



# The Flea

## PARTNERSHIPS TO TAME LITTER AND CRIME

By Pauline Porter

Throughout 2005, a major gateway in our neighborhood became an eyesore as litter and debris mounted. Meanwhile, there's been an increase of car break-ins. Is this coincidence? In *Fixing Broken Windows: Restoring Order and Reducing Crime in Our Communities* authors James Wilson and George L. Kelling wrote, "Some litter accumulates. Soon, more litter accumulates. Eventually, people even start leaving bags of trash from take-out restaurants there or breaking into cars."

The authors noted that as an area shows signs of neglect, vandals become more confident and intensify their harassment and vandalism. A vicious cycle then kicks in, attracting more serious offenders from outside of the area who sense that it has become a vulnerable and less risky site for crime. Studies have found that a sense of ownership of the streets lies at the heart of a successful neighborhood crime prevention program.

38½ Street near Interstate 35 belongs to whom? This street receives more foot traffic than any other section of our neighborhood. The trash generated on the first few blocks east of I-35 comes not only from the busy bus stop at Robinson but also from adjacent businesses (Fiesta, Chevron, the Party Stop) and transients.

Years ago neighbors gathered monthly to clean up the trash, but efforts were not sustainable. In December 2005 a win-win solution was created by neighbors concerned about this ongoing

littering trend. Funds were gathered and a neighborhood resident in need of work cleaned the area. Three cleanings resulted in 65 bags of debris from the three-block area on the south side of 38½ Street between I-35 and Werner. The Cherrywood Neighborhood Association reimbursed us for the first two cleanings but does not have the funds to pay for ongoing maintenance.

Many factors contribute to this litter problem, which has grave implications for our neighborhood. A new committee has formed to create long-term solutions and it will be called the Cherrywood Gateway Committee.

Our short term goal will be maintenance. A few months of keeping the street clean will have a positive effect. A combination of paid and volunteer labor should be able to get the job done. Manor Road used to have more problems than 38½ Street, but now this street is thriving with many wonderful restaurants.

Capital Metro wants to support our efforts and has promised to perform daily maintenance at the bus stop on Robinson and 38½ Street. Businesses along this stretch don't necessarily have a stake in the Cherrywood neighborhood so residents are going to have to take the first steps. We will develop partnerships with the businesses along this street so they can become a part of the solution rather than the problem.

An immediate solution will be landscaping along the city right-of-way. Keep Austin Beautiful will provide support for this effort.

A long-term solution worth exploring is to have art installed along the street. Several people on NeighborNet liked this idea.

If you would like to preserve and improve a major gateway to our neighbor-

hood, please email me at [pbporter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pbporter@sbcglobal.net) or call 322-0717. You can donate cash or time plus your ideas.

Thanks to Emily Bankston at Landmark Properties and Danney Ursery for kicking off this effort with their financial support. ■

### Cherrywood Neighborhood quarterly meeting:

**Wednesday, Feb 15  
6:30 - 8:00 pm  
Maplewood School library**

**Open to ALL residents  
of Cherrywood.  
We need your input!**

#### Agenda:

- 1) Pass out minutes from November 2005 meeting
- 2) Treasurer's report & future yearly budgeting plans
- 3) Chair's comments and summary of ongoing issues.
- 4) Security: Officer Sheldon Salisbury will answer questions and address concerns
- 5) Spring Fling, date and details; SX East Austin schedule
- 6) Proposed historical designation for our neighborhood: Lisa Tipps
- 7) CNA/Asbury United Methodist Church social gatherings: Gordon Bennett and George Holcombe; consideration of contributing an additional sum to a marquee sign at Asbury
- 8) Safety Fair status: Lex Owens
- 9) East 38½ St. cleanup: Brian Block of Keep Austin Beautiful
- 10) Open floor

# CHERRYWOOD CALENDAR

## FEBRUARY

- 8 6:30pm** — CNA Steering Committee meeting, Taqueria Los Altos. Open to Cherrywood residents to share ideas/opinions.
- 12 9:00am-NOON** — Canned food drive, Asbury United Methodist Church. (See Page 4)
- 15 6:30-8:00pm** — Cherrywood quarterly neighborhood meeting, Maplewood School library. (See Agenda Page 1)
- 22 6:00-7:30pm** — Building community potluck, Asbury United Methodist Church (See Page 7)
- 22 7:00-9:00pm** — Cherrywood Book Club. "Five Quarters of the Orange" by Joanne Harris. For info, katenate@grandecom.net or 477-2684. (See Page 9)

## MARCH

- 8 6:30pm** — CNA Steering Committee meeting, Taqueria Los Altos. Open to Cherrywood residents to share ideas/opinions.
- 12 9:00am-NOON** — Canned food drive, Asbury United Methodist Church. (See Page 4)
- 16 1:00-6:00pm** — SXEastAustin music, Willowbrook Reach (See Page 7)
- 22 7:00-9:00pm** — Cherrywood Book Club. "Roman Blood" by Steven Saylor. For info, katenate@grandecom.net or 477-2684. (See Page 9)

## APRIL

- 9 9:00am-NOON** — Canned food drive, Asbury United Methodist Church.
- 12 6:30pm** — CNA Steering Committee meeting, Taqueria Los Altos. Open to Cherrywood residents to share ideas/opinions.
- 26 7:00-9:00pm** — Cherrywood Book Club. For info, katenate@grandecom.net or 477-2684.

## MAY

- 10 6:30pm** — CNA Steering Committee meeting, Taqueria Los Altos. Open to Cherrywood residents to share ideas/opinions.

## Wired: Stay Informed Electronically

By Gordon Bennett

To find our neighborhood Web site, open [cherrywood.org](http://cherrywood.org) (nothing else needed). There's a convenient menu of useful topics. Select NeighborNet from the menu to subscribe to our listserv, which now includes 560 members. Ask [gordonb@uts.cc.utexas.edu](mailto:gordonb@uts.cc.utexas.edu) if you have a question.

Subscribers can post messages, post photos, and search the archive (5 years of content is saved). For reading you have three options: 1) read messages as they are posted (average of 10 per day) 2) read a daily digest (posted after midnight) 3) read at the Web site (no e-mail).

If you were subscribed this past quarter, you learned of:

- traffic calming progress
- missing pets (all were found)
- peeping Tom
- available babysitters
- opening of Clementine Coffee Bar
- and much more.

And you can share your opinion...

## Cherrywood Neighborhood Association

<http://www.cherrywood.org>

P.O. Box 4010, Austin, TX 78765-4010

### Steering Committee

<b>Chair</b>	_____	Jack Newman ('07)*	476-6616
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	_____	Megan Woodburn ('07)	538-1329
<b>Secretary</b>	_____	Jennifer Elsner ('06)	692-7604
<b>Treasurer</b>	_____	Rebecca Kohout ('07)	415-9876
<b>Members</b>	_____	David Greene ('07)	828-7450
		Chris Kadas ('06)	478-7966
		Kyle King ('06)	476-0596
		Maxwell McDaniel ('06)	236-0223
		Lex Dale Owens ('06)	477-6555
		Charles Roadman ('06)	476-0599
		Randall Terrell ('06)	451-0346
		Shani Snoddy ('07)	391-0254
		Heather Telo' ('07)	476-5764

\*year term expires

### Communications

**NeighborNet & Web site:** \_\_\_\_\_ Gordon Bennett 477-7195

#### The Flea:

- **Editor** \_\_\_\_\_ Sue Taylor 476-1461
- **Associate Editor** \_\_\_\_\_ Dolly Ensey 494-9905
- **Design & Layout** \_\_\_\_\_ Bethany Andrée 473-2841
- **Advertising** \_\_\_\_\_ Rebecca Kohout 415-9876
- 
- \_\_\_\_\_ Dave Westenbarger 494-9905
- **Distribution** \_\_\_\_\_ Alex Garcia 474-7532
- \_\_\_\_\_ David Greene 828-7450

### Committees

**Budget:** \_\_\_\_\_ Rebecca Kohout 415-9876

**Cherrywood Art Fair:** \_\_\_\_\_ [cherrywoodartfair@yahoo.com](mailto:cherrywoodartfair@yahoo.com)

Priscilla Boston 478-1867

Kathleen McTee 472-1128 (2002-2004)

**Communications:** \_\_\_\_\_ Jennifer Elsner 692-7604

**Nominations:** \_\_\_\_\_ Jennifer Elsner 692-7604

**Parks:** \_\_\_\_\_ Girard Kinney 478-5042

**Planning & Zoning:** \_\_\_\_\_ Girard Kinney 478-5042

**Security:** \_\_\_\_\_ Lex Dale Owens 477-6555

**Transportation:** \_\_\_\_\_ Stefan Schuster 322-0059

**Welcome Wagon:** \_\_\_\_\_ Rebecca Kohout 415-9876

### Representatives

**Austin Film Society:** \_\_\_\_\_ Dolly Ensey 494-9905

**Blue Ribbon Yard:** \_\_\_\_\_ Leslie Vieau 495-9569

**Book Club:** \_\_\_\_\_ Jeanne Arbuckle 477-2684

**Cherrywood Choices:** \_\_\_\_\_ Dolly Ensey 494-9905

**Maplewood School:** \_\_\_\_\_ Kelli Kirk [kkirk@grandecom.net](mailto:kkirk@grandecom.net)

**Mueller Redevelopment:** \_\_\_\_\_ Jim Walker 499-0526

**T-Shirts:** \_\_\_\_\_ Frances Delaune 477-1986

**Tree Planting:** \_\_\_\_\_ Mike Damal 478-9622

**Upper Boggy Creek Planning:** Stephen Kreger 477-4216

More details and updates at [Cherrywood.org](http://Cherrywood.org),  
click on committees.

## MY TURN, AGAIN

By Jack Newman



OK, let's get this straight: I am not compulsively driven to see my name on lists of neighborhood "insiders." However, much as with my stint as Flea editor, I was called, and so I serve. It is also true that *all* of you are neighborhood insiders. Just come to a meeting now and then and see how much you learn and how much you have to teach the rest of us.

The availability of so many skills, interests, talents and connections enjoyed by this community, means that most of the heavy lifting is shared by others. The main responsibilities of the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association Steering Committee Chair are to set meeting agendas (with considerable assistance), run meetings and be the front man to the outside world. With the able and welcome assistance of these fellow citizens, I am very confident that your new SC will represent you well.

Megan Woodburn, vice-chair; Jennifer

Elsner, secretary; Rebecca Kohout, treasurer; David Greene; Chris Kadas; Kyle King; Maxwell McDaniel; Lex Dale Owens; Charlie Roadman; Shani Snoddy; Heather Telo'; Randall Terrell.

These folks will spend an hour or two each month meeting to discuss events and issues deemed important to the CNA. Plans will be made, monies will be spent, appeals, proposals, suggestions and complaints will be heard. All will be dealt with within CNA bylaws and with the combined wisdom, good intentions and good will we collectively possess. The best and quickest way to improve the results is to join our collective yourself, either as an elected Steering Committee member, or as what you already are, an interested neighbor.

The Steering Committee meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Wednesdays each month, at *Taquerias Los Altos* on the I-35 northbound feeder on our western boundary. Good company, pretty good (and inexpensive) Tex-Mex, and a chance to be heard.

Put us on your schedule, come have a plate of *comida* and share your ideas. ■

## TRAFFIC CALMING

On January 18, Gordon Derr of the city Public Works Department commented on the progress of installing traffic calming devices in our neighborhood:

The implementation of the Cherrywood traffic-calming plan seems to be going well. 100+ cushions are in place of the planned 117. (Crews) are getting close to finishing all but (those on) East 38½ Street. Because of the higher speeds and volumes, they are awaiting traffic control setups before they move through there. That also will be moving forward fairly quickly. The end of next week, we will be using city forces to place large white thermo-plastic markings on the cushions and place reflective buttons to increase the visibility.

We have not heard any complaints about construction, so assume that no one was excessively hampered by the work crews. We have heard some positives and a lovely Christmas poem. If you have heard anything plus or minus, please let us know.

The Cherrywood Neighborhood Association has asked that the speed limit for the entire neighborhood be lowered to 25 mph, per HB 87. (We are looking at implementation for the entire area that was studied for neighborhood traffic calming.) Cherrywood south of the 38½, and 38½ west of Cherrywood would remain at their current speed limits because they are wider than 35 feet. Since this is the first request the city has gotten, it is taking a little time to develop procedures. We will keep you informed. ■



## SAFETY COMMITTEE

By Lex Dale Owens

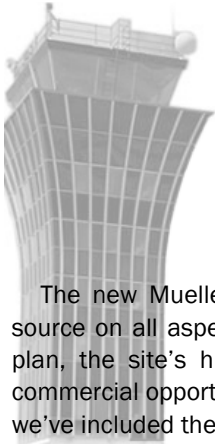
A planned Safety Fair was postponed because of minimal interest from the neighborhood. The Safety Committee and Austin Police Department felt poor attendance would be counter-productive in our crime-fighting program.

APD has been forecasting an increase of crime for several years, but Cherrywood's anti-crime programs seem to have been successful keeping overall statistics pretty even. A 7 percent overall increase has occurred throughout Charlie East Division, which includes a large part of East Austin.

Senior Officer Sheldon Salisbury brings a new level of crime fighting to our community. Charlie Division Commander Nyert states, "APD's goal is to bring a better quality of life to East Austin neighborhoods."

The East Austin Crime Watch Newsletter is now being published as another tool to increase crime fighting in East Austin. The newsletter is being supported by the Austin Crime Commission headed by former Mayor Roy Butler, Sheriff Greg Hamilton and Grande Communications. Visit [www.eastaustincrimewatch.org](http://www.eastaustincrimewatch.org)

The Safety Committee will review and make recommendations to the Steering Committee and general membership about additional programs to fight crime in the neighborhood. Neighborhood Watch Programs will continue to be supported, and a Cherrywood Technology Expo may be recommended for 2006. ■



## MUELLER UPDATE

By Jed Buie

### WEB SITE

The new Mueller Web site is live and running. It's a resource on all aspects of the community—the latest news, the plan, the site's history, amenities and both residential and commercial opportunities. As befits Austin's new urban village, we've included the work of hometown musicians and photographers. Log on at ([www.muelleraustin.com](http://www.muelleraustin.com)).

### MUELLER MILESTONES

- Early 2007: Mueller Central opens for business
- Summer 2007: Opening of the Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas
- Fall 2007: First Mueller homes go on sale.

### THE GREENWAY

Plans call for approximately 75 acres of land around the perimeter of Mueller to be a multi-use greenway system. These landscaped areas will accommodate recreation with walking and bike trails, picnic groves, ponds and sport fields. They also will serve the important ecological function of detaining and filtering storm water before it enters the creek systems of East Austin.

### HOMES AT MUELLER

Catellus is working with homebuilders who want to be part of Mueller's first neighborhoods. We will select the initial homebuilders in Spring 2006.

### CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Signs are clearly visible. You can really get a sense of the architecture at the new Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas, at the southwest corner of Mueller and Barbara Jordan boulevards. The children's hospital is expected to open for business in June 2007.

Both Mueller and Barbara Jordan Boulevards, as well as Lancaster Drive serving the northwest quadrant of the community, are complete and open to the public. The next phase of road and infrastructure construction will begin this spring.

Deconstruction has started on some of the remaining hangars and runways west of Mueller Boulevard. Work will soon begin on the creation of the pond area for Lake Park, the recreational hub adjoining the Mueller Town Center. Lake Park is also home to Mueller Central, the community information center and headquarters, which is scheduled to open in early 2007.

### SERVING THE COMMUNITY AT MUELLER

The Salvation Army has announced plans for a \$90 million, 100,000-square-foot community center to be built at Mueller. This facility is being made possible by the financial support of the estate of Joan Kroc, widow of Ray Kroc, founder of McDonald's, which has earmarked \$1.5 billion for the construction of "Kroc Centers" across the country.

### UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM UPDATE

For the last year, UT System leaders Drs. Ken Shine and Jack Stobo have met regularly with Mueller neighbors to discuss a potential academic health research campus and address concerns and issues associated with a presence in the redevelopment. The health campus would involve research and education facilities and would likely locate near the Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas. None of this will happen, however, without serious philanthropic involvement.

### MUELLER PROJECT CONTACTS

For more information, please visit [www.muelleraustin.com](http://www.muelleraustin.com) or contact Greg Weaver, Catellus senior vice president, 473-0400, fax 472-4414 or [greg\\_weaver@catellus.com](mailto:greg_weaver@catellus.com). Pam Hefner, City of Austin principal planner 974-3511, fax 974-7825, [pam.hefner@ci.austin.tx.us](mailto:pam.hefner@ci.austin.tx.us). ■

*Jed Buie is with TateAustin, public relations firm for Catellus, master developer of the former Robert Mueller Municipal Airport land.*

## ASBURY FOOD DONATIONS EXCEEDS 7 TONS

By George Holcombe, pastor

The monthly Food Bank Drive conducted by Asbury United Methodist Church was able to contribute more than 1,400 pounds of food to the Capital Area Food Bank in 2005 in partner-

ship with the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association.

The food bank serves 21 Central Texas counties including Travis, providing food to local agencies helping the poor. It distributed 1.5 million pounds of food to Katrina victims last fall. In Travis County, 2,500 families are served. The majority of the poor and hungry are women with small children, so this year we added baby food, formula and diapers to the list, and we're

beginning to see more of that in the last two months.

Melvin Walenta, a Cherrywood resident and member of the church, has been the driving force behind this work. Asbury receives food donations the second Sunday of every month between 9 a.m. and noon. If you have difficulty giving at that time please call me at 294-5952 and we will arrange a time convenient for you. And thanks again for giving to this very important work. ■

## FRIENDS OF PATTERSON PARK

By Mark Smolen

The city Parks and Recreation department has scheduled construction of the trail in Patterson Park. The most problematic area of the trail, the section along Genesis Presbyterian Church property just outside of the park at the corner of Wilshire and Schieffer, will be engineered by Public Works, and will include curb and gutters along Wilshire, which also will correct an erosion prob-



lem. Money has been committed for this work, but the City Council must approve awarding of the contract. This is expected in February, leading to a March start of construction. Barring weather delays, construction on this part is to be completed by end of May. PARD is waiting for this section of the trail to reach a certain point before beginning trail work within the park to ensure that the two sections properly align.

lem. Money has been committed for this work, but the City Council must approve awarding of the contract. This is expected in February, leading to a March start of construction.

Friends of Patterson Park will meet with PARD as construction begins to discuss the final trail layout and other amenities, such as water fountains and barriers to motorized vehicles. After construction is completed, Friends of Patterson Park will organize volunteers to assist with trail grooming.

The next Friends of Patterson Park meeting is Feb. 13 at Genesis Presbyterian Church. As always, donations to Friends of Patterson Park are tax-deductible and greatly appreciated. You may send a check payable to Austin Parks Foundation with "Patterson Park" on the memo line to APF at 815 Brazos Street, Suite 1001, Austin, Texas 78701. ■

## 9TH TREE PLANTING GOES TO CONCORDIA TRIANGLE

By Mike Damal

On Saturday, Oct. 15, six volunteers planted more than 20 trees during the ninth annual Cherrywood tree planting.

Our grand total for nine years is 245 trees.

A special part of our planting this year added nine trees to Concordia Triangle. With a grant from Keep Austin Beautiful, we received funds to plant three Texas mountain laurels, three crepe myrtles, two red oaks, and one Chinese pistache. These trees will make a lasting addition to the triangle, replacing an old cedar tree that fell and was removed last year. Volunteers helping out this year were: Karen Johnson, Kristy Gregg, Kari Bourland, Jon Gabriel, Glenn Reed, Mike Sullivan and Mike Damal.

The trees are in the ground. However the severe drought conditions have not been kind to newly planted trees. I have been watering these trees, but I am soliciting help to water the trees on Concordia Triangle. We need to keep them watered for the next two years if they are to survive and prosper. I am looking for individuals who live around the Triangle to volunteer their water spigot from time to time, and I am asking others to help water these trees.

In drought conditions like we have now, a thorough watering twice a week is sufficient in the winter, once a week when summer comes. During periods of good rains, watering will not be necessary. Make it your New Year's resolution to do something good for the neighborhood and the environment. If you are interested please e-mail [mdamal@peoplepc.com](mailto:mdamal@peoplepc.com) or call me at 478-9622. ■



## MARQUEE SIGN

by Gordon Bennett

At CNA's Feb. 15 meeting, one agenda item will be whether to con-

tribute an additional sum to an important sign project.

Last fall, CNA appropriated \$1,000 toward a lit marquee sign at the Asbury United Methodist Church corner, 38½ Street and Cherrywood Road. We might need \$600 more to finish the job. The church has contributed \$1,400. Both Asbury and CNA would use the sign for announcements. "Building community" could take a big step forward if the sign happens.

The marquee would be added to the existing wrought iron version. The lines of interchangeable letters could be used to remind passers-by of neighborhood events such as the art fair, awards, creek clean-up, elections, exhibits, meetings, plant exchange, pot lucks, tree planting, and other projects.

This would be more a "reminder" medium than an "announcement" medium. Community events generally would be known already, having been publicized in *The Flea* and on *NeighborNet*. But the sign would multiply the impact. And for folks not yet tuned in to the newsletter or the listserv, it might be actual news that CNA exists and is active.

The proposed location is good. It would be easily readable by motorists approaching the stop signs at the intersection. And it would be softly lit at night. We would designate someone to be responsible for timely updates. ■



## MAPLEWOOD NOTES

**Your Neighborhood School  
3808 Maplewood Ave., 414-4402**

By Shani Snoddy and Kelli Kirk

Many wonderful things have happened at Maplewood Elementary this school year. New families have joined our school community, Cherrywood has pulled together with Maplewood families to ensure the winning of a contest, Fright Fest was a success, and all Maplewood families had a Thanksgiving feast and a joyous Christmas. There is much to come with Spring Fling approaching, a grant we have applied for and a call for volunteers for our students.

Hurricanes Rita and Katrina have added families to Maplewood. Student Council members, being the peacemakers that they are, worked with PTA and provided each family with Target gift cards, some school supplies and Maplewood memorabilia.

Fright Fest was a fun time for all. Grande sponsored Fright Fest, and neighbor Kyle Ranne sponsored our pumpkin-carving contest. Many neighbors donated pumpkins. Emily Bankston and Sara Gray sponsored our magnificent Costume Parade.

In October, Maplewood won \$2,700 in the Highland Mall contest after receipts were gathered from July through October. Thanks to all who helped. The check was presented at the January PTA meeting.

At Thanksgiving we asked the Cherrywood community for help make baskets a success; many neighbors, teachers and families donated canned goods, turkeys and other items.

Many Maplewood families had their Christmas wishes granted by generous Cherrywood neighbors, Asbury and Genesis churches, and Maplewood staff and parents. Thanks especially to David Rowe and Robbie Rhodes of Genesis, Vivian

Suter of Asbury, and Pauline Porter, Cherrywood neighbor, and her family.

Maplewood is working on a Good Foods Wellness Program, which was submitted in an application for the federally funded USDA Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program. Twenty-four schools in Texas will be selected to participate in the FFVP, and, if selected, Maplewood could receive about \$35,000 in funding over 18 months. The Good Foods concept was created by a small committee and would provide free fresh fruits and veggies to children twice daily as snacks. Also included in the Good Foods program are plans for after-school cooking classes and wellness fairs for the Maplewood community each semester.

Maplewood's basketball and softball teams won the After School Olympics, competing against schools that are part of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Program. The trophy was presented to athletes at the January PTA meeting. We are very proud of those students for not only competing and winning, but also for the great sportsmanship they showed toward other schools and each other.

Maplewood's Spring Fling is tentatively scheduled April 8. Spring Fling is an all-day family event with ice cream, live music and activities booths. The famous Spring Fling Basket Raffle, with baskets full of goodies for mom, dad to the wee ones, will feature \$1 tickets, and every dime goes to Maplewood. If you want to contribute goods or services, put together a basket to promote your business, or donate money, contact Mary Beth Metcalf at 469-6074 or [mbmetcalf@grandecom.net](mailto:mbmetcalf@grandecom.net).

We always need volunteers. If you want to work with struggling readers, help reshelv library books or mentor a child, contact Kelli Kirk at 414-1086. Maplewood's Career Day is in May. Our future is at Maplewood – children who can be tomorrow's artists, architects, teachers, nurses, business owners. You could be the one to give them the extra push they need. Contact Kelli Kirk at 414-1086 for more information on Career Day. ■

## HISTORIC CHERRYWOOD: A PROGRESS REPORT

There has been a growing interest in exploring the idea of getting historic designation for our neighborhood to help preserve its character. Laura Morrison from the Old West Austin Neighborhood Association has offered to share with us what her neighborhood learned in the process of getting its historic designation. Terri Myers, a professional in the field, has also offered to meet with us and help us to understand both the National Historic Designation process and the newly forming local historic districts.

With any luck, the first of these meetings will have happened by the time you read this. If you would like to come to the next meeting or suggest questions, concerns or ideas for it, please call Lisa Tipps at 431-0269. ■

*Welcome*

## BROCHURE FOR NEW RESIDENTS

The Welcome Committee is pleased to announce the completion of our Welcome Brochure... the hottest new Cherrywood publication that is sure to be in great demand by new residents. The brochure includes a brief history of Cherrywood, a description of the Neighborhood Association, committees and events available for participation, and an outline of our communication network. If you are new to the neighborhood and would like to have one delivered to your home, please call Rebecca at 415-9876. ■

# COMMUNITY POTLUCK

**6-7:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 22**  
**Asbury United Methodist** (Cherrywood at 38½ St)

By Gordon Bennett

Together Asbury United Methodist Church and Cherrywood Neighborhood Association have kicked off a series of potluck suppers. These have been fun. What seems to work best is to get together informally at the church at 6 p.m. on Wednesday. People bring any main course or dessert. The church graciously has provided drinks and plates. No organizing is necessary. With three dozen participants, we have good variety, including plenty of items kids like.

We have no meeting and no agenda. Last year we invited two guests — one evening Rebecca McIlwain of Austin Interfaith, and another evening Detective Joel Pridgeon of APD's Sex Crimes Unit. They didn't present, but they answered lots of questions on people's minds.

The intent is purely social. We have ample committees, meetings and projects. But purely social occasions are important too. Cultivating this side of Cherrywood life, we now refer

to these gatherings as "building community." It means identifying common interests, communicating, and developing partnerships among CNA, Asbury, Maplewood, businesses, and unaffiliated volunteers.

A potluck is a perfect occasion to do more of this. Welcome to the next one on Washington's Birthday! ■



*Building  
community  
in Cherrywood*



# IT'S PARTY TIME AGAIN

By Rebecca Kohout

The annual SXEastAustin party will happen again this spring — on March 16 at Chad Hamilton's home on Sycamore Drive along Willowbrook Reach. Hours for the event are from 1 to about 6 pm. It will feature bands from SXSW events.

Past performers have included the Gourds, the Polyphonic Spree, Centro-matic and What Made Milwaukee Famous. All Cherrywood neighbors are invited to the Thursday afternoon party that spills over from Chad's front yard into the "reach." Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and ice chests for an afternoon of socializing and music.

This event is billed as one of the best free events in Austin during SXSW. Parking is limited so please be courteous and use Maplewood Elementary School, Mimms Chapel, Asbury Methodist, or Genesis Presbyterian parking facilities. Use this link for a map to Chad's and parking locations. [http://asnic.utexas.edu/~bennett/\\_map/1~Chad\\_party.pdf](http://asnic.utexas.edu/~bennett/_map/1~Chad_party.pdf). If you'd like to volunteer to with help set up or clean up or help with other contributions, call Rebecca at 415-9876. The event is sponsored by Chad Hamilton and the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association. ■



## 4<sup>TH</sup> ART FAIR A SUCCESS: CHULA THANKS SUPPORTERS

By Priscilla Boston

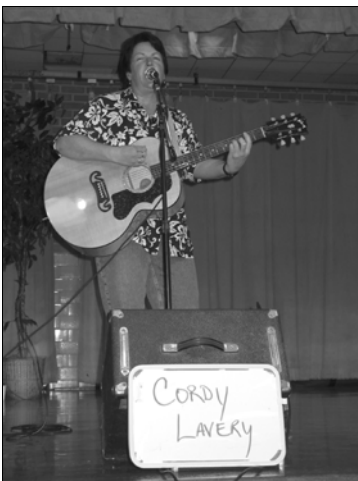
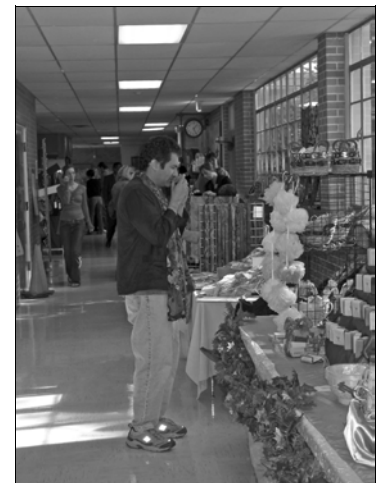
Building on the success of previous years, the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Cherrywood Art Fair on Dec. 10 and 11 and was the best yet. A two-day event for the first time this year, the fair attracted more visitors and emitted more good time energy than ever before. This year's fair not only benefited the Maplewood School art and music programs, but also raised seed money for next year's event. (The show will go on.)

This year, organizers charted new territory, creating a sponsoring organization as the support for the annual art fair and other to-be-determined charitable projects. The Cherrywood Urban Landscape and Arts (CHULA) League wishes to thank:

- Principal Luiz Lazaro of Maplewood Elementary for entrusting his campus to us for a weekend
- Luke Torn of Pop Culture Press for coordinating such a great line-up of musicians
- Craig High of The Boxcar Preachers for cheerfully providing and running the sound system
- Craig Long and Tristan Callaway of Go Go Gourmet for providing the fabulous food and graciously sharing their profits with CHULA

- Marilyn Fenn for her continued service as Web mistress for the best Web site any event ever had at [www.cherrywoodartfair.org](http://www.cherrywoodartfair.org)
- Richard Behal for his tireless service coordinating logistical arrangements with the school and recruiting such an awesome team of volunteer helpers
- Liz Potter for designing this year's groovy fair graphic
- Jennifer Elsner for graphic repackaging services
- The Austin Chronicle for providing free ad space for the third straight year
- Blue Shoe Marketing for their advice and for coordinating poster production
- To more than 40 talented artists who participated in this year's show (snapshots of their work can still be found in the "Sights" section on the fair Web site)
- The nine bands who donated their time to make this the rockinest fair ever
- And last but not least to our generous cash sponsors:
  - Grande Communications
  - Gene Johnson Automotive
  - Clarity Decisions, Inc.
  - Quack's Maplewood Café
  - Vivo Cocina Mexicana, and
  - Cherrywood Neighborhood Association

The CHULA League will be evolving over the course of the year. Look for opportunities to get involved soon. ■



Lots of fun was had at the 4th annual Cherrywood Art Fair held at Maplewood Elementary School.  
Photos: Marilyn Fenn





## BIGGER STARS IN MARCH

By Dolly Ensey

The sixth Texas Film Hall of Fame Awards will be Friday, March 10, at Austin Studios, Stage 2 at the Robert Mueller redevelopment site. Complete with red carpet and cocktails, Austin Film Society's guests will honor Texans for cinematic achievements. After dining in Technicolor at 7 p.m., the award presentation, emceed by Ann Richards, will induct honorary UT cheerleader Matthew McConaughey (*Dazed and Confused*, *Lone Star*, *Newton Boys*), Kris Kristofferson (*Lone Star*, *Wendell Baker Story*, *Fast Food Nation*), Cybill Shepherd (Larry McMurtry's *Jacy Farrow* in *The Last Picture Show*, *Texasville*) and JoBeth Williams (*Big Chill*, *Poltergeist*). Directors John Sayles (*Lone Star*, *Matewan*) and Lawrence Kasdan (*Big Chill*, *Grand Canyon*) are among presenters.

Proceeds benefit the Austin Film Society's artistic and educational programs to foster leaders of the Austin film community: office internships, stipend ap-



prentice positions and referrals for feature-film crew positions for individuals seeking professional experience, skills and contacts. Meghan Bennett, daughter of Cherrywooders Gordon and Karen Bennett, was one of the first interns during 2001. Deadline for internship applications is May 1.

The studios at Mueller are not open to the public but AFS has an annual open house during SXSW.

Austin Film Society has been promoting film and supporting creative filmmaking since 1985. Twenty-seven feature films and dozens of other film and video projects have been based at the studios since 2000 with an economic impact that AFS says exceeds \$750 mil-

lion. To learn more, read "AFS 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Retrospective Book" by board member Marc English. It recalls AFS history through the eyes of director Richard Linklater, movie critic Harry Knowles, Austin Chronicle editor Louis Black and Alamo Drafthouse founders Tim and Karrie League along with memorabilia from premieres, parties and special events.

For more information visit [www.austinfilm.org](http://www.austinfilm.org) or contact Wendy Anderson, director of development, at 322-0145 or [wendy@austinfilm.org](mailto:wendy@austinfilm.org). ■



## CHERRYWOOD BOOK CLUB

By Jeanne Arbuckle

"The more that you read, the more things that you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." - Dr. Seuss.

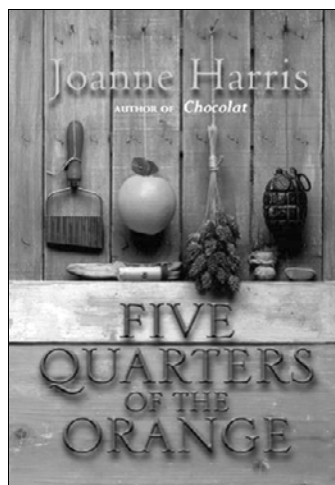
Over the last almost four years, the Cherrywood Book Club has gone a lot of places via a very wide variety of books. We have read biographies, historical fiction, detective stories, literary works, a play, "children's" books, and many other books that are hard to categorize. We have met new friends and reconnected with old friends – and if you are wondering if I mean the people attending or the books we have read – the answer is YES to both.

The Book Club formed in April 2002. (Thanks to Frances Delaune for getting us organized.) We are reading our 40<sup>th</sup> book. We meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of most months from 7 to 9 p.m. at members' homes. Our host provides desserts, snacks and drinks. We discuss the book selection for the month but

we often digress to politics, neighborhood news or pets. Every three months, members pitch books and we vote to determine what our reading selections will be for the next quarter. Pitch meetings are always fun and interesting.

This is an easy-going, congenial group of neighbors and we would love to have you join us. Our reading selection for our Feb. 22 meeting is *Five Quarters of the Orange* by Joanne Harris. Our reading selection for our March 22 meeting is *Roman Blood* by Steven Saylor.

If you would like more information or just want to know where the meeting is, please contact Jeanne Arbuckle at [kate-nate@grandecom.net](mailto:kate-nate@grandecom.net) or call Jeanne at 477-2684. ■



## YARD OF THE QUARTER

By Leslie Vieau

Thanks to all who submitted nominations and voted in the Winter Cherrywood Blue Ribbon Yard event. It was very close, with each nominee getting votes, but the clear winners are Magdalene and William Giffen, 3210 French Place.

Congratulations! The Giffens will receive a \$25 gift certificate from Howard's Nursery, which is replacing Big Red Sun as our sponsor.

The Giffens' holiday decorations were wonderful, and the yard looks fantastic, even in this dry winter season. Their pleasing wintergreen landscape is lush despite the seasonal absence of leaves. Undoubtedly it feels cool in summer; the shade canopy is high. There are interesting varieties, textures and shades. The clustering of shrubbery is full and interesting, almost as if composed. Placement of stones adds to the effect. Very natural. ■

