

H-E-B at Mueller Launches in July



Company plans green building; won't close Hancock or Springdale stores

H-E-B AT MUELLER OPENS IN MID-JULY, a store the grocery company's recent press release claims will be the "greenest, most sustainable store H-E-B has ever built."

"The store will be a testing ground for the company's newest innovations in sustainable design," reads the release.

Some of these innovations will include a recycling program for plastics, cardboard and composting, as well as native landscaping to save water and look easy on the eyes. The company hopes to use much less energy and water than a typical store, and is vying for high marks from Austin Energy's Green Building program and the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Certification program.

Furthering its green cred, the store will offer electric vehicle charging stations, easy access to bus routes and pedestrian paths, and plentiful bike racks for shoppers using alternatives to cars.

The release goes on to promise "fresh foods, healthy choices, Central Market favorites and stock-up items all at the every-day low prices shoppers have come to love from H-E-B. Shoppers will also be able to enjoy a new in-store dining concept, a community room and other features that will help make it family-friendly and a neighborhood gathering place."

The company says it has no plans to shut down its Hancock and Springdale stores after H-E-B at Mueller opens.

A representative from H-E-B is slated to make a presentation at the upcoming Cherrywood Neighborhood meeting at Servant Church.

Whither Hancock?

CNA weighs in on fate of historic golf course

In November, the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association officially chimed in on the future of Hancock Golf Course. The issue: Some nearby residents want the more than 40 acres to carry on as a golf course; others want the city to explore alternative uses, including a park.

The pro-golf contingent hope increased usage will cover the cost of a newly installed reclaimed water irrigation system and other maintenance. The alternative-use side argues the course attracts so few players that its budget deficit will only grow coming years.

CNA's resolution urges the City of Austin Department of Parks and Recreation to reassess the course in

Cherrywood Dates to Remember

Wednesday, May 15, 6:30-8pm
Cherrywood Neighborhood Quarterly Meeting
ASBURY SERVANT CHURCH

Saturday, May 25, 4pm
Cherrywood Cookie Social
CHERRYWOOD GREEN

Saturday, June 15, 6pm
Urban Patchwork Cherrywood Farm Potluck
PATTERSON PARK

Thursday, July 4, 10am
Cherrywood 4th of July Parade
FRENCH PLACE AND 28TH ST.

two years. If its usage fees aren't covering its maintenance costs by then, the resolution recommends keeping a putting green and driving range but transforming the rest of into a park. It also suggests seeking historical designation for the Hancock Recreation Center, and creating a plaque explaining the course's historical significance.

Help Make Cherrywood a Google Fiberhood

In 2014, Austin will become one of the first cities to receive Google's new Google Fiber, a high-speed Internet service in three flavors: Gigabit + TV, Gigabit Internet and Free Internet. To gauge interest and determine where to connect homes first, Google has asked Austinites to visit <https://fiber.google.com/cities/austin/>. Each neighbor who signs in with e-mail and zip code brings Cherrywood one step closer to being among the first neighborhoods in Austin to get Fibered.

More info: google.com/fiber

Cherrywood Calendar of Events

Dates, times, and locations are subject to change. Please refer to the Google calendar on cherrywood.org for more information. Want to submit something for the online and FLEA calendars? Contact flea@cherrywood.org.

MAY – JULY 2013

Wednesday, May 15

Cherrywood Neighborhood Quarterly Meeting 6:30–8pm

RECURRING MEETINGS

First Mondays: APD Central East Commander's Forum.....6–8pm

First Wednesdays: Land Use and Transportation Committee ... 8–9:30pm

Second Sundays: Mueller Neighborhood Association Meeting.....3–5pm

Second Mondays: Friends of Willowbrook Reach6:30pm

Second Tuesdays: Austin Neighborhood Council East Sector ... noon–1pm

Third Wednesdays: CNA Steering Committee Meeting..... 6:30–8pm

Fourth Mondays: Upper Boggy Creek Neighborhood Team.....7–8:30pm

Fourth Wednesdays: Austin Neighborhoods Council7–9pm

Arts Calendar

EVENTS AT CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE

Tuesdays – Open Mic Comedy 10pm

Sundays* – Kids Music (*most Sundays) 10:30am

Sundays – Movie Night..... 7pm

CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE MUSIC SHOWS – 7 PM

5/17 Ky Hote **5/25** Alma Lee

5/18 Daniel Lee Band **5/31** Misty Valley Morning

5/24 Christopher Petkus

EVENTS AT THE VORTEX REPERTORY COMPANY – 8 PM

5/3–5/18 *The Chimponauts and the Mechanical Phantom*

5/22 & 6/26 X8 Drum Jam (7pm)

5/25–6/15 *Qualities of Starlight*

6/21–7/13 *Night Must Fall*

7/19–7/27 *Antigone*

EVENTS AT VORTEX BUTTERFLY BAR – 7 PM

Mondays – Thrift Set Orchestra, \$5 cover (through June).....9:30–midnight

Tuesdays – Trivia..... 7pm

CHERRYWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Schieffer/Willowbrook Gains Separate Voice in UBC

THOUGH STILL PART OF CNA, SWNA TO VOTE INDEPENDENTLY AT UBC MEETINGS

In April, the Upper Boggy Creek Neighborhood Planning Team granted the Schieffer Willowbrook Neighborhood Association an independent vote within the organization. Encompassing five neighborhood associations—including CNA—the UBC now recognizes SWNA as a sixth member.

In August, SWNA lost the vote to remove itself from the borders of CNA. But though

SWNA technically still operates within CNA's borders, with its own UBC vote and a legal right to represent itself separately from CNA at public meetings, the neighborhood association has achieved a measure of independence from CNA.

UBC voted 10 in favor and one opposed (no abstentions) to grant SWNA voting status. For more information on SWNA, visit sites.google.com/site/swnaaustin/home.

Steering Committee Members Rotate Leadership

EFFORTS UNDERWAY TO REENERGIZE CNA AND REVAMP WEBSITE

THE FLEA

THE FLEA is published by the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 4631, Austin, TX 78765-4010 on a quarterly basis in February, May, August, and November. ©2013. All rights reserved.

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FLEA concerns: flea@cherrywood.org

CHERRYWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair vacant
Secretary vacant
Treasurer Rebecca Kohout
Members: Lia Davis, Terry Dyke, Justin Irving, Girard Kinney, Jeremy Mazur, Jack Josey Newman, Jennifer Potter-Miller, Mark Schiff, and Emily Schwartz
(9 members – 4 open positions)

Steering Committee concerns:
steering@cherrywood.org

LISTSERVS | www.cherrywood.org

NeighborNet David Greene
Duplex Nation Net..... Wendy Morgan
Stuccoville..... Jack Darby



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The departure of Aaron Choate as CNA chair and Jeremy Mazur as interim chair has left the CNA steering committee without a chair, or a secretary for that matter (to say nothing of vice chair). The committee has agreed to rotate the chair each month until new officers step in. Lia Davis will chair the Cherrywood neighborhood meeting May 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Long-time Cherrywood residents Terry Dyke and Emily Schwartz have recently joined the committee as it focuses on reenergizing CNA. Part of this effort: a redesign of the cherrywood.org website, for which neighborhood input will be collected in coming weeks.

AROUND THE HOOD



CHERRYWOOD EASTER EGG HUNT

CNA hosted a neighborhood egg hunt and potluck in late March at the Cherrywood Green. Approximately 40 parents and little ones (and a few big kids!) joined in the fun to find dozens of eggs. The confetti-filled cascarones were a hit, and everyone enthusiastically smashed them on their friends and family's heads. Many people lingered into the evening over lemonade, muffins, dips, fruit and cake. The event was co-hosted by the East Side Mommas Meetup group, to which many Cherrywood families belong.



CHERRYWOOD SHAKE

In March, the East Side Compost Pedallers organized the Cherrywood Shake, their take on the Harlem Shake phenomenon. Forty people gathered on French Place, "a diverse group of families, young people, passing joggers and door-to-door salesmen," says Pedallers co-founder Dustin Fedako. Look closely enough and you may spot a Teletubbie playing a tuba at <https://vimeo.com/60307835>



CLEANSWEEP IN THE REACH

Twenty-four volunteers at Willowbrook Reach joined in the city-wide Clean Sweep event, collecting about 18 bags of trash and Beggar's lice. This year's Clean Sweep rounded up a total 20 tons of litter from 134 sites around Austin in just two hours.



LITTLE ARTIST BIG ARTIST EXHIBITION

Chula League hosted an opening reception with a performance by the Maplewood Elementary Ukulele and Drum Choirs for the Little Artist BIG ARTIST art show on display April 25 – May 11 at the Pump Project Art Complex. Pro artists help youths envision, plan and create at least two pieces of artwork during the spring semester with one piece sold via auction at the Cherrywood Art Fair in December. Proceeds benefit the Little Artist's school art programs. More info: facebook.com/LittleArtistBigArtist.



REAL LIFE CHERRYWOOD

Video producer Kendra Thompson is on a mission: to make a series of mini-documentaries about the neighborhoods of Austin. She's started with Cherrywood. See her work at myaustindig.wordpress.com.



Photos courtesy of Jennifer Potter-Miller (Easter & Clean Sweep); Kendra Thompson (Real Life); Compost Pedallers (Shake); Jennifer M. Ramos (Art Exhibit)

SENSE & SUSTAINABILITY

URBAN FARM UPDATE

City Crackdown Won't Affect Cherrywood Neighborhood Farm

Rules for commercial farms in city don't apply to nonprofits

Urban Patchwork Farm members in Cherrywood have put two more plots into production using water-efficient hugelkultur planting methods. Crops include tomatoes, green beans and quinoa, each surely adding to the bounty at distributions later in the season.

As urban farming grows, so does the attention the public directs at it. A recent incident involving an Eastside farm running afoul of city rules raised concerns that the Cherrywood farm might be subject to new restrictions. However, according to Urban Patchwork director Paige Hill, the issues with the other farm were commercial and would have no bearing on a nonprofit farm such as the one in our neighborhood.



More info: contact terry@tdyke.com or urbanpatchwork.org



FRIENDS OF THE GREEN

Neighbors enjoy another Plant and Book Swap at Cherrywood Green.

Photos courtesy of Cynthia Lyon and Jennifer Potter-Miller



You Make It Easy Being Green

Green maintained through the good works of neighbors.

By Mike Damal

I mowed the Green yesterday and I am always surprised at how well it is maintained. It is rare when I have to pick up dog droppings, and I have to search to find trash to pick up. I appreciate all the neighbors who pick up at the park—thank you for making the Green a showplace for all of us to enjoy! I often ask for volunteers to help with the Green, but I'm just as impressed with the countless volunteers who take it upon themselves to maintain the space. We have had people mow the grass, thin out invasive trees, and mulch and weed the flowerbeds facing Cherrywood Road. And I'm sure there are other silent volunteers who have done many other good deeds.

Friends of the Green (FROG) maintains Cherrywood Green through volunteer labor. Austin only empties the trash can—all other maintenance is done by the neighborhood. We greatly appreciate all the volunteers, whether they are part of FROG or take it upon themselves to beautify the Green.

More FROG info: michael.damal@gmail.com

Rain Gardens – Keeping Water on the Land

A way to avoid run-off and filter pollutants

As Austin becomes increasingly urbanized, native landscapes are replaced with impervious surfaces that prevent rainwater from soaking into the ground. Stormwater quickly runs off these hard surfaces, picking up pollutants from the land and carrying them to our creeks. This rapidly flowing water also increases the chances of flooding and erosion.

The goal of a rain garden is to keep water on the land. Rain gardens are created in shallow depressions to capture stormwater and provide for natural infiltration into the soil. This provides water for the plants and helps maintain a constant flow of water in our streams through groundwater. They also help filter out pollutants including fertilizers, pesticides, oil, heavy metals and other chemicals that would otherwise reach our creeks through storm drains or drainage ditches. By reducing the quantity of water that runs off your property, rain gardens help lower the risk of flooding and erosion.

More info: www.austintexas.gov/raingardens

*—By Jessica Wilson, Education Manager,
Watershed Protection Department*

THE MYSTERY AND HISTORY OF FRENCH PLACE PART DEUX

How did the inventor of the bucket seat and a WAC officer with top-secret clearance end up here?

By Rebecca Kohout

In 1850, Peyton Wade Nowlin bought a second 40 acres of land from George McClintock for \$280. This doubled his land holdings—the previous year he’d received a grant from Governor George Wood for 40 acres just west of McClintock’s land, an area bounded by East Ave. to Lafayette, Manor Rd./27th on the south and Edgewood on the north.

Upon his death in 1884, Nowlin willed the land to four of his daughters, Lucy Dancy, Addie Robinson, Mary Dinkins and Annie LeSeur. Lucy inherited the 20 acres that became Dancy Addition (see “The Mystery and History of French Place Pt. I” in the November 2012 Flea for more info). Addie, who married David Robinson (hence Robinson St.) received the land that became Avalon (from I-35 to the east side of Dancy and from 30th to Edgewood). Half of Mary’s land was developed into Nowlin Heights, spanning Lafayette from Manor Rd to 30th St., while the northern half was eventually sold to Walter Staehely. He purchased this northern section of land in 1938 for \$6,000 from Addie’s daughter, Mary Miller, and would develop it as Lafayette Heights (from 30th to Edgewood). Annie’s land passed to her heirs until J. H. French and wife Olivia, granddaughter of Lucy Dancy, purchased it in 1939 for \$25,000. He named the neighborhood Forest Hills, more commonly known as “French Place” today.

Avalon

In 1925, Addie Robinson’s granddaughter, Addie McClellan Damon and her siblings had inherited the large lot at 1110 East 32nd Street where a large two-story brick home now sits.

Addie’s sister, Mary Ann, had been declared mentally unfit and was placed in an asylum. This led Addie to donate the property to the Brown School mental health facility in honor of her sister. The property, which was once the Children’s Advocacy Center, has remained in semi-public hands ever since and now houses Pediatric Cardiology of Austin.

Another granddaughter of Addie Robinson, Frances McClellan Dieter and husband, H. B. Dieter

along with their sons, Hank and John, lived at 3108 Robinson, one of the oldest homes in Avalon dating from 1932. An engineer, H.B. invented and patented bucket seats for automobiles still in use. His son Hank, a life-long bachelor who loved to sing and attend the German social club at Saengerrunde Hall, purchased several homes in Avalon that remain in the family to this day.

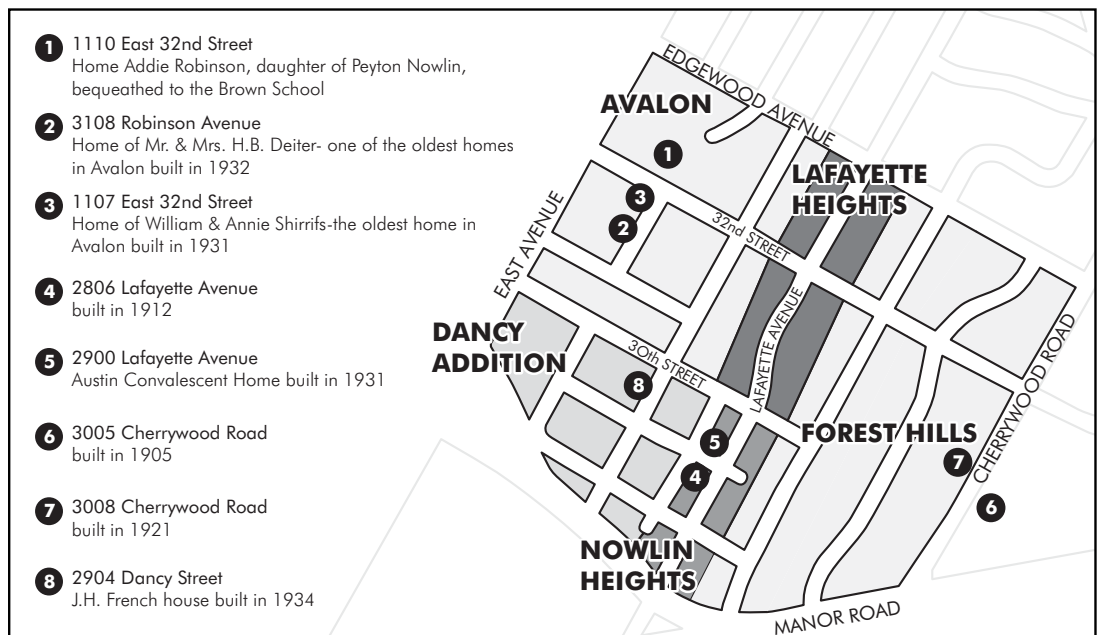
William and Annie Shirriffs were early residents of the oldest surviving home in Avalon, 1107 East 32nd St. (at the corner of 32nd and Robinson), built in 1931. Annie was a member of the Women’s Air Corp and the only person in her unit with top-secret clearance for the flying missions for airmen stationed at Bergstrom AFB during WWII. She’d get a call to go to the base and once the pilots were airborne for their missions, she’d issue their flight plans.

Nowlin Heights and Lafayette Heights

Homes in Nowlin Heights were mostly built in the 1930s, with the exceptions of 2806 Lafayette, built in 1912. Another notable property is the Austin Convalescent Home at 2900 Lafayette (a.k.a. the Old Man’s Home), a two-story structure built as a home for the aged in 1931. The current owner has preserved the room numbers (1 through 8) attached to the jamb above each door. Homes in Lafayette Heights were mostly built in 1939 to 1940 with no early exceptions.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Map of French Place today, in all its glory.



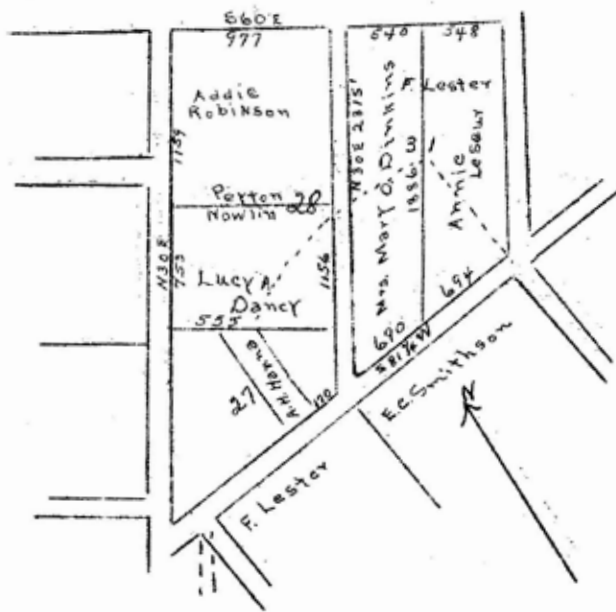
- 1 1110 East 32nd Street
Home Addie Robinson, daughter of Peyton Nowlin, bequeathed to the Brown School
- 2 3108 Robinson Avenue
Home of Mr. & Mrs. H.B. Dieter- one of the oldest homes in Avalon built in 1932
- 3 1107 East 32nd Street
Home of William & Annie Shirriffs-the oldest home in Avalon built in 1931
- 4 2806 Lafayette Avenue
built in 1912
- 5 2900 Lafayette Avenue
Austin Convalescent Home built in 1931
- 6 3005 Cherrywood Road
built in 1905
- 7 3008 Cherrywood Road
built in 1921
- 8 2904 Dancy Street
J.H. French house built in 1934

Forest Hills and Dancy Addition

Homes in Forest Hills were mostly built in the 1940s, but the earliest existing home at 3005 Cherrywood went up in 1905, making it one of the oldest in the entire neighborhood. The next oldest address in this section is 3008 Cherrywood, built in 1921. The oldest surviving home in Dancy Addition is the J. H. French house at 2904 Dancy, built in 1934.

The Mystery of French Place

So what is French Place and what are its boundaries? Possibly everything south of Edgewood to Manor Rd. and east from I-35 to Cherrywood could be called French Place, though there's no legal precedent for the name in city records. It's not a legal subdivision, it's just the way neighborhood terminology evolved. Since the Nowlin and Dancy families had so many ties to France and New Orleans, maybe they called it French Place from the outset. Maybe neighbors just liked the name of the street. Maybe J.H. French had a hand in it. We may never know for certain.



Map of the Nowlin Homestead, 1884

BLUE RIBBON YARD WINNER

3210 French Place: Storm Survivor



In 2008, four months after James and Leah Nyfeler bought their home, a massive storm leveled all the trees and plants carefully landscaped by the previous owner. "The front yard went from fully shaded to complete sun overnight," says Leah, which didn't help the plants that managed to survive. But with help from Dave Teykl of K+D Designs (www.welikeplants.com), they made something bigger and better, using french drains, drip-irrigation, special gutters and rain collection to help the existing mountain laurels, spirea, red yucca, agave and plumbago. By planting native perennials such as Mexican feather grass, a variety of salvias, and a few new trees, they mainly just have to weed, freshen the mulch and replant the vegetable garden, giving Leah plenty of time to be "that weird woman who stops you in the yard to talk to you about your plants."

\$25 gift card courtesy of Rebecca Kohout, Sky Realty

WHAT GIVES?

What do Linda Lavin from *Alice* and Bryan Cranston from *Breaking Bad* have in common? We have no idea, but we are reminded of TV's glorious past and astounding present when we pass the stop sign at corner of Edgewood and French Place.

Photo courtesy of Steve Wilson.



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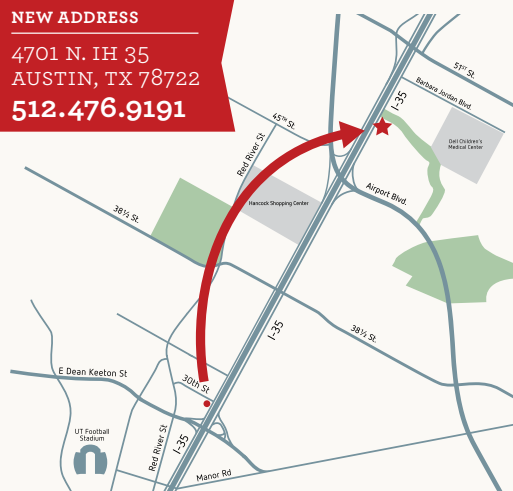
Austin Vet Hospital



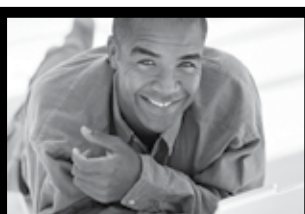
After 42 years, we have outgrown our building. In a few months, we'll all be moving up the road to a new state-of-the-art vet hospital! We'll be next to the Delwood II neighborhood, adjacent to the Mueller greenbelt. Ask us for more details!

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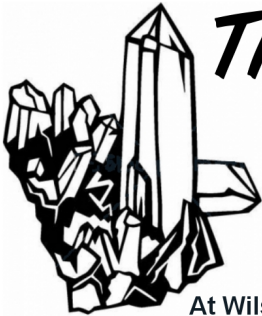
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WHAT'S HOT IN CHERRYWOOD

Austin-area home sales up 16 percent in March, spent 26 percent less time on market

AUSTIN, Texas – April 18, 2013 – According to the Multiple Listing Service (MLS) report released today by the Austin Board of REALTORS® (ABOR), the volume of Austin-area home sales continues to rise as March became the 22nd straight month of sales volume increases—the most home sales in March since 2007.

According to the report, 2,166 single-family homes were sold in the Austin area in March 2013, which is 16 percent more than March 2012. On average, homes spent 64 days on the market, which is a decrease of 20 days from one year prior.

Cathy Coneway, 2013 Chairman of the Austin Board of REALTORS®, explained, "Austin-area homes are spending almost a third less time on the market compared to March 2012, while the volume of home sales outpaced last year significantly. It's no longer uncommon for sellers to receive multiple offers on a home within days of listing."

Feng Shui Tips for your home

Paint Your Front Door

Create feng shui harmony by painting your front door according to the element of the direction it faces:

- ◆ Red for south, southwest or northeast
- ◆ White for west, northwest or north
- ◆ Blue for west, northeast, or north
- ◆ Green for east, southwest or south



Cherrywood Real Estate Report

Information below is based on active, pending and sold homes within our Cherrywood boundaries. The data derives from a total of 13 homes sold or on the market for the period of January 15, 2013 to April 15, 2013..

- Homes sold in the past 90 days: **6**
- Homes currently pending sale: **10**
- Homes actively listed: **3**
- Average home for sale: **3 beds, 2 bath.**
- Average size home for sale: **1,409 sq. ft.**
- Average list price: **\$337,918.**
- Average home's selling price: **\$314,492.**
- Average price per square feet: **\$255.82.**
- Average time on market: **22 days.**

Neighbors, this is a significant increase from the past three months. While the average home size has increased by about 1,000 sq ft, (meaning that the latest sales have a third bedroom) the average sales price is up by almost \$50,000. This is huge news for all home owners, and one of the reasons you'll be faced with much higher property taxes.

If you'd like to know specifics about your home in order to compare it with other sales, please feel free to call me. I'm happy to help provide you with comparables.

SELLERS: *If you're thinking of selling your home and moving away, you have a fantastic advantage because of the shortage of homes for sale in our neighborhood right now!*

BUYERS: *If you're looking to buy, contact Rebecca for a private showing of available properties in the Austin area.*

I've been a Cherrywood resident since 1972. Call me if you're planning a move to a larger home, need to relocate, or know someone on the move.

Let me show you what I can do for you and how I can make your next move the best move of your life!



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