



# Courtyard Caller

OFFICIAL COURTYARD NEWSLETTER

Courtyard Homeowners Association, Inc.

September 2013

Volume 9, Number 9

## BOARD MESSAGE

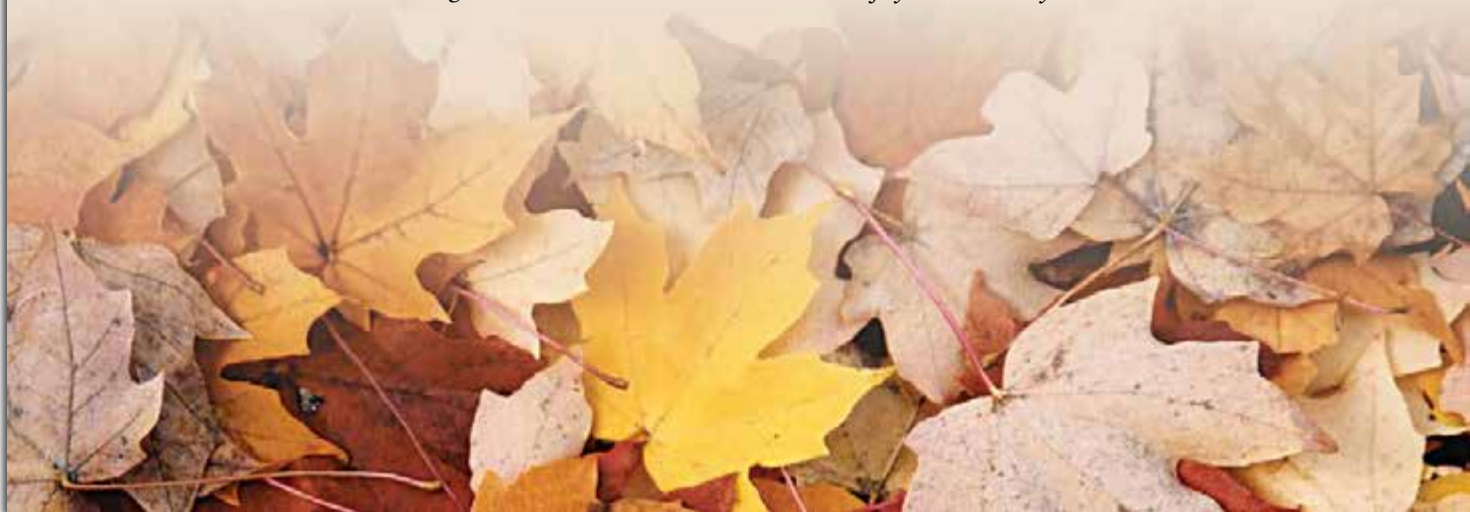
***Let's hear it for September!!!*** Fall is almost here, and we've made it through the really really hot days of summer with a few blades of grass left. As our daylight hours grow shorter and the school year gets underway, we ask everyone to please make an extra effort to watch out for children walking to and from their buses and for our many walkers and joggers (both the two and four-legged kind), as well as the increasing numbers of bicyclists who share our streets. This is especially important in those "twilight" hours of the day -- early morning and early evening when people tend to be in the biggest hurry to get somewhere.

Most of you may be aware of this, but just in case, please note that one of the homes in our community was broken into and property taken while the resident was away for the evening on Saturday night, August 10. The police investigated, a report was filed, and at the time of this writing, no further information

has been received from the police. Through our broadcast email system, we were able to give most residents information about this crime as early as Monday, August 12. Thank you to Lisa Lawrence, who manages this system for us and who took the time on Monday to put together a message and get it out so quickly. Thankfully, we seldom ever have an occasion to send this kind of warning out to the community, but it is a good reason to keep the contact information you gave us current.

Although the Courtyard continues to be one of the safest communities in town, it is important to acknowledge that we are not immune from such incidents. As we consider what, if any, steps might be taken to improve security in the Courtyard, we welcome your suggestions and/or comments. If you want to volunteer assistance on the Security Committee, contact Jim Lloyd at 231-0855 or [jlloyd@austin.rr.com](mailto:jlloyd@austin.rr.com).

*Drive Safely in the Courtyard!*



# COURTYARD CALLER

## CHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Leslie Craven..... 502-1124, 585-1153 (cell)  
Vice President, Ed Ueckert..... 345-6137  
Secretary, Cathleen Barrett ..... 817-371-6983  
Treasurer, Jim Lloyd ..... 231-0855  
Zoli Kovacs..... 761-4242  
..... zoltan.kovacs@ttiinc.com  
Jamie Southerland ..... 394-5529  
Waneen Spirduso..... spirduso@utexas.edu

## COMMITTEES

Environmental Control (ECC)  
Diana Apgar ..... 415-9412  
Community Park  
Zoli Kovacs..... 761-4242  
Welcome  
Joany Price..... 775-8942  
Social Committee Chairperson  
Joany Price..... 775-8942  
Landscape & Decorating  
Ed Ueckert ..... 345-6137  
Security  
Jim Lloyd..... 231-0855  
Communications  
Leslie Craven ..... 502-1124  
Cathleen Barrett (*Editor - Courtyard Caller*) ..... 531-9821  
Compliance  
Jamie Southerland..... 394-5529  
Kayak Committee  
Waneen Spirduso ..... spirduso@utexas.edu  
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:  
Gary Doucha ..... 401-3105  
..... gmdoucha@yahoo.com  
Travis County Courtyard (aka "Backcourt")  
Allan Nilsson ..... 346-8432  
..... arnilsson@earthlink.net  
Villas at Courtyard:  
Thomas Hoy..... 231-1270  
..... Thomas.Hoy@freescale.com  
Wolf Court:  
Tim Sullivan..... 346-3146  
..... tsullivan@austin.rr.com

## COURTYARD BOOK CLUB

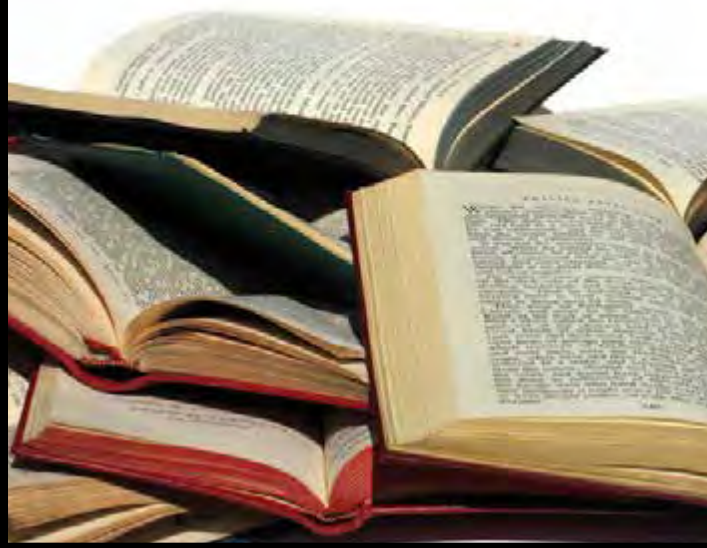
*Tuesday, October 1, 2013*  
*1 p.m. at The Courtyard Club*

Geraldine Brooks is an author whose work has been read and enjoyed by members of the Courtyard Book Club over the years--*Nine Parts Desire*, *Year of Wonders*, *People of the Book*. She has a gift for taking factual nuggets, adding a little imagination and producing a captivating novel. In October the club will read her most recent novel, *Caleb's Crossing*. In 2006, Brooks moved to Martha's Vineyard. Soon after, she ran across a map that marked the birthplace of Caleb, first Native American to graduate from Harvard College--in 1665.

Brooks tells the story through the voice of Bethia, the outspoken daughter of a Calvinist minister. While exploring the island now known as Martha's Vineyard, Bethia meets Caleb, son of a Wampanoag chieftain. Bethia and Caleb become close, clandestine friends. At a time when the native Indians were considered savage, even intellectually inferior, Caleb's path to Harvard where he would compete with the Puritan elites is all the more remarkable.

In November, in lieu of a specific book selection, members are asked to bring a book to recommend to the group. Books of any type are welcome: Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, Short Story collections. Possibly some of these recommendations will make the list for the coming year.

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



# Feeding Deer is Against the Law!

## A FRIENDLY REMINDER

We have reason to believe that some residents in the Courtyard are intentionally feeding the deer. We all feel badly for the wildlife during the drought, but feeding deer in our neighborhood is not a solution AND it is illegal inside the city limits! Supplemental feeding does more harm than good. We are fortunate to have only a small population of deer, but the three bucks that are commonly seen around the neighborhood will become very aggressive during the upcoming rutting season and could potentially harm not only our pets but human life as well. A friendly reminder is far better than a fine from the City of Austin, and certainly cheaper! (see ordinance from the City of Austin below)

*Additional information can be found on the City of Austin website:  
[www.austintexas.gov/departments/deer-feeding-ordinance](http://www.austintexas.gov/departments/deer-feeding-ordinance).*



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# Intentional Feeding of Deer Ordinance

## SHARE THIS WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS!

The City of Austin adopted an ordinance on February 23, 2009 prohibiting intentional feeding of deer. The ordinance amends the City Code to add Chapter 10-8 which:

- Prohibits intentional feeding of or making food available to deer within City limits
- Creates a Class C Misdemeanor for violations
- Establishes a fine of not less than \$75 or more than \$125

## SUPPLEMENTAL FEEDING CAN HARM DEER

Feeding congregates deer into unnaturally high densities that:

- Artificially increase birth rates resulting in even higher populations
- Cause over-browsing of local vegetation and ornamental plants
- Increase the number of deer-vehicle collisions
- Lower the instinctive fear deer have toward humans and domestic animals
- Increase the number of negative deer/human and deer/pet confrontations

## HOW TO REPORT A VIOLATION

Let's work together to share this information with your neighbors. They may not be aware of this ordinance or that supplemental feeding

causes harm to deer. If someone continues to feed deer, here's two ways to report it:

1. The Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department's Rodent and Vector Program is responsible for administering and enforcing the ordinance. To report a deer feeding complaint, call the Program's Deer Feeding Ordinance information/message line at 978-0370 or e-mail [ECHU.Service@austintexas.gov](mailto:ECHU.Service@austintexas.gov)
2. You may also file a written complaint with the City's Municipal Court if you witness an ordinance violation. Go to [www.austintexas.gov/departments/filing-case](http://www.austintexas.gov/departments/filing-case) for more information.

## IMPORTANT TIPS TO REMEMBER

- Don't feed or make food available to deer
- Educate yourself about the negative impacts of supplemental feeding
- Deer will not starve if supplemental food is withdrawn or unavailable
- Communicate to your neighbors that feeding deer is illegal and could cause harm
- Landscape your yard with plants that deer do not prefer to eat.

*Find more information about deer resistant plants at  
[www.austintexas.gov/departments/deer-feeding-ordinance](http://www.austintexas.gov/departments/deer-feeding-ordinance)*





## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT October 1, 2013

Neighborhoods throughout Austin are invited to the 30th Annual National Night Out on Tuesday, October 1, 2013. The evening will begin with a Kick-Off Party (which is free and open to all) from 5 to 7 p.m. at Barton Creek Square Mall, in the North Downtown Overlook Parking Lot, with food, games, crime prevention tips and drawings for school supplies. From 7 to 9 p.m. events such as cookouts, block parties and neighborhood walks will occur simultaneously throughout the City of Austin and nationwide. Citizens are asked to turn on their porch lights, lock their doors, and spend the evening outside with their neighbors, City Council Members, police officers, firefighters, EMS paramedics and Code Compliance.

### National Night Out is designed to:

- Promote crime and drug prevention awareness.
- Generate support and participation in crime prevention efforts.
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police/community relations.
- Get involved in your neighborhood community.
- Let criminals know that neighborhoods are organized and residents are fighting back.

For further information call 512-974-4900 or visit  
<http://austintexas.gov/nno>

## COURTYARD NEIGHBORHOOD BREAK-IN

A report was received in August that a home on Scout Island Circle North was broken into sometime between 7 and 11 p.m. on a Saturday evening. The residents of the home had gone out for the evening, and upon their return, found the gate to the backyard open and the lights on in the house. The police were called, and no one entered until they arrived. The police stated that it looked like a professional job due to the fact that the intruders entered the backyard through the gate and broke in the back door. Once inside the backyard, the thieves were behind the fence and could not be seen by neighbors or anyone in the street. The home has an alarm system that should have gone off, but no one reported hearing it. Unfortunately, the alarm is not tied to a response unit which is why the police did not come until called by the homeowners upon discovering the break-in.

This is a good reminder to check your security system regularly, make sure it is set before you leave your home, and to be on the alert for any unusual activity you may notice in the neighborhood.



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# The Housing Market Is... **HOT HOT HOT!!!**

## Year To Date Sales In Courtyard

Area 1B-Year to date

# of Active Listings - 1

# of Pending Listings - 1

# of Solds - 10

## REMAINING MONTHS OF INVENTORY = 1

Less than 4 months = (which is our remaining inventory) = VERY STRONG SELLER'S MARKET

4 - 6 months inventory = BALANCED MARKET

Greater than 6 months = BUYER'S MARKET

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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 Wilt

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, 2014.

### Resources

City of Austin: <http://austintexas.gov/page/oak-wilt-suppression>  
Texas Oak Wilt Information Partnership: <http://www.texasoakwilt.org/>

### 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.





## Now Enrolling for **FALL**

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Austin Tx 78732  
512-266-6130

**Jester**  
6507 Jester Boulevard  
Building 2  
Austin Tx 78750  
512-795-8300

**Bee Caves**  
8100 Bee Caves Road  
Austin Tx 78746  
512-329-6633

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## THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

September is the ninth month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendars and one of four months with a length of 30 days. The month kept its original name from the Roman calendar in which septem means "seven" in Latin marking it as the seventh month. September was named during a time when the calendar year began with March, which is why its name no longer corresponds with its placement in the Julian and Gregorian calendars. September begins on the same day of the week as December every year, because there are 91 days separating September and December, which is a multiple of seven (the number of days in the week). No other month ends on the same day of the week as September in any year.

### September Birthstone: Sapphire

The sapphire, birthstone for September, is a relative of July's birthstone, the ruby. Like ruby, it is a form of the mineral corundum, a normally drab grey mineral. Red corundum is called the ruby, while all other gem quality forms of corundum are called sapphires. Typically, sapphires appear as blue stones, ranging from very pale blue to deep indigo. The most valued shade of blue is the medium-deep cornflower blue. The biggest source of sapphires worldwide is Australia, especially New South Wales and Queensland.

### September Birth Flower: Aster

The September birth flower is the Aster. The name of the flower, which looks like a star, is derived from the Greek word for star. The meaning of the Aster is love, faith, wisdom, and symbolizes valor. It is found in a number of colors – pink, red, white, lilac, and mauve. The other September flower is the Morning Glory. Morning Glories are simple symbols of affection.

### September Fruits and Veggies:

Apples, artichokes, blackberries, blueberries, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, chile peppers, cucumber, curly kale, figs, French beans, garlic horseradish, leeks, lettuce, mushrooms, nectarines, new potatoes, peaches, pears, plums, pumpkins, red onions, spinach, squash, sweet corn, tomatoes

### September Holidays:

Classical Music Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, Fall Hat Month, International Square Dancing Month, National Blueberry Popsicle Month, National Courtesy Month, National Piano Month, Chicken Month, Baby Safety Month, Little League Month, Honey Month, Self Improvement Month, Better Breakfast Month

**September 2 - Labor Day**  
**September 11 - 9/11 Remembrance Day**

## Courtyard Hardcopy Directory Being Updated

Work is beginning soon on a new hardcopy directory of the Courtyard community. For financial reasons we are unable to update this every year, but many residents prefer this format to the online directory as a quick and handy resource. The hardcopy includes a list of the CHA current Board of Directors, Committee Chairs, and Sub-HOA Contacts and their contact information. Also included is a map of the community, an easy guide to the Courtyard HOA rules and regulations, as well as a list of Courtyard residents by street.

Please make sure that your most current phone numbers and emails are on record. You can send updated information by email to Marilyn Childress, Goodwin Management (marilyn.childress@goodwintx.com) or to Leslie Craven, Courtyard HOA President, through the "Contact Us" part of the our neighborhood website or to her personal email (lcraven1@att.net).

If you prefer you may also fill in, cut out, and mail in the form below to Marilyn Childress, Goodwin Management, 11149 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759-5227.

### MY DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (es): \_\_\_\_\_

Option(s)

\_\_\_ It is ok to list my name and contact information with my address.

\_\_\_ Do not include my name or contact information with my address.

\_\_\_ Include my name but please keep my contact information private & use only in case of emergency.

## So Cute We Had to Share Some More....





# DROWNING IS PREVENTABLE



COLIN'S HOPE  
WATER SAFETY TIPS AT  
[WWW.COLINSHOPE.ORG](http://WWW.COLINSHOPE.ORG)



Volunteer - Donate  
[COLINSHOPE.ORG](http://COLINSHOPE.ORG)

**Ongoing:** Colin's Hope Athlete Ambassadors of all ages needed! [www.tinych.org/signup](http://www.tinych.org/signup)  
**September 8:** 5th annual Colin's Hope Kids Tri, and All Star Burger Fundraiser (10% of sales donated).  
**October 19:** Sharkfest Austin Swim benefiting Colin's Hope. Volunteers needed.  
**November:** Underwater Holiday Photos (multiple days and locations).  
**February 16:** Austin Marathon. Runners, walkers, and water stop volunteers needed.

Be a Water Guardian and Watch Kids around Water. Drowning is preventable!

Thank you to all who supported our efforts this year to raise water safety awareness to prevent children from drowning!

## LAYERS OF PROTECTION



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# HOPE4JD Family Fun Fest

## AND BATTLE OF THE YOUTH BANDS

Youth bands compete to raise the most money for HOPE4JD

**September 28 from 10am to 8pm  
at Stunt Ranch – 13317 Fitzhugh Rd.**

**[www.stuntranch.com](http://www.stuntranch.com)**



**Join friends and family at Stunt Ranch for  
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Cones, Food Trailers, Craft Vendors, and much more...**

**Featuring** **Dysfunkshun Junkshun** **at 6pm**

**Admission: \$10 for Adults and \$5 for Kids. Free admission for kids under  
3. Activity wristbands are \$5. Buy tickets online at HOPE4JD.org or at  
the gate. Signed waivers are mandatory for participation. They are  
available at hope4jd.org or at the event.**

**Sponsors and volunteers needed!**  
**Please visit [www.HOPE4JD.org](http://www.HOPE4JD.org) for more information**

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