ba	3,418	\$469,900	Jackie Good	Moreland Properties	431-3395
78759	Mesa Village Condo	4159 Steck Ave.	3br/2ba	1,348	\$157,500	Carol Dochen	Carol Dochen REALTORS, INC.	345-2227

ZIP code guide

78726 Four Points  
78727 West Parmer/MoPac  
78729 Anderson Mill/McNeil  
78750 Anderson Mill/Balcones  
78758 MoPac/Braker  
78759 Great Hills/Arboretum

For additional residential real estate listings, visit [more.impactnews.com/10606](http://more.impactnews.com/10606)


The residential real estate listings were added to the market between 10/29/10 and 11/03/10 and were provided by the Austin Board of Realtors, www.abor.com. Although every effort has been made to ensure the timeliness and accuracy of this listing, Community Impact Newspaper assumes no liability for errors or omissions. Contact the property's agent or seller for the most current information.



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