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Meeting Reports

Our last Neighborhood meeting held in July resulted new board members and committees:

President: John Isom
Vice President- Four Seasons: Sally Nichols
Park Planning: Patrice D'Laine
Crime Watch: Homer Mick
Newsletter: Tierney Stetson

Park Planning- This committee was formed to create a plan for park improvements. There were folks interested in disc golf, a pool, a gazebo, or other amenities and not all can fit in that small park. Contact Patrice if you'd like to help or have ideas. patricedlaine@austin.rr.com

Crime Watch- This committee was formed to act as point of information for any criminal activity. Homer works closely with Officer Lopez and our new Citizens on patrol members to keep track of all mischief and crime, and alert authorities as needed. To help, or for more information, please contact Homer directly. hmick@austin.rr.com or call 836-0466.

Newsletter- This position is the eyes and ears of the association. I have tried to glean information on the happenings of the neighborhood but need your help. Please send any news or events to my email: atstetson@hotmail.com or call 873-7887.

There is still a need for block captains in all 3 areas. Let your VP know if you can help in delivering newsletters/ meeting your neighbors.

The three main speakers at our last meeting were as follows- Jimmy Cone from the City parks and Rec who spoke about park planning and about the possibility of adding a few disc golf baskets in the park. Through his efforts we already have a port-a-potty installed in the park.

Officer Lopez spoke about a recent increase in burglaries that may be the result of police pressure on the Rundberg area. That pressure is causing drug dealers and transients to move either south to St Johns or north towards us. It is very important that we report any suspicious activity immediately to 911.

Tony Host and Tina Van Wie from the City of Austin spoke about the continuing sewerline projects. Today Wedgewood should reopen and January should close at Braker. Wedgewood will be closed again later in order to pave it. The forms for tap permits, and information regarding the process, was provided. You should have received your tap letter by now. If you haven't, please contact Ms Van Wie at 974-7148

At his first board meeting, John discussed his three basic tenets for the organization: Security, Safety, and Increased Memberships. Your opinion counts so please come to the next **Membership Meeting on Tuesday, October 23, 7:00 P.M.** at the VFW Hall on IH 35 access road- Everyone is invited - regardless of membership

GreenRidge at Buckner Villas Project

Your neighbor for over 35 years is planning an expansion. Buckner Villas will soon break ground for 83 new independent living apartments called The GreenRidge. The new project will also include 32 new duplex homes, called The Villas.

To learn more about this exciting addition to your neighborhood, please join us on November 8th at 1:30pm at the High Pointe Baptist Church for an informational meeting. We will have a flash presentation followed by a question and answer session. We will serve refreshments for your enjoyment. To reserve your space, please call (512) 835-1140. We look forward to seeing you there!



Crime Watch Report

Homer Mick hmick@austin.rr.com 836-0466

We added four folks to the neighborhood patrol. Jeff Overman, Tierney Stetson, Mary Wheeler, and Myself. We will add to the efforts of Hollis & Barbara Lloyd. Jeff, Tierney, and I live on Trinity Hill and Riddlewood. We border the park. I am asking for volunteers in the June, Walnut Ridge Dr, Walnut Creek Dr, and North Oaks area to volunteer for the patrol program. If we can get folks in these areas, we will have the neighborhood pretty well covered. The more the merrier. If you're interested send me an email or call with your contact information.

If you see a person loitering in the neighborhood wearing a white towel on his left side this person is believed to a Crip Gang member selling drugs. The white towel is an indicator to those buying drugs that they are available. If you see this and can get a picture do so. If you can't get a picture call your local police.



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Yard of the Month



thurley@austin.rr.com

North Oaks

August Frank & Virginia Hrachovy at 11613 Oak Trail

Sept Pat Turner at 12003 Oak Haven.

Four Seasons

Sept Brizeida & Kevin Tait at 1209 August

2007 Neighborhood Picnic

This year's picnic was attended by few, yet no less enjoyable. Hot dogs, chips, side salads, deserts and more.

I was able to meet many of my neighbors and longtime residents who have a wealth of knowledge about our neighborhood.

Kids enjoyed seeing, Penelope Foolish, (clown in costume) who showed her audience balloon twisting, magic tricks and face painting. To find out more about Penelope's services go to her website at: penelopefoolish.com



Neighborhood Real Estate

It Was Bound To Happen! Real estate markets are cyclical. This means they have peaks and valleys. The Austin market is starting to experience a "leveling out".

With the height of the buying and selling season now over, months of inventory has increased to 4.7%. Homes will stay on the market longer than in recent months. However, I do not see a regression in home values. Based on growth predictions for the Austin Metropolitan Area and the Federal Housing Administration's plans for the mortgage industry, Austin area homes should continue to be considered a wise investment.

In the North Oaks & Four Seasons Neighborhoods: There have been 2 closed sales between 06/01/07 and 09/23/07. (Four are currently under contract) The AVERAGE sales price was \$175,790. For the same period last year, the average sales price was \$151,608

To summarize, although the "rapidly rising rate of appreciation" days are behind us, real estate in Austin is *holdin' steady!* --Colette Davenport, North Oaks Resident, Coldwell Banker United, Realtors

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Mike Teigen

Family Service Counselor

11093 Springwater Circle, Austin, TX 78753

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Idea Corner:

Do you ever have an idea and want to spread the word and see if others might like to share it with you? Well I have a couple and want to encourage others to send me their ideas for the newsletter or neighborhood.

- Art Walk - Knowing many residents do crafts or creative expressions on canvas gave me an idea to do an Art Walk. Would any interested residents care to show their talents and perhaps sell their crafts or paintings at a neighborhood event- before Christmas? Let's bring it up at the next general meeting or contact me, Tierney @ 873-7887.
- **Know Your Neighbor** - There are many interesting neighbors here and it has been suggested I highlight one every newsletter. I loved the idea since searching for news is not my full time job. But it would be nice to recognize some of our residents because everyone has a story to tell. My first is our President, John Isom.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

6600 Woodrow Avenue
451-1116

Services at 9 a.m.

Sunday School for all ages at 10:30 a.m.

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Know Your Neighbor:



John Isom came to Austin in 1946 and has lived in Four Seasons for the past 9 years. A graduate of UT, and a veteran from the Korean War era, John and his wife, (both from the east coast), chose to make Austin home. They had 3 children and developed their own cottage industry of instructional audio cassette tapes. Widely used among many professionals, John sold the business in 1993 to retire. Since then, John has enjoyed golf and being an avid Longhorn fan.

Important Numbers to Know:

Police, Fire, EMS9-1-1
TDD Emergency.....9-1-1
Non-Emergency Police.....3-1-1
APD General Information: 974-5000
TDD General Information: 974-5475
Community Liaison: 459-1877
Crime Stoppers: 472-8477

Neighborhood Garden Club

Lynn Gibson has started an informal group to share plants and landscaping items. If you have or want cuttings, plants, pavers, etc., contact Lynn at: lynngibson@mindspring.com or 576-7393. The group hopes to have an October Garden Club meeting.

Winterizing the Landscape in Fall

By David Beaulieu, About.com

- Apply herbicides to broadleaf weeds.
- Correct pH. If a soil test should show a need to reduce acidity, apply lime now. If alkalinity needs to be reduced, apply sulphur.
- Thatch removal: dethatch your lawn, by raking; for bad cases of soil compaction, you may have to employ the technique known as core aeration.
- Rake leaves, lest the leaves smother your grass over the winter. To maximize your landscaping efficiency when raking leaves, consult Fall Cleanup: Make Mulch and Compost With the Leaves That You Rake .
- Lawn mower care: make sure to drain old gas after last mowing.