



December 2016

COURTYARD HOMEOWNERS  
ASSOCIATION, INC.

# COURTYARD CALLER

*Official Courtyard Newsletter*

Volume 12, Number 12

## Board Message

Please take a moment to mark down an important upcoming event on your calendars – the Courtyard’s annual meeting on **Sunday, January 29, 2017** at 6:00 p.m. in the lobby of at the office building located at the intersection of Courtyard Drive and North Scout Island Circle. Although we hope everyone can attend, we also understand that it is just not possible. Please note, however, that our Declaration requires that a quorum be present at this meeting so that we can conduct important homeowner association business. For this reason, **please read the written materials when they arrive in your January mail and then sign and mail in your voting proxy as soon as possible** to help us avoid the costs of rescheduling a second annual meeting.


Remember that sending in your proxy merely safeguards your vote if something comes up and you cannot make it to the meeting. It will not prevent you from attending the annual meeting in person and voting directly yourself. Further reminders and more information about the annual meeting will appear in the January newsletter and on the Courtyard’s website: [www.courtyardhoa.org](http://www.courtyardhoa.org). If you have

any questions, please contact any Board member or our property manager, Marilyn Childress, at Goodwin Management (512) 502-7509. You can also email us through the “Contact Us” page of the Courtyard’s community website.

A final thought -- many of us will be traveling and gone from our homes at times this holiday season. Try to remember to stop your paper and mail or ask a neighbor to pick them up for you. Keep an eye out for anything suspicious and if you see something -- call the police. And nothing says “No one is home here” to a thief like mail or papers accumulating at the front of a house. If you see this happening, even if no one asked you, be a good neighbor and take a minute to gather them up and save them for when the owner returns.

***Best wishes to all our residents and their families for a safe and Happy Holiday Season and please continue to drive slowly in the Courtyard !***





I'D REALLY LOVE TO SERVE YOU  
AND LET ME TELL YOU WHY  
I LOVE THE JOY OF WHAT I DO  
WHETHER YOU'RE SELING OR WANTING TO BUY

USING SOMEONE WHO KNOWS THE HOOD  
IS THE FIRST STEP IN THE QUEST  
TO GETTING THE SERVICE YOU DESERVE  
SO WHY NOT CALL THE BEST?

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE I'M ALWAYS NEAR  
THE COURTYARD IS MY HOME  
COME RAIN OR SHINE I'M ALWAYS HERE  
YOU'VE ONLY TO PICK UP THE PHONE

SO IF YOU ARE CURIOUS AND WANT TO KNOW  
JUST WHAT YOU NEED TO DO  
CALL, TEXT, EMAIL OR SHOUT  
AND LET ME BE THE ONE FOR YOU!

LET'S DO BUSINESS TOGETHER IN 2017! CALL ME AT 512-775-8942



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& Tennis Club Member*

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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.*

## COURTYARD BOOK CLUB

*Tuesday, January 3, 2017  
1:00 pm  
5612 N. Scout Island Circle*

Join the Courtyard Book Club in January, 2017 as we discuss another page turner by Erik Larson. *Thunderstruck* tells the interwoven stories of two men--Hawley Crippen, a very unlikely murderer, and Guglielmo Marconi, the obsessive creator of a seemingly supernatural means of communication--whose lives intersect during one of the greatest criminal cases of all time. Set in Edwardian London, an era of séances, science, and fog, and on the stormy coasts of Cornwall, Cape Cod, and Nova Scotia, *Thunderstruck* evokes the dynamism of those years when great shipping companies competed to build the biggest, fastest ocean liners, scientific advances dazzled the public with visions of a world transformed, and the rich outdid one another with ostentatious displays of wealth. Against this background, Marconi races against incredible odds and relentless skepticism to perfect his invention: the wireless, a prime catalyst for the emergence of the world we know today. Meanwhile, Crippen, "the kindest of men," nearly commits the perfect crime.

For more information about the Courtyard Book Club or for details about upcoming meetings and the book selections for 2017, contact Lou Blemaster at 512-551-2659 or email [loublemaster@gmail.com](mailto:loublemaster@gmail.com).

## Yes, the Wildfire Risk to Courtyard Homes is all about Embers!

The need to Be Ember Aware that we have been advocating in our on-going monthly tips was validated during a late August National Public Radio interview providing perspectives on home destruction during wildland fires. A Colorado firefighter who experienced the loss of his own home during the Fourmile Canyon Fire near Boulder in 2010, was a first-hand witness to the power of embers to take down a home. Dr. Jack Cohen, a preeminent fire scientist recently retired from the US Forest Service, spoke to his own years of research on the home destruction phenomenon, particularly his home destruction assessment as part of the Fourmile Canyon Fire Findings published by the US Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station.

For nearly three decades, Cohen's research findings have belied what we see on the screen. As firefighter Rodrigo Moraga observes in the interview, "In Wildfires, Big Flames Attract Attention, But Watch Out For The Embers," the big wall of flames is what catches our attention on television, but it is not usually the culprit in home destruction. Rather, as Cohen points out, because firefighting resources are stretched thin and embers are igniting homes ahead of the flames through wind and spot fires, nobody is on the scene when the small ignitions start - and hours later, homes are destroyed.

## CHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Leslie Craven..... 502-1124, 585-1153 (cell)  
Vice President, Paul Siegel..... 512-243-5419  
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Secretary, Cathleen Barrett ..... 817-371-6983  
Waneen Spirduso..... [spirduso@utexas.edu](mailto:spirduso@utexas.edu)  
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### COMMITTEES

#### Environmental Control (ECC)

Diana Apgar ..... 415-9412, [fd1966fd@aol.com](mailto:fd1966fd@aol.com)  
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Terry Edwards..... 214-392-4627  
Welcome

Denise Hogan ..... 214-403-4454  
..... [denise.1.hogan@gmail.com](mailto:denise.1.hogan@gmail.com)

#### Social Committee Chairperson

Joany Price..... 775-8942  
Landscape & Decorating

Ed Ueckert ..... 345-6137  
Security

Jim Lloyd..... 231-0855  
Communications

Leslie Craven ..... 502-1124  
Jane Gibson (*Editor - Courtyard Caller*)..... 850-3346  
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#### Compliance

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Fire Safety Committee

Jim Carolan ..... cell (619) 559-1978  
..... [jccarolan1@gmail.com](mailto:jccarolan1@gmail.com)

#### Area Development and Zoning Liaison

Paul Siegel & Cathleen Barrett... 512-243-5419, [pbsiegel@gmail.com](mailto:pbsiegel@gmail.com)

### 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](mailto:gmdoucha@yahoo.com)

#### Travis County Courtyard (aka "Backcourt")

Allan Nilsson ..... 346-8432  
..... [arnilsson@earthlink.net](mailto:arnilsson@earthlink.net)

#### Villas at Courtyard:

Thomas Hoy ..... 231-1270  
..... [Thomas.Hoy@freescall.com](mailto:Thomas.Hoy@freescall.com)

#### Wolf Court:

Tim Sullivan..... 346-3146  
..... [tsullivan@gmail.com](mailto:tsullivan@gmail.com)

# Oak Tree Trimming Season Ending Soon

As most of you know, oak tree trimming season ends in January 2017. Oaks should not be trimmed from February through June as this is when the oak wilt carrier beetle is most active. With holiday “busy-ness” upon us, we sometimes forget about this necessary maintenance until mid or late January when it is sometimes hard to line up a reputable company for this work. We use the word “reputable” because when it comes to trimming your oaks, cheapest is not always the best. Hiring the lowest cost bidder without checking credentials and asking questions can prove extremely costly to you and all your neighbors’ trees when your trees become infected from poor cuts and failure to thoroughly clean their cutting equipment before starting work on your trees. Contaminated tools are a big contributor to the spread of oak wilt. **Above all, if you cannot get your oaks trimmed between now and the end of January, they should not be trimmed until July, 2017.**

If you decide you want to do your own tree maintenance work make sure you: (1) sterilize tools with bleach or alcohol (Lysol

is also a solution) before pruning; and (2) immediately paint wounds with pruning paint or latex paint within 15 minutes as carrier beetles may be attracted to untreated cuts or wounds.

Finally, while you’re thinking of trimming, recall that our Declaration requires that no tree, shrub or planting of any kind be allowed to overhang or otherwise encroach upon any sidewalk or other pedestrian way from ground level to a height of seven (7) feet. The City of Austin as well has a requirement that all trees overhanging streets have a minimum clearance of fourteen (14) feet above street level.

A group of diverse children of various ages and ethnicities are smiling and holding a large white sign. The sign has the text "NOW ENROLLING" in large, bold, black letters, and "childrenscenterofaustin.com" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font below it. The children are standing behind the sign, and their legs and feet are visible at the bottom of the frame.

**NOW ENROLLING**  
childrenscenterofaustin.com

**The Children's Center Of Austin**

<b>CCOA-STEINER RANCH</b> 4308 N. Quinlan Park Rd. Suite 100 Austin, TX 78732 512.266.6130	<b>CCOA NORTHWEST AUSTIN</b> 6507 Jester Boulevard Building 2 Austin, TX 78750 512.795.8300	<b>CCOA-WESTLAKE</b> 8100 Bee Caves Rd Austin, TX 78746 512.329.6633
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## LOOK WHO CAME OUT FOR BOO FEST!

Wizards and witches, butterflies and Spidermen, Minnie Mouse and Ninja Turtles were just some of the characters who made their way to the annual Boo Fest. Thank you to Joany Price for putting this great event together and to all who participated.



# Burn-up the League!



Visit [www.FireFan.com](http://www.FireFan.com) to **REGISTER** & be the first to get the app!  
Enter Accesss Code "**WinEveryday**"

## NOTICE OF COURTYARD HOA ANNUAL MEETING



**WHEN:** January 29, 2017 at 6:00pm

**WHERE:** Lobby of office building at the corner of  
Courtyard Dr and North Scout Island Cir.

**QUESTIONS?** Go to [www.courtyardhoa.org](http://www.courtyardhoa.org) or contact  
property manager, Marilyn Childress at (512) 502-7509  
or any Board Member.

## Trash Containers and Collection Rules

Please be reminded that pursuant to both city ordinance and our community covenants trash containers should be stored where they are not visible from the street between trash pick-up days. Trash containers can go out the evening before pick-up (Thursday for us) and should be back in place the next night (Friday night). If you can't get them in your garage, please find an alternative location on your property that is not visible from the street. Big bushes (or small ones on the way to growing bigger) and a little neighborly cooperation work wonders in this regard – and if you and your next door neighbors (who might be able to see them) are okay with where you each stash them, then that's okay with us. Homeowners with tenants, please make sure your tenants are aware of these rules.

If you are going to be out of town for a long weekend and need to set the trash out before you leave, please consider asking a neighbor to move the empty containers up close to your house. Cooperation is greatly appreciated. Keep in mind that blue recycling containers are picked up every other Friday. Save yourself some work and don't haul them out to curb every week. This month they will be picked up on December 2, 16 and 30th.

# REACHING YOUR NEIGHBORS *and many others...*

- Avery Ranch
- Bee Cave
- Bella Vista
- Belterra
- Canyon Creek
- Cat Mountain Villas
- Circle C Ranch
- Courtyard
- Forest Creek
- Highland Park West Balcones
- Jester Estates
- Ladera
- Lakeway
- Legend Oaks II
- Long Canyon
- Meridian
- Northwest Austin Civic Association
- Paloma Lake
- Parkside at Mayfield Ranch
- Plum Creek
- River Place
- Rocky Creek
- Sendera
- Steiner Ranch
- Sweetwater
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# HOME

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## Mozart's Coffee Roasters Holiday Light Show

**NOVEMBER 20-DECEMBER 31**

[MozartsCoffee.com/holiday-light-show](http://MozartsCoffee.com/holiday-light-show)

## 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Trail of Lights

**NOVEMBER 27-DECEMBER 23** Zilker Park | [AustinTrailOfLights.org](http://AustinTrailOfLights.org)

## ICE SKATING ON THE PLAZA

**NOVEMBER 29-JANURAY 9** Whole Foods on 6th St

## Holiday Sing Along & Downtown Stroll

**DECEMBER 3** 6PM & Capitol Tree Lighting 7PM

[DowntownAustinHolidays.com](http://DowntownAustinHolidays.com)

## Lights On! A Holiday Celebration

**DECEMBER 4** 6-8PM | Lakeway City Hall | [CityOfLakeway.com](http://CityOfLakeway.com)

## Ballet Austin's The Nutcracker

**DECEMBER 3-23** The Long Center | [BalletAustin.org](http://BalletAustin.org)

## Armadillo Christmas Bazaar

**DECEMBER 14-24** Palmer Events Center | [ArmadilloBazaar.com](http://ArmadilloBazaar.com)

*If your holiday plans include making a real estate move, please contact me. I'd love to put my experience and the resources of Moreland Properties to work for you.*



*Jo Carol  
Snowden*

Broker Associate

512-657-4441

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