

# The Pemberton Journal

Official Publication of Pemberton Heights Neighborhood Association

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### **History of the Reilly House**

Margaret Reilly was a prominent schoolteacher and principal of several schools in Austin. She began teaching in Austin in 1888, and served as principal of the John B. Winn School from 1906 through 1939. She had also taught at Austin High School and Bickler Elementary School, and served as principal of Bickler and Ridgetop schools. Margaret was named outstanding female teacher in Texas by the Delta Kappa Gamma national honorary educational sorority. Margaret Reilly Elementary School

on Denson Drive was named in her honor in 1954.

On May 14, 1937, Miss Margaret Reilly obtained a building permit for "a frame residence and box garage" to be built at 1406 Wathen Avenue. However, it appears that Margaret never lived in the house, but purchased and built it for her nephew, J. Aubrey Reilly, who lived there with his wife, Florence, from 1938 until 1970. They had one daughter, Kathryn "Tinka" Reilly McKay, who still resides in Austin.

J. Aubrey Reilly was the assistant manager of the Texas Insurance Checking Office, located in the Scarborough Building. After many years there, he established his own firm, Insurance Service Associates, with offices in the Perry-Brooks Building. Aubrey served on several charitable and civic boards, including the Board of Child and Family Services and Brackenridge Hospital. He served as director of the Austin Club, the Downtown Austin Rotary Club, and was named "man of the year" by the Austin Club in 1968. His wife, Florence, was one of the first members of the Seton Hospital Auxiliary, and was active in the Guild of the Home of the Holy Infancy (now Marywood).

The Reilly House was built by prominent local contractor Ernest Parker, who designed and built many of the houses in Pemberton Heights. Parker specialized in construction of period styles, especially the popular Colonial Revival. Over the course of 60 years as a master craftsman, Mr. Parker built several sorority houses on the U.T. campus,



restored the Walter Tips Mansion, the Radke House for Franklin Savings, and worked on the remodel of the Governor's Mansion in the 1960s. He has received recognition from the Heritage Society of Austin and the Centennial Award from the Austin Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

The house was sold in 1970 to Floyd and Bobbie Shelton. Floyd was a Senior Trust Consultant at City National Bank, and later worked with Jack Crosby in the cable television business.

Laurens and Julia Corley Fish, proprietors of Austin's most prominent funeral home business, bought the house in 1975 and resided there for the next 25 years. Julia's family came to Austin in 1941 from Mexia, where they had been in the funeral home business since 1877. Her father, Jack Corley, formed a partnership with Thurlow W. Weed, to create Weed-Corley Funeral Home. Laurens Fish, Jr. became the managing partner in the business in 1970, when it became known as Weed-Corley-Fish. The house was renovated in 1975, and Julia and Laurens hired Ernest Parker to do the remodel of the house that he had built almost 40 years earlier.

Current owners Mike and Sue Phillips bought the house in 2000. Mike received his medical degree from the University of Texas Medical School in Houston. He is the managing partner at Austin Area OBGYN where he has worked for the past 14 years. Sue attended Michigan State University and the University of Texas, where she received her degree from the College of Pharmacy. Sue has worked as a pharmacist for the last 12 years at Texas Oncology. She and Mike have two children; Caroline is a 7th grader at Kealing Middle School and Robert is a 5th grader at Casis Elementary.

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#### **New Pemberton Heights Neighborhood Association** Website



http://www.pembertonheights.org/



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#### ATFCU 68th Annual Meeting

Tuesday, March 24, 2009 The Crockett Center



For details, call 512.302.5555 ext. 7000.

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#### The PH Tour Guide Is Here!

Buy the *Sight-Seer's Guide to Pemberton Heights* today! This full-color, 34-page, photo-packed booklet includes 46 points of interest laid out on a walking or cycling route. Find out where movies were made and where famous people lived. How did Pemberton Heights get its name? What did MoPac look like in 1915? Which prominent architect saw a UFO? From Lance Armstrong to the A.E. Wood Fish Hatchery, this guide has it all. Proceeds from sales benefit the Pemberton Heights Neighborhood Association.

To get your guide (\$12.50 each), send a check payable to PHNA c/o Elizabeth Cash, 1416 Westover Road, Austin, TX 78703. If your check doesn't show your address, please attach a note. Your tour booklet(s) will arrive in your mailbox. Contact Elizabeth Cash at eac@austin.rr.com or 512-391-0721 with questions or for more information. Thank you!

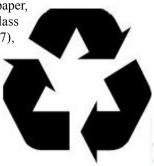
#### **Pemberton Recycling Schedule**

The City collects from the large blue recycling bins every other week. For our neighborhood, the following Fridays are recycling days, as well as garbage days:

March 13	May 8	July 3	August 28
March 27	May 22	July 17	September 11
April 10	June 5	July 31	September 25.
April 24	June 19	August 14	

The following items may be recycled in the blue bins: newspapers,

magazines, catalogs, junk mail, office paper, aluminum/steel/tin cans, any color glass bottles and jars, rigid plastic (#1 - #7), corrugated cardboard, and boxboard (such as cereal boxes). Do NOT recycle plastic bags and packaging, Styrofoam, pizza boxes, paper towels, facial tissue, milk cartons, broken glass, etc. See www.austinrecycles.com for more information.



# THANK YOU To all who donated to the Pemberton Security Fund

Your contribution is greatly appreciated!



#### Austin Public Library Opens Used Bookstore—Recycled Reads

On February 28, 2009 the Austin Public Library opened a used bookstore named Recycled Reads at 5335 Burnet Rd. The used bookstore will primarily be operated year-round by volunteers with materials from the library's collection and from private donations. Thousands of books, videos, record albums, and assorted media will be sold for just \$1 and \$2 each.

Recycled Reads will also have an array of better books and collectable items. All proceeds from sales benefit the APL and will be used for supplies, equipment, and materials which supplement the library's operating budget. Items Recycled Reads is unable to sell will go to Books Beyond Borders (BBB), which through Project School House provides books and funding to third-world schools and libraries.

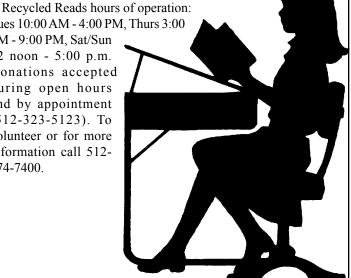
One of the objectives of the Recycled Reads bookstore will be to advance the City of Austin's Go Green initiative. Items which are unusable reading material will be sent via BBB to companies that recycle them into building material.

Recycled Reads gives books a second chance and will be an active participant in the City's Zero Waste Plan by ensuring obsolete materials are handled in an environmentally responsible

way by keeping these materials out of landfills. Additionally, the library will contribute to a socially responsible cause by ensuring knowledge and learning is passed along to others in need.

Tues 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Thurs 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Sat/Sun 12 noon - 5:00 p.m. Donations accepted during open hours and by appointment (512-323-5123). To volunteer or for more information call 512-

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#### Walk/Run AGAINST Traffic!

In the wake of our neighborhood traffic calming vote, many neighbors are concerned about immediate ways we can protect our loved ones while strolling the neighborhood. Following the proper pedestrian and cycling rules as outlined by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Tell your kids, friends and nannies (especially!) about these important rules to avoid unnecessary accidents.

#### Walk/Run AGAINST Traffic.

If a sidewalk is available, use it. If one is not available, be sure to walk/run so you're facing on-coming cars and stay as far left as possible. This allows you to quickly react if a car is too close, especially if you're wearing headphones or talking on the phone. Remember, you can't protect yourself, or the baby in the stroller, when the car is coming up behind you.

#### **Rule #2:**

#### **Cross Only At Intersections**

According to NHTSA, most people are hit by cars when they cross the road someplace other than an intersection.

#### **Rule #3:**

Look Left, Right, Left

Stopping at the curb and looking left, right, left signals to drivers you're preparing to cross. Remember that many of our intersections don't have stop signs, so it's important to wait for traffic to pass.

#### Rules #4:

#### **Bicyclists Ride WITH Traffic**

If you're on a bicycle, you are not a pedestrian and should ride with traffic.

#### **Rule #5:**

#### See and Be Seen!

That means:

- Drivers need to see you to avoid you
- Stay out of the driver's blind spot
- Make eye contact with drivers when crossing busy streets
- Wear bright colors or reflective clothing if you are walking/ running near traffic at night
- Carry a flashlight when walking/running in the dark
- Do not let kids play near traffic or cross the street by themselves (kids are small, and drivers may not see them if they run into the street)



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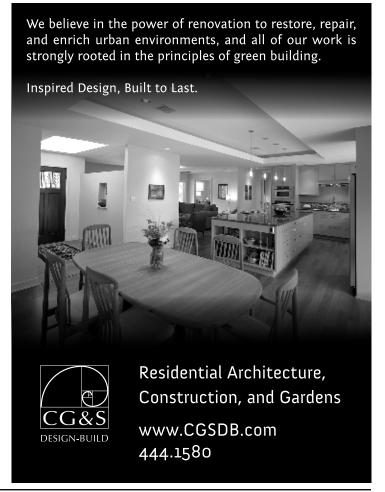
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## Looking for a Way to Spend your "Best Day Ever"?

## Register to play in the Colin's Hope Classic golf tournament on Thurs, April 23!

The tournament is a fundraiser for a new local charity, Colin's Hope, which was founded in August 2008 in honor of Colin Krogh Holst. Colin was only 4 years old when he drowned in a local public pool last June. Sadly, after struggling to understand how this could happen,

his family and friends learned that his death is only one of so many like it, as drowning is the second leading cause of death in children under the age of 14. Armed with this knowledge, Colin's family decided to find a way to turn their unimaginable loss into an organization driven to save children

from drowning, and Colin's Hope was born. The charity is a nonprofit foundation which creates and supports programs to aid in the prevention of childhood drowning. Colin's Hope has had the privilege to work

alongside other nonprofits such as The Junior League of Austin, YMCA and Partnerships for Children to implement initiatives such as sponsoring swim lessons for underprivileged children and educating parents, children, and lifeguards on water safety. You can learn more about Colin's Hope at www.colinshope.org.

The foundation's first fundraiser was the sale of Colin's Cookbook in the fall. The cookbook, which began with recipes from all the meals provided to the family after Colin's death, was a huge success, raising more than \$10,000 for Colin's Hope and

allowing the foundation to begin to have a presence in our community. The Colin's Hope Classic will be the second major fundraiser for Colin's Hope, and its all-volunteer staff hopes to raise more then \$40,000. This would allow them to initiate many more water safety

awareness programs and efforts to improve water safety standards throughout the community as the summer swim season approaches! Colin's Hope is privileged to have Garrett Weber-Gale, a Gold Medal Olympian at the 2008 Beijing Olympics and Texas Longhorn alum, as the Honorary Chair for the tournament.

Garrett Weber-Gale has generated his own buzz lately by winning his first of two

Olympic gold medals as part of the U.S. 4x100 relay team in the race that is now widely considered to be the best relay swimming race of all time!

The tournament will be held at The Hills of Lakeway, Yaupon course, on April 23, 2009 at 1:00pm. Registration fees are \$150 per person, which gives the golfer a spot in the 4-person scramble, lunch, dinner and numerous generously donated prizes. You can register to play in this inaugural tournament securely online at www.colinshope.org. Once registered, participants have the opportunity to help support Colin's Hope through raising pledges. However, if golf is not your game but you are interested in helping this amazing group in honoring Colin and helping prevent childhood drowning, the tournament is still looking for sponsors,

prize donations or simply good, old-fashioned volunteers! All questions or interested parties should be sent to info@colinshope. org. However you choose to participate, we do know, as 4-year old Colin loved to say, that it will be one of your "best days ever."

#### Classified Ads

COLIN'S HOPE

CLASSIC

**Personal classifieds** (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Pemberton Heights residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail <u>c\_johanson@sbcglobal.net.</u>

**Business classifieds** (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office @ 512-263-9181 or <a href="mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com">advertising@PEELinc.com</a>.



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# Healthier Homes - Spring Cleaning Submitted by Charlie and Michelle Bubnis

It is that time of year again to begin spring cleaning and getting the house freshened up. When cleaning its important that you clean safe. Cleaners that contain disinfectants either serve as antiseptics or sanitizers. Antiseptics disinfect skin and mucous membranes and are less harsh than sanitizers that disinfect inanimate surfaces. Their purpose is to kill bacteria, protozoa and fungi. They are antimicrobial.

#### There are three main types of disinfectants:

- 1. Phenols found in Lysol
- 2. Halogenated compounds such as bleach and chloramines found in drinking water
- 3. Quaternary ammonium salts found in detergents

Disinfectants are regulated by federal law because they are the form of pesticide that people are exposed to the most. They have an impact on indoor air quality in the home that can be detrimental to human health. The "smell of clean" is not necessarily a good thing...rather it is often the sign that toxic chemicals are being released into the air. The "smell of clean" should have no smell like fresh, outdoor air. Once these antimicrobials are rinsed down the drain they can accumulate in aquatic environments and end up in waste water treatment plants.

The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) is concerned that the disinfectants in the wastewater could harm

microbes in activated sludge which is a biological process that treatment plants use to clean up wastewater. Some healthier disinfectant options are to use hydrogen peroxide 3% in a spray bottle (wipe down) followed by vinegar in a spray bottle (wipe down). Another alternative is Borax or a borax spray made by mixing 2 tablespoons of borax with ½ cup of lemon juice and 2 cups of hot water in a spray bottle and use as any commercial all-purpose cleaner. This will not have the detrimental impact on indoor air quality and on wastewater that is rinsed down the drain.

Remember, no legal requirements exist for listing ingredients on the labels of household cleaning products. Many companies voluntarily provide Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for products but they can be incomplete. These MSDS sheets do not list carrier chemicals such as phthalates which you have heard a lot about in the news lately nor do they specify fragrances.

It is time to consider spring cleaning a healthier way!

#### Resources:

- Less Toxic Alternatives by Carolyn Gorman 2004
- www.womenandenvironment.org safe cleaning products initiative to reduce women's exposure to toxic chemicals in cleaning products.





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