

COURTYARD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 15, Number 10

COURTYARD BOOK CLUB

TUESDAY, **NOVEMBER, 5 2019** 1P.M. 5612 N. SCOUT ISLAND CIRCLE



Please join the Courtyard Book Club in November as we discuss The Library Book by Susan Orlean.

Libraries pulse with stories and not only those preserved in books. When creative nonfiction virtuoso Orlean (Rin Tin Tin, 2011) first visited Los Angeles' Central Library, she was transfixed. Then she learned about the 1986 fire, which many believed was deliberately set and which destroyed or damaged more than one million books and shut the library down for seven years. Intrigued, Orlean embarked on an all-points research quest, resulting in this kaleidoscopic and riveting mix of true crime, history, biography, and immersion journalism. While her forensic account of the conflagration is eerily mesmerizing, Orlean is equally enthralling in her awestruck detailing of the

(Continued on Page 2)



We continue to have mailboxes in the Courtyard opened during the night. It appears someone opens them trying to steal mail, or to see if homeowners are away. Please make sure that you empty your mailbox every night - and if you are out of town, stop your mail or have a neighbor/friend collect it. A stuffed mailbox makes your home appear empty and is a tempting target. You may want to consider installing a locking mailbox. If you have any security camera footage or doorbell camera evidence of someone tampering with your mailbox, please contact Jim Lloyd at (512) 627-5761.



Please Join Us for the Fall 2019 Park Volunteer Day!

What: Volunteers needed for the annual 2019 Park Fall Volunteer Day When: Saturday, November 2, 9AM - Noon Where: The Courtyard Park, 5905 Cone Circle Activity: We are going to be refreshing the "Kiddie Cushion" mulch in the playground area and gathering debris from the "forest" areas. Bring your gloves, shovels & wheel barrels if you have them. Snacks and water will be provided. Contact: Contact Terry Edwards with any questions Email: t.edwards54321@gmail.com Phone: 214-392-4627



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(Book Club - Continued from Cover)

spectrum of activities that fill a typical Central Library day, and in her profiles of current staff and former head librarians, including brilliant and forceful Tessa Kelso, who ran into censorship issues, and consummate professional Mary Jones, who was forced out in 1905 because the board wanted a man. Orlean widens the lens to recount the crucial roles public libraries have played in America and to marvel at librarians' innovative and caring approaches to meeting diverse needs and cutting-edge use of digital technologies. She also attempts to fathom the truth about enigmatic Harry Peak, the prime arson suspect. Probing, prismatic, witty, dramatic, and deeply appreciative, Orlean's chronicle celebrates libraries as sanctuaries, community centers, and open universities run by people of commitment, compassion, creativity, and resilience. – Booklist

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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Joany Price

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

*Offer good for up to 6 months after closing.

COURTYARD FIRE SAFETY HOME IGNITION ZONE (HIZ) WILDFIRE RISK PROTECTION



The key to reduce wildfire damage is to maintain a defensible space around your home and structures. Clearing or trimming vegetation reduces the chance of fire damage and provides a safety zone for firefighters.

A house burns because of its interrelationship with everything in its surrounding "home ignition zone". That is, the house and its immediate surroundings. To avoid a home ignition, you must eliminate the wildfire's potential engagement with your house. This can be done by interrupting the natural path a fire takes. Changing a fire's path by clearing a home ignition zone is an easy-to-accomplish task that can result in avoiding home loss.

Here are several easy and inexpensive ways to create and maintain a defensible space and protect against wildfire damage to home and residents.

• Take care of the area immediately around your home by removing dead shrubs, dried grass, fallen branches and dried leaves within 30 feet, if possible, on all sides of a structure.

• Focus especially on the area up to five feet around the base of your house, use fire-resistant plants, with ground cover that is non-flammable, such as rocks or gravel. Maintain a space of at least 18 inches between the sides of the house and the nearest plantings.

• When planting trees and shrubs, use native shrubs and hardwoods. Healthy live plants are generally not a problem in a wildfire.

• Keep trees and shrubs properly thinned and pruned within your defensible space of 30 feet. Remember that excessive pruning leads to the spread of oak wilt in neighborhoods

• Be sure to comply with Austin tree regulations at https://www. austintexas.gov/faq/tree-regulations .

• Remove ladder fuels — plants, low branches, and firewood that let a fire on the ground climb into the trees. In considering how to trim, note that bushes can flame up to three times their height.

• Consider replacing wooden sheds, decks, and privacy fences with fire-resistant/Firewise alternatives.

• Keep your roof and gutters clear of debris and remove overhanging branches.

• Keep grass and weeds mowed at a low height. Green grass will usually dry out in Texas, and grass fires move fast, posting risks to dwellings.

• Wind-blown embers are the biggest threat to homes. Be sure that there are no entries for embers into your attic vents or under roofing materials; no place for embers to land in debris (litter in the gutter, stacks of wood, etc.) and no wood fencing that adjoins the house.

To sign up for an Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Wildfire Risk Evaluation by one of our Fire Safety Committee trained team, email fire-safety@ courtyardhoa.org, or sign up with your author at jccarolan1@gmail.com.

TXDOT PROJECT PLANS FOR LOOP 360 INTERSECTIONS

Questions or Comments?? Contact TxDOT Public Information Officer: Brad Wheelis, (512) 832-7060 or bradley.wheelis@txdot.gov Find out more at www.loop360project.com Follow on Twitter @Loop360Project



HALLOWEEN SAFETY

From the Austin Fire Department

• Make sure costumes are visible and can be seen by drivers. For greater visibility in dusk or darkness, costumes should be decorated or trimmed with reflective tape.

• Use cosmetics instead of face masks. If a mask is used, make sure it fits securely and does not block vision.

• Carry either a flashlight or a "glow-stick." Do not carry candles, torches, or other actual flaming devices.

- Costumes should be flame retardant.
- Do not drive in a costume that restricts movement or vision.
- Children should always have an adult with them.

• An adult should inspect all candy before children are allowed to eat it.

• Throw away any candy that is not individually wrapped or purchased at a store.

• Children should stay on the sidewalk when trick-or-treating.

• Stay in small groups (we suggest six or fewer to a group). Stay near home in a familiar neighborhood and surroundings.

• Cross streets only at intersections.

• Candle-lit jack-o-lanterns should be kept away from landings and doorsteps where costumes could brush against the flame.

• Indoor jack-o-lanterns should be kept away from curtains, decorations, or other furnishings that could be ignited.

• Jack-o-lanterns should be treated like all other candles. Extinguish them before leaving them unattended and before going to sleep.

AUSTIN AREA EVENT CALENDAR

With cooler temperatures on the horizon, make plans to attend these uniquely Austin events!

10/24/19 - 10/31/19

Austin Film Festival

Paramount Theatre & Various Locations

Recognized as one of the top film festivals in the country, this cinematic event shines the spotlight on both top-billed films and indies alike.

www.austinfilmfestival.com

10/26/19 - 10/27/19

Texas Book Festival

Texas State Capitol Building

The Texas Book Festival has evolved into one of the premier literary events in the country and hosts about 250 authors each year. More than 40,000 book lovers of all ages attend the Festival annually, enjoying readings, panel discussions, signings, cooking demonstrations, live music, local food, YA authors, children's activities and exhibiting vendors from across the state.

www.texasbookfestival.org

10/27/19

Austin Symphony Orchestra Presents: Halloween Children's Concert

The Long Center for the Performing Arts

This concert is a wonderful chance for you to introduce your children to the wonders of live orchestral music and also a great opportunity to wear costumes and have tons of fun. The concert hall will be decorated top to bottom to enhance your little one's concert experience.

www.austinsymphony.org

11/1/19 - 11/3/19

FORMULA 1 United States Grand Prix

Circuit of The Americas

International drivers will be in Austin this November to compete in the Formula 1 United States Grand Prix at the Circuit of The Americas track. This event promises three days of racing, camping, live music events and more.

www.circuitoftheamericas.com/f1

11/2/19 - 11/3/19

Texas Monthly BBQ Festival

City Terrace at The Long Center

Now in its ninth year, this tasty festival only has four rules: muster as many of Texas' best BBQ joints as possible; have them serve up their specialties, side-by-side; let smoke and sauce fly for five intoxicating hours; and finally, let The People decide who made the best goods. www.tmbbq.com



Neighborhood Beautiful!

Vinosaur Hunter

- 1) I lived throughout the Mesozoic Era
- 2) My fossils are found all around the world
- 3) My name means "winged lizard"
- 4) There are many varieties of my species

5) My wings stretch from my wrists to my ankles



Answer on Page 6!

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Be a Heno this Halloween



Being a hero goes beyond dressing up in a costume this Halloween season. Children, families and schools across the country can channel their own superpowers to help deliver lifesaving supplies to children in need this October.

One way to use your superpowers is to Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF, which began in 1950 when girls and boys across the United States collected coins in hand-painted milk cartons to help children affected by World War II. Celebrating its 69th year, this nostalgic tradition continues today as America's longest running youth volunteer program with generations of children running door to door holding signature orange boxes and singing, "Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF."

With over \$180 million raised for health care, education, nutrition and more, the program has evolved into a monthlong celebration of the power of kids helping kids. Throughout October, kids, parents and teachers across the country can be real superheroes by collecting donations, big and small.

Equipped with the iconic orange boxes, families can raise



funds that add up to lifesaving change. As little as \$1 can provide safe water to a child for more than 2 months; \$3 can provide seven packets of therapeutic food; \$5 can provide a pack of 10 notebooks and \$7 can provide one warm fleece blanket for a child.

Halloween has become a "heroic" way to help others and build the next generation of global citizens. When kids trick-or-treat for a cause, they learn about global issues and feel empowered to make a difference.

Start creating real-world change by picking up your own little orange box. With the support of Visa Inc., the iconic box will glow in the dark, allowing superpowers to shine even brighter.

Visit TrickorTreatforUNICEF.org to download a DIY change box, donate online or find an event near you. Share your story on social media with #TOT4UNICEF, #WeCanAllBeHeroes and #KidsHelpingKids.

MAKING CONNECTIONS BRAIN INJURY RESOURCE FAIR & CONFERENCE

10/26/2019

Woodlawn Baptist Church 4600 Manchaca Road Austin, Texas 78745

Registration opens at 8:30 am Conference from 9-4:00 pm Making Connections is a pediatric brain injury resource fair and conference presented by Team Luke Hope for Minds. The purpose is to connect families and provide helpful resources and education. Parents will explore services, products, technologies, and other resources that would be of benefit to their children.



Keynote Speaker Paul G. Harch, M.D. TOPICS INCLUDE:

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy for Rehabilitation of Acquired Pediatric Neurological Disorders

Stem Cells & Exosomes

Applying Functional Medicine and Nutrition to Pediatric Brian Injury

Strategies for Life: Maximizing Function after Brain Injury in Children

Transition 101: Transition to Adulthood

Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Waivers

Grief and Trauma in Families with a Child with a Brain Injury

Navigating Public Education When Your Child has a Brain Injury

Bent, Not Broken: The Management of Scoliosis and Spinal Deformity after Brain Injury

Outpatient Cognitive Rehabilitation for Pediatric Brain Injury

Music Therapy: Mind-Body-Spirit Connection

TICKETS:

Register at teamlukehopeforminds.org under the "Events" tab. Payment can be made online or at the door. Cost is \$10/person

Continental breakfast & lunch provided There will not be childcare.

Email ronda@teamlukehopeforminds.org for scholarships for admission and/or travel expenses



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