

BOARD MESSAGE

Annual Meeting – January 27, 2019

Please note that the Courtyard's annual meeting is set for 6:00 p.m., Sunday, January 27, 2019, in the lobby of the office building located at the intersection of Courtyard Drive and North Scout Island Circle. We understand that it is not possible for all our homeowners to attend this meeting. For this reason, please read the written materials about this meeting when they arrive from Goodwin Management and sign and mail in your voting proxy as soon as possible. This helps us avoid the additional time and costs of rescheduling a second annual meeting if we do not have the required quorum necessary to conduct important homeowner association business. For newcomers who might be unfamiliar with this process, please note that sending in your proxy early will not prevent you from attending the annual meeting in person and voting directly yourself. Mailing in your proxy is merely a precaution in case you forget or something comes up and you cannot make the meeting at the last minute. If you have any questions, contact our property manager, Marilyn Childress, at Goodwin Management (512) 502-7509, or any Board member.

TxDOT Open House – Don't Miss This!

Many of you know that as part of its ongoing efforts to improve 360 traffic flow, TxDOT has been working on plans to revamp the most problematic intersections along 360. Unfortunately, our Courtyard intersection, located just north of the bridge and wedged between cliffs on both sides, presents one of their more difficult design challenges. TxDOT has informed us that they have finalized their technical plans and would like to hold a special open house for Courtyard residents so we can learn the details and hear the reasoning behind the design chosen for this intersection. Don't miss this opportunity to listen and learn and have your own Q&A with the technical engineers who have put together the current plan for our intersection. In mid-December, when this article went to print, we did not yet have a date and time for the open house. As soon as we get this information, we will send it out to all homeowners via our Courtyard website, our broadcast email system, Courtyard Next Door, and as we get closer -signs on corners.

We want to express our appreciation to TxDOT and 360's Public Engagement Officer, Bruce Byron, for taking the initiative to hold this open house and have a dialogue with the residents that will be affected by these decisions. Learning the facts helps to avoid unnecessary concerns created by speculative discussions about what might be happening.

Director Positions

Two director positions are at the end of their terms this January, and we will be voting to fill those positions at the annual meeting on January 27. Current Board members Leslie Craven and Henri Mistrot have volunteered to continue serving on the Board at this time. If you have any questions, please contact any Board member or Marilyn Childress.

No Oak Trimming February through June

Don't forget that January is your last month to finish trimming your oak trees until July. Nothing but emergency trimming of hardwoods, especially oaks, should take place during the months between. Oak wilt is very difficult and costly to contain and the great harm it brings can extend far beyond your own yard if you ignore these warnings. 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.

DRIVE SLOWLY IN THE COURTYARD

CHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice President, Paul Siegel	
Treasurer, Jim Lloyd	
Secretary, Denise Hogan	denise.1.hogan@gmail.com
Waneen Spirduso	spirduso@utexas.edu
Janet Wright	mightywrights@me.com
Henry Mistrot	

COMMITTEES

Environmental Control (ECC)
Janet Wright469-387-5632, mightywrights@me.com
Community Park
Terry Edwards
Welcome
Jim Carolancell (619) 559-1978
jccarolan1@gmail.com
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Jane Gibson <i>(Editor - Courtyard Caller)</i>
Jane Gibson (Lauor - Courtyara Cauer)
janeegib@gmail.com Compliance
Bill Meredith – co-chairbmeredith1austin@.gmail.com
Leslie Craven – co-chaironcreatin raustin@.ginan.com
(512) 585-1153 (cell)
Kayak Committee
Fred Wahlers cell 214-476-7725
Fire Safety Committee
Jim Carolan cell (619) 559-1978
jccarolan1@gmail.com
Area Development and Zoning Liaison
Leslie Cravenlcraven1@att.net, 585-1153 (cell)

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Goodwin Management: Marilyn Childress 11149 Research Blvd. Austin, TX 78759-5227 512-502-7509, marilyn.childress@goodwintx.com

SUB-HOA CONTACTS

Center Court: Gary Doucha
gmdoucha@yahoo.com
Travis County Courtyard (aka "Backcourt")
Stuart Hare
stuarthare@me.com
Villas at Courtyard:
Thomas Hoy
Thomas.Hoy@freescale.com
Wolf Court:
Tim Sullivan
tsullivan1234@gmail.com

COURTYARD BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, February 5, 2019 1 p.m. 5612 N. Scout Island Circle

The Courtyard Book Club would like to thank Judy Campion for, once again, hosting the annual Christmas luncheon in her lovely home. Those who attended enjoyed a pot luck feast, a book exchange and good conversation with their book loving neighbors.



Please join the Courtyard Book Club in February as we discuss *Beneath The Scarlet Sky* by Mark Sullivan.

Edgar-finalist Sullivan (Triple Cross) lays on history with a trowel in this overstuffed tale of derring-do set in Italy during WWII. In 1943, 17-year-old Pino Lella's parents send him to the mountains to escape the bombardment of Milan. When he returns home on the eve of his 18th birthday, his parents urge him to join the German army to avoid the draft and thus be spared a one-way ticket to the Russian front. As the months go by, Pino turns up, Zelig-like, to witness every significant element of wartime life. He leads Jewish refugees across the dangerously snowy alps to the

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COURTYARD CALLER

(Continued from Page 2)

Swiss border, confronts local bandits masquerading as members of the anti-Fascist resistance, watches as people are loaded into boxcars destined for Auschwitz, overhears what could be talk of the German generals' plot to overthrow Hitler, finds girls and wine for American army officers, and so on. Facing few obstacles he can't overcome, the heroic Pino easily outfoxes the Nazis. *Review Courtesy of Publisher's Weekly*.

Join us in March to discuss *Last Painting of Sara De Voss* by Dominic-Smith.

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.



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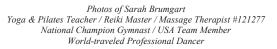
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courtyard fire safety When a wildfire is in our area...

• Stay aware of the latest news and updates from our local media and fire department. Get our family, home and pets prepared to evacuate.

• Move patio or deck furniture, cushions, door mats and potted plants in wooden containers either indoors or as far away from the home, shed and garage as possible.

• Close and protect your home's openings, including attic and basement doors and vents, windows, garage doors and pet doors to prevent embers from penetrating your home.

• Connect garden hoses and fill any pools, hot tubs, garbage cans, tubs, or other large containers with water. Firefighters often use these hoses to supplement their equipment.

• When evacuation is declared, comply with the Courtyard Evacuation Plan found on the Fire Safety page at http://www.courtyardhoa.org.

o Leave as soon as evacuation is recommended by fire officials to avoid being caught in fire, smoke or road congestion. Don't wait to be ordered by authorities to leave. Evacuating early also helps firefighters keep roads clear of congestion, and lets them move more freely to do their job. In an intense wildfire, they may not have time to knock on every door. If you are advised to leave, don't hesitate! You will be advised of potential evacuations as early as possible. You must take the initiative to stay informed and aware. Listen to your radio/TV for announcements from law enforcement and emergency personnel.

o Courtyard Tennis and Swim Club is our designated assembly point and Temporary Refuge Area (TRA) unless otherwise directed by officials. Do not attempt evacuating via highways 360 or 2222. This would impede fire responders and could potentially be more dangerous than taking refuge in the community TRA.

o Go via side streets to Courtyard Drive. Walk rather than drive, if you are able. Parking is limited, and we wish to avoid congestion that might impede firefighters and other emergency responders.

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.



Drive-A-Senior-West is Looking for Volunteers

Operating since 1985, Drive-A-Senior-West (DSW) is a volunteer based non-profit organization whose mission is to help senior adults live independently, avoid social isolation, age in place, and enhance the quality of life by providing free transportation and support services such as light home maintenance and repairs, referral services, in-home visits, and reassurance calls. Volunteers serve clients in the following zip codes: 78701, 78703, 78705, 78731, 78751, 78756, and 78759, and provided over 6,000 rides to home-bound seniors last year in this region alone.

DSW is looking for volunteer drivers. It's easy, convenient, and requires no minimum time commitment. Everything is done through your smart phone or computer. Please visit DSW's website for more information and to sign-up. If you have further questions, contact Virginia Jones, volunteer and member of our recruiting committee: (512) 289-6455, virginiajones00@gmail. com; www.driveasenior.org, westaustin@driveasenior.org, main office (512) 472-6339.

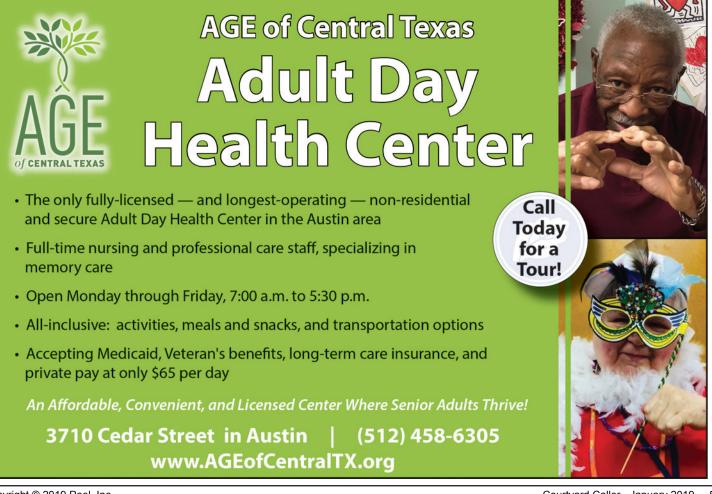
COURTYARD CALLER ZEN FOR YOUR DEN CREATING QUIET SPACE

by Sarah Brumgart / Whole Life Practitioner

Pets love their beds! But they also lie in other spots of their own choosing that seem especially comforting to them. These "power places" radiate the right energy where they can deeply relax and recharge. We humans love our beds, too, and our couches and overstuffed arm chairs. But like our pets, we could also find another area in the home for creating a quiet space free of distraction and distress that would always soothe our weary souls. It could be an entire room or just a corner demarcated by a screen or curtain. Even pulling furniture away from the wall and creating an alleyway behind works well. When I was a professional dancer touring the world, I never hesitated to rearrange hotel rooms so I had plenty of room to lie on the floor and do yoga before going to the theater to perform.

Children also respond well to having their own comfy time-out space. My friend's two-year old grandson has an oversized dog bed just for him that he voluntarily goes to when he's feeling cranky and needs to chill before rejoining his family or friends, even at day care. Additionally, all the benefits of designing a quiet space can be applied at the workplace, space permitting.

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COURTYARD CALLER

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EXPIRES 1/31/2019

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To start, decide what you want to do in the space, its size and location. Sitting meditation

requires only a square area large enough for a firm upright chair or floor cushion. If you'd simply like to lie down on a mat for systematic relaxations and deep breathing, you would need a longer rectangular space. A larger area is required for something like yoga. Then there are four steps in designing it: 1. Declutter 2. Organize and stow 3. Arrange furnishings 4. Decorate minimally.

The goal is to keep the designated space as minimal as possible, but aesthetic and pleasing enough that it inspires you to return to it continually. And the more you use it, the more healing energy will be imbued within it. But beware, your pet might like the energy so much it might want to share it with you or claim it as its own!

I have always kept a studio of quiet space in my home, even in small apartments in Brooklyn or garage apartments in Austin. Some of my yoga students say they like taking private classes with me just so they can enjoy the zen-like ambience of my humble abode. One says whenever she feels stressed, she closes her eyes and imagines being in the serenity of my place. Still others, who are especially sensitive and aware, sense a sacred energy permeating it.

It is said that the home is a person's castle. Why not make it a temple, too? Ultimately, your quiet space will lead you to your inner sanctum, a "mobile" sanctuary that you take with you no matter where you go. And actually, finding that eternal quietude within yourself is the main goal and achievement of any meditational practice.

Sarah Brumgart helps people design quiet spaces. She also offers private wellness sessions at her home studio in the Courtyard neighborhood. Her services include yoga, pilates, massage therapy (LMT 121277), energy work, life coaching, artistic advice, psychic insights, yoga philosophy, and meditation.



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