

Cherrywood Neighborhood Quarterly Meeting

Agenda items include:

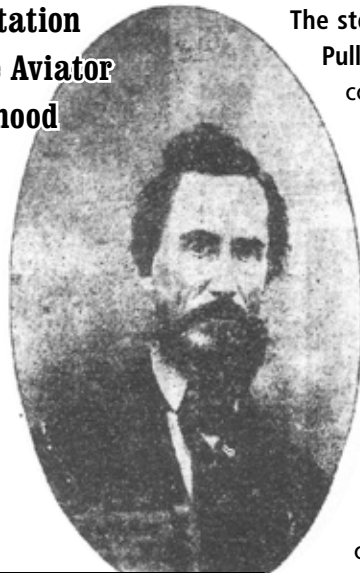
- Patterson Community Gardens presentation
- Resolution on Hancock Golf Course (for action)
- Presentation on Proposed Mueller Elementary School
- Vote to renew terms of SC members (for action)

All Cherrywood neighbors are welcome and encouraged to attend!

**Wednesday
November 28
6:30–8:00pm**
**ASBURY UMC
(aka SERVANT)**

THE MYSTERY AND HISTORY OF FRENCH PLACE – PART I

How a Log Cabin, a Plantation Owner and a Suffragette Aviator Helped Form a Neighborhood



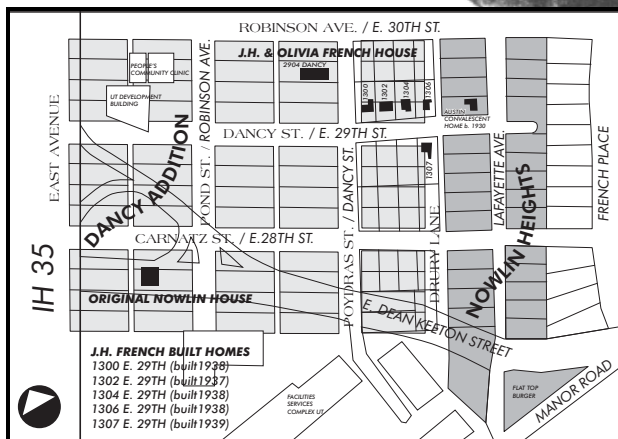
RIGHT: Colonel Dancy, the plantation owner, newspaper editor, veteran of the Battle of Buena Vista and Texas senator whose French heritage inspired the family when naming streets.
BELOW: Dancy Addition

The story begins in 1848 when Texas granted Payton Wade and Martha J. Pulliam Nowlin a 40-acre tract of land in east Austin. Within a year, the couple built a cedar log home on East Avenue (now I-35) near what would have been 28th Street.

In a 1931 *Dallas Morning News* profile titled “Memoirs of a Texas Plantation Belle,” Nowlin’s granddaughter, Lena Dancy Ledbetter, described the home (which had burned down a few years before) as “the first double, two-story log house on a high hill in Austin. This was the first house of its kind built after Austin was selected as the permanent capital. There were only about 75 families in the little village at this time and the houses, even the Capitol, were small log cabins with dirt floors and no glass windows in them. This house was a landmark in Austin for over 80 years.”

When Payton Nowlin divided his land holdings among his various daughters, he willed the house and the surrounding 20 acres to eldest daughter Lucy Ann, and her husband, Colonel John Winfield Scott Dancy, residents of La Grange. Colonel Dancy, a fiery, red-headed Frenchman whose family had fled Europe for religious reasons, had been a wealthy plantation owner, a newspaper editor, a veteran of the Battle of Buena Vista and a Texas senator who ran a losing race against Sam Houston for governor in 1859. The Civil War’s outcome devastated Dancy and he died shortly thereafter in 1866.

Moving to Austin in 1881, Lucy Dancy eventually opened her log home as a boarding house for theological students. In 1887 she subdivided the surrounding property into the Dancy Addition, comprised of about nine square blocks from East Avenue to Drury Lane between 27th and 30th Streets. She honored her family ties to New Orleans and France with street names such as Dancy, Lafayette, Poydras and Carnatz Street (after



Map by Heather Telo

Cherrywood Calendar of Events

Dates, times, and locations are subject to change. Please refer to the Google calendar on cherrywood.org for more information. Want to submit something for the online and FLEA calendars? Contact flea@cherrywood.org.

NOVEMBER 2012

- 11/26 Upper Boggy Creek Neighborhood Planning Team Mtg.. 7-8:30 pm
- 11/28 Cherrywood Neighborhood Quarterly Meeting 6:30-8 pm
- 11/28 Austin Neighborhoods Council General Meeting.....7-9 pm

DECEMBER 2012

- 12/5 CNA Land Use and Transportation Committee Meeting .. 8-9:30 pm
- 12/8 & 12/9 11th Annual Cherrywood Art Fair..... 10am-5 pm
- 12/9 Mueller Neighborhood Association Meeting 3-5 pm
- 12/10 Friends of Willowbrook Reach 6:30 pm
- 12/11 Austin Neighborhood Council East Sector Meeting..... noon-1 pm
- 12/12 CNA Steering Committee Meeting 6:30-8 pm
- 12/24 Upper Boggy Creek Neighborhood Planning Team Mtg.. 7-8:30 pm
- 12/26 Austin Neighborhoods Council General Meeting.....7-9 pm

JANUARY 2013

- 1/2 CNA Land Use and Transportation Committee Meeting .. 8-9:30 pm
- 1/7 APD Central East Commander's Forum 6-8 pm
- 1/8 Austin Neighborhood Council East Sector Meeting..... noon-1 pm
- 1/9 CNA Steering Committee Meeting 6:30-8 pm
- 1/13 Mueller Neighborhood Association Meeting 3-5 pm
- 1/14 Friends of Willowbrook Reach 6:30 pm
- 1/23 Austin Neighborhoods Council General Meeting.....7-9 pm
- 1/28 Upper Boggy Creek Neighborhood Planning Team Mtg.. 7-8:30 pm

Aaron Choate to Step Down as CNA Chair

Aaron Choate has resigned from the post of CNA Chair. CNA would like to thank him for his leadership. Jeremy Mazur will chair the Cherrywood neighborhood meeting Nov. 28 at 6:30 p.m.

Like us on facebook!

225+ of your neighbors do: www.facebook.com/cna.austin

CNA UPDATE

Cherrywood Votes to Keep Scheiffer-Willowbrook within CNA Borders

In mid-August, at the most-attended neighborhood meeting in recent memory, Cherrywood residents voted 59-44 to keep the newly formed Scheiffer-Willowbrook Neighborhood Association within the boundaries of the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association.

Earlier in the summer, neighbors in the Scheiffer-Willowbrook section had voted to form their own neighborhood association, break away from CNA and join the Wilshire Woods/Delwood 1 Neighborhood Association. However, a few days after the August Cherrywood vote, SWNA announced it would no longer seek to join WWD1. "We sincerely hope that over time our Cherrywood neighbors are able to respect

the boundaries of the SWNA just as CNA would want theirs respected," the post read. "This will avoid potential confusion on neighborhood jurisdiction and allow us to work together more positively within the Upper Boggy Creek Planning Area on issues of mutual concern."

SWNA held its first meeting in September. For more information, visit sites.google.com/site/swnaaustin/home.

The vote came a month after Schieffer/Willowbrook neighbors voted 26 to 15 at a public meeting to reactivate the dormant Schieffer Neighborhood Association, which has been registered with the City of Austin as the Schieffer/Willowbrook, Crescent and Brookview Neighborhood Association.



THE FLEA is published by the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 4631, Austin, TX 78765-4010 on a quarterly basis in February, May, August, and November. ©2012. All rights reserved.

- Editor Steve Wilson
- Designer Sherri Whitmarsh
- Advertising..... Rebecca Kohout
- Distribution and Associate Editor Jennifer Potter-Miller

If you have any questions or comments about **THE FLEA**, contact flea@cherrywood.org.

CHERRYWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION STEERING COMMITTEE

- Interim Chair Jeremy Mazur
- Secretary vacant
- Treasurer Rebecca Kohout
- Members: Justin Irving, Girard Kinney, Jack Josey Newman, Jennifer Potter-Miller, Lia Davis and Mark Schiff (9 members – 4 open positions)

If you have any questions or comments for the Steering Committee, please email steering@cherrywood.org.

LISTSERVS | www.cherrywood.org

- NeighborNet David Greene
- Duplex Nation Net..... Wendy Morgan
- Stuccoville..... Jack Darby



AROUND THE HOOD



Patterson Pool Goes Mosaic

In early August, Neighbors gathered to celebrate the unveiling of the mosaic at Patterson Pool, the dazzling result of community workshops that helped artist Stefanie Distafano complete the project.

Halloween Parade: Unspeakable Evil Descends on French Place!

In late October, an inter-dimensional rift opened over French Place, spewing forth a horde of unworldly creatures big and small. Spreading terror and chaos, they descended on neighbors armed only with the power of sugar to fend them off.



Cherrywood Blue Ribbon Yard



3906 Grayson: A Sea of Color

Drive by and you'll be overwhelmed with color: a sea of roses, lavender, zinnias, skull's cap, autumn sage, bulbines, midnight sage and esperanza. After the loss of two trees in the yard, LuAnn Bordelon and Gary Wilson found themselves with full sun, so they created a perennial sun garden. LuAnn does the design and plant selection and Gary does the hard labor, but both enjoy the color and sharing with the neighbors. What's the secret? LuAnn credits fresh manure from her sister's farm and the bees they raise in the back yard!

\$25 gift card courtesy of Steve Vinklarek, State Farm Insurance

CHULA LEAGUE

Cruise Over to Cherrywood Art Fair



Chula League, your neighborhood nonprofit committed to supporting arts, arts education and artful public landscapes in East Austin, is proud to announce details for the 2012 Cherrywood Art Fair (Dec. 8 and 9), as it prepares for its most robust event to date. Since its inception, the popular fair has served as a destination for holiday shoppers seeking unique and artful items from Texas artists.

The beloved two-day East Austin event will take place again at Maplewood Elementary, featuring a broad diversity of artistic disciplines, including: painting, mixed media, printmaking, photography, woodwork, and textiles in the forms of fine art, home décor, fashion accessories, jewelry and more.

In addition to the 100+ selected artists, this year the always-free event will feature more live music both indoors and out, a food court and an entire area dedicated to interactive family activities. Adding extra meaning to each purchase of one-of-a-kind items, proceeds will benefit Little Artist BIG ARTIST—a program that pairs elementary students with professional artists to experience the creative process from ideation through commercialization.

The Food-palooza area has treats for every taste bud—featuring Bake Austin, Elixer Coffee, Fresh Off The Truck, The Gardener's Feast, mmmpanadas, Snarkys, and Tamale Place.

Providing the shopping soundtrack, Patricia Vonne, The Zoltars, Holy Wave, Growl, The Blitzens, Troy Campbell, Eric Blakely, and Kathy Murray & Cherrywood Road will play throughout the two-day event. Flamencura Music and Dance, Austin's premier Flamenco dance company, and acoustic kid-friendly sets from Foxing Quarterly will also perform, as well as other musicians.

Every year several neighbors chip in to help make this great event happen. Your help setting up, working at and breaking down the fair (or making a homemade goodie for the artists and musicians) will be greatly appreciated.

See www.cherrywoodartfair.org for more details and to sign up to help.

URBAN FARM UPDATE



Cherrywood Neighborhood Farm Celebrates First Birthday

The Cherrywood Neighborhood Farm has begun its third season, with 14 families participating and helping to grow healthy, “hyperlocal” produce. One of the participating plots is at In.Gredients (above), the “no packaging” natural food store at 2610 Manor Rd. This season, we’re pleased to start holding our distributions there (every other Saturday through Feb. 16, 2013). If you’re interested in becoming a member, please contact Terry Dyke at tdyke@bga.com.

More info: www.urbanpatchwork.org. Photo courtesy of Terry Dyke

FRIENDS OF THE GREEN

Fountain Flows Anew at Cherrywood Green

The water fountain at Cherrywood Green is now back in operation, thanks to the generosity of neighbor Isaiah Tibbs and master plumber Mike Hickey, who fixed the water pressure problem. We now have a much better understanding of the fountain’s inner workings and hope to keep it working well from now on.

The Green has benefited from the recent rains, but it could benefit from volunteers too, for mowing, pruning and weeding.

More FROG info: Mike Damal (799-0287 or michael.damal@gmail.com)

FRIENDS AND LOVERS OF WILLOWBROOK REACH

Fine-Feathered Friends Released in the Reach



Two juvenile Black-Bellied Whistling Ducks were released at Willowbrook Reach in August.



In late August, neighbors and friends released two juvenile Black-Bellied Whistling Ducks at Willowbrook Reach. The young ducks had been rescued from the courtyard at the Texas Department of State Health Services building as chicks and nurtured to teenagehood at Austin Area Wildlife Rehabilitation.

These beautiful, distinctive birds used to be a rare visitor north of the Rio Grande Valley, but rice farming and global warming has made them a common visitor around Austin. Though it’s a dangerous world out there—with cats, owls, raccoons, cars and more—the

Reach provides tree cover, vines, fish, tadpoles and other benefits that can support such wildlife.

Thanks to the myriad people who pulled together to rescue the ducks, keep them healthy and then find a place for them to start their new adventure. So far there have been no further sightings of the siblings, but keep an eye out for our new feathered friends.

The next second-Monday meeting of FLWR is scheduled for Dec. 10 at 6:30 p.m. at Cherrywood Coffeehouse.

More info: flwr.blogspot.com

Photo and article courtesy of Lee Clippard

Sunset Celebration of Mueller Prairie Birds

In early October, over 35 people gathered on the shore of the Mueller Prairie pond for a Sunset Celebration of Mueller Birds. Four speakers from Travis Audubon gave short talks: Meredith O’Reilly on for gardening with birds using ornamental native plants; A.J. Johnson on how developer Catellus worked with Travis Audubon to preserve

barn owls nesting in the old Mueller Control Tower; Amy Tsay on Travis Audubon’s mission and Jake McCumber on how the food and habitat Mueller Prairie provides birds makes lawns and golf courses look like deserts by comparison. Friends of the Mueller Prairie and the Mueller POA Landscape Committee sponsored the workshop.



New Issue Emerges with 4020 Airport Blvd.

LAND USE

- **4020 Airport:** Apparently unbeknownst to the land owners and many people involved with this issue, the LR Zoning granted to this site would limit retail uses to a TOTAL of only 5000sf. It's not known what the owners plan to do regarding this new development.
- **Value Sky Park site:** Though the street through the planned apartment complex is unfortunately NOT intended to be public, it will be aligned with Alexander street, as we hoped. The buildings are designed to eventually have Retail/Office uses along Manor and the internal drive.
- **Redeemer Church site:** We are trying to ascertain what will be constructed on the two new lots between the church and Manor Road created when this site was subdivided into three lots.
- **3305 Lafayette:** A meeting is scheduled later this month between the owner and her design team as well as a third public hearing with the Board of Adjustment. (See the last *Flea* for a description of the issue.)
- **3302 Merrie Lynn:** We saw the plans for this duplex in time to spot the same code violations as 3305 Lafayette and the applicant has redesigned accordingly.
- **1409 E. 34th St.:** Plans for a single-family house have been approved and a building permit issued for this site.
- **3848 Airport Blvd.:** Cherrywood, Schieffer/ Willowbrook and three other adjacent neighborhoods are working together to try to make the 7/11 (with fuel pumps) planned for this site something we can support.

LUT BUSINESS

Thanks to Jennifer Potter-Miller for her tenure as interim chair, and for members of the LUT for their patience in finding a new chair. LUT meets the first Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m., most recently at Taqueria Los Altos. Watch for adjustments to the time and place.

TRANSPORTATION

- **CapMet/Boggy Creek Bike Path:** The plan is for this path to cross the railroad at MLK station and MLK Blvd., continuing along Alexander, over Manor and through the Value Sky Park site until it joins the south end of Clarkson. From there it will continue along E 34th NW circuitously, possibly to the future train station at Hancock Center and beyond.
- **Cherrywood Road's Bike Lanes and Traffic Humps:** While we welcome the new bike lanes, the repaving process that thickened some traffic humps left other humps short, ill-spaced and unmarked. They're less effective, so we're asking the city to address the problem.
- **Overflow Parking:** To tackle overflow parking near Manor, E 38.5 St., and Dean Keaton, some Cherrywooders are considering the Residential Parking Program, which restricts parking to local residents at designated times. It's up to sponsors living in the problem areas to initiate a program on their street. We're also trying to enforce existing laws that make it illegal to park within 30 feet of a stop sign, 20 feet of an intersecting sidewalk or five feet of any driveway. More red-painted curbs are on the way.
- **Sidewalks:** To further our Sidewalk Master Plan, we've urged the city to allow placement of sections of needed sidewalks by private individuals and firms.
- **Roundabouts:** Look for announcements about possible roundabouts on Airport Blvd. and at other nearby intersections.

To report a construction/transportation problem or to join the LUT, contact Interim Chair Girard Kinney at 478-5042 or 472-5572 or girard@kinneyarchitects.com.

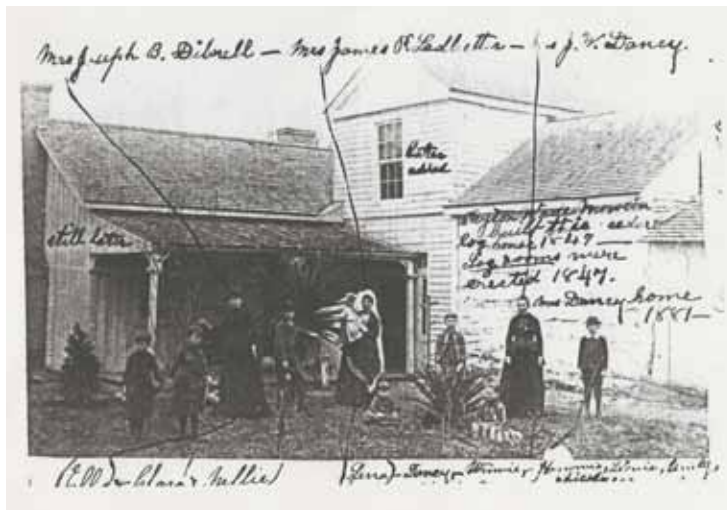
Hancock Golf Course Applies for Historical Designation

To help increase participation and improve conditions at Hancock Golf Course, the Golf Division of the Parks and Recreation Department is moving forward with an application for the following historical designations: Local Historical District designation; COA Landmark designation for the Hancock Recreation Center; National Register District designation; Texas Historical Commission Interpretive Marker.

Hancock is also installing a new reclaimed water irrigation system this month. Additional projects will include new signage for the golf course, a player development program with the YMCA, participation with Stony Point High School's "players pass," and family-friendly events in the spring.

—Katy Williams, Austin Parks and Recreation Department





New Orleans' Carnatz Institute, where her daughter studied music). Lucy named Drury Lane after her brother, who died as a young child.

The property passed on to the Dancys' eldest daughter, Martha Evaline "Lena," and her husband, James Peacock Ledbetter, an attorney and judge. Lena, who danced on the toes of Sam Houston as a little girl, wrote and published patriotic songs and took an active interest in woman's suffrage and the prohibition amendment. In 1928, at the age of 77, she gained national attention in her effort to become the first

woman to cross the Atlantic by air from New York to Paris, but the family pressured her to abort those plans. She died in 1938, leaving the land to her daughter Olivia and her husband, James Harmon French, an oil contractor and insurance agent.

Olivia and James moved into 2904 Dancy and worked with local residents to develop Dancy Addition, with homes selling for \$2,800. After Olivia died of illness a year later, James moved forward with their plans, creating the first part of the neighborhood known as French Place. In the late 1940s, James married realtor Doris J. Lane, who had purchased a French-built home at 1300 E. 29th with her former husband in 1938. The couple lived at 2904 Dancy until James died of a heart attack in 1951 while visiting the therapeutic mineral springs at the Majestic Hotel in Marlin. Moving back into 1300 E. 29th, Doris continued working in real estate until the 1960s. Five of the original French-built homes still stand on E. 29th St. between Dancy and Drury Lane.

Nowlin Heights (Lafayette from 30th Street to Manor Road) still bears the name of the couple granted this land over 170 years ago, one of many ways their legacy lives on in French Place and its adjoining neighborhoods.

This is the first part in a series on the history of Cherrywood.

—Rebecca Kohout, *Cherrywood Historic Preservation Co-Chair*

ABOVE: The log cabin built by the Nowlins, original owners of the property that would become Dancy Addition.

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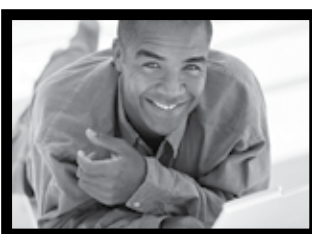


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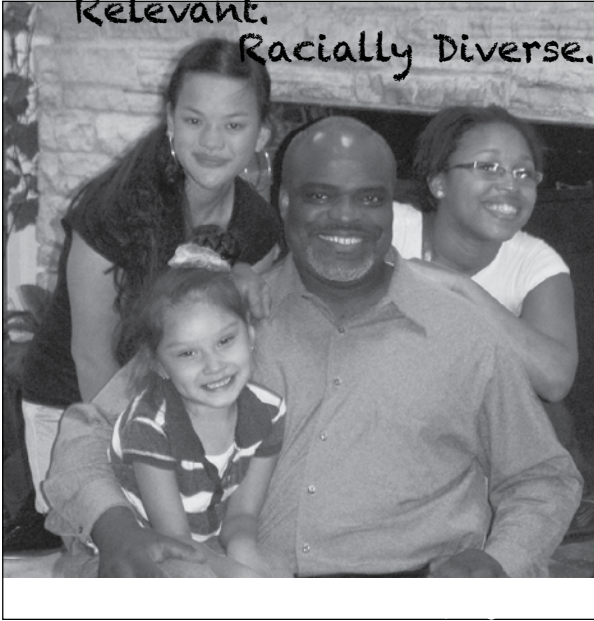
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Value Increasing Home Improvement Tips for Sellers



FLOORS Hardwoods under carpet: It pays to remove the old covering and have the wood refinished. Carpets: Shampoo or completely replace with a neutral color. Tile: Replace chipped or cracked tiles. Clean or replace the grout.

FIXTURES New faucets and sparkling sinks will sell your kitchen and bathrooms. Updated light fixtures, ceiling fans, and hardware will give you lots of bang for your buck.

EXTERIOR Power wash away any dirt, stains and cobwebs. Paint or repair damaged or weathered exterior walls. Patch cracks in sidewalks, driveways, and underpinnings. Mend any broken fencing. Trim back tree branches from the house and power lines.

DE-CLUTTER AND DE-PERSONALIZE Pack up personal photographs and knick-knacks. Rent a storage unit to keep all non-essential items.

REPAIRS Make sure everything works perfectly! Buyers want fully functional plumbing, electricity, roofing, A/C and heating.

GET ORGANIZED Buyers will open closet and cabinet doors. Stack dishes and line up cups in cabinets. Arrange food and spices in the pantry. In closets, hang clothes together by type, color, and facing the same direction. Line up shoes. Neatly line up items in shower, bathroom cabinets and drawers.

INTERIOR Have windows cleaned inside and out. Polish chrome faucets and mirrors. Replace worn bathroom rugs and welcome mats. Clean blinds and drapes. Dust ceiling fan blades and light fixtures. Vacuum, sweep and mop floors daily.

FINAL TOUCHES Hang up fresh, clean towels in bathrooms. Clear leaves and toys from the lawn and sidewalks.

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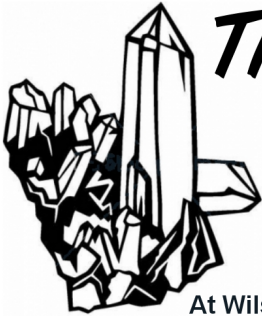
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WHAT'S HOT IN CHERRYWOOD

Austin-area Home Sales Volume Increases again, August Median Price Hits Ten-Year High

According to the Multiple Listing Service report released in September by the Austin Board of REALTORS®, the volume of home sales and the price of Austin-area homes is continuing to rise, making August the 15th straight month of sales volume increases and seventh month of median price increases in the Austin area. In fact, this was the highest median price we've seen in the month of August in the last decade in Austin.

According to the report, 2,397 single-family homes were sold in the Austin area in August 2012, which is 21 percent more than August 2011. During the same time period, the median price for Austin-area homes was \$212,000, a six percent increase from the same month in 2011.

In August 2012, the market featured 4.0 months of inventory, which is 1.7 months less than August 2011. In addition, the market featured 15 percent more new listings, 17 percent fewer active listings and 23 percent more pending sales compared to the prior year. On average, homes spent 61 days on the market, a decrease of 18 days from one year prior.

Feng Shui Tips for your home office

Here are a few hints to practice for having the most productive layout for your home office:

- ◆ Leave the part of your desk directly in front of you empty of files, books and so on. Create the equivalent of a bright hall where good chi can accumulate. Piles of files should be higher to your left than to your right.
- ◆ With a compass note the direction of each corner of your desk, then place: (1) flowers in the east to attract god income luck (2) a crystal paperweight in the southwest to create harmonious relationships (3) Computer equipment in the west to strengthen your ability to cope under pressure.
- ◆ The ideal sitting orientation is diagonal to the door, facing it. Desks should not face the door directly since the incoming energy will be too powerful.



Cherrywood Real Estate Report

Information below is based on active, pending and sold homes within our Cherrywood boundaries and comes from a total of 24 homes sold or on the market for the period of July 15, 2012 to October 15, 2012.

Homes sold in the past 90 days: **12**
 Homes currently pending sale: **9**
 Homes actively listed: **3**
 Average home for sale: **3 beds, 1 bath.**
 Average size home for sale: **1,317 sq. ft.**
 Average list price: **\$285,896.**
 Average home's selling price: **\$277,875.**
 Average price per square feet: **\$238.76.**
 Average time on market: **37 days.**

Coming Soon!

3506 Robinson; 2 bed/2 bath/ 2 living; remodeled kitchen and baths w/ granite, hardwood floors, covered porch, 1 car garage. natural landscaping! You'll love it!



SOLD in ONE DAY!

3305 Cherrywood: 3/1.5 with great deck, hardwoods, beautifully remodeled kitchen .

1702 East 38th: 3/1.5 with large yard and patio, sexy kitchen and bath remodel. Darling!

To view these homes or inquire about other properties in our neighborhood, contact Rebecca for a private showing.

I've been a Cherrywood resident since 1972. Call me if you're planning a move to a larger home, need to relocate, or know someone on the move.

Let me show you what I can do for you and how I can make your next move the best move of your life!



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