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OCTOBER 2007

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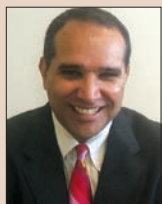
EDUCATION

PISD retires debt to balance books for bond election

BY BETH WADE

Pflugerville ISD residents will decide in November whether or not to pass a \$125 million bond package approved by the board of trustees at a regularly scheduled meeting in August. At that meeting, the board also approved the district's request to retire \$5 million in debt from a previous bond that will save the district \$2 million in interest.

Along with saving the district millions of dollars, this move will balance the debt and allow taxes to remain at the current rate if voters approve the bond, PISD Superintendent Charles Dupre said.



Charles Dupre, PISD Superintendent

"Projections show that allowing us to pay off the debt early will allow us to not have to raise the tax," Dupre said. "The district is growing rapidly and we expect it to continue to grow rapidly."

A demographer's report completed earlier this year predicted the district would double in size within the next 10 years. To support the already booming population, the district will build an elementary school with money left from the 2005 bond.

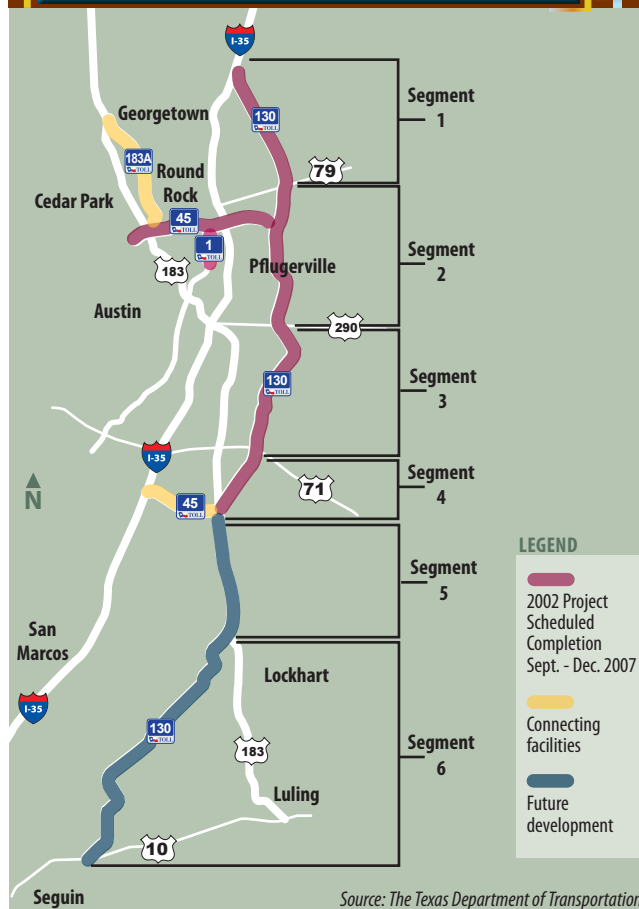
Named Riojas Elementary, the school is expected to be open by Fall 2009 in the northeastern corner of the district near Weiss Lane, said Randy Reese, assistant superintendent of community relations and partnerships.

The school board is expected to approve the land purchase for the school's site soon, he said.

For the first time, a bond committee composed of approximately 60 com-

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THE BIG PICTURE



Source: The Texas Department of Transportation

Open road to open land

Toll anticipated as eastern catalyst for commercial growth

BY SHANNON COLLETTI AND CHRISTI COVINGTON

When a new segment of SH 130, or Toll 130, opened from Hwy. 290 to Hwy. 71 last month, it gave cities in north Travis and Williamson counties direct access to the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, and potentially, to increased commerce.

"Anybody who's ever driven IH 35 in rush hour would gladly seek an alternative," Round Rock Mayor Nyle Maxwell said, "and 130 provides that alternative."

As residents in Pflugerville, Round Rock, Hutto and Georgetown try using the toll road, city officials are in various stages of planning for their portions of the corridor. The four cities have around 20 miles combined along the stretch.

Pflugerville staff has prepared infrastructure to support growth, and has begun rezoning the land

for commercial uses.

"This is extremely important," said Charles Simon, Pflugerville Community Development Corporation director. "Pflugerville has never had major frontage on a highway — ever."

The one-mile segment of the toll road in Round Rock is in the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction, and until it becomes part of the city limits, officials cannot truly put the wheels in motion.

Hutto officials recognize the importance of the land along Toll 130 and have strict land-use guidelines in place for when the land is annexed.

Mark Thomas, Georgetown's economic development director, said the city is well aware of the significance that the IH 35 and Toll 130 intersection holds.

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Possible flyover drives concern in Old Town

BY CHRISTI COVINGTON

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- TxDOT IS IN THE EARLY STAGES OF RM 620 IMPROVEMENT STUDY
- HWY. 79 FLYOVER PROJECTS CONSIDERED SINCE THE 1970S
- RESIDENTS WORRY ROUTE COULD HARM HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD

Susie Specht was cutting the hair of one of her clients, an engineer at the Texas Department of Transportation, when he mentioned her salon and home were in the direct path of a possible flyover from Hwy. 79 that would link to RM 620.

After TxDOT announced a corridor study for RM 620, Specht and other residents who live in Old Town Round Rock around the adjoining Chisholm Trail also became concerned for the historic preservation of their neighborhood, which has buildings dating to the early 1800s. Rumors circulated that the city's namesake, the round rock in Brushy Creek, could be removed or relocated.

"I am very scared," Specht said. "This is all I have."

While it is true that some landowners might have to surrender their property for a flyover from Hwy. 79 to RM 620, the area's his-

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Before building

The Texas Department of Transportation uses the national regulations as the standard for considering projects at or near historical sites

Criteria of adverse effect

An adverse effect is found when an undertaking may alter, directly or indirectly, any characteristic of a historic property that qualifies the property for inclusion in the National Register in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling or association.

Examples

- Physical destruction of or damage to all or part of the property
- Removal of the property from its historic location
- Change of the character of the property's use or of physical features within the property's setting that contribute to its historic significance
- Introduction of visual, atmospheric or audible elements that diminish the integrity of the property's significant historic features



St. Charles Hotel on Chisholm Trail

Source: The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

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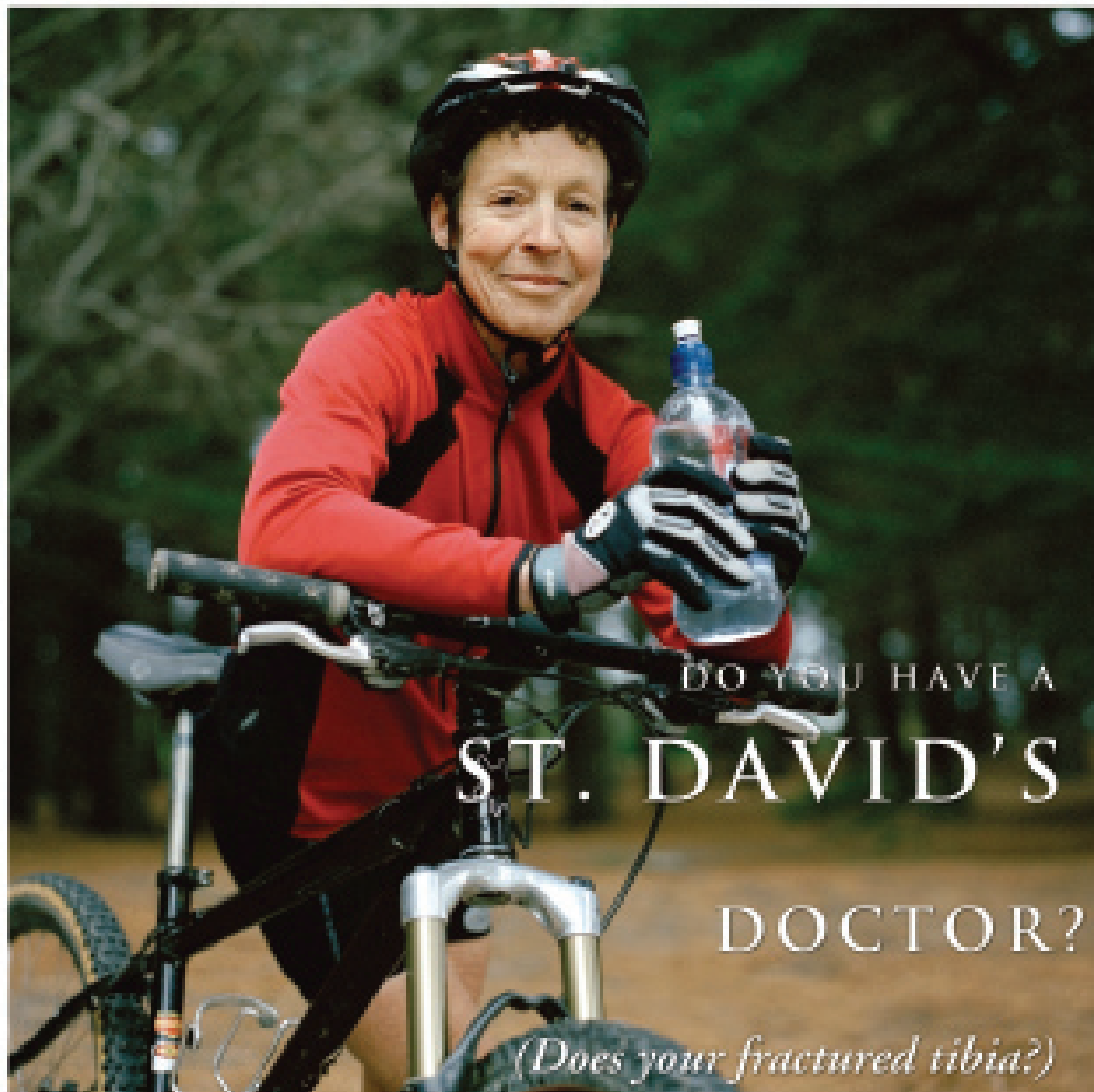
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General Manager's Note

Sara Aleman

Major road projects define regional development

A few weeks ago, I met with some friends in Lockhart, south of Austin. The new extension of Toll 130 to Hwy. 71 had just opened and I decided to explore the new route. From Round Rock, it took about 45 minutes to get to the small town. Although my trip was probably only slightly faster than if I had chosen IH 35 to US 183, the major difference I noticed was I did not have to fight traffic. I can only assume my leisure trip on Toll 130 was safer for me, if not a little faster. At the same time, it did cost me a few extra dollars.

Besides the additional transportation choice the toll roads give me as a resident, I also have an interest in understand-

ing the impact of this road for the cities surrounding it. Community Impact Newspaper is bringing this story to our readers with a description of how several regional cities have chosen to respond to the corridor.

It is not often that we choose to focus on two transportation stories in one issue, but the possible flyover from Hwy. 79 to RM 620 has become a very hot topic, especially for Old Town Round Rock residents near Chisholm Trail. We decided it was time to investigate this story and shed light on the plan's status.

In addition to the stories included in this October issue, I hope you are enjoying Connected, the annual publication you received Sept. 21. We were overwhelmed by the positive comments about our special community guide and want to thank you for your feedback.

Sara Aleman
Sara Aleman

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Community Profiles



H-E-B acquires Albertsons locations in Round Rock, Austin

H-E-B announced Sept. 12 definitive plans to acquire the Albertsons stores in Round Rock on Gattis School Road and in Northwest Austin on Research Boulevard.

From now until early November, Albertsons will continue to operate its area stores as the company winds down its local presence.

By early November, H-E-B will take possession of the locations and reopen them by early December. H-E-B plans to double the staff size at the new stores and will hold internal job fairs for Albertsons employees. After three more acquisitions in Austin, H-E-B will have 45 stores in the Austin-Round Rock area.

Financial terms of the deal will not be disclosed.

St. David's names new Chief Medical Officer in Round Rock



Dr. David Martin

St. David's HealthCare announced the addition of Dr. David Martin as chief medical officer of St. David's Round Rock Medical Center and St. David's Georgetown Hospital.

As Chief Medical Officer, Martin serves as a liaison between the medical staff and hospital administration at both hospitals and provides leadership in the areas of clinical quality improvement and patient care services.

"As a physician with a strong background in both clinical and surgical service, Dr. Martin brings a unique skill set to this very important position," said Deborah Ryle, chief executive officer of St. David's Round Rock Medical Center.

Martin has held several positions within the St. David's HealthCare system, including vice president of Medical Staff Affairs for St. David's Georgetown Hospital and chairman of the St. David's Georgetown Hospital Department of Surgery.

How to get a Community Impact Newspaper

Community Impact Newspaper is published 13 times a year and mailed to more than 207,000 households and businesses in the Round Rock, Pflugerville, Cedar Park, Leander, Georgetown, Hutto, Taylor and Austin areas.

In a world of free Internet news and decreasing newspaper circulation, CI staff believes readers still want the printed story. Each month, all residents in CI communities through direct mail receive a free copy of quality content specifically covering the news and information that will affect them.

For those who do not live in our coverage area, subscriptions are available

Publication Dates	Subscription Rates	One year (13 issues)	Per issue
Round Rock and Pflugerville: First Friday of each month	One market	\$39	\$3
Georgetown, Hutto and Taylor: Second Friday of each month	Two markets	\$71.50	\$2.75
Cedar Park and Leander: Third Friday of each month	Three markets	\$87.75	\$2.25
Northwest Austin: Fourth Friday of each month	Four markets	\$104	\$2
	Back issue		\$3.50

Call Denise Seiler at (512) 989-6808

Talk to us

Community Impact Newspaper welcomes your comments, questions and suggestions. Items to be included in the next issue must reach our office by the second Friday of the month.

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Closer Look

Riva Chung has managed to turn her passion into her work. After practicing Kung Fu-style tea ceremonies for more than 20 years, Chung opened Formosa Art Tea House at 200 E. Pecan Street.

"Ever since I was little, my father loved to drink tea and he taught me about the Kung Fu tea ceremony," Chung said.

Chung moved to the United States eight years ago after working as a molecular biologist and studying Entomology in Taiwan. She worked as a photographer in Pflugerville for four years before opening Formosa Art Tea House in February 2006.

"People said 'Don't open a tea house in America because most people there drink coffee,'" Chung said. "But I introduce and educate people about tea, and once you try it, you will love it."

Formosa Art Tea House thrives on return customers. Chung remembers when the Art Tea House first opened, being able to take days off and keep irregular hours. Now, she maintains regular business hours from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

"Everyone that walks in here keeps coming back and bringing friends and family," Chung said.

She says locals who used to travel to Austin with out-of-

BY MARK COLLINS

town guests now stay in Pflugerville and go to Formosa Art Tea House.

The tea house is not just traditional Kung Fu tea ceremonies. Chung also offers a full beverage menu which includes frappuccino, bubble tea and individual cups of tea.

Unlike typical English-style tea, Formosa Art Tea House doesn't add any milk or sugar to the tea. Chung relies on the tea leaves' original flavor to provide those sensations, which she says is so effective it often fools customers.

In addition to the full beverage menu, Chung also sells an array of gifts from tea sets to T-shirts and hand-painted wall hangings.

Chung also hosts several social events, including calligraphy lessons, poetry readings, concerts and plans to start Chinese speaking lessons.

She hopes her customer base keeps growing, but enjoys the connection she has with patrons.

"Our interaction is more like a family, it's not like a business," Chung said. "You won't walk into Starbucks and say 'I have a problem I need to talk about' or 'can I show you my art' but those are things we do here."



Riva Chung, owner

STEPS OF A TRADITIONAL KUNG FU TEA CEREMONY:

- **PREPARATION:** Fill the teapot with tea leaves and fill the pot with water. Quickly pour the tea into the cups. This stage is to cleanse the pallet and prepare the mouth for the tea.
- **BREWING:** Fill the teapot again and let it stand for 20 to 50 seconds. Pour the remaining tea from the first batch over the teapot to season the pot.
- **SERVING:** Pour into small serving cups before flipping into drinking cups. Smell the serving cup before enjoying the Kung Fu tea.

WHAT IS IN A NAME?

- The word formosa means "beautiful island" in Chinese, describing the oasis of a tea shop that Riva Chung wanted to create.



Formosa Art Tea House

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A map of the Pflugerville area in Texas, showing various roads and landmarks. The map is oriented with North at the top. Major roads include I-35 (Interstate 35) running vertically on the left, FM 1825 (Farm to Market Road 1825) running diagonally from the bottom left towards the center, and FM 1685 (Farm to Market Road 1685) running diagonally from the top right towards the center. Other roads shown include Grand Ave. Pkwy., Central Commerce, Windermere, Heatherwilde Blvd., Swenson Farms Blvd., Railroad Ave., Pecan St., Schultz Ln., Meister Ln., Pflugerville Pkwy., Kelly Ln., Weiss Ln., Cele Rd., Jesse Bohls Rd., and Cameron Rd. There are 12 numbered locations marked with red dots and numbers 1 through 12. Location 1 is near the intersection of FM 1825 and Heatherwilde Blvd. Location 2 is near Gattis School Rd. Location 3 is near Railroad Ave. Location 4 is near Cele Rd. Location 5 is near Swenson Farms Blvd. Location 6 is near Heatherwilde Blvd. Location 7 is near Railroad Ave. Location 8 is near Schultz Ln. Location 9 is near Heatherwilde Blvd. Location 10 is near Pecan St. Location 11 is near Windermere. Location 12 is near Cameron Rd. There are also two toll road markers: a blue shield with '45' and 'TOLL' near Kelly Ln., and a blue shield with '130' and 'TOLL' near Pecan St.

News or questions about Pflugerville? E-mail us at bwade@impactnews.com.

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Closer Look

Investigator thrives on protecting the innocent

BY MARK COLLINS

Anji Fussell is a licensed private investigator who has been running She Spies Private Eye for five years in Round Rock and recently moved to a new office on Joe DiMaggio Boulevard in June.

"The general public doesn't know we're here and what we can do to help them," Fussell said. "They think we're just in the movies."

While Fussell won't be caught in a trench coat and fedora, she does have a degree in criminal justice and experience as a background investigator for the Austin Police Department. She also worked as a private investigator under a former FBI agent before she was encouraged to open her own firm. Fussell chose Round Rock because she saw an area in need of her profession.

She Spies specializes in infidelity and child custody cases, but offers a multitude of other services from background checks to transports.

As a mother of four and a former juvenile probation officer, Fussell takes special interest in child custody cases. In a recent case, Fussell uncovered a divorced mother exposing her child to drugs and alcohol. After turning surveillance video over to a judge, the father was awarded primary custody.

"I can't stand to see people getting the raw end of the

deal," Fussell said. "We are able to make sure kids end up in the right home with the right parent. So many people say they wish they'd come here sooner because we could have helped them."

Because so many people are unaware of the assistance She Spies provides, Fussell strives to inform the public about her services and remain involved in the community. She is an ambassador for the Round Rock Chamber of Commerce as well as a member of Women in Business.

She Spies' staff consists of two full-time employees, five field agents and one part-time employee who helps with background checks.

Along with her Round Rock office, Fussell hopes to expand to Temple, a city she says has few private investigators.

Despite the growth of her business, Fussell said she continues to get very personally involved with each client because she understands what they are going through.

"We won't call a client and say we can't figure it out. We'll actually end up spending way more money than we're charging just because I keep pushing," she said.

"All in all it's exciting. It's rewarding when you're helping people and giving them answers."



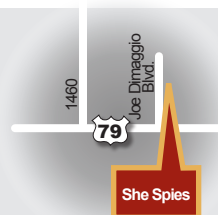
Anji Fussell, owner

SERVICES:

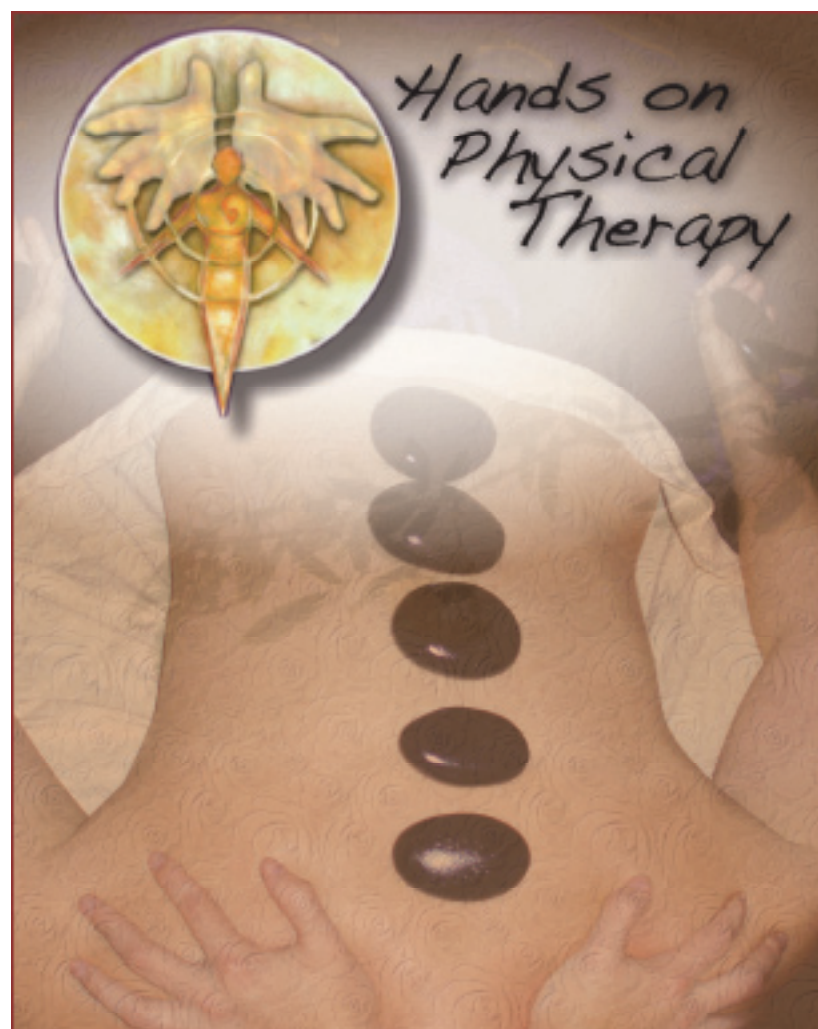
- Criminal defense investigations
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Impact Round Rock



1 Find the most hairy

The Brushy Creek Women's Association and Brushy Creek MUD will host the **Hairy Man Festival**, Oct. 13 noon to 7 p.m. in Cat Hollow Park, 8600 O'Connor Drive. Events include a hairiest man contest and other activities. Admission is two non-perishable food items or \$2. All proceeds go to **Hill Country Ministries**, the **Round Rock Serving Center**, **St. Vincent de Paul** and the **Children at Heart Foundation**. For more information, call 426-0834 or visit www.hairymanfestival.org.

2 Commissioner talk

Williamson County Precinct One Commissioner Lisa Birkman will host her Annual Open House Oct. 16, 5 - 7 p.m. at her office, 400 W. Main Ave., Ste. 216. For more information, call 733-5380.

3 New park opens

Williamson County will celebrate the grand opening of Champion Park Oct. 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a ribbon cutting and a variety of family activities. The new park is on Brushy Creek Road approximately one mile west of Parmer Lane.

4 Bring in the subs

Firehouse Subs will open Oct. 8 in the **Round Rock Crossing** shopping center, 3151 S. IH 35, Ste. 630. The sub shop offers 20 different sub sandwich combinations and 60 different hot sauce choices. The subs are served warm and seasoned to taste. For more information, call 310-0300 or visit www.firehousesubs.com.

News or questions about Round Rock? E-mail us at bwade@impactnews.com.

5 Serving Round Rock

The **Round Rock Area Serving Center**, 1099 E. Main Ave. will begin its 2007 Fall Food Drive Oct. 29. Donations of non-perishable food items are accepted at Round Rock ISD schools through Nov. 10. For more information, call 244-2431.

Donations of new or gently used coats for the Coats for Kids campaign will be accepted until Oct. 15 at the Round Rock fire stations, **Reid's Cleaners**, **Mangia Pizza**, **Texas Jumping Bean** and the **YMCA**. The center needs volunteers for distribution Nov. 3 from 8 to 11 a.m. For more information, visit www.volrock.org.

6 Downtown diva

This year marks the **Fourth Annual Christmas Diva Affair** in Historic Downtown Round Rock. The event is Oct. 18, 4 - 9 p.m., and will include food, shopping, music and door prizes from the stores located along Main Avenue. For more information, call 246-9908.

7 Consign at Stein

Stein Mart, Inc., along with the **Assistance League Georgetown Area** will host Trade In, Trade Up Oct. 5 - 7 during store hours at Stein Mart, 3021 S. IH 35, Ste. 240. Bring in clean, gently used clothing and earn up to four 20-percent off coupons. Donations benefit the Assistance League Georgetown Area thrift store.

8 A jewel of a shop

Z&M Jewelry Repair opened Sept. 4 at 1800 N. Mays, Ste. 110. The store specializes in jewelry repair, and sells gold, silver, watches, bands, batteries and custom made jewelry. For more information, call 218-1570.

9 Books for a benefit

The **Friends of the Round Rock Library** will hold its Fall Book Sale at the library on Main Avenue Oct. 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call 218-7000 or e-mail j_bow@usa.net.

10 Shop center settles

The **Old Settlers Market Place**, 1400 Old Settlers Blvd., will celebrate its grand opening with a ribbon cutting Oct. 11. The 30,000 sq. ft. shopping center has three tenants, including **Top Liquor**, **Cleenerz** and **Diamond Nails**. For more information, call 374-4949.

11 Back in office

The **Williamson County Tax Assessor-Collector Office** in Round Rock, 211 Commerce Cove, reopened Sept. 18, after being closed for several weeks. For more information, visit <http://wilco.org/tax-assessor/>.

12 Diamonds from donuts

Samuels Diamonds opened in September in the former Krispy Kreme Donuts building in La Frontera.

The 4,500 sq. ft. store has a jeweler on site. For more information, call 600-0140 or visit www.samuelsjewelers.com.

13 Spa

Sunkiss'D Salon and L'image Med Spa celebrated its grand opening Sept. 27. The spa, 1401 N. IH 35, Ste. 200, offers med spa services including microdermabrasion, chemical peels, Botox and Juvederm and other services. For more information, call 828-0600.

14 Kid smart

Baby-Wise.com, an online infant and toddler retailer, opened a retail store at 21 Cypress Blvd., Ste. 1110. For more information, visit www.baby-wise.com or call 1-888-tot-buys.

15 Flea market

The **Round Rock American Legion Auxiliary** will host a flea market Oct. 27 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Legion Hall, 1000 Georgetown St. For more information, call Donna DeGouler at 913-9883 or e-mail at donnao369@aol.com.

16 Title office

Gracy Title opened its Round Rock office, Sept. 10 in the **First State Bank** building, 505 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Ste. 220. For more information, call 244-2946.

17 Filling Frontera

Simmons Vedder & Co. broke ground on Frontera Vista, near the corner of CR 172 and Toll 45, Sept. 27. This is the first phase of two five-story Class-A office buildings totaling 270,000 sq. ft.

18 In the market

The **Dupont Group** broke ground on **Turtle Creek Market** in August at the corner of Gattis School Road and A.W. Grimes. The 8.2 acre site will include two retail buildings, totaling 31,400 sq. ft., two restaurant pads and two commercial lots, one of which is under contract to a bank. Project is to be completed in January. For more information, call 302-1500 or visit www.thedupontgroup.com.



Rendering of Turtle Creek Market

19 Scream to raise money

The Mansion of Terror, 2000 S. IH 35, will donate a portion of its proceeds to the non-profit, Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas. For more information, call 576-9570 or visit www.mansionofterror.com.

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Cost: Complimentary • Space is limited

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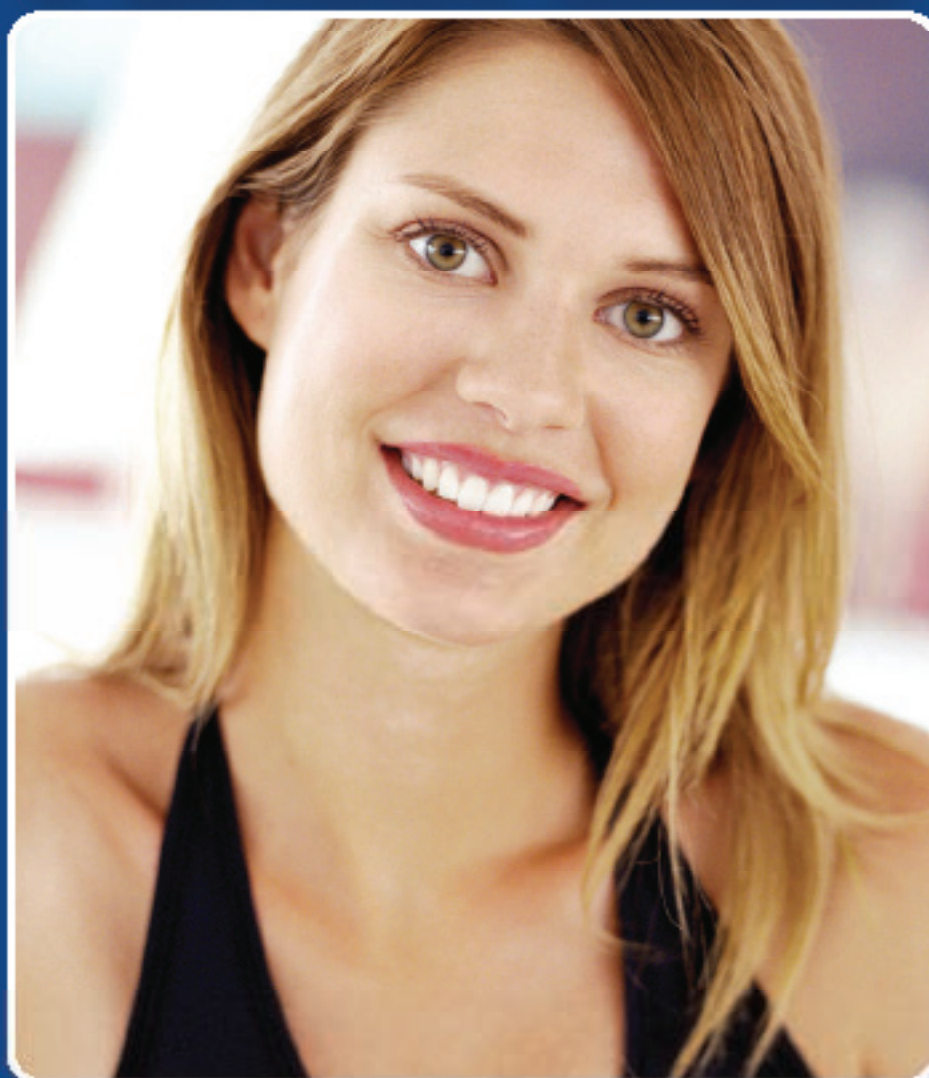
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Closer Look

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a national youth mentoring organization that matches adults with children ages 6-16. Last year, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Texas successfully matched 1,588 children with a mentor, equaling more than 82,000 hours in donated time.

"It's the most we've ever served in history," said Vice President of Marketing and Communications Melanie Chasteen. "This year our goal is 1,715."

That number is not out of reach for one of the 20 largest agencies in the United States. The Central Texas agency serves Travis, Williamson and McLennan counties and recently launched service in Hays and Burnet counties. Chasteen said the Philadelphia-based organization flourishes in the Austin area because of its size and generous citizens.

"Anybody can benefit from a mentor," Chasteen said. "If you want to be in the program or get identified as somebody who could use a good positive role model, then we will find a match."

Big Brother Big Sister volunteers are composed of people over the age of 18 who enroll and go through an interview process and pass a background and driving record check.

In addition to the screening process, mentors are ques-

tioned about their interests and hobbies so they can be successfully paired with a child.

"The process is focused on matching mutual interests. We talk to the child, the family and the big to make sure that they'll be able to connect," Chasteen said.

The organization is always looking for volunteers, especially males.

For members of the community who feel they are unable to volunteer as a big brother or big sister, the agency organizes events to help raise money. Bowl For Kids Sake is one that takes place in February of each year and encourages people to get donations and raise money through a nation-wide bowl-a-thon.

Children who successfully complete a year in the program are awarded a \$2,000 scholarship upon graduation from high school, while those who complete six months are awarded \$1,000. On top of the scholarship, 10 local colleges, including the University of Texas and Baylor University, will match the endowment.

"It is an amazing program," Chasteen said. "It isn't just about their time together. A lot of these kids aren't thinking about college and all of the sudden they have this money and that might push them to say, 'Oh hey, I could go to college.'"



Participants Steven and Frankie

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS is always looking for volunteers and requires a few hours per month. The organization offers two different programs for volunteers to choose from to make it easier to donate time.

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Spend lunch hour with the child

COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAM:

Several times a month
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Open-ended activities
Spend a couple of hours with child

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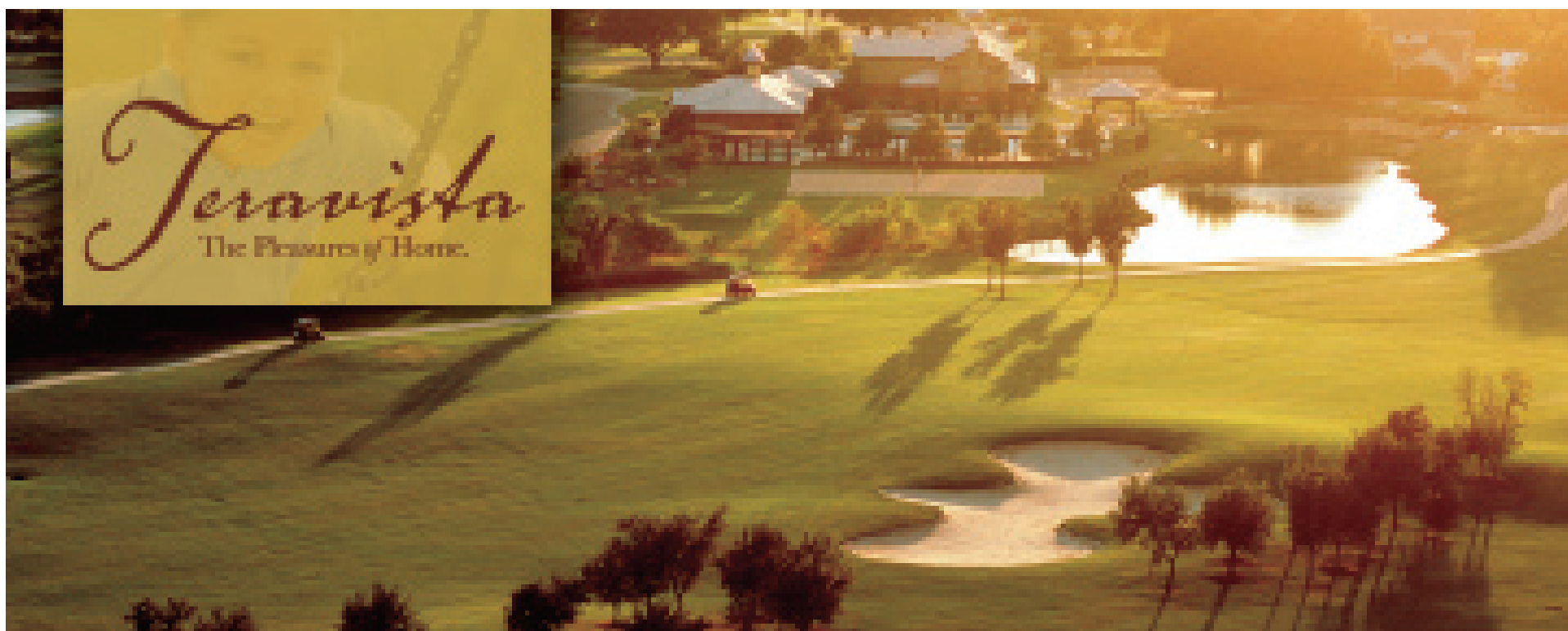
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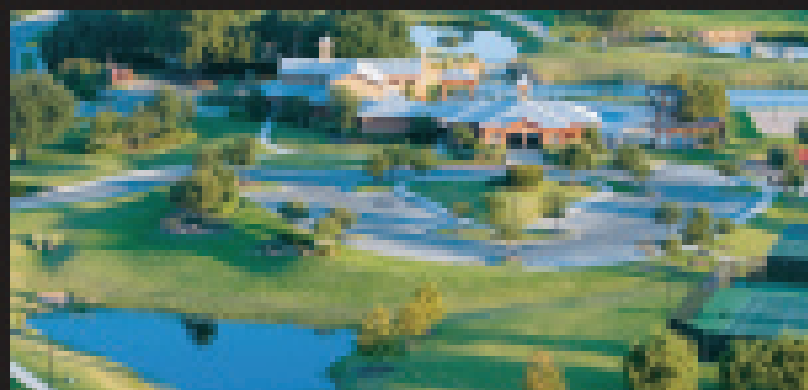
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4514 Wandering Vine Trail Lennar-Panther Collection	1,981 sq. ft.
4518 Wandering Vine Trail Lennar-Panther Collection	1,981 sq. ft.
4119 Fairmeadow Drive Morrison Homes	1,991 sq. ft.
4169 Ridgebend Drive Highland Homes	1,991 sq. ft.
1103 Green Tree Drive Texas Big by Legacy	4,000 sq. ft.



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Residential Real Estate Report

Round Rock & Pflugerville MLS area

On the market

August 1 - August 31

Price Range	No. of homes for sale		Average days on market	
	Round Rock	Pflugerville	Round Rock	Pflugerville
Less than \$100,000	17	2	114	10
\$100 - \$149.9k	213	186	62	67
\$150 - \$199.9k	275	272	73	78
\$200 - \$299.9k	430	191	86	85
\$300 - \$399.9k	224	17	92	55
\$400 - \$499.9k	104	1	121	69
\$500 - \$749.9k	34	2	138	194
\$750 - \$999.9k	3	3	270	379
\$1 Million +	2	-	89	-

Monthly home sales

Month	No. of sales		Average price	
	Round Rock	Pflugerville	Round Rock	Pflugerville
August 2007	266	147	\$222,665	\$166,232
August 2006	329	169	\$199,619	\$165,124
July 2007	276	153	\$217,475	\$165,213
June 2007	314	140	\$210,943	\$167,297
May 2007	286	131	\$205,450	\$161,533
April 2007	250	116	\$189,850	\$161,158
March 2007	250	110	\$217,854	\$156,805

Key stats

Round Rock

+\$23,046

Change in
average
selling
price over
last year

Pflugerville

+\$1,108

-85

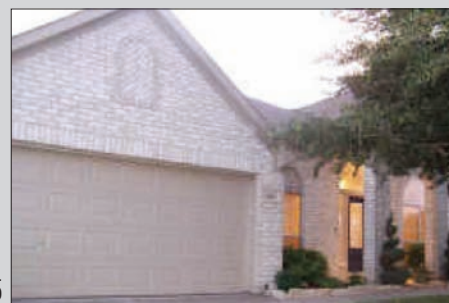
Change in number of
homes sold over last year

SOLD

Data provided by Coldwell Banker United
(www.coldwellbankerunited.com)

Settlers Ridge
Pflugerville - 78660

Agent:
Cheryl K. Jenkins
699-6530



4 Br./2 Ba.
\$179,000

805 Brown Dr.

Hidden Glen
Round Rock - 78681

Agent:
Ronnie R. Marley
417-7342



5 Br./4.5 Ba.
\$374,900

1113 Hidden Glen Dr.

Sonoma
Round Rock - 78665

Agent:
Lisa Rene Meier
423-3497



4 Br./2.5 Ba.
\$199,000

636 Arrowood Pl.



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PISD's November bond

CONTINUED FROM |1

munity members and key stakeholders formed the current bond package.

The committee spent the late spring and summer determining what the district needs to do to maintain its current facilities and curriculum and keep up with growth.

"[The bond] is a truly need-based, targeted effort, and it is basically a package with no frills," said David Larsen, a committee member representing Connally High School. "It is based on necessity and identified needs. There are three new schools, plus planning for a high school."

In the bond

The bond includes \$67.6 million assigned for new schools and the design of the fourth high school, along with money for student instruction, safety and security improvements, building renovations and future school sites.

Now that the package is complete, the district will focus on publicizing it. Reese and other district officials hosted a community forum at Connally High School. A second forum will be held at Pflugerville High School Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. in the school's cafeteria.

"We want to lay the facts out for everybody and encourage them to go out and vote. That is the most important thing," Reese said. "Our taxpayers have passed every bond referendum we have had since 1988."

Taxpayers will have their say on Election Day, but so far, Reese said, he has yet to hear negative comments.

"In order to keep up with the classroom space needed for increasing enrollment (it went up again 1,150 in just the last year) we are going to need more schools in the near future. I feel good about what we are asking from the voters, because it has gone through our citizen's bond committee, and we have had a lot of eyes looking at it," Reese said. "We feel it's a good package. I feel we have been very fiscally responsible in this."

Bond breakdown

The PISD proposed bond will appear on the Nov. 6 ballot

Summary

1. New schools \$67,600,000

Includes: Three new campuses including a middle school and two elementary schools

2. Facility renovation \$25,749,000

Includes: Sports fields and science labs

3. Student instruction \$12,500,000

Includes: Computer replacement, classroom projectors

4. Technology infrastructure \$5,600,000

Includes: Server and storage upgrade

5. Safety and security \$868,000

Includes: Upgrade and standardize the radio system for campuses and departments

6. Future school sites \$8,500,000

7. Contingency and bond issuance cost \$4,183,000

Includes: Estimated bond issuance cost and contingency

Grand Total - \$125,000,000

FUTURE SCHOOLS

Middle School #6
\$28,150,000

Elementary School #20
\$18,250,000

Elementary School #19
\$17,200,000

For more information on early voting, Election Day and polling places, visit www.pflugervilleisd.net.

LEAST

Caldwell Elementary renovations
Campus security system: \$60,000

IN-BETWEEN

Copperfield Elementary renovations
HVAC units: \$180,000
Air-handling units: \$260,000
Campus security system: \$60,000

Facility renovations

Amount each school would receive

Pflugerville High
\$11,800,000

Connally High
\$5,790,000

Park Crest Middle
\$920,000

Spring Hill Lane Elementary
\$740,000

Windermere Primary
\$740,000

Westview Middle
\$720,000

Pflugerville Middle
\$690,000

Brookhollow Elementary
\$659,000

Pflugerville Elementary
\$550,000

Copperfield Elementary
\$500,000

River Oaks Elementary
\$440,000

Parmer Lane Elementary
\$398,000

Northwest Elementary
\$280,000

Hendrickson High
\$250,000

Timmerman Elementary
\$150,000

Kelly Lane Middle
\$130,000

Dessau Middle
\$130,000

Caldwell Elementary
\$60,000

Delco Primary
\$60,000

Dessau Elementary
\$60,000

Murchison Elementary
\$60,000

Highland Park Elementary
\$60,000

Riojas* Elementary
\$60,000

Rowe Lane Elementary
\$60,000

Wieland Elementary
\$60,000

Opportunity Center
\$60,000

*Future school. Money planned to install security system.

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\$150,000 - \$199,999....	4.50%	4.59%
\$200,000 and Above....	4.75%	4.85%

CERTIFICATE RATES		
Minimum Deposit:	\$1,000	\$95,000
6 Months.....	5.28%	5.38%
12 Months.....	5.34%	5.44%
24 Months.....	5.35%	5.46%
36 Months.....	5.39%	5.49%
48 Months.....	5.42%	5.52%
60 Months.....	5.46%	5.56%

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6.20% APR*		
20 Yr.		
6.30% APR*		

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Principal: Dr. Nelson Coulter *
Open Since: 2003
Total Students: 1,417
2006 Teacher/Student Ratio: 16.3
2006 Economically Disadvantaged: 26.2%
2007 Accountability Rating: Academically Acceptable
2007 TAKS Scores
Grade 9: Reading 93%, Math 76%
Grade 10: Reading 93%, Math 70%
Grade 11: English Language Arts 95%, Math 87%

KELLY LANE MIDDLE SCHOOL

18900 Falcon Pointe Blvd.
Pflugerville, TX 78660 • 594-2800

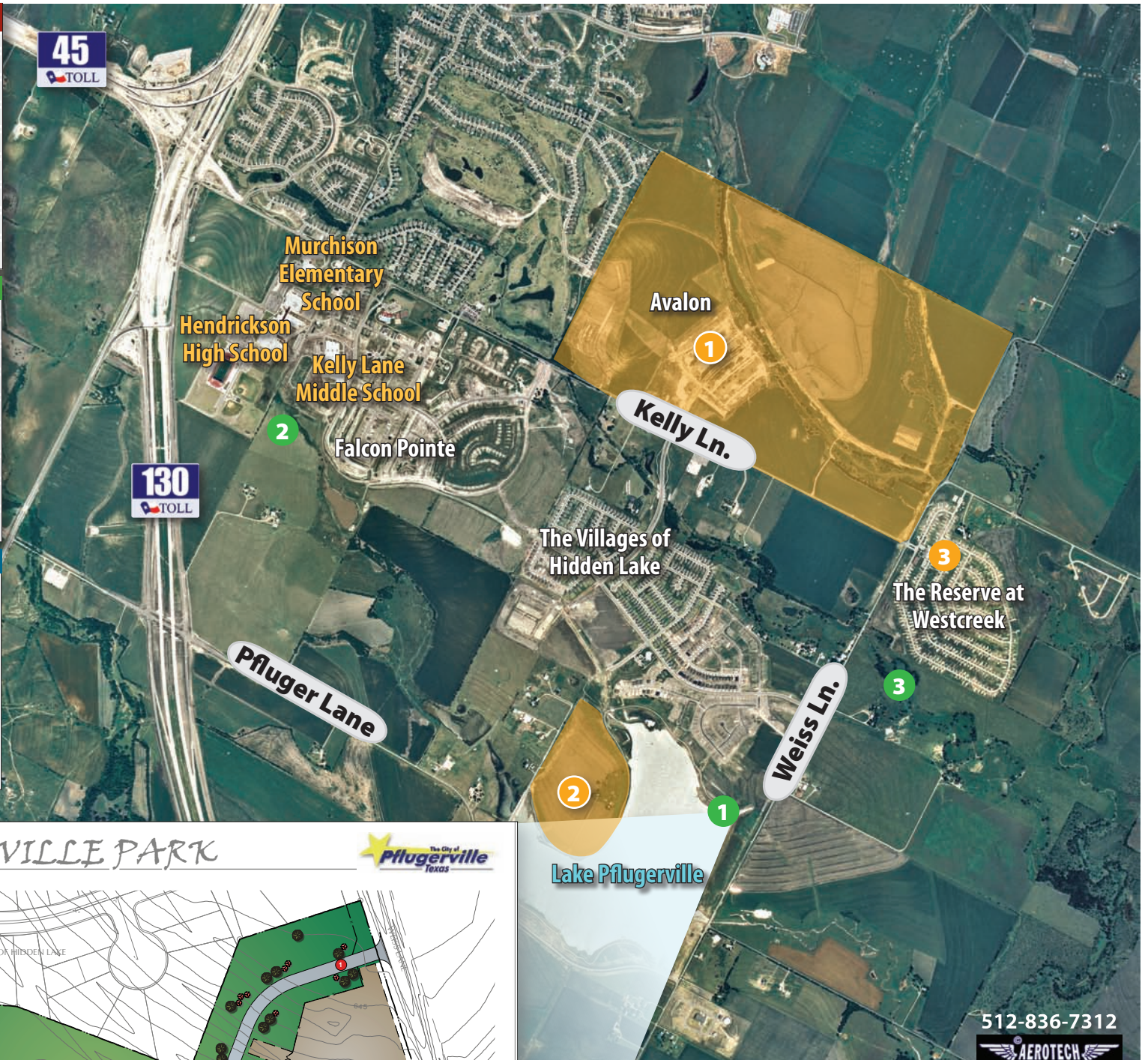
Principal: Rachelle Warren
Open Since: 2006
Total Students: 675
2007 Accountability Rating: Academically Acceptable
2007 TAKS Scores
Grade 6: Reading 97%, Math 82%
Grade 7: Reading 91%, Math 81%
Grade 8: Reading 95%, Math 85%

Kelly Lane does not have demographic statistics because it is newly opened.

MURCHISON ELEMENTARY

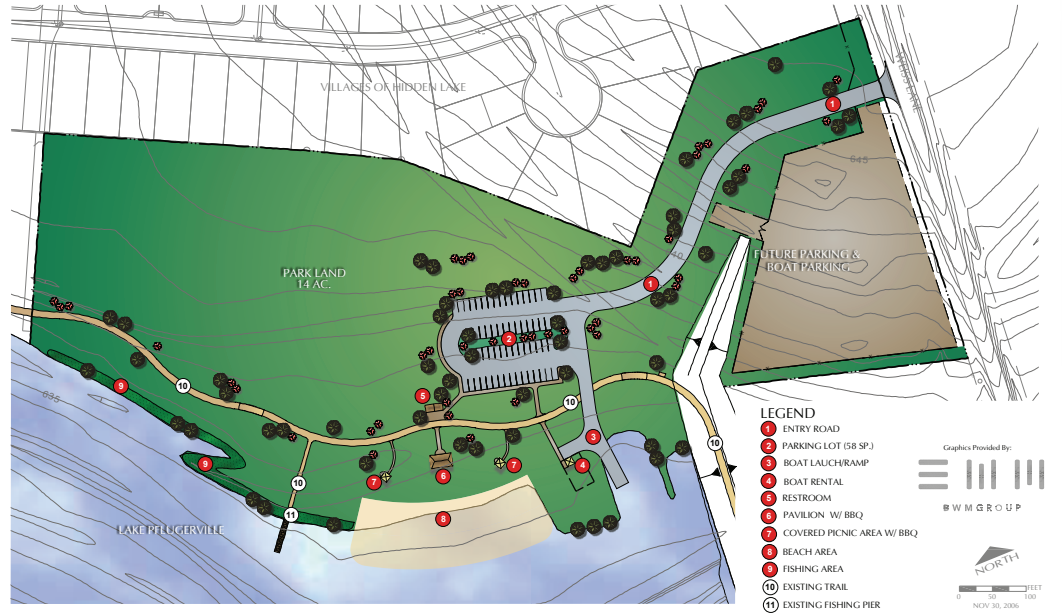
2215 Kelly Lane
Pflugerville, TX 78660
594-6000
www.pflugervilleisd.net/MES

Principal: Cindy Wright
Open Since: 2000
Total Students: 633
2006 Teacher/Student Ratio: 15.3
2006 Economically Disadvantaged: 21.1%
2007 Accountability Rating: Recognized
2007 TAKS Scores
Grade 3: Reading 100%, Math 94%
Grade 4: Reading 88%, Math 90%
Grade 5: Reading 93%, Math 92%



LAKE PFLUGERVILLE PARK

SITE PLAN



Residential

- 1** Avalon has future plans to build out a total of 1,482 home sites on its 540 allotted acres during the next several years.
- 2** Villages of Hidden Lake will continue its build out on the peninsula of Lake Pflugerville. Plans include a total of 264 homes on the peninsula, making the total number of home sites around 1,300. Lennar Home Builders is partnering with Buffington Capital Holdings on the development.
- 3** The Reserve at Westcreek has future build-out plans of 594 home sites.
Falcon Pointe, Villages of Hidden Lake and Avalon are all in Municipal Utility Districts. MUD residents pay taxes to the MUD directly to pay back the

debt that was issued when the MUD was first developed.

Parks and Trails

1 Lake Pflugerville Park

The Pflugerville Parks and Recreation Department have plans to build new structures around Lake Pflugerville, including a group pavilion, covered picnic locations, a boat launch along with new parking. Additional recreational activity facilities will include a swimming area and a place to rent non-motorized marine vehicles such as paddle boats, canoes and kayaks. The city will also plant numerous trees to beautify the area.

The project will cost an estimated \$750,000. Two

grants have already been made for the project, including one for \$200,000 from the Lower Colorado River Authority. The other grant is for \$100,000 from the Pflugerville Community Development Corporation. The remaining funding will be determined during upcoming city council meetings.

- 2** Also under construction is a new park behind Hendrickson High School that will open by the end of October. This park, funded by Newland Communities, will include an 18-hole disc golf course, playground, small lake with surrounding granite trail, open play fields and shaded picnic benches with barbecue grills. The city intends to plant many new trees around the area.
- 3** The City of Pflugerville Parks and Recreation Department also has park land off Weiss Lane next to the Reserve at Westcreek. Future plans include a possible hiking trail.

History

Lake Pflugerville opened in April of 2006. The man-made lake provides the citizens of Pflugerville with water by utilizing surface water from the Lower Colorado River Authority as opposed to a ground water supply.

RM 620 changes

CONTINUED FROM 1

tory must be preserved by federal and state law, TxDOT spokesperson Marcus Cooper said.

"We cannot build within a certain area that will impact historical sites," he said. "We would not take out the round rock."

Path to improvement or destruction

City of Round Rock's Public Works Director Tom Word remembers looking at the need for the flyover, a bridge that would arch over IH 35, since the 1970s, when he was employed at TxDOT. He said the road has a pattern of traffic they have long observed and has caused complaints. The flyover is a linkage that makes sense to him.

"You can just observe it by looking at a map. From 79, it is a really short line to the 620 roadway if you could just connect it. We think we could eliminate a certain amount of traffic," he said.

A map provided by TxDOT at a May 15 open house at Round Rock High School shows two route options that will be considered in the ongoing study anticipated for completion next year.

One includes improvements to RM 620 from Toll 45 to IH 35 with bridges at major crossings such as the Georgetown Railroad. The other would also bring improvements to part of the existing route, except the section between Deep Wood Drive and IH 35, with a new connection from RM 620 to Hwy. 79 over IH 35.

Although traffic on RM 620 has decreased by 30 percent since the toll roads opened, Word still describes it as one of the

city's most congested roadways.

Rep. Mike Krusee said at a neighborhood association meeting Sept. 18 that rather than pushing more traffic into the narrow corridor of Main Avenue at downtown Round Rock, which the first option would do, the second alternative explores directing the traffic to the wider Hwy. 79 corridor.

A few years ago, the city conducted its own study for the flyover and road extension to Deep Wood Drive, but found they could not afford the \$70 to \$80 million it would take. Around the same time, the county explored improving RM 620 from IH 35 to Deep Wood Drive and then gave the results to TxDOT, which is responsible for the state-owned road.

Word said TxDOT decided to then join the projects into a cohesive whole, which resulted in the public hearing this spring for initial feedback from stakeholders.

Other voices

Specht, who owns Miss Susie's Salon, Inc. at the corner of Galloping and Sam Bass roads built her store 18 years ago with living space on top. That is where she planned to stay the rest of her life.

It was not that she did not know this could ever happen. One of her friends, Jim Nuse, who is also the city manager of Round Rock, had told her more than a decade ago that a flyover might eventually come. However, she did not think it would affect her directly.

"I can not even imagine. I thought I was very safe," she said. "There are two historic buildings behind me owned by Jim Boles [owner of Summit Commercial and Indus-

trial Properties Inc.]. I did not think they would come too close."

Now she is not too sure.

Attorney Brenda Rhea runs her law office out of the old St. Charles Hotel on Chisholm Trail. She bought the historic home because of her love for antiques and history. At Christmas, she hosts parties that are sometimes open to the public.

After reading about the flyover in a newspaper article in July, she led a meeting with Susie Specht and other neighbors

"Who can stop it?" she said. "The public? Maybe. They can weigh heavily on what TxDOT does. We are looking at all possibilities."

In the end, Specht said if the study reveals this is really the best way to alleviate traffic then she will understand.

"This town has been very good to me. I don't forget that," she said. "I just ask them not to forget me."

However, she is also still concerned for many of her neighbors who have land that may not have much value, but whose families have lived there for generations as some of Round Rock's early Hispanic settlers.

"We are kind of the red-headed stepchild over here. They do not even fix our roads. Many of the people over here are poor or lower income," Specht said.

Next steps

Cooper said it is too soon to worry yet. TxDOT often conducts these type of feasibility studies. Sometimes they manifest into projects and sometimes they do not. It will largely depend on the environmental, historical and economic impact, which is not yet determined, he said.

Early route options

Project summary: The Texas Department of Transportation is exploring two routes of improvement to RM 620.



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From his experience with the state department, Round Rock Transportation Director Tom Martin expects TxDOT will take as much initiative in preserving the community's history as the city would.

"They study it more in-depth than we do," he said. "They will look for caves, endangered species. The state has to look at historical impact. That is why you see funny

twists and turns in roads. They are avoiding things like that. They are not going to be like bulls in a china cabinet."

Although not yet scheduled, another open house will take place sometime this fall with study results expected sometime next summer.

"It is just waiting now," Specht said.



Miss Susie's Salon, Inc. at the corner of Galloping Road and Sam Bass Road would be in the path of the possible flyover at Hwy. 79.



A cabin circa the 1840s is possibly the oldest structure in town.



At IH 35 and Sam Bass Road where the flyover might cross at Hwy. 79.



The post office would be removed if the flyover was built, according to the city's study.

Within the last three years, the City of Round Rock conducted its own study on the possibility of building an extension from Hwy. 79 to RM 620 at Deep Wood Drive. The city said historical locations would be protected. City Manager Jim Nuse said some private land acquisition would be necessary. The city did not move forward with the project because of costs estimated at \$70 to \$80 million.

Source: City of Round Rock

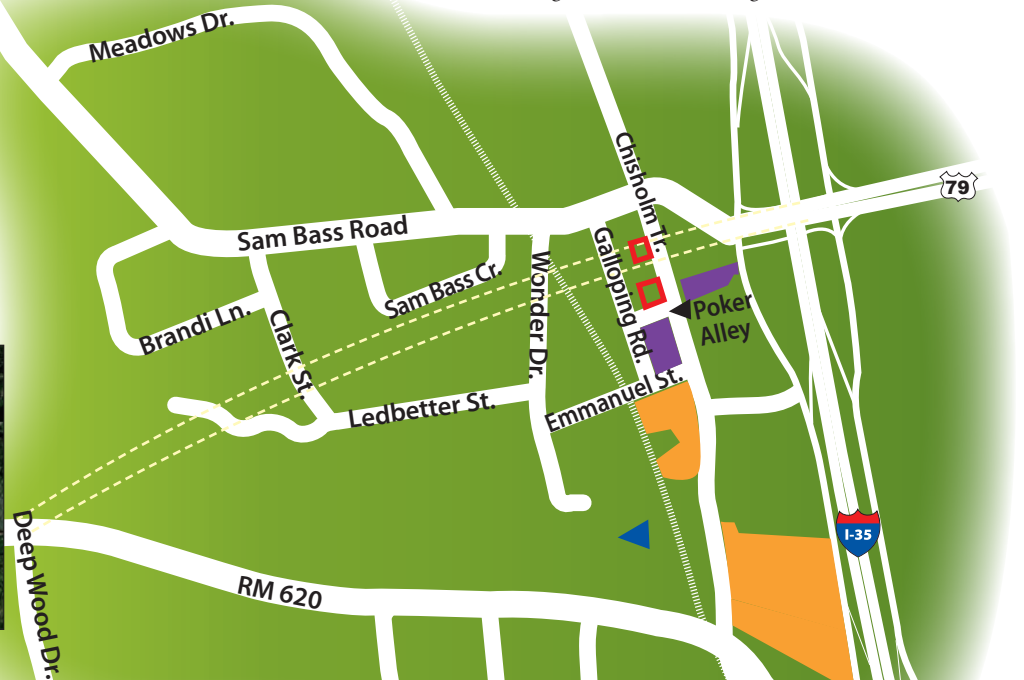
In Old Town



As an alternative route to a flyover at Hwy. 79, a bridge might be built over RM 620 at the Georgetown Railroad crossing.



The old Georgetown Railroad heading towards RM 620.



- | | |
|---|---|
| RM 620/Hwy. 79 flyover | Railroad |
| Round Rock historic district property | Recorded TX archeological site |
| National register of historic places property | Round Rock historic district properties |

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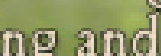
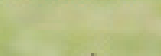
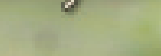
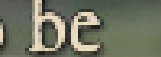
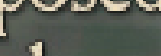
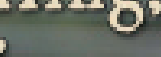
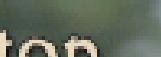
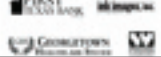
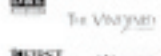
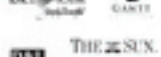
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New zoning makes dense building easier

By CHRISTI COVINGTON

Jollyville Road may soon be a key site for building higher, rather than wider, in Northwest Austin.

The city council could approve measures as early as November to adopt the corridor into the recently created vertical mixed-use, or VMU, overlay district, a zoning that will allow developers to work within a new flexible design standard.

Similar to downtown at Second Street, buildings in the overlay would have retail or offices on the first floor with residences in upper spaces. In theory, the density could reduce sprawl and congestion, but maintains or increases property values.

"It is aimed at creating an opportunity that accommodates commercial or retail use while supporting a walking environment," said George Adams, assistant director of neighborhood planning and zoning.

A proponent of VMU, city council member Brewster McCracken, said the Jollyville area has the population to support mixed-use living and has an extra benefit as the only corridor that falls into the Round Rock Independent School District.

In Austin, developers have had a difficult time building dense mixed-use projects because design standards did not allow it. A Planned Unit Development had to be

created to allow for the Domain project because PUDs allow more flexibility in design standards, such as a mixture of housing and business. However, since PUDs are created individually and with the flexibility aspect in mind, they also cause uncertainty. In contrast, the VMU overlay sets universal and comprehensive regulations.

As a part of the design standards ordinance, the overlay concerns all commercially-zoned sites on the Core or Future Core Transit Corridors. The overlay largely focuses on major traffic points and central parts of the city.

In the next few months, the council will finalize the areas that will use the ordinance. Once in place, a developer could agree to follow special building frontage and affordable housing requirements in exchange for a reduction in parking space, setbacks and density caps such as those demanded in other venues.

This summer, after six months of preparation, the city gave neighborhood associations approximately 150 days to respond to VMU, declaring whether they would like to be included or not. No one from Jollyville neighborhoods filed an application suggesting any preference, Adams said.

Another corridor, this one near Mesa and Spicewood Springs, could also be included, but only with more discussion.

Adams has also heard questions of possible residual traffic as a result of more people living in a tighter area and the city's ability to accommodate infrastructure.

TERMS TO KNOW:

Vertical mixed use: Buildings with a vertical emphasis that include two or more uses, such as retail and residential. In the Jollyville area, buildings will not exceed 60 ft.

Vertical mixed-use overlay: A one-time designation that enables vertical mixed-use redevelopment in commercially zoned areas along core transit corridors and future core transit corridors.

Core transit corridor: Primary areas targeted for vertical mixed-use redevelopment with regulations such as all parking space only allowed behind or on the side of buildings. The CTCS establishes pedestrian-friendly design regulations for all new commercial buildings, whether or not the developer builds with VMU.

Future core transit corridor: Primary areas targeted for vertical mixed-use redevelopment, but with more flexible regulations. Some parking is allowed in front of buildings.

Planned Unit Development (PUD): A type of zoning that encourages large-scale, united land development with mixed uses. Standards are defined as a PUD is formed.

Future core transit corridor

That is something Austin has faced in the past, he said.

"It does not seem that different from accommodating redevelopment of older neighborhoods that are 70, 90 or 100 years old. We have to deal with the infrastructure in those situations. Any significant development has to deal with that," he said.

This fall, the city anticipates the overlay cases will come to the council for public hearings and approvals where each neighborhood will be considered individually. Depending on the level of controversy, some cases could go quickly while others will take longer. Property owners whose businesses or residences fall in the overlay have not yet been contacted, but will be once public hearings begin, Adams said.

Other stories

impactnews.com

Show time
Taylor's historic Howard Theatre continues to play films after 80 years.

Biotech buzz
Georgetown becomes home to a biotech life sciences center.

ABRIDGED STORIES FROM OUR RECENT LEANDER/CEDAR PARK, NORTHWEST AUSTIN AND GEORGETOWN/HUTTO/TAYLOR PUBLICATIONS

Unlike national trend, local real estate strong

BY KARA VAUGHT

A Florida company recently backed out of a \$4 billion mixed-use development in Leander, citing the downturn in the national housing market as the reason why it could not rely on big homebuilders to join the project.

But Central Texas is not off the company's radar, said Joseph Macau, Avalon Park Group's chief financial officer.

"We are still in the Austin market, and we feel, as recent studies have shown, that Austin is still one of the best markets in the United States for housing."

With the national media coverage of sub-prime loans and the resulting housing slump, locals could get the impression that Central Texas homes are also built on shaky financial ground.

"Yes, it may be tough to be a homeowner in many markets around the country," wrote Kiersty Lombard, team leader of Central Texas Elite Homes, Keller Williams, on her real estate blog, "but our area is among one-third of the top 100

markets in the U.S. that is appreciating. It infuriates me that often the local media will just run with whatever scripts are provided by the national news source and not customize it for the local market."

While not insulated from the national market, the Austin area housing market remains stable because it did not follow a boom trend two years ago.

"California had annual appreciation of 38 percent and Nevada 27 percent. In Texas, it was less than 4 percent," said Mark Sprague, with Residential Strategies, which tracks and forecasts the real estate market. "Local people [were worried], but I said, 'No, this is a good thing. We have no place to fall from this creative financing.'"

The hot real estate market in other areas of the country was spurred by bad lending practices, namely sub-prime loans, said John Rosshirt of Stanberry and Associates Realtors in Cedar Park.

"They had just unbelievable double-digits appreciation, but the market readjusts itself when it gets too far over. The pendulum swings back," Rosshirt said.

Another reason for this area's stability is its lower cost of living.

"The sheer volume of sub-prime loans taken out by consumers in the Austin area is well below what

you see in San Diego and Florida," said Stuart Sutton of Prudential Texas Realty in Round Rock.

Sutton said sub-prime loans will still have an effect locally, but that effect will be far less severe here than in other parts of the county.

Carolyn Nelson, owner of Synterra Property Group in Cedar Park, said that only qualified buyers will receive financing in the post sub-prime world.

"Lenders are just getting stricter. They are going to tighten their belts and not give loans as easily."

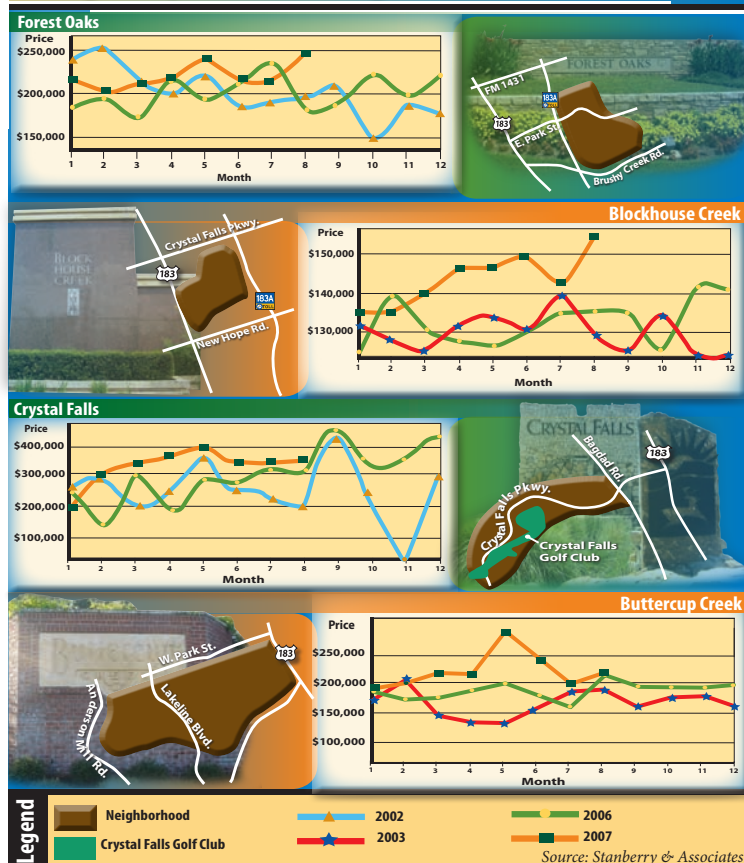
Buyers who deserve loans, meaning those with good credit and money in reserve, will not have a problem, she said.

"Certain types of loans aren't being made anymore, and that is decreasing the availability of the supply of buyers," he said. "But for the good, well-qualified buyers, we have lots of loans."

Other factors keeping Central Texas attractive in the housing market are job creation and quality of life.

"We've had 28,000 or 29,000 jobs created in the last 12 months. That's good, but more important than that is that we've seen only 4,000 announced jobs, which is a major corporation announcing that they are going to have jobs," Sprague said. "The rest of those

Average sales prices in various neighborhoods



26,000 plus jobs have been created by people just moving here."

Recent developments have primed the area for more growth.

"Leander and Cedar Park are in a particularly good place because of the transit-oriented develop-

ment and FM 1431," Sprague said. "There's nothing left on the south side of the lake for people to buy, so the north side of the lake that used to be considered geographically undesirable is now much closer to town."

As landfill grows, so does controversy

BY SHANNON COLLETTI

Williamson County has owned the Williamson County Landfill since its creation in 1981. Located in Hutto on Hwy. 1660, between Hwy. 29 and Hwy. 79, the landfill occupies 202 acres and is permitted a maximum height of 70 feet.

Waste Management has been the landfill's operator since the mid-1980s.

Eighteen months ago, the county began negotiating its contract terms with Waste Management.

The negotiations appeared to be over Aug. 28, when the Williamson County Commissioners were expected to vote on the revised contract, but the commissioners tabled the contract instead.

Only County Judge Dan Gattis voiced his stance against postponing a decision.

"Not voting for [the contract] today is a mistake. We've got a cancer that is affecting the community, and we need to move on,"

Gattis told the commissioners.

The landfill is a Type 1 municipal solid waste landfill that accepts non-hazardous household, commercial, industrial and special wastes, as well as construction and demolition debris. The landfill does not accept hazardous materials.

In Williamson County alone, residents and businesses generate more than 1,500 tons of trash per day.

The Capital Area Council of Governments has determined that Central Texas residents generate an average of 8.73 pounds of trash per day.

The population of Williamson County is 353,830, according to the most recent estimate by the U.S. Census Bureau in 2006. By multiplying 8.73 and 353,830, it shows that the county generates 3,088,935 pounds, or 1,544 tons, of trash daily.

Steve Jacobs, Central Texas landfills manager at Waste Management, said that between 35 and 40 percent of it lands in

the landfill. This results in about 600-1,400 tons of it being hauled to the Williamson County Landfill every day.

The county and Waste Management last amended their contract in 2003. The revised contract would increase the revenue the county receives from 7.5 percent to 13 percent. It would also limit the origin of waste to a region of seven contiguous counties, limit the amount of waste brought into the landfill to the amount that Williamson County can generate and create a 40-year life of the agreement.

Stephen Ackley, civil litigation chief for the Williamson County Attorney's Office, said the county only has two options: remain with the current 2003 contract or approve the contract amendments.

Along with the contract negotiations, the county is also seeking approval to expand the landfill.

At its current size, the landfill has 15 more years of remaining disposal capacity.

In 2003, Waste Management filed an expansion application with TCEQ. Although

the paperwork may be from Waste Management, the county remains the owner, or "permit holder," for the landfill.

The application called for an additional landfill footprint that, combined with the current capacity, is projected to provide more than 45 years of additional capacity.

Last year, TCEQ referred the expansion application to the State Office of Administrative Hearings to enter a process known as "direct referral," which allows an administrative judge to examine issues concerning the expansion permit.

The judge will then make a recommendation to TCEQ for a final decision on the expansion permit.

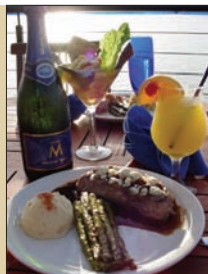
The goal of the direct referral process is to satisfy public concern for a more open process. Although the SOAH hearings ended Aug. 31, the process is expected to take several more months to complete.

As officials decide what path to take with the landfill, a task with no clear end in sight, the landfill will continue to provide a crucial service to citizens all over the region.



Open-air café

Seasonal seafood café Café Bleu is on the edge of Lake Travis and offers fine dining in a relaxed atmosphere.



City bond

The Cedar Park City Council has approved a \$81.6 million-price tag for a November bond election that would include roads, city hall, parks and public safety projects.



Incentives

Residents question the City of Austin's tax incentives bestowed on The Domain.



Bootleggers

In the 1930s during Prohibition, bootleggers stash whiskey near Jollyville.





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HAO-HAO VIETNAMESE-CHINESE RESTAURANT

Consistent quality keeps Hao-Hao a local favorite

BY ANN M. CALVERT

Our late lunch at Hao-Hao Vietnamese-Chinese Restaurant found most of the tables still packed with diners. One table had eight professionals dressed in scrubs from nearby St. David's Hospital. Some sort of committee met at another table while families and couples filled the rest. It was clear that people were comfortable and content in this neighborhood establishment.

Owner Y Quach said before Sept. 11 they also had a special noon buffet set up for the Round Rock High School students who walked across the street from the campus each day to eat at Hao-Hao. One of the results of that tragedy, though, was the district eliminating off-campus lunchtime except for seniors. Several of the seniors still come daily he said, even without the benefit of the "school-only" buffet.

Since many of the diners placed their orders without looking at menus, loyal diners must return often. They know they can expect food to be consistently fresh, and delicious.

I am not normally a buffet person, preferring instead to order from the menu. After perusing, however, and discovering how frequently it was monitored by the attentive staff (about every three minutes), I decided to enjoy the extensive selections offered on the buffet. (\$5.74)

The broccoli, snow peas and other such veggies were healthy, fresh and stirred to perfection; the cashews were crunchy; the chicken dishes used savory white meat; the noodles were 'al dente'; the Crab Rangoon was crisp; and the Hot and Sour Soup was one of the best I have tasted. Everything was hot and juicy.

From the Vietnamese menu, the Lemongrass Chicken (\$7.75) is sautéed with tender chunks of white meat atop a tangy mound of fried rice delicately seasoned with lemongrass sauce. The waitress made sure we understood that lemongrass was a spicy sauce before she let us order it.

Phở Soup, a traditional Northern Vietnamese dish, is topped with onion, cilantro and served with a side dish of basil, bean sprout, lemon and jalapeno. (\$5.25 - \$5.99).

Our menu favorite, though, is the Peppery Shrimp (\$10.24), a breaded jumbo shrimp tossed over a blazing flame with fresh garlic, chopped ginger and scallion heads and two kinds of ground peppers.

If you are more in the mood for take out, this place has it organized and orderly. When you pick it up, be prepared to see friends and neighbors getting their orders, too. Even though the meals are waiting for your arrival, enjoy the brief visit before heading home with your feast.



Y and Nguyet Quach, owners

HOW HAO-HAO BEGAN

The Quach family opened the first Hao-Hao in 1986 in Dobie Mall on the UT Austin campus, which is still owned and operated by Y's brother.

Another location is in South Austin.

The Round Rock Hao-Hao opened in May 1997. To celebrate the 10-year anniversary any customer can receive 10 percent off their meal, through Oct. 15.

Y's father, Hao, the restaurant's namesake, developed all of the recipes.



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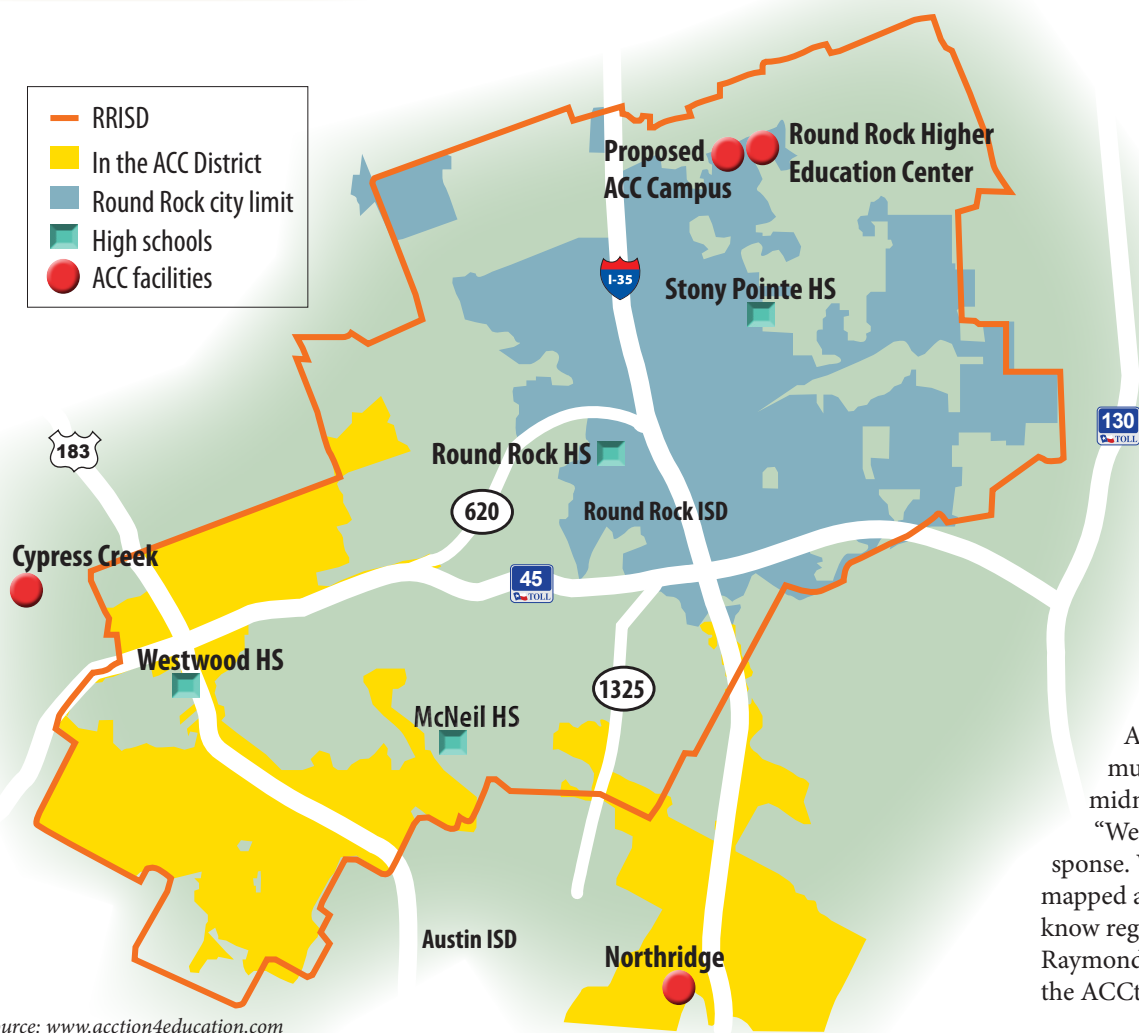
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Education Focus

Petition for an election

BY BETH WADE

- RRISD
- In the ACC District
- Round Rock city limit
- High schools
- ACC facilities



Source: www.acction4education.com

A group of local leaders and volunteers in the Round Rock area began a campaign this spring to initiate a vote to decide if Round Rock ISD should join the Austin Community College taxing district. They have almost reached their October deadline to gather support. The group, ACtion 4 Education, needs signatures from five percent of the registered voters in the affected area, a total of around 4,200.

Another 3,000 signatures must be collected before midnight, Oct. 31.

"We have had a very good response. We took the district and mapped a walking list of where we know registered voters live," said Raymond Hartfield, co-chair on the ACCtion steering committee

"I hope we make it. We have worked hard to get there, but we can use all the help we can get."

If the annexation passes, it will come with a 9.58 cents per \$100 tax increase. However, students and residents living in the school district will have access to a lower tuition rate. RRISD high school students will qualify for free dual credit courses and ACC will build a campus.

For now, ACtion is just focusing on getting the item on the ballot.

"We are not asking people to sign because they support the annexation," Hartfield said. "We are asking people to sign the petition and put it on the ballot, and support the democratic way of letting the people vote yes or no. We are not trying to sell the proposition; we are not trying to tell people it is a good idea. We are just saying put it on the ballot."

Around 33 percent of the school district with Austin addresses was already annexed during the All-of-Austin-Annexation in 2005, qualifying residents for the lower tuition rates. An election next May could bring all of Round Rock into the taxing district.

Every signature collected must be accompanied by a person's birthdate, address and/or voter registration number, if it is

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Group seeks signatures

available. The information is needed to authenticate signatures, meaning those who sign but are not registered to vote cannot be counted.

"It is amazing how many people think they are registered, but they are not. With this community that is growing so rapidly, some people may have been registered where they used to live, but they need to re-register here," Hartfield said. "Twenty-five of every 100 signatures aren't going to make it. We've set out to get 6,000 people to sign, so we can net 4,200."

To gather more signatures, the group has promised non-profit organizations and other groups, such as high school bands and choirs, \$2 for every signature gathered while walking neighborhoods in the affected areas. The group mapped the areas and created a walking list to easily identify where registered voters live.

ACC announced plans earlier this summer to build its largest campus to date near the Round Rock Higher Education Center and is in the process of acquiring 62 acres of land through a partial sale and donation from the Avery family.

This is the first time the two-year college has sought land in an area that is not in the taxing district. The college's master plan includes a future campus in Round Rock because of the area's growth; however, the school cannot force annexation on the community. Any annexation efforts must come from within the community, according to ACC policy.

Annual tax implications

A 9.58 cent raise for every \$100 in property tax

Property Value	\$100,000	\$140,000	\$220,000
Regular homestead	\$91.68	\$127.92	\$207.48
Senior/disabled	\$19.32	\$57.96	\$135.12
Commercial	\$96.48	\$135.12	\$212.28

Tuition/fee implications*

In district	\$39 per credit hour
Out of district	\$118 per credit hour
Out of state	\$276 per credit hour

*Valid through Summer 2008 semester
Source: Austin Community College

Number of Round Rock ISD graduates from FY 2006 enrolled in Texas Public Higher Education in Fall 2006

Austin Community College	295
University of Texas at Austin	143
University of Texas at San Antonio	118
Texas A&M University	97
Texas State University - San Marcos	65

Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and Texas Education Agency



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Help Bring ACC to Round Rock

LOOK FOR THIS PETITION...AND SIGN IT TODAY!

Please help us gather the signatures we need to call this election in May, 2008. We've included a petition for you to sign, and a pre-stamped envelope for you to return it in. You're already a registered voter, so please help us and...



Sign the petition for lower tuition!

Look for this envelope
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Sign the Petition Inside & Mail

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Sign the petition for lower tuition!
Bring ACC to Round Rock

Austin Community College (ACC) has agreed to purchase land in Round Rock for a proposed new campus. The proposed campus will serve over 10,000 students, and will provide the opportunity to earn a 2-year Associate Degree right here in Round Rock.

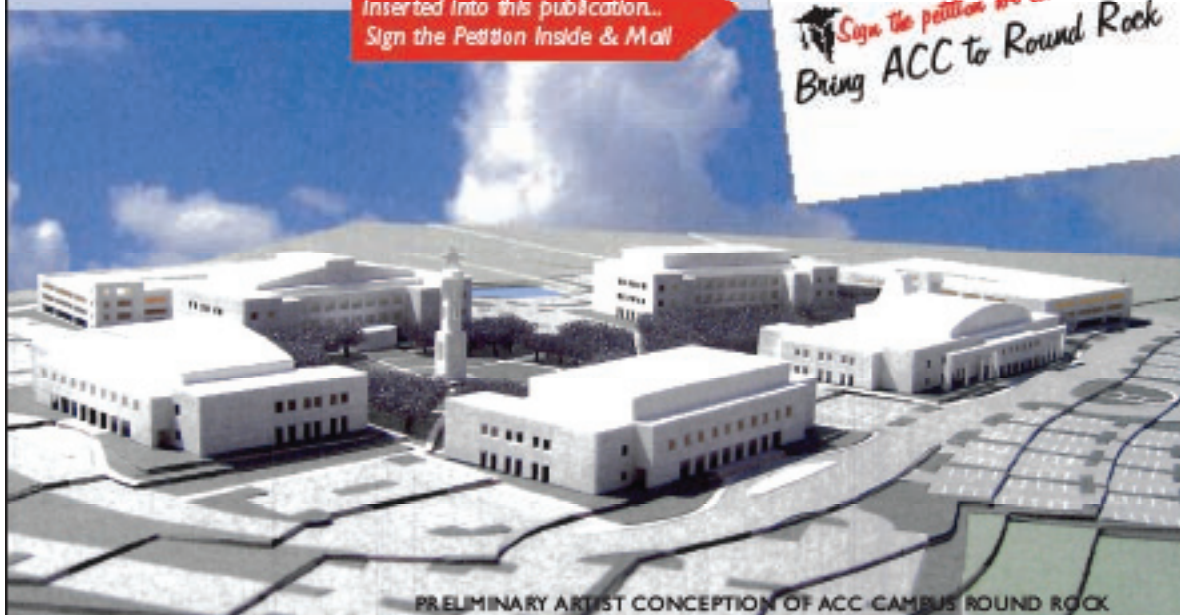
HELP BRING ACC TO ROUND ROCK

In order to join in ACC's District service area, however, we need your help with 4,500 signatures on petitions calling for an election so that you, the voters, can decide.

HELP LOWER TUITION FOR OUR STUDENTS

ACC students inside RRUSD that live outside the ACC district pay three times as much per tuition hour as students who live inside the district. With ACC as the number one choice for the graduating seniors here in RRUSD, it is to our best interest to get them better education and a lower tuition for degrees in their chosen professions.

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Historical Impact

PFLUGERVILLE COMPILED BY PAM STEPHENSON AND ROUND ROCK COMPILED BY KAREN THOMPSON

Round Rock

1 Andrew J. Palm house

- Andrew J. Palm, with his mother and brothers immigrated to Texas from Sweden in 1848. Palm and his wife, Caroline, built this residence in 1873 and raised their eight children in it while it was still at their farm. The house was moved to Main Avenue in 1976 and awarded the historical marker in 1978.

2 A. J. & Carolina Anderson House

- The house was built in 1908-09 by the Swedish immigrant A. J. Anderson.

3 Baylor University accident

- On Jan. 22, 1927, the Baylor University basketball bus had a wreck with a train at this site. Ten students were killed.

4 Brushy Creek baptisms

- A marker identifies the site of early baptisms. Reverend W. H. Ross especially enjoyed this site for baptizing his flock.

5 Captain Nelson Merrell's homes

- Built in 1870-71 by Captain Nelson Merrell

6 Council Oak

- Washington and Mary Anderson built this home in 1860 for their daughter Chloe and her husband Rev. R. H. Toliafero. It is called "Council Oak" because Indians met with settlers under the large oak tree.

7 Confederate chaplains, Rev. Edward and John Hudson

- A marker honoring brothers Edward and John Hudson, who were Presbyterian ministers and served as chaplains during the Civil War. They are both buried in the Round Rock Cemetery.

8 Caldwell-Palm house

- This two-story rock house was built in 1860 by T. J. Caldwell from rock quarried on site. Slaves helped in the construction. Caldwell's daughter, Mary, and her husband, Sven Palm, lived in the home in 1892. Mr. and Mrs. John H. Nash Jr. restored the home in 1967.

9 The Double File Trail

- As the Delaware Indians traveled from East Texas to Mexico, they laid the trail as two horsemen rode side by side. The trail location along Brushy Creek was where Dr. Kenney built his fort.

10 Early commercial building

- The John A. Nelson building was built in 1900. It is still the most distinctive downtown building. Nelson operated a private bank, hardware and lumber business. It is considered architecturally important for the façade of cast iron and pressed tin. Nelson was not only a very successful businessman devoted to his family, but under his tutelage many other businessmen prospered. John and Jenny Carlson Nelson raised six children in their three-story mansion at the corner of east Main Avenue and Stone Street. John died at age 56 from Bright's Disease and the regal home was torn down.



J.A. Nelson building

11 Early road marker

- The first official roads in Williamson County were laid out in 1850. One of the 19th century limestone road markers is on display at the Helen and Robert Griffin Public Library, 216 E. Main Ave.

12 E. B. Barker House

- E. B. and Mary Barker built this home in 1873. Famous Texas Ranger Dudley Barker was born in the house, which is in Old Town and now owned by Jim and Betty Porter.

13 Education in Round Rock

- Soon after Williamson County was established in 1848, blacksmith James G. Harrell built a log schoolhouse for the use of the neighborhood.

14 Formation of Williamson County

- Williamson County was formed out of



Milam District in 1848 and named in honor of noted Judge Robert McAlpin Williamson (1806-1859).

These sites are approximate and map is not to scale.

15 Harrell Cemetery

- Jacob M. and Mary Harrell came to Texas in 1833. Soon his brother James G. and Catherine Harrell arrived. Jacob was one of the first settlers in Waterloo, and he donated his land grant for the establishment of Austin. Both brothers served in the Texas Army. In addition to Harrell family burials, one of Jacob and Mary's slaves is interred here.

16 In memory of the pioneer builders

- A dedication to early education in Williamson County. Greenwood Masonic Institute was established in 1867-1881 and the Round Rock Institute in 1881-1891, both operated by Presbyterians.

17 The Inn at Brushy Creek

- The structure was home to many families through the years and in about 1967 it became The Inn at Brushy Creek restaurant. It was a fine dining establishment until about 1990.

18 Kenney's Fort

- Dr. Thomas Kenney came to Brushy Creek in 1839 and built a fort. This was the first permanent settlement in what would become Williamson County nine years later. Kenney was befriended by the Native Americans, but was later killed by them in 1844.

19 Major Robert McNutt

- Major McNutt (1795-1867) commanded the camp at Harrisburg during the Battle of San Jacinto, April 21, 1836. He had also served in the War of 1812.

20 McNabb-Quick house

- The house was on part of the land grant of Jacob M. Harrell. The original portion of the home was built in 1853. In the latter part of 1800 it was a retirement home for ministers of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Purchased in 1952 by Colonel and Mrs. Alexander McNabb, they did extensive restoration before it received a medallion in 1963. It has been the home of Don and Jeanne Quick for many years.

21 Nelson-Crier house

- Andrew J. and Hedvig Nelson had just started construction on this home in 1895 when Andrew died. Page Brothers Architects of Austin completed the home in 1900. Three generations of Nelsons had lived in the home when it was sold to Jean Crier in 1960. Mrs. Crier renovated the mansion and renamed it Woodbine.

22 Nelson home

- Home of A. J. Nelson, a rancher-banker from Sweden. Swedish masons, paying voyage costs, built this house in 1860.

23 Old broom factory building

- This Victorian-style building was erected about 1876. It housed the broom factory from 1877 to 1912. The Round Rock broom



Resting place of Sam Bass

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A tour of historical markers in Pflugerville and Round Rock

won a gold medal at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair.

24 Olson House

- Built for Swedish immigrant and widow, Johanna Olson in 1908.

25 Otto Reinke building

- Built in 1877 and used for many purposes through the years including stores, physician office and restaurant. After it was gutted by a fire in 1963, architect Martin Kermacy built a modern interior within the Victorian Italianate walls.

26 Palm Valley Lutheran Church

- Swedish immigrant Anna Palm moved here with her family in 1853. The original church was a log structure. The present Gothic Revival style building was erected in 1894 at a cost of \$10,000.00. The



Palm House

popular church operates a school and cemetery. All church services were in Swedish until 1928, when English was added. Since 194 all services are in English.

27 The round rock

- The round rock for which the city is named marks the low-water crossing that once guided Native Americans and settlers. Quarried rock was used in building the early community. The early post office was named Brushy Creek and renamed Round Rock in 1854.

28 Round Rock Cemetery

- The earliest tombstone is that of Angelina Scott who died in 1851. The hundreds of burials include many noted people such as "Barbette," Deputy Sheriff A. W. Grimes and outlaw Sam Bass.

- Nearby is the slave burial ground where 40 to 50 former slaves and freedmen were buried.

29 Round Rock Historic Commercial District

- Includes the 100 and 200 blocks of east Main Avenue. It is named in the National Register of Historic Places.

30 Round Rock Volunteer Fire Dept.

- The first hose and hand pump company was formed in 1884. By 1892, they had built their first fire station. About 1934, they purchased the first motor driven equipment, a Model T Ford chassis.

31 Sam Bass death site

- This marker identifies the location of the Hart Hotel where the Texas Rangers brought the outlaw Sam Bass after being shot. He died at this location the next day, July 21, 1878. He is buried at Round Rock Cemetery.

32 Site of Stony Point High School

- The original Stony Point School, built in 1891, was important to the Swedish children learning English for the first time. They took the language home and taught parents and grandparents. It closed in 1942.

33 Texas Baptist Children's Home

- In 1950, Louis and Billie Henna donated 112 acres to start this children's home.

34 Trinity Lutheran College

- The Lutheran Church selected Round Rock for the site of a new college in 1904. Dr. Stamline opened the first session in 1906. The college merged with the Lutheran

36 William M. Owen house complex

- The one-story store and post office was built in 1853. It was most notably known as the G. F. Smothers grocery store. The 1870 two-story building was the St.



Nelson - Crier house

college in Sequin in 1929, and the facility was used as a retirement/nursing home until recent years.

35 Washington Anderson home

- The Washington Anderson home is named "El Milagro" and the original portion was built in 1859 under a Swedish foreman. In 1962, this was one of the first homes to receive a medallion recognizing its historical significance. The rock slave quarters are also preserved.

Charles Hotel, probably operated by Dr. William M. Owen, a prominent businessman and physician. The complex is currently owned by Brenda Rhea and Larry Brown.

Pflugerville

1 Albert Pfluger House

- In 1909, the home at Fifth and Walnut Streets was built by Albert Pfluger, son of the city founder, George Pfluger.

2 Banner House

- Built in 1915, it was formerly the site of the Banner Hotel, run during the years the Missouri Kansas Texas Railroad ran through Pflugerville. The hotel burned, but the residence is still occupied.

3 Bohl's House (Heritage House)

- Gottlieb William Bohls (1878-1961) and wife, Bertha (Timmerman), built the two-story Queen Anne style home in 1913 on land purchased on Austin-Hutto Road. The home remained in the Bohls family until it was donated to the City of Pflugerville in 1992 for a heritage center.



Kuempel House

4 Dessau Church/Cemetery

- The wood sanctuary was built circa 1876 on 8 acres donated by Christian Nehring. Services were conducted in German until the 1950s. A historical marker was dedicated here Oct. 20, 1984.

5 Farmers State Bank

- The first bank in Pflugerville. During the Great Depression in 1933, the Farmers State Bank closed one day and reopened as First State Bank the next day. The back room was the site of city council meetings when the city officially incorporated in the 1960s.

6 H. H. Pfluger Home

- H.H. Pfluger owned and operated the open air theater, Pflugerville's first silent theater. The home, built in 1915, is a two-story frame house with columned porch and extremely vertical windows, oddly spaced and gingerbread work on gables.

7 Immanuel Lutheran Church

- In 1875, Immanuel Lutheran Evangelical Church was built on 5 acres donated by William and Catherine Elizabeth (Pfluger) Bohls. The small wood building was replaced with a brick facility in 1910. Destroyed by fire in 1928, the present building was erected in 1929. At its 100th anniversary in 1974, the church celebrated with the commemoration of a Texas Centennial Historical Marker.

8 Kuempel House

- The Kuempel/Murchison home, built in 1904, has been the site of numerous movies and commercials filmed in the Pflugerville area.

9 Pfluger Cemetery

- This small family cemetery of the founding family of Pflugerville is located east of Pflugerville with graves dating to the 19th century.

10 Pflugerville (Chamber of Commerce)

- A historical plaque to commemorate the community of Pflugerville, settled in 1853 by Henry Pfluger and family, the platting

of the city in 1904 and its subsequent growth.

11 Santa Maria Cemetery

- A Hispanic cemetery established in 1924 by the Mexican families who resided in Pflugerville. Camilo Mercado, one of the founders of the cemetery, was the first to be buried in the cemetery. He was the father of current resident, Bertha Mercado Ramos, age 96 years.

12 St. John's Church Richland

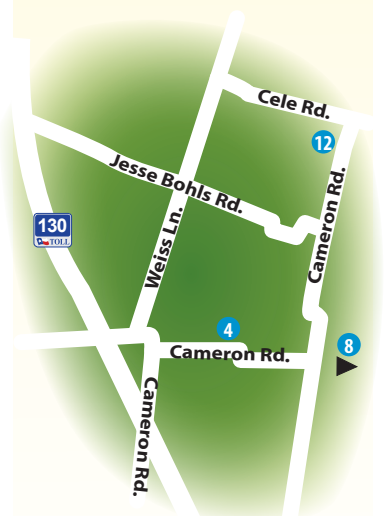
- Organized in 1878 by German settlers, the congregation built a small wooden sanctuary in 1884. A larger building, completed in 1891, was replaced in 1925 with the sanctuary still in use today.

13 St. Mary's Baptist Church

- The church is the only existing of the original three Black churches founded in the early 1900s. First services were conducted under a grove of trees on Fritz Pfluger's farm.

14 William Pfluger Home

- Built circa 1879 by the founding family member of Pflugerville, the house is rough corbeled stone covered by plaster on the second story and scored to resemble cut stone. Original lattice woodwork fronts the second story.



These sites are approximate and map is not to scale.

Before Toll 130 opened late last year, the only major road in Hutto was Hwy. 79. Reaching the city by automobile often meant taking IH 35 to Hwy. 79 and heading east.

Toll 130 has changed all that by giving motorists the choice between taking IH 35 or a north/south toll road — with significantly less traffic — several miles east of it.

Hutto officials realized that the addition of a major north/south thoroughfare carried great implications for the city. People could come and go more freely. Existing businesses could take care of their needs, such as transporting goods, much faster. New businesses would be attracted by the newfound ease of travel.

"State Highway 130 is a major impact on our residents, our future development and especially any future industrial or commercial properties that are looking at Hutto," City Manager Ed Broussard said.

Now that the third segment of Toll 130 is open, Hutto residents and visitors also recognize its value in traveling to and from the airport much faster.

Although most of the land bordering the 5.75 miles of toll road in Hutto is farmland, the city council passed an ordinance in April establishing the Gateway Overlay District, which identifies the policies and guidelines for developing the area along the toll road corridor.

"We've been planning for it in the future," said Matthew Lewis, community development director, about the toll road. "When those areas along the SH 130 corridor come into our area, they have to do a planned unit development with us. We have ultimate control over the growth area so that we can get the desired uses and look that we're going for as well."

—Ed Broussard,
Hutto city manager

"We knew that the property along SH 130 was really the best commercial property that we have ... We want to see that it's developed in a way that really showcases our community."

The way of the toll



GEORGETOWN

A unique part of Toll 130 has its place in Georgetown — it is the only juncture where the toll road and IH 35 connect.

"That's a critical intersection," said Mark Thomas, Georgetown economic development director, "and I think that could lead to development because you can access two different highways from a location in Georgetown."

Although no projects are officially planned for that area yet, city planner Jordan Maddox said the city expects it will eventually become a regional commercial destination and employment center.

Some companies have already jumped at the chance to relocate to Georgetown, with the toll road being a major factor in their decisions.

Thomas said that representatives with TASUS, a plastics molding company, and Orthopeutics, L.P., a biotech company, both indicated Toll 130 was a key determinant in moving there because the toll road could provide a convenient, predictable way to travel to the airport and, eventually, even farther south.

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"Unpredictability [on IH 35] was keeping Georgetown from being considered in the Austin area when companies were looking at relocations."

"The toll road gives access to the airport, unimpeded, in 35 minutes. Unpredictability [on IH 35] was keeping Georgetown from being considered in the Austin area when companies were looking at relocations, if the airport was an important part of their business," Thomas said. "But now SH 130 makes [driving to the airport] convenient and predictable."

As for the corridor's future, officials say it is still too early to see any major changes happening, although there is some activity.

On the land just south of Hwy. 29, about a mile east of Toll 130, construction began on a new high school last October. Officials planned to build Georgetown East View High School knowing that the toll road would run nearby, but not because of it, said David Biesheuvel, director of construction and facilities with Georgetown Independent School District.

The city's second high school will sit on more than 130 acres it will share with support services facilities. The school's buildings will encompass 235,500 sq. ft. The first phase of the \$33.9 million, multi-phased project will be completed next summer. Initially only freshmen will be attending classes until the rest of the project has been completed. Then, grades 10 through 12 will be added.

Other than the new high school, Maddox said only a few land use changes have happened off Toll 130 on private properties.

"These projects are trying to take advantage of the few access points that 130 has to Georgetown arterials, and they all see a commercial component as part of that," Maddox said.

The majority of the land around Toll 130 is still zoned for agriculture use and is not ready for development.

"So if you see areas that aren't being developed right now, it's likely that the necessary infrastructure isn't in place — yet," Thomas said. "It doesn't mean it isn't a key or strategic location. It's just that it takes a little while to get the funding and planning to put the infrastructure in place to be able to take advantage of the road that has been built."

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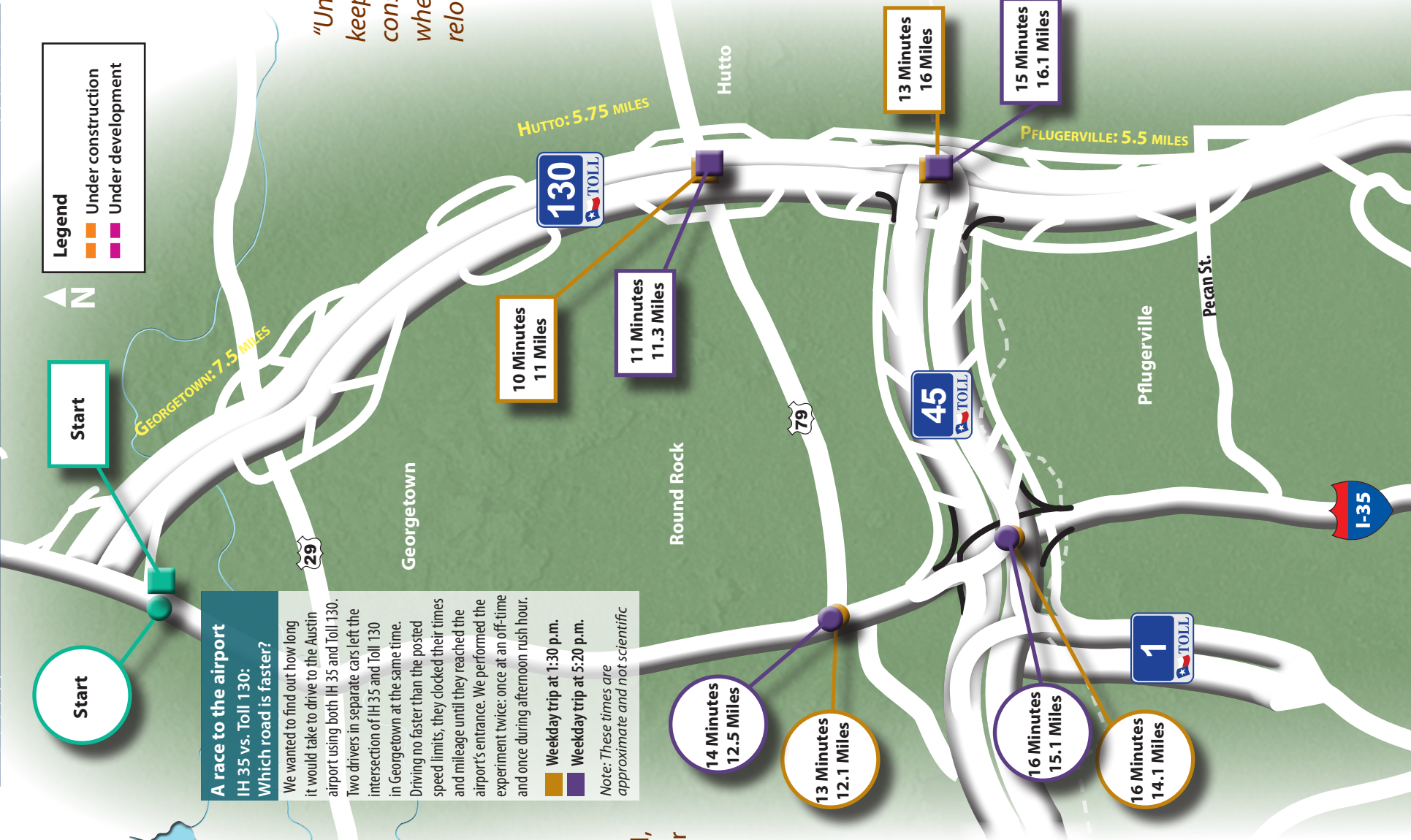
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PFLUGERVILLE

Pflugerville is open for business.

That is what the Greater Pflugerville Chamber of Commerce has declared for more than a year because in contrast to many neighboring cities, Pflugerville has the water, wastewater, utilities and streets in place to support development along Toll 130.

"Pflugerville is not taking a backseat to Round Rock or Austin anymore. It is at the forefront of commercial activity," GPCC President Patricia Gervan-Brown said.

In September, the city council also passed a zoning ordinance that will define the

development and future of the toll that cuts through an eastern portion of the community. Now more than 3,000 acres are targeted for rezoning this fall. City planning director Trey Fletcher anticipates the change will eventually transform Pflugerville's economic and business dynamic.

"IH 35 is not that important anymore. What historically has been our front door will be our back door."

—Trey Fletcher, Round Rock planning director

anticipates the change will eventually transform Pflugerville's economic and business dynamic.

"We need sales tax dollars, but even more than that, it is critical that we get employers. Employers provide residents and turning over of dollars in the community," he said.

The easy access to the airport mixed with Pflugerville's available rooftops and location near some major tech businesses like Dell Inc. and Samsung will have the ability to attract those employers, Fletcher believes.

"I think in the future we will see this as a watershed event in the history of Pflugerville. The potential Pflugerville now has with direct access to the airport, is similar to what happened when the railroad came," he said.

Last summer, the city hired consulting firm Wilbur Smith Associates to create a comprehensive strategy that explored possible development patterns along Toll 45 and Toll 130.

A citizen advisory committee chosen by the city council also offered local insight and gave four principles to define the purpose of the corridor development strategy. They determined the toll development should include:

- A series of unique places to shop and work
- A diversified and leak-free tax base
- An enhanced, long-term market capture
- A smart, healthy and sensible design

The final ordinance approaches zoning with the form, or type, of development desired as the emphasis, which contrasts to the traditional practice of zoning according to use.

"We want to have many uses along the corridor, kind of a hybrid of uses. We are realizing we need to have a focus on what the site looks like, so the pattern is more appealing," Fletcher said.

The three new zoning districts are labeled CL3 (Corridor-Suburban), CL4 (Corridor-Urban), and CL5 (Corridor-Urban Center). When used together, they can morph into what Fletcher described as something like Pecan Street, but on a much larger level. Residences flow into commercial and commercial into a concentrated town center.

In the end, Toll 130 will define Pflugerville instead of the older highway to the west, Fletcher said. In the past, most traffic has come from IH 35, which technically belongs to the City of Austin.

"IH 35 is not that important any more," he said. "What historically has been our front door will be our back door."

ROUND ROCK

The Round Rock portion of Toll 130 runs through the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction only, which means it is not within city limits and cannot be zoned. The area does not have the proper infrastructure yet, either. Consequently, no development projects are underway.

"Our utilities are not out there yet," said Joe Vining, vice president of economic development in Round Rock. "Once that happens, then we'll see some development. Right now some of the land is changing hands. They're cautious and patient buyers. They know that things are just too early in the game right now."

City planning director Jim Stendebach said he expects the one-mile segment of toll road within the city's ETJ to be within city limits in less than a year. He also said the city is beginning work on a review of its general plan that was initiated because of Toll 130.

"State Highway 45 is a key component to the success of [Toll] 130 because it connects 130 to Central and West Williamson County."

—Nyle Maxwell, mayor of Round Rock

In addition to praising the much faster commute to the airport, Round Rock officials seem hard pressed to discuss Toll 130 without bringing up the new Toll 45, four miles of which run through the city.

At this point, Toll 45 provides a way for motorists to get onto 183A Toll, Toll 1, IH 35 and Toll 130 with ease. Most of the Round Rock land along the Toll 45 segment is already zoned for planned unit development or general commercial use or is in its ETJ.

"State Highway 45 is a key component to the success of 130 because it connects 130 to Central and west Williamson County," Mayor Nyle Maxwell said. "Travis County, unlike southern Williamson County, has no major east-west freeway or toll road system in place. Folks living in Round Rock or southern Williamson County most certainly, in a lot of cases, can get to the airport faster than folks living in central, north or west Austin, simply because they've got to get across Austin and then to the airport east [to] west."



FAST FACTS

- SH 130, or Toll 130, is one part of the Central Texas Turnpike Project.
- The entire CTPP project consists of a 65-mile turnpike system that includes Toll 1 (3 miles), Toll 45 (13 miles) and Toll 130 (49 miles). More than 40 miles of Toll 130 are open.
- When Segment 4 opens next year, the road will be about 49 miles long and reach US 183 south of Austin, near Mustang Ridge. One day, it will reach Seguin, which is close to 80 miles from Georgetown.

How the land is zoned along Toll 130:

- Georgetown – mostly for agriculture
- Round Rock – cannot be zoned because it's not within city limits (yet)
- Hutto – standard zoning regulations used and then overlay standards apply
- Pflugerville – 3,000 acres to be rezoned this fall for largely commercial uses

- In July, when 28 miles of Toll 130 were open, the Texas Department of Transportation reported an average of 33,100 weekday toll transactions — 48 percent higher than projected.
- In the Austin area, about 270,000 TxTags have been activated.
- In May, the state legislature passed a bill that dedicated Toll 130 between IH 35 north of Georgetown and IH 10 near Seguin to the late U.S. Rep. J.J. "Jake" Pickle. The toll road is named Pickle Parkway in his honor.
- To purchase a TxTag, call 1-888-468-9824, TDD/TTY 1-866-590-5155 or visit www.txtag.org.

Source: TxDOT spokeswoman Gaby Garcia, www.dot.state.tx.us, www.txtag.org

Outdoor Guide



Campgrounds:

Panoramic Hills RV Park, 10617 Deer Canyon Road #2, Jonestown, 78645, 267-0563

Big Oaks RV Park, 3330 W. Whitestone Blvd., Cedar Park, 267-1775

Sunshine RV Park and Storage, 1351 CR 269, Leander, 259-7200

Windy Point Park, 6506 Bob Wentz Park Road, Austin, 78732, 266-3337

Cypress Creek Park, 13800 Bullick Hollow Road, Austin, 78762, 854-7275, www.co.travis.tx.us/tnr/parks/cypress_creek.asp

La Hacienda RV Park, 5320 Hudson Bend Road, Austin, 78734, 266-8001, www.lahaciendarvpark.com

Oak Forest RV Park, 8207 Canoga Avenue, Austin, 78724, 926-8984, www.oakforest-rvpark.com/

McKinney Falls State Park, 5808 McKinney Falls Parkway, Austin, 78744, 243-1643

Emma Long Park-Lake Austin, 1706 City Park Road, Austin, 78730, 346-1831

Pace Bend Park, 2501 N. Pace Bend Road, Spicewood, 78669, 264-1482

Lake Travis Inn and RV Park, 4511 Doss Road, Austin, 78734, 266-9329

Austin RV Park North, 4001 Prairie Lane, Austin, 78728, 244-0610

Camper Resort on Lake Travis, 17317 W. Beach Road, Austin, 78734, 266-1562, www.camperresort.com

Eastview RV Park, 552 Eastview Drive, Georgetown, 78626, 931-2251, www.eastviewrvranch.com

Lake Georgetown, 500 Lake Overlook Drive,

Georgetown, 78633, 930-5253

San Gabriel River RV Camp Resort, 40005 Heritage Hollow, Georgetown, 78626, 512-868-1401, www.sangabrielrv.com

New Life RV Park, 1200 CR 152, Georgetown, 78626, 931-2073, www.newlifervpark.com

Berry Springs RV Park, 140-C Market St., Georgetown, 78626, 864-2724, www.berryspringsrv.com

Shady River RV Resort, 7450 E. Hwy. 29, Georgetown, 78626, 930-1140, www.shadyriverrvresort.com

Bullard's RV Park, 70 Iron Horse Drive, Hutto, 78634, 310-8063

Blackland Farms RV Park, 1800 CR 374, Taylor, 76574, 352-6853

RV rental and sales:

American Dream RVs Inc., 1351 US 183, Leander, 515-5502, www.americandreamrv.com

RV Outlet Mall, 4500 S. IH 35, Georgetown, 78627, 930-4922, www.rvoutletmall.com

Walkabout RV, 8650 N. IH 35, Georgetown, 78626, 868-9119, www.walkaboutrv.com

Campers and trailers:

Princess Craft Campers and Trailers, 102 N. First St., Pflugerville, 78660, 251-4536

Dependable Camper Rentals, 1702 Dalshank, Pflugerville, 78660, 848-1824, www.dependablecamperrentals.com

Camping checklist:

- Shampoo, soap, insect repellent, toothbrush/paste, comb, deodorant, towels, toilet paper, lip balm, sunblock, sunglasses and a sewing kit.
- Driver's license, money, map, compass, flashlight, batteries, lantern, bulbs, water, rope, clothespin, clothesline, radio, canteen, clock, camera, binoculars, chair, table, tent repair gear, pocket knife and a lighter.
- First aid kit with medicines for common ailments. Antibiotic cream, antiseptic, tissues and bandages. Tweezers for splinters.
- Sweatpants, shirt, sweater, thermals, gloves, jacket, pants, underwear, socks of varying thickness, pajamas, swimsuit, bandannas, hats, sandals and hiking boots.
- Baby food, milk, bottles, pacifiers, diapers and baby wipes, spoons, blankets, play pen, stuffed toys, stroller and books. Games, toys, crayons, paper, bucket and shovel.
- Tent, poles, mallet, ground cloth, sleeping bags, mattress, pillows, blankets, air pump, rope and stakes.
- Food containers, cooler, pots, pans, stove, fuel, matches/lighter, plates and utensils, bowls, coffee pot, Thermos, foil, towel, spatula, tongs, bottle/can opener, knife, soap, sponge, trash bags, locking baggies, tablecloth and skewers.
- Kindling, matches, newspaper, fire extinguisher, shovel, ax, wood and the permit.
- Before leaving, lock doors and windows, turn off lights and appliances, adjust the thermostat, water plants and make pet plans.

RV camping tips:

- Take a professional course in driving an RV.
- Anyone 62 years or older may get a "Golden Age passport" for free wildlife, monuments, park and recreation facilities access.
- Make reservations at least three weeks ahead.
- Build the campfire away from the vehicle, attend to it and extinguish it before sleeping.
- Before leaving the campsite, examine that all electric wires, sewer and water are unhooked and put the TV antenna down.

For more information, visit www.camping-tips.org

Outdoor Guide



● Buying a license

By phone, call (800) TX LIC 4 U, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Monday through Friday

Online, visit <https://txfgisales.vansis.wcom.com/fgtxisa/ApplicationAccessDispatcher>

In person, visit

- **Academy Sports #22**, 1351 S. IH 35, 246-4600

- **Gaddy's**, 403 FM 685, 251-4611

- **Red's Indoor Range North**, 1908 W. Pecan St., 251-1022

- **Sportman's Warehouse #129**, 3203 S. IH 35 Ste. 500, 218-8880

- **Wal-Mart Supercenter #0475**, 2701 S. IH 35, 310-9024

- **Wal-Mart Supercenter #5480**, 4700 E. Palm Valley Blvd., 218-1018

- **Wal-Mart Supercenter #5479**, 1548 FM 685, 252-0112

● Guide:

Central Texas Lakes Bass Fishing Guide Service, Jeff Cook, 10101 W. Parmer Lane, Ste. 413, Austin, 78717, 413-4178, www.genevaenterprises.com/fan/

Fishin' Fever, Shane Holmes, 656-6659, www.osweb.com/bass/

Texas Hawgs Professional Bass Fishing

Guide Service, Bryan Cotter, 2018 Lakeline Oaks Drive, Cedar Park, 762-0190, www.texasawgs.com

● Community fishing lakes:

Bright Lake, Round Rock, 218-5540, 3300 E. Palm Valley Blvd.

Meadow Lake, Round Rock, 218-5540, 290 Settlement Drive

Round Rock West, 218-5540, 500 Round Rock West Drive

Brushy Creek Lake Park, 3300 Brushy Creek Road, Cedar Park, 401-5500

Devine Lake, 1000 Maple Creek, Leander, www.leanderpard.com/devine.cfm

Granger Lake, Granger, 859-2668, 3100 Granger Dam Road, Granger, 76530

Lake Bastrop, Bastrop, 498-1922 or 321-5048, 375 S. Shore Road, Bastrop, 78602

Lake Georgetown, Georgetown, 930-5253, 500 Lake Overlook Drive, Georgetown, 78633

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For a list of 2007-08 hunting seasons and regulations, visit www.txoutdoorannual.com.

Boone and Crockett

The Boone and Crockett scoring system, adopted in 1950, uses numerical measurements to arrive at a score that is then ranked against the other animals in a particular category. There are categories for every big game animal in North America. The scoring system measures only enduring characteristics — such as antlers, horns and skulls — as opposed to skin length or weight, so that the measurements may be repeated at any later date to verify the measurements and the resulting ranking in a category. While anyone can score an animal using the B&C scoring system, the animal must be scored by an official measurer in order to be considered for the record book. The official Boone and Crockett measurers in this area are:

James Arnold

Austin
312-2577
jarnold@arnoldoil.com

Owen Carpenter

Burnet
756-2945
trey@tstar.net

J. Paul Ellis

Round Rock
310-1381

Kevin Schwausch

Burnet
756-4476
kevin.schwausch@tpwd.state.tx.us

For downloadable scoring charts, an online scoring calculator or any other information on the Boone and Crockett scoring system, visit www.boone-crockett.org.

Source: www.boone-crockett.org

Meat Processors:

Klein's Meats and Deer Processing
15209 Delahunty Lane, Pflugerville,
78660
251-3300

Taylor Meat Co.

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Taxidermists:

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716-0649
www.lovetaxidermy.net

Lunker Taxidermy

1609 Serenity Dr., Pflugerville, 78660
990-8870

Professional Taxidermy Studio

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259-4902

Gun Stores:

Black Land Gun Works

6900 CR 101, Taylor, 76574
365-1306
www.blacklandguns.com

Cutting Edge

113 E. Main, Round Rock, 78664
244-1175

Eagle Peak Shooting Range

20026 Lindeman Lane, Leander, 78641
267-1400
www.eaglepeakshootingrange.com

Heritage Firearms

13497 US 183, Ste. 300A, Austin, 78750
219-1122
www.heritagefirearms.com

Red's Indoor Range

1908 W. Pecan, Pflugerville, 78660
251-1022
www.redsguns.com

The Gun Store

200 Buttercup Creek Blvd., Ste. 114, Cedar
Park, 78613
335-5534
www.texasgunstore.com

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Texas Hunter Education

Every hunter (including out-of-state hunters) born on or after Sept. 2, 1971, must successfully complete a hunter education training course. Minimum age of certification is 12 years and cost is \$15. If you are:

- under 12 years of age, you must be accompanied.*
- age 12 through 16, you must successfully complete a hunter education course, or you must be accompanied.*
- age 17 and over, you must complete a hunter education course; or purchase a hunter education deferral** and you must be accompanied.*

*Accompanied means: By a person who is at least 17, who is licensed to hunt in Texas, who has passed hunter education or is exempt (born before Sept. 2, 1971), and is within normal voice control.

** Hunter education deferral, \$10, allows a person 17 years of age or older who has not completed a hunter education program to defer completion for up to one year. A deferral may only be obtained once and is only valid until the end of the current license year.

Source: 2007-08 Texas Parks and Wildlife Outdoor Annual

Lake Pflugerville, 4600 Pflugerville Pkwy., Pflugerville, 251-5082

Rosemary Denny Park, 2400 E. Riviera, Cedar Park, 401-5500

San Gabriel Park, 445 E. Morrow St. Georgetown, 930-3595

Twin Lakes Park, 204 E. Elm Trail, Cedar Park, 401-5500

Marinas:

Cypress Creek Marina, 13987 FM 2769, Leander, 250-9880, www.cypresscreekmarina.com/

Riviera Marina, 14297 FM 2769, Leander, 250-8321

V.I.P. Marina, 1610-B FM 2769, Leander, 78641, 331-5375, www.vipmarina.biz/

Source: www.takemefishing.org

Use these guidelines to measure fish correctly:

Place the fish on its side with the jaw closed. Squeeze the tail fin together or turn it in a way to obtain the maximum overall length. Measure a straight line from the tip of the snout to the extreme tip of the tail fin.

Tips for releasing fish

- Quickly play and release fish.
- Keep fish in water as much as possible.
- Remove hook with pliers or cut line.
- Gently place fish back into water.
- Revive fish by holding upright in water and moving back and forth, gently forcing water through gills.

Source: www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/annual/fish/

Ethical anglers...

- Take only what they can use and use what they take.
- Always recycle or properly dispose of monofilament line to protect the environment and aquatic or wildlife resources.
- Leave no litter and don't pollute our waters.
- Record their trophy with care and return it to the water.

Statewide bag and length limits*

- Largemouth and smallmouth bass: 5, (any combination), 14"
- Spotted and Guadalupe bass: 5 (in any combination), no limit
- Striped and hybrid striped bass: 5 (in any combination), 18"
- White bass: 25, 10"
- Yellow bass: no limit, no limit
- Catfish, channel and blue catfish, their hybrids and subspecies: 25 (in any combination), 12"
- Catfish, flathead: 5, 18"
- Crappie, white and black crappie, their hybrids and subspecies: 25 (in any combination), 10"
- Paddlefish: no harvest allowed
- Saugeye: 3, 18"
- Sunfish, various species including bluegill, redear, green, warmouth and longear: no limit, no limit
- Trout, rainbow and brown trout, their hybrids and subspecies: 5 (in any combination), no limit
- Walleye: 5 (only two can be less than 16" in length), no limit

* Always check local regulations at individual lakes

Source: 2007-2008 Texas Parks and Wildlife Outdoor Annual, Hunting and Fishing regulations



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Community Icon

BY BETH WADE

Martin Parker remembers a time when IH 35 did not exist and Chisholm Trail Drive was one of the only roads leading into Round Rock.

Before Parker became the postmaster of his hometown, the road wasn't even known as Chisholm Trail because it was Parker who gave many of the roads the names they have today.

"When a subdivision came into town, there was no one to number it," he said. "I had to take plats when they came to me and I had to number them. I had to name the streets because there was no one to do it."

Parker was born in 1926 near Round Rock. After graduating in 1944 from Round Rock High School, he joined the Navy and fought in World War II. He served during the Korean War, but in the interim worked in the Austin Post Office. In 1965, at the recommendation of Congressman J.J. Pickle, he became postmaster at the Round Rock office where he served until 1981. The post office was located at 211 E. Main Avenue where city hall is now located.

At that time, only two people worked at city hall with the primary job of handwriting utility bills, Parker said.

Prior to 1967, most of the residents picked up their mail directly from the post office. Then Oct. 17 of that year, mail delivery began. For the first time, the post office took mail to people's homes. It was while mapping carrier routes that Parker participated in naming many of the streets, including Palm Valley Boulevard, also known as Hwy. 79.

"That was a big step up. I thought people would be thrilled with city delivery. Wrong. They didn't like it,"

Parker said. "In those days, the post office was a social place in the morning for people to meet and talk about this, that and the other. Another thing, people didn't want to wait to get their mail."

He also took an old county map, drew in the grids himself and named those new streets when trying to get mail to the outlying areas.

"I didn't know what I was doing, but when you've got to do something, you just do it," Parker said. "We had a cup of tea to pour that I didn't know how to pour, but I poured it anyway."

Parker's numbering system is still being used today, although some changes may have been made.

Now 82-years-old, retired and living in Georgetown, Parker is still involved in the city where he spent his childhood and much of his adult life.

He is an active member of the Old Settlers Association and is intent on keeping Round Rock history available to the public. He has written and published several books about his life and Round Rock with the help of his wife, Francinn.

He still remembers vividly his days at the post office.

"I still wake up at night with post office problems, 26 years later," Parker said. "It was 25 years getting rid of military dreams and now it's taken me 25 years to get rid of post office dreams. Twenty-five years from now I won't have to worry about it."



Although Martin Parker was raised near Round Rock with no electricity and no indoor plumbing, he remembers growing up happy with his family, and calls himself the "rich little poor boy."

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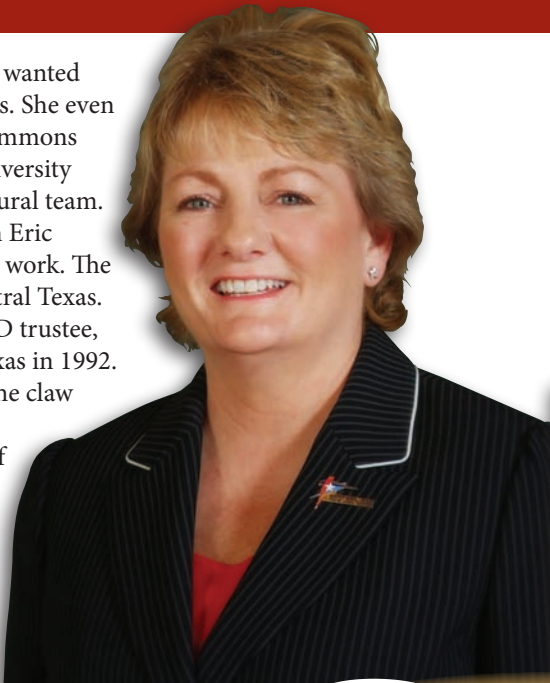
Raised in Abilene, Kris Whitfield wanted anything but to leave West Texas. She even attended two area colleges, Hardin Simmons University and Abilene Christian University where she played tennis on the inaugural team.

Then she started spending time with Eric Whitfield, a friend through volunteer work. The only problem was he came from Central Texas. Eric, who is a former Round Rock ISD trustee, convinced her to move to Central Texas in 1992.

"My husband said you can still see the claw marks in the road," Kris said.

Now she says she has no intention of leaving.

This spring, Kris was elected to office as the only female city council member.



Council member, Round Rock

Q&A

Q. What are your priorities as a council member?

A. Transportation is huge. It is a never-ending battle to meet the growth. The diversification of the tax base is important. We do not want to rely on any one industry. We have done a good job so far. We are trying to keep our recreational facilities at an even keel with the population. We want to have that quality of life, so people will want to stay here.

Q. What have you learned about the city you did not know before the election?

A. It is interesting how the city and the county either work together or clash. Sometimes they clash and we try to work around that.

Q. What skill(s) do you use the most as a council member?

A. Listening. I am always trying to weigh the different opinions and see if we can come close to a consensus.

Q. What are some of Round Rock's strengths?

A. Well, I think one of our strengths is we are family oriented. It is a great place to raise children and grandchildren. Even as we grow, it has stayed that way. I don't go to the grocery store without someone saying hi and giving me a smile. It is the same small-town feel as we are busting at the seams.

Q. What are Round Rock's weaknesses?

A. The roads are our biggest albatross. There is no getting past it. It is growing to be more and more of a priority.

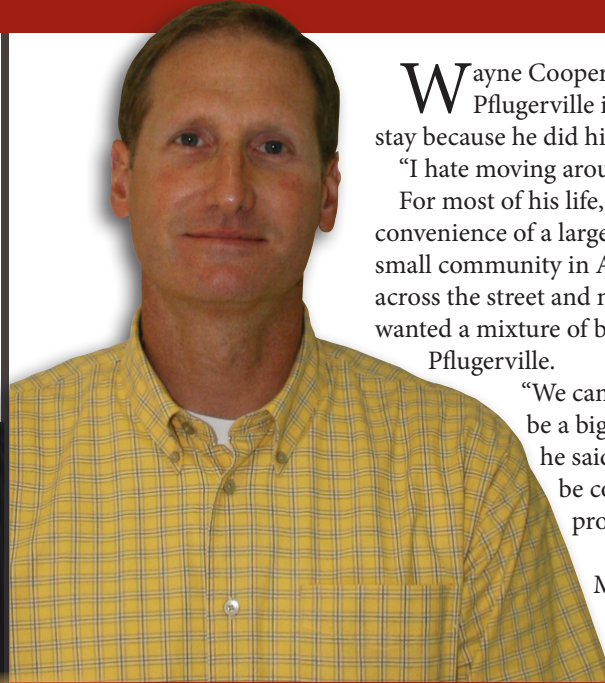
Employment: CheckSmart, owner

Education: Attended Hardin Simmons University and Abilene Christian University

Family: Husband Eric, son Eric and daughter Britta, two "adopted" children and two grandchildren

Contact information: 218-5403, rrcc6whitfield@round-rock.tx.us

Wayne Cooper



Wayne Cooper knew when he moved to Pflugerville it was somewhere he wanted to stay because he did his research before making a choice. "I hate moving around, so we looked hard," he said.

For most of his life, he lived in Dallas and enjoyed the convenience of a large city. Then his family moved to a small community in Arkansas where wildlife wandered across the street and neighbors regularly visited. Cooper wanted a mixture of both lifestyles and he found Pflugerville.

"We came to a small town that is going to be a big town. We saw the potential there," he said. "We knew the toll roads would be coming and property value would probably go up."

Cooper was elected to office in May.

Council member, Pflugerville

Q. What have you learned about the city you did not know before the election?

A. I guess it is not so much that I did not know this, but that it has impressed me. Most of my clients are public sector agencies. Because of my exposure to other agencies, I see how much work goes into the city by the staff and how they care. Our staff is head and shoulders above everybody else. If they don't know the answer, they will ask the questions.

Q. What are Pflugerville's strengths?

A. Pflugerville's strength is in its location. I don't think a lot of people realize how strategically we are located. Our potential is our greatest strength. We need to create a strong sense of identity. We need to have pride in our progress. Pflugerville needs to keep that sense of place.

Q. What are Pflugerville's weaknesses?

A. One of our weaknesses is as a city we have had a too myopic perspective. We are afraid to look beyond our own borders. In business, it is like looking at what the competition is doing. We are too inwardly focused sometimes. We really should decide what we want to be when we grow up, and then we must be resolved to follow through. I want to make sure Pflugerville gets off on the right foot and develop what the city can become. It is important we keep that quality of life. I care about it. My family lives here. My mom lives here.

Q. What skills do you use most as a council member?

A. Long-range planning. Our job is to not have a tunnel vision perspective. I have close to 30-years experience in planning. So, since I do get exposure in the design community, if I do not know the answers I know how to ask the questions.

Employment: Halff Associates, Inc., regional director of landscape architecture

Education: Bachelor's in landscape architecture, Texas Tech University; Master's, University of Texas – Arlington

Family: Wife Carlotta, a son and two daughters

Contact information: 990-4363, council1@cityofpflugerville.com

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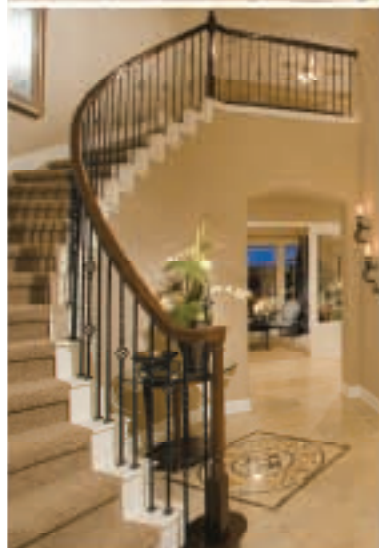


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