



Courtyard Caller

OFFICIAL COURTYARD NEWSLETTER

Courtyard Homeowners Association, Inc.

April 2009

Volume 8, Number 4

Message to Members

Ah Springtime! Fresh green on the trees, new flowers, birds singing, longer days to enjoy the outside. For many, Spring is also the time for general cleaning or “fix’in up” things in and around the house. Along these lines, please keep in mind the need to keep trash bins out of sight between trash pick-up days and please note the blue containers only go out every two weeks (April 3 & 17 this month). Other things we all can do to help keep the neighborhood looking good is to put away remnants of household projects in a timely way, see that your yard is mowed and trimmed, and clean-up after your pets. Walkers might consider picking-up trash if you see it along your route – especially in smaller common areas and our Community Park. We also acknowledge that that many of you make these kinds of contributions to the neighborhood already, so please know that your efforts are appreciated.

Whether you “hunt” or not, stop by and enjoy the fun at this year’s Easter Egg Hunt in our Community Park at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 11. This year’s event is chaired by Jeff Gordon and his wife, Lisa Lawrence. Thank you to all the members of the Social Committee who are working to make this event possible. New ideas for social activities or events??? Contact any Board member by phone or through the website: www.courtyardhoa.org.

Keep up your efforts to drive the speed limit through the neighborhood. Ask friends or visitors coming to see you or that you know are coming here to play tennis or swim to also please watch how fast they drive through our streets. If someone is late for an appointment, speeding through the neighborhood and possibly running into someone or their pet will not make the speeder any more timely.

We wish you all a happy and healthy Spring!

Your Courtyard Homeowners’ Association Board of Directors

Book Club

Come join us at our monthly 1 p.m. meeting on Tuesday, April 7, as the Courtyard Club will again go “exploring.” This month’s featured book is *Oracle Bones -- A Journey Between China’s Past and Present* by Peter Hessler. As with our March selection that dealt with past and present Arab and Jewish cultures in the Middle East, *Oracle Bones* examines modern China by mining its past to reach a better understanding of its present.

After studying at Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar, Peter Hessler went to China as a Peace Corps worker. He has lived in China for more than 10 years, and is fluent in Mandarin Chinese. Now a correspondent for the *New Yorker* magazine in its Beijing bureau, Hessler has also written for the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Atlantic Monthly* and *National Geographic*. In *Oracle Bones*, he tells the story of modern China -- deftly portraying the growing connections between Chinese culture and the West through the experiences of ordinary Chinese living in China as well as an immigrant to the United States. *Oracle Bones* was published in 2006 and was a finalist for the National Book Award for nonfiction.

Looking ahead to May, check out *The Guernsey Literary and Sweet Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. Set on the English Channel island of Guernsey during the German’s occupation in World War II, this novel offers something to readers of all interests and tastes.

COURTYARD CALLER

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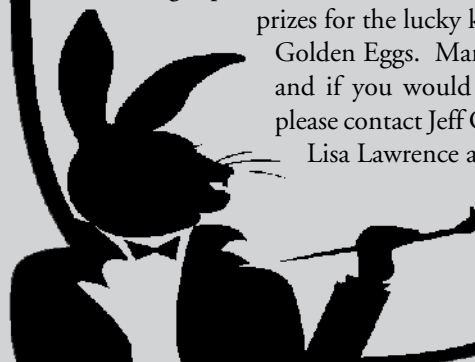
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2009 Courtyard Easter Egg Hunt

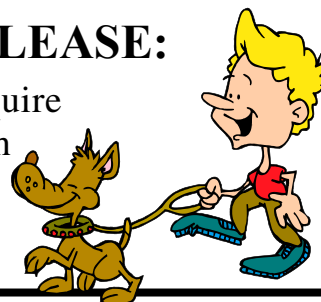
Saturday April 11, 11:00 AM

Attention all Courtyard Residents -- it's time to start thinking about the Easter Bunny and all the fun to be had at the annual Easter Egg Hunt. Join us in the park near the Playscape for cookies, punch and the great Golden Egg hunt. There will be age specific areas for the children and special prizes for the lucky kids that find the Golden Eggs. Mark your calendar and if you would like volunteer, please contact Jeff Gordon and/or Lisa Lawrence at 346-9156.



REMEMBER, PLEASE:

Austin leash laws require
all dogs to be on a leash
when off the owner's
premises.



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GREAT HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

Easter Activities

Good Friday Service

Friday, April 10 / 6:30 pm

Family - Friendly

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 11 / 10 am

Family - Friendly | Free Event

Toddlers through Fifth Grade

One Had to Rise - Easter Musical

Saturday, April 11 / 7:00 pm / Great Hall

Presented by the Great Hills Celebration Choir

Free Event

Easter Services

Sunday, April 12

9:30 am - Choir & Orchestra

11:00 am - Praise Band

*Children's worship for birth through
fifth grade during both services.*

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Hair Not Enough To Protect Scalp From Sun Danger

Baylor College of Medicine

HOUSTON – (March 2, 2009) – Whether your scalp is covered with a full head of hair or not, dermatologists at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston say play it safe when it comes to skin cancer on the scalp.

“In most cases of skin cancer on the scalp are found in balding men, a full head of hair doesn’t mean you are fully protected,” said Dr. Ida Orengo, professor of dermatology at BCM and director of the Mohs Surgery Center at the Baylor Clinic.

Dark thick hair gives more protection compared to blond wispy locks, but some type of extra protection should be used at all times. Drug stores now carry shampoo or leave-in conditioners that include sunscreen, Orengo said.

“The best prevention method is to wear a hat with at least a three-inch brim around the entire head,” she added. “If not a hat, which can be uncomfortable in the heat, then carry an umbrella for shade.”

Treatment for skin cancer on the scalp is the same as treatment for

cancer on any other part of the skin – it must be cut out. Since there is not a lot of extra skin on the scalp, it is more difficult to close a hole left behind after removal, and there is a chance for a bald spot. However, there is a large blood supply found on the head so incisions usually heal well, Orengo said.

The most common forms of skin cancer found on the scalp are basal, squamous and melanoma, which can be deadly.

“Early detection is important, so if you have a regular hair dresser you might want to ask him or her to keep an eye out for any new moles or bumps,” Orengo said. “Most patients say it’s their hair dresser or barber that finds the skin cancer first.”

Those at risk for skin cancer should also have an annual full-body skin check, which includes the scalp.

Orengo cautions that it’s not just the scalp, but also the skin along the hairline and ears that is sometimes forgotten when sun block is applied.

“You have to be diligent,” Orengo said. “Even if you have protection with shade, always wear sun block.”

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Courtyard Neighborhood Garage Sale

Here is your early reminder so you can start gathering up items for sale during spring cleaning. If you haven't participated before, it's simple. You collect the stuff, and the Homeowners Association provides advertising in the Austin American Statesman and will put out signs in the neighborhood. Call Mary Lou Nilsson (346-8432) or Judy Daffer 231-0817 to reserve a sign or if you have any questions.

HINTS FOR A SUCCESSFUL SALE:

- You can add your own signs if you feel it will help. Home Depot and others have them. Just be sure they come down when the sale is over;
- Feel free to open earlier or later that day;
- It is advisable to have prices on every;
- Children's items are especially popular;
- Multi-family sales tend to be more successful, so you might want to join with your neighbors to pool sale items at one location and take turns running the sale.

Please note that Settlement House will come by and pick-up any "leftovers" from the sale that day. Contact Ann Cunningham (345-2044) if you want to schedule this helpful service.



Saturday, May 2nd (Rain Day - May 9)

At no time will any source be allowed to use the Courtyard Neighborhood Newsletter contents, or loan said contents, to others in anyway, shape or form, nor in any media, website, print, film, e-mail, electrostatic copy, fax, or etc. for the purpose of solicitation, commercial use, or any use for profit, political campaigns, or other self amplification, under penalty of law without written or expressed permission from the Courtyard Neighborhood Association and Peel Inc. The information in the Courtyard Neighborhood Newsletter is exclusively for the private use of Courtyard residents only.

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COURTYARD CALLER

Recipe of the Month:



Fresh Broccoli Salad

Ingredients

1 bunch fresh broccoli	6 green onions
½ lb. fresh mushrooms	1 (2 oz.) jar pimentos
1 green pepper 1 tomatoe	Salt & Pepper
1 cucumber	
1 (8 oz.) can water chestnuts (drained)	
1 (8 oz.) bottle Zesty Italian salad dressing	

Directions

Chop vegetables. Add salt, pepper, and salad dressing. Chill 8 hours or overnight.

If you would like to submit YOUR recipe email it to articles@peelinc.com.

Play Group Time Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays



9AM to 11AM
At the Park

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Please support the businesses that advertise in the Courtyard Neighborhood Association Newsletter. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all residents to receive a newsletter at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office, 512-263-9181 or advertising@PEELinc.com for ad information and pricing.



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Meet Simon

Simon has a good sense of humor and an overall fun personality. He has a great imagination and loves to tell stories. He likes music, reading, playing games, sports, and fishing.

Described as a kind and compassionate kid, Simon interacts very well with his peers and adults. He likes to be a big brother and take care of others. Simon's foster parents and teachers have high praise for Simon, saying he's a "great kid" and they enjoy having him in their lives.

Simon will flourish with a family who is active and keeps him engaged. Simon can benefit from participating in enrichment or mentoring programs that will aid in his educational and personal development.

Please let me know if you would like additional information on this great kid.

*Grace Lindgren, LMSW, Wendy's Wonderful Kids Recruiter
Adoption Coalition of Texas, 2222 Western Hills, Ste. 101, Austin, Texas 78745
Phone 512-834-3424/Fax 512-692-2540, gracelindgren@adopttexas.org*

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