

Northwest Rec Center gets renovation, adds 8,000 SF



PHOTO CREDIT: VICTOR OVALLE, CITY OF AUSTIN PARKS AND RECREATION

Northwest Recreation Center will be renovated and re-opened for play in April 2011.

By Alana Moehring Mallard

When Northwest Recreation Center on Northland re-opens in April 2011, nearly the entire inside of the building will be renovated. Only the gymnasium will be as we remember.

"We are adding about 8,000 square feet total on both the east and west sides of the existing building," said project manager Burton Jones. In those 8,000 square feet will be a larger multipurpose room, a fitness room, additional exercise space, additional craft space and more storage areas.

And remember when we first saw that building with those wild, earthen berms surrounding the place? They're history. No more almost-underground building. Besides

removing those flowerbed walls, the new project will also correct a drainage problem at the loading dock.

Jones expects the renovated building to achieve an LEED silver rating from the U.S. Green Building Council. LEED silver certification in major renovation projects considers sustainability, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, indoor environmental quality and innovation in design.

Examples of major green projects in the Northwest Recreation Center renovation include improving rainwater runoff with biofiltration, generating electricity with solar panels on the roof and replacing the existing heating and air conditioning system with a more efficient system.

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— PROJECT MANAGER BURTON JONES

Tarrytown July 4th Parade scheduled for the 3rd

20th Annual Tarrytown 4th of July Parade

July 3, 2010, 9 a.m.

Begins at
Good Shepherd
Episcopal Church

Ends at Reed Park
with Picnic

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Twenty years and counting for the Tarrytown Fourth of July Parade and this year organizers are trying something a little different. Because the parade typically starts in the parking lot of The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd and the holiday falls on a Sunday this year, volunteers in charge of the event decided to change the date to the day before, on a Saturday.

"In order to not interfere with those wanting to worship on Sunday the Fourth, our committee decided to move the parade to the 3rd," explained Collin Ohanian, who has headed up the festivities for Tarrytown for the past several years. "It will give West Austinites an opportunity to celebrate the Fourth of July all weekend – kicking it off on Saturday morning with Tarrytown's 20th Annual Parade and ending with fireworks on Sunday night across the city."

The parade begins at 9 a.m. in the parking lot of Good Shepherd and families with strollers, bikes, decorated trailers and cars are all invited to line up early that morning. Once the parade begins, participants are encouraged to follow the parade route, which heads

west on Windsor, turns north on Pecos and ends in Reed Park with a party and festive picnic. Neighbors usually line the route and cheer for their friends.

Volunteers make the parade possible and all of the money from sponsors will be used to improve Tarrytown and Reed Parks. Early-bird star-spangled sponsors include the West Austin Youth Association (WAYA), Grande Communications, Plains Capital Bank and Avenue One Properties. The 2010 Tarrytown Parade Planning Committee includes Collin Ohanian, Elise Bridges, Laurel Hooper, Natalie Kinsel, Holly Norman, Julie Lewis, Brannon Smith, Erika Holmes and Anne Schneiderjan.



Children and families in the Tarrytown neighborhood will decorate bikes and cars for the 20th annual Tarrytown 4th of July Parade, which is scheduled this year for Saturday, the 3rd of July.

A camp full of fun... and finance?

By Susie Cohen

While other teens were at camp creating crafts or honing their sports skills this summer, my son, Jake, was (sometimes even gladly) going to work.

"Because we're at a business camp and we're learning how to run a business," he explained pretty matter of factly, as he helped his camper do-workers set up one of the shops they created from the ground up at West Austin's Waterloo Ice House.

"We sell bracelets, necklaces and trinkets," he mentions.

They also created a design-your-own T-shirt stand for kids. What's more, is their real products could lead to some real profits for these young (8 to 18-year-old) entrepreneurs. It's all part of the plan at Money Academy Camp.

"Our slogan is Real Life-Real Money," says Money Academy founder and CEO Gayle Raume, who drew on her own experiences as a mom worried about her daughter's financial future to create this unique kind of camp that's going on in 20 different locations around town.

"Six years ago I wanted to teach my daughter about money and didn't know how," recalls Raume. "I didn't want her to get stuck in the money trap. It's an earn-and-spend cycle that Americans are stuck in. We're in a culture of consumption that causes the crisis



Jeffrey Van Keer takes a turn creating some of the beaded trinkets his team was selling.

we're in."

Back then, Raume's cure for that culture of consumption was an afterschool finance class she provided to her daughter and some of her daughter's friends. What she learned from those kids and that class helped the former marketing and publishing worker found and grow the Money Academy she hoped would help improve the financial future for so many children like her daughter.

Her focus, she says, is, "to help them see the value of saving 10 percent and using it to invest."

But it's the hands-on approach of the Money Academy



One camper gets a chance to try out the team's design your own T-shirt product.

(camp and curriculum, which is being incorporated into

classes across Central Texas) that sets these lessons apart.

"We don't teach. They learn," says Raume. "They see things for themselves in camp like how these principles work and they're motivated to begin the habit of learning to save and invest."

Jake's camper/co-workers were no exception. After taking turns at CEO, CFO, operations, marketing, and production of their company, his team ticked off some of the lessons they'd learned here at camp.

"If you have a job and you make money, you don't just spend it. You put it in a savings account and it'll make money for you," said 14-year-old Tyler Roach.

"To run even a small business like this you have to take on big responsibilities," adds 14-year-old Jennifer Scheurer.

And all that hard work can also bring in big rewards is the lesson I witnessed for myself when Jake happily showed me a check for his percentage of the profits his team made during their week of camp.

While he still hasn't decided what he'll do with his earnings, he does know he'd like to return to Money Academy Camp (maybe even as a kid counselor)—and would recommend it to friends as well.

"Because you have fun and make money," says Jake. After all, he adds, "Every kid likes to make money doesn't he?"

Good Shepherd hosts picnic



Carol Pierce-Davis, Betty Maitlen

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd recently kicked off its summer activities with a Parish Picnic. The Good Shepherd Good Ole Boys prepared hamburgers and hotdogs on their newly restored grill at its new home in the "Good Ole Boy's Land" to the side of the church parking lot.

Since June 6, Good Shepherd has been observing its summer schedule:
7:30a HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I
10:00a HOLY EUCHARIST (June: Rite II, July: Rite I)
10:00a Children's Chapel
Pre-School Sunday School
7:00p HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

The church has also initiated the Good Shepherd

Story Project and is inviting all parishioners to share their stories with one another. Following the model of NPR's National Story Project, Good Shepherd is providing opportunities this summer for parishioners to tell their tales, in words (written or spoken). The parameters are simple: the stories have to be short (500 words or fewer); they have to be about the author or their family; and they have to be true.

Classes, events, and readings will take place throughout the summer to help church members put their ideas to paper. At the end of this summer series, all are invited to submit their story to the larger parish project, which will be collected and published beginning in the fall.