



September 2023 Newsletter



City of the Violet Crown

In the 1890s, Austin became known as the City of the Violet Crown from the brilliant sunsets to the west. The first use of this name was found in a newspaper article about a new dam on the Colorado River.

Later, the writer, O. Henry, used this name in one of his short stories, TicTocq, about a French Detective, who arrives in Austin on an important mission from the French Government. Chapter 2 begins with this phrase.

The occasion is the entree into society of one of the fairest buds in the City of the Violet Crown.

Have you wondered what causes the violet sky? It is an atmospheric phenomenon known as the Belt of Venus. The short answer is the angle of the sun and our thin layer of atmosphere surrounding the planet. During the main part of the day, the rays are passing a shorter distance through the atmosphere, which favors blue rays. As the sun goes lower in the sky, the angle of the light is longer, which allows the reds to be seen.

Every now and then, the blues and reds line up just right, and we are blessed with those violet crowns.

[Read More](#)

Call for HOA Board Members

The HOA Annual Meeting is Thursday, November 2, 2023, and votes will be cast for new members of the HOA Board.

For 50 years the HOA has worked to carry on the character of the subdivisions and to support social activities. It takes many people to maintain this beautiful and peaceful village, and now is a great time to get involved and help carry on the traditions. Join the HOA, serve on the Board, and volunteer.

Click this button and let us know you are interested.

[Sign Me Up](#)

Bike Riders Using Driveways to Access Golf Course

In the BVSNeighbors email group, several neighbors shared accounts of groups of kids riding bikes through their driveways and across their backyards to the golf course. One family had to install a fence because the riders were putting their toddlers at risk. These neighbors would be happy for the rides to stop.

This situation could be a learning opportunity for the kids. Knowing why often helps. Look at a survey of your lot and find the property lines that show what belongs to you. Explain that every house in the neighborhood has the same type of property lines, and everyone who lives in the houses works hard to have their own place. Not only are there laws that protect people's ownership of property, but most people believe it is the polite thing to do.



The golf course also is private property that is owned by the BCC, but that is another discussion.

Will We See Those Bicycle Lane Flex Poles On Spicewood Parkway

Lenora Greene, President of the Northwest Balcones HOA (neighborhood on either side of Tallyran from Old Lampasas Road to Vista View) raised a question about the flex poles. She noticed freshly painted lines for bike lanes on Spicewood Club and Spicewood Parkway and recalled that happened before the white, plastic flex poles were installed at Four Iron and Spicewood Springs Road.

The city's Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Report for Spicewood Elementary School notes that bike lanes can be painted lines, protected lanes, or buffered lanes. Rather than wait to be surprised, she and a few other people reached out to our council representative, Mackenzie Kelly for clarification, but the city department in charge of this project has not responded with a clear answer, yet.

It seem illogical to install these poles in front of residences. However, a quick note to Kelly's office might be a good idea.

Concerns raised include -

How will city trash trucks that use the side arm lift reach the bins?

How will post office deliver mail?

Where will cars move to give way to emergency vehicles?

Where will visitors to the homes park?

Where will service vehicles park?

Where will delivery vehicles stop?

Where will golf carts yield to vehicles?

Will home values decrease – because the poles are unsightly and not maintained (based on observations along Spicewood Parkway) as well as eliminate parking for any visitors.

[Kelly Email](#)

RRISD - Proposition on November 7 Ballot

Follow this link for more info from the school district about the Proposition.

[RRISD Proposition A](#)

Save The Date

October 2023

Tuesday - 3 - National Night Out

Monday - 9 - RRISD Teacher Workday

Tuesday - 10 - HOA Board Meeting 5 PM BCC

Monday - 23 - COA Large Brush Pick-up Begins

Balcones Village / Spicewood HOA
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