

LIVE

August 2007 Volume 13, Number 4

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association

cherrywood.org

Farewell Gordon Bennett

As many of you know, our neighbor, Gordon Bennett died on May 11 at the age of 67.

Gordon's attendance at neighborhood events, meetings, and gatherings was legendary; no wonder Gordon was beloved by so many. Long active in Cherrywood Neighborhood Association, Gordon participated in most facets of CNA's evolution to make it one of the most respected neighborhood associations in Austin. He even kept it alive during a long period when it had no organized leadership.

Gordon was also a member of the Airport Advisory Board during the '80s when the decision was being made to move the airport, and served in the '90s on the city task force that established the goals for the redevelopment of the Mueller site.

He especially valued communication amongst neighbors, penning numerous articles for the newsletter, recording minutes at meetings, and initiating both cherrywood.org and the NeighborNet to foster dialogue on topics large and small. Over 700 neighbors grew to appreciate these venues for staying informed and in touch with each other.

Throughout this issue you will see and feel his continued presence in the neighborhood initiatives he supported as well as in the many remembrances gathered:

Marilyn Fenn The first image that comes to mind when I think of Gordon Bennett is his sweet face graced with that most beautiful and peaceful smile, behind which was a keen interest in – everything, it seems.

Gordon could always be counted on to help with the Cherrywood Art Fair. Every year that I participated, during a lull in the crowds, Gordon would suddenly be at my booth, commenting in the most

complimentary way on my artwork and on my design for the first CAF website. In those brief, calm and quiet moments, he made me feel that he greatly appreciated what was unique about me, and I feel sure that he made every other artist, neighbor, and student that he ever got to know at all feel the same way.

Isabelle Headrick I'll always remember Gordon as calm, thoughtful, and principled. He did more than probably any other single person to bring the people of this neighborhood together through building and maintaining the "information infrastructure"—our website and listserve. His work will sustain this neighborhood long after those of us who knew him personally are no longer around. And I don't know of anyone who could have moderated our, ahem, LIVELY little listserve with more patience, humor and graciousness.

Lester Kurtz I've often thought of Gordon as the glue of our little community — he was a quintessential neighborhood activist, sometimes behind the scenes, sometimes out front.

Pauline Porter It seems that Gordon Bennett was the epitome of words always providing links and access to knowledge about every issue. But actually he was much more; he was a presence that words can not accurately portray. With his presence, he laid the foundation for communication and connectivity in this neighborhood.

Kyle Ranne Often times, I would email Gordon a compliment or a thank you for being forever the "voice of reason" about an issue. His amazing depth and insight and 360 degree view of the world and especially our neighborhood always provided sanity where none seemed to be at the surface. His way of being could be a tremendous lesson to all us.

Cherrywood Neighborhood Association Quarterly Meeting

Guest Speaker **Linda Cox** *Pandemic Flu Preparedness* (see pg. 10)

MAPLEWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY. OPEN TO ALL RESIDENTS OF CHERRYWOOD.

Wednesday
August 22
6:30–8:00pm

Cherrywood Calendar

August

- 8/8 6:30 CNA Steering Committee at Asbury UMC
- 8/12 10:00 Second Sunday at Asbury UMC (Food Bank Collection)
- 8/22 6:45 ANC Meeting at Austin Energy, 721 Barton Springs
- 8/22 6:30 CNA Quarterly Meeting at Maplewood Elementary**

September

- 9/9 10:00 Second Sunday at Asbury UMC (Food Bank Collection)
- 9/12 6:30 CNA Steering Committee at Asbury UMC
- 9/26 6:45 ANC Meeting at Austin Energy, 721 Barton Springs

October

- 10/10 6:30 CNA Steering Committee at Asbury UMC
- 10/14 10:00 Second Sunday at Asbury UMC (Food Bank Collection)
- 10/24 6:45 ANC Meeting at Austin Energy, 721 Barton Springs

If you would like your event to be included in the Cherrywood Calendar, contact Jennifer Elsner at textimage@mac.com

Steering Committee

Chair	David Greene	828-7450
Vice Chair	Summer McKee	426-3934
Secretary	Amy Brotman	589-8545
Treasurer	Rebecca Kohout	477-9560

Members: Girard Kinney, Wade McElroy, Emma Pickering, Mark Schiff, Tom Wald

Communications

NeighborNet/Web	Jules Vieau	495-9569
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The Flea

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More details at cherrywood.org click on **committees**

A Congregation for the 21st Century!

What should a *Congregation for the 21st Century Look Like*, meets on Thursday evenings at Asbury United Methodist Church, from 7:00 to 8:00pm (it's just one hour, we stop at 8:00). It is an open gathering where we build models and discuss what a 21st Century Congregation should look like, what practices, worship forms, theology, congregational life, music should be included or created. What kind of religious education should such a congregation offer its children, youth and adults. This comes out of many conversations that have occurred across the neighborhood. The group so far includes people of many persuasions, Christian (Orthodox and Protestant), Spiritualists, Buddhists and the non-religious. All are welcome, join us. ☺



TUNE INTO
10 NEW SHOWS

- **Circuit Bent** global electronic music
- **Evolution Radio** music genres & their evolution
- **El Changarro!** bilingual music
- **El Inmigrante** immigrant social issues
- **Issues for Your Tissues** reproductive rights and education
- **Non-breaking Space** post Big Band Jazz
- **Noticias al Aire** Spanish speaking news and cultural reports
- **Swamp Rawk** Louisiana Rock w/Cherrywooder Jad Duplechain
- **Visual Aid** artists challenged to articulate their work on air
- **Voz de la Tierra** music from Mexico, Central & N. America

Discover more about your community radio station: koop.org

CHERRYWOOD.ORG

Cherrywood maintains an informative Web site: cherrywood.org (nothing else needed — this is recognized). At the top, you'll find a Calendar of local events. On the left, you'll find *Film Nights*, a *Library* of useful downloads, the popular *Recommendations* list (babysitters, plumbers, etc.), and many other links. This is our neighborhood information vault.

Also you'll find NeighborNet, our C'wood listserv with over 700 subscribers. You can post messages, and search the archive (5 years of content is saved). You have three options for reading: (1) receive messages as they are posted (average of 12 per day); (2) receive messages as a daily digest (only 1 consolidated message after midnight); (3) read messages at the Web site (no e-mail).

If you were subscribed this quarter, you learned of: Blue-Ribbon yard voting, city policies that affect us, exercise classes in the 'hood, local burglaries, local development projects, local park news, lost pets, reminders of meeting times, summer camps for kids, things for sale, or needed. And much more. Share your opinion (of local concerns). Stay informed. Become involved. We're a village.

Questions? Contact jules.vieau@gmail.com. ☺

From the Chair

There was a time when I thought community organizing was slow, inefficient, and potentially aggravating. Then I tried it and learned that I was right.

From the relatively brief time that I knew and worked with Gordon Bennett I learned that he understood this as well, but he also had the stamina to get through the meetings, the vision to point out a promising direction, and the good humor to keep it humane and even humorous.

Gordon exemplified, both in his daily actions and in 'his' NeighborNet, a few of the simple principles I'm still trying to master:

Show up. (What events didn't he attend?)

Learn the context of an issue, then learn some more. (What wasn't he curious about?)

Start from where people are. (Gordon envisioned a neighborhood association driven by grassroots initiatives.)

Keep people informed. (NeighborNet, 'nuff said.)

Default to openness. (More than once, Gordon pushed a new idea or issue into the sunshine of NeighborNet to obviate infighting or inertial inaction.)

These aren't comprehensive, but I imagine anyone who knew Gordon can provide other examples. And so we remember, learn, and embark on a new era.

NeighborNet and the website are in good hands. Jules Vieau is working to move cherrywood.org from the UT server where it is now. Cherrywooder Mellie Price has kindly offered to host it on her server and is providing invaluable help with the transition. The first step will be just to move all of the content and, over time, change the organization and layout of the site. The move will be complete in a month or so. Please contact Jules if you have web skills and would like to help or if you have suggestions about our web site.

Jack Newman, Rick Cofer, and Harold Cook have all stepped down from the Steering Committee since the start of the year, due to a move and other conflicts. They all have contributed greatly to this project and will be missed. Tom Wald joined the SC formally last May, and Emma Pickering has just joined to fill out Jack's remaining term. Emma brings a strong interest in local government and its intersection with non-profit work, with a specific interest in providing art services to disadvantaged youth. Welcome Emma - now who's next?

Onward! — David Greene



What did you do on your Summer Vacation?

by Dolly Ensey

You've probably noticed neighbor and Quacks employee J Muzacz has been very busy since May. Wrapping up Maplewood's school year, J shepherded 6th graders through a palette of paints to create their outside mural of legacy.

His "Garden of Delight" at Quack's parking lot edge planted a much needed calm greenspace next to busy East 38½ Street. The garden includes: basil, eggplant, fennel, lavender, oregano, pepper, savory, thyme (edible) and agave, cana flower, marigolds, portulaca, yucca (nice to view) ... as admired above by Quack's co-workers Sarah Brown and Alejandro Montoya (with J kneeling).

And there's more! A marvelous mural, created especially for Monarch Food Mart, depicts the delicate butterfly metamorphosis.

His next creation? We vote for the large "canvas" behind the businesses on the railroad tracks — what fun for Maplewood students to enjoy as they frolic on the playground! ☺



Blue Ribbon Yard

by Leslie Vieau

We had great participation in our Cherrywood Blue Ribbon (Summer) Yard contest, with six beautiful yards being nominated. Our winner by a single vote is 3807 Willowbrook, the home of James Spanelli and Miguel Atkins. James and Miguel did a beautiful job using limestone on the sloping edge of their yard, with native plants tucked between the rocks that are already flourishing and blooming. The pervious stone walkways lead to the shaded front porch, and create a welcoming lookout over Willowbrook Reach. James and Miguel will receive a \$25 Gift Certificate from our generous friends at Shoal Creek Nursery. Congratulations! ☺

Opportunities for Service in the Heart of the Cherrywood Community

by Wendy L. Morgan

Gordon Bennett was a man of action; a servant to the community with his wisdom, passion and voice. School is almost back in session and there is no better time to honor his vision of a cohesive neighborhood community than by giving your time to Maplewood, in the heart of the Cherrywood Neighborhood. Maplewood prides itself on parent involvement and year after year parents step forward and achieve remarkable things; plant gardens, host events, act as room parents and read in their child's classroom and there is plenty of room at the table for all parents to be involved. Here are just a few great ways to do that!

Maplewood Parent Teacher Association This campus organization is the best way to have a real impact on the present and future of the school. Funds are raised and spent, book fairs and neighborhood events are hosted, teacher stipends are gifted and advocacy initiatives are created. Meetings are held the second Thursday each month at 5:30pm.

Room Parents Every teacher needs a hand and Room Parents are a great part of participating in the school and directly impacting your child's school experience. Whether it is reading to the kids, attending field trips, providing snacks or stuffing Wednesday Folders, Room Parents are so helpful in so many ways.

Campus Beautification For many years parents, teachers and staff have worked hard to make Maplewood a more beautiful part of the Cherrywood community. Time weeding gardens is always needed, helping save the courtyard oak tree, painting the science lab. There are a series of activities needed each year and dedicating even a short time on a regular basis can have a huge impact.

There are many more opportunities to be involved! Come to the first PTA Meeting Thursday, September 13 at 5:30pm to find out how. For more info contact Isabelle Headrick, PTA Preident at 499-0621 or isaneews@texas.net.

If you own a business, consider buying an ad in the Maplewood School Directory! Funds raised last year supported beautifying the Maplewood cafeteria, creating a new science lab and teacher workroom, as well as supporting the Good Foods Wellness Program which teaches kids about healthy food choices. Email me: wmorgan@austin.rr.com for info on affordable rates.

Gordon will be sorely missed! ☹️



Swing your stress away! A new red swing recently appeared mysteriously on the Reach, courtesy of the redswingproject.org. Their goal is to bring playfulness to an increasingly complicated urban environment. Check it out and enjoy!

Within Reach

by Lee Clippard

Stretching from Cherrywood Road to 38½ Street, Willowbrook Reach is one of our neighborhood's jewels. Many residents from the immediate and surrounding communities use this small greenbelt along the Upper Boggy Creek to walk dogs, picnic, and enjoy nature. Animals and plants in the Reach include native trees, like cedar elm and sycamore, and wildlife from night herons, owls, and cedar waxwings to snapping turtles. But like many of Austin's urban creeks, the Reach also harbors invasive species, such as Johnson grass and ligustrum, and experiences erosion and garbage problems after storms.

Friends and Lovers of Willowbrook Reach (flwr.blogspot.com) is a reincarnated neighborhood organization that continues neighbors' long-standing efforts to foster the Reach through plantings, maintenance, and infrastructure projects and seeks to find a common neighborhood philosophy for the Reach.

FLWR advocates planting native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers, and have ideas for a new mid-Reach bridge, educational signs, more garbage cans and dog waste bag dispensers, public art, and trail improvements. FLWR seeks neighborhood input and involvement in enhancing and maintaining the value of this green space on Austin's eastside.

Recently, FLWR was awarded a 2007 Keep Austin Beautiful Neighborhood Beautification grant, and we're beginning to plan for a project to occur this fall. Ideas include: planting a butterfly garden, building an information kiosk, planting trees (to be donated as part of the KAB grant by Austin Energy), and/or installing a purple martin house. We'd also like to start a fund for a new bridge that would connect the north and south sides of our greenbelt somewhere around the midpoint.

The City of Austin Watershed Protection department recently identified Willowbrook Reach as a place in need of improvements. They are beginning to plan a project that would widen the creek to slow erosion, improve drainage, and move and replace aging sewer pipes crossing the creek. The plan is expected to be presented to the neighborhood some time this fall.

Big things are happening at the Reach! If you'd like to join FLWR, contact me at 524-0525 or lclippard@gmail.com. ☹️

Flag Day Celebration

by Dolly Ensey

Members of the Patrick Henry chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, Boy Scout Troop #31 and eastside neighbors celebrated Flag Day in honor of Fire Station #14's 55th anniversary with the retirement of the old and presentation of a new stars and stripes. The new flag recently was flown over the US Capitol building in Washington DC. ☹️



TOP LEFT John Miles, son of neighbors Kelly & Allen Miles, thoroughly enjoyed Fire Station#14's Flag Day celebration. **TOP RIGHT** Members of the Patrick Henry chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, Boy Scout Troop #31 joined Flag Day Festivities. **BOTTOM LEFT** Friends Marielle Glasse, Ruby Morgan & Mallory Stewart assembled to display their Independence Day decorations. **BOTTOM RIGHT** Enjoying a slice of life, Michael Slotboom & his son Isaac eat watermelon after the parade. Photo Credits: Bob Roberts (Flag Day Celebration) & Dolly Ensey (4th of July Parade).

French Place's 9th Annual 4th of July Parade

by Jeanne Arbuckle

Amazingly we were blessed with no rain (or almost no rain) during our 9th Annual French Place 4th of July Parade. What a tribute that, despite the threat of rain, more than 80 people turned out for our annual festive stroll down French Place and Kern Ramble to Cherrywood Green. At the Green there was fellowship with watermelon, cookies, lemonade and great conversation. We can't wait until the 10th next year! ☹️

SUSTAINABILITY GROUP BEING FORMED

by Aaron Choate

There has been a great deal of attention being given to global climate trends and our impact on the environment. As a local response to this global issue, Mayor Will Wynn and the City of Austin have announced the Austin Climate Protection Plan. Unveiled in February, this initiative proposes making all city facilities, fleets and operations carbon-neutral by 2020. In true Austin style, this is being called the most ambitious municipal climate protection plan in the country. The city will be working to meet the goals of this plan through conservation, using renewable resources, and converting to more efficient fuel choices.

Since the unveiling, Mayor Wynn has spoken on global warming and the Austin response to business leaders, community groups and faith-based organizations throughout the city. This presentation was given to an audience of over 100 Cherrywood neighbors for the June Film Night at Asbury United Methodist Church and was met with great interest. While the city can do a great deal within their own departments and facilities, it is only one small part of Austin.

A group of Cherrywood neighbors have joined together to find answers to how we, at the individual and neighborhood level, can assist the Mayor to make a positive impact on the quality of our city. If you are interested, we would like to offer you the opportunity to join the discussion. Please send us any ideas you might have about what could be done at a neighborhood level. Tell us what you have been doing to reduce your own impact on city utilities and our local environment.

What are your ideas? Do you have an expertise on which your neighbors could draw? Would you participate in a ride share program? Would you trade in your lawnmower to use a community electric mower? Would you be willing to bike to work one or all days of the week? How about taking the bus? Do you know what your carbon footprint is?

If you are interested in joining the group, or offering ideas, please join the Cherrywood's Climate Action Program's listserve: cherrywoodcap@yahoo.com or contact carabou@gmail.com.

And finally, two months remain in the Austin Energy & Chronicle Kill-A-Watt challenge. Sign up today! austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Kill-A-Watt. ☹️

CNA Planning And Zoning Committee

by Girard Kinney

Refer to previous Flea articles from the P&Z Committee for more information about the projects listed below.

Redeemer Presbyterian Church The architect for the Redeemer Church Project on Alexander, south of Manor Road, reports that the drawings have been submitted to the City for approval; so they expect an approved Site Development Permit soon. The status of the Architectural Drawings is that they are awaiting pricing from contractors before proceeding into the Construction Documents Phase. Dialogue with developers is ongoing regarding development of the Manor Road and MLK frontage of the property and other ideas are being explored.

Tornado Bus Co. IH35 Site A new application for Conditional Use Permit has been submitted and the City is reviewing. There will be a public hearing at the Planning Commission for this project, but this date has not been set. We will send a notice out on NeighborNet as we learn more.

Concordia (west side of IH35, 32nd to 37th) As reported previously, the PUD for this project

was approved by Council. The new owner (East Avenue I.G.L.P./Andy Sarwal) has applied for approval of an administrative site plan, including major water and sewer upgrades; i.e. the project is proceeding as expected.

Pending Development on Manor Road The 5.6 acre Sky Value Site has sold, pending completion of a development feasibility study. In my discussions with them, they appear to want to work in partnership with the neighborhood to create a project that is compatible with the neighborhood while achieving their development goals.

Vertical Mixed Use Update The architect for one of the Apartment complexes on Manor Road has contacted me to inquire about our request for CS-MU zoning and VMU for the site that his client owns, and we have reason to believe that the other apartment complexes are also likely to be upgraded or replaced.

Cherrywood has requested an expedited processing of our effort to have the VMU overlay, with the various development incentives left intact, on the commercial proper-

ties on Manor Road. We have requested that UBCPT recommend that Manor Road become classified as a Core Transit Corridor; all aimed at managing the growth along Manor Road to result in a much more pedestrian-oriented street, absorbing the density which could otherwise inundate the core of the neighborhood.

For information on any pending zoning or board of adjustment cases or to join the Committee, please contact me at girard@kinneyarchitects or at 478-5042.

For many years now, and until two months ago, I had become very dependent on the sage advice of my dear friend, confidant and sage advisor, Gordon Bennett. Like everyone in the neighborhood I mourn his loss, but for me it is a loss in many, many ways and in my particular role in the neighborhood with respect to the entire Mueller evolution, the urbanization of our neighborhood, including the planning of our green space and transportation systems, and the managing of the pending development, I will sorely miss Gordon, who was always available for telephone consultation, a quick beer at a neighborhood bar or a conversation in my living room.

CHULA Provides Special Gift to People’s Community Clinic Family

by Abby Williamson, PCC

People’s Community Clinic provides a lot of things to a lot of people, but until now, it’s never provided art lessons. After featuring the Tolbert family in the Austin American-Statesman’s *Season for Caring* campaign, the clinic received calls from many readers interested in assisting the Tolbert family. The Cherrywood Urban Landscape and Arts League, or CHULA, provided a special type of gift – art lessons.

Upon reviewing the family’s wish list, Regina Rogoff, Cherrywood resident and PCC’s CEO, posted a notice to the Cherrywood’s *Neighbor-Net* seeking an artist to provide lessons to one of the Tolbert children. It was a long shot, she believed, but she knew the neighborhood to be generous and artistic.

Learning of Jonathon Tolbert’s simple wish for art lessons and supplies, CHULA secretary Jane Walton began considering what the organization could do. The CHULA board decided to sponsor Lucy Lenoir, an artist with many years experience teaching art to youth, to provide six lessons to Jonathon.



Self Portrait of teacher Lucy Lenoir with artist Jonathon Tolbert

Now in her second month providing art lessons to Jonathon, Ms. Lenoir says, “I feel so fortunate that I get to work with Jonathan. He’s a very enthusiastic student and a kind, intelligent young man. It’s been a great experience so far.”

Jonathon’s mother, Nancy Tolbert, says the lessons have inspired Jonathon to be creative and use everyday household objects to make art. “Since he began the lessons, he’s always creating something. The art lessons teach him to make the best of what he has around him and more importantly, to explore who he wants to be.” Jonathon says that he most enjoys making clay vases and painting. He adds that Lucy is “nice and kind.”

The PCC thanks Lucy Lenoir and CHULA for making this unique collaboration possible. Learn more about CHULA at chulaleague.org.

Tributes to Gordon

by Girard Kinney

The following is a synopsis of the various tributes that are being planned or considered to honor Gordon Bennett and to provide some lasting reminders in our neighborhoods in his memory:

Gordon Bennett Day We want to plan an all-day event this fall where we will have a picnic and games at Patterson Park, some kind of celebration at Asbury Church, as well as other events throughout the neighborhood, coordinating with our local restaurants and theatres to have menu items and performances that in some way reference Gordon.

Memorial Fund CHULA is receiving tax-deductible donations to a fund that is planned to create a permanent memorial to Gordon in Cherrywood near where he lived. The funds

may be used to provide a match for a grant, or may be spent directly, but in either case these funds are to accumulate over time so that this installation will be a permanent, low maintenance icon that we will all treasure.

Bennett Triangle An idea has been offered to improve the little triangle that is bound by 37th and the two legs of Concordia, and to name it after Gordon. It may or may not be the site that will receive the aforementioned memorial. Ideas include sustainable landscaping, a low wrought iron fence to allow the space to be a safe place for kids and pets, and an open air arbor, pergola or gazebo.

Mueller Street Naming? We are pursuing the idea of a street or some other significant feature at Mueller being named for Gordon.

“Gordon Bennett Way” has been suggested for a street name or a trail, and other ideas have included a sculpture garden or a park at Mueller.

Asbury Methodist Church Gordon had become a close friend to Pastor George Holcombe at Asbury, and was committed to the goal of it being fully integrated into the neighborhood and transformed to house a 21st Century Congregation (see page 2). Pastor Holcombe wants there to be a fitting memorial to Gordon associated with its renovation, so there will be an opportunity for us all to contribute to an important room or architectural feature associated with the project that bears Gordon’s name.

Stay tuned!



Strictly Pediatrics Subspecialty Center Now Open

Strictly Pediatrics Subspecialty Center located along Barbara Jordan Boulevard, next to the Dell Children’s Medical Center and the Dell Pediatric Research Institute at Mueller is now open. The physician-owned, 127,000 square-foot, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified building includes imaging, infusion, ambulatory surgery and dialysis centers, as well as a laboratory, orthotics and prosthetics, and an 18,000 SF surgery center. The health care providers practicing at Strictly Pediatrics will broaden the range of options and services available for residents and neighbors, both within Mueller and across Austin.

A Sad Anniversary Passed

by Liz Harris

Some of you may or may not know, my daughter Roxanne Paltauf has been missing for a year now (07-07-06). She grew up in French Place and went to Maplewood Elementary.

She was spending time with her boyfriend and they had an argument, she walked away and has not been seen since. She left behind her purse, cell phone and personal belongings near the Rundberg/ IH35 area.

You may have seen her flyer around town or in the hood, and to further our efforts to get some information about her whereabouts, Reagan Sign has donated billboard space for Roxanne. Currently on N. Lamar & Braker, it will be moved all around town to get more attention. Also, she was on *America’s Most Wanted* earlier this year as well as on most local news stations.

She is not a runaway, she is in danger. This has been the hardest and longest and saddest year of our family’s

life. She is MISSED so very much. Not knowing where she is ... *Is she safe? Is she being held against her will? Is she alive?* We just do not know.

If you ever do see her, please go up to her and talk with her; she may not even know who she is. So many people think they may have seen her but no one talks to her. And although it could be a dozen of other girls, I ask you reach out or at the very least, please contact the APD Missing Persons Unit: 974-5250.

She is a daughter to be proud of and she is loved so much. This is a parent’s worse nightmare. We need to find her. I am reaching out to our neighbors for help. I have flyers that are being distributed around town. If you are interested in posting flyers at your work, on your car or on any pole around town, please let me know: lizzy101664@yahoo.com.



ROXANNE PAULTAUF
Caucasian Female
19 years old
5’ 4”, 124lbs
Brown Hair / Green Eyes
MISSING SINCE 7/07/06

An amazing man has moved onward and has left us all better off because of his presence and his presents to all who benefited from him, directly and indirectly.

George Holcombe, Pastor, Asbury UMC

The first time I met Gordon, he and Girard Kinney sat in the back of a meeting I was facilitating for planning the future of Asbury. The Austin UMC district superintendent and church members had spoken of the dire circumstances of Asbury's finances and pointed out that if it continued to spend down its savings as it was at that time, the church would close within two years. Gordon among others pleaded not to let this happen. Later when I was appointed to help Asbury execute the new plan, Gordon was one of the first people to visit me. It was always a grand moment. We exchanged books, websites and ideas, lunched at the local eateries. He involved me in the community. We spoke and dreamed of a community congregation, of a 21st Century theology and practice. The last time I saw Gordon was the Wednesday evening before his death. After the meeting we had gone to change the letters on the church sign that he had helped create (in fact he helped dig the channel for the electricity to the sign). He was excited about the Imam coming to speak that next Sunday, and we talked of an all-faiths Nativity scene that we had hoped for the past two years to be ready for the Christmas season. His death was both shock and pain. His constancy and energy belied the insulin pump he wore and the doctors' constant warnings, which he barely acknowledged. He gave himself, as few do, to create a new way, a new community. He could see it.

Jack Newman I sat down and start writing about the man Gordon Bennett, the neighbor Gordon Bennett, the activist Gordon Bennett, the wise Gordon Bennett, the healer Gordon

Bennett, the facilitator Gordon Bennett, the socially fair Gordon Bennett, the positive-force-for-change Gordon Bennett, the humble and unassuming Gordon Bennett, the supportive Gordon Bennett, the committed Gordon Bennett, and even more. It was absolutely terrible, and I deleted it.

I will say only that I lost an irreplaceable friend last Friday, and I want you to know that if you live here, you did, too.

The neighborhood feels different somehow: not worse, just different.

Shani Snoddy Gordon was one of the sweetest, kindest men I have ever met. He was always encouraging me and took the time as a neighbor and friend to always check on me and my kiddos.

He will be greatly missed by so many. One could not ask for a better, more caring neighbor.

David Levy When we heard the news about Gordon's passing it was truly a shocker to both of us. Patti and I had the pleasure of his company for a few moments at the new farmers market a couple of weeks ago. He was there to support the market and Jake's (as fellow hoodies should...as he always did!). He'll be missed by Patti and myself and remembered with reverence, respect and love.

Harold Cook Gordon was one piece of the incredible glue that holds this wonderful neighborhood together. And as well as I think I knew him, I also know there were many other facets of the man he was that I never got a chance to share, despite the beers we shared from time to time. It is my loss, for he was like a diamond — whichever angle you

studied him from, he shined brightly.

Gordon was, to put it plainly, pure and simple. One didn't have to wonder where one stood when speaking with him — if you were a neighbor, he was on your side, and he was thrilled to put never-ending energy into it. That uncomplicated trait was a blast of fresh air; the rest of our lives should be that simple.

Cherrywood will carry on. And we are so so so much better for Gordon having helped hold us together. And as well as we knew him, I know many join my feeling in wishing we'd known more of the facets of him, diamond that he was.

As we move forward, let us do so in memory of and in the spirit of Gordon. He helped hold us together. He settled our disputes. He created his own disputes, which once he realized to his dismay were disputes, he then settled. And he helped make us as a neighborhood what we are today. And for whatever it is we have to be proud of collectively, he is near the center of it.

Rest in peace old friend. Your legacy lives on in our memories.

Mary Lehmann I last saw Gordon at the Asbury Movie Night and said how much I enjoyed being a part of the wonderful Cherrywood Neighborhood. Though I live on the other side of I-35, I was still able to participate in the NeighborhoodNet thanks to Gordon. Through the list serve I get many glimpses of a number of wonderful people.

I feel as though Gordon was the central exchange that united the neighborhood and helped bring out its best features of community. I mourn for Gordon, but as much for Cherrywood.

Nancy Gore The day I moved into our house in 1988, I was out on the patio when a white-haired twinkly-eyed gent came ambling across the street to introduce himself and welcome me to the 'hood. It was, of course, Gordon. Right then I knew I'd lucked out when it came to neighbors, an impression that was only reinforced when I met Gordon's wife Karen and their (then barely beyond toddler-aged) daughters, Meaghan and Claire. Over the years Gordon has consistently been kind, generous-spirited, friendly, and an overall great neighbor and friend. He will be missed. It will never be the same around here.

Connie Ryan What a tragic loss for all of us. What a reminder to tell people you admire, love, appreciate, respect what you think while you can. Gordon held his hand out to many of us individually and certainly countless times to our lovely neighborhood. He will be greatly missed.

Jules Vieau More than anyone I've ever known, Gordon was the exemplar of a true Confucian gentleman. I never saw him lose his temper or heard him utter an unkind word. He was often the conciliatory influence in neighborhood matters, gently calming the waters when tempers flared. I will miss him.

Elias Haslanger I did not know Gordon as well as I would have liked to. He was always extremely kind and thoughtful to me and he was a person I considered a friend even though I only had a few personal experiences to draw upon. He will be sorely missed by the entire community. Gordon was a true-blue Cherrywooder and Austinite — a unique

individual.

Dolly Ensey It is so hard to believe that Gordon has left our midst ... He will be fondly remembered.

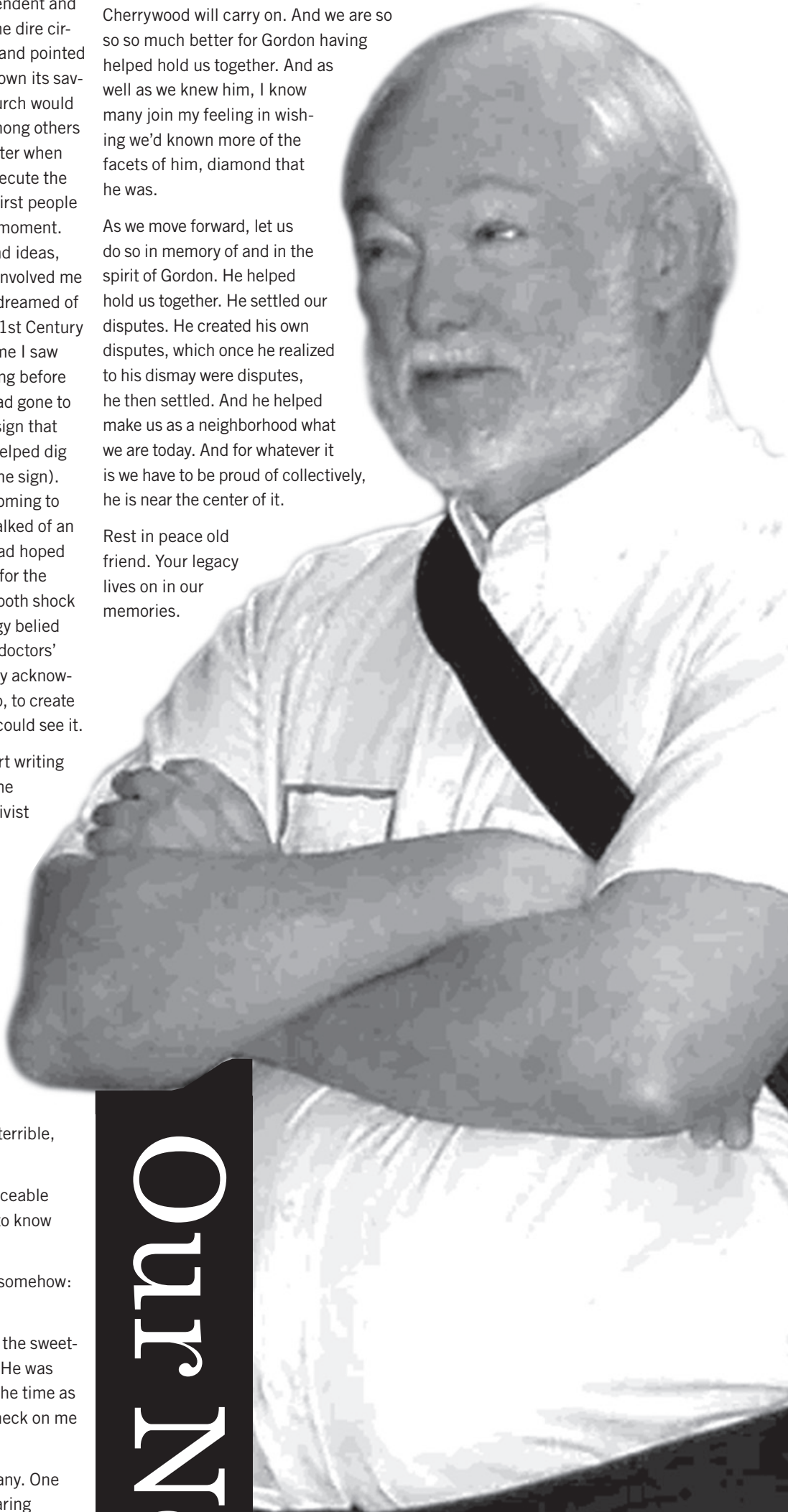
We were friends for a while before we discovered we were both born in Baltimore --- we'd swap stories about our hometown.

Gordon was a dedicated Cherrywooder through and through. He cared about his surroundings and his neighbors deeply. He fostered connections. It seemed as though he was at every single meeting that was ever held -- always providing notes & minutes to post on his NeighborNet, regardless of the hour.

And although he has left this earth, his legacy will definitely live on in the lives of all who knew him and those who come to know him through his story. As Pericles expressed: "What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others."

Gale Greenleaf Gordon was the heart and soul of this neighborhood and I wish I'd told him that. I think I came close a few times, and I think he knew how much I appreciated him, but still. I am a difficult, prickly, opinionated person, but Gordon never seemed to notice, or maybe he even liked me that way.

Jen on Grayson Street Though I never had the opportunity to meet Gordon personally, I too shall miss him. He could always be counted on to have a say in the goings on in Cherrywood. Just through the NeighborNet you can tell that he did truly care about our neighborhood and its citizens! He may not be here physically but he will always be remembered by all who knew him... that is quite a legacy in my book. 📖



Our Neighbor

Gordon Bennett
1940–2007

Photography by George Holcombe

Preparing for Pandemic Flu Presentation

A flu pandemic could cause an outbreak of severe illness around the world. A new flu virus would spread rapidly because people would have no immunity and there would be no vaccine. It would be far more serious and deadly than the regular flu. Every aspect of our daily life would be affected.

Pandemics have happened before. One is likely to happen again. No one knows when or how severe it might be. It is critical that we prepare now.

The presentation at the August Cherrywood Quarterly Meeting (8/22, 6:30pm, Maplewood Elementary) will cover what pandemic flu is, how it can impact us and what we can do to minimize its effects.

Linda Cox is the Public Outreach and Education Coordinator for Pandemic Flu Preparedness for the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department.

ALL CHERRYWOOD GARAGE SALE A SUCCESS!

by Rebecca Schwarz

On July 21 attics were cleaned and garages were scoured so that treasures, cleverly disguised as trash, could be dragged out onto lawns throughout the Cherrywood neighborhood. With the success of our first neighborhood-wide garage sale, plans are in the works to make this a semi-annual event possibly to coincide with the spring and fall cleaning that I know we all do! Keep an eye on the Neighbor-Net and the Flea for more updates about plans and dates for upcoming sales! 🐾



LEFT TO RIGHT Sale Organizer Rebecca Schwarz with her daughter Amelia (who made a bundle selling muffins). Mike Dellens w/the "Doors" album he was selling... a real classic and a great buy! Having fun at Neighbor's Kenneth & Michelle Honsinger's sale. Neighbor Tim Garbutt leaving to take the leftovers to Salvation Army after a successful garage sale.

Ways to be Green

by Brooke Dorrien

"Many hands make light work". It's a philosophy that an individual can't do it all, but if each of us did a small part, collectively we could make a difference. I believe it's more than just "green" consumerism, it's about being active stewards for the benefit of our children's children and better quality of life. We all have issues that are dear to us, and I hope the environment is high on your list as well because I'd like to encourage you to do your part. environmentaldirectory.info/Austin, is a web-based directory with lots of resources, also the following are ways to be green!

HOME Get an energy audit on your house (via the city 974-2199) • Get a High Efficiency Toilet (\$150 rebate from the city) • Get a Rainbarrel (only \$60 call 974-2199) • Get a High Efficiency Washing Machine (\$200 rebate from the city) • Replace regular light bulbs with energy-efficient ones • Check insulation • Water your lawn/Wash car in morning or eve-

ning • Replace drafty doors/windows (Tax Credits up to \$500).

LIFESTYLE Reduce. Reuse. Recycle. • Attend "green" events • Read. Understand. Question. • Write your politicians • Write companies who aren't being good stewards of the environment • Support companies with a good eco-reputation and let them know that • Buy locally • Talk to your children (they can make a generational difference AND they're inheriting it) • Pass this on to others and encourage them to take action.

TRANSPORTATION Walk, bike or take the bus if you can • Carpool • Drive a hybrid car • Plan your errands and cluster them together • Fill up gas tank in morning or evening • Avoid filling up gas tank on an Ozone Action Day • Insure your car emissions are within acceptable range • Save gas consumption by keeping tire pressure at suggested level. 🐾

BAN ON CHAINING DOGS

WHAT

Ban against restraining unattended dogs via chain, cord, rope or tether (Austin City Code 3-4-2).
Exceptions: Lawful animal events, grooming, training & when owner is present outside.

WHEN / WHERE

Effective Monday, October 1, 2007
Within Austin city limits

WHY

Unhealthy for dogs physically & psychologically; dangerous especially for children, since chained dogs twice as likely to attack.

OPTIONS

Bring pet inside to live plus 2 daily walks.

Construct outdoor living area—150 sq ft (i.e.: 10x15') required for each adult dog (Austin City Code 3-2-13).

HOW

Financial assistance available to low income residents. Contact: chainfreeaustin.org or 923-8881

Call for Artists, Musicians and Willing Volunteers

6th Annual Cherrywood Art Fair

December 8-9, 2007 @ Maplewood Elementary

Artists Request an application: cherrywoodartfair@gmail.com

Musicians Send inquiries to Luke Torn: ltorn@gmail.com

Volunteers Contact Priscilla Boston: peboston@gmail.com

CONTRIBUTE TO THE GORDON BENNETT TRIBUTE FUND

\$1200 has been contributed to date to the fund to install a memorial for Gordon somewhere in the neighborhood he loved so well. We are still in the early stages of planning. Ideas shared so far: naming a room at Asbury after Gordon or developing and renaming the Concordia Triangle parkspace. For now, CHULA is safeguarding the funds. Send your ideas and a check made out to CHULA, with Gordon Bennett Tribute Fund in the memo line. Mail c/o: CHULA P.O. Box 4286 Austin, Texas 78765.



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Sellers

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What do I have to do to the house to sell it? What will I have to spend to get it ready? What is it worth? When is the best time to sell? How long will it take? Do I have to disclose everything I know about the house? How much will it cost to sell? Which marketing brings the best results? Which ad media is best? Is the MLS important? Should we use the internet? Are pictures important? When will buyers want to see it? Do I have to be there? Do lock-boxes make keys available anytime? How are offers made? Evaluated? Selected? Countered? What forms have to be used? What is an option period? Can buyer re-open negotiations in the option period? What are my closing costs? Should I expect to pay any buyer's costs? Why? Why do I need a title company or attorney? When do I get paid?

Questions?

Answers.



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Buyers

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What can I afford? When should I talk to a lender? What are my best financing options? What is mortgage insurance? Is flood insurance necessary? Can I use a co-signer? What parts of town suit my needs? Where can I get information on schools? Taxes? Crime? Where can I get MLS information? How do I know if a price is fair? How do I know if an agent is legally representing me? and not the seller? How do I get inside houses? How do I know what to offer? Should I use an inspector? Will I be able to understand his reports? Can I re-open negotiations if I find surprises? When do I need to get insurance? What is title insurance? Who pays for the appraisal? The survey? How much will I need at closing? Is a check OK? When can I move in?







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Pope Clementine the VIII, in the early 1600's, initially banned coffee due to the decrease in wine sales and had also had claimed coffee as the "devil's drink"—partially due to it's popularity within the Muslim world. He ordered the beans to burned (and this is where some historians embellish a bit) and was immediately attracted to their aroma. He ordered to try the beans, liked it, and thought he could out-wit "the devil" by baptizing it as a Christian beverage. And that's how Muslims, Italian merchants and a Pope, helped spread coffee's popularity to the Western World...in a nutshell.
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Rebecca's

HOME OWNER'S UPDATE

What's Hot And What's Not In The Cherrywood Neighborhood

Summer 2007

PESKY PEEVES

Hey, Neighbors! If it's been raining at your house as much as it has been raining at mine, your pest situation is probably driving you nuts this summer. So in the spirit of sharing, I'm offering you some of my best mosquito control tips!

1. It's said that mosquitoes dislike the scent of oranges and onions. Rub over your exposed areas.
2. When you see mosquitoes on your walls and windows at night, simply suck them up with a vacuum hose.
3. Avoid wearing clothing that is damp or colored blue. They say mosquitoes love damp or blue clothing.
4. Try planting the herb tansy, or basil in sunny spots near your doors. Mosquitoes are repelled by the smell.
5. To keep mosquitoes from breeding in your rain barrel, pour a little cooking oil on the surface of the water. Better yet, get yourself some minnows and keep them in the barrel to eat the mosquito larvae!

Bit of Feng Shui

Your bed should always have a solid wall behind you. This is important if you wish to have a good rest. A solid wall simply means that you can go into deeper sleep and therefore enabling you to have good rest so that when you wake up in the morning, you will feel fresh and well rested. This also allows you to be able to concentrate on your work better



Neighbors, if you've been waiting for the right time to buy a house in this neighborhood... this is it! Interest rates are at a 45 year low and home prices are at a level that they were 3 or 4 years ago! You can't go wrong with these factors. So if you're considering investing in the neighborhood, give me a call and let me tell you about the opportunities available.

A Cherrywood Resident Since 1972



If you're planning a move to a larger home, need to relocate, or know someone on the move-contact me, **Rebecca Kohout, Broker** at Coldwell Banker United Realtors, 415-9876, or rebecca@austinxpertrealtor.com. www.austinxpertrealtor.com
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HOUSING STATISTICS FOR CHERRYWOOD AS OF JULY 10th

12 Active listings in Cherrywood

3205 Merrie Lynn
2 bed/1 bath, 896 sq ft.
3710 Werner Ave
2 bed/1 bath, 738 sq ft
3807 Grayson Lane
2 bed/1 bath/ 2 living, 1,152 sq ft
3507 Robinson
2 bed/1 bath, 884 sq ft
1713 East 38th St
2 bed/1 bath/2 living, 823 sq ft
3717 Werner Ave
2 bed/1 bath, 919 sq ft
3408 Randolph Road
2 bed/1.5 bath/2 living, 1,402 sq ft
3702 Grayson Lane
3 bed/2 bath/2 living, 1,697 sq ft
4004 Crescent Dr.
3 bed/2 bath/3 living, 1,790 sq ft
3200 Dancy
4 bed/2 bath/2 living 1,603 sq ft
3500 Lafayette
4 bed/2 bath/2 living, 1,570 sq ft
3203 Walnut Ave
4 bed/2 bath/2 living, 2,080 sq ft

Average Sq Ft, 1,296
Average Price Per Sq Ft \$239.70
Average list Price \$299,382
Average Days on Market 37

Pending Properties

1200 East 32nd
2 bed/1 bath, 1,026 sq ft
3208 Merrie Lynn
3 bed/2 bath/2 living, 1,500sq ft
3711 Robinson Ave
3 bed/2 bath, 1,336 sq ft
3408 Robinson Ave.
3 bed/3 bath, 1,635 sq ft
3812 Half Penny Rd
3 bed/1 bath, 1,332 sq Ft.

Average Sq Ft, 1,366
Average Price Per Sq Ft. \$215.57
Average List Price \$290,420
Average Days on Market 31

14 Sold Properties

Average Sq Ft, 1,252
Average Price Per Sq Ft. \$236.60
Average List Price \$287,007
Average Sales Price \$283,979
Average Days on Market 28
Average prices and values vary widely within our neighborhood boundaries. For a professional analysis of how your home fits into this market contact Rebecca, your neighborhood specialist, for an appointment. Sq. ft. numbers are generally from the Travis County Tax records. These numbers are not guaranteed. If you would like to view any of the above homes, contact Rebecca for a private viewing at 415-9876

