


BARTON CREEK
BARTON CREEK NORTH PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
APRIL 2005

Firehouse Grand Opening, Saturday, April 9th
From Rick Kilmer, BCNPOA President

Please join us for the grand opening of our new firehouse. Chief Dixon and his firemen will open all the doors and show us their new facility. We will also get to see all the equipment they may use to save our lives and our property some day. It will be very informative and lots of fun for the kids.

Also participating will be the Texas Forest Service and the Nature Conservancy, both of whom are helping us become a Firewise Community and helping create fire breaks on the Nature Conservancy property that adjoins much of our property.

And to help you get rid of all that unneeded stuff you found while doing your Spring Cleaning, the ladies from the Assistance League of Austin (many of whom are your friends and neighbors) will be there take it off your hands. As an incentive we will have one child's prize and one adult's prize to be drawn for. The more items you bring to donate, the more tickets you get for the drawing. And receipts will be provided so you can handle the deductions properly on your tax return.

Representatives from Querencia, the new retirement community in Barton Creek will also be there to answer your questions about their plans.

There will be lots to see and do so bring the family and come spend a few hours outside with your friends and neighbors. The festivities begin at 1 PM and last until 4 PM. Park at the St. Michael's School parking lot just South of their main building. Barton Creek Country Club is graciously providing transportation to and from the firehouse.

At about 2 PM our friend, neighbor, and County Commissioner, Gerald Daughtery, will have a few words to say and answer some questions about what is happening in Commissioner's Court that affects our community. This will give you a chance to thank him personally for helping get the bridge repainted!

We also hope to get our new County Sheriff to come speak, though this is not fully confirmed as of this newsletter's deadline.

This is intended to be great community gathering. A chance to get to know one another better, have a good time, learn a lot, and discuss things that are going on in our area. You really don't want to miss it!

FROM YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Travis County Emergency Services District #3/Oak Hill Fire Department (TCESD#3) provides fire and first responder emergency medical services to the Barton Creek Communities. Our geographical boundary separation with the Travis County Emergency Services District #9/Westlake Fire Department (TCESD#9) is South and West of Barton Creek. TCESD#3 provides service along Barton Creek Boulevard and Lost Creek Boulevard.

Please see below a list of accomplishments your fire department achieved during the calendar year 2004.

2004 Accomplishments

- Started construction of \$2 Million Fire Station in Barton Creek Community. Opened for operation on February 10, 2005.
- Obtained grant from Lower Colorado River Authority to assist in purchase of new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus. Final project cost \$ 138,000
- Upgraded our level of Structural Firefighting gear to provide better protection for all of our firefighters, both paid and volunteer, at a cost of \$1,500 a set.
- Conducted a comprehensive study to determine strategic location for new fire station to be located along U.S. Hwy. 290 West corridor. Purchased 8.1 acres of land in the 9200 Block of Circle Drive for approx. \$522,000.
- Currently determining scope of project and will soon be entering the Design/Development phase of a new fire station to be constructed on Circle Drive tract.
- October 1, 2004: added 3 more Full-Time Firefighter positions and 1 Full-Time Administrative Captain position. For a total of 18 Full-Time, Career Firefighters, 10 Part-Time Paid Firefighters, 30 Volunteer Firefighters and 5 Full-Time Administrative/Command Staff Personnel and 2 Part-Time Administrative Personnel.
- August 2004, began our 4th annual Texas Commission on Fire Protection Basic Structural Fire Suppression academy. This academy offers the opportunity for people in and around the Travis County area to continue working their 40 hour a week jobs and attend these classes at night and weekends to obtain the required fire training hours for certification. The current academy class will graduate in April 2005.
- ESD#3 continues to support the Capital Area Fire Chiefs Association and works in close harmony with other neighboring ESD's and Hays County Fire Departments.

My staff and I are here to serve you for both your emergency and non-emergency needs. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions that you may have.

Kevin Dixon
Fire Chief
512.288.5534
dixon@oakhillfire.org

BRINGING SUNSHINE TO BARTON CREEK NORTH

Last fall, a special committee of homeowners was formed to consider ways in which governance of the Barton Creek North P.O.A. might be enhanced by amending the Association's Bylaws. With input from numerous sources, the committee has recommended various Bylaw amendments which have now been approved by your Board of Directors for consideration by the members of the Association at a special meeting to be held May 2, 2005.

We believe the recommended changes, which have three principal objectives, will benefit the entire Barton Creek community. The first objective is to provide more opportunities for owner participation, and thereby greater openness, in the affairs of the Association. This objective will be accomplished by formally establishing several standing committees of owners and, subject to approval by Stratus Properties and ClubCorp, owner of Barton Creek Country Club, by increasing the number of residential directors on the Board from the current five directors to seven. The second objective is to more clearly define the duties and responsibilities of directors and officers and the third is to provide mechanisms, such as requirements for open Board meetings and disclosure of potential conflicts of interest, to assure those individuals involved in governance of the Association are accountable for their actions.

Although the Board has created committees which currently deal with the same subjects, formalizing the committee structure is at the heart of the proposed changes. These new "Bylaw committees," each of which may include owners as well as directors, will provide advice and assistance to the Board concerning landscaping, safety and security awareness, governance and matters of concern to local area associations and other constituencies. In addition to providing advice and assistance to the Board, the Committee of Community Presidents, which will represent the local area associations and other constituencies, will serve as liaison between the Board and those they represent.

Mark your calendars now for the special meeting of members to be held the evening of May 2nd. Additional information about this important undertaking will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead. If you believe you'll be unable to attend the meeting, please plan to vote by proxy, as this will be a very important vote for our community. Proxy forms will be sent with the notice of the meeting.

LYNDA CRAWFORD'S OFFICE HAS MOVED!

***The Barton Creek On-site Manager's office has moved to
6836 Bee Caves Rd., Ste. 259
Phone: 617-6387 Fax: 617-6341
Her e-mail has remained the same
lcrawford@bartoncreeknorth.com***

A Message from the Barton Creek North Master Architectural Committee

As you begin thinking about your spring landscaping enhancements, it's important to keep in mind that all Barton Creek Properties are subject to various deed restrictions designed to continually enhance and protect our precious environment.

When you purchased your home, an Architecturally Approved Landscape plan and installation was required. This was meant to ensure that appropriate plants and trees were installed that were environmentally compatible and provided the proper screening of HVAC units, utility connections, or expansive areas of masonry. Many properties are subject to golf course buffer restrictions, some are subject to additional tree planting requirements, and all are expected to use planting selections from the *Barton Creek Design Review Guidelines*.

While our Association allows some freedom from approvals for minor landscape revisions and overhauls, we encourage you to become familiar with the deed restrictions so that you don't find yourself in "involuntary violation". Plant lists and other requirements may be found at www.bartoncreeknorth.com

Projects of large proportion changes such as a complete overhaul of landscaped areas, adding gazebos, or large outdoor cooking areas, are subject to approval of the Barton Creek North Master Architectural Committee.

If you would like a copy of the deed restrictions for your neighborhood, please send an email to info@bartoncreeknorth.com or call L. Crawford @ 512.617.6387

Prizes and Tax Deductions for things you no longer need!

Get your Spring Cleaning done before April 9th and bring the things you no longer need to the Firehouse opening. Assistance League of Austin will use them to benefit Austin's needy; you get a tax deduction and a chance to win a prize. For the items you bring you (or your kids) will receive tickets to the drawing for some great prizes. So go through your closets and clean out your garage and bring all your gently used (or new) items to the grand opening.

Assistance League of Austin is a 340 member all-volunteer organization in our community that sells donated goods at their Thrift House at 4901 Burnet Road. Many of these members are residents in the Barton Creek area. With the profits from the Thrift House, ALA members provide new school wardrobes for children in need through Operation School Bell, furnish new toys and books through Toy Cart at Children's Hospital, and escort senior citizens on outings in the Bus With Us project. Representatives from Assistance League will be present when we have the fire station opening to tell you about these and their other projects serving the Austin community and to accept donations of items that are new or gently used. They would be happy to accept household items, furniture, sports equipment, clothing, jewelry, linens and toys that will be taken to their resale shop.

BARTON CREEK FIREWISE INPUT

Dear Neighbors:

Let me briefly update you on the status of our Firewise implementation effort. On February 21st and 22nd, Lexi Maxwell (Texas Forest Service) and I conducted the Firewise hazard assessment of Barton Creek North, my house and the La Marquis Apartments. Lexi met with Dennis Kearns on March 3rd to assess fire hazards in The Estates. On March 16th, Lexi and Jan Fulkerson (Texas Forest Service) conducted a second review of both Property Associations.

The Forest Service has downloaded the latest satellite photos of our area (2003). They are creating topo maps highlighting trouble spots and preparing their assessment report.

During my drive through, some of the concerns Lexi identified were:

- Watersmark's streets are very narrow and there are inadequate turn-around facilities for emergency apparatus;
- North Rim has narrow entry gates;
- In North Rim north, the southern portion has intense juniper stands combined with a steep slope to the creek;
- The slopes separating North Rim south, Governor's Hill, and; Woods III is heavily wooded with junipers;
- The area between Woods III and Wimberly Lane is heavily wooded with junipers as well;
- Wimberly Lane's interface with Barton Creek is heavily infested with junipers on a very steep slope above the creek; and,
- Wimberly phase II has some narrow streets and cul-de-sacs combined with some areas with heavy juniper stands.
- Use and placement of highly volatile landscaping plants (i.e., rosemary, yaupon, algerita, Pampas grasses and other large bunch grasses) throughout all neighborhoods.
- Numbering on most homes is inadequate due to poor or inconsistent placement, and also that most of the numbers are non-reflective and would be difficult to find and and after dark or in heavy smoke.

The Texas Forest Service's intent is to present their findings as part of an adult Firewise education session. It is hoped this session would be held in conjunction with the Grand Opening of the new Oak Hill Fire Station on April 9th.

Other key dates are the "Wildfire Awareness Week" which starts on April 2nd at the Home Depot on 620 in Bee Cave. This event will have informative presentations and demonstrations of wildland firefighting tactics, displays of the Wildland Task Force vehicles and other firefighting apparatus, children's activities and much more. Wildfire Awareness Week runs through the 9th, concluding with the Oak Hill Fire Station Grand Opening Dedication from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. The results of the Texas Forest Service's Wildfire Hazard study of our communities will be presented at this meeting.

We hope to see all of you at opening of the Fire Station.

John Bryan

Safety and Security Awareness Committee

Dear Neighbors:

Starting in June 2003 through last December, we have had 10 burglaries and 3 cases of vandalism in Barton Creek North. The Sheriff's Department has reported 28 theft/burglary incidents in the Barton Creek area between November 2003 through September 2004. Recently, the Sheriffs arrested two individuals allegedly involved in burglaries in our area. The Sheriffs have a number of unsolved burglaries they are investigating. During their investigations they have found out there are more gangs involved than they initially thought.

With this background, we thought we would pass on these security tips:

- Tell your neighbors when you are leaving on a trip and arrange for them to watch your home, (you might want to give them a key to your house and alarm code);
- Have the newspaper delivery stopped or arrange with a neighbor to pick it up. (The statesman will not stop delivery for 1 day);
- Arrange for a neighbor to move your trash can in if you leave it out on trash collection day and depart before pickup;
- Use an automatic timer for your interior and external lights to turn them on and off;
- Always set your alarm when you leave your home and at night when you are at home;
- Always close your garage doors (you might consider adding your garage doors to your security system);
- If you park your car outside, don't leave your garage opener in the car;
- The Modus Operandi of most of the burglaries has the thieves entering the master bedroom and not leaving that area of the home. Consider installing a motion detector in your master bedroom. You can save a few dollars by tying this into an existing motion detector alarm zone;
- Depending on the level of your concern, you might want to consider installing a cell phone back up to your security system. (It is very easy to disconnect your phone line from the outside of your house);
- If you see anything suspicious, call 911 immediately.

The Committee hopes these tips will help reduce burglaries in our area.

John Bryan

Sheriff's Office Close Patrol Request

Attached is a Close Patrol form that any resident can complete and email back to me. Follow the instructions and will have the Close Patrol entered.

A Close Patrol informs the Patrol Deputies when you are out of town and when calls allow, they will check your residence to ensure that everything is ok. This is a great service that the Sheriff's Office has, please use it.

Instructions: The following form is one that the Sheriff's Office uses to inform Patrol Officers when residents in their patrol area are out of town and to keep an eye on their property. If you are interested that they do so please complete the following except for the blanks indicating CP#, District and Taken By. The form can then be mailed to Sgt. Frank Lofton #155 at Criminal Investigation Division, Travis County Sheriff's Office, West Command, P. O. Box 1748, Austin TX 78767 or faxed to (512) 854-9774. It can also be emailed at frank.lofton@co.travis.tx.us. The preferred method is email.

TRAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CLOSE PATROL

Date: _____ CP# _____ District: _____

Location: _____

Reporter: _____ Phone: _____

Dates & Times: From _____ To _____

Emergency Phone: _____ Contact Person: _____

Lights: _____
(On; off; timer; location; etc)

Vehicles: _____

(Color; make; model; plate)

Newspaper: _____ Mail: _____ Animals & their location: _____

Authorized Visitors & their vehicles: _____

Remarks: _____

Taken by: _____

**Please visit the Barton Creek North website,
at www.bartoncreeknorth.com, for community updates!
To e-mail the Board of Directors, go to the "Contact" link.**

2005 Barton Creek North Board of Directors

<i>Rick Kilmer</i>	<i>President</i>	<i>329.6100</i>
<i>Dick Urbanowski</i>	<i>V.President</i>	<i>347-1553</i>
<i>James Picardat</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>328-6926</i>
<i>Deanna Arnold</i>	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>306.0978</i>
<i>Travis White</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>732-0180</i>
<i>Ken Gorzycki</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>329.4639</i>
<i>Rebecca Jones</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>479-3434</i>

Master Architectural Committee

<i>Dick Walker, Chairman</i>	<i>663.4709</i>
<i>Jack Edrington</i>	<i>328.2337</i>
<i>Edd New</i>	<i>306.9696</i>

<i>On-Site Manager:</i>	<i>Lynda Crawford</i>	<i>617.6387</i>
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**For 24 hour emergency sprinkler system problems please call
339-6962. Make sure to give an exact location and/or intersection.**