



# Northwest Neighborhood

Summer 2010



## Picnic on Saturday

Every year, young and old, long- and short-time residents of the Northwest Neighborhood gather for a picnic in Franklin Park on a sunny (or not) afternoon of socializing with new and returning faces over barbeque, prizes and tales of yore from Pat Jollota.

You may expect all of that and more again this Saturday.

**One might consider it a coup** to have neighbor Royce Pollard come to the picnic and share a story on a grassy knoll with Pat, but we'll call it a 'Couv instead! He rates it!

The city will provide tables and the grill. Your Association will bring plates, cups, plastic ware, condiments, drinks and chips.

**And you should bring** the grill-worthy meat or non-meat product of your choice, as well as either a salad or desert to share. Optimists will also anticipate bringing a sun hat!

**We are looking for a volunteer** with a large pick-up truck to haul the tables and grill to the park and back again. Please contact Marguerite Matusak at 693-1396 for details.

## Will C-TRAN pull neighborhood service?

By Fred Bateman

Recently there has been talk within city transportation circles about reductions in C-TRAN service that could include the elimination of Route 2 – the only route that serves the NW neighborhood, as well as much of Lincoln neighborhood.

C-TRAN staff members are looking at budgeting options for 2011-12 under scenarios that include increases in sales tax revenues and those that do not. My source tells me that

without additional revenues, there could be a service reduction of 35% in 2012 and an additional 10-15% in 2013.



**C-TRAN is funded primarily** through sales taxes, but also ride fares. Because of this, it is understandable that revenues

have been impacted by the recession. Now, unless C-TRAN increases revenue from a voter-approved sales tax increase, the only other option is to reduce expenses and that means services.

**How expenses are reduced** is the issue: should some areas lose all service altogether while others are lightly impacted? Budget cycle to budget cycle, C-TRAN must balance service coverage within the taxing district and the productivity of the routes as measured in ridership and fares.

The low productivity of Route 2 – due to low density, topography and lack of any commercial activity – has been aggravated by repeated cutbacks. Most recently, service has been reduced to once an hour and no evening service.

**It is interesting** that when the route operated every twenty minutes to J&M Plaza and ran until 10:30 p.m., it was the most productive in its history in terms of (See C-TRAN, page 4)