



April 2020

**COURTYARD HOMEOWNERS  
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

# **COURTYARD CALLER**

*Official Courtyard Newsletter*

Volume 16, Number 4

## **BOARD MESSAGE**

Happy spring to all Courtyard residents! It's been a busy time for us all, and we want to welcome our new Board member Konavis Smith. Konavis and his lovely family have been residents of the Courtyard for 6 years and have been active members of the community, always volunteering to help on committees and on Park Volunteer Days. Konavis recently joined the Fire Safety Committee as a permanent member, and will now serve our community as our HOA Board Vice President. Thank you Konavis!

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Paul Siegel, our previous HOA Board Vice President. We truly appreciate his excellent service, support and dedication to our community for the last 5 years as a Board member. Happy retirement Paul!

Now that Spring has arrived and Summer is just around the corner, we ask all residents to check your landscapes for needed sprucing up. Dead patches of grass or bare soil should be replanted, and any low-hanging limbs over sidewalks or fences should be trimmed. Check your sprinkler systems for leaks or broken heads, and make sure your heads are not spraying into the street, onto sidewalks, or onto your driveway. Lawn waste bags may NOT be stored on the street until Friday's pickup – they should remain out of sight until Thursday evening. The same goes for trash, recycling and compost bins. Please keep these out of sight until Thursday evening and replace them out of sight promptly, preferably by Friday evening. Remind all lawn crews that leaves MAY NOT be blown into the street, into the storm drains, onto the neighbor's property, or onto HOA-owned common areas.

All outdoor home or landscape remodeling must be approved by the Environmental Control Committee (ECC). Email Janet Wright at [mightywrights@me.com](mailto:mightywrights@me.com). Check your warranty deed and survey before planning any outdoor improvements or changes.

We ask all residents to check their contact information in the Courtyard Website Directory. PLEASE logon to [www.courtyardHOA.org](http://www.courtyardHOA.org), click on Directory, and enter the username and password to check your contact information for accuracy. This database is our source for all important HOA notices to residents. If

you don't know the username and password, email Marilyn Childress at [Marilyn.childress@goodwintx.com](mailto:Marilyn.childress@goodwintx.com).

A reminder to all residents: Short-Term Rentals are prohibited in the Courtyard! Leases must be a minimum of 6 months. The HOA receives notification from the City for all Short-Term Rentals, and we will vigorously enforce compliance with this rule.

The Park gate code will be changed again in May. Notice will be sent to all registered email addresses in our Website Directory. We remind all residents that the Park is private, for residents only, and that the Park gate code may NOT be shared with non-residents for any reason. This includes friends, realtors, photographers, and any other non-resident. Non-resident guests must be accompanied in the Park by a resident. Non-authorized cars in the Park may be towed.

Neighbors, we want to remind you that HOA Boards have a very important job: to keep property values up. Our Courtyard HOA Declaration directs your HOA Board about how that goal is to be accomplished. All seven of your HOA Board members (and eleven Committee chairs) are volunteers who dedicate many hours every week to keep the neighborhood running, and we endeavor to promote courteous, respectful interactions that foster true community. In this day and age of digital communication, folks can forget that there is a real person with whom we are dealing, and that we are neighbors. All residents are welcome to attend monthly HOA Board meetings to hear the work that has been accomplished in the past month or is planned in the upcoming months. We ask that residents periodically refresh their knowledge of the various rules that govern our neighborhood by going to our website at [www.courtyardHOA.org](http://www.courtyardHOA.org) and clicking on Documents.

Participation in HOA social events, attendance at Board meetings, or volunteering for Committees are all GREAT ways to feel part of the community. If you are feeling out of touch or and want to connect, please come closer!

Have a safe and happy Spring, and we'll see you around the neighborhood! And as always, please drive slowly in the Courtyard.

# COURTYARD CALLER

## CHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Denise Hogan..... denise.1.hogan@gmail.com  
..... 214-403-4454  
Vice President, Konavis Smith..... konavis@gmail.com  
..... 214-403-4454  
Treasurer, Jim Lloyd .....231-0855  
Secretary, Waneen Spirduso .....spirduso@utexas.edu  
Janet Wright .....mightywrights@me.com  
.....469-387-5632  
Henry Mistrot.....459-7313  
Katherine Hodges..... katherinehodges@gmail.com

### COMMITTEES

#### Environmental Control (ECC)

Janet Wright .....469-387-5632, mightywrights@me.com  
Community Park

Terry Edwards..... 214-392-4627  
Welcome

Erik Maye ..... 512-626-2404  
.....erikmaye@gmail.com

#### Social & Decorating

Joany Price ..... 512-775-8942

#### Landscape & Decorating

Ed Ueckert ..... 512-345-6137

#### Security

Jim Lloyd..... 512-231-0855

#### Communications

Jen Harold (Editor - Courtyard Caller...(281) 773-2880  
.....harold.jennifer@gmail.com

#### Compliance

Katherine Hodges – co-chair... katherinehodges@gmail.com  
Kayak

Fred Wahlers ..... cell 214-476-7725  
.....fjwahlers@sbcglobal.net

#### Fire Safety

Richard Stelzner..... arebeess42@gmail.com

#### Area Development and Zoning Liaison

Denise Hogan..... denise.1.hogan@gmail.com  
.....214-403-4454 (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.....512-401-3105  
.....gmdoucha@yahoo.com

#### Travis County Courtyard (aka "Backcourt")

Stuart Hare .....512-785-1834  
.....stuarthare@me.com

#### Villas at Courtyard:

Thomas Hoy.....512-231-1270  
.....Thomas.Hoy@freescall.com

#### Wolf Court:

Susanne Doell .....512-454-3400  
.....Drdoell@gmail.com

## COURTYARD BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

1 p.m. 5612 N. Scout Island Circle



Have you ever wanted to connect with other amazing women in the Courtyard? There is no better way than to join the Book Club. We are fortunate to have such a knowledgeable, articulate, and well-traveled group of women from diverse backgrounds. Whether you have enjoyed the book or not, the conversation is highly stimulating and will broaden your horizons!

Hosted by the ever-gracious Lou Blemaster, 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 May, we will discuss *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*, by Lisa See, a work of historical fiction. This highly acclaimed national best-seller was published in 2006 and made into a movie in 2011.

In nineteenth-century China, in a remote Hunan country, a girl named Lily, at the tender age of seven, is paired with a *laotong*, or "old same," in an emotional match that will last a lifetime. The *laotong*, Snow Flower, introduces herself by sending Lily a silk fan on which she has written a poem in *nu shu*, a unique language that Chinese women created in order to communicate in secret, away from the influence of men. As the years pass, Lily and Snow Flower send messages on the fan and compose stories on handkerchiefs, reaching out of isolation to share their hopes, dreams, and accomplishments. They both endure the agony of footbinding and together reflect upon their arranged marriages, shared loneliness, and the joys and tragedies of motherhood. The two find solace, developing a bond that keeps their spirits alive. But when a misunderstanding arises, their deep friendship suddenly threatens to tear apart.

# TIPS FOR A KILLER GARAGE SALE

Thinking of hosting a garage sale? Check with the Courtyard HOA on the planned date for 2020!

**DRAW CUSTOMERS IN** with effective product placement and display. Put the best, most visible items like furniture out front and center.

**MAKE IT EASY FOR CUSTOMERS TO BROWSE AND BUY**

- Display like items together
- Use easy-to-read price tags
- Provide written descriptions for unique items or a story about where it came from
- Create room displays with furniture and décor
- Have a designated, easy to find cashier table
- Use larger signs to help customers navigate through your “shop”

## PRICE TO SELL

Don't base it on how much you paid for an item 20 years ago, or how much an item means to you. If you cannot let it go for cheap, then you shouldn't be selling it at all.

## OFFER FREE STUFF

If your primary goal is to rid your home of clutter, why not have a designated free pile of those items you really want to purge from your home?

## CONSOLIDATE PRICING

Bundle random craft supplies, hardware, holiday decorations and other like items into a single lot for one low price.

## KNOW WHAT CUSTOMERS WANT

Garage sale shoppers are different than retail shoppers. The majority are looking for daily-use items at a low cost. Some shoppers are looking for bargain supplies for their hobby or collection. The best-selling items tend to be: clothing in good condition, tools, furniture, games/toys/bicycles, books, small appliances, camping/fishing gear and sports equipment. Still, there are a few outliers who stop by because something unique caught their eye or they are looking for something that speaks to them aesthetically. If you have a unique item, consider displaying it near the front of your shop visible to foot and vehicle traffic.

# JOIN NEXTDOOR!

Don't miss urgent alerts, neighborhood news or recommendations for professional services. Nextdoor is the neighborhood hub for trusted connections and the exchange of helpful information, goods, and services.

Join the Courtyard community on Nextdoor by visiting [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com)

## EXCLUSIVE OFFER FOR COURTYARD RESIDENTS

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# HELP MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE

Did you know that by opening your home to a foreign exchange student you are taking on the role as a diplomat of the United States? Its true! Hosting a teenager from another country is form of public diplomacy – it gives both the host family and the student an opportunity to learn from each other, exchange cultural experiences and most of all, form life-long relationships.

All that is required of a host family is to provide three meals a day, a place for the student to sleep and a little bit of TLC thrown in. Students can share a room with a same sex sibling that is within three years of their age. The students all come with their own spending money, health insurance and an eagerness to be part of your family.

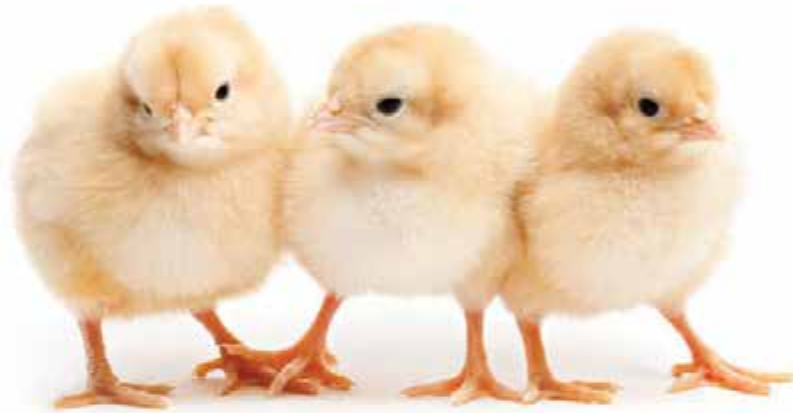
STS Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, is looking for volunteer host families for the 2020/2021 school year. We accept all different types of families, from single parents, to newly marrieds, to empty nesters to same sex couples. The application process is simple, once you are completely vetted, you will have access to our student database where you can select the student that best fits in with your family.

If you would like to find out more about hosting one of our wonderful students, please contact Vicki Odom at (832) 455-7881 or email at [vicki.stsfoundation@yahoo.com](mailto:vicki.stsfoundation@yahoo.com). I can get you started in helping to make the world a better place to live.



It's an "eggcellent" time to sell your home.  
So for "Peeps" sake give me a call.

512.775.8942



Hoppy Easter!



**Joany  
Price**

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## EARTH DAY 2020 Celebrating 50 Years

*By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center*



April 22nd marks the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, an annual event to demonstrate support for environmental support. Earth Day was founded by Gaylord Nelson, a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, when in 1969 he witnessed the destruction caused by a massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. He came up with the idea of a “national teach-in on the environment” and presented it to the media. Congressman Pete McCloskey was persuaded to serve as co-chair. A Harvard student named Denis Hayes was named the national coordinator and with a staff of 85, it was promoted across the country. The date of April 22nd was chosen because it falls between spring break and final exams.

The first Earth Day was very successful. Over 20 million Americans demonstrated, gathered in parks and auditoriums and held rallies to demonstrate for a healthy environment. It was indeed the beginning of a movement and by the end of 1970, the United States Environmental Protection Agency was created and the Clean Air, Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts were passed.

Between 1970 and 1989, Earth Day celebrations and activities grew and in 1990, again under the direction of Denis Hayes, the concept was introduced globally. More than 200 million people in 141 countries celebrated Earth Day. Today, it is the single-largest day of action in the world with 193 countries participating.

There are many ways you can help our planet. Plant a tree, pick up trash, start a compost bin, switch to earth-friendly cleaning products, start recycling, carpool, stop using plastic products, just to name a few. Celebrate the beauty of our world by taking a walk in the park.

Although Earth Day is celebrated only one day every year, our earth needs protecting every day. Make saving the planet a part of your lifestyle.

Cities and communities across the globe are celebrating with Earth Day events. Check to see what your city is doing.

TWRC Wildlife Center's contribution to our environment is by rehabilitating injured, orphaned and displaced wildlife with the goal of returning healthy animals back to the wild. If you'd like to find out how you can help, contact [berri.moffett@twrcwildlifecenter.org](mailto:berri.moffett@twrcwildlifecenter.org)



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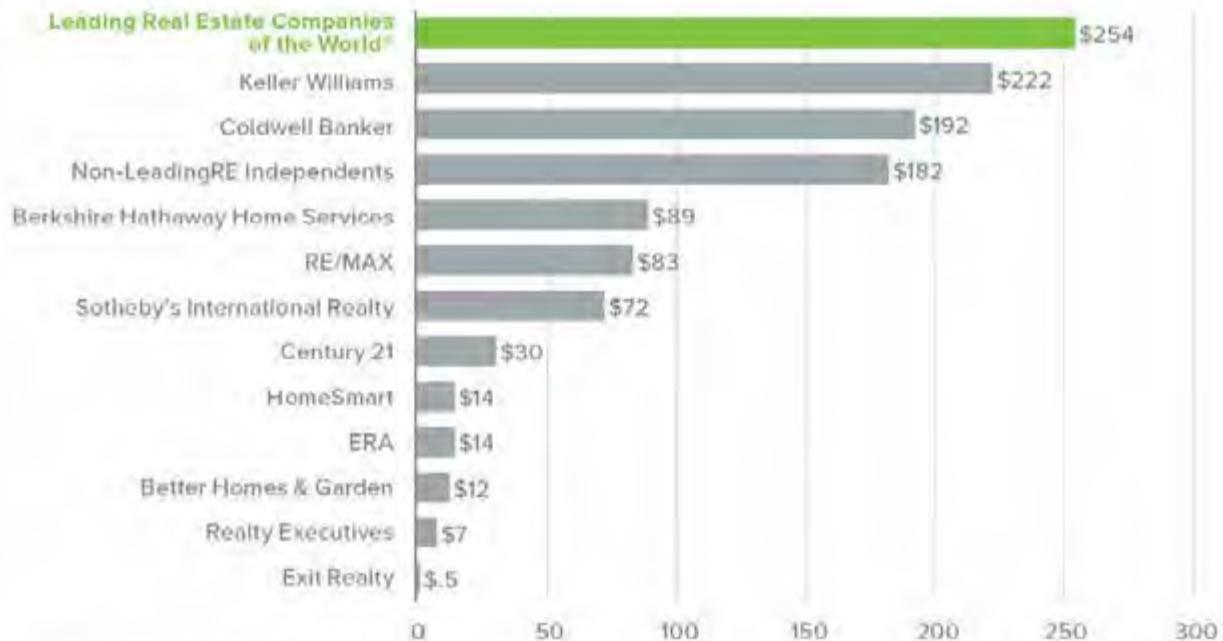
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## SALES VOLUME IN BILLIONS OF DOLLARS



For informational purposes only. Based on available data for average sales units per agent and average sales prices per firm. In compiling this report, Leading RE relies on third party sources including REAL Trends Top 500 for 2018. Leading RE is not responsible for the accuracy of third party data.

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