

THE Flea



SPECIAL REPORT
Astounding!
THRILLING!
Unbelievable!
THE SIDEWALK
that landed on
MAPLEWOOD
p. 4

AUGUST 2014 | VOLUME 20 | NUMBER 3



Finally, Stuff is Happening Permits, Garden OK'd by City

*Parking Permits on Cherrywood Rd.,
Community Garden at Patterson*
by Steve Wilson

So much for a lazy summer. In the (not as) hot (as they could have been) months, Cherrywooders received approval for a Residential Parking Permit program on Cherrywood Rd. AND the long-awaited go-ahead for the Patterson Park Community Garden, a process several years (and much rancor) in the making. Let's take a look-see at what these two decisions mean for our fair hood.

Patterson Park Community Garden

Mark Smolen, who's spearheaded the community garden idea through years of struggle, sent this update to the *Flea*:
"Austin Park and Recreation Department has given approval to proceed with the garden application. Application fees have been paid, the garden water tap plan (provided by Catellus) has been submitted to Austin Water Utility, and we are awaiting approval of our water tap plan to secure a Site Development Plan exemption from the City."
"Ahead of the exemption approval, PARD is permitting us to solarize the site to remove bermuda grass ahead of garden construction. Solarization is planned to be done in two stages, and as each stage is completed a cover crop will be planted to fix nitrogen in the soil and to prevent erosion." >>

Aug. 20
7:30-9:30pm
Cherrywood Neighborhood Happy Hour
in.gredients

Through Sept. 9
Tuesdays, 7pm or 8:45pm
Manor Mafia Softball—Kreig Softball Complex

Oct. 31
5pm
Halloween Parade—French Place
& 28th St.

GOT TIME? GET INVOLVED

Sure, watching *Astronaut Wives Club* is probably a better use of your time, but consider these backup options (pg. 2-3).

<< “A grant request with the Austin Parks Foundation, which will furnish much of the needed construction funds, is planned to be made this coming September.”

Interested in a plot? Contact the man himself at smolen@sbcglobal.net.

Parking Permits on Cherrywood Rd.

Meanwhile, after analyzing the parking situation on Cherrywood Rd., the Austin Transportation Department granted neighbors the Residential Parking Permits for which they applied. The city sent this notice:

“RPP restrictions will be installed on the east and west sides of Cherrywood Road, in the 2900-3100 blocks, from Manor Road to West 32nd Street. As the application requested, the signage will read “No Parking – 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Monday–Friday, and 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Saturday–Sunday, except with Area 32 Residential Permit.”

We prattled on about this in the last issue of the *Flea*, but to recap:

➤ Residents apply and pay (\$10 each) for up to two permanent stickers or hang tags that let them park in the restricted area. They can request free extra hangtags for one-time events and construction on the street.

➤ RPP is already in effect on two southwestern streets in Cherrywood to cope with UT daytime parking, and three other neighbors are considering or have already applied for RPPs in their blocks, including the first block of Lafayette after 38½ Street.

➤ Though RPPs often “push” the traffic to the following block (a cascading effect that may dump the problem on adjacent areas once removed from congestion), other streets will likely consider this program as more businesses move into Cherrywood.

More info: <http://austintexas.gov/department/residential-permit-parking>.

WHAT GIVES?

Candy Lane

Was this candy cane motif at LaFayette and Concordia a comment on the red parking curb controversy, or was the graffiti artist (who tags with “KIK”) just longing for Christmas in July?

PHOTO COURTESY OF JENNIFER POTTER-MILLER



MOBILITY 35

Hey this is important y'all

Do you regularly leave your home to shop, work or play? Every time you exit the boundaries of Cherrywood you'll be affected by the Texas Department of Transportation's plans for I-35. Our concrete neighbor to the west is the subject of some potential major redesign planning. You have a voice in its future.

The Mobility35 Capital Area Improvement Program is an effort sponsored by the TxDOT, The City of Austin, the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and other groups. The plan covers the I-35 corridor from San Marcos to Georgetown and will directly affect Cherrywood in Segment 4 (ranging from MLK to Airport Blvd).

Current plans for Segment 4 include two new lanes of traffic on the lower decks, designated as a “Future Transportation Corridor” (TxDOT says the upper decks do not have the structural capacity to add another lane of traffic). The new lanes will require the demolition and redesign of all bridges over I-35 and the permanent closing of seven of the nine existing on- and off-ramps.

The North Central I-35 Neighborhood Coalition 2 is a neighborhood stakeholder group with representatives from several neighborhoods (Cherrywood included) to present a unified front. NCINC2 has met with TxDOT and related groups since May and come up with ideas to help shape the course of a project that will affect all our lives for years to come. Look for more on these ideas in the next issue of the *Flea*.

More info: <http://ncinc2.org>

— Brendan Wittstruck



CNA UPDATE

HAPPY HOUR! In acknowledgement that it's just too darn hot to get anything done, the CNA steering committee has opted to hold the August Cherrywood quarterly neighborhood meeting as a happy hour at in.gredients. Come chat with neighbors and the three candidates for Austin City Council's District 9: Kathie Tovo, Chris Riley, Erin McGann. The only formal agenda item: CNA Quarterly Meeting Notice Change.

CHERRYWOOD.ORG TURNS ONE. The new cherrywood.org celebrated its first birthday in June with 133 posts, 42 neighbors blogging, 3,000 pageviews and 1,000 unique users per month. Check it out for yourself at www.cherrywood.org.

CHERRYWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Meetings

DON'T
MISS OUT!



Wednesday, Aug. 20

Cherrywood Quarterly Meeting

@ in.gredients 7:30–9:30 pm

AGENDA: CNA Quarterly Meeting Notice Change, meet District 9 candidates Kathie Tovo, Chris Riley, Erin McGann.

RECURRING MEETINGS

FIRST MONDAYS: APD Central East Commander's Forum 6–8 pm

FIRST WEDNESDAYS: Land Use and Transportation Committee . . . 7:15–9 pm

SECOND MONDAYS: Friends Willowbrook Reach/Patterson Park . . . 6:30 pm

SECOND TUESDAYS: Austin Neighborhood Council East Sector . . . noon–1 pm

SECOND WEDNESDAYS: CNA Steering Committee Meeting 6:30–8 pm

THIRD SATURDAYS: Mueller Neighborhood Association Meeting . . . 10 am

FOURTH MONDAYS: Upper Boggy Creek Neighborhood Team 7–8:30 pm

FOURTH WEDNESDAYS: Austin Neighborhoods Council 7–9 pm

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

PROJECT CONNECT UPDATE

Hancock Station: All Aboard?

Project Connect is an ongoing, collaborative effort among Capital Metro, CAMPO, the City of Austin and Lone Star Rail looking at regional options for multi-modal transit. Most recently, the Project Connect effort has introduced two Metro Rapid Bus Rapid Transit lines. The greater Project Connect vision also includes commuter and urban rail proposals, additional BRT and new mobility uses for Interstate 35 and MoPac, eventually resulting in a complete regional-connected system of buses and trains.

Project Connect's proposed first line of urban rail would connect the East Riverside and Highland corridors on a route running from Grove Boulevard along Riverside, crossing the lake over a new bridge, and traveling through downtown and the UT campus to stops at Hancock Center and ACC-Highland Mall. The map below shows the proposed route.

A few key points for the urban rail proposal:

- ☞ The 9.5 mile route would include 16 stops, 2 transfers (downtown and Hancock) with the Red Line and allow for future extension to Bergstrom Airport from the Grove station, and future Mueller and Lamar route connections.

- ☞ The estimated price tag for the project is \$1.4 billion, at least half of which would

be Federal funding. The November bond will include \$600 million for urban rail, and would be paid for through property tax increases estimated at \$11/month.

- ☞ The project will likely feature a rail and pedestrian/bicycle bridge over Lady Bird Lake and a tunnel from Hancock Center north to Airport Boulevard.

- ☞ Cherrywood residents would be most directly served by the Hancock Center station (from which the future connection to Mueller would likely occur).

- ☞ Although the November bond will likely also include funding for highway improvements, the Project Connect proposal is not affiliated with the Mobility35 plans.

The proposal is not without its opponents, but Project Connect has been endorsed by City Council, the Central Corridor Advisory Group and a variety of civic advocacy groups like SaferStreetsATX. The introduction of urban rail into Austin's mobility infrastructure will be an important step in crafting the future of the City. Or, as Mayor Leffingwell more succinctly puts it, "rail or fail."

More info: projectconnect.com

— Brendan Wittstruck



Some of the spots Metro Rail would go if given half the chance.

REPRESENTIN'

Candidates + Happy Hour

Yeah, we mentioned this twice in the fine print on page 2 already, but seriously, it's a big deal: District 9 candidates Kathie Tovo, Chris Riley and Erin McGann will be hangin' with us at the Cherrywood Quarterly Happy Hour at in.gredients, 7:30 p.m., Aug. 20. It's your chance to get to know these candidates, if only by the organic, package-free snacks they buy.

Don't be stuck with nothing to say. Bone up on their platforms here:

Kathie Tovo www.kathieforaustin.com

Chris Riley www.chrisforaustin.com

Erin McGann erinforcitycouncil.com

CHERRYWOOD CALENDAR OF EVENTS

VORTEX REP. COMPANY

Saturdays 11 am–4 pm
Handmade Art Market

8/10–8/23 8 pm
Octia of the Pink Ocean

9/5–10/4 8 pm
Spirit

BUTTERFLY BAR

Tuesdays 7 pm
Trivia
Thursdays 6:30 pm
Hoopy Hour

THE SKYLARK LOUNGE

Mondays 9 pm
Stand-up Comedy

CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE

Tuesdays 10 pm
Open-Mic Comedy
Thursdays, Fridays 7 pm
Music

Sundays 10 am
Kids Music
Monday–Friday 8 am
Hatha Yoga

IN.GREDIENTS

Wednesdays 5 pm
Happy Hour
Thursdays 7–9 pm
Geeks Who Drink
Thursdays 9–11 pm
Homegrown Comedy

Soft Sell

Manor Mafia
Krieg Softball Complex
Tuesdays, 7pm through Sept. 9

They've won our patronage, now they're out for a new prize: total dominance at softball. Come out to watch El Chillito, Windmill Bicycles, Haymaker, Thunderbird, Hoover's and El Sapo play other businesses at what the Aztecs called "Game of the Gods."

SALVAGE VANGUARD

Tuesdays 5:30 pm
Saturdays 10:30 am
Yoga
7/31–8/23 8 pm
Bright Now Beyond
8/22–8/23 8 pm
Austin Puppet Incident
8/25–8/30 8 pm
One-Minute Play Fest
9/4–9/20 8 pm
Glass Half-Full Theatre
10/1–10/18 8 pm
Am I White

The Sidewalk that Landed on Maplewood

But here's the bummer: sidewalks on hold for rest of the hood | by **Brendan Wittstruck**

Bascom Giles didn't include sidewalks when he developed the Delwood III neighborhood we now know as "Duplex Nation." And why would he? It was 1948 and the seductive promise of speed, freedom and the American highway was a resonant cry guiding hasty post-war development. Why walk when the car was whispering such sweet nothings into the nation's ear? Maplewood Elementary would not be built for another four years, and there were no cries for the safety of kids walking in the street to school.

How times change. Listening to our arguments for a safe walking passage to the school on the west side of the street, the city began construction on a sidewalk extension along Maplewood Avenue between Ashwood Road and Wilshire Boulevard in June when school



Just another day on the new sidewalk.

COURTESY OF JENNIFER POTTER-MILLER

let out. Built at a standard five feet in length and in accordance with ADA standards, the sidewalk marks the first protected pedestrian right-of-way in the now-historically protected

neighborhood. The inscription "KIRA '14" staked an early long-term claim on the surface before workers even finished the project.

The Maplewood sidewalk, just one part of Cherrywood's sidewalk master plan, is funded through a Transportation Enhancement Grant through TxDOT with matching funds from the city, allowing it to progress while other Cherrywood sidewalk plans under the Group 21 sidewalk improvement scope languish in hopes of future funding. The city recently announced that funding for Group 21 projects, anticipated this summer, is not currently available and those projects are on indefinite hold.

Meanwhile, a welcome bit of pedestrian comfort has arrived on a patient street.

More info: John.Eastman@austintexas.gov or 512-974-7025.

GOINGS-ON: YARD SALE DAY



FIRST-EVER NEIGHBORHOOD-WIDE YARD SALE: *More than 20 households joined the first annual Cherrywood Neighborhood-Wide Yard Sale in July. Starting at 8 a.m. (which is apparently late for this sort of thing, given the number of shoppers who showed by 7 a.m.), the event gave neighbors a chance to de-clutter before bulky trash pickup AND socialize before the heat set in. Organizer Rebecca Schwartz—who helped make it all happen, right down to the useful map of participating yards—*

promises to do it all again around the same time next year. Hopefully her kids will organize another muffin-and-coffee stand, the best deal of the day.

PHOTOS BY STEVE WILSON AND JENNIFER POTTER-MILLER



GREEN SPACES

Change in the Air

Urban Farm Update

Early in July, Cherrywood Farm held the last distribution for its spring/summer season, with member families getting shares of just-picked chard, kale, onions, tomatoes and herbs, as well as local eggs. Farming continues informally over the summer, promising plentiful hot-weather bounty like okra and eggplant. At three years in, the farm membership is updating some aspects of how it operates - schedules, field coverage, fees - in order to do an even better job of growing healthy local food for each other. There is plenty of room in this welcoming circle of growers for more neighbors who want to become part of it and do some growing of their own! **More info:** terry.dyke@cherrywood.org



PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRY DYKE

Friends of Patterson Park

Mark Smolen has stepped down as Chair of Friends of Patterson Park. Any interest in the position? Contact smolen@sbcglobal.net.

More info: <http://cherrywood.org/our-community/fopp/>

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Independent Streak

In 1996, after hearing about how great Delwood II's Fourth of July parade was, Jeanne Arbuckle and Ray Jordan decided to start their own. That Independence Day they set off with son Nathan, daughter Katie, and neighbors Kelly and Jake Severin down French Place in what would become Cherrywood's first annual Fourth of July parade.

In that procession of six Arbuckle hoisted a flag on a pole, Jordan kept step with drumsticks on an upturned igloo cooler, Katie sang in a red tutu and Nathan bonged a cow bell. They walked about a block before going home.

The parade's participation and length has increased ever since. These days, more than 100 participants of all ages gather at 28th Street and French Place in the morning and move their red-white-and-blue bikes, wagons and faces down to Cherrywood Green for a bonanza of cookies, lemonade and watermelon.

Some years the parade includes patriotic music projected by a wagon-towed boom box. Other years traditional Mexican "papel picado" banners have spanned the street from the branches of live oaks. Most years lawn parties cheer the marchers on.

Jordan and Arbuckle say every year's event is a chance for Cherrywooders' patriotism to shine. Regardless of who walks beside you, or which foreign policy or local tax you support or oppose, everyone gets to wear a red-white-and-blue grin and walk wild and free down their streets. Sounds like real patriotism to me.



Jeanne Arbuckle and Ray Jordan started the Fourth of July parade in 1996.

COURTESY OF KATIE HALLORAN

Jordan and Arbuckle send a special thank you to their "silent helper" of many years, Dick Eppler. They thank their long time fan and neighborhood matriarch, 90 year old Edith Ussery, their son and daughter who have attended nearly every year, and their founding partner and dear friend Kelly Severin, whose memory will always make the parade a little sweeter.

Care to Take the Flagpole? Jordan and Arbuckle are scouting for a family to take on the tradition of organizing the parade. **More info:** katenate2@gmail.com.

— Katie Halloran

RECAP: THE 18TH 4TH PARADE

Sorry, Senator Kirk Watson, but the goats have my vote. A pair of bovine beauties decked out in the colors of Old Glory upstaged the appearance of the senator at this year's 18th annual Cherrywood Fourth of July Parade.

As scads of people and bubbles drifted together down French Place to Cherrywood Green, the young and old alike marveled at these prehensile-lipped paragons of Liberty. The cloven-hoofed pair behaved better than some humans

in the crowd (and I speak here of adults, not children, who were all great, even on sugar). As one dog made his own bid for independence by breaking from his leash and another slunk home in the midst of a panic attack, the goats merrily bleated down the street, seemingly caught up in the star-spangled fervor that gripped the crowd.

— Steve Wilson



COURTESY OF MANSOOR KAPASI

ENDGAME BEFORE LUNCH

"Queen to Rook 5 ... but first, a potty break." Hey, it's Chess for Kids—usually held every Sunday, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

More info: mrkapasi@yahoo.com



COURTESY OF BRET BROOKSHIRE/FOR AMERICAN-STATESMAN

EGG ON MY FACE

What came first, the chicken or the guy who stuffed his colon with 21 of her pickled eggs? That was the magic number for David Haas and his bowels at Haymaker's July 4th Pickled Egg-Eating Contest. Proceeds went to Chula's Little Artist BIG ARTIST program.



COURTESY OF CHULA LEAGUE

ART FAIR UPON US

Speaking of Chula League, consider this a reminder to get in your applications for the 13th annual Cherrywood Art Fair (Dec. 13 & 14). Artist applications close Sept. 15. More info: www.cherrywoodartfair.org



Prominent Austin businessman David Cleveland Reed set aside land that would become Cherrywood Green. He died in a 1948 plane crash.

COURTESY OF AUSTIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Father of the Green

The man with the plan to create Cherrywood Green (more or less) | by Rebecca Kohout

As he made loads of money, hobnobbed with the elite and powerful, and travelled the world to spread his influence beyond the Lone Star State, David Cleveland Reed (1883-1948) likely never foresaw one of his more lasting influences—the tiny park that has grown to become the heart of Cherrywood.

A Williamson County native, Reed started as a cotton buyer and exporter with Austin's E. H. Perry & Company and made himself one of the city's wealthiest men, his fingers in oil mills, cotton gins and factories, compresses, ranches, flour mills, vegetable farms and dehydrating plants and even a partnership in the Driskill Hotel. Like his older brother Malcolm, Reed became a prominent civic leader, serving on the Austin school board, the first city council under the city manager form of government from 1926-1933, and the Board of Trustees for Texas Christian University.

In 1915, Reed and wife Laura Moses Reed purchased the 1907 Byrne home at 15th and Rio Grande, which now houses Humanities Texas. The historic structure was designed by

none other than Charles H. Page (1876-1957), the famed Austin architect who dreamed up hundreds of schools and courthouses in Texas, including Austin's art deco Travis County Courthouse and the Texas Building for the 1903 St. Louis World's Fair.

Reed, also a land developer, purchased Cherrywood's own Upland Subdivision and, in 1940, subdivided the property between Lafayette and Cherrywood on the east and west, and Edgewood to 38 D St on the north and south. In the process, he dedicated a small park site at 1600 East 34th Street, planning to call it D C Reed Park. Nowadays we know and love it as Cherrywood Green, the oasis that hosts the Plant and Book swap, ukulele concerts, a rain garden, a sculpted water fountain, stairs down to the creek as well as countless events.

Reed died in a 1948 plane crash while traveling to Virginia. Representative Lyndon B. Johnson wired Laura Reed to express his shock and sorrow. "The nation never had a better citizen and I never had a better friend," he wrote. On the day of Reed's burial, Austin's city hall flag flew at half-mast in tribute to him.



CHERRYWOOD GREEN UPDATE

The early summer rains really put the green in Cherrywood Green. Now that we are in the heat of the summer, it still is an inviting place but not as verdant as in May or June. The Chinquapin oak that was planted last fall is now clearly stressed. Most of the leaves have wilted. Will it survive or not? Perhaps this struggling oak is a good analogy for Cherrywood Green. When we had the rains, the tree looked healthy, strong, as if it had a good future. Once the rains stopped, it was quickly stressed by our hot summers, still not established enough to get through the heat of the summer. I give the tree a better than even chance to survive, but it will need constant monitoring and twice-weekly waterings (if we don't get any rain) to survive.

The Green is a focal point for Cherrywood: the Book and Plant Swap, the terminus point for parades, the place for ice cream socials and other events. We don't have another place so well located and inviting for outdoor gatherings.

Right now three volunteers actively take care of this space. If two or more stopped helping, the Green would fall into disrepair, showing stress, just like our oak tree. We appreciate any help we can get, be it formal through FROG (Friends of the Green) or informal (weeding, mowing, pruning, litter removal).

More info: michael.damal@gmail.com

— Mike Damal

MERCANTILE WATCH



Cherrywood's Hotness Now Official

No, that hot n' sexy couple with a few years between them on the July cover of *Austin Monthly* wasn't for a story about Austin cougars—it was for an ode to Cherrywood. Sure, the mag covered nine other lame neighborhoods just to fluff out some sort of "10 Hottest Neighborhoods" list, but the editorial staff clearly liked Cherrywood best. After all, they shot the cover on a Hollywood Ave. porch and used a kid who lives a few blocks away on Lafayette Ave. Why the hotness? The cat-of-the-bag praise cited the trees, the "quaint" homes, and the merchants of Manor. Which leads us to ...

Sweet + Meat: Sugar Mama's & Dai Due Arrive

You know all those calories you were planning to burn since Cherrywood got a teensy bit more walkable (see pg. 4)? Now there's no point, not if newly opened Sugar Mama's Bakeshop Eastside and Dai Due are your destination.

Sugar Mama's made its name with cupcakes when it opened on S. 1st St. six years ago, expanding into other baked goods and dessert specials created by award-winning chef Karina Akhavan.

Dai Due, a farm-to-table purveyor of local-sourced meats and other fare, has built a loyal following without any previous brick-and-mortar location, just farmer's markets and roving supper clubs.

The two stores are located side-by-side on the 2400 block of Manor, assuring none of their patrons will fit in the clothes sold by neighbor Raven + Lily.



PHOTOS COURTESY AUSTIN MONTHLY AND DAI DUE

{ THE CHERRYWOOD READER }

ONE SONG AT A TIME (IN MEMORY OF PETE SEEGER) | by Lumi

if we are brave we will sing out alone
and if we are afraid we will sing out together
and if we are together and we sing out,
more voices will rise and our singing
will shake the world, one song at a time.....

and if we are hibernating we will miss the call,
so we ask for awareness
and if we are grounded we will miss the flight
so we ask for wings
and if we are miserly we will miss the joy of sharing
so we ask for an open heart

some lead, some stumble, some fall, some tumble, some
laugh, some cry, some live, some die

and if we are firm we will stand out alone
and if we are shaken we will stand out together
and if we are together and we stand out,
more courage will rise and our union
will form a shelter, one hand at a time.

and if we are complacent we will miss the cries,
so we ask for concern
and if we are selfish we will miss the grace
so we ask for gratitude
and if we are closed we will miss the joy of compassion

so we ask for an open hand
some follow, some guide, some support, some ride, some
give birth, some retire, some create, some inspire

and if we are advocates we will witness alone
and if we need comfort we will witness together
and if we are together and we witness,
mighty spirit will spring forth and our passion
will nourish freedom one heart at a time.

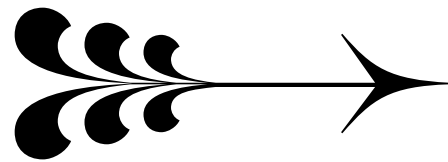
and if we are resentful we will miss the love,
so we ask for kindness
and if we are scornful we will miss the blessing
so we ask for foolish laughter
and if we are bitter we will miss the joy of seeing
so we ask for an open mind

some deliver, some receive, some teach, some believe
some minister, some need, some nurture, some bleed

and if we are brave we will sing out alone
and if we are afraid we will sing out together
and if we are together and we sing out,
more voices will rise and our singing
will shake the world,
one song at a time.....

Lumi, a dancer/writer/artist/web designer, is a long time resident of the neighborhood and wouldn't want to live anywhere else
Got a short story, poem, play, manifesto or constitution you'd like to share for this space? Send it to flea@cherrywood.org.

Me & My Statue



Our lawn ornaments, ourselves | by Steve Wilson

BREEZE TERRACE

Door to Everywhere

A few years back a home improvement TV show crew thought it had struck ratings gold in the yard of Michelle Moore and Sean Keel. But when the producers saw how clean the house was inside, they realized the truth of what the couple had been telling them all along—the yard’s not a mess, it’s an intentional work of art.

It all started with the door to nowhere. During a remodel, Keel and Moore dragged their front door to the middle of the yard and got to liking how it looked there. Soon after, Keel’s father installed a free-standing window frame with rebar and cement (“It’ll still be standing long after our house,” quips Keel). When a windowpane broke, they plopped a baseball on the sill and suddenly the yard wasn’t just weird, it was telling a story. That story grew as they added the bust of a woman, the words “Terminus” in giant pink letters (a Walking Dead joke), and a giant wooden cable spool that Keel and son dragged by car through downtown, passersby cheering them on.

A few cranky neighbors have asked Keel and Moore to mow, but most appreciate their conceptual antics, like the times they’ve festooned the door with the word “Gloom” during the joyful Yuletide season. Others have admired (and been a little freaked out by) the way the door lights up in the dark under headlights. “When you’re driving at night it looks like the door in the opening of the Twilight Zone,” says Moore, the pride evident in her voice.



COURTESY OF OLIVER MAYES

FRENCH PLACE

Weathering the Storm

Not every Cherrywood yard sculpture has had the honor of sitting outside City Hall. Fewer still have survived an attack by vandals there. When artist Roger Foster picked up the limestone pieces, he knew chucking them would run counter to the spirit of the work, inspired by forms that have popped up in societies around the world since 5,000 B.C. And when he remounted the sculpture—cracks and all—in his yard, it stood for something new altogether. “It’s about weathering the storm, just like this neighborhood has done,” says Foster’s partner Susan Mickey.

Austin’s Asian American Resource Center will show his works through September 2015, and Foster usually has some piece or other in City Hall’s (much safer) People’s Gallery. Meanwhile, Cherrywooders get to experience Foster’s work up close. “People will stare at it from the street, and little kids will run up and touch it,” says Foster. “It changes their day.”

More info: rogerfosterart.com



QUICK GLANCE

>>>>>>> Zero to Hero <<<<<<<<

Building the first Living Building Challenge Net Zero Energy certified building in Texas | by Sunshine Mathon

When I learned we were going to have our second child, in addition to being simultaneously excited and daunted, my thoughts turned to the idea of a new house. Our old house was wonderful and full of character, but the size and layout were going to be a challenge with two kiddos and it didn't lend itself to graceful expansion.

We decided to rehab a thousand-square-foot house in Cherrywood, and not just any rehab. We strove to meet Living Building Challenge's standards for sustainability, and wound up making the first LBC Net Zero

Energy certified building in Texas.

The house may not have seemed the most likely candidate for this level of energy efficiency, especially with the 1,100-square foot addition we planned to add. From an energy perspective, the 1948 home performed quite poorly. The concrete block exterior had no insulation. The original single-pane, steel casement windows did not close properly and provided near zero thermal performance. Though vented reasonably well, the attic housing the central HVAC air handler and ductwork likely reached more than 160° in July and August with floor insulation only

3"-4" thick at best. The AC system and gas heat were a decade old, and though in acceptable condition, were far from efficient. The gas hot water heater was more than 30 years old and on its last legs.

All told, from an energy consumption perspective, the house had only three redeeming facets to its character: the well-chosen solar orientation, the well-designed shady overhangs, and the thermal mass of the concrete block. That's about all we had to work with as we set out to achieve the Net Zero standard.

Here's how we did it:

VENTILATION: Energy recovery ventilator lets in fresh air without using lots of energy to condition it.

ATTIC: Sealed with 8 inches of open cell spray foam at the roof plane (~R-28).

ROOF: One un-shaded section lofted at a shifted pitch with 4.5 kW solar array.

DOOR: Poor thermal performance; too beautiful to give up.



FRAMES: Fiberglass for best thermal and rot resistance. They expand and contract with the glass.

WINDOWS: Double-paned with a U-value of 0.30 and, depending on sun position, either a 0.18 or 0.24 Solar Heat Gain Coefficient low-E coating.

INSULATION: Quad-Lock's R-18 4-1/4" R-ETRO pre-cut, interlocking EPS foam blocks mounted to the concrete exterior.

AC/Heat: Variable-speed 3-ton 19-SEER Carrier Infinity heat pump system that usually runs in 2-ton mode.
FANS: Ceiling fans with induction motors push two to three times as much air for the same energy as more basic Energy Star-rated fans.

NATURAL GAS: Disconnected the gas line, switching cooktop to induction and gas heat to an air-source heat pump.
WATER HEATER: Replaced gas unit with solar unit with drain-back system and 80-gallon storage tank.
Full version of this article: <http://tinyurl.com/mmew5gr>
More info: <http://living-future.org/netzero>

ADDITION: 1,100 sq-ft framed with 2" x 4" studs filled with open cell spray foam and sheathed with ZIP R-panels, impregnated OSB sheathing with additional sheet of polyiso insulation.

TAKING A HIKE

Death and Taxes | by Jennifer Potter-Miller

In May, neighbors concerned with recent property tax hikes met with Marya Crigler, Chief Appraiser for the Travis Central Appraisal District, and Bruce Elfant, the Travis County Tax Assessor/Collector.

The Travis County Tax Office contacted CNA about hosting a forum as part of a spring outreach effort. Approximately 35 neighbors from Cherrywood, Mueller, Windsor Park, Blackland, Schieffer, Delwood 2 and Wilshire Wood attended the lively and informative event.

Crigler spoke at length about how appraisals are done, exemptions, payment plans, and how to protest. She shared data on home sales in Cherrywood and a handout on how the appraisal process works before answering the many questions from attendees.

Elfant explained how his office works and its role in voter registration. He said his office is trying to digitize operations as much as possible to streamline the process and save money. "We are trying to change the way we do business so that you get your bill electronically, pay your bill electronically, and get your receipt electronically," he said. This would save around half a million dollars in the process of collecting property taxes. Many Austinites already use the online system.

More info: <http://tinyurl.com/lzhxqf9>



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EDITOR Steve Wilson

DESIGNER Sherri Whitmarsh

ADVERTISING Rebecca Kohout

DISTRIBUTION AND WEBSITE EDITOR

Jennifer Potter-Miller

FLEA CONCERNS

flea@cherrywood.org

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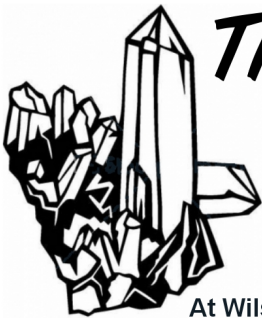
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People's Community Clinic Expands Prenatal Program

With the recently completed expansion of its prenatal program, People's Community Clinic (PCC) expects to significantly increase the prenatal services it delivers to low-income women in Central Texas.

The expansion site is located at Park St. David's within the St. David's Medical Center complex. In addition to a full-time OB-GYN and a nurse practitioner, there will be a health educator who will instruct patients on topics including lactation and family planning after pregnancy. Also, most sonogram services will now be performed in-house.

"In Texas, more than one in three babies are born to a mother who has received little or no prenatal care, emphasizing the critical need for greater access to prenatal services," said Regina Rogoff, Chief Executive Officer for PCC. "At People's we provide the highest quality care, assuring that more babies are born at normal birth weight and giving these youngest Texans the best chance for a healthy start in life."

Despite passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the need for PCC's low cost health care services is more acute than ever. Not only is one in four Texans uninsured, the state has declined Medicaid expansion as provided by the ACA leaving a large portion of the state's population lacking health care coverage, Rogoff said.

PCC has offered comprehensive medical care to the uninsured and underinsured in Central Texas for more than 40 years. In 2013, the Clinic's various programs saw more than 34,000 medical visits by Central Texans, and those numbers are likely to increase.



L-R: Regina Rogoff, Marina Sifuentes, Nona Njland, Milton Hime

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WHAT'S HOT IN CHERRYWOOD

Time for Fall Gardening

It's time to consider planting for your Fall gardens and these choices are well suited for our region. The following is a list of plants and the best time to plant them.

Beets -	Mid-August to end of October
Cabbage-	Mid-August to mid-October
Collards -	Mid-August to mid-October
Garlic -	Early August to end of September
Kale -	Mid-August to mid-September
Lettuce -	Mid-August to mid-October
Mustard -	Mid-August to mid-November
Onion -	Throughout October
Peas -	Throughout September and October
Radishes-	Early September to mid-November
Spinich -	Early September to mid-November

Cherrywood Real Estate Report

Information below is based on active, pending and sold homes within our Cherrywood boundaries. The data derives from a total of 19 homes sold or on the market for the period from April 15, 2014 to July 15, 2014.

- Homes sold in the past 90 days: **15**
- Homes currently pending sale: **1**
- Homes actively listed: **3**
- Average home for sale: **2 beds, 1 bath.**
- Average size home for sale: **1,351 sq. ft.**
- Average list price: **\$380,620.**
- Average home's selling price: **\$375,433.**
- Average price per square feet: **\$296.25.**
- Average time on market: **12 days.**

Homes are increasing to sell at record rates with an added increase in volume over the past year. The 2014 summer selling season was expected to be strong and activity did not disappoint. Despite the steady increase in home prices, demand has not been affected. Homes are selling as soon as they hit the market, and if Austin continues to see increases in housing inventory, we could see corresponding increases in home sales activity.

City-wide, 2014 summer housing prices for single-family homes increased 8% over the past year. Homes are selling faster than ever since 2001.

If you'd like to know specifics about your home in order to compare it with other sales, please feel free to call me. I'm always available to assist you with upgrade choices to maximize your property values, too.

Create good Feng Shui in your Kitchen



Here are a few basic good feng shui kitchen guidelines:

1. The kitchen should have several levels of proper lighting, be airy and spacious, clean bright and welcoming.
2. Keep the kitchen simple and do not overload it with gadgets.
3. Keep clutter at bay.
4. Fresh flowers bring beautiful uplifting energy to your kitchen. Place fresh fruits, flowers, or plants as possible.
5. Choose colors that blend well and feel good together. Yellow is a good choice for the kitchen, as it is good for your digestion.

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

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



Rebecca Kohout, ABR, GRI
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