



# TC NOTES

[www.traviscountry.com](http://www.traviscountry.com)

## SPRING FORWARD...AGAIN: Annual Homeowners Meeting and Board Elections Move To April

**Wednesday, April 11, BV Pavilion**  
**Barbecue served at 6:00, Meeting Starts at 7:00**

Based on a majority vote at last year's annual meeting homeowners approved a by-law amendment to schedule the meeting on the second Wednesday in April, rather than May. A new meeting start time, 7 pm, was also approved. So, mark your calendars and get ready to eat barbecue and discuss community business with your neighbors a little earlier this year.

In addition to reviewing the status of Association business and finances, we'll have an opportunity to hear an update on neighborhood crime prevention efforts from Officer Cindy Seago, Southwest Austin District Representative, APD. Our neighbor, Lynne Fahlquist, TC Representative for Oak Hill Planning, will tell us how plans for a connecting trail sys-

tem might impact us close to home. There will be four Board seats to be filled this year. This is your opportunity to endorse the Directors of your choice by casting your vote. See page 5 for information about the 2007 candidates. Nominations for Board positions may also be made from the floor. In case of severe weather the meeting will be re-scheduled for the same time on Thursday, April 12.

**Enter to Win Door Prizes!**

There will be drawings for door prizes during the meeting. Three lucky households will walk away with these prizes. You must be present to win.

**Second Prize:** \$105 - equivalent of 3 mos. dues

**First Prize:** \$210 - 6 mos. dues

**Grand Prize:** \$420 - full year's dues



### Second Break-In Occurs

A second house was broken into on March 2. The burglary happened at 4:30 am on Apache Creek Cove. The burglar entered through an open garage door and took a purse, laptop and keys. According to the police, the family was asleep upstairs and heard their dog bark and run downstairs (probably chasing the burglar out). Most of the purse items were recovered on a nearby street. That same evening vehicles were broken into on Republic of Texas and Bandera Creek Trail.



ins was sent to about 185 residents who are on the email alert. If you did not receive a message on March 3 or if you want your name and one email address added for your residence for the list, contact 892-3356 or [communications@traviscountry.com](mailto:communications@traviscountry.com). Please remember to notify us if you change your email address.

Please remember to lock your doors at night. Call 911 if you see anything suspicious. For a list of things you can do to keep your home safe, look at last month's *TC Notes* available online at [www.traviscountry.com](http://www.traviscountry.com), click on News & Info.

Previously, a home on Travis Country Circle was broken into on January 25. A purse and laptop were also stolen from that house. This burglar is an opportunist and seems to enter homes with unlocked back doors or open garage doors. The pattern is very similar to a string of burglaries at the end of 2005 and early 2006. Four homes were burglarized during that period. In one case, the homeowner confronted the burglar with a sword and chased him from the home.

Email notification of the March 2 home and vehicle break-

### Inside this Issue...



<i>TC Notes</i> Needs Help.....	3
Sharks Registration.....	4
Board of Directors Election Candidates.....	5
TC Teen Wins Film Award.....	6
Sycamore Removal at BV.....	8
A Surprisingly Quiet Spring Break in TC.....	10

## News from the TCCSA Board of Directors Meeting

By Lynne Fahlquist

This report does not represent the official minutes of the meeting. Unofficial minutes are posted on the website and, once approved, are in the office on Blue Valley Drive. At the March 15, 2007 meeting these Directors were present: John Cox, Pam Losefsky, John McCulloch, Russell Pinkston, Nola Ross, and Janice Smith. The Board took the following action or accepted the following:

### Reports

Architectural – committee ruled that a playscape needs to be brought into compliance with covenants; homeowner may appeal ruling.

Communications – need volunteers to help with communication activities, specifically with production of *TC Notes*.

Grounds – requesting Board approval of entryway landscape design.

Pool – pools opening in April (see calendar insert)

Social – committee will contact resident who is requesting sanction of a Social Club.

Tennis – need more detailed information about function of proposed Tennis Association, how different from Tennis Committee, why have both Committee and Association?

Oak Hill Neighborhood Planning – proposed collector bus route in Travis Country, proposed locations (west of TC) of new schools, regional park, vertical mixed use zones, and request for sidewalks and bike paths along SW Parkway.

New Oak Hills Trails Association looking into forming a network of trails in Oak Hill area; includes a possible trail through or near TC.

Budget – suggest Goodwin provide more detail for Capital Reserve expenses. Also suggest that Treasurer and Goodwin create budget that more accurately reflects spending patterns, e.g. some expenses are largely seasonal so have budget reflect

Volunteer of the Year – selected winner

### Motions

March agenda and February meeting minutes – Approved.

Designate Lynne Fahlquist as official TC Representative to Oak Hill Neighborhood Planning Contact Team – Approved.

Accept amended lease rules – Approved.

Remove sycamores next to bald cypress trees along BV pond; communicate to homeowners why this is necessary for the long term. – Approved.

Appoint and approve 2008 BOD Election Nominating Committee (appointed Candy Goodrich as chair, recommend appointing Clarence Sutton and Colleen Cox to participate.) – Approved.

Approve funding NTE \$8,600 for entryway landscape design and planting (amount is less than previously approved amount in capital improvement budget). – Approved.

Two times, extend meeting adjourn time. – Approved.

Request to use park for private party. – Approved.

### Postponed

Motion to approve Common Area Damage Policy (Policy #15).

Decision regarding homeowners' altering of common area property.

### Executive Session

Considered legal issues.

### Homeowners Comments

BOD commended for enforcement of covenants, including use of a fine policy.

Why does it take so long to enforce covenants?

Resident has concerns about two apparent covenant violations.

Resident has long-term concern about enforcing covenants, are they being enforced?

April 14th is Its-My-Park Day, volunteers will be working to clean up Gaines Creek Park.

Resident is not a fan of the lease rules.

Lease rules are needed for poorly maintained rental properties.

A Tennis Association club and courts should be for residents only.

Tennis committee is trying to establish a policy that allows guests, when accompanying residents to use facilities; similar to current pools policy.

Concern that Tennis coach may desire to expand teaching classes to non-residents; Tennis committee needs to establish use similar to pools committee.

Residents should have a voice in what takes place in our neighborhood; don't like the idea of non-residents using trails in our neighborhood.

### Manager's Report and Recommendations

Painting at office was completed.

BV water fountain to be installed next week, weather permitting.

Awaiting results of compliance inspection of BV pool.

Sediment washouts improving with new landscaping at HT Pool; landscaper is adding plants throughout next week.

Handicap access completed at HT Pool.

Ball moss removal in BV completed.

Looking into improving storage cubbies for sanctioned groups.

Postponed HT Pavilion repair due to weather.

New floor for HT Pool poured, should be ready for pool season.

Greenbelt inspections are ongoing.

Received certificate of insurance, waiting for other documents.

Feedback from early gate closing at HT, some residents don't like early closure; hours will change with pool opening.

Annual meeting preparations are ongoing.

Began irrigation repairs for spring use.

### Correspondence

Resident reported dog attack.

Application for TC Social Club needs more detailed information, recommended contact with existing Social Committee.

Resident requested consideration for an on-sight indoor workout facility.

Resident requested Board consider recommendations for increased security in neighborhood.

Residents requested City mowing schedule for SW Pkwy be changed to allow for wildflower growth.

Received notices of: two public hearings, City vertical mixed use opt-in/opt-out process, sanitary sewer utility construction activities to begin in late March on TC Cir. between Copperwood and Trail West.

Two residents requested removal of late fees.

### Travis Country Board of Directors

President:  
Russell Pinkston



Vice-President:  
Janice Smith

Secretary:  
Anthony Peterman

Treasurer:  
John Cox

Candy Goodrich, Brian Julian, Pam Losefsky, John McCulloch, Nola Ross

Contact the Board at 892-2256 or [board@traviscountry.com](mailto:board@traviscountry.com).

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

### We Need Help!

After 12 years, our wonderful long time volunteer reporter, Bonnie Grobar, is retiring. Therefore, the *TC Notes* is in desperate need of help. Can you spare a few hours a month to help your community? We need someone to cover the Board of Directors meetings and help write articles. The quality of the newsletter may suffer if we do not find someone to help with these tasks.

Please help us keep the *TC Notes* interesting and informative!

Contact Tricia Born at 358-9497 or [tcnotes@traviscountry.com](mailto:tcnnotes@traviscountry.com) for more info.

### Annual TC Easter Egg Hunt!

(Residents Only, Please)\*

April 7, 10 am to noon  
BV Basketball court area

Travis Country's annual Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 7 from 10 am to 12 pm at the Blue Valley basketball court. The Easter Bunny will also be making an appearance again this year. Donations of eggs, candy and stuffed animals may be dropped off at the TC office or placed on the porch of 4706 Travis Country Circle. Each year organizers rely on the volunteering efforts of gracious neighbors. If you can donate 30 minutes or more of your time on this day, please call Cody at 892-2246.



\*Due to overcrowding at last year's Hunt and escalating costs, we ask that residents refrain from inviting non-residents.

### Water Utility Repairs to Affect TC Roads

Starting in late March, Austin Water Utility is going to replace defective sewer piping along Travis Country Circle from Copperwood Drive to The Woods Condos. This will be extensive and will affect driving and parking near the area. More information will be sent to homeowners in the immediate area. Please address questions to: City Construction Inspector Supervisor Lek Mateo at 974-1555 or City Project Manager/Engineer Mike Russ at 703-6641 or [michael.russ@ci.austin.tx.us](mailto:michael.russ@ci.austin.tx.us).

### Are you a Responsible Pet Owner?

Management and the *TC Notes* routinely receive complaints about the same actions by pet owners. Please help make TC a pleasant place for everyone by being considerate of your neighbors. Following a recent attack where a leashed dog was severely injured by an unleashed dog, the following bears repeating:

#### Do not allow your dogs or cats outside off leash

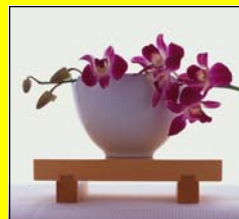
Your dog may be the friendliest animal in the world, but may not like a particular dog or person. In addition, some people, and children particularly, are afraid of dogs and do not like it when they come up suddenly. Allowing cats to roam freely is akin to shaking the food box for coyotes. Your cat's freedom contributes to the potential for increasing coyote aggression. As coyotes get more aggressive, they could attack a child or dogs.

#### Clean up after your dog

What's worse than seeing dog poop on the sidewalk? Stepping in it in your yard...when you don't own a dog!

#### Do not allow your dog to bark incessantly

While you may be able to tune out your own dog, your neighbor might not be so lucky.



### 5th Annual TC Home and Garden Tour Cancelled

Although there was a wonderful group of people who were willing to participate this year, there just were not enough. There are some homeowners who indicated they would be willing to participate next year so we should be able to look forward to an exciting 2008 home tour. Questions can be directed to Sherri Williams at 771-7082.

### Got Junk?

Clean out that garage and be able to park your cars in there again! Hold a garage sale during the Community Wide Garage Sale April 28 and 29. Ads will be placed in the *Statesman*. Put your stuff out and start counting the money!

### Looking for a Heated Pool?

The City of Austin's Dick Nichols Pool on Beckett Road is open year round and will be heated during cold weather. The pool will be open weekdays from 11 am to 1:30 pm, and 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm., weekends 1-4 pm, for open swimming. To find out more about the park, pool and get directions, see [www.traviscountry.com](http://www.traviscountry.com) and click on the link pool.



### "It's My Park Day" April 14

#### Gaines Creek Park

Now is the time to join the TC Gaines Creek Park volunteers for a few hours, and help clean up your Neighborhood Park. Sponsored by the Austin Parks Foundation (APF), **Saturday, April 14** is "It's My Park" Day, an annual community service day focused on improvements to Austin's park system. This year, they hope to have 1,500 volunteers at 50 different park projects.

Gaines Park has a volunteer host, and he plans to recruit at least 20 people to do general clean up, walk the trails and make future plans. Some ligustrum and debris removal from the creek is planned as well. Contact Frank Krystopher, [bluesky2u@austin.rr.com](mailto:bluesky2u@austin.rr.com) or go to the APF website, [www.austinparks.org](http://www.austinparks.org), get all the information, see what other parks are involved, and sign up.

### APD Commander's Forum April 24

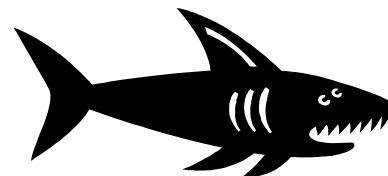
The Austin Police Department holds Commanders Forums to share and discuss issues and concerns with residents and business owners to help improve the quality of life within the area commands. The next one will be held on Tuesday, April 24th at 7 pm at the SW Area Command located at 404 Ralph Abladendo Drive, 78748. All TC residents are invited to attend.



### Sharks Swim Team Registration Set for April 15

*By Wendy Primeaux, Sharks President*

The Travis Country Sharks will hold registration on Sunday, April 15 from 2-5 pm under the pavilion at Blue Valley Pool.



Kids who will be five by May 1 (and no older than 18) and can swim the length of the pool in some fashion are eligible to join.

Lane Four Swim Shop will be at registration selling team suits. Early registrations will be accepted between April 1 and April 14. To register early, visit our website at [www.swimsharks.org](http://www.swimsharks.org), and print out the registration form. Or, you may pick one up from the front porch of team registrar Minerva Martinez at 4140 Travis Country Circle. Completed forms can be returned to the designated box at Minerva's, or mailed to her at the above address. The fee is \$95 for the first swimmer and \$90 for each sibling thereafter. Checks only, please. Late registrations will be accepted through Friday, May 4. There will be a \$20 late fee per family for registrations received after April 15.

Our team organization is run entirely by volunteers, and each participating family is asked to volunteer in some fashion. The team handbook is on the website. You will find lots of information regarding the various volunteer opportunities and some guidelines to help you decide what volunteer position might be right for you.

Practices will start on May 1 after school Monday through Thursday afternoons. On Friday, May 25, morning practices will begin. There will also be evening practices for those swimmers who absolutely cannot make the morning practice times. Our fun meet will be held on Saturday, May 19, and our championship meet will be held at the UT swim center on Saturday, June 23. The meet schedule is still a work in progress, but there will be a meet each weekend between the two dates listed above: two will be hosted by Travis Country, and two will be hosted by other neighborhoods. For more information regarding practice times, volunteer opportunities, and general information, visit the website, or email [wprimeaux@austin.rr.com](mailto:wprimeaux@austin.rr.com).



TAKE THIS PAGE WITH YOU TO THE ELECTIONS!



# Travis Country Board Elections

**April 11, 2007 at the Blue Valley Pavilion**

There are 4 open seats for the TC Board of Directors. Candidates receiving the most votes will get the longest terms. Here is a preview of candidates for those positions. Ballots will be available the week before the election/annual homeowners' meeting on April 11. If you missed the deadline to apply, you can still be nominated from the floor at the meeting. For questions, please contact the TC Office at 892-2256.

## MEET THE CANDIDATES...

*(Candidates are listed in alphabetical order)*



### **John Cox, Trading Bend**

My wife, Colleen, and I have lived in Travis Country for almost two years, during the last year of which I have been fortunate to serve the community as the interim treasurer on the Board of Directors. I bring a rational, logical approach to problem solving and a fiscal responsibility gained as an entrepreneur and small business owner. I hope to continue to promote a long-term view of the health and well-being of the neighborhood and surrounding area by encouraging responsible growth, environmental consciousness and a strong sense of community and neighborhood pride.

### **Terry Horton, Canyonwood Drive**

Among recent volunteers efforts, I spearheaded Travis Country's challenge to Stratus/MUD#4 wastewater plant. The landmark agreement mandates unprecedented design requirements, and will be the most ecologically sensitive municipal WWTP in the state's history. Stratus has stringent contractual obligations to Travis Country for monitoring and reporting. I had no experience in wastewater science or law. Yet I uncovered a state statute that would overturn TCEQ's initial denial for a hearing. I authored our TCEQ contested case hearing application, saving substantial legal fees. I worked with board members to create a unified, aggressive but reasonable front. I served on our negotiating team. Plus, we recovered virtually all our legal fees. I am proud and honored to serve as chair of our Grounds Committee. During my tenure we converted to a Texas native, all organic landscape. Irrigation now meets or exceeds city WaterWise standards, saving thousands of dollars annually in water and mowing. We retain the best tree professionals, and follow their advice. We invest in soil improvement to overcome decades of compaction. We plant oaks and elms, plus a diverse variety of native species such as Escarpment Black Cherry and Anacua, to better ensure our forest's health in the face of changes in climate and pathogens. Our new general landscape contractor, hired last November after an exhaustive search, is immensely talented, highly professional, and dedicated to Travis Country and the goals as expressed by the Board. They will break ground in coming weeks for an exciting new project on the median at the SW Pkwy entrance (check the website for details). Together with our arborists, and the members of the Grounds Committee, I believe Travis Country now fields the best landscape maintenance program in central Texas. I appreciate your continued support.



### **Frank Krystopher, Trading Bend**

TCCSA Board prior member for 4 years, 2 years as COO and VP, 1 year as VP, 7 years ACC member, 7 years Grounds committee member and 9 years Garden Club member. 25 years in telecommunications. At 67, I feel terrific and, according to all measurable indicators, am in excellent health. I would like to see that the budget is balanced and to maintain the unique character of Travis Country. I would like to recognize and avoid serious risks, including those never before encountered. With 1507 homeowners we have a huge pool of intelligent people; independent thinkers with a keen understanding of both human and institutional behavior which are vital to long-term Association plans. I've seen a lot of very smart people who have lacked these virtues. We need to think about what's best for the Association, not about little pet agendas.

### **Nola Ross, Trail West Drive**

I've been a resident for 15 years and been active in community affairs since then. I volunteer at many events, served on the pool committee, and was appointed to the Board in September 2006. Professionally, I am a retired RN, still active in the emergency disaster response team for Austin. My experience in nursing was clinical and administrative for over 55 years. I have a BSN from UT at Tyler. Community service includes having served on many Boards and as a volunteer for many venues. I'm also active in my church. I am interested in maintaining a safe, cohesive neighborhood within beautiful TC by adhering to the covenants, restrictions, bylaws and resolutions. I am willing to support changes that may be recommended if beneficial to our community. I don't have a personal agenda to bring to the BOD, yet am reasonable and decisive when issues arise.



Over, please



**Janice Smith, Canyonwood Drive**

I moved to Travis Country in 1978 after visiting friends who had just purchased their first home here. The community enticed me with its natural setting and its reputation for being the first environmentally planned neighborhood in Austin. I love my home here and the surroundings we share. When originally applying for the board my main objective was to preserve and maintain our common areas for present and future generations of TC residents to enjoy. My pledge to you is that I will continue to work toward that objective. Internally we have a terrific, fully-developed neighborhood that is continually improving through our efforts as interested homeowners. We have so much that *is* working well. The development issue that concerns us all right now is the impact of external traffic patterns. We are the first neighborhood at the front end of the flow on and off of the parkway. As construction increases so do our daily traffic safety and inconvenience issues. We need a strong voice in planning for our own safety and the protection of our lifestyle. I respect the fact that effective communication occurs first by listening and I respect the amazing wealth of skills and knowledge within our community. Together we can be that strong voice. Anyone who'd like additional information about my position on community issues encountered during the last four years is welcome to contact me via email [vicepresident@traviscountry.com](mailto:vicepresident@traviscountry.com). I'm proud of my record as a Board member and I'd really like to hear about your concerns for our future. Thank you for considering my continued contribution to our community.

City-Guided Field Trip From Travis

Country Circle to Barton Creek March 31

By Lynne Fahlquist and Janice Smith

TC was chosen as a pilot neighborhood for a new Landscaping Education program by the City of Austin and Texas Cooperative Extension. As part of this program, we have a special opportunity to learn more about our unique hydrogeologic setting. Nico Hauwert, ultra-enthusiastic City Hydrogeologist, will conduct a field trip from our subdivision down to Barton Creek on Saturday, March 31, 9-11:30 am, starting at the 4000 block of Travis Country Circle (check the TC website for more specific information about the start location).



By now each TC household should have received a package of information from the City of Austin about avoiding weed and feed products to protect water quality in our immediate area. Please take the time to review the package with your family.

The objective of the City outreach campaign is to educate homeowners about prudent use of insecticides, herbicides, and fertilizers; and how these compounds affect water quality in our area. Water quality tests performed on the Backdoor Spring situated behind Travis Country show increasing levels of nitrate and atrazine. Both of these chemicals are tied to fertilizer use. The City has been trying to work with home improvement centers to discourage use of these products. The City encourages consumers to ask for alternative non-weed and feed options when purchasing lawn care products. For questions, please contact Kathy Shay at 974-2446.

TC Teens Win SXSW Film Award

Congratulations once again to TC residents Harrison Cole and Danny Catlow! For the third year in a row they have won First place in the SXSW youth MAFIA (Make-A-Film-In-A) Day. The competition was much stiffer this year, but the guys still prevailed. If you are interested in filmmaking, there are classes and camps for both kids and adults year-round at [www.austinfilmsschool.org](http://www.austinfilmsschool.org). Bravo, guys!

Coyote Update

According to wildlife biologist Randy Farrar, there were 51 calls about coyotes in Travis County in February. Thirteen of those calls were from Travis Country. So far in March, there have been 17 calls, 7 from Travis Country. One of those calls reported a coyote on Sendero carrying a cat in its mouth. The City and County have been monitoring these calls and report that they are not showing abnormal or aggressive behavior at this time. Most of the activity seems to be around the northern end of TC in the vicinity of the greenbelt behind Sendero. A total of 5 coyotes were trapped and euthanized from Gaines Park on Republic of Texas. Mr. Farrar noted that coyotes will begin having pups around the end of March through May (depending on when they breed), and generally may become more territorial and aggressive in nature as pups are born and reared through August.

**Dog owners using the greenbelt behind Sendero should use extra caution from late March through May due to the presence of coyote pups. Dogs should not be off leash.**

contd. on page 8

## neighborhood notices

### Mark Your Calendars! The TC Community-Wide Garage Sale will be on April 28 and 29.

A notice will be placed in the *Statesman*. Residents are responsible for their individual garage sales.



### Welcome New Residents!

Sutherland, Philip, 4707 Canyonwood Drive  
Sitzman, Darius & Alison, 4702 Fawnwood Cove  
Cowden, James & Heidi, 5601 Hero Drive  
Kuhn, David & Teresa, 5005 McDade Drive  
Luedke, Kathleen, 5337 Moon Shadow Drive  
Radomski, Daina Dulaney, 4905 Quick Water Cove  
Wilkerson, Mark, 4415 Twisted Tree Drive  
Fairleigh, James & Ashley, 4412 Twisted Tree Drive

## committee news and reports



**Architectural Committee (ACC)** At the March 14th meeting we reviewed:

Deck and addition, greenhouse, garage door, playscape building, roof replacement, paved walkway, construction time extension, fence and house painting. 3 approvals, 3 conditional approvals, 2 pending information. **ACC tip** for yard projects: Declaration Section 1.16.

“Visible from Neighboring Property” shall mean, with respect to any given object, that such object is or would be visible to a person six feet tall, standing on any part of such neighboring property at an elevation no greater than the elevation of the base of the object being viewed. Note: Due to the Annual meeting Wednesday, April 11th, the ACC will meet on Monday, April 9th. [acc@traviscountry.com](mailto:acc@traviscountry.com).



**Grounds Committee** At the March meeting, the committee identified and prioritized areas for landscape design and maintenance, with a focus on addressing the front entryway being the highest priority. The committee accepted a landscape design for the front entry. The plan should be implemented immediately upon Board approval. Members of the committee re-

quested that the City limit mowing of the SW Parkway median so that wildflowers will be allowed to grow, flower, and reseed. A number of Blue Valley issues were identified: fix part of older stone wall, replace dead planted trees, save some dead trees for wildlife habitat, develop plan to update signage, evaluate pond status, and consider changing irrigation practices during drought. Grounds committee members and the TC Manager have responded to a few homeowner requests to examine and address fire hazards in greenbelt areas behind homes. [grounds@traviscountry.com](mailto:grounds@traviscountry.com).



**Communications Committee** another email alert was sent regarding crime in early March. This was the third one sent since the program began last year.

[communications@traviscountry.com](mailto:communications@traviscountry.com).

## club news and reports



**Bunco Club** meets the first Monday of each month at the TC Office at Blue Valley. We welcome new players and encourage you to bring your significant other. Contact

[leelindy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:leelindy@sbcglobal.net) or 892-3116 for more info.



**Scrapbook Club** meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the TC Office. Come preserve some memories and meet new friends! Contact Kristen at [kworman@austin.rr.com](mailto:kworman@austin.rr.com) or 892-8899.



**Book Club** meets at 7 pm on Tuesday, April 24 at the home of Reenie Smith, 4144 Travis Country Circle. We will be discussing *Waterloo* by Karen Olsson, a local author. Newcomers are always welcome! Please call Kate Burgess at 891-0707 if you have any questions.



**Garden Club** will meet for the first time this year on Tuesday, April 10 at Bonnie Streetman's home, 4410 Eagles Landing, at 7pm. We will make plans for this season and just enjoy seeing each other again. Newcomers are most welcome! Drinks will be provided. 899-0945 or [b\\_streetman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:b_streetman@sbcglobal.net).

*contd. from page 6*

Although the coyotes are not exhibiting bold or aggressive behaviors at this point in time, this may change in the near future, particularly if dogs are allowed to wander near coyote dens. Dogs should not be off leash in the greenbelt areas. He further stated that "house cats are always vulnerable to coyote predation if they are allowed to roam, and may actually be a cause for coyotes to roam streets in search of the free-ranging cats."

## Oak Hill Planning Moves

### Closer to Home

#### Do you want public trails through our property?

*By Lynne Fahlquist*

One of the key themes of the Oak Hill Planning process is the desire to connect neighborhoods to destinations, such as shopping, employment, schools, parks, and other neighborhoods, by way of pedestrian and bike trails or lanes. City planners brought together people who have voiced an interest in this theme and this group is evaluating the possibility of hike and bike trails throughout the Oak Hill area. One trail connection that is possible is a connection between the existing trail in Gaines Creek, through the old entryway parcel of Travis Country, to Gaines Creek Park and beyond (see map on website at [http://www.traviscountry.net/tcmaps/barton\\_kiosk2\\_crp2.jpg](http://www.traviscountry.net/tcmaps/barton_kiosk2_crp2.jpg)) Some pluses include: more miles of trails to explore, connections to other places without the need of a car, increased presence of people discourages vagrancy. The minus that is usually heard is: increased presence of non-residents (parking access would be located elsewhere). This will probably not be very noticeable if the trail is located at edge of the subdivision. More about this and other Oak Hill Planning will be discussed at the Annual Meeting. Please be prepared to share your questions and comments about more trails in our area.

The most recent meeting focused on two topics: 1) affordable housing for Oak Hill and 2) design guidelines for development/redevelopment. Planners presented the need for incorporating affordable housing into communities. Residential ownership rate in Austin (48%) is almost 20% lower than the national average (69%). It is very desirable to have a large percentage of home ownership rather than home rental. The City approach toward pro-

viding some affordable housing is to use SMART concepts: **S**afe, **M**ixed Income, **A**ccessible, **R**easonably Priced, **T**ransit-Oriented. Developers are encouraged via incentives, but not required, to consider incorporating affordable housing in residential developments. Oak Hill has very little new affordable housing.

The second topic focused on seeking input on design guidelines (not requirements) that will be recommended for development or redevelopment. Design guidelines include recommendations regarding landscaping, sidewalks, parking, building facades and roofs, entry design, green building, and others. Learn more about design guidelines and contribute your opinions by taking the on-line survey at: [http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/zoning/oak\\_hill.htm#Feb24](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/zoning/oak_hill.htm#Feb24).

## Blue Valley Pond Sycamores to be Removed

*By Terry Horton, Chair, Grounds Committee*

To encourage the large Blue Valley bald cypress trees to flourish in the pond environment, the Board accepted the Grounds Committee's recommendation to remove four sycamores interspersed within the bald cypress grove. The reluctant recommendation was made after consultation with arborists Don Gardner and Pat Wentworth. Information from Scott Smith of Aquatic Features reinforced their recommendation with his comments on the bald cypress's desirability in the pond environment.

Bald Cypress and Sycamore are the two largest trees in Texas, easily reaching 50' across. They do not grow alongside each other in the wild. Texas arborists rank bald cypress among the most desirable native landscape trees and sycamore among the least desirable - based on longevity, growth habit, pest resistance, maintenance requirements, site adaptability, and aesthetic appeal.

With the BV trees planted as close as 15' apart, the broad leaf sycamore had begun to shade and distort the growth of the bald cypress. An attempt two years ago to raise the branches of the sycamore had little effect. Two of the sycamores had contracted the unsightly fungal disease anthracnose. With additional light and space the bald cypress should put on new canopy to fill the open spaces, further enhancing the Hill Country stream feel of the BV pond.



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#### Classified Ads Policy

**The Classifieds are open to TC Residents Only.** To list services, you must be 18 or under. Let us know each month if you want your service advertised. We reserve the right to edit ads for space. For Sale ads can be run for a maximum of 3 months. Services provided by adults can be placed on the website under Classifieds, or you may ask the TC Office (892-2256) to add you to the list they maintain.

#### Wanted

Being new to Travis Country, my wife and I have been interested in finding ways to meet other people in our neighborhood. In our last home in west Austin, we had a monthly "get together" where people in the community would meet for events, i.e., BBQ, wine/cheese tasting, happy hours, etc. This was held as an adult's night so the kids were left at home (a great night off for you parents!). It was a great experience to meet new people and develop more of a sense of community. We're really interested in bringing this to TC. If anyone is interested in starting a Travis Country Social Club, please write Andy at austinandyd@yahoo.com.

#### For Sale

Sony 51-CD changer model CDP-CX53, \$100; Sony FM Digital Cinema Sound Receiver model STR-SE501, \$100; 6 speakers, all Sony except one Onkyo, one bass, one center and 4 surround sound, \$100; Steel Metro two shelf unit, \$80; 2006 Quicken Premier, version for Home & Business, \$25; Gorgeous burgundy floor-length skirt size 8 by Yansi Fugel. Worn once. 100% silk sateen with multi-layered bustle and detailing in back. \$80 (purchased at By George for \$300). All OBO. Call Diana at 669-9872.

Above ground Pool 4x30x15 w/pump, filter, attachments & complete Deck, Plus 6x6 Gazebo, \$979. OBO. Call 797-4311 or 257-3660.

'97 Mazda truck B4000. Good condition. \$4000. 892-1372.

1986 Bayliner Capri 1950 open bow. Complete with two pair of adult skis, one pair of adolescent skis, wake board, life jackets, canvas cover and new bimini top. Always garaged; in excellent condition; trailer has an electric brake system. \$3,500 OBO Contact 892-0266.

#### Babysitting

Maria A. Aldana, 13, available to watch and entertain your child (ren). Responsible and reliable. CPR, First Aid, and Infant Babysitting Certified. Call 892-3231.

Tess Geiger, 13, would like to baby sit your children. She has much experience keeping her young neighbors happy. 892-8922.

Rita Ostrander, 14, available to watch your kids. (8 months and up.) Responsible, reliable. CPR and First Aid certified. 892-0820.

Kaylyn Remsing, 15, available to watch your child(ren), prefer ages 3 and up. CPR and First Aid Certified, Seton babysitting certified. Parental supervision if needed. Saving for my first car. 892-2246.

Play hard till bath time. Then get clean, read a book, tell a story and go to bed. Need some adult time? Call Davis Geiger, 16, to care for your kids, so you can have a night out. 619-9707.

Eric Espinoza, 16, would love to entertain your child/children, ages 3 and up. Red Cross certified. 892-1817.

My name is Summer Salazar and I have been babysitting my younger sister for the past 2 years. I have taken care of small groups of children many times. I am a reliable and mature 13-year-old. I would like to broaden my babysitting career to care for other toddlers and older. I love to play games and sports. I am available most evenings and weekends through May. I am available daytime and evening during the summer months. Contact 358-8607 (hm) or 919-9449 (cell).

#### Lawn/Pet/Plant Care

Twins offer pet, plant and house care while you are away. Twice the love and twice the care. Two years experience. Parental supervision. Call 892-2246.

Kaylyn Remsing, 15, would like to watch your pets, house and plants while you are away. 8 years of community experience. Parental supervision. 892-2246.

Zane Jungman, 18, a very responsible person whom you can trust. House sitting and lawn mowing, but is particularly good with pets. Willing to go the extra mile. Don't hesitate to call 892-3751.

Let us "doo" your dirty work! "Pick up Poo." Prices: one time \$8/one dog, \$2 each additional dog. Weekly, \$5, one dog, \$2, additional dogs. We do pet sitting too. John, 13, and David Walter, 15. 892-5531.

Eric Espinoza, 16. Quality lawn care at reasonable prices. Experienced. Regular or one time service available. Also available for general yard work, household chores, etc. 892-1817

#### Other

Math Tutor/SAT Math Prep. Does your child/teen struggle with math? Mature, patient, responsible Austin High Senior available to tutor general math, algebra, geometry, pre-cal, calculus and math SAT Prep. Qualifications: 800/800 SAT 1 Math: 780/800 SAT Math level 2 Subject Test. Flexible hours, reasonable rates. Sev Travis 217-9311.



**Covenant of the Month**  
**8.0207 Trailers and Motor Vehicles**  
 Except with the approval of the Architectural Committee, no mobile home, trailer of any kind, truck, camper, boat, or permanent tent or similar structure shall be kept, placed, maintained, constructed, reconstructed or repaired, upon any property or street (public or private) within Travis County in such a manner as will be visible from Neighboring Property; provided, however, that the provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to emergency vehicle repairs or temporary construction shelters or facilities maintained during and used exclusively in connection with, the construction of any improvement approved by the Architectural Committee

**Spring Break Quiet in TC**  
 Increased security patrols, more vigilant neighbors and rainy weather could have contributed to the lack of criminal activity over Spring Break. School breaks have previously been marked by graffiti, property destruction (especially on playground equipment) and vandalism. This year, TCCSA took a proactive approach by hiring and publicizing increased security patrols in the neighborhood. The week before and after Spring Break were not so quiet however. Residents of Sendero Drive, Travis Country Cir. and Republic of Texas were greeted by graffiti on their streets. Two cans of spray paint were found in the greenbelt behind Sendero. The "artists" could live here in Travis Country. Please keep your eyes out for anything suspicious.

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*Thank you for reading the TC Notes and keeping up with your community's news!*

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**April Events Calendar**

Bunco Club	Mon. 4/2	7:30 pm	TCCSA Office
Architecture Committee	TBA		Call 892-2256
Grounds Committee	Wed. 4/4	7 pm	TCCSA Office
Easter Egg Hunt	Sat. 4/7	10 am-noon	BV Basketball Court
Pool Committee	Mon. 4/9	7 pm	TCCSA Office
ANNUAL HOMEOWNERS' MTG	Wed. 4/11	6 pm	TC Office and BV Pavilion
Scrapbook Club	Thurs. 4/12 & 4/26	7 pm	TCCSA Office
Pools Open for Monitored Morning Exercise Swim	Tues. 4/10		See Calendars
POOLS OPEN	Sat. 4/14	See	Hilltop and Blue Valley
Sharks Swim Team	Sun. 4/15	2-5 pm	BV Pavilion
Board of Directors Meeting	Thurs. 4/19	6 pm	TCCSA Office
TC Notes Deadline	Fri. 4/20	5 pm	<a href="mailto:tcnotes@traviscountry.com">tcnotes@traviscountry.com</a>
Book Club	Tues. 4/24	7 pm	4144 Travis Country Cir.
Notes Delivered	Sat. 4/28		To block captains
TC-Wide Garage Sale	Sat./Sun. 4/28-29	All day	Homes all over TC