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CRESTVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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October 2017

EVENTS CALENDAR

Tuesday, October 3: National Night Out Parties. 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Look for signs on your block for party location.

Monday, October 9: Crestview Neighborhood Association Meeting. 7:00 PM at the Crestview United Methodist Church, 1300 Morrow St. AISD bond election presentation. Travis County Commissioner Brigid Shea on property tax appraisals, community preparedness for wildfire and flooding, and county bonds. CodeNEXT updates.

Saturday, October 21: Annual Brentwood Elementary School PTA Halloween Carnival, 3:00 to 7:00 PM. Learn more at www.brentwoodpta.com/annual-events/halloween-carnival

Sunday, October 22: Oktoberfest! 3:00 to 6:00 PM at the Crestview Shopping Center. See the article for more information.

Tuesday, October 24: Brentwood Park Playground Committee meeting, 7:00 to 8:00 PM at the Crestview United Methodist Church, 1300 Morrow St. Updates on grant applications, design work, and equipment details. Go to brentwoodplaygroundproject.com for more information.

Thursday, October 26: Brentwood Elementary School Welcome Walk, 9:00 AM. Contact Brentwood Elementary at 512-414-2039 for more information.

Saturday, November 4: Friends of Brentwood Park Work Day. See the article for more information.

Tuesday, November 7: Mayor Adler discusses CodeNEXT Draft 2, 7:00 to 8:00 PM at the Covenant Presbyterian Church at 3003 Northland Dr.

Saturday, November 11: Hazardous Household Materials Drop Off, 9:00 to 11:00 AM at the Crestview United Methodist Church. See the article for more information.

CodeNEXT UPDATE

On September 15, the City of Austin released Draft 2 of CodeNEXT, the revision of the city's land development code and zoning rules. Community Not Commodity (www.communitynotcommodity.com), an organization created to represent neighborhood interests during the process, issued a press release on September 18. While they weren't able to thoroughly analyze the 1,300+ page document released three days earlier, Fred Lewis, chair of the organization, had this to say:

"What we do know is that the new code ignores Neighborhood Plans, cuts in half residential parking requirements and eliminates or increases many existing occupancy limits. This CodeNEXT version two, after eight months of staff revisions, is just plain unacceptable."

Some of the problems in CodeNEXT 2.0 include:

- No summary of changes between Drafts One and Two
- No summary of community and stakeholder comments on Draft One
- No information on the criteria used for mapping Draft Two
- No data regarding flood mitigation or impact of new widespread upzoning
- No summary of new-unit number totals
- No information regarding displacement or the incentivizing of demolitions of family housing
- No "Compatibility Standards" section

"The process of public engagement, communications, and code writing has been pathetic thus far. At this point, CodeNEXT may be so messed up that it might make more sense to start over and salvage what we can," said Lewis.

Petitions Ask For Public Vote On CodeNEXT

Let Us Vote Austin, an organization formed to collect 20,000 petition signatures in order to have a public referendum on CodeNEXT, has initiated their petition drive. Their arguments for a public vote include the following: CodeNEXT involves billions of dollars affecting every resident, neighborhood and business. CodeNEXT could displace tens of thousands more Austin residents already burdened with unaffordable rents and property taxes. The reality is that the more you "pack and stack" people, the more valuable the land becomes underneath them. Density is not a cure for Austin's affordability crisis. CodeNEXT is a transparency nightmare, already costing taxpayers at least \$6 million. For information on how to sign the petition, visit www.indyaustin.org/austin-deserves-a-vote-on-codenext or call 512-535-0989.

Oktoberfest 2017

Get ready for the 2nd Annual Oktoberfest on Sunday, October 22 from 3:00 to 6:00 PM in the Crestview Shopping Center! Arlan's is once again the major sponsor for this fun event, joined by Little Deli this year, with collaboration from BNA, CNA, VCCW, and Friends of Brentwood Park.

Purchase a \$10 plastic cup or upgrade to a commemorative beer stein to hold your FREE BEER! They'll be available for advance purchase at Arlan's the week before the festival. Proceeds from the cup sales go to the Brentwood Playground Improvement Project. Czech Melody Masters will be playing. Volunteer by emailing Nancy Barnard at okrasalad@gmail.com. Oktoberfest updates will be available through social media. Stay tuned for information on how you can sponsor a keg!

CRESTVIEW

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

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For information and to submit articles contact:

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CNA Contact Information

P. O. Box 9505, Austin, TX 78766
www.crestviewna.com

CNA General Meetings are held the second
Monday of every month at 7:00 PM.
Location to be announced.

Twitter: @CNAneighbors

Facebook: CrestviewNeighborhoodAssociation

Neighborhood Email Groups

crestview-neighbors@yahoogroups.com
crestview_forale@yahoogroups.com
crestview-gardeners@googlegroups.com
crestview-parents@googlegroups.com

CNA Committees

ADOPT-A-MEDIAN
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
ART AT ENTRANCES

It's My Park Day

The Fall It's My Park Day 2017 is November 4. Save the date for this semi-annual volunteer event at Brentwood Park. Volunteer registration begins on October 10.

For more information, go to www.austinparks.org/volunteer/impd.

Typical projects include weeding and mulching the four flower beds: at the entry sign, at the Sheldon Memorial bench, at the pool, and under the purple martin houses; mulching park trees, and clearing root collars. Mulching reduces soil compaction, adds nutrients, and helps maintain moisture. Mulch around trees is applied to a depth of 2-4", about a thumb's length, all the way out to the drip line of the tree and, at least a hand's-width, 4-6", away from the tree trunk. Clearing root collars protects the base of each tree trunk from girdling roots and insect and moisture damage due to too-deep mulch.

Sponsors donate snacks and drinks, and mulch is supplied by the Austin Parks Foundation. The Friends of Brentwood Park volunteer organization hopes you enjoy your visits to the park even more due to this on-going labor of love and hopes you can join them in future events and workdays in Brentwood Park! Please step forward if you have an idea for a project, would like to lead a work group, or are otherwise interested in caring for and helping with the park. For more information, go to www.friendsofbrentwoodpark.org.

Brentwood Park Playground Equipment Update

By Nancy Mohn Barnard

After considering the feedback and input of Brentwood and Crestview residents, Studio Balcones recently completed a renovation plan for the Brentwood Park playground. The plan includes playground pieces such as a net climber, a spinner, additional swing bays with a saucer swing, and a more comprehensive piece that combines elements of climbing and spinning.

Many residents requested more sidewalks/poured surfaces that would allow children to ride their tricycles or bicycles in a loop and within eyesight of parents, and Studio Balcones created a circuit of sidewalks to accommodate this need. Additional features of the plan include an expanded sand box with shade covering, three berms with tunnels, and a series of sitting walls to increase seating.

The park committee will be hosting a town hall meeting to discuss the design plans on Tuesday, October 24th at 7:00 PM at Crestview United Methodist Church (1300 Morrow St). We encourage neighbors to attend and discuss these proposed changes.

The estimated price tag for the playground renovations is approximately \$380,000. We are hoping to raise the bulk of this amount through grants and private fundraising. The committee recently submitted an application for the Austin Parks Foundation's (APF) \$100K Impact grant, which unfortunately, we did not receive. However, it is our understanding that projects that have successfully received the grant have often applied multiple times, and we plan on applying again during the 2018 cycle. Luckily, our application will still be considered for the APF \$50K grant; the results of which will be given in December.

In the meantime, fundraising for the project continues. If you're interested in helping make these design plans a reality, you can contribute in a couple of ways:

1. Purchase a yard sign for \$100 from our website: brentwoodplaygroundproject.com.

2. Come to Oktoberfest (see article) and enjoy some free beer, brats and pizza, courtesy of local business donors Arlan's and Little Deli. 16 oz. plastic cups and 13.5 oz. stainless steel commemorative beer steins will be available for purchase, with proceeds going directly to the playground project.

While the beer is still free, these larger drinking vessels will allow revelers to reduce the amount of time spent in line, while simultaneously supporting the playground renovations. Both will be available for purchase the day of the festival (\$10 and \$30, respectively) or the week before at Arlan's.



AISD Bond Election

By Julie Cowan, AISD District 4 Trustee

The AISD Board of Trustees voted to place a \$1.05 Billion bond on the November 7 ballot. The bond was informed by over 1½ years of work by a committee of 18 citizens appointed by the Board. AISD staff and consultants worked with the committee to guide the process and collect data for the decisions and considerations made.

The Facilities and Bond Planning Advisory Committee (FABPAC) ultimately updated AISD's Facility Master Plan into a document that provides context and a vision to eventually modernize ALL of the district's facilities.

As many know, the state of Texas "recaptures" maintenance and operations dollars from AISD, preventing the district over the last decade from moving its academic spaces into the 21st century. Just as in other sectors, education philosophy and methods are changing and the environment in which we teach has the potential to impact this good work.

Some considerations:

AISD will not raise the tax rate to fund the bond. AISD maintains the lowest interest & sinking tax rate of all Central Texas school districts and has actually decreased the rate 5 cents over the last several years.

Homeowners who have a 65 and over homestead exemption registered with the county will NOT see higher AISD tax payments with the passage of this bond.

66-year-old Brentwood Elementary is slated to be modernized. Lamar and McCallum will receive targeted upgrades.

Although this bond encompasses a lot of work, such as modernizing or rebuilding 16 academic facilities throughout the district, and addresses many critical needs, it fulfills only a first phase of the Facilities Master Plan (FMP) vision. The FMP identified roughly \$4 billion in deferred maintenance and essential needs throughout AISD. This single bond cannot address every issue, but does attempt to address the worst first and severe overcrowding.

Early voting runs October 23 – November 3. Election day is November 7.

Further details of all bond projects can be found at www.aisdfuture.com.

Household Hazardous Products Drop Off

A recycling collection of household hazardous products will be held by the Crestview Neighborhood Association and Crestview United Methodist Church in the church parking lot at 1300 Morrow St. on Saturday, November 11.

Items will be accepted from 9:00 to 11:00 AM (unless the trailer fills up before 11:00 AM). Simply drive up and volunteers will help unload your items. The city requests that you give your zip code for their records so a volunteer will ask for that.

They can accept ONLY:

- Batteries of all kinds
- Oil of all kinds (in a closed container)
- Paint of all kinds, wet or dry (in a closed container)
- Antifreeze (in a closed container)

No other items will be accepted; no electronic items this time.

Volunteers from the neighborhood will be needed!

If interested, please contact Elaine Stegant at atxes1945@gmail.com.



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Art in the Park

By Marilyn Querejazu

Do you ever wonder how outdoor art installations just “pop up” in Brentwood Park? Who selects the art? Who pays for it? We can thank TEMPO and Art in Public Places for this effort. TEMPO is a City of Austin Program that connects artists with residents in a surprising way.

The next time you amble through the east side of Brentwood Park, look around for Double Arch, our newest installation. Double Arch, by artist Emily Hoyt-Weber, is a 12’ by 20’ lavender sculpture that floats gracefully above an octagonal bed planted with butterfly-attracting flowers.



To appreciate this and other outdoor art installations don’t worry about figuring out what it is—although that can be fun (e.g., Is it a giant box kite, alien transporter, or riotous array of replicating rectangles???)

What outdoor art installations do is transform space—this patch of grass is something bigger now, at least temporarily. Double Arch creates an experience. Enjoy it.

Double Arch is one of nine outdoor art installations commissioned in 2017 for parks, recreation centers and libraries

in Austin. They are scattered over nine of the City’s ten Council Districts. You can see all the 2017 TEMPO artworks when they are moved to Edward Rendon Sr. Park during the East Austin Studio Tour in November 2017.

Find out more about the program and artist on Facebook (search for TEMPO, Art in Public Places and Emily Hoyt-Weber).

Also visit www.austintexas.gov/TEMPO.



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512-451-1741, www.crestviewmethodist.org

From the President

By Mike Lavigne, CNA President

HOWDY NEIGHBOR!
 This newsletter is jampacked with important info so I've got to keep this one brief, no room for my ethereal prose this month.

(More) FREE BEER!

Oktoberfest this year will have more beer than last year. Be there and give some money for the Brentwood Park effort. It's a great cause and folks are working hard to make it a success.

CodeNEXT


The new draft is out and it up-zones our neighborhood to multifamily and reduces parking by 50%. If you have an opinion on that be sure and let the Mayor and Council Member Pool hear it ASAP!

Come to our next CNA meeting on October 9th. I'll be back with more next month!


See you around the hood,
 Mike

APD Crime Search Report for August 2017

Crime	Street	Date	Time
Burglary of Residence	1XXX Morrow St	8/21/17	19:14
Burglary of Vehicle	18XX Aggie Ln	8/6/17	18:29
Burglary of Vehicle	14XX Anderson Ln	8/10/17	22:33
Burglary of Vehicle	21XX Cullen Ave	8/13/17	18:02
Burglary of Vehicle	14XX Anderson Ln	8/16/17	19:11
Burglary of Vehicle	8XX St Johns Ave	8/18/17	18:15
Burglary of Vehicle	21XX Anderson Ln	8/25/17	10:12
Crash/Fatality	69XX Lamar	8/14/17	6:34
Crash/Leaving the Scene	19XX Anderson Ln	8/21/17	17:05
Cruelty to Animals	72XX Easy Wind Dr	8/7/17	11:53
Suspicious Person	78XX Woodrow Ave	8/23/17	19:24
Theft	75XX Lamar Blvd	8/2/17	13:35
Theft	74XX Burnet Rd	8/5/17	15:18
Theft	74XX Lamar Blvd	8/16/17	15:25



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