



Courtyard Caller

OFFICIAL COURTYARD NEWSLETTER

Courtyard Homeowners Association, Inc.

October 2011

Volume 7, Number 10

Board Message

The Board and its supporting committees couldn't do our work without the help of community volunteers. Those who contribute their time and energy in service to the neighborhood help maintain high property values and keep maintenance costs down. They also help create a welcoming and friendly atmosphere in our small community. So Thank You ! Thank You ! Thank You ! Please keep up your efforts. You are needed and more appreciated. This past year has been particularly busy as we worked to restore our Community Park after the September 2010 flood. We hope to do more Park clean-up and maybe some plantings this winter when the weather is cooler and the overly abundant poison ivy type greenery is less prevalent. Keep an eye out for notices of Park clean-up days in the Caller, on the home page of the website, and on signs in the neighborhood.

Understandably, everyone is busy with work and family. However, whether you are a newcomer or "old" timer in the Courtyard, we urge you to consider offering a little free time even once a year. If you don't have time to donate, your ideas or suggestions are most welcome. Pass them along to a committee or Board member. Names and phone numbers of Board members and committee heads are listed in this newsletter or visit the website: www.courtyardhoa.org. Everything helps and the cumulative effect of each person's contribution goes a long way to helping keep the Courtyard a great place to live.

NOTICE - NEW GATE CODE COMING IN OCTOBER

Due to the security problems in August and the too frequent finding of strangers in the Park, the Board is studying possible ways to tighten up security in that area. In the meantime and in an effort to discourage easy access, the gate code that was issued last January is being changed. Look for it this October in your mail, in letter form from

Marilyn Childress at Goodwin Management. As always, we ask that residents please do NOT give the security code out to anyone other than your immediate family members. Parents are asked to please stress to their children not to give this number out to their friends. Once again, we remind you that non-residents are not to be in the Park unless they are with a resident. Nannies or babysitters that take residents' children to the Park are exceptions. Thank you for your cooperation.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN !!!

Be especially careful on Halloween. Watch out for our neighborhood ghosts & goblins, pirates & princesses and keep up your efforts to drive safely in the Courtyard.

Your Courtyard Homeowners' Associations Board of Directors



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President, Leslie Craven.....	502-1124, 585-1153 (cell)
Vice President, Ed Ueckert.....	345-6137
Secretary, Waneen Spirduso.....	345-5078
Treasurer, Jim Lloyd.....	231-0855
Frank Apgar.....	794-8346, 415-9412 (cell)
Cathleen Barrett.....	817-371-6983
Karen Johnson.....	343-2420

COMMITTEES

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Social Committee Chairperson	
Joany Price.....	775-8942
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Ed Ueckert.....	345-6137
Security	
Jim Lloyd.....	231-0855
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Leslie Craven.....	502-1124
Cathleen Barrett (<i>Editor - Courtyard Caller</i>).....	531-9821
Compliance	
Karen Johnson.....	343-2420
Kayak Committee	
Waneen Spirduso.....	345-5078
Area Development and Zoning Liaison	
Bill Meredith.....	345-0593

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Goodwin Management: Marilyn Childress
11149 Research Blvd. Austin, TX 78759-5227
512-502-7509

SUB-HOA CONTACTS

Center Court:	
Ryan Duffin.....	626-5905
Travis County Courtyard (aka "Backcourt")	
Allan Nilsson.....	346-8432
.....	arnilsson@earthlink.net
Villas at Courtyard:	
Thomas Hoy.....	231-1270
.....	Thomas.Hoy@freescall.com
Wolf Court:	
Tim Sullivan.....	346-3146
.....	tsullivan@austin.rr.com

Did You Know That..

- Dogs are not allowed to run loose in The Courtyard and are to be on a leash whenever out in the neighborhood. Recently the Board was informed of an incident in which a fellow neighbor was bitten by a dog while mowing his own lawn. The attack was completely unprovoked and left a large gash on his leg. As he turned to see what had happened, he realized it was a dog and yelled at him causing the dog to run down Tom Wooten. He described the dog as a small white and tan terrier, possibly a Jack Russell. In addition to the bite, there is a concern as to whether or not the dog has had his proper vaccines. If you own this dog, or know who does, please contact Rose Brown @ 351-8309 to confirm vaccines. As a courtesy to all residents and more importantly as a safety precaution, please make sure that your pet(s) are unable to get out of the yard if left alone and/or unattended. Thank you for being a courteous and responsible neighbor.
- Pet waste is more than smelly and unsightly, it pollutes our water! Sixty thousand pounds of pet waste is deposited throughout Austin every day. Pet waste is not limited to dogs – the waste of all pets, including cats, when not disposed of properly washes into local waterways and contains disease causing bacteria and viruses that are harmful to pets and humans, especially children. Health issues include Giardia, Roundworms, Salmonella, and other viruses and parasites. Water issues include algae and aquatic weeds, reduced oxygen for fish, and unsafe recreational areas for fishing or enjoying. Please remove your pet's waste from the park, sidewalk, and neighborhood yards in addition to your own yard. For information on Austin's Scoop the Poop campaign, please refer to the following website: WWW.ScoopThePoopAustin.org or call 512-974-2550.

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Courtyard Book Club

*Tuesday, October 11th
1 p.m. at The Courtyard Club*

"*The Lost City of Z* is at once a biography, a detective story and a wonderfully vivid piece of travel writing," states the New York Times. Author David Grann uses the never before published diaries of legendary British explorer, Col. Percy Harrison Fawcett, alongside his own travels to reconstruct Fawcett's 1925 expedition and tell the story of the elusive Lost City of Z. Fawcett was a hero of World War I, an experienced explorer, and an honored member of the Royal Geographical Society. He had explored South America extensively and thought he knew exactly how to succeed in finding this place which had eluded so many other explorers.

Fawcett, his son, and his son's friend would travel light, eat off the land, and would not intimidate the natives. The disappearance of Fawcett and his party prompted one of the longest and most publicized manhunts in history. In 1996, Brazilian financier, James Lynch, launched a multi-million dollar expedition to finally solve the mystery of what happened to Fawcett.



John Grisham describes the author's 2004 hunt for Fawcett in this enticement to read *The Lost City of Z*: "Grann, a lifelong New Yorker with an admitted aversion to camping and mountain climbing, a lousy sense of direction, an affinity for take-out food and air conditioning, found himself in the jungles of the Amazon. What he found there, some 80 years after Fawcett's

disappearance, is a startling conclusion to this absorbing narrative."

Reading ahead, the book for November discussion is *Into the Beautiful North* by Luis Urrea.

For information about the Courtyard Book Club, contact Jean Heath, c.jeanheath@gmail.com or 512-231-9412.

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Trees, Trees, Trees!

TREE-PLANTING TIPS

Planting new trees in the fall is a good idea, but because they can lose up to 95 percent of their roots when transplanted, they need special care, says the International Society of Arboriculture. If there's no rain, water at least once a week. Mulch no more than 3 to 4 inches deep. Don't pile mulch around the trunk of the tree. Don't fertilize, and prune only damaged branches.

OAK TREE TRIMMING SEASON IS NOW

Oak Wilt is a serious threat to the oak trees in central Texas. The oak wilt carrier beetle is most active from February through June, so the season to trim oak trees is now through January. If your oak trees don't get trimmed between now and the end of January, they should not be trimmed until July, 2012.

RESOURCES

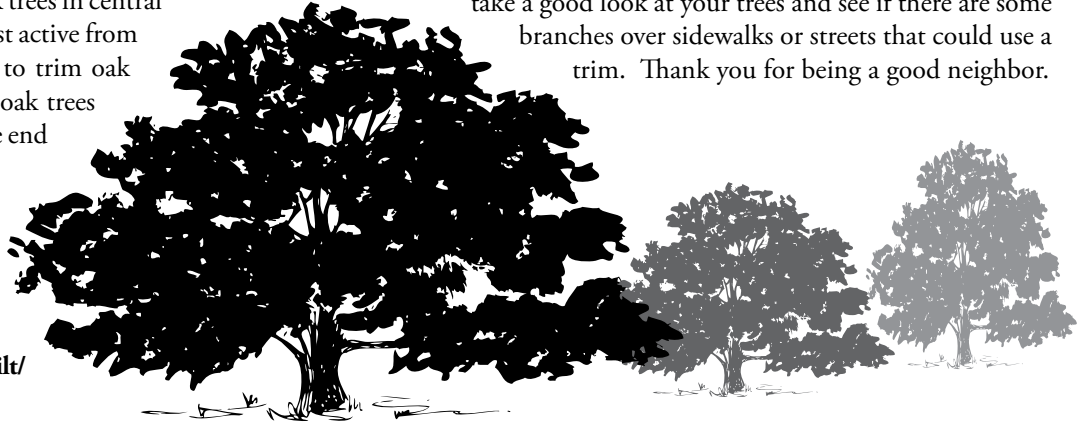
Texas Oak Wilt Information

Partnership: www.texasoakwilt.org/

City of Austin: www.ci.austin.tx.us/oakwilt/

TREE CLEARANCES

You don't have to be a NBA basketball player to know that in some areas of the neighborhood, our tree branches have gotten too low. Please keep in mind that home owners are responsible for keeping plant materials (shrubs and trees) on their property that extend over public sidewalks and streets trimmed to a height of not less than seven feet (7') per the Courtyard deed restrictions and not less than fourteen feet (14') per City Code. Please make the effort to take a good look at your trees and see if there are some branches over sidewalks or streets that could use a trim. Thank you for being a good neighbor.



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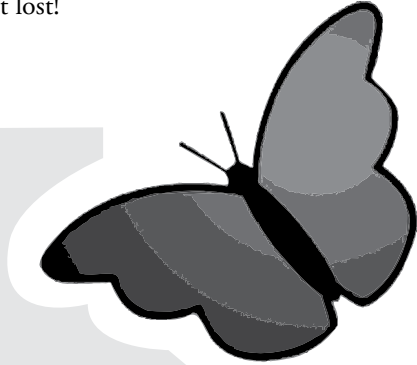
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Migrating Monarchs

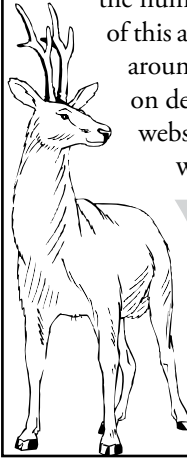
Scientists have often wondered how migrating Monarch butterflies manage to find their way south to Mexico every fall, with only the sun for navigation (and the sun keeps moving). The circadian clocks in their brains help them know the time so they can track the sun, but a new study by the Neurobiology Department at the University of Massachusetts Medical School showed that Monarchs have a second clock in their antennas, which also sense light – by painting the butterflies' antennas black. The insects got lost!



Beware of Bucks!

At least three bucks have been spotted in our neighborhood. Although seemingly not intimidated by and unafraid of humans, the bucks as of this writing have been passive albeit a nuisance for some homeowners. However, with the beginning of cooler weather comes the beginning of deer rutting season. At the peak of the breeding season, sparring matches may give way to full-blown antler fights and possible aggressive behavior toward the humans who may encounter them. Please be aware of this as you go about your regular daily activities in and around the neighborhood. For additional information on deer breeding season, please refer to the following website:

www.noble.org/ag/Wildlife/Rut/index.html



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