

THE Mea



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SPECIAL REPORT
uncovering the poetic heart of Cherrywood
ME & MY STATUE
p. 6



COURTESY OF JENNIFER POTTER-MILLER

PATTERSON PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN Passing Vote is No Magic Beanstalk

Neighbors vote for garden, but only city can plant the seeds | by Steve Wilson

By the nose of a garden gnome, residents of the Schieffer-Willowbrook Neighborhood Association voted 38-37 in favor of the Patterson Park Community Garden, with two abstentions and one split. SWNA now joins the neighborhood associations of Cherrywood and Wilshire Woods/Delwood I in support of the plan for garden space in Patterson. SWNA conducted by mail the hair's-

width vote, which hearkens back to the tight, high-turnout 75-63 vote to break from CNA in 2012. (CNA and SWNA now exist as different entities in the same physical space, like alternate dimensions on *Star Trek* or in fantasy novels about magic portals.) Once completed by residents, the mail-in ballots went directly to Austin's Parks and Recreation Department for impartial review in mid December. CNA, which had previously approved the garden in 2011, voted 12-5 for a location change by a show of hands at a meeting in November.

Wither on the vine?

Despite the neighborhood associations' support for the park, the garden is far from approved by the city. As David Boston noted on the SWNA listserv, the votes may only help inform the city's decision about >>

Feb. 19
6:30-8pm
Cherrywood Neighborhood Quarterly Meeting—Asbury Servant Church

Mar. 29
9am-noon
Plant and Book Swap—Cherrywood Green

April 5
4-5pm
Cookie Social—Cherrywood Green

GOT TIME? GET INVOLVED

Multi-vitamins and anti-bacterial soap may have let us down, but neighborhoods never will. Attend somethin'! (pg. 2-3).

<< the garden, not dictate it. Boston posted to the listserv a response he received from Margaret Russell, a program manager of PARD: "The input from the neighborhood association is only one element in the many that are required for the development and building of a community garden," she wrote. "Of the original 72 pre-approved locations for community gardens identified in 2009, none were found at this location, so there are multiple steps for this to proceed."

Indeed, PARD initially rejected CNA's community garden application in May, citing opposition from immediate neighbors. Only after Mark Smolen of the Patterson Park Community Garden Task Force said he would appeal to City Council did officials agree to review a compromise. Hence, the plan that neighborhoods voted on included a revised

location on the park's southeast edge (see pg. 3) with 60 plots, some of them set aside for food banks, the Ronald McDonald House, and people who can't afford the annual fee.

It's feasible PARD may consider the breakdown of the SWNA vote. As garden opponent Lisa Fuka observed on the SWNA listserv, "The further from the park, less participation and greater 'yes.' Closer, more 'nos.' Of the 10 properties adjacent to the park: two no response, two yes, six no."

Seeing green as public, private or both

Before and after the votes were tallied, debate continued online and at public meetings about the pros and cons of the garden. Some neighbors have shared the position of Fuka that the garden will fence off public green space (a proposed six-foot

welded-iron fence, by the way) and place it in private hands. "That's ownership of the park," Fuka told the gathering at the November Cherrywood meeting before the CNA vote. When someone noted the greenspace available in the rest of the park, Fuka countered, "That's today, but we have to plan for the future."

Other neighbors have agreed with Smolen that the garden will give back more than it taketh away. At the same Cherrywood meeting, Smolen cited such benefits as exercise, affordable organic food and educational opportunities for everybody, including regular events like potluck meals made from garden produce and demonstration days. He pointed out how the plan calls for native plants around the garden perimeter to attract butterflies, bees, and birds, and how gardeners will be encouraged to compost neighborhood plant waste and keep an eye out for crime in the park.

Coming up from the ground when?

There seems to be no word yet when the city will decide on the garden. Smolen says he hopes to get neighborhood and city approvals in time to break ground and start planting by spring.

WHAT GIVES?

Wise Love

The creator of this Cherrywood Green graffiti seems to know that the simple sentiment behind South Austin's "I Love You So Much" wall doesn't always cut it in modern romance. "Hey, things ain't perfect," the wise lover reassures, "but like REO Speedwagon, I'm just gonna keep on lovin' you."



CNA UPDATE

UBC ON THE WWW Check out the new upperboggycreek.org website, with news and events from the six UBC Planning Area neighborhoods. **ORGANIZATIONAL REVIEW TASK FORCE: THE FINDINGS** The team dredged up 30 CNA committees, many of them overlapping, and recommended consolidating at least six of them. **WELCOME TO DISTRICT 4** Cherrywood has been slotted into District 4 of the 10-1 Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission, where it will play a part in the transition from six city-wide representatives to 10 single-member district representatives. **NEW BLOOD, NEW CHAIR** A new (interim) chair Katie Halloran signed on as the sheriff' round these parts, and other folks signed on too (see pg. 10).

CHERRYWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Meetings

DON'T MISS OUT!



Wednesday, Feb. 19
Cherrywood Quarterly Meeting
@ Servant Church 6:30-8 pm

AGENDA: Report on 1/22 Manor Road Parking Workshop, Final report of Organizational Review Task Force and recommendations, Update on 4020 Airport Blvd.

RECURRING MEETINGS

- FIRST MONDAYS:** APD Central East Commander's Forum6-8 pm
- FIRST WEDNESDAYS:** Land Use and Transportation Committee8-9:30 pm
- SECOND SUNDAYS:** Mueller Neighborhood Association Meeting3-5 pm
- SECOND MONDAYS:** Friends of Willowbrook Reach6:30 pm
- SECOND TUESDAYS:** Austin Neighborhood Council East Sectornoon-1 pm
- THIRD WEDNESDAYS:** CNA Steering Committee Meeting6:30-8 pm
- FOURTH MONDAYS:** Upper Boggy Creek Neighborhood Team7-8:30 pm
- FOURTH WEDNESDAYS:** Austin Neighborhoods Council7-9 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.

PATTERSON COMMUNITY GARDEN PART II

Digging in the Dirt

Unearthing the history of the Patterson Park Community Garden | by Terry Dyke

Given the ongoing debate about the Patterson Park Community Garden, here's a look at the process so far.

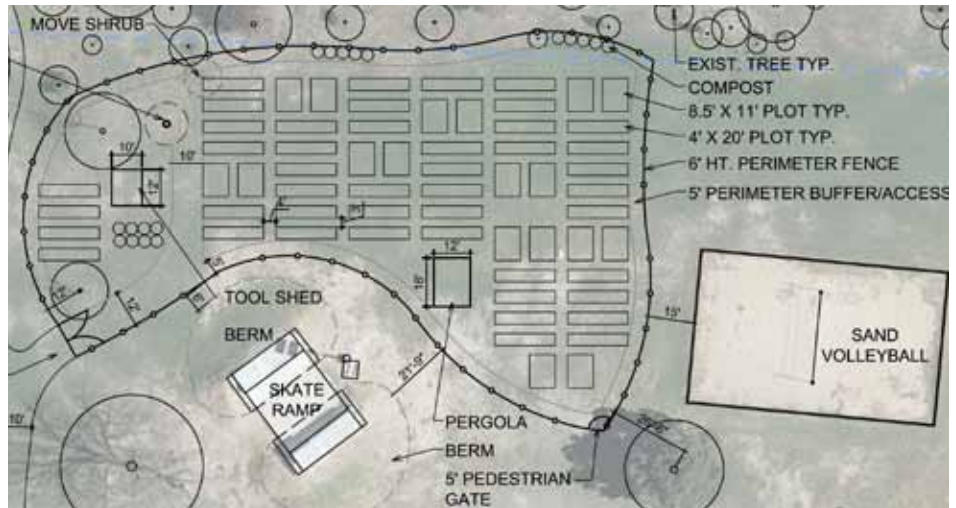
1. The project is part of a Parks Dept. program, carrying out an established city policy of making public land available for community gardens. The PARD information packet is available at www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Parks/communitygardens/community-gardeninfopacket.pdf
2. One item on the application is "evidence of community support" from the relevant neighborhood association(s) and adjacent landowners.
3. The Cherrywood Neighborhood Association voted to authorize a letter of endorsement for the project in 2011.
4. The vote at the November CNA meeting granted the applicant's request to endorse a modification to the garden layout meant to address concerns brought by neighbors.
5. City staff is considering the modified garden plan, and so far has called for no further information from the applicant as a condition for approving a permit. The

review and approval process is expected to take some months yet.

6. Community discussion has included a survey conducted by Friends of Patterson Park and described in the August 2011 issue of the *Flea*. It's worth noting that this was not required by city staff, nor do we know exactly what consideration they will give it in their overall process.

7. Neighbors are certainly free to contact city staff advocating for or against approving the permit. However, the decision ultimately lies with city staff, so it's also worth noting that there is no vote as such about whether or not to issue the permit.

Hope this helps clarify some of the confusion about this very long and complicated process.



Layout of the revised Plan for the Patterson Park community garden

CHERRYWOOD CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CHERRYWOOD GREEN

April 5 4-5pm
Cookie Social

VORTEX REPERTORY COMPANY

2/13-2/16 8pm
Everybody Loves Boobs

2/20-3/1 8pm
Riot or Revolution

3/6-3/9; 3/20-3/23 8pm
Little Mother

4/4-4/21 8pm
Fear the Glass May Shatter

4/23 8pm
Horse and Boy Film

4/25&26 8pm
Toni Bravo

5/2-5/10 8pm
Electronic Planet

5/7-5/9 5-11:15pm
Forbidden Fruit Film
5/16-5/31 8pm
Generic Ensemble Co.

VORTEX BUTTERFLY BAR
Tuesdays 7pm *Trivia*

Thursdays 5:30pm
Hoopy Hour

Fridays 6pm
The Late Joys

CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE

Tuesdays 10pm
Open-Mic Comedy

Wednesdays (Nov.) 7-9pm
Teen Open-Mic Night

Thursdays 7-9pm
Music: Tony Redman

SXSW

March 11-16 (music)

Don't have a wrist band? Don't care? Don't let that keep you away from the free (or at least cheap) shows going down in Cherrywood. Check out the schedules for music and other happenings at Cherrywood Coffeehouse (cherrywoodcoffeehouse.com), Vortex (vortexrep.org) and other fine establishments in the hood.



Sundays
10:30am
Kids Music

Sundays dusk
Movie Night

Monday-Friday 8am
Hatha Yoga

THE SKYLARK LOUNGE
Mondays 9pm
Stand-up Comedy

IN.GREDIENTS
Mondays 7pm
Sunset Yoga

SALVAGE VANGUARD
4/3-4/19
Pile of Pigs
4/17-4/27
Fusebox Festival
5/1-5/17
Breaking Strings

FRIENDS & LOVERS OF WILLOWBROOK REACH

Let the Healing Begin

City workers have laid the new sewer line and cleaned up after themselves. They finished in half the predicted time frame despite encountering hard rock at the lowest and deepest point of the pipeline, which put them almost a month and a half behind schedule, at least initially. Now they just have to finish the roadwork, which the weather delayed.

Although the greenbelt still looks like a battle zone, the long-term impact of the construction will be minimal. Most of what will be visible after one growing season will only be the rock rip rap at the main sewer line crossing. Watershed Protection, Public Works and the contractor Santa Clara Construction were very responsive to our concerns about the impacts and inconveniences of the construction.

More info: lclippard@gmail.com or permit5000@gmail.com

WILDFLOWERS IN THE WORKS

- ☞ In November and December, volunteers seeded for grow zones and a butterfly garden.
- ☞ They planted four times the recommended use of a butterfly mix—28 wildflowers and three milkweeds.
- ☞ Some of this mix should take, extending the blooming season almost year-round.
- ☞ The soil in the bed turned out to be very healthy, and with a foot of added mulch, it's in better shape than most vegetable gardens out there.
- ☞ The rains won't hurt either.
- ☞ They also mulched the trail with repurposed construction mulch to avoid the extra disturbance of scraping it up.
- ☞ Please don't disturb the growing butterfly garden!



Two trees planted in the hood 14 years ago, now almost 30 feet high

COURTESY OF MICHAEL DAMAL

FRIENDS OF CHERRYWOOD GREEN

Root Down

Cherrywood's tree canopy has these volunteers to thank | by Michael Damal

In mid-October, eight volunteers helped deliver and plant 54 trees in Cherrywood during the 16th annual neighborhood-wide tree planting. We've planted 544 trees to date, which has contributed greatly to the dense tree canopy in the neighborhood.

Mike Sullivan, Cara Choate, Ben Hester, Schuyler Nelson-Brown, David Boston, Girard Kinney, Mike Damal and others had an enjoyable morning planting different trees and meeting new neighbors.

Welcome to the hood

Types of trees planted: burr, red, chinquapin, mexican white and live oaks, cedar elms, desert willow, Mexican plum, texas redbud, and texas mountain laurel—all excellent choices for our neighborhood.

Bonus round

We also planted two trees in the Concordia Triangle, one in Cherrywood Green and Willowbrook Reach, each generously donated by area residents.

Why October?

Fall is the best time to plant trees in Austin. Our harsh summers make it difficult for newly planted trees—fall plantings give young trees time for their root systems to get established before the next summer.

Tree tip: water, water, water

Newly planted trees must be monitored and watered for their first two years to ensure their survival. To plant a tree and just leave it gives it a less than 50 percent chance for survival. Fortunately, we have received record rainfall since the plantings.

Money does grow on trees

We raised \$836 for the maintenance of Cherrywood Green from this event! The annual tree planting is the main funding source for maintaining the Green.

{ URBAN FARM UPDATE }



Mike Sullivan inspects pole beans with the help of Gus.

COURTESY OF TERRY DYKE

TOO COLD FOR PLANT AND HUMAN ALIKE

Record-setting cold spells meant some delays getting winter crops into the ground, but they're on the way and should be plentiful. There has still been plenty for farm members to do to keep things running, including laying out more water-saving hugelkultur beds and rebuilding one of the elevated wicking beds at the ingredients plot.

The Spring 2014 season begins late February, bringing healthy, hyper-local produce and eggs to member families. Members can participate through cash subscription, work-share, or half and half.

More info: terry.dyke@cherrywood.org or urbanpatchwork.org

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

CHERRYWOOD GREEN

Swappers

The Cherrywood Plant and Book Swap duo close in on their 20th event
by Jack Darby and Erika Albright

How it all began

We hosted the first swap—just plants—in 2005. A year before, Elizabeth McMahon had a plant swap on Giles. Elizabeth passed away about a year later and Jack likes to think of the event as a tribute to her.

Watching it grow

At some point, we added books to the swap to widen the appeal. Erika collects and donates any leftover books. We also started inviting Travis County Master Gardeners to advise us on gardening matters (thanks to Sheryl Williams, plant clinic coordinator).

Music for plants and humans alike

Among the swap performers: Maplewood's Ukulele Choir and Drum Group (Wilson Marks, music director); neighbors Kathy and Bill Jones; and Sam Hammerman.

Pro plants, pro books, pro business

In 2009, a generous donation from Libby Malone of Grande has kept us in plants. We've had Elixer Coffee Y'all Scream Ice



COURTESY OF JENNIFER POTTER-MILLER

Cream on hand, as well as booths on urban chickens and Urban Patchwork.

A shout-out to the regulars

Thanks Rachel, Ruthie, Dolly, Dave, Liza, Corinne, Rick, Lisa, Trudy, Kathy, Bill, Iumi, Ross, Sully, Ann, Girard, Mike, Kat, Wendy, David, Caroline, Sherri, James, Martha, Kevin and anyone we missed. Plus Jane and Priscilla of CHULA.

The big 20: just around the corner

We are closing in on our 20th event, hopefully this fall, and we want to pull out all the stops. Please contact erikaall@gmail.com or j2ck.d2rby@gmail.com if you want to play a role in this or any coming swap, like the one March 29 from 9 a.m. to noon at Cherrywood Green.



COURTESY OF LA CHIMA FILMS

I SMELL OSCAR! (OR MAYBE JUST CEDAR)

A film crew for the indie thriller *Two Step* set up in the parking lot and spare office space at Genesis Presbyterian Church for a few days of filming in October. The movie's about a good old-fashioned Austin slacker caught up in murderous goings-on, or something.



COURTESY OF WINDMILL BICYCLES

WHEELS KEEP ON TURNING

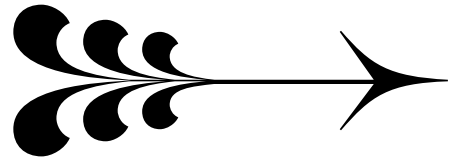
Happy birthday, Windmill Bicycles! You crazy kids have been a boon to the hood, fixing up our rides, recommending cool accessories, helping clean up Manor, letting our children make fart noises on their bellies with your bike pumps. Keep on spinning!



TYPHOON RELIEF, CHERRYWOOD STYLE

Before the holidays, a Cherrywood family (that wants to stay anonymous) hosted an informal backyard gathering to raise money for Super-Typhoon Haiyan relief with seven musical acts. The event raised \$2,400 to help out in the Philippines.

Me&My Statue



Our lawn ornaments, ourselves | by Steve Wilson

Garden gnomes? We don't need no stinkin' garden gnomes! From cement TVs to wooden female centaurs, Cherrywood is home to a far more interesting breed of lawn statuary.

34TH STREET Must-See TV

Twenty years ago, a friend in the neighborhood dropped off a 1,000-pound cement statue of a TV in Jeff's yard. "It was kind of a surprise," says Jeff (who wants his last name kept a secret).

A little history: An artist named Tamsy made the TV by poring cement in an old console during her graduate student days at UT-Austin. She gave it to Jeff's friend, but the friend needed temporary digs to house it, which is where Jeff came in. Only meant to be the sitter, Jeff became the TV's permanent guardian when the friend passed away. "I've kept it out there as a tribute to him," says Jeff. In the meantime, he's tried to find Tamsy, but no such luck.

Proper care and maintenance of a lawn TV means cleaning it up when vandals tag it and granting photo requests, like the one from the band that used it on an album cover. Indeed, the TV may be Cherrywood's most famous statue, though pointed comments from the occasional neighbor and his own wife have made Jeff wonder if this is the kind of fame Cherrywood wants. "I'd like to hear from *Flea* readers," he says. "Do they want the TV to stay or go?"

🗳️ Viewers like you: Should Jeff cancel his subscription or keep the set's prime-time slot? Vote at flea@cherrywood.org.



COURTESY OF JENNIFER POTTER-MILLER



ROBINSON

Unicorns, Minus the Rainbows

As a chainsaw artist who likes fantasy, Griffon Ramsey found it perfectly natural to hack a massive loblolly pine log into two ginormous unicorn horns. One's nine feet tall, the other seven, and a five or six footer's on the way. Once she had a whole forest of them planned, but now she'd rather focus on two-foot versions she can sell on giffonramsey.com and at her shop at 301 Chicon. Her only regret? She didn't use cedar. "I used the pine so they'd be lighter in color, but pine isn't ideal," she says. "They're growing mushrooms."



COURTESY OF THOMAS ALLISON

29TH STREET

The Nag Reflex

You're a high school kid in Boerne, TX, out on the town with friends who are just as bored as you. So when you happen by an old abandoned house, none of you can resist sneaking in. Inside you find the shadows, cobwebs and desolate silence you were expecting, and something else: centaurs. The place is a bizarre shrine to the human-horse hybrid, stuffed with centaur posters, books, paintings, figurines and more. Too creeped out to stay any longer, you make for the exit. And that's when you see her, the almost-lifesize female centaur. Taking in those wooden flanks and fetlocks, you understand now why the absent collector was so obsessed. How can you not take the crown jewel of the collection?

Hoofing it

This was only the beginning of the centaur's adventures. Like tomb raiders cursed with greed by the treasure they'd

stolen, the Boerne friends kept nabbing the fine filly from each other when they moved to Austin for college. She lost a hoof in all that back and forth, and her tail ended up in Portland, Oregon (don't ask). Finally, she settled down amid the foliage of 29th St., a few passing motorists nearly wrecking at the sight of her emerging from the bushes. Chaste neighbors requested she wear a bikini, inspiring assorted costume changes over the years, though exposure to the weather ultimately stripped her down. "Even though she's an outdoor creature, she was meant to be indoors," says Thomas Allison, who inherited the mare from his roommate, one of the Boernians.

Perhaps inspired by the lady centaur's wanderings, Allison is planning a cross-country bike-trip that will take him away from Austin for two years. He intends to give the statue to a restorer he knows before he leaves. "She deserves it."



COURTESY OF ERIK TRAGUS

Pottersville

When ceramicist **Erik Tragus** opened his Lafayette Ave. home and kiln as a stop on the E.A.S.T. tour for the first time this November, his wood-fired porcelain and stoneware (austinwoodfiredceramics.com) got top billing in the Austin Chronicle as a must-see recommendation. It was another highpoint in a busy year of shows for Tragus and his functional creations. Here are some questions none of his E.A.S.T. visitors asked him:

Ever been tempted to fake a Ming vase?

It's something I should consider. Maybe I can teach my child to do it, start a camp.

Has there ever been a case of a murderous potter who disposed of a body in a kiln?

I certainly don't know of any, though I hear that sort of thing can provide a nice effect on the pots.

If you forged ceramic armor to fight crime, what would your super hero name be?

I'd have to say Cone 13.

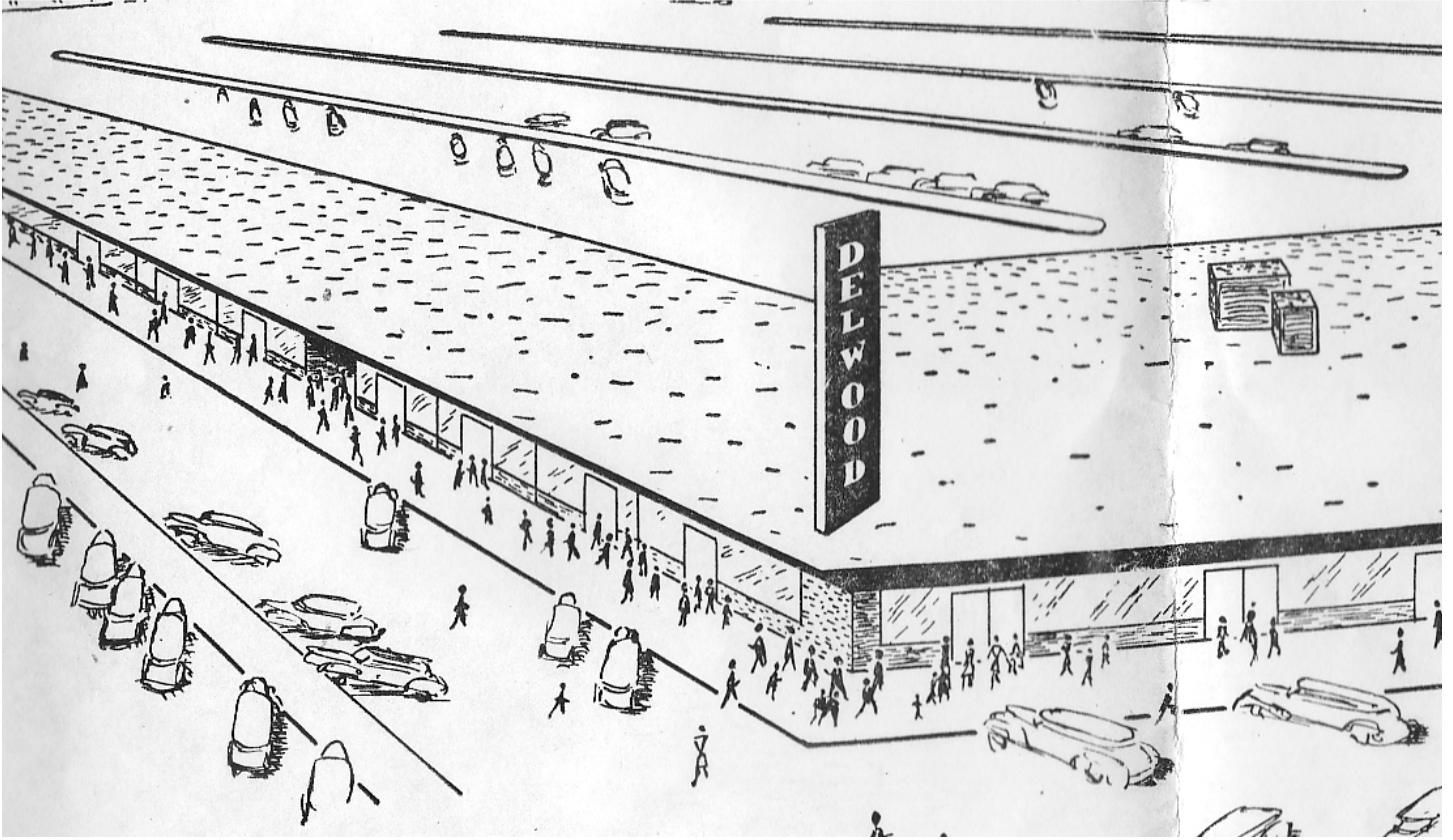
Eh? Come again?

Cone is how you tell temperature in a kiln. When you get to cone 13, it's really hot.

OTHER CHERRYWOOD EAST ARTISTS

- 👉 **Jennifer Balkan**, oil, charcoal: jenniferbalkan.net
- 👉 **Ines Batillo**, inespaintings.com
- 👉 **Stacy Brunson**, oil, pastels, acrylics: stacypaintings.com
- 👉 **Sarah Collins**: scollinsart.com
- 👉 **Roy Hall**, iron
- 👉 **Karen Maness**, Rust Red Studio: karenmaness.com
- 👉 **Griffon Ramsey** (see pg. 6)
- 👉 **T.R. Rodriguez**, wood, leather, metal: trrstudio.blogspot.com
- 👉 **Pascal Simon**, glass, print, grout: eastaustinmosaic.com
- 👉 **Christine Terrell**, Adaptive Reuse Studios: adaptivereuseuser.com
- 👉 **Margot Wolf**: margotwolf.com

CHERRYWOOD HISTORY



DELWOOD

Behold! The Future is Now!

1951 newspaper promo for Delwood Center details how Delwood came to be | Researched by Rebecca Kohout

When you cut out the fluff and hyperbole about the “realization of a dream” and “a shopping center to supply the every need of Delwood citizens,” this 1951 article from the Austin American-Stateman about the official opening of Delwood Center ain’t half bad. That is to say, it offers a succinct history of Cherrywood’s Delwood section. And, to the modern eye, it’s kind of funny. Here are the highlights:

The Giles: Cherrywood pioneers

“In 1924 Mr. and Mrs. Bascom Giles and their one-year-old baby moved into a home in the 4300 block of what was then Cameron Road, now East Avenue and the site of a new interregional boulevard. The 200 acres they held then in their home tract was quite a contrast to the Delwood of today—the whole area, in fact, was little more than pasture land ...

Through the years they acquired additional land, with the intention of developing the area through to the old Giles homestead

on the Manor Road. In 1929 they sold part of their property to the city, making room for erection of the Municipal Airport.

Of the dozen or so residential subdivisions in that part of north-east Austin, Mr. and Mrs. Giles had a part in the development of at least eight—including Delwood, One Two and Three, and Giles One and Two.”

Did he envision businesses like Chicas Bonitas strip club when he said this?

“Mr. and Mrs. Giles are sole owners of the property and building for Delwood Center. They have expressed hope that their project will be only the beginning of far-reaching commercial development in the Delwood area.

‘I expect this to be only the first of many fine developments along the interregional highway,” declares Giles. “Undoubtedly many other developments will be built along this artery of traffic.”



Kiddie rides! A 16-inch TV! Shoppers, welcome to paradise!

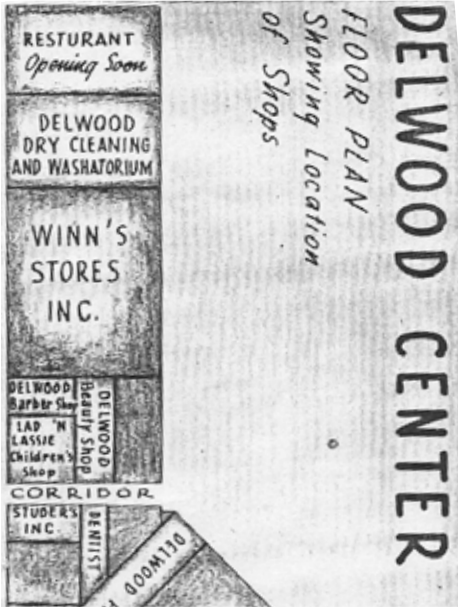
“Unofficially, the gigantic opening event will begin at 6pm on Friday when the four kiddie rides on the midway in front of the center start the entertainment schedule for the younger set. However, the real launching of the open house will be Friday at 7pm, the time set for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to be conducted by Mayor W. S. Drake Jr.

The center will give away five portable radios and a television with a 16-inch screen.”

LITTLE KNOWN FACTS ABOUT CHERRYWOOD

by Vicente Lozano

- ☞ Cats placed outside during U.T. game days absorb the dull roar that floats in from the stadium, and store it as excess static that give small but healthful shocks to those who pet them.
- ☞ A handful of children disappear each year during brunch at the Cherrywood Coffee House; seven years later, they reappear as grill cooks and wait staff.
- ☞ Like the Shire of Middle Earth, the Cherrywood neighborhood has hills and valleys. Many neighbors eat a second and sometimes a third breakfast.
- ☞ Neighborhood hipsters are famed for their annual Civil War reenactment, on scooters, with period authentic facial hair. North of 38 and a half street plays the Union.
- ☞ 38th and a half Street is so named because in 1974 city planners rebelled against the metric system. The other half disappeared, mysteriously, at the terminus of Cherrywood Coffee House.
- ☞ Cherrywood's free-range chickens are no clucks! They learned from the Angry Birds and protect their eggs collectively, in a system derived from an earnest study of Israel's kibbutzes.
- ☞ An average of five movies a year film scenes in Cherrywood. The powerful spotlights and light-reflecting umbrellas at nighttime locations coat neighboring streets in a luminous phosphorescence that—for three hours—makes neighbors suddenly want to sing and to dance.
- ☞ Franklin's Barbecue, that top-rated purveyor of brisket, originated in Cherrywood. Its original customers were known to wander the streets afterwards in a blank and shiny-faced protein daze, muttering "Greens. Must. Have. Greens," and raiding local gardens for arugula.
- ☞ Spanish is the unofficial second language of Cherrywood, because of its nannies, yard workers and construction professionals. Also, because Spanish is the language of Love and neighbors often manifest it in small acts of kindness to man and beast alike.
- ☞ 2014 promises to be a big year for Cherrywood with the opening of its Sleep Cooperative. Here, neighbors will be able to trade deficits and surpluses of rest and, occasionally, dreams. Thank you to Dreamer's Video, the local business sponsoring the project.



Soda fountain and dentist:

The cycle is complete

“Taking part in the open house will be

- Checker Front Grocery No. 19
- Delwood Pharmacy (featuring a soda fountain)
- Capitol Seed House No. 2
- Lamme's Candies No. 3
- Winn's Stores, Inc.
- Studer's Delwood Store
- Delwood Dry Cleaners and Washatorium
- Balko's Humble Service Station, which is not actually part of the center but is located immediately in front of it.
- The building also houses the office of Dr. W. L. Meier Jr., dentist.”

Parking

“To insure adequate parking space, even in peak periods of trade, more than 12 acres have been reserved as a parking area. ... Around the front of the building, there is a paved parking area which will accommodate angle-parking of approximately 500 cars. Behind the center, the remainder of the 12 acres is set aside for parking space needs of the future. In all, a total of 1,000 cars can be accommodated.”

Back in the days when so-called “rain” was a concern in Austin

“For easy access to the center, an arcade has been built through the main building, connecting the front of the stores with the back parking lot. An awning-shaded walkway gives the customer protection all the way around the front of the center, so that in case of rain he need travel no more than a maximum of 50 feet in the open to reach his car.”

Holidays in the Hood



FRENCH PLACE TURNS INTO HELLSCAPE

The portal to Hell (or, depending on your belief system, a Hell-like dimension) that regularly opens in Cherrywood at around 6 p.m. every Oct. 31 disgorged a record 300-400 demonic entities onto French Place. Petrified neighbors gave these creatures the usual sacrifices of candy in hopes that the offering would assuage their monstrous appetites and spare their lives. By some miracle, it worked—no deaths were reported, though stomach aches and sugar crashes wreaked havoc for days afterward. More photos of this living nightmare at www.facebook.com/cna.austin.



COURTESY OF JENNIFER POTTER-MILLER

CHERRYWOOD ART FAIR RAISES MONEY FOR EAST AUSTIN



Austinites and Cherrywood neighbors braved the record cold weather to make East Austin's Longest-Running Art Fair the COOLEST year yet!! To date, Chula League has donated over \$55,000 in grants, services and programming to East Austin elementary schools from Art Fair proceeds. A giant shout-out to ALL our sponsors, artists, performers, food vendors and volunteers who came together to create community, support the arts and make holiday magic for thousands of shoppers.



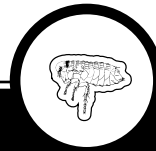
COURTESY OF JENNIFER M. RAMOS



INAUGURAL TOY/CLOTHING SWAP AND HOLIDAY COOKIE EXCHANGE

Cherrywood's first-ever Neighborhood Kids Toy/Clothing Swap and Holiday Cookie Exchange at Asbury Servant Church drew families from the hood as well as Wilshire Wood, Mueller and beyond. The event donated eight bags/boxes of clothes and toys to the Austin Women and Children's Shelter.

COURTESY OF JENNIFER POTTER-MILLER



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FLEA CONCERNS

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{ 4020 AIRPORT UPDATE }

PSW WADES THROUGH "WITCH'S BREW"

After CNA voted to "not oppose" PSW Real Estate's all-residential option for the lot at 4020 Airport in November, the company moved forward with its plans for 18 to 20 brownstone-style homes on the property. In December, PSW applied with the city to remove the conditional overlay clause mandating 35 percent commercial space.

At the Cherrywood Quarterly Meeting in November, PSW representative Glen Coleman explained that PSW is also still pursuing a mixed-use option that blends shops and homes, though the restrictive covenant on 4020 will make that option difficult. "It's a witch's brew of zoning, conditional overlays and the restrictive covenant, so we're limited in what can do," he said.

PSW's application with the city calls for homes "urban in style, closely engaging Airport Boulevard in the front, with long backyards and detached covered parking behind, sloping toward the creek."

More info: cherrywood.org/city-records-on-4020-airport-site

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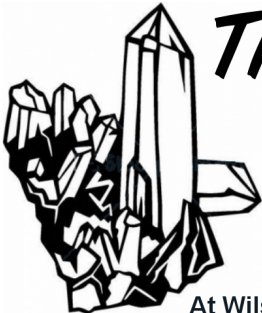
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WHAT'S HOT IN CHERRYWOOD

Austin-area home sales rise 14 percent, a seven-year high for November

According to the Multiple Listing Service (MLS) report released December 19th by the Austin Board of REALTORS, the volume of home sales continues to rise as November became the 30th straight month of sales volume increases and the most home sales in November since 2006.

According to the report, 1,899 single-family homes were sold in the Austin area, which is 14 percent more than November 2012. The median price for Austin-area homes was \$219,530, which is 10 percent more than the same month in 2012.

Cathy Coneway, 2013 President of the Austin Board of REALTORS®, explained, "With strong activity across all segments of the market, the Austin-area housing market has been full steam ahead through the holidays and the rest of the year, Our city's population and job growth show no signs of slowing down, so 2014 will likely be another competitive year for Aus-

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 10 homes sold or on the market for the period from October 1, 2013 to January 2, 2014.

- Homes sold in the past 90 days: **6**
- Homes currently pending sale: **2**
- Homes actively listed: **2**
- Average home for sale: **3 beds, 2 bath.**
- Average size home for sale: **1,419 sq. ft.**
- Average list price: **\$352,621.**
- Average home's selling price: **\$315,780.**
- Average price per square feet: **\$267.61.**
- Average time on market: **40 days.**

These figures are down slightly down from the previous three months. While the average size is about the same, the average sales price is down about \$20K.. Price per square foot is also slightly down. Fall is always a time for the market to slow down and this is not unusual. Things will be heating up with warmer weather and it's never too early to start your home search or put your home on the market!

Current Homes for Sale in Cherrywood (Jan 2, 2014)

- 3211 Lafayette: 3/2, 1,700 sq ft, for \$499,900
- 3711 Robinson: 3/2, 1,336 sq ft, for \$349,900

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.

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- ◆ Keep lighting low and soft.
- ◆ Decorate with dark yin colors rather than light

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.

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