

COURTYARD HOMEOWNERS
ASSOCIATION, INC.

Official Courtyard Newsletter

August 2016 Volume 12, Number 8

# Message from the Board

WHAT A WONDERFUL JULY 4 CELEBRATION!

Once again, our Social Committee, led by Joany Price, organized a great July 4 celebration for us — with an estimated 125- 150 attending. Master Chef Lewis Price and his "brilliant" assistant, Jerry Lane, grilled up hotdogs and hamburgers to perfection, and both children and adults enjoyed the face painting & slip'n slide. The weather even cooperated and provided some nice cloud cover and breezes.

Thank you to Joany & Lewis and all the incredible volunteers/ neighbors who gave their time to put this event together and give us such a nice time: Denise Hogan & Terry Edwards, Winston, Kathy & Brandey Cundiff, Austin & Beth Cooney, David & Lisa Lucchese, Tracy Henderson, Luis, Marre, Marian & Missy Suarez, Molly Adolph and Meredith Massey, who drove in all the way from Houston to bring her Mustang convertible for our Grand Marshall Luis Suarez to ride in for the Parade. We really appreciate your efforts. And not to forget -- a special thanks goes to our Austin Fire Department crew who once again brought their fire engine in to lead our parade.

Please keep in mind the need to clear your trees and bushes from the sidewalks (7 feet) and streets (14 feet). Both our Declaration and City ordinances require this, and right now there are some very "shaggy" bushes and low hanging trees crowding our sidewalks and forcing neighbors to walk into the street. Contact us if you need the name of a good crew to get this done for you.

Dog walkers – while we are very thankful when you act responsibly and pick-up your dog's poo, please do NOT put it in someone else's EMPTY trash can. Any can is "fair game" for a

deposit if it has other trash and is waiting to be emptied – such as on Thursday evening or very early on Friday mornings BEFORE the trucks come through. However, it is very rude to put your bag in a freshly emptied container. This most often results in your bag being flung into the street by the offended owner of the trash can. Please be careful.

We are sad to report a very thoughtless and dangerous occurrence in our Community Park on the evening of July 4. A golf cart full of young people drove into the Park and were drinking and shooting fireworks off of our pier. One of our residents was coming in from the lake and witnessed this illegal activity. The young people then threw their still hot and smoldering fireworks away along with their beer cans and fled in the golf cart. The resident poured water on the fireworks to make sure they wouldn't catch anything else on fire and reported this to our Security Chairman. This incident is still under investigation, and we are working to identify the golf cart – and hopefully the adults responsible for letting this occur. Although the firecrackers left several burn marks on the pier, we were very lucky that this careless and selfish action did not start a fire in the woods. This is how wildfires start and you should all be aware of what this means in Central Texas. If you know anything that might help us track these people down, please contact our Security Chairman, Jim Lloyd.

Having said that -- don't forget to contact the Fire Safety Committee to sign up for a free home fire risk evaluation and check out their page on the website – especially the videos.

Be safe, have a happy summer, and please drive slowly in the Courtyard!

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Courtyard Caller - August 2016





### Joany Price

Your Courtyard Neighbor & Tennis Club Member

Realtor, CLHMS
Certified Previews™ Property Specialist
International Diamond Society
Coldwell Banker United, REALTORS





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### When PRICE matters...CALL JOANY PRICE!

"I am now including a complimentary membership to The Courtyard Tennis & Swim Club with all of my listings". A \$1500 value.

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### **COURTYARD BOOK CLUB**

Tuesday September 6, 2016 5216 Scout Island Cir North

Come join the Courtyard Book Club in September as we discuss Faceless Killers by Henning Mankell, the first in the Kurt Wallander series. The story begins on a cold night in a remote Swedish farmhouse where an elderly farmer is found bludgeoned to death, and his wife is left to die with a noose around her neck. And as if this didn't present enough problems for the Ystad police Inspector Kurt Wallander, in her last breath, the dying woman offers a one-word clue to finding her attacker, "foreign." Unlike the situation with his ex-wife, his estranged daughter, or the beautiful but married young prosecutor who has piqued his interest, in this case, Wallander finds a problem he can actually handle. He quickly becomes obsessed with solving the crime before the already tense situation explodes, but soon comes to realize that it will require all his reserves of energy and dedication to solve.

For more information about the book club please contact Lou Blemaster at 512-551-2659 or email loublemaster@gmail.com.



## Courtyard cul-de-sac streets will be paved!

The City of Austin has advised that the ends our cul-de-sac streets will be paved - "most likely" in September.

A sealcoat surface consisting of tar and aggregate was recently applied to most of the streets in the Courtyard. The turning circles at the end of our cul-de-sacs will receive a slurry seal coating.

The slurry seal is a parking lot type surface, and the City's experience is that slurry seal is better suited to sharp turns that occur at these culde-sac streets. Turning circles also have a concentration of driveways, and this traffic is very similar to that in parking lots.

The slurry seal surface is not as resistance to cracking and tends to fade out in seven to nine years, while the sealcoat surface has a longer life.

A contractor is now applying slurry seal at other similar turning circles in the city, and Courtyard residents will again receive door hanger notices before the work starts here.

The following turning circles are planned as part of the slurry seal resurfacing contract: Padre Cove, Cartwright Cove, Courtyard Cove, Inter Council Cove, Scout Island Cove, Tom Wooten Cove, Harrington Cove, and Karankawa Cove.

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### Be Ember Aware! Firewise Tip Series Tip #2 - Unclutter the Gutter

Rain gutters attached to the edge of your roof are the perfect contraptions for catching embers during wildfire. Burning embers can land in the gutters and if they are filled with dried leaves, pine needles, and twigs, a fire can start and possibly ignite the roof, roof sheathing, and fascia. Even houses with fire rated roofs are vulnerable to this type of ember attack. Rain gutters made of vinyl will melt and drop into flower beds, igniting plants next to the house and maybe even combustible siding. To keep your home safe, we suggest that you:

- Remove all dried leaves, pine needles or other materials from your rain gutters before fire season. Over the winter, debris often accumulates in them.
- Keep your ladder handy and check your rain gutters throughout the fire season, cleaning them out as necessary.
- If a wildfire is approaching and there is no time to clean out the debris, plug the rain gutter down spout with a tennis ball, or something similar so that the down spout will be plugged, and fill the rain gutter with water.

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### Neighborhood Compassion Watch!

By Lesa Walker, MD, MPH, Founder, Compassionate Austin Movement

What does it mean to be a compassionate neighborhood? Our City Council has designated Austin as a Compassionate City by the Resolution passed April 14, 2016. Now what do we do in our neighborhoods to own and strengthen that identity?

Join in the "Neighborhood Compassion Watch"! Send in your responses to the question: "What does it mean to be a compassionate neighborhood? We want your stories of compassionate action, your goals and resolutions for good, your comments to inspire. Share them with us! We need to support and mobilize the positive! Sure, we can identify the needs we have, but let's add to that a constructive action that can help meet that need. Compassion exists in 3 key dimensions: caring for others, self, and the Earth. Do you have a recycling goal? Share it and inspire others to join you in that goal. What do you see happening in your neighborhood that makes you smile? Share it and encourage more of it. What has a school, library, business, or organization done in your neighborhood that shows compassionate action? Share it and honor the value that this brings to the neighborhood. These are just some examples of what you can share. Our day to day compassionate actions are important!

Let's create a thriving neighborhood of 3D Compassion! Send your responses, stories, comments, words of inspiration to Compassionate Austin at compassionateaustin@gmail.com. Be sure to identify your neighborhood in your email! We may be able to publish them in this newsletter or on the Compassionate Austin website or Facebook page. Also, we are looking for stories that we can highlight in Citizen Communications at Austin City Council meetings.

Breaking News! The "Peace Day Austin" celebration is coming up in September! From September 11-21, Austin celebrates the International Day of Peace and the 11 Days of Global Unity. Let's make Peace Day Austin and the 11 Days of Global Unity part of our homes and our neighborhood! Let's live peace and compassion! The Global Unity Games offer a simple and free way for you to get involved. Register NOW to access information and resources to engage your family, your neighbors and your community. Go to the Compassion Games website to sign up: http://compassiongames.org/global-unity-games/. From September 11-21, share what you discover in our Neighborhood Compassion Watch on the global

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### COURTYARD CALLER

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Compassion Map! Let's put our neighborhood and Austin on the map!! Act locally and impact globally! The Peace Day Austin website has more information: www.peacedayaustin.org.

Announcement! Open invitation for the "3D CAM" Project (3D Compassionate Austin Mobilization) "Youth Ambassadors Program" and also student internship opportunities. Go to the Compassionate Austin website for more info: www.compassionateaustin.org . Let's engage youth from our neighborhood in creating a better neighborhood, a better Austin, and a better world!

Research shows the personal and community benefits of strengthening our compassion skills. We grow stronger in what we practice! Let's bring 3D compassion to life! We ALL are Compassionate Austin! Find out more at: www.compassionateaustin. org.

### 13 Things Your Dog **Can Teach You**

- When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.
- Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy.
- Let others know when they've invaded your territory.
- Take naps and stretch before rising.
- Run, romp, and play daily.
- On hot days, drink lots of water and lie under a shady tree.
- When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body.
- No matter how often you're scolded, don't buy into the guilt pout - run right back out and make friends.
- Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.
- Eat with gusto and enthusiasm. Stop when you have had enough.
- Be loyal.
- Never pretend to be something you are not.
- If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.



61 Texas children have already fatally drowned in 2016

**DROWNING IS PREVENTABLE** 

### THESE WATER SAFETY TIPS CAN SAVE LIVES





WEAR













**BECOME a Water Guardian for your child** 

**TAKE** the Water Safety Quiz → PREVENT drowning

www.colinshope.org/quiz

**LEARN** more at www.colinshope.org

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### THE COURTYARD STATS

 $January\ 1-June\ 30,\ 2016$  Information compiled from the Austin Multiple Listing Service.

SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCES					
ACTIVE	LIST PRICE	PRICE/SQFT	YEAR BUILT	DAYS ON MARKET	
5804 Karankawa Cove	\$489,000	\$240.41	1981	24	
PENDING					
5802 Harrington Cove	\$519,000	\$227.53	1981	16	
5808 Tom Wooten	\$559,000	\$190.14	1985	11	
5305 N Scout Island	\$715,000	\$197.24	1994	76	
6003 Little Bull	\$744,500	\$271.52	1999	18	
AVG LIST PRICE = \$634,375; AVG PENDING PRICE/SQFT = \$221.61					
SOLD	LIST PRICE	SOLD DATE	YEAR BUILT	DAYS ON MARKET	
5606 Parade Ridge	\$462,000	04/19/16	1995	47	
5803 Harrington Cove	\$529,000	06/06/16	1985	18	
5909 Tom Wooten	\$610,000	04/29/16	1985	3	
5600 N Scout Island	\$625,000	03/23/16	1995	35	
5722 Sam Houston	\$638,000	02/05/16	1985	11	
5806 Harrington Cove	\$638,000	05/10/16	1984	3	

AVG SOLD PRICE = \$577,800; AVG SOLD PRICE/SQFT = \$218.41

TOWNHOMES					
SOLD	LIST PRICE	SOLD DATE	YEAR BUILT	DAYS ON MARKET	
5502 Courtyard Drive	\$399,900	01/06/16	1995	7	
WATERFRONT HOMES					
ACTIVE	LIST PRICE	PRICE/SQFT	YEAR BUILT	DAYS ON MARKET	
5700 Scout Island	\$3,300,000	\$530.63	1982	34	
SOLD	LIST PRICE	SOLD DATE	YEAR BUILT	DAYS ON MARKET	
5314 N Scout Island Cir	\$1,100,000	02/19/16	1999	1	



The Courtyard needs more inventory. Contact me for info on selling your home.

Jo Carol Snowden
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