



The Flea

UPPER BOGGY CREEK PLAN UPDATE

by Stephen Kreger (UBCP Chair)

By the time this issue of the Flea is in your hands, the Upper Boggy Creek Plan should be on its way to the Planning Commission for review followed by the City Council review and, hopefully, passage by the Council. The Plan should go to the Planning Commission at the end of April or beginning of May and to Council shortly afterwards.

The abbreviated version of the Plan, also known as the survey, has been sent to the Planning Area neighborhoods for review and approval. Once the results are compiled, the Team will make any changes to the Plan that resulted from feedback from those that responded to the survey. Once the Plan is finalized, it will be presented to the Planning Commission and Council. The Plan could be changed further if either the Planning Commission or the Council has concerns. Hopefully, those concerns will be minor or, better yet, nonexistent. The Council will approve the Plan in two parts. One part will be the zoning modifications and the other part will be everything else. Once the Plan is passed, it will become part of the City of Austin Land Development Code.

If you have any questions, please call me at 477-4216. ■

THE UPPER BOGGY CREEK PLAN IS ALMOST FINISHED

by Gordon Bennett

The Plan's "Final Neighborhood Survey" closed April 5th. Results should be forthcoming. The Plan Summary has 30 pages, 6 Goals, 39 Objectives, 114 Action Items, 10 priority items, 9 maps, and a glossary of "Infill Option" definitions. It describes the work of a host of dedicated neighbors led by Stephen Kreger and four City Planners led by Mark Walters (also Gina Copic, Ricardo Soliz, and Kathleen Welder) stretched over 18 months and some 40 meetings! Along the way four UBC neighborhoods (Blackland, us, Wilshire Woods/Delwood I, and Delwood II) ballooned to six after Holy Cross and Rogers-Washington were discovered south of Manor Road. The Plan's Web site URL is asnic.utexas.edu/~bennett/___cwd/NP.htm.



One of Cherrywood's precious greenspaces along Boggy Creek, as seen from Brookview Rd.

It will have won our Survey support, if all has gone well, and will win approval from the Planning Commission and from City Council. But then what? As much as \$20,000 may be forthcoming to proceed with top priorities. And down the line even unfunded items are supposed to guide City agencies.

MY SKEPTICISM

The UBC Plan more resembles an eclectic wish list than a plan. Cherrywood may decide to follow up with something more strategic in the future. To wit:

- Assessment is missing of our area's trajectory, and how planning might affect it.
- Proposals have little internal relation to one another.
- The hazy ("provide opportunities for people" to repair their homes) mixes with the trivial (put "No Outlet" signs on cul-de-sacs).
- City Traffic Planners did not participate, nor did Capital Metro. So probably they will ignore items in their realm of responsibility.
- And the headline Goal ("Preserve the character of each neighborhood" in the UBC area) flatly contradicts important calls to change our area for the better — reduce vehicular traffic, encourage bike and pedestrian facilities and destinations, expand green spaces, add local shopping, foster mixed-use, and add services.

In a covering "brief summary" of the Summary, characterization of the effort as

(continued on Page 3)

Next CNA meeting:

Wednesday

April 17

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Maplewood Elementary

FLEA bites

by Jack Newman

This issue of the *FLEA* begins yet another evolutionary step toward our goal of providing our community with the best local-interest periodical possible. We have added a Staff Photographer to the mix, whose responsibilities will be creating and maintaining a collection of appropriate and useful photos for the use of our editors and layout artist. In addition, this person will be available to follow up on stories for editors or other content contributors, upon request, to obtain pictures that will enhance the storylines.

We are fortunate to have had neighbor Liz Hargrove volunteer for this position. She has already given us many new pictures for our photo library. Liz will be trying to get in touch with people whose photo may be useful for us, and she is also eager to work with any CNA author who needs her services for the *FLEA*. She may be reached at home at 478-5043, and via e-mail at liz.hargrove@ci.austin.tx.us.

CORRECTIONS AND APOLOGIES

In last January's *FLEA* Rebecca Schwarz's article on Grande Communications ended with what should have been shown as an *Editor's Comments*, but were attributed to the author.

The article on Maplewood Elementary's Fright Fest was improperly attributed to Paul Andrews, who did provide the list of participants and supporters. Also, Ana Saldana's name was misspelled.

A new *FLEA* editorial policy will be to get the prior approval of those whose pictures we print. We have begun a library of stock pictures of our Steering Committee members, committee members and other CNA activists to use as the needs of the paper require. If you have no objection to the use of your photo by our neighborhood newsletter, we will ask that you indicate this by filling in a brief form for our records. ■

CHERRYWOOD *NeighborNet*

The Cherrywood e-mail list, "NeighborNet," has passed a milestone with 250 subscribers. If you are not yet one, you missed discussion of:

- Homeless drifters hanging around Delwood Center area
- RMMA redevelopment progress
- Proposed yard-parking ordinance
- Burglar defenses
- Cherrywood Green and Patterson Park
- Tips on homeowners' insurance
- Discussion of Patos' fire and it's implications
- An exchange regarding our transient population
- Regular reminders of deadlines, events, and meetings.

To subscribe, e-mail your request to:

NeighborNet-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Another milestone passed (February 4th) was visit number 10,000 to our website, cherrywood.org. We're wired, fired, and inspired!!

Cherrywood Neighborhood Association

<http://www.cherrywood.org>

Steering Committee

Chair	_____	Bree Buchanan	482-8468
Vice-Chair	_____	Dave Westenbarger	494-9905
Secretary	_____	James Spanelli	236-1482
Treasurer	_____	Lyn Estabrook	458-5317
Frances DeLaune	477-1986	David Menhard	478-0996
Jeff Folmer	472-4535	Kyle Ranne	478-7506
Robbin Howard	459-9628	Jim Sander	478-3377
Rebecca Kohout	415-9876	Stefan Schuster	322-0059
		Rebecca Schwarz	478-9618

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The Flea:

- **Editor** _____ Jack Josey Newman 476-6616
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- **Design & Layout** _____ Bethany Andrée 473-2841
- **Photography** _____ Liz Hargrove 478-5043
- **Advertising** _____ Lyn Estabrook 458-5317
Dave Westenbarger 494-9905

- **Distribution** _____ Jim Walker 499-0526

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Jim Sander 478-3377

CNA Website: _____ Gordon Bennett 477-7195

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History: _____ Sharon Edmonson 473-2337

Hospitality: _____ Rebecca Kohout 415-9876
Frances DeLaune 477-1986

Nominating: _____ Sarah Bird 472-6542
Jim Walker 499-0526

Parks: _____ Girard Kinney 478-5042

- **Greenspaces** _____ Gale Greenleaf 474-6245
Rebecca Schwarz 478-9618, Jim Sander 478-3377

Pets: _____ Gale Greenleaf 474-6245
Rebecca Schwarz 478-9618

- **Cats-in-the-'Hood** _____ Sharon Edmonson 473-2337

Planning & Zoning: _____ Mike Damal 478-9622

- **Development Guidelines** _____ Mike Damal 478-9622

- **Mapping** _____ Girard Kinney 478-5042
Jules Vieau 495-9569, Jim Walker 499-0526

- **Zoning Cases** _____ Mike Damal 478-9622

Security: _____ Kathy Jones 472-1921

Transportation: _____ Stefan Schuster 322-0059

- **IH-35** _____ Girard Kinney 478-5042

- **Neighborhood Traffic Calming** _____ Mark Lind 708-1458

- **Bikeways** _____ Dave Westenbarger 494-9905

38½ Street: _____ Girard Kinney 478-5042

Gordon Bennett 477-7195, Dave Westenbarger 494-9905

Austin Film Society: _____ Dolly Ensey 494-9905

Blue Ribbon Yard: _____ Rebecca Kohout 415-9876

Manor Road: _____ Girard Kinney 478-5042

Maplewood: _____ Jack Newman 476-6616

Jules Vieau 495-9569

Mueller Redevelopment: _____ Jim Walker 499-0526

Tree Planting: _____ Mike Damal 478-9622

Upper Boggy Creek Planning: _____ Steve Kreger 477-4216

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“comprehensive” and “a vision of what we want the area to become” comes close to tripping. As does the fanciful suggestion that it may be “revised every year or so.” The Planning Team will disperse. The City Planners will move on to other neighborhoods. And while it should be a “living document” as promised, time will have to tell.

MY OPTIMISM

Genuine hard committee work went into important parts of this Plan, which deserve our enthusiastic support:

- Manor Road Corridor (*Summary, pp. 8-10 and 17-18*)
- 38½ Street Corridor (*pp. 10-12 and 19-21*)
- Upper Boggy Creek Bikeway (*p. 19*)
- Willowbrook Greenway, a.k.a. Greenbelt or Reach (*pp. 23-24*)
- Cherrywood Green, a.k.a. Cherrywood Park or DC Reed Park (*pp.24-25*)
- Patterson Park (*pp. 25-27*)

To the extent the UBC Plan helps advance these projects it will be worthwhile for that reason alone. Better yet, it may be “revisited” in years ahead with more than City desire to promote Smart Growth Infill Options as its the driving force.

Perhaps even those Options will attract fuller analysis. Right now they divide us. Some Options apply to commercial properties around the perimeter, and are uncontroversial. Other Options apply to residential blocks (*Action Items 4 and 9 thru 11*), and are. Those proposed for Cherrywood may result in almost no change – we don’t have *Small Lots* in need of amnesty. People build *Secondary Apartments* already (*though it would be easier, and require off-street parking*). And half-size *Cottage Lots* have restrictions that few locations could meet. See Jay Velgos’s pictorial analysis at www.main.org/wwd1/infill.html. The interesting *Corner Store* Option is not proposed. More is at asnuc.utexas.edu/~bennett/_cwg/UBC_zoning.pdf.

We haven’t heard the last of “planning” in Cherrywood, as we shouldn’t. ■

CHERRY PICKING

by Jack Newman

“You have the freedom to be yourself, your true self, here and now, and nothing can stand in your way.”
by Richard Bach in *Jonathan Livingston Seagull*.



What a neighborhood! What a time to be alive and involved in shaping our own environment, our own welfare and our own civic fate! After over 23 years as a resident of this fair urban niche, as a witness and participant in so many local and regional causes, projects and crusades of various degrees of urgency and importance, I know first hand just how difficult it is to deal with even one or two major public involvements.

And the number of critical issues that we as a neighborhood association are currently, actively and directly influencing is nearly impossible to comprehend, yet the talent and commitment of scores of our neighbors are making real, important and lasting contributions to us all. The Mueller redevelopment manager selection is happening now, after so many years of citizen efforts. The I-35 re-structuring plans are taking final form. The Upper Boggy Creek Planning Team is finalizing their proposal with the City, which is a community effort to provide some local influence on the tremendous changes this area is facing. The power station is just now going on line, and while it’s ultimate appearance is not yet settled, it was put where we told them to put it.

Patterson Park has some new friends, a fundraiser and perhaps a new look soon. Cherrywood Green, the wonderfully named new pocket park on the creek at E. 34th & Cherrywood, is taking shape with new plantings, seating plans, coming City water supply and a successful fund-raiser of it’s own. The long-discussed welcome-wagon is now meeting new neighbors with gift baskets and invitations to meet our CNA family. Traffic and crime are being addressed continually with police, and local issues such as our transient population are being discussed. Zoning challenges are being caught and brought to the City’s attention. Creeks and streets are being cleaned of trash. Dozens of trees are being planted yearly through community efforts. The neighborhood newsletter itself has grown and evolved into a more comprehensive and representative medium, not only paying for itself, but also putting funds into the neighborhood treasury. Our CNA website continues to be improved, and is the envy of every other neighborhood association.

The loss of a favorite and important local meeting/dining/music venue has prompted several neighbors to approach *Patos’* owner, Randy, with offers of donated labor and/or help with a fundraiser to help with re-building, if he decides to do so. The local cinema connection with the Austin Studios folks is being nurtured and strengthened by other neighbors. Some of us have managed to bring SXSW-like entertainment to our center without alienating neighbors or trashing the area; perhaps this person’s talents could be used in the Middle East peace negotiations! Others are working with Maplewood Elementary, or the neighborhood churches, or with Austin Interfaith to help all under-funded area schools.

These neighbors are not exceptions. They are taking care of kids, business and homes while making time to take care of the neighborhood things that matter to them. And this is not a complete list of our concerns: it may not yet include something you want done. But where in the world can you imagine a better place to get eager, willing, capable like-minded citizens to help you? Speak up! Speak out! Tell us what you think, tell us what you need, because together nothing can stand in our way. ■

CNA TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE RESOLUTION JANUARY 2002

by Stefan Schuster

Interest-based neighborhood traffic and transportation goals/objectives

(exclusive of solutions/recommendations):

1. Promote safe, walkable streets.
2. Reduce excessive speed and control volume of traffic.
3. Support IH-35 designs which prevent or discourage cut-through traffic that will negatively impact the neighborhood.
4. Improve safety for and convenience of pedestrians and bicyclists.
5. Provide safe and adequate sidewalks, including repairs and maintenance where needed.
6. Consider and include needs of other nearby neighborhood associations in our deliberations and final resolutions.
7. The CNA will work with the City of Austin (COA) and other transportation authorities to handle our fair share of traffic and function as part of the city's transportation system.
8. Consider innovative, neighborhood-approved traffic calming alternatives.
9. Promote safety of students attending Maplewood Elementary School.
10. In coordination with the Planning and Zoning Committee, produce and maintain a CNA master Transportation Plan which emphasizes the hierarchy of pedestrians first, bicycles second, transit third, and automobiles last.

Recommendations in support of our goals and objectives:

These recommendations are presented to achieve the outlined goals and objectives of the CNA. It is the intent of the neighborhood to work cooperatively with the COA Transportation Department and other authorities to implement the goals and objectives of the neighborhood.



Road humps, pictured here on Duval St., are one method of traffic calming.

IH-35 RECOMMENDATIONS

1. A direct off ramp onto Airport Boulevard is CRITICAL to preventing cut-through traffic, and it makes sense from a traffic-engineering standpoint as well. It should also take less right-of-way with a recessed highway at that location.
2. Give people leaving the UT campus and heading North on IH-35 faster access. To accomplish this, we recommend keeping the on ramp at East 34th.
3. Rework the intersection of East Dean Keeton (EDK) and IH-35 to get west-bound traffic onto EDK more easily and expeditiously into the north side of the campus area, in a way that does not encourage eastbound traffic.
4. Increase the distance between the easternmost access road and adjacent houses between E. 34th and E. 38½ by moving the access road about fifteen to twenty feet further west. This will give TXDOT the opportunity to buffer noise with landscaping.
5. Depress IH-35 below the railroad tracks at Wilshire and Airport Boulevards.
6. Try to move the highway right-of-way a little more to the west, adjacent to the cemetery between EDK and Manor to get another lane on the access road, in order to get people to UT faster and prevent cars from backing up on the access road.
7. Include safe and accessible a pedes-

trian and bicycle crossings of frontage and IH-35 at 38½, Wilshire, and Airport Boulevard to allow neighborhood access to commercial development.

BIKEWAY/SIDEWALK RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Develop CNA Bikeway and Sidewalk Plans, including recommended bicycle facilities (*separate paths, dedicated lanes, wide outside lanes, crossing improvements, bicycle parking, etc.*) and recommended sidewalk locations and widths.
2. Implement the Upper Boggy Creek Bikeway Plan and its recommendations.
3. Work with COA and other utility providers to maintain and repair neighborhood sidewalks, and to eliminate conflicts between sidewalks and obstructions such as utility poles, communications vaults, railroad crossing equipment, signage, etc.
4. Make neighborhood sidewalks ADA and TAS compliant.

TRAFFIC CALMING RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Work with COA Transportation Department to implement specific traffic calming strategies on Cherrywood. Efforts should be made with the COA to find funding for such strategies, including options independent of the traffic-calming program.
2. Develop short and long term CNA Traffic Calming Plans.

(continued on next page)



Safe walkable streets are a priority for the neighborhood.

Assumptions and Agreements:

1. TX DOT plans dated 7/14/01 call for IH-35 to be depressed below grade from 17th to just south of Airport Blvd.
2. An agreement was reached at the 7/19/01 charrette with TX DOT to verify position of burial sites at St. George's Episcopal Church and explore ways to avoid disturbing them, investigate tucking northbound frontage road under the adjacent exit bridge, and explore HOV grades. (For more information, see meeting notes for 7/14/01 charrette)
3. Current drawings of the RMMA redevelopment proposal call for a turn lane at the intersections of Airport with Wilshire, Schieffer and 41st and Airport which will allow southbound Airport Boulevard traffic to turn left or right but will not allow traffic leaving RMMA to continue across Airport into travel south on Wilshire Woods or Cherrywood neighborhoods. Drawings also show dedicated turn lanes in the median for RMMA bound traffic.
4. Reference and implement City of Austin/Upper Boggy Creek Neighborhood Planning Traffic Subcommittee recommendations to the extent that they are consistent with CNA goals and objectives.
5. Continued dialogue on the options of IH-35 designs (even beyond current MIS), including a charrette on the design of Airport Boulevard and IH-35. ■

Cherrywood Watch T-Shirts are still available!

The more of us who participate by wearing the T-shirt, the stronger the message.

This neighborhood T-shirt initiative is NOT meant to be

a "patrol" with routes or schedules. It IS meant to be a part of what people are already doing every day in the neighborhood: going for a walk or run, exercising our dogs, mowing our lawns, etc. The only difference is that now we will be wearing a T-shirt which serves to advertise and reinforce our efforts to get to know our neighbors and to look out for each other.

Designed by neighbor Mike Conner, the words "Cherrywood Watch" surrounding the image of an eye let the world know that we are keeping an eye out for suspicious behavior. Crime prevention groups tell us that criminals look for easy targets. Here is an opportunity for us to show that we are not the typical urban neighborhood that rolls up its sidewalk after dark. Instead, we are a community of people who care about those who live around us.

These high quality black-on-white T-shirts are professionally silk-screened by Spirit Wind Graphics. Prices are \$6.50 for S-XL, \$8.25 for XXL, and \$9.75 for XXXL. Order your shirt today by contacting Frances DeLaune at fpdela@austin.rr.com or 477-1986.



FIESTA RECOGNIZED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO MAPLEWOOD ELEMENTARY

by Paul Andrews

On Friday, January 25, 2002, representatives from Maplewood Elementary School presented Fiesta Mart, 3909 North IH-35, with a banner signed by every student at Maplewood Elementary, in appreciation of Fiesta's longtime support of such annual school events as fundraising carnivals, graduation ceremonies, and springtime picnics for Maplewood students and their families. The banner is displayed in the Fiesta store near the customer service windows. ■



Pictured, from left to right, are: Alice Andrews, Maplewood parent; Dr. Pauline Walker, Maplewood kindergarten teacher and Science & Technology Coordinator; Sofia Bruni, member of the Maplewood student council; Marshall Bruni, president of the Maplewood PTA; John Vargas, assistant manager of Fiesta; and Steve Wilson, manager of Fiesta.

CHERRYWOOD GREEN: A GIFT TO OURSELVES

by Brent Hey

Have you ever noticed the lot at the corner of 34th and Cherrywood? Wouldn't it be a great idea to make this a neighborhood green space? Many of our neighbors had the same thought and acted on it.

This past fall Katharine Beisner initiated a discussion on the Neighbor Net, the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association's listserv, about making a neighborhood green space out of the empty and overgrown lot at 34th Street and Cherrywood Road. Out of that initial discussion developed an initiative to improve and beautify our neighborhood by landscaping and maintaining Cherrywood Green.

After a few organizational meetings, an energetic and welcoming group, calling themselves the Friends of Cherrywood Green came up with a plan. The "Friends" quickly solicited and received the support of the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association (CNA), the Upper Boggy Creek Neighborhood Planning Committee and TreeFolks. The "Friends" soon discovered that the initiative is in accordance with the UBC's



Shopper, donators, and volunteers come together to raise money for the new Cherrywood Green.



The first big fundraising and beautification event for Cherrywood Green was a success.

neighborhood plan to provide community green space. From TreeFolks, the neighborhood volunteers received experienced advice, technical assistance with the green space design, and trees, all at no cost.

With the CNA's support and TreeFolks' advice the Friends of Cherrywood Green have accomplished much.

The Name

Cherrywood Green? Why not just call it a park? There are legal implications for the City of Austin in the word park as a park is maintained and operated by the City. Although the City owns the land at the northwest corner of 34th St. and Cherrywood Rd., it does not maintain, nor does it plan to maintain the property. While the City has given permission to develop the land, maintenance is solely in the hands of our neighborhood.

The Design

The green space's landscape design is very relaxed and free form. Native plant beds provide visual interest and color to the vacant area and at the same time define an open-spaced grassy area. A meandering path winds between the creek and flowering, fruit bearing trees. The design also incorporates benches, a bulletin board, a water fountain, and trash can.

Throughout the development phase, neighborhood input was essential in creating an inviting, do-able design.

The Clean-Up

The location was overgrown and scattered with trash and fallen trees; it was a derelict eyesore. However, a hardy group of volunteers tackled the initial clean up in a few hours. With the initial clean up accomplished, Cherrywood Green was already taking on a friendlier, more cared-for appearance.

The Money

On a warm, sunny February 9th, the Friends of Cherrywood Green sponsored a fundraiser: a combo Raffle, Bake, Garage, and Plant Sale. The event earned over \$2,400 for the project! Funds will go toward benches, a path, and supplying a waterline to the site. The City has offered to pay the water bill once the water tap is installed. In the meantime, two nearby neighbors are providing access to their faucets so the newly planted trees can be watered.

Neighborhood support through donations, purchases, and smiles was phenomenal. Thank you! Special thanks also go to local businesses who donated gift certificates: Davis Galleries, Eastside Café, Hangers Dry-cleaning, Hoover's, Howard's Nursery, John Mueller's BBQ, Pato's, Quality Of Touch Massage, Royal Touch Dry-cleaning, and Wheatsville Co-Op.

(continued on next page)

The Ground-Breaking

In conjunction with the fundraiser, a major milestone was reached with the planting of the first trees. There is a redbud and a Mexican plum, then for shade a chinquapin oak. Also there is a group of four trees, two of Girard Kinney's figs, a jujube and a persimmon. Future plantings will include beds with smaller vegetation.

The Benefits

Landscaping and maintaining Cherrywood Green serves several purposes:

- it beautifies our neighborhood,
- it provides a location for small neighborhood events, and best of all
- it's a great way to get to know your neighbors.

The Friends of Cherrywood Green is a casual group of neighbors whose goal is to create and maintain Cherrywood Green. There is no membership criteria or initiation required. There are "Friends" who participate at every opportunity and "Friends" who take part more casually. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate as much or as little as you like.

The Friends of Cherrywood Green schedule workdays to maintain the green space as needed. Announcements concerning the green space and associated activities can be found on the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association listserv, the green space bulletin board (eventually), or by contacting Katharine Beisner at 708-9407. ■



Volunteers step up to the shovel to help plant trees to shade our new park.

FIRE ENGULFS PATO'S GOOD TACOS

by Dave Westenbarger

Tragedy struck Cherrywood in the early morning hours of March 5, 2002, when Pato's Good Tacos went up in flames, allegedly due to an uncontrolled campfire set by trespassers at the rear of the property.

Owner Roldan "Randy" Ramirez built the popular restaurant and music venue out of what had been an abandoned metal shed. Mr. Ramirez is currently considering his options.

Strong neighborhood sentiment has been expressed for efforts to rebuild the structure. For years, neighbors have appreciated the good food, reasonable prices, and ample meeting space. Cherrywood will sorely miss this unique enterprise. ■



Fire strikes Pato's Good Tacos and destroys the nearly 15 year old home of good food, music and camaraderie.

Home Again

Have you ever wondered
 who built your house?
 what the purpose was for that little alcove in the living room?
 or who planted those three trees that shade your front porch?

Introducing *Home Again*
 an opportunity to learn about your house
 and preserve it's heritage for future dwellers.

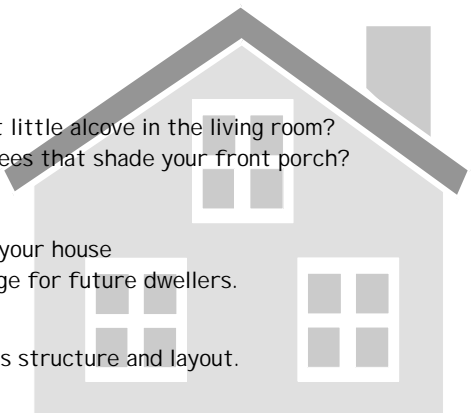
Delve into your house's history.
 Discover the events that shaped it's structure and layout.

Develop a *Housetory*
 Chronicle the past, present and future experiences of your house.
 Exchange stories and relive memories with other inhabitants.

Perpetuate its character and significance in the neighborhood for years to come.
 When new people move into the house, they'll have this unique privilege
 of knowing what you know. They'll treasure your former home as you do.
 They'll understand when they hear you say

You're Home Now

Beginning in May 2002. Interested? Write cherrywood78722@yahoo.com



NEW "FRIENDS" GROUP TO NURTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN PATTERSON PARK

by Isabelle Headrick

Friends of Patterson Park is a new non-profit group dedicated to supporting improvements in and preserving the assets of Patterson Park. Patterson is a remarkable resource serving many neighborhoods and the city as a whole. Unfortunately, it has been allowed to deteriorate: The playground is unusable, the west side is suffering from severe erosion and compacting of the soil. The "cowpath" that many use as a running trail is narrow and not level. Many residents and park users complain of alcohol use, drug dealing and cars driving up onto the grass.

Despite these issues, Patterson continues to be a vibrant and lovely space in our community. The park boasts a small forest of spectacular post oak trees which provide shade to picnickers and playground users, as well as being beautiful in their own right. With its wide open spaces, pool and tennis courts, it serves an incredible variety of recreation and relaxation purposes.

Friends of Patterson Park believe that within a few years Patterson can be returned to the ranks of Austin's first-class parks. Since we began meeting in January, we have affiliated with the Austin Parks Foundation and begun planning a community picnic for April 28. We plan to do more through fundraising, community projects, and working with the Parks and Recreation Department. We are a multi-neighborhood group: our participants live in J.J. Seabrook, Wilshire Woods, and Cherrywood. After surveying the community and brainstorming, we have identified several projects that we want to work on:

- Enhancing the "character" of the park. We believe that the most powerful way to address safety concerns is through



Enhancements to the Patterson Park pool, along with the playground and running "path", are among the goals.



Patterson Park is in need some "TLC" from the neighborhood. Please join the "Friends of Patterson Park" for a **Community Picnic, April 28th, 11am - 2pm.**

- community members raising standards of behavior in the park. This may mean calling 911 when violations are sighted or simply setting an example for responsible usage.
- A running and hiking trail around the perimeter of the park.
- A new playground. It appears likely that with community support Patterson's playground will receive capital improvement funding in the next fiscal cycle. We want to add more facilities for toddlers and babies and keep it a fun place for older kids.
- A new shade cover over the baby pool.
- Erosion control. This is a project that we feel could be powerfully addressed by a partnership between neighbors, local landscaping businesses and the City.
- An information "kiosk" where neighborhood events, park-related meetings and information about Patterson's flora and fauna can be posted.

Friends of Patterson Park has benefited from the generosity of many people and organizations. The Reverend Gail Snodgrass and members of Genesis Presbyterian Church have graciously allowed us to use their meeting room on a regular basis. CNA's social committee has offered its support. And thanks to Austin Parks Foundation, we now enjoy non-profit status and have access to their fiduciary services.

Please join us for our kick-off event: a **community picnic** on **April 28**, from **11 a.m. — 2 p.m.**, around the park pavilion. Games for kids, kite-flying and ice cream are in the plan, as well as a chance to publicly thank the lady who cleans our park, Ms. Eva Arellano.

Tax deductible donations to Friends of Patterson Park are greatly appreciated. Checks payable to Austin Parks Foundation with "Patterson Park" on the Memo line should be mailed to APF, 815 Brazos Street, Suite 1001, Austin, Texas 78701. We welcome interested to attend our meetings, usually held the third Monday of the month at Genesis. Call or e-mail Isabelle at 499-0621 or pattpark@texas.net. Coming soon www.main.org/fopattpark. ■

WELCOME BASKETS

The welcome wagon has pulled into Cherrywood. Rebecca Kohout and Frances DeLaune welcomed new home owners in the Cherrywood neighborhood this winter with goodies and a warm "hello" on behalf of the neighborhood. Our new neighbors were treated to a gift basket from Fiesta, a gift certificate from Hangers Cleaners, a copy of the neighborhood vision statement, and a copy of the most recent Flea. Many thanks to the generous and supportive Steve Wilson of Fiesta and Hangers Cleaners. Rebecca and Frances plan to continue personally welcoming newcomers to the neighborhood and hope to get more gift certificates from businesses in the neighborhood. If you would like to help out with this project, or know of someone who has recently purchased a home in Cherrywood who has not had a visit from "the welcome wagon," please contact Frances 477-1986 or Rebecca 415-9876 (pictured respectively below). ■



Welcome
to
CHERRYWOOD RD 3800

Our Vision...

The **CHERRYWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**
is committed to:

- Safe, walkable streets;
- Neighborhood-oriented and neighborhood-friendly businesses and services;
- Preserve and promote public and private greenspaces;
- Respect, recognize and maintain ethnic, family, socioeconomic and cultural diversity;
- Managing growth while ensuring livable density, a diversity of architectural styles, and a well maintained neighborhood;
- Achieving a sense of community and security by encouraging responsibility, involvement and pride among all residents and owners;
- Healthy and active relationships with other neighborhood groups, civic organizations and government agencies;
- A built environment compatible with the above goals.

Please visit our website at www.cherrywood.org and join **NeighborNet**, our neighborhood e-mail group.

The CNA vision statement on our new neighborhood welcome cards, designed by Bethany Andrée.



Local, national and international folks kicked-back at the March 14th P2 SXSW BBQ on Sycamore Drive enjoying live music and good food. Bands, like the Australian group Git pictured here, played all afternoon.



SXSW IN CHERRYWOOD

A taste of the South by Southwest music festival was served up in our neighborhood on March 14th at the home of Chad Hamilton on Sycamore Drive when eight bands and a bunch of music lovers got together for the annual P2 SXSW BBQ.

The party originated eight years ago and was hosted by Cheryl diMond until last year when Chad took over. Having

moved since then from Giles to Sycamore, this year's party made excellent use of the Willowbrook Greenway on one of Austin's beautiful spring afternoons.

Chad thanks the CNA, Bree Buchanan, Dave Westenbarger and Dolly Ensey, Nicole Truelock for the signs, Kelly Fuller for clean-up help, Maplewood Elementary, Genesis Presbyterian, and the neighborhood as a whole for being understanding.

Cherrywood Choices

Ripe for The Pickin'

by Dolly Ensey

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Do you like to help others? Like to spend a little time doing something nice for someone else? But you're swamped at work and have no time to figure out who or how to help. Or perhaps you've just moved to the area and want to become acquainted with other neighbors. How are you supposed to meet others when you don't know anyone? Or maybe you need a temporary job to help pay the bills. Where will you get money to pay the bills until you find a permanent job? Enter your friendly neighborhood CHERRYWOOD CHOICES - Neighbors Helping Neighbors!" In the near future, Cherrywood's website: www.cherrywood.org will post CHERRYWOOD CHOICES, a listing of opportunities to help you give to other neighbors and to the neighborhood where you live. Just click to find which opportunity is "ripe for the pickin'." The idea is simple: connect Cherrywood neighbors who want to recruit or be recruited for volunteer or hired work – one time, temporary, part-time or possibly full-time – with other people in Cherrywood who would like to respond out of necessity, interest or desire. It will provide you with a range of possibilities from which to choose or publicize to neighbors.

Helping others could be as simple as:

- picking up a prescription/groceries or driving a person to an appointment
- setting up/showing how to operate a computer or software
- building a ramp for a physically challenged person who want to maintain his/her independence

- resetting an answering machine
- changing an out-of-reach light bulb
- performing yard work - mowing, leaf removal or weeding a garden
- demonstrating how to perform house repairs common to neighborhood structures
- loaning equipment for temporary use, such as tools, sewing machine or tree trimmer

Meeting others could be as simple as:

- coordinating a program/project, such as collection of recyclables not picked up by the City or rounding up outdated material posted in area
- collecting donated materials/items for targeted distribution
- speaking to a gathering about your expertise
- explaining how to remove one's name off telemarketing lists
- teaching a foreign language or how to sew
- watching a house while person is out of town
- calling a person periodically just to chat with him or her
- hosting a progressive dinner at your house

Temporary work might involve:

- organizing files
- researching a topic for use in a paper
- contacting people to set coordinate meetings
- calling a person periodically just to chat with him or her
- taking children to the park or a movie for an afternoon
- substituting for vacationing workers
- playing music for a neighborhood event
- creating a piece of artwork

In the near future, outreach will be made to the various non-profit agencies in Cherrywood, including Literacy Austin, Children's Advocacy Center and local churches to identify their needs, projects or requests. We welcome and encourage you to provide information or requests to CHERRYWOOD CHOICES in care of gordonb@uts.cc.utexas.edu. Be sure to include contact details, your level of involvement and a description of the work or project. ■

CHERRYWOOD'S FIRST BLUE RIBBON YARD

Here is a photo of the first Cherrywood Blue Ribbon Yard recipients. Congratulations to Scott Hutson, Eli Hutson and Lisa Shubin at 3104 Dancy for the hard work and beautiful yard!

The committee will be looking in the neighborhood for new nominees so Keep Cherrywood Beautiful and phone in your nominations to Rebecca Kohout at 415-9876 or e-mail rakohout@texas.net. ■





THE STARS AT NIGHT ARE BIG AND BRIGHT...

from Dolly Ensey

LIGHTS!

In Austin Studios' Hangar Four, the second annual Texas Film Hall of Fame celebrated the cinematic talents and accomplishments of six Texans and one movie. Highlights this year included: writer and founding Texas Monthly editor **William Broyles, Jr.**, well known for his screenplays for *Apollo 13* and *Cast Away*, was feted by actor **Tom Hanks** via video and writer **Stephen Harrigan**. Amarillo native **Cyd Charisse**, who danced her WAY into movie goers' hearts in films such as *Singing in the Rain*, was honored by filmmaker **Peter Bogdanovich** and serenaded by **Larry Gatlin** with Happy Birthday.

Local Austinite **Terrence Malick** ventured into the limelight to be honored by his 1973 *Badlands*' star, **Sissy Spacek**. Singer songwriter **Lyle Lovett** noted **Willie Nelson's** work, including his Farm Aid leadership and his 20+ year acting career, in such movies as *Electric Horseman*, *Barbarosa* and *Honeysuckle Rose*. **Cheech Marin**, lately of **Robert Rodriguez'** *Spy Kids*, posthumously honored **Gilbert Roland** with the Legacy Award, for his roles in over 100 movies, with a special nod for his screen portrayal of the *Cisco Kid* in the 1920s.

This year's Warren Skaaren Lifetime Achievement Award, was presented by Texan and network anchor **Dan Rather**, to Motion Picture Association of America leader and former Lyndon Johnson aide, Jack Valenti. Rounding out the evening was the Frontier Award bestowed upon the 1956 epic *Giant*. Inducting the movie was actor **Dennis Hopper**, who appeared in *Giant* with **Liz Taylor**, **Rock**

Hudson and **James Dean**. Many of the scenes were shot in Texas locales, such as Edna, Marfa, Valentine and in both Jeff Davis and Presidio counties.

Proceeds from the event benefit the Austin Film Society's (AFS) programs: the Texas Filmmakers Production Fund, the Neighborhood Internship Program, AFS' Apprentice Program, Artist Services and AFS' Annual Exhibition Series, including The Texas Documentary Tour, Free Cinema Series and Visiting Filmmakers (see www.austinfilm.org). Once the ceremonial portion of the evening faded to black, all were entertained by the music of The Flatlanders – featuring **Joe Ely**, **Jimmie Dale Gilmore** and **Butch Hancock**.



CAMERA!

Focus your attention here! Summer film camp! Space is limited! Attend the Cine Las Americas Film Festival Youth Day on **Saturday, April 13, 1 – 5 pm**. Hurry to the Lorraine "Grandma" Camacho Activity Center, 34 Robert Martinez Jr. St.

WHO: Ages 13-18, living in zip codes 78702, 78721, 78722, 78723 or 78751.

WHAT: First summer media camp ~ Guerrilla Filmmaking ~ 12 openings.

WHEN: June 3-7

WHO: Ages 13-17 without zip code requirement, but space is limited.

WHAT: Summer camp ~ media production and visits with film professionals, as coordinated jointly between AFS and Camacho Activity Center.

WHEN: July 8-12

Once you've signed up for summer camp, be sure to enjoy a full afternoon's worth of activities brought to you by the

Camacho Activity Center and the Austin Film Society (AFS). They will be co-hosting a Western movie set experience. With a mini-set, movie lights, and a revolving cast drawn from Youth Day attendees, kids will have the chance to participate in moviemaking.

Contact the Camacho Activity Center at 391-1863 or www.hightechcreation.com, Cine Las Americas at www.cinelasamericas.org, and the Austin Film Society at www.austinfilm.org.

ACTION!

So you liked to go to summer camp but missed the deadline . . . keep reading the script!

WHAT: Unpaid office position with opportunity to progress to stipended arts apprentice positions; paid positions on movies for those who demonstrate financial need and live in the zip codes 78702, 78721, 78722, 78723 & 78751.

WHO: Interns beginning as unpaid office assistants.

WHEN: Summer; submissions due **Monday, April 15.**

WHERE: Austin Film Society

HOW: Brief resume must be accompanied by brief cover letter.

WHY: Great way to forge contacts in Austin's film community; opportunity to learn mechanics of exhibition and non-profit arts administration.

DESIRED: Project-oriented with strong initiative and follow-through skills.

Someone willing to work hard and keep a cool head when under stress.

REQUIRED: 12 hours per week for at least three months, especially attendance at orientation.

CONTACT: Cecilia Conti, Manager of Administration, AFS, 1901 East 51st St., Austin, TX 78723, fax 512/322-5192, or e-mail cecilia@austinfilm.org.

WHAT: Volunteer Notifications.

WHO: Person with busy schedule yet who would still like to get involved in AFS activities.

HOW: E-mail jobs@austinfilm.org to request receiving notifications.

WHY: Who knows what you'll have the chance to do! ■