

June 2018

COURTYARD HOMEOWNERS
ASSOCIATION, INC.

COURTYARD CALLER

Official Courtyard Newsletter

Volume 14, Number 6

BOARD MESSAGE

Most of us are aware that if we are waiting to turn left into the Courtyard from 360 during AM & PM rush hours, we will only get the green arrow for our left turn every other time. This is a programmed skip, not a “glitch” in the system, and we are told it is needed to help increase traffic flow through the intersection. For the last several months, however, many of us, or our guests, have sat through several consecutive skips at a time, causing significant and lengthy delays. We just want you to know that we are aware this is happening and will continue to work with the City to try to get it fixed. Part of the problem is that it works some or most of the time – just enough to make the “glitch” harder to find and correct. For now, please continue to report any problems you have to 311 and to us so we can keep a record for our conversations with City personnel.

Thank you to everyone for waiting to trim your oaks until the end of this month. Oak wilt is a terrible disease – one that is difficult and costly to try to contain and remediate, and all it takes is one thoughtless homeowner to bring it into the neighborhood.

Please remember that candidate/political signs for the November 6 elections cannot be out in your yard until August 8 and must come down by November 16.

Please do not forget that you need the Environmental Control Committee's (ECC) approval before starting ANY projects outside of your home, including roof or fence replacements, contact the ECC. Call and visit with them if you have any questions.

Looking ahead to our July 4 Celebration Parade and Picnic, it's a good time to start thinking of how to decorate your bike, wagon, car, or stroller, and – yourself -- for the parade. These events don't happen on their own. Please consider giving a little time to help our social committee with plans, preparations or work that day. VOLUNTEERS: contact Social Chairman Joany Price: (512) 775-8942, joanyprice@gmail.com

Best wishes to everyone for a safe and happy summer and thank you for your continued efforts to drive slowly in the Courtyard.

COURTYARD BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, July 3, 2018

1 p.m. 5612 N. Scout Island Circle

Join the Courtyard Book Club in July as we discuss

Hillbilly Elegy by J.D. Vance.

J. D. Vance tells the true story of what a social, regional, and class decline feels like when you were born with it hung around your neck. The Vance family story begins hopefully in postwar America. J. D.'s grandparents were "dirt poor and in love," and moved north from Kentucky's Appalachia region to Ohio in the hopes of escaping the dreadful poverty around them. They raised a middle-class family, and eventually their grandchild (the author) would graduate from Yale Law School, a conventional marker of their success in achieving generational upward mobility. But as the family saga of *Hillbilly Elegy* plays out, we learn that this is only the short, superficial version. Vance's grandparents, aunt, uncle, sister, and, most of all, his mother, struggled profoundly with the demands of their new middle-class life, and were never able to fully escape the legacy of abuse, alcoholism, poverty, and trauma so characteristic of their part of America.

The Book Club selection for August is *Sea Wolf* by Jack London.

For more information about the Courtyard Book Club contact Lou Blemaster at 512-551-2659 or email loublemaster@gmail.com.

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE AND PICNIC IN THE PARK

Start decorating your bikes, scooters, wagons, strollers, dogs, kids and yourselves to show your red, white and blue spirit for the annual Fourth of July Parade and picnic in the park. Grab a kazoo and make sweet, sweet music with the one and only Courtyard Marching Kazoo Band.

When: 10 am on July 4th.

Where: Parade Ridge and Courtyard Drive. We'll line up behind the fire truck and march to the park.

We'll follow up the parade with a fun picnic and celebration in the park. See you there!

COURTYARD CALLER

CHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Leslie Craven lcraven1@att.net, 502-1124, 585-1153

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512-502-7509, marilyn.childress@goodwintx.com

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Wolf Court:
Tim Sullivan 346-3146
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COURTYARD FIRE SAFETY

HOW TO PREPARE FOR A DANGEROUS WILDFIRE SEASON

By Claire Osborn - American-Statesman Staff



Highlights

Strong winds, higher than normal temperatures and dry conditions could bring an active wildfire season.

Tips for homeowners to prepare include clearing brush around your home and packing an emergency kit. This wildfire season in Central Texas is forecast to have all the ingredients to be a dangerous one, officials say.

"The effect of high winds, dry conditions and hot temperatures will dry out the vegetation very quickly," said Cedar Park Fire Chief James Mallinger, the president of the Williamson County Fire Chiefs Association.

During the drought of 2011, he said, Williamson County lost close to 100 homes in wildfires.

Homeowners can get prepared in several ways including having their homes evaluated by their local fire department for wildfire danger. Here are five other top tips from local officials for wildfire preparation:

1. Sign up for announcements through phone, text or email from local emergency personnel about disaster or public safety issues in your area at WarnCentralTexas.org.
2. Clear brush away from your home and create a buffer zone between trees and your home's roofline.
3. Pack a bag of emergency supplies, including important medical, insurance and other documents in a waterproof bag; medication for three days; flashlights with extra batteries; water; nonperishable food; a change of clothes; a phone charger and supplies for your pets.
4. Know evacuation routes.
5. If a wildfire warning is issued, leave early and go somewhere safe.

For more tips, visit <https://bit.ly/2iYcs2y>.

Courtyard Receives 2018 Wildfire Austin Firewise Alliance Leadership Award

<https://austinfirewise.bloomfire.com/posts/3246136-statcz-carolan-receive-2018-wildfire-community-leadership-awards>

For an excellent tutorial on how the community homeowners can respond to the Wildfire risk, see Making Your Home Firewise <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t6jV-gM9EwQ>

To sign up with the Courtyard Fire Safety Committee to **schedule an evaluation** by one of our trained teams, email fire-safety@courtyardhoa.org

Thanks for your business!
I couldn't have done it without you!



CONGRATULATIONS TOP 500

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COURTYARD CALLER

WATER RESTRICTIONS IN EFFECT

Don't forget that the City's mandatory residential watering rules are still in effect. Your watering day is determined by street address and method of watering.

AUTOMATIC IRRIGATION SYSTEMS: odd numbered residences water before 5 a.m. or after 7 p.m. on Wednesdays; even numbered addresses on Thursday.

HOSE END SPRINKLERS: odd numbered residences water before 10 a.m. or after 7 p.m. on Saturday; even numbered residences on Sunday.

Before you leave on vacation, make sure your sprinkler timing is set correctly. Please check your sprinklers to make sure they are working properly and keeping the water on the landscape that needs it – not the street or sidewalk. If you see a broken sprinkler or pipe while out driving or walking in the neighborhood, please take a minute to let the owner know to help avoid wasting a very precious resource. Violation of the restrictions will first result in an official warning. Additional violations are subject to an administrative fine, which increases with repeated offenses and more severe drought conditions. During Stage 2, residential fines start at \$75 per violation and commercial fines begin at \$200 per violation. Report violations by calling 3-1-1. If you have further questions, contact the City or check out their website.

SPONSOR A BENCH

One of our neighbors suggested placing park benches in Common Areas around the Courtyard community for the convenience of anyone who might want to sit down and enjoy the neighborhood. We did a little homework and found a nice mahogany Polywood 60" park bench that would be durable with little or no maintenance required. The cost is approximately \$550 per bench.

We are checking to see if residents are interested in donating a bench with the donor's name and short message attached on a brass plaque. The bench can be dedicated to someone or have some reasonable message. More than one family can share the donation – join together with friends to sponsor a bench.

Contact Paul Siegel if you are interested - pbsiegel@gmail.com

HOMEMADE VANILLA ICE CREAM

2 large cans cream	½ quart whipping cream
2 cups sugar	1 tablespoon vanilla
1 pint Half & Half	1 quart milk

Mix together in ice cream freezer container. This mixture does not have to be cooked. The recipe makes enough for a two quart freezer.

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TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION

MUD DAUBERS



Mud daubers are a great wasp to have around. They are solitary, generally docile, and can help to reduce various bugs in the landscape. Mud dauber wasps are $\frac{3}{4}$ - 1" in size and come in a variety of colors. They have a very thin, thread-like waist.

Mud daubers create a mud structure that they provision with insects and/or spiders; they lay an egg on each prey item within a cell in the nest, and then seal the nest off. When larvae hatch from eggs, they eat the items provisioned for them, pupate, and then emerge as adults to begin the process over.

Management is not usually needed for mud daubers as they do not guard their nest like other wasps. While they are capable of stinging, they are not considered to be aggressive. If you do not like the look of the mud nests, you can remove them with a putty knife.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

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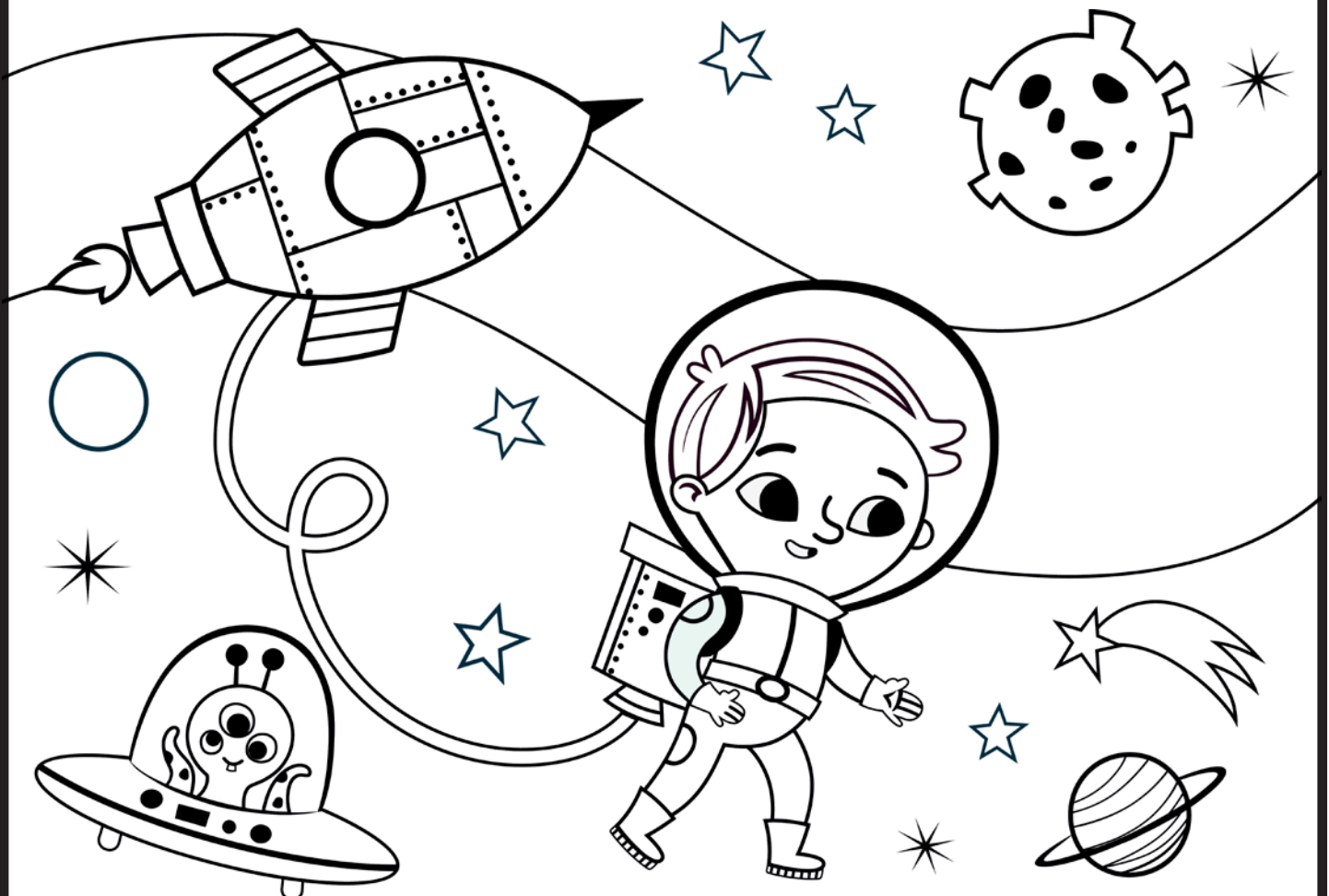
308 Meadowlark St. Lakeway, TX 78734-4717

We will select the top few and post their artwork on our website at www.peelinc.com/index.php/kids-club

DUE: June 30th, 2018

Be sure to include the following so we can let you know!

Name (first name, last initial): _____ Age: _____



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