

COURTYARD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Official Courtyard Newsletter

December 2018

Volume 14, Number 12

Courtyard Book Club COURTYARD FIRE SAFETY

Tuesday, January 8, 2019 1 p.m. 5612 N. Scout Island Circle

> Please join the Courtyard Book Club in January as we discuss our first book selection of the year, Stealing Mona Lisa by Carson Morton.

> The charming Eduardo de Valfierno makes a very respectable living in Argentina fleecing the nouveau rich-they pay him to steal valuable pieces of art, and Valfierno sells them flawless forgeries instead. But when Eduardo meets the beautiful Mrs. Hart on his latest con, he takes a risk that forces him back to the city he loved and left behind--Paris. There he assembles his team of con artists for their final and most

ambitious theft, one that will enable them to leave

the game forever: TheMona Lisa.

But when a member of the team turns up missing, and Mr. Hart shows up in Paris, Valfierno and his crew must stay one step ahead of a relentless police inspector, endure a devastating flood, and conquer their own doubts to keep the priceless painting in play--and survive.

Based on the actual theft of the Mona Lisa from the Louvre in 1911, and published on the 100th anniversary of the crime, Stealing Mona Lisa is a sophisticated, engaging caper, complete with a richly imagined group of con artists and a historical mystery that will keep you guessing until the very end. (Review courtesy of https://austin. bibliocommons.com.

Join us in February to discuss Beneath the Scarlet Sky by Mark Sullivan.

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

About Wildfires

The Courtyard is not immune to wildfires - Consider the wildfires that have ravaged California this year.

The following are explanations of wildfires, their threat to our community's people and property, and some proven protective actions you should take to protect your property and yourself.

Uncontrolled blazes, fueled by weather, wind, and dry underbrush, can burn acres of land and consume everything in their path in mere minutes. A wildfire moves at speeds up to 14 miles per hour, consuming everything in its path: trees, brush, homes, and as we have unfortunately seen recently, even human life. Wildfire greatest risk to people and property peaks at the Wildland-Urban Interface such as the Courtyard and our surrounds.

Although four out of five wildfires are started by people, nature is usually more than happy to help fan the flames. Dry weather and drought convert green vegetation into bone-dry, flammable fuel; strong winds spread fire quickly over land; and warm temperatures encourage combustion. When these factors come together, as they do annually in Central Texas, all that is needed to ignite a wildfire is lightning, arson, a downed power line, a burning campfire or cigarette, hot winds, or even the sun. The greater an area's fuel load, the more intense the fire.

Wildfire risk to your home is greatest due to ember attacks, not direct flames from the wildfire itself. Most typically, hot embers penetrate a home's vulnerable points. When this occurs, the structure will burn from the inside out. Embers are burning pieces of airborne wood and/or vegetation that can be carried more than a mile by wind, igniting spot fires, homes, debris, and other objects.

Actions homeowners should take to prepare their homes to withstand ember attacks:

Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers.

(Continued on Page 2)

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(Continued from Cover)

- Replace or repair any loose or missing shingles or roof tiles to prevent ember penetration.
- Reduce embers that could pass through vents in the eaves by installing 1/8in metal mesh screening.
- Clean debris from exterior attic vents and install 1/8in metal mesh screening to reduce embers.
- Repair or replace damaged or loose window screens and any broken windows. Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.
- Move any flammable material such as mulch, flammable plants, leaves and needles, firewood piles (anything that can burn) away from exterior walls.
- Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches.

Together, these actions provide the best fire protection for your home and family.

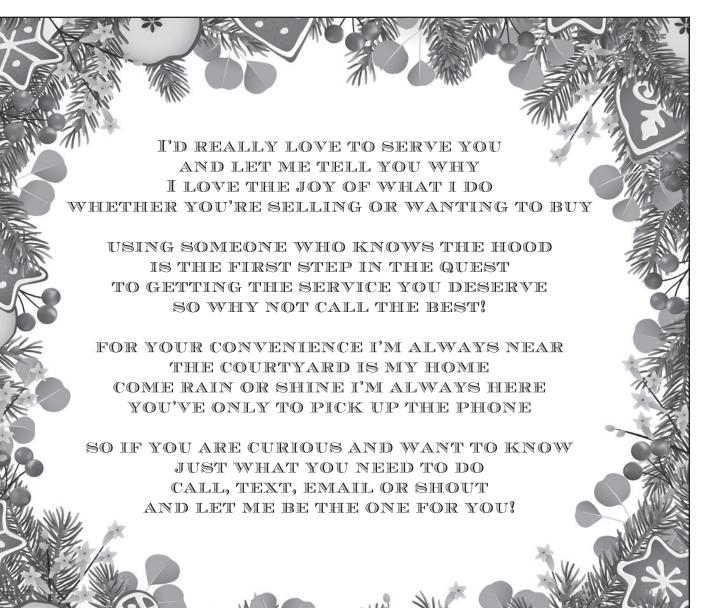
See the Fire Safety page at http://www.courtyardhoa.org for details on Courtyard Firewise and our Evacuation Plan that incorporates Ready-Set-Go! instructions.

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

Register with WarnCentralTexas at http://warncentraltexas.org/ to allow emergency personnel in our local area to directly contact you by phone, text or email during a wildfire alert or evacuation, or other disaster or public safety event.

Sign up with the Courtyard Fire Safety Committee at email fire-safety@courtyardhoa.org to schedule a home wildfire risk evaluation and recommendations to improve home protection.





LET'S DO BUSINESS TOGETHER IN 2019! CALL ME AT 512-775-8942



Joany Price

Your Courtyard Neighbor & Tennis Club Member

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





609 Castle Ridge Road, Ste. 400 • Austin, TX 78746 • M: 512.775.8942 • O: 512.328.8200 • F: 512.328.2559 jprice@cbunited.com • www.cbunited.com/Joany.Price

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.

SMART SHOPPING TIPS TO STAY SAFE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

By: Vivian Marinelli, FEI Behavioral Health



You've made your lists and you've checked them twice. Now it's off to shop for the naughty (maybe) and nice.

With holiday shopping upon us, here are tips for keeping yourself, your identity and your carefully picked gifts safe and the holiday season enjoyable, whether shopping online or at the mall.

Online Shopping

Before you log on and make your first purchase, keep these ideas in mind to protect your credit card and keep your bank account information safe:

- Only visit secure shopping websites—look for the "lock."
 Check the address bar for a padlock symbol indicating it's a secure website. Also, addresses beginning with "https" (and not just "http") indicate additional web security.
- Shop online only with a secure network. Although you
 might be enjoying a nice cup of hot cocoa at a coffee shop,
 avoid using the public Wi-Fi in order to keep your payment
 information safe.
- Protect your personal information. Never click the box to "remember" or save your password or credit card information.

 It only takes a few seconds to enter this information when
 you revisit a site. (This is not only a good idea for shopping,
 but should be a general rule for keeping your passwords safe.)
- Watch out for imposters. With online shopping, you typically receive a confirmation for the order and another when shipping occurs. One current phishing scam sends a fake email indicating a problem with your order and includes a link or attachment to click. Another phishing scam is targeting Amazon shoppers. Amazon will never send you an unsolicited email asking for sensitive personal information like your social security number, tax ID, bank account number, credit card information, ID questions like "mother's maiden name" or account password. If you receive a suspicious email, please report it immediately by sending it as an attachment to stop-spoofing@amazon.com. (Likewise, if you are reporting a suspicious URL, put it in the body of the email and send it to stop-spoofing@amazon.com.)
- Monitor your purchases. This is another list to "check twice."
 Hopefully, you are reviewing your credit card and bank

- statements throughout the year. During the holidays, it is even more important to be vigilant so you can catch any suspicious activity on your accounts.
- Ship to a secure location. Package theft is becoming a growing trend. Avoid having your boxes stolen from your front porch by shipping to your work address or a neighbor who is home during the day. Take advantage of delivery lockers in your area and have your order shipped there instead.

Brick and Mortar Shopping

For those of us who prefer feeling the "spirit of the holidays" by enjoying the sights, sounds and smells of the shopping experience, keep in mind that there may be people other than Santa and his helpers watching.

Some tips to keep in mind before heading out to the mall:

Prepare. Before you head out to shop, gear up for the trek. The stores can be warm and you may want to leave your coat in the car; that way, you are not trying to keep track of your coat, packages, your purse and/or your wallet.

Distractions. The most common distraction is to be on the phone or texting as you are walking to the next store, or to your car. You may be checking on information for your next purchase, but someone else might be checking for people they can catch off-guard. It's critical to be aware of your surroundings at these susceptible times. Wait until you are in a place where you can focus and not be a target.

Parking. Pay attention to detail when choosing a parking spot. It may be daylight when you park, but it may be dark when you return to your car. Try parking in a well-lit area. Make note of the location of your car, or tie a holiday bow to your car where you will be able to spot it easily. Prior to leaving the store or mall, gather all your packages and have your keys ready in your hand. Walk with purpose to your car and scan your surroundings for anyone (or anything) that seems suspicious. Many shops or malls have additional security on-site, even in the parking lots. Some also have escorts available who will accompany you to your car.

Super-shopping. If you plan on a shopping marathon, following the first three tips will have you ready for the race. However, if you need to make multiple trips to your car to drop off purchases, you'll need to make sure they are secure until you return. Put packages in the trunk where they are out of sight. If packages need to be in the back or front seat, try to place them on the floor of the car and cover them with a blanket so they're not visible to anyone walking past the car.

By taking the extra time to ensure personal and financial safety and security during your holiday shopping excursions, you can enjoy finding the perfect gift for everyone on your list and see their faces light up when they unwrap their treasure that you picked just for them.



Come Celebrate Christmas At the friendly church where all are welcome!

Christmas Carol Service

Sunday, December 16th, 10:40 AM

Christmas Service

Sunday, December 23rd, 10:40 AM

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Monday, December 24th, 7:00 PM

6909 W. Courtyard Dr. Austin, TX 78730

At the top of Shepherd Mountain

Greg Lanier, Senior Minister ~ Jeff Robinett, Associate Minister Iain Sturrock, Director of Music

www.shccaustin.org



(512) 343-7858

COURTYARD CALLER

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REMINDER – FINISH OAK TRIMMING BY END OF JANUARY!

Early reminder – please don't forget that January is your last month to finish up trimming your oaks until next June. Nothing but emergency trimming of hardwoods, especially oaks, should take place during the months between. Whenever you have any work done on your trees, make sure you hire a reputable tree company that follows the practice of cleaning its equipment from earlier jobs before starting yours and please talk with your neighbors before ordering limbs cut on trees that extend over your property. Incidents have been reported where one resident had limbs cut off a neighbor's tree exactly at the point when the limbs crossed over onto his property. This resulted in a very bad tree trimming job, which wasn't good for the tree or neighbor relations. Much better to try to work with your neighbors in these situations to achieve a good result for all concerned.



AGE of Central Texas

Adult Day Health Center

- The only fully-licensed and longest-operating non-residential and secure Adult Day Health Center in the Austin area
- Full-time nursing and professional care staff, specializing in memory care
- Open Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
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Attention KIDS: Send Us Your Masterpiece!

Color the drawing below and mail the finished artwork to us at:

Peel, Inc. - Kids Club

308 Meadowlark St. Lakeway, TX 78734-4717

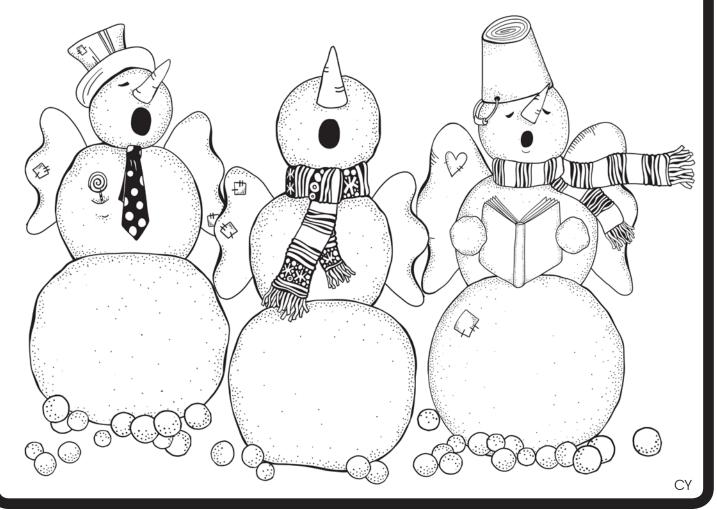
We will select the top few and post their artwork on our website at www.peelinc.com/index.php/kids-club

DUE: December 31st, 2018

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

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

HAPPY HOLIDAYS





NOV 21-DEC 30
A CHRISTMAS CAROL
ZACH THEATRE

NOV 23-DEC 30 (FRI-SUN)
WINTER WONDERLAND
CIRCUIT OF THE AMERICAS

NOV 24-DEC 24 | BLUE GENIE ART BAZAAR 6100 AIRPORT BLVD

NOV 30-DEC 30 | HOLIDAY LIGHT SHOW MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS

NOV 24-JAN 15 LICE SKATING ON THE PLAZA WHOLE FOODS

DEC 1 | HOLIDAY SING-ALONG + DOWNTOWN STROLL
TEXAS STATE CAPITOL

DEC 1 | GERMAN-TEXAN ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MARKET
GERMAN FREE SCHOOL BUILDING

DEC 1 | 26TH ANNUAL HOMELESS ART SHOW & SALE AUSTIN CONVENTION CENTER

DEC 4-5 | AUSTIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: HANDEL'S MESSIAH-HYDE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

DEC 7-23 | BALLET AUSTIN'S THE NUTCRACKER | THE LONG CENTER

DEC 9-23 | TRAIL OF LIGHTS | ZILKER PARK

DEC 13-24 | ARMADILLO CHRISTMAS BAZAAR | PALMER EVENTS CENTER
DEC 31 | AUSTIN'S NEW YEAR | AUDITORIUM SHORES

There's no place like home for the holidays!

I hope you make time to enjoy some of Austin's favorite holiday events this year.

> If you are thinking about a new home for the holidays, contact me. I'll put my 35+ years of experience to work for you.

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

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JO CAROL SNOWDEN

Broker Associate, ABR 512.657.4441 jocarol@moreland.com





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See our full menu on the back, or visit www.allstarburger.com

20% OFF

Any purchase of \$10 or more.

Not valid with any other offer. Dine In Only. One coupon per order.

ALLSTARBURGERMENU

* HAND-CRAFTED BURGERS *

ALL STAR - Tillamook Cheddar, Green Leaf Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles, Red Onion, Mayo, Mustard

BD STREET - Blue Cheese (Stuffed), Smoked Bacon, 7.5 Arugula, Red Onion, Mayo

8.5

THE WEST - Tillamook Cheddar, Bib Lettuce, Roasted Jalapeños, Garlic-Cilantro Cream Cheese

GREAT WHITE BUFFALO - Tillamook White Cheddar, 8.5 Red Leaf Lettuce, Caramelized Onions, Malt Vinegar Aioli

11.5

PACIFIC COAST - Tillamook Monterey Jack, Red Leaf Lettuce, Avocado, Sprouts, Creamy Mustard

FIREMAN - Tillamook Cheddar, Refried Beans, 9 Avocado, Tortilla Chips, Pico de Gallo, Jalapeño Mayo 9

RANCH HAND - Tillamook Cheddar, Smoked Bacon,

ML KAISER (VENISON) - Tillamook Pepper Jack, Green 8.5 Leaf Lettuce, Caramelized Onions, Spicy Mustard



Caramelized Onions, Pickles, BBQ Sauce

FIVE ISLANDS (AHI TUNA) - Bibb Lettuce, Sprouts,



MAKE MY DAY - Tillamook Cheddar, Cage-Free Fried Egg, Smoked Bacon, Skillet Hash Browns, Red Onion, Ketchup, Mayo, Texas Toast

Avocado, Scallions, Sesame Seeds, Citrus Mayo 9



VISIONARY - Goat Cheese, Green Leaf Lettuce, (Fresh Garlic, Rosemary, Sun-dried Tomatoes) Grilled Mushrooms, Mayo

FARMER (VEGETARIAN HEMP SEED OR TURKEY) -Feta Cheese, Green Leaf Lettuce, Red Onion, Sprouts, **Sun-dried Tomato Pesto**



"SKINNY STYLE" LETTUCE-WRAP OPTION AVAILABLE ON ALL BURGERS

HOME-MADE CHIPS AND QUESO

4.75

8

9

8.5

CHEESY FRIES (WITH BACON)

5.75

FARMER'S MARKET SALADS

LILY'S LOVE - Spinach, Red Onions, Toasted Pecans, Bacon, Dried Cranberries, Buttermilk Blue Cheese Dressing

PIONEER CHOPPED - Romaine, Iceberg, Green Leaf Lettuce, Tomatoes, Bacon, Avocado, Boiled Egg, Toasted Almonds, Parmesan Reggiano, Champagne Vinaigrette

8.5

SHANNIE'S SUPER FOOD - Kale, Swiss Chard, Spinach, Broccoli, Dried Cranberries, Blueberries, Onions, Toasted Almonds, Hemp Seed, Honey Balsamic

FAMILY GARDEN - Spring Mix, Carrots, Red Onions, Tomatoes, Corn, Mushrooms, Avocado, Sunflower Seeds, Raisins, Sprouts, Feta, Fresh Basil Vinaigrette

8.5

ADD ANY PROTEIN

(BEEF, TURKEY, BISON, TUNA, OR VENISON)

3/4/5

SIDES

Old School Fries

2.25/4

Sweet Potato Fries

3.25/5.75

House Chips

2.25/4

Small Salad

ALL STAR KID'S MEALS

Fountain Juice Shake À la Carte Drink

HAND-DIPPED BLUEBELL SHAKES & DESSERTS

5.75 6.60 7.25 3.5 All Star Burger 5.75 6.75 6.10

HAND-DIPPED MILK SHAKES. SALTED CARAMEL BROWNIES & FRESHLY BAKED COOKIES

> BEER AND WINE Beer on Draft. Bottles & Pitchers Wine by the Glass or Bottle

Grilled Cheesy Grilled PB&J

5.75

6.10

6.75

^{*} Consuming raw or undercooked meats, seafood, or eggs may increase your risk for food borne illness - especially if you have certain medical conditions.