

TC NOTES

www.traviscountry.com

Local Government Addresses Coyote Presence

By Tricia Born

Travis Country may be getting some help with its coyote problem thanks to a new management program approved by the Travis County Commissioners. They recently approved \$40,000 for a coyote management plan to be administered by Texas Wildlife Services. Jeff Ripley, who is coordinating the government efforts, spoke to the TC Board on Nov. 18. He said the plan calls for trapping coyotes on public property and euthanizing them. He further noted that it is against state law to relocate coyotes.

Coyotes are one of the most successful species in North America. In spite of hunting, trapping, and eradication programs, the coyote has never been more populous than it is today. A true opportunist, it is highly adaptable to changing conditions. It will eat just about anything including snakes, rodents,

The "Tricster" is here and on the prowl rabbits, insects, sheep, foxes, frogs, grass, deer, fruit, vegetables, pet food and just plain garbage. If food is deliberately or inadvertently provided by people, the animals quickly learn not to fear humans and begin to depend on easy food sources. Coyotes are attracted to urban and suburban areas by the easy accessibility of food, water, and shelter. Removing or reducing these elements will often encourage them to leave.

Sightings in Travis Country

Coyote sightings and missing pets continue to occur in Travis Country. Unfortunately, the resident coyote population seems to have lost their natural fear of humans and could pose a serious risk to pets and small children in our neighborhood. Though active mainly at dusk and dawn, several TC residents have seen coyotes in the middle of the day. Sightings have been reported on Sendero, Magdalena, Canyonwood, Foster Ranch Road, Travis Country Circle, Republic of Texas and SW Parkway. In recent months, many TC residents' cats have gone missing. Residents report having heard coyotes killing cats and others have discovered their pet's carcass next to coyote scat. In rare cases across the country (including Texas), coyotes have attacked humans. One child in California was killed. Therefore, we ask for your help in following some common sense steps outlined on page 3 to protect our children and pets and help prevent a tragedy.

Other Austin Neighborhoods Fighting Same Battle

If you have watched the local news lately, you may have seen that Travis Country is not alone in facing a coyote problem. Residents of the Northwest Hills also reported that their coyote population has become more brazen and aggressive. Earlier this fall, in a show of neighborhood cooperation and activism, they took their problem to the Travis County Commissioners, who responded by approving the management plan.

In order to address the coyote problem quickly and efficiently, it is extremely important for TC residents to call and report their coyote encounters.

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News from the TCCSA Board of Directors Meeting

By Bonnie Grobar

This report does not represent the official minutes of the meeting. Once approved, the minutes are posted on the web site and at the office on Blue Valley Drive. At the **November 18, 2004** meeting these directors were present: **Mark Hoffman, Terry Horton, Al Janelle, Alan Lish, Chris Lynch, Anthony Peterman, Janice Smith, and Jules Weldon**. The Board took the following action or accepted the following reports:

- Asked questions of Bill Walters and Ty Puckett, developers/builders who want to work with TCCSA while developing the Murphy property surrounding the Travis Oaks office buildings on SW Pkwy; the new development will triple this area to accommodate over 1,000 parking spaces in several parking garages; if zoning passes the City process, the owner may build a home on 4 of the acres
- Asked questions of Jeff Ripley, who runs the Texas Cooperative Extension agency, which is coordinating government efforts to control the County's coyote population
- Agreed on prizes of \$50 Home Depot Gift Certificates to be awarded to winners in the Christmas Tree Lighting Contest
- Defeated a motion to remove the yaupons on the main entrance median at this time
- Approved operating and capital budgets for 2005 as agreed upon at the Board's Nov. budget work session (posted on the web site)
- Passed a motion to spend at least \$25 for Biozome to treat two trees at BV as a test of product effectiveness
- Passed a motion to spend approximately \$2,850 to acquire and plant 10 trees in the BV area to replace the dead and dying live oaks; 3 will be behind the wading pool and 7 will be in the area between the pond and the office
- Formed a subcommittee, (Jules Weldon, Chris Lynch, and Alan Lish) to work with the developers of the Travis Oaks office campus
- Agreed to use the website message board to produce the monthly Board meeting agenda; residents will be able to see items as they are added, but only Board members will add items
- Instructed the manager to redistribute pea gravel to satisfactory depth at both playgrounds and to remove graffiti
- Agreed to place the following items on the January agenda:

- Discussion of pool rules, waivers, and insurance issues involved in implementing new pool policies
- Planting new trees at Hilltop
- Wheelchair access to playgrounds

HOMEOWNERS' COMMENTS

- City approval is needed to remove plantings in the main entrance median
- Individual Board members are still giving instructions to the manager for projects that do not have Board approval
- The Association is not being managed with adequate attention to expenditures and ways to save money
- How is the Association going to deal with repaying lap swimmers for their not being able to use the pools for the rest of the year which they have paid for?

Travis Country Home Owner's Association

Travis Country Office
 9am-6pm.....892-2256
 After hours.....289-1616
 Fax.....891-9554



Travis Country Board of Directors
 board@traviscountry.com


Travis Country General Email
 tcoffice@traviscountry.com

TRAVIS COUNTRY

The TC Board of Directors meets at 6 pm the 3rd Thursday of every month, except December, at the Blue Valley Office. All residents are invited to attend. Homeowner comments occur at 7pm. The Directors and management need your input to do the best job of spending your monthly dues.

TC Notes Volunteer Production Team

Editor/Photographer (TC pics): Tricia Born
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 Ad Coordinator: Amy Winebright
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 Distribution: 60 wonderful TC Residents



Questions or comments about the TC Notes?
 Email us at tenotes@traviscountry.com

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If you see a coyote, call 3-1-1 and ask for Animal Control. In addition, please report any encounters or sightings to the TC Office or tcnotes@traviscountry.com as we are continuing to monitor the situation. For more information on the coyote management program, call Jeff Ripley at 854-9600. Sources: APHIS Factsheet (www.aphis.usda.gov), www.wdfw.wa.gov, www.co.el-dorado.ca.us.

YOU can Help Reduce Coyote-Human Conflicts:

- DO NOT FEED COYOTES
- Secure garbage containers, keep lids on garbage and minimize garbage odors
- Do not allow pets to run free (particularly cats and small dogs): they are prey
- Feed your pets indoors and do not leave pet food outside
- Eliminate sources of water
- Bird feeders should be positioned so that coyotes can't get to the feed
- Small children should not be left unattended
- Store pet food and other food items where it is inaccessible and doesn't give off odor
- Trim and clear (near ground level) shrubbery that provides hiding cover for coyotes or prey
- If you see a coyote, chase it away by shouting, making loud noises, or throwing rocks.

Annual TC Boo Bash A Smashing Success!

Many thanks to all the residents who attended this year's Boo Bash! There was a great turnout and luckily, the weather held out until the very end of the night. Thanks to Girl Scout cadettes Kaylyn Remsing, Tessa Garni, Elizabeth Banks, and Christine Boilard who helped organize and run the event and to Cody Remsing who supervised the effort. Special thanks to the de la Morenas for cooking all the hotdogs and the gang in the TC office for all they do.

Boo Bash Contest Winners

COSTUME

Scariest, Kevin Rodriguez and Andre Santos (skeletons)

Most Creative, Zachary Kosub (robot), Sydney Brigodle (hula girl)

Funniest, RyanCole and RyalJames Carroll (Super Baby and Super Boy)



Funniest Costume winners RyanCole and RyalJames Carroll

PUMPKIN CARVING

Scariest, Linsey White

Most Creative, Karyn Remsing

Funniest, Sophie, Ben and Leo Leuzinger



Karyn Remsing (left) with her winning pumpkin

The Verduzco Family (right) gets into the Halloween spirit



For more photos from the Boo Bash, visit www.traviscountry.com and click on news and info.

Reminder: No Board Meeting in December. No newsletter in January. To keep up to date with happenings, visit www.traviscountry.com

Biozome Orders

Many residents have expressed interest in using BioZome to combat oak wilt. A 25 lb box is \$69.95, which is enough to do an average size lot. For more information please contact Frank Krystopher at fkrystopher@austintx.net or 899-1218.

neighborhood notices

Prizes this Year for Holiday

Lights Contest!

There will be \$50 Home Depot gift certificates for each of the 3 winners of the Best Christmas Lighting Contest. Contact Cody Remsing, jremsing@ioimail.com or Alan Lish at alish@imediaplus.com for details



WELCOME NEW TC OWNERS!

- David and Lynn Roper, Hero Dr.
- Enedina Salazar, Moon Shadow Dr.
- Mary and Arnold Boecklin, Mission Oaks Blvd.
- Catherine Abbinanti, Republic of Texas Blvd.
- Radames and Marsha Pern, Canyon Crest
- James and Suki-Lee Wang, Trading Bend
- Maureen and Gregory Engle, Mission Oaks Blvd.
- Barbara and Abel Skannal, Republic of Texas Blvd.

club news

Bunco Club For food, fun and frivolity, give Bunco a try! We play the first Monday of every month at 7:30pm at the TC Office. Treat yourself to a fun game with your neighbors! Questions? LeeLindy@sbcglobal.net

Dance Club Meets regularly on Tuesday night from 8-9pm for lessons and Friday nights from 9-10pm at Copa for dancing. Contact marion@estiloper.com for location and future events.

Scrapbook Club Meets at the TC office on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7pm klworman@aol.com.

committee news

The Fiscal Committee

Wants You! Do you like or are you good at working with numbers? Are you interested in helping the homeowner's association spend YOUR DUES



wisely? Put your skills to work and join this committee. Spend just a few hours a month working with financial reports, the association treasurer, and a few of your neighbors to monitor the income and expenditures, ask questions, and make useful suggestions to the Board to insure that we get the best value for our money. You can make a difference! Contact management at 892-2256 or Chris Lynch at Chris.Lynch@alumni.duke.edu.

TCCSA BUDGET

Here is a condensed version of the financial figures prepared by Goodwin Management for Travis Country as of October 30, 2004. More detailed information can be found on the web site under [Documents](#). Select TC Budget from the list. For comments or questions, contact board@traviscountry.com or call 892-2256.



Item	Amount	Year to Date	Annual Budget
Income	\$39,793	\$456,796	\$532,460
Expense	\$39,848	\$428,895	\$499,313
Difference	\$-55	\$27,901	\$33,147



TC Notes Classifieds Policy

Services are advertised only for people 18 and under in this newsletter. You must let us know each month if you want your service advertised. We reserve the right to edit ads for space. Services provided by adults can be placed on the website under Classifieds, or you may ask the TC Office to add you to the list they maintain at the Office. Contact us at tcnotes@traviscountry.com

Wanted

Starting a nanny playgroup! Our son is 14 months and our nanny is 24. If you would like your nanny to join the group, call Jen at 358-8498 or email at jmwmomma@aol.com.

Small house or apartment in Austin for short term (2 or 3 months) lease from February to April. Wisconsin grandparents on a fixed income wish to spend a mild winter in Texas visiting grandchildren. Would welcome house-sitting situations and dates are flexible. Please contact us at 892-7614.

For Sale

UT men's basketball tickets - Arena level, section 34, 4th row, top of key. Two available December 7th and 15th. Four available December 22nd and 29th. Face value. 892-0462.

Pebble gravel - Free for the taking. Up to 1 1/2 pick-up truck beds available at 4300 Travis Country Circle. Call ahead at 358-0255. Bring your own wheelbarrow.

Kenmore white refrigerator, 18 cf, freezer on top, excellent condition, like new, 5 years old, paid \$469, asking \$235. GE black dishwasher, best offer. 619-5359.

Baseball Pitch-Back, double sided, \$25. "Hot Wheels World" sets, many assorted individual (connecting) sets with extra track, \$30. Solid hard-wood speaker stands, \$25/set. 892-1817.

AB-Doer Thane Fitness w/ instructional video, \$15. Kennel Aire Auto Barrier, new, never used, keeps dogs contained in vehicle cargo area, adjustable for custom fit, fits all mini vans/SUVs/Jeeps, \$25. Decorative wall hangings and glass framed pictures & prints, \$10-\$25. 892-3832 or 322-6264.

Moving Sale - Curio cabinet, \$500. Three bar stools, \$250. Swivel rocker, \$150. Lamp table, \$125. Burgundy side chair, \$200. Bent wood rocker, \$145. Mirror and mirror table, \$260. Oak desk and chair, \$500. Entry bench \$75. Hat rack, \$25. Other items available, call 899-3238.

Oak dining room set - Oval table, 44"x 66", plus two 16" leaves. Four wicker-backed side chairs (fabric seats) and two fabric-backed end chairs. \$500 OBO. Call 358-9433 or email pitaand-freddy@yahoo.com for pictures.

Contemporary solid pecan dining room furniture - Dining table with 6 chairs (2 arm chairs, 4 side chairs), 2 buffets (slate tops), and 2 side servers. Excellent condition. \$1,000 for all or will sell individually. 892-0313.

Boy's blue race car bed, \$100. Solid wood bookcase, finished on both sides, room divider or bar, multi use piece of furniture, \$150. 899-3259.

Baby crib and mattress, wood, natural color, all assembly instructions included, \$75. Crib sheet and bumper set, Martha Stewart, all white with embroidered animals, new-never used, \$35. Paula 899-8199.

Maytag Washer/Gas Dryer, very reliable, \$200. Upright exercise bike with optional rowing, \$25. Weider 3-station home gym (needs cable), \$50. 892-4101.

97' Ford Explorer - Leather, CD, white, 95K, all maintenance records, great condition, \$5,400. Call 892-2778 or 349-8246.

Full size sleeper/sofa, \$225. Storehouse entertainment center, \$175. Fax machine, \$25. Call 892-7135.

Dwarf Siberian Hamsters, young, weaned, cute, clean, hand-tame. Great pets. \$6 each. Contact Steve at sportnoy@austin.rr.com or 892-2949.



Babysitting

Mignon Isaacs Bryant, 14. Red Cross Certified. Creative, reliable, 2 younger siblings. References available. 892-1176 or mignonib@yahoo.com.

Mallory Motal, 17. Experienced. CPR and First Aid Certified. 892-4029.

Eric Espinoza, 14. Holiday parties? Need to go shopping (alone)? Eric would love to entertain your child/children, ages 3 and up. Red Cross trained. 892-1817.

Abby Wetzel, 16. American Red Cross Babysitting certified. Adult, child, and infant CPR, and standard First Aid. Also CPR for the professional rescuer and lifeguard training. Experienced. References. 892-1148 or 653-3730(cell).

Lawn/Pet/Plant Care

Mallory Motal, 17. Petcare. Experienced and responsible. 892-4029.

Matt Motal, 15. Petcare. Experienced. 892-4029.

David Knippa, 17. Available for lawn care, experienced and responsible. 892-0952 or 923-5107.

Mark Knippa, 15. Available for lawn and pet care, experienced and responsible. 892-0952.

Kaylyn, 13. Pet, plant and home care. Very reliable. 7 years neighborhood experience. Parental supervision. 892-2246.

Abby Wetzel, 16. Experienced and responsible petcare, been taking care of many different kinds of pets for 3 years, also do plant care. References. 892-1148 or 653-3730(cell).

December Events Calendar

Grounds Committee	Wed. 12/1	7:00 pm	TCCSA Office
Bunco Club	Mon. 12/6	7:30 pm	TCCSA Office
Fiscal Committee	Tues. 12/7	7:00 pm	TCCSA Office
Architecture Committee	Wed. 12/8	7:00 pm	TCCSA Office
Scrapbook Club	Thurs. 12/9 & 12/23	7:00 pm	TCCSA Office
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LIGHTS CONTEST	Over Christmas Holidays		Homes all around TC!
Bunco Club	Mon. 1/3	7:30 pm	TCCSA Office
Fiscal Committee	Tues. 1/4	7:00 pm	TCCSA Office
Grounds Committee	Wed. 1/5	7:00 pm	TCCSA Office
Architecture Committee	Wed. 1/12	7:00 pm	TCCSA Office
Board of Directors Mtg.	Thurs. 1/20	6:00 pm	TCCSA Office
TC Notes Deadline	Fri. 1/21	5:00 pm	tcnotes@traviscountry.com
Notes Delivered to Captains	Sat. 1/29	12 noon	