



January 2020

**COURTYARD HOMEOWNERS
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

COURTYARD CALLER

Official Courtyard Newsletter

Volume 16, Number 1

MESSAGE from the BOARD

***Courtyard Homeowners Association Annual Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 26, 2020 at 6:00 pm***

The Courtyard Homeowners Association Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday, January 26, 2020. The meeting will be held at 6:00 pm in the lobby of the Courtyard Office Building located at the corner of Courtyard Drive and N. Scout Island Circle. All homeowners are invited to attend. Although the meeting is primarily to provide a 2019 report from the Board to the members, and to conduct the business of the Board, any homeowner who wishes to make a comment to the Board will be given time to speak. Please let a Board member know if you wish to make a comment no later than Saturday, January 25th.

It is critical that all residents send in their proxy. We understand that it is not always possible for everyone to attend the annual meeting, so please read the written materials about this meeting when they arrive from Goodwin Management in January, and sign and mail in your voting proxy as soon as possible. This helps achieve the quorum required to conduct necessary association business. Please note that mailing your proxy will not prevent you from attending the annual meeting in person and voting directly. Returning your proxy by mail is a precaution in case you forget or are unable to attend the meeting in person. If you have questions, contact our property manager, Marilyn Childress, at Goodwin Management (512) 502-7509, or any Board member.

You should have received by mail your annual remittance for HOA dues. We encourage all residents to pay their homeowner dues for 2020 as soon as possible. HOA fees cover a multitude of services and upkeep for the Courtyard. Thank you for your timely attention.

Courtyard Entrance Holiday Decorations

Thank you to Joany & Lewis Price for their efforts in decorating the entrance with festive lighted trees, wreath, and garland. Many thanks to Terry Edwards and Konavis Smith for retrieving the trees and removing the old lights, in preparation for Joany's makeover of them. What a holiday treat!

Thank you to Leslie Craven, our HOA President

After 13 years of serving this community on the Board, and 10 years of that service as HOA President, Leslie has decided to resign her position. We cannot thank Leslie enough for her tireless dedication to this neighborhood, her painstaking care of all the trees in the park, and her unflagging devotion to all the details that have kept things running smoothly for a decade. Thank you, Leslie!!!

Denise Hogan will be stepping in to serve as HOA President. Denise has served as Board Secretary for 2 years, and has served as Area Development and Government Liaison for the past year. She also served as the Welcome Committee Chair for 2 years prior to becoming a Board member.

Thank you to all Residents

We want to thank all of our residents for being good stewards of our community and for taking part in making this neighborhood a wonderful place to call home. If you want to feel more connected, please consider volunteering for one of our committees, and join in our wonderful social events throughout the year. As always, please remember to drive slowly through the Courtyard!

COURTYARD CALLER

CHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Denise Hogan.....	denise.1.hogan@gmail.com
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Vice President, Paul Siegel.....	pbsiegel@gmail.com
Treasurer, Jim Lloyd	231-0855
Secretary, Denise Hogan.....	denise.1.hogan@gmail.com
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Janet Wright	mightywrights@me.com
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Social Committee Chairperson	
Joany Price.....	775-8942
Landscape & Decorating	
Ed Ueckert	345-6137
Security	
Jim Lloyd.....	231-0855
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Leslie Craven	585-1153 (cell)
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Kayak Committee	
Fred Wahlers.....	cell 214-476-7725
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Jim Carolan	cell (737) 230-9241
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Denise Hogan.....	denise.1.hogan@gmail.com
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MANAGEMENT COMPANY

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

SUB-HOA CONTACTS

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Travis County Courtyard (aka "Backcourt")	
Stuart Hare	785-1834
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Villas at Courtyard:	
Thomas Hoy.....	231-1270
.....	Thomas.Hoy@freescall.com
Wolf Court:	
Susanne Doell	454-3400
.....	Drdoell@gmail.com

BOOK CLUB

Join us for stimulating conversation with your fellow Courtyard women! How lucky we are to have such an amazing group of knowledgeable, articulate, and well-traveled women from diverse backgrounds.

Hosted by the ever-gracious Lou Blemaster, the Courtyard Book Club meets at 1PM on the first Tuesday of every month at 5612 North Scout Island Circle. To receive Book Club emails, contact Lou at LouBlemaster@gmail.com.

In February, we will review *Afterwards*, by Rosamund Lupton. Touted as "A GRIPPING NOVEL" by the New York Times Book Review, this novel tells the story of a family's journey in the aftermath of a tragic event. When her children's school is set ablaze, Grace runs into the burning building to rescue her teenage daughter, Jenny. In the aftermath, badly injured, Grace learns the police have identified the arsonist, but they have blamed the wrong person. Only Detective Sarah McBride, the sister-in-law Grace has never liked, is searching for the real arsonist--a hunt that becomes urgent when it's clear Jenny is still the perpetrator's target. Page-turning suspense combines with a beautiful portrayal of deep family bonds to make this a stunning and riveting read.

PARK USAGE AND GATE CODE

Many of you are aware of increased security concerns in the Courtyard recently, especially as we approach the holiday season. Additionally, we have learned that at least one resident has shared the gate code with non-residents, and there has been an increase of non-resident traffic in our private park. There is growing concern by Courtyard residents about non-residents in the park. We remind all Courtyard homeowners that the park is a private park for the use of residents only. Guests and non-resident family members of Courtyard residents must be accompanied by the resident in the park.

Our park may not be used for business purposes. Courtyard neighbors rely on the integrity of each and every resident to abide by the rules that each of us agreed to when we purchased our homes in the Courtyard. Non-residents in the park are trespassing, and will be asked to leave immediately.

The Rules for the Use of Courtyard Common Area Land and Amenities, issued by the Courtyard HOA Board of Directors, specifically states: "Use of the Common Areas, including the Courtyard Community Park (Park), is limited to an Owner's private/family/personal activities or events. Although not a complete listing, activities or functions related to private or public schools, scouting or similar social groups, office parties, charity/fundraising, politics or any type of commercial use are not allowed."

THE PARK GATE CODE MAY NOT BE SHARED WITH NON-RESIDENTS!



Operation Blue Santa Was a **HUGE** Success

over \$2,000 in donations were collected



Our neighborhood Station 31
were our special guests and will
distribute our donation
to Blue Santa.

Special thanks to our neighborhood sponsorship:

***Denise Hogan & Terry Edwards, Dana & Scott Ivers, Ellen & Stewart
Keller, Meredith & Justin Kloetzer and Joany & Lewis Price!***



Joany Price

***Your Courtyard Neighbor
& Tennis Club Member***

Realtor, CLHMS
International Diamond Society
Coldwell Banker United, REALTORS



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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.***

*Offer good for up to 6 months after closing.

Courtyard Fire Safety

Do you use wood mulch?

Research by the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS) shows that the first 0-to-5 feet around your home has the greatest impact on controlling wildfire vulnerabilities. IBHS and the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) recommend keeping this zone well-maintained and clear of combustible materials.

The main objective of the 0-to-5 feet zone is to reduce the potential that embers landing near a home ignite fuels and expose the area around the building to direct flame. Removing anything around your home that can be ignited from embers is critically important.

One of the most important outcomes from 180 tests conducted by IBHS in 2018 to verify the effectiveness of a 5-foot clear zone involved wood mulch.

Key Observation

- Wood mulch can quickly spread fire to a building. The burning mulch itself generates embers that increase the chance of spreading fire flame to the building.

Recommendations

- Install hard surfaces, such as a concrete walkway, or use noncombustible mulch products, such as rock.
- Keep lawns well irrigated and use low-growing, “non-woody” plants. Shrubs and trees are not recommended within the 5-foot zone.
- Remove dead vegetation and implement a maintenance plan to keep the 5-foot zone clear of dead plant materials.

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.



FIREWISE USA™

Residents reducing wildfire risks

FRUIT FLIES - Wizzie Brown



Fruit flies can become a nuisance problem at any time of year. They can enter homes from ripe fruits or vegetables picked from the garden or purchased at the grocery store. Fruit fly adults may also fly into homes from outdoors.

Adult fruit flies are small (about 1/8 of an inch) and often have red eyes. The front portion of the body is tan while the back portion is dark brown to black. If given the opportunity, females can lay up to 500 eggs. Larvae are surface feeders on fermenting foods or other organic matter, which means that you can cut off the overripe parts of the fruit or vegetable and eat the rest.

To prevent bringing fruit flies into your home, do not purchase over ripened fruit and vegetables. Eat fresh produce in a timely manner and store items in the refrigerator or a paper bag that is clipped closed. All recyclables should be rinsed thoroughly before placing them into the recycling bin. Recycling and garbage bins should be cleaned on a regular basis with soapy water to eliminate any spilled material.

If your home already has fruit flies, locate all sources of infestation (where the larvae are living) and eliminate them. Insecticides only target adults and will not control the problem. While searching and eliminating breeding sources, a trap can be constructed to capture adult flies. Create a paper funnel by rolling paper and taping it closed. Place the funnel into a jar that has a small amount of apple cider vinegar in the bottom.

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



This work is supported by Crops Protection and Pest Management Competitive Grants Program [grant no. 2017-70006-27188 /project accession no. 1013905] from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

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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.

REMINDER: LAST MONTH TO TRIM OAK TREES

January is the last opportunity for your oak trees to be trimmed until July of this year. The season to not trim oaks trees is from February through June when the oak wilt carrier beetle is most active. Oak Wilt is a serious threat to the oak trees in Central Texas. Also, please remember 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.



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NEW
Year

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BULK ITEM COLLECTION

Austin Resource Recovery customers receive twice-per-year collection of bulk items. Bulk Item Collection for the Courtyard will take place on February 3, 2020.

Place bulk items at the curb in front of your house by 6:30 a.m. on the first day of your scheduled collection week

Separate Items into Three Piles

Metal items - Includes appliances (remove doors). These are taken to our Resource Recovery Center for recycling

Passenger car tires - Rims must be removed. Limit of eight tires per household. We cannot collect truck or tractor tires. Tires will go to a tire recycling facility

Non-metal items - Includes carpeting and nail-free lumber. These items go to a landfill. Austin Resource Recovery is working on plans to salvage reusable items from bulk collection to help meet the City of Austin's Zero Waste goal

Because these piles are collected by different trucks, they may be collected at different times throughout the week.

To prevent damage to your property, keep items 5 feet away from your trash cart, mailbox, fences or walls, water meter, telephone connection box and parked cars. Do not place any items under low hanging tree limbs or power lines

Do not put items in bags, boxes or other containers. Bulk collection is for items too large to fit in containers. Bags will be treated as extra trash and are subject to extra trash fees.

Bulk Items Include:

Doors

Carpet

Furniture

Appliances (remove doors)

Passenger car tires (remove rims; limit eight tires per household)

Lawn mowers (remove gas/oil)

Railroad ties (cut in half)

Pallets

Rolled fencing

Nail-free lumber

Bulk Item Collection Crews Cannot Collect:

Brush, household trash, cardboard boxes, hazardous materials, mirrors, automotive chassis and bodies, motorcycles, trailers, boats and tires that are still mounted on rims, sheet glass and other construction and remodeling debris

Top Tips to Get Ready to Run



(Family Features) You've made the decision to get in shape, and whether your goal is a full marathon or simply a few laps around the neighborhood, there are a few steps to consider taking before you strap on those shoes and head toward the finish line.

Here are a few tips to help get you ready for the big race:

Seek Quality Sneakers - Feet come in a variety of widths and sizes, so visit a specialty running store to find perfect-fitting sneakers. These may come with a hefty price tag, but there are no shortcuts for comfort and support while running long distances.

Make a Schedule - Try to aim for at least 10 hours of training per week, including three days where you run and two or three days of other physical activity such as cycling or strength training. To avoid exhaustion, be sure to include at least 1-2 "rest" days per week.

Stick with Water - Avoid sports drinks that are loaded with preservatives and sugars. You can't go wrong with the hydrating power of water. As a rule, try to consume at least 6-8 ounces of water for every 20 minutes you run. Proper hydration after the run is also vital.

Go Online - Many websites have training guides for various skill levels or different types of races. If you have a smartphone, look for apps that can take you through day-by-day workouts to get you marathon-ready.

Nutrition - Filling your body with the proper amount of fuel can help ensure finish-line success. Load up on quality carbohydrates, such as beans, peas, whole-wheat pastas, whole-grain cereals, apples, brown rice and root vegetables. Protein also plays an important role in a runner's nutrition, so fill up on lean meats, fish, eggs, low-fat dairy, peanut butter and soy protein sources, as well.

By following these general rules, you'll be able to focus on achieving your goal and enjoy the thrill of finishing the race. Find more tips for a healthier lifestyle at eLivingToday.com.

Photo courtesy of Getty Images #13139, Source: eLivingToday.com, Content downloaded from FamilyFeatures.com.

Let Trends Guide Your 2020 Travel

(Family Features) While there's plenty to be said for taking the proverbial road less traveled, fellow tourists can provide a wealth of knowledge to help shape a vacation filled with lifelong memories.

Whether you expect your travel plans for 2020 to take you near or far, having a pulse on how and where others enjoy spending their travel time may help narrow down your options. Start planning your next getaway armed with the findings of a trend report compiled by vacation rental app and website Vrbo, especially when it comes to selecting a destination and your accommodations.

Unique Accommodations

Traditional vacation home favorites like beach houses, cabins and condos still reign supreme, but adventurous American travelers are staying in some unusual options. In fact, 71% of millennial travelers said they would consider staying at a non-traditional vacation rental.

In addition to barns, castles and treehouses, properties on wheels and properties that float join the ranks of unusual accommodations travelers are booking. Travel demand for houseboats, yachts, RVs and travel trailers is up 30% year-over-year.

Surf's Up

Portugal's reputation for affordability, primo surfing and sunshine-filled climate make the country a desirable place to explore. That may explain why seaside locales in Portugal took three of the top five spots on the list of hottest international beach destinations for American travelers. Chania, Greece, took the top spot, followed by three Portuguese destinations: Vila Nova de Gaia, Porto and Lisbon. Catania, Italy, rounded out the top five.

For those seeking to stay stateside, four of Vrbo's top five United States destinations this year are beaches, including: Gulf Shores, Alabama; Miramar and Rosemary Beach, Florida; Panama City Beach, Florida; and Maui, Hawaii.

Same-City Stays

Rental demand data in Chicago, Philadelphia, Dallas, Atlanta and a number of other urban destinations showed the single largest traveler origin market for each city was that same city.

"Cele-cations," when people seek accommodations to host and spend time with groups of family and friends for milestone events like weddings, birthdays and anniversaries, may be fueling the trend of people booking vacation homes in the same cities where they live," said Melanie Fish, Vrbo travel expert.

Also high on the trend list: short-stay, drivable destinations located within 300 miles of home.

Up-and-Coming Destinations

Their names may not be familiar to the masses, but each of the top emerging domestic vacation destinations shares one thing in common: outdoor appeal. Places that appeal to families and other groups of travelers looking to explore the great outdoors are seeing a major surge over the past three years.

If an outdoor getaway is your ideal trip, consider destinations like Terlingua, Texas, located just a short distance from Big Bend National Park; Bella Vista, Arkansas, situated in the Ozarks near majestic lakes; Westport, Washington, surrounded by a bay to the east and the Pacific Ocean to the west; Cherry Log, Georgia, which sits in the heart of Chattahoochee National Forest; and Edisto Island, South Carolina, a charming beachside retreat 1 hour from Charleston.

"This is the third year in a row travelers' desire to be outdoors has filled the up-and-coming

destinations list," Fish said. "Clearly, people want the comforts of a home away from home while soaking in scenery."

Find the trends and accommodations that match your 2020 travel dreams at vrbo.com.

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2020 include buying or selling a
home, please contact me. I'd love to
put my experience and the resources
of Moreland Properties to work for you.

For more details on what is going on in The Courtyard, please give me a call.

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