



The Flea

AUGUST 2008 | VOLUME 14 | NUMBER 4



Photo / City of Austin

AUSTIN MAYOR WILL WYNN TO SPEAK AT CHERRYWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION'S QUARTERLY MEETING | AUGUST 20, 2008

Mayor Will Wynn will address safety, transportation/IH-35, and sustainability issues that affect our neighborhood at the upcoming Cherrywood Neighborhood Association (CNA) quarterly meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, August 20 from 6:30-8 p.m. at Maplewood Elementary School. After addressing these topics, we hope to open the floor to Q&A with the mayor. **The meeting is open to all residents of Cherrywood.**

In addition, the CNA Steering Committee will bring the neighborhood up to date on various neighborhood matters; particularly, the need for additional members to be a part of the Steering Committee and other CNA committees. If you are interested in contributing to the shape of our neighborhood, please consider volunteering your time. Homeowners and renters are welcome alike and encouraged to join.

Please bring a donation to the meeting for local food banks

Alison West, a volunteer with Caritas of Austin, says that their most pressing need right now is to stock their food pantry, which provides take-home groceries and hygiene items to 4,000 households, most of whom are single parents with two children. Please bring food, toiletries, and/or diapers to the general meeting. In addition to Caritas, you may also donate food to Asbury UMC's food drive at the meeting.

CHERRYWOOD
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION'S
QUARTERLY MEETING

Wednesday, August 20
6:30-8 p.m.
Maplewood Elementary

JOIN US | SUNDAY, AUGUST 24 | NOON-4 P.M. FIRST ANNUAL GORDON BENNETT CHERRYWOOD BLOCK PARTY

Due to the Block Party permits being too cost prohibitive, we have had to regroup and make some adjustments to the festivities. **Please join us Sunday, August 24, from noon-4 p.m. at Patterson Park Pavilion**, which has been reserved for this event. The Pavilion has a grill, tables, pool, and playground close by.

It's BYOP (Bring Your Own Picnic). We'll have the grill running. And, lastly, we need you to help bring this event to life. Please bring some games, your kids, your friends, your neighbors, and yourself!

If you have any further questions, please contact Jen Spencer at 382-7022.

We look forward to creating fun-filled memories as a neighborhood!

**CHERRYWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
STEERING COMMITTEE**

Acting Chair	Jack Newman	426-3934
Vice Chair	Vacant	
Secretary	Jeremy Mazur	789-9862
Treasurer	Rebecca Kohout	477-9560

Members: Michael Bray, David Greene, Girard Kinney, Eve Richter, Mark Schiff, Tom Wald; three vacancies

COMMUNICATIONS / LISTSERVS

NeighborNet	David Greene	
Duplex Nation Net	Wendy Morgan	659-6397
Cherrywood.org	Deb Freeman	480-8719
	Wade Holloway	905-2309

THE FLEA

Editor	Deb Freeman	480-8719
Advertising	Rebecca Kohout	477-9560
Distribution	Michael Stricklin	658-9737

THE FLEA is a the quarterly newsletter for the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association; visit www.cherrywood.org.



Come One, Come All!

**Second Annual
Neighborhood-Wide Yard Sale**



**Saturday, August 23
Starting at 8 a.m.**

Walk the neighborhood and shop,
meet your neighbors, or put some of
your own "treasures" out for sale!



For more information about
participating in the yard sale,
contact Rebecca at
writeon@austin.rr.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST 2008

- 8/19 6:30 p.m. Upper Boggy Creek Meeting at Kleberg Hal
- 8/20 6:30 p.m. CNA Quarterly Meeting at Maplewood Elementary School
- 8/23 8:00 a.m. Second Annual Cherrywood Neighborhood-Wide Yard Sale
- 8/24 12:00 p.m. First Annual Gordon Bennett/Cherrywood Block Party

SEPTEMBER 2008

- 9/5 7:00 p.m. CNA Film Night at Asbury UMC
- 9/14 Second Sunday at Asbury UMC (Food Bank Collection)

OCTOBER 2008

- 10/3 7:00 p.m. CNA Film Night at Asbury UMC
- 10/7 7:00 p.m. National Night Out (Texas only)
- 10/11 9:00 a.m. Eighth Installment of the Cherrywood Plant and Book Swap
- 10/12 Second Sunday at Asbury UMC (Food Bank Collection)

MONTHLY CHERRYWOOD COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Communications Committee meets the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.; locations vary.
- Planning & Zoning Committee meets the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.; locations vary.
- Steering Committee meets the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Star Seeds Cafe.
- Transportation Committee meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Star Seeds Cafe.
- UBC Planning Committee meets the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Kleberg Hall.

CITY OF AUSTIN PUBLIC MEETINGS

For a list of upcoming Austin City Council and City of Austin Board & Commission meetings, visit www.ci.austin.tx.us.

CHERRY PICKINGS...AGAIN

By Jack Newman, Acting Chair of CNA-SC

Reprise: an earlier song repeated, usually with slightly changed lyrics to reflect the development of the story.

After a couple of years of relative inactivity in the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association (CNA)-issues wars, I spoke to my friend Girard Kinney about possibly helping out with a committee. He advised me, wisely, to attend a CNA Steering Committee meeting and see which committee seemed to be in need of additional assistance. I did. Lo and behold, the SC member serving as vice-chair was moving out of the neighborhood, and her replacement was a priority. Sure, said I, I had been a vice chair before, so why not?

Within three weeks of this event, our SC Chair also found it necessary to move away, and I found myself serving as your (Acting) Chair once again, the first to repeat in that office, I believe. I am pleased to once again have the privilege of helping with the neighborhood's pressing challenges and I am encouraging any of you who have considered taking a CNA leadership role to come out and share your talents and vision with us. You are all qualified, and all of you have insights and understanding

that are needed in bringing Cherrywood safely through the tremendous changes on our perimeter, as well as in addressing the issues of concern in our midst.

Recently, Summer McKee, Julie Winkler and Glenn Reed have stepped down from the Steering Committee. **We now have three seats that need to be filled and we need YOU!** Talk to any of the Steering Committee members and find out when and where to come out and share your wisdom. I welcome you in advance.

★ **WE NEED YOU!** ★

**CONSIDER BECOMING
A MEMBER OF THE CNA
STEERING COMMITTEE**

Stay off the tracks!

Did you know it can take up to two football fields for a commuter train to stop? Or that the new Capital MetroRail can travel up to 75 mph? Austin's new high speed Capital MetroRail is being tested in the Cherrywood Neighborhood now and will begin passenger service for Central Texas soon. To educate the community and help keep everyone safe, Capital Metro have been out talking to parents, teachers and students about some important safety tips you should know about rail safety:



- **Always look both ways before crossing**
- **Cross only at crosswalks**
- **Obey all signs and signals**
- **Railroad tracks are for trains only**
- **Never try to outrun a train**

Talk to your children about trains – teach them the importance of not playing near the train tracks and about crossing the tracks safely. When you're driving or on a bike be careful turning across train tracks and never race a train to a crossing. You should always expect a train on any track at any time. Quad gates have recently been installed in the Cherrywood Neighborhood as an added safety measure, but its still up to you to be safe. For more information visit www.stayoffthetracks.com or www.oli.org.

You may request a rail safety presentation by contacting Alissa Schram, Community Involvement Specialist & Rail Safety Liaison at Cap Metro, at Alissa.schram@capmetro.org or 369-7759.

BLUE RIBBON YARD

By Leslie Vieau

Our theme for this Cherrywood Blue Ribbon Yard contest was "The Corner Yard." There are so many great corner yards in our neighborhood that we had eight nominees! Many of these had been nominated before, and hopefully will be nominated again. We have only one sign and one gift certificate, so our winner by one vote is Kirby McDaniels at 1400 East 37th Street.

Kirby's yard demonstrates work, planning, care, a wonderful use of space, and choices that work in our climate without much water. His beautiful beds are lovingly mulched, and as you round the corner on LaFayette, you see vegetables and a lovely back yard too.

Congratulations, Kirby – well deserved!



"It's nice to be included with such a great group of yards. Everyone wins when the neighborhood looks beautiful," says Kirby McDaniels.

Beginning in October, the City of Austin residential customers will have a new way to recycle by using Single Stream Recycling. **Single Stream is an improved, more efficient way to collect your recycling.** Paper, plastic, glass, aluminum and metal cans will all go into one cart with no sorting. Single Stream also means more items will be accepted including rigid plastics #1-#7 and boxboard, which includes cereal and soda boxes.

SINGLE-STREAM RECYCLING COMING IN OCTOBER

Solid Waste Services (SWS) will begin the distribution of the new 90-gallon recycling carts in October 2008. Because the carts will hold more material, collection will occur every other week, meaning fewer trucks on the road, reduced emissions and improved air quality. In addition, this new method of collection will provide greater safety for our employees. For more information about the program, visit austinrecycles.com.



Join us for the Eighth Installment of the Cherrywood Plant and Book Swap

Trade plants that are well suited for propagation and/or transplanting in Austin.
Share your books with the community.

**Cherrywood Green (located at Cherrywood and E. 34th Street)
Saturday, October 11 at 9 a.m. [rain date: October 18]**

For more information, visit <http://plantswap.jackdarby.com>



PARTICIPATE IN THE 2ND ANNUAL CHERRYWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD-WIDE YARD SALE SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

One man's trash is another man's treasure and you know we all want some treasure and we've all got some trash to unload!. All Cherrywood neighbors are welcome to participate in the **Second Annual Cherrywood Neighborhood-Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, August 23 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

So you do not have to haul you "treasures" any further than your front yard, a map will be created with all the participating yard sales. **Tuesday, August 19, is the deadline for yard sale participants to get listed on the map** by contacting Rebecca Schwarz at writeon@austin.rr.com.

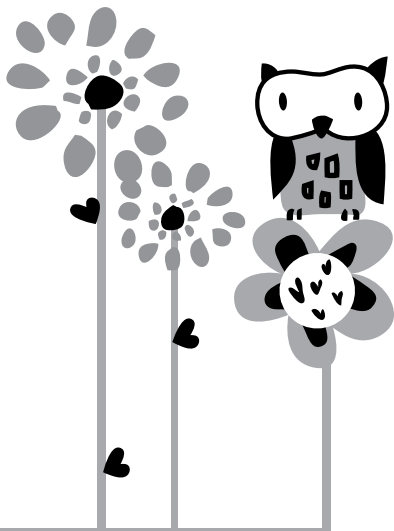
You may also send in any large items that you would like listed, but please try to pick just one or two. The Yard Sale will be posted on Craigslist as well as on the *Austin American-Statesman* and *Austin Chronicle's* online ads. Of course everyone is welcome to post his or her own sale individually, especially if you have a lot of stuff you would like to list.

A full list of participating households will be posted Wednesday, August 20 on the NeighborNet. (Photos courtesy of Rebecca Kohout.)

MAPLEWOOD ELEMENTARY

Calendar 2008-09

Back to School!



Thursday, **August 21**, 2008
Monday, **August 25**, 2008
Thursday, **September 4**, 2008

6:00pm Meet the Teacher
First Day of School
5:00pm Campus Advisory Council (CAC) Meeting
6:00pm Back to School Night & PTA Meeting

Thursday, **October 2**, 2008
Monday, **October 13**, 2008

5:00pm CAC Meeting

Student Holiday
Parent Teacher conferences

Saturday, **October 18**, 2008
Friday, **October 31**, 2008
Thursday, **November 6**, 2008
Tuesday, **November 18**, 2008
Monday, **November 10**, 2008
November 26-28, 2008
Thursday, **December 4**, 2008

10:30am PTA Meeting
Fright Fest
5:00pm CAC Meeting
12:00pm PTA Meeting

Student Holiday
Thanksgiving Holiday

5:00pm CAC Meeting
6:00pm Winter Concert
10:30pm PTA Meeting

Saturday, **December 13**, 2008
December 19-January 5, 2009

Winter Holiday



THE CHERRYWOOD GREEN FOUNTAIN

By Girard Kinney | Photos courtesy of Mike “Sully” Sullivan and Girard Kinney



The Cherrywood Green Drinking Fountain project has been underway for several years. Conceived of when a water tap was obtained at Cherrywood Road, water to the drinking fountain site was placed three years ago adjacent to the crushed granite trail terminating at the site of the present fountain. Neighborhood metal craftsman and artist, Erik Haglund,

in collaboration with stone artisan, Ken Casey, and architect, Girard Kinney, AIA, conceived of and designed the fountain, which consists of a powder-coated metal base, cut limestone basin and custom-crafted spigots. The fountain is located at Cherrywood Green, a small park designed, built and maintained by Cherrywood residents, on the north side of East 34th Street between Cherrywood Road and Kern Ramble.

The fountain has two spigots; the south one (adjacent the main trail) is at a wheelchair and youth accessible height, while the north one, adjacent to the new trail loop is at standard adult height. A unique feature of the fountain is that – unlike with most drinking fountains – almost no water is wasted because water drains from the drinking fountain into a dog-watering trough built into the concrete foundation. The dog-watering trough is already so popular that until some planned modifications are complete it is necessary to supplement the water to trough. (We think that raccoons and other animals might also be using it at night.)

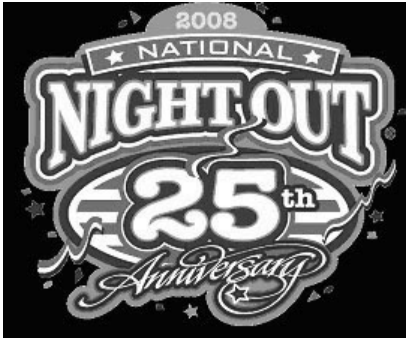
A bench is planned along the north side of the adjacent rest area that will have a cut limestone sitting surface with poured concrete front and ends. The dirt, which was removed to create the lower walkway and is now stored in a pile next to the bench, will be moved to the planter west of the fountain to form a berm, and will be planted with herbs and other useful and colorful plants. A drip irrigation system is conceived of for the planters, and the existing wooden light structure will be replaced with a more functional and compatible steel structure that will provide shelter and solar-powered light.

Helping Erik, Ken and Girard with the fountain were Mark Schiff (a master wood craftsman who did most of the work in building the complex forms for the concrete base); Mike Damal (fund-raiser, coordinator, crushed granite supplier and keeper of the green); Mike “Sully” Sullivan, who helped sculpt and weed the trail and haul limestone; Dave Westinbarger, who helped excavate the drainage field; and landscaper, Russell Womack who contributed the limestone “chop block” for the planter perimeter.

Girard, Erik, Ken and Mark are so pleased by their working relationship that have decided to form a for-profit collaboration to pursue other similar projects, perhaps including the projects in other parks and public open space, such as those funded through the Parks Foundation and the Art in Public Places program.

If you would like to volunteer for various projects at the Cherrywood Green, please contact either Girard Kinney at girard@kinneyarchitects.com) or Mike Damal at mdamal@peoplepc.com for more information.





CALLING ALL NEIGHBORS

JOIN US FOR
NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

The 25th Annual National Night Out, a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW), will be held in Texas on **Tuesday, October 7, 2008**. Since 1981, the NATW has been dedicated to the development, growth and maintenance of organized crime and drug prevention programs nationwide. NATW's network has grown to include more than 6,000 crime, drug and violence prevention organizations. National Night Out is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

While most of the U.S. held its National Night Out on August 5, Texas is the only state to move its night back since the weather is bit cooler in October than in August. Last year's National Night Out campaign involved citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from more than 10,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide. In all, more than 35 million people participated in National Night Out 2007. For more information, please visit www.nationaltownwatch.org.

Welcome Wagon on the Trail Again!

If you have recently moved into the neighborhood and haven't received a welcome basket, please contact CNA's Hospitality Chair, Rebecca Kohout, at rebecca@austinxpertsrealtor.com or call 415-9876 or 477-9560.

If anyone wants to help with distribution, we'd love to have more folks involved with the Welcome Wagon. We could use two or four neighbors who would like to help deliver baskets. It doesn't take that long and it's lots of fun to meet new neighbors who are glad to get a nice gift basket. So please let Rebecca know if you can help out.

A reminder to businesses in the neighborhood that would like to be included in the Welcome Basket delivery: If you have a product or service that you would like to include in the basket contact Rebecca Kohout (see above). You must offer something of value to our neighbors such as a discount for services, product sample, or an actual item of value. Business cards and flyers are not accepted.



2008 Fourth of July Fun in Cherrywood

Photos courtesy of George Holcombe

NEW CHERRYWOOD LOGO

The Cherrywood Neighborhood Association now has a logo, which we are debuting on the front page of this newsletter. After reviewing several logos submitted via a "call for entries" in the May edition of THE FLEA and on the NeighborNet, the CNA Steering Committee, along with interested neighbors, choose the winning design by Julie Comfort of Comfort Studios. We hope you like you it!

UPPER BOGGY CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING TEAM: YOUR VOICE NEEDS TO BE HEARD

By Michael Bray

Neighborhoods have limited but real power and voice within the structures of city decision-making. Some people and groups are pushing for more power and voice for neighborhoods. Now is the time to become a part of that push.

Austin is changing. From the new towers downtown to the commuter rail opening this fall, to the pockets of denser mixed-use development springing up in sites around the city and the waves of gentrification on the east side pushing people and families further out towards the edges of the city, it should be clear that the shape and character of the City is changing. And, in the coming years, it's only going to change more.

In many ways, our neighborhood is at the center of these changes. With Mueller rising to our northeast, Manor and MLK poised for a large phase of development via the new city frameworks of "Vertical Mixed Usage" and "Transit Oriented Development Districts," and with the likelihood of a streetcar or light rail route running along our southern edge, a changing Austin will mean a changing Cherrywood.

Now, I know a number of people who are interested in or concerned about these changes – and others related or unrelated to them – but who never get involved in neighborhood politics or associations. I know that amongst many progressives and radicals such politics and such associations have a relatively bad name: too local, too myopic; too many white, straight, male, professional, homeowners turning up to worry over their security and property values; too little power or voice to be worth the time. And I'm not going to pretend that I find all neighborhood association activities to be richly rewarding and answering to my most hopeful sense of what politics could be. But there are aspects of neighborhood politics that do seem to me really and progressively political, raising the possibility of actual, collective, democratic decision-making, in an era where voting can be alienating and specific issue and interest groups can be divisive. A few more specific things:

- 1) These changes are coming, in some form or other, and, if you don't presently feel that you have a voice in how they do come about, then involvement in the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association's work is one way to find one. Neighborhoods have limited but real power and voice within the structures of city decision-making. Some people and groups are pushing for more power and voice for neighborhoods. Now is the time to become a part of that push.

- 2) Neighborhood groups are relatively small and, obviously, volunteer. One thing this means is that an individual can find a voice in them fairly

We need more voices and perspectives, more creative ideas and political will.

easily (and that showing up relatively consistently for a year or so will lead to you being asked to lead lots of things.) So, if you've thought about being a part but you thought, "they won't share my concerns, my issues, my viewpoint," I know that the addition of four or five people could radically shift balances of power. So, round up your friends and turn out. It's likely some people already involved will support you, no matter what your position.

3) Please make the CNA more representative of the neighborhood's population. Please. In light of the issues I raised above, this especially goes for renters on Manor Road but it goes for everyone. All residents of Cherrywood, not only homeowners (and not only white, straight, male professionals), are members of the association. All you have to do is show up.

In the coming months, the Upper Boggy Creek Neighborhood Planning Team, which includes member from Cherrywood and several other neighborhood associations to our north and south will be meeting to discuss revisions to the Neighborhood Plan. This plan is part of Austin's governance structure and lays out our collective vision for the future of the larger neighborhood area. If you want to see what that plan looks like now, visit www.ci.austin.tx.us/zoning/ubc.htm.

Already at the core of these discussions are the issues I began with. Very roughly speaking, there are two main perspectives:

1) Support for denser development and public transportation, especially along Manor; a view informed by an eco-political sense that cities must densify, must increase public transportation, etc. to be viable in the future; and

2) A fundamental concern, especially by those neighborhoods south of Manor, in keeping the character of the neighborhood and the city in place and keeping it affordable (and weird) for those who already live here and who want to live here in the future.

Now, in theory, these goals should be compatible but, in practice, they're sometimes not: densification means redevelopment and redevelopment (on the terms of private property and profit) means condos and upscale stores and whatnot.

So, what can we do? For starters, we need more voices and perspectives, more creative ideas and political will. So, if these issues matter to you come to the CNA meetings, the Upper Boggy Creek meetings, a Planning & Zoning Committee meeting, and to the Austin Neighborhoods Council meetings. Come because you care about your apartment or house; affordable housing; gentrification; public transportation; the environment; and urban life. But most importantly: come and see what happens.

**Austin is changing.
In many ways,
our neighborhood
is at the center of
these changes.**

WILLOWBROOK RANCH NATURE REPORT:

By Lee Clippard | Photo courtesy of FLWR Blog

PLANTS

It was a banner year for wildflowers, like horsemint, bluebonnets, and Indian blanket, at the Willowbrook Reach. The City mowing crew left several large areas of flowers and grass unmown, which has allowed for the plants to reach maturity and set seed for next year. You can see several of these unmown patches now, with brown stems and seed heads waving in the hot summer wind.

As we all know too well, when it rains it pours and when it doesn't, well, it's as dry as a bone. This year, most everything is brown and crackly at the Reach, but look close and you'll still see many adapted perennials and annuals making a go of it. Mexican petunia is blooming heavily right now, as is silverleaf nightshade. The dry weather has served as a bit of a control for our bad infestation of Johnson grass, but you can still see it sending up flowers and seeding even in our harshest of times. Proof that this plant is a survivor.

The 34 trees we planted this spring are having various levels of success. Some, especially those that generous people have adopted and are watering regularly, are doing great. In particular, check out Yin and Yangótwo yaupons on the south side that are happy enough to be producing berries for the winter birds. The Mexican plums on that side of the Reach are also doing great. Trees on the north side aren't faring as well. (If you have the gumption, please help us water these trees!)

Plants in the new butterfly garden are doing fabulously. Blooms include purple coneflowers, blackfoot daisy, mistflower, tropical milkweed, woolly ironweed, lantana and nightshade. We had planned this garden to be "native plants only," but someone snuck in some cosmos. Perhaps we should thank them! The cosmos are providing a great amount of color to the garden and probably nectar too.

ANIMALS

Speaking of the butterfly garden, you may have noticed that there are very few butterflies this year, especially compared to last year's bumper crop. Last year you couldn't spit without hitting a swallowtail. I hate to speculate too much, but I imagine this has something to do with the hot, dry temperatures. It's possible that there aren't as many host and nectar plants available for them. Still, there are some butterflies to be seen, so keep an eye out. Recent sightings include long-tailed skippers.

On a recent Monday morning, I watched two enormous snapping turtles mating about mid-Reach. I've seen baby turtles for two springs in a row, and this fully confirms that we have at least one breeding pair of snappers on the Reach, if not more. It would be interesting to know where the females are laying their eggs. On a sadder note, I saw one snapping turtle in the Bathtub that has gone on to the Great Creek in the Sky.

Adult and juvenile yellow-crowned night herons continue to feed at the Reach. Be careful when driving at night! A heron was recently spotted ambling slowly across Cherrywood Road. Other birds around include grackles, starlings, cardinals, blue jays, swallows, mockingbirds and more.

A neighbor up the creek recently spotted a large beautiful, perfectly harmless Texas rat snake crossing Wilshire at the bridge over the creek.



PLANTS & ANIMALS & HUMANS, OH MY!

HUMANS

The City of Austin Watershed Department is in recon phase for their rather large project to "redesign" the creek bed at the Reach. They recently identified a design and engineering firm to draw up plans, and you may have seen them wandering the creek, marking trees and painting stripes. They've assured me that they will include the neighborhood as part of the design process, and I'll let everyone know what I know as soon as I know.

Trash continues to be a problem at the Reach, particularly along 38-1/2 Street. Please offer your hand to nature and the neighborhood by picking up stray garbage and not littering.

The Reach is a wonderful place for dogs, but not for dog poop! Remember that this poop holds billions of E. coli bacteria (among other things) and that those bacteria get washed into our creek and into our drinking water. Gross, right?

It's interesting to consider what our neighborhood might be like if we weren't here. Surely, there would be a healthy population of coyotes and foxes scating about with no one to pick up after them (aside from dung beetles, which can do an amazing job of

clearing away animal scat). In fact, the poop could be good fertilizer. So, if poop's natural, why pick it up and stick in an unnatural plastic bag? The answer is one of scale and abundance. Natural populations of coyotes and foxes would not be anywhere near as dense as our dog (and feral cat) populations. Their numbers would be lower and their range would be much larger. In an urban ecosystem, we squeeze a lot into a little.

The Reach provides a great "air conditioning" service in a hot city with its urban heat island. Take a walk down by the creek in the early evening and you can feel the cool air seeping out from the creek, especially those places with a high density of trees and underground springs. A reminder of the power of small amounts of water and nature in a city.

Remember, nature happens everywhere!



For more information about the Reach, visit the Friends and Lovers of Willowbrook Reach (FLWR) blog at flwr.blogspot.com. FLWR is a group of residents in the Cherrywood neighborhood dedicated to fostering Willowbrook Reach, one of the few publicly accessible wild spaces remaining on Boggy Creek. gem nestled within Austin's growing urban core.

STAY CONNECTED TO YOUR NEIGHBORS

To stay connected with your neighbors, we encourage you to join the Cherrywood Neighborhood Listservs. When setting up your Listserv account, you can choose to receive individual e-mails or a daily digest of all e-mails posted daily. You will need to provide your name and address in order to become a member by clicking on the "Join This Group!" button at the upper right-hand corner of each Web site.

NEIGHBORNET

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NeighborNet/>

DUPLEX NATION

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DuplexNation/>

THE FLEA NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

THE FLEA is in need of advertising assistance and would like your help with ad sales. This is an excellent way to establish relationships with our local merchants and offer them the benefit of our great advertising mechanism. Many businesses are switching their advertising to the grass-roots level so you'll be offering them a service that is a win-win situation. It only takes a few hours each quarter and you'll be making a big difference in our community. To volunteer, please contact Rebecca Kohout at 477-9560 or rebecca@austinexpertrealtor.com.

In addition, we need assistance delivering THE FLEA on a quarterly basis. If you would like to help with the November issue, please contact Michael Stricklin at 658-9737.




SUPPORT THE FLEA

by advertising your business or favorite charity here.

THE FLEA is distributed to more than 1,600 households and rates are very affordable.

For ad rates, please contact Rebecca Kohout at 477-9560.



**KINNEY &
ASSOCIATES**

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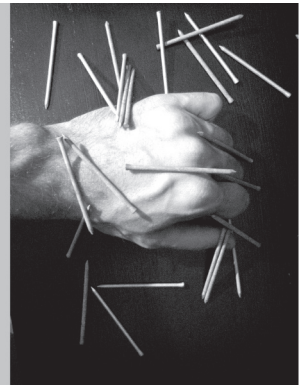
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Keepin' It Cool



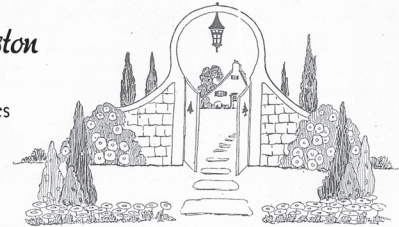
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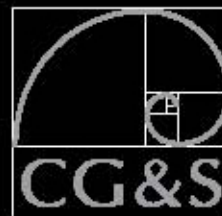
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Rebecca's

HOME OWNER'S UPDATE

What's Hot And What's Not In The Cherrywood Neighborhood

Summer 2008

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS FOR YOUR YARD

With the heat of August upon us, we are all trying to keep the last remnants of our lawn and plants alive in the heat! Here are some conservation tips to make it easier on you and your pocketbook!

- Place plants with similar watering needs together
- Landscape with native plants accustomed to our dry climate
- Water in the early morning and only when necessary
- Track rainfall with a gauge to set a food watering schedule
- Hand-water garden beds and lawn with a hose when possible
- Use mulch on flower beds to retain moisture
- Capture rain in a barrel for irrigation
- Make sure every hose has a shutoff nozzle
- Only install fountains or water features that use recycled water
- Aerate your yard and leave clippings on the lawn
- To reduce evaporation, cover a swimming pool when not in use

MARKET ANALYSIS FOR THE CHERRYWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD

Average prices and values vary widely within our neighborhood boundaries. For a professional analysis of how your home fits into this market contact Rebecca, your neighborhood specialist, for an appointment..

19 ACTIVE LISTINGS

2 Bedroom/1 Bath.....1,348 Sq. Ft.
 List Price.....\$313,508
 Price per Sq. Ft.....\$236.23

3 SALE PENDING PROPERTIES

2 Bedroom/1Bath.....1,199 Sq. Ft.
 List Price.....\$286,410
 Price per Sq. Ft.....\$247.88

21 SOLD PROPERTIES

2 Bedroom/1 Bath.....1,252 Sq. Ft.
 List Price.....\$270,626
 Price per Sq. Ft.....\$222.29
 Sold Price.....\$267,309
 Sold Price per Sq. Ft.....\$218.88



Sq. ft. numbers are generally from the Travis County Tax records. These numbers are not guaranteed. If you would like to view any of the above homes, contact Rebecca for a private viewing at 415-9876.

Bit of Feng Shui

Refresh Your Home's Chi

All plumbing & electrical wiring that has become faulty or is broken must be repaired immediately for safety reasons, and in feng shui terms because they create blocks to success & cause aggravation & disputes among family members. If you want your home to be happy & peaceful, & if you want the energy to flow, keep the chi fresh at all times!



A Cherrywood Resident Since 1972

If you're planning a move to a larger home, need to relocate, or know someone on the move-contact me, **Rebecca Kohout** at Coldwell Banker United Realtors, 415-9876, or rebecca@austinexpertrealtor.com. www.austinexpertrealtor.com
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Rebecca Kohout

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 Interest rates are at a 45 year low
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 So if you're considering investing in the neighborhood, give me a call and let me tell you about the opportunities available.