



# Cherryhurst Civic Club Newsletter

January 2002

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## *Civic Club Meetings Now to be Held on Third Tuesdays of the Month*

The next meeting of the Cherryhurst Civic Club will be held Tuesday, January 15, from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Cherryhurst Park Building.

Club officers will be elected for the year 2002 at the January meeting. The date of the meeting has been rescheduled from the first Tuesday of the month, New Year's Day, to the third Tuesday, the next available date. We will continue to have meetings third Tuesdays throughout the year, as this will allow newsletter delivery a week before meetings in order that you may better plan your calendar.

We look forward to your involvement in the Cherryhurst Civic Club. Please attend this first meeting of the year if you are interested in keeping the civic club a viable entity for the concerns of neighbors and the maintenance and improvement of our subdivision. The vitality of the Cherryhurst Civic Club depends on you and needs your interest and support. Come vote and partake of the complimentary desserts and beverages.

The civic club will give away a new "Cherryhurst Tee Shirt" at the meeting. Thank you Brian Bokermann, Cherryhurst resident and owner of TNT Shirts, for the quick production and delivery of the tee shirts. The newly designed all cotton tee shirt sports a Cherryhurst logo on the left breast and it reads across the back, Cherryhurst "Works for Me". If you don't win the tee shirt, you may want to buy one. They are available in three sizes, for the inexpensive price of \$10 each. Let people know where you come from!

### **Cherryhurst Civic Club Theme Song**

As a special attraction for the January meeting, a new Cherryhurst Civic Club theme song, written by Ian Gordon, will be performed. Cherryhurst Community Center Supervisor Marshall Broadway will sing "We've Got the Club Right Here" to the tune of "I've Got the Horse Right Here" from Guys & Dolls. Marshall Maxwell, California Street resident and professional pianist will accompany Marshall Broadway on piano and

vocals. Watch the two Marshalls, in full dress, put everything on the chorus line for Cherryhurst! Come experience this exciting new theme song and make it your own.

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## *Christmas 'Yard of the Month' Awards*

*By Lynn Pannill*

Because of the large number of festive and creative Christmas lighting and decorating displays, this year's winners cannot be limited to three. But we do have the three categories, as always. Many thanks to all of our neighbors who worked so hard to make our neighborhood shine.

The winners represent a wide variety of decorating and lighting styles, small and large homes, garage apartments and townhomes. It was also wonderful to see homes that had not been decorated in many years aglow with lights and holiday wreaths! And the winners are:

**Best Combination Lights and Decorations:** 1608 Cherryhurst. Runner-up: 1710 Cherryhurst. Honorable Mentions The combined corner of 1701 and 2508 Windsor; 2419 Yupon; 2409 Ridgewood.

**Best Lights:** 1705 Haver. Runner-up: 2418 Mandell. Honorable Mentions: 1724 Cherryhurst; 1814 Cherryhurst; 2500 Mandell; 1810 Haver.

**Best Decorations:** 1609 Cherryhurst. Runner-up: 2700 Ridgewood. Honorable Mention: 1806 Haver.

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## *December Mayoral Run-Off Election*

Congratulations to reelected Mayor Lee Brown. One of the exciting programs on his agenda is Super Neighborhood Direct Grants. The Neartown Association, of which Cherryhurst is a member, has just completed work on becoming an official "Super Neighborhood". Grants will go directly to neighborhoods to do the work they want done in the most expedient manner. Let's hope Cherryhurst can break through the red tape with this program to improve its sidewalks, storm sewers and Cherryhurst Park. If any of you have concerns on a subdivision level, please report

them to the Cherryhurst Civic Club for action. Neighbors-to-neighbor problems may also be reported for polite resolution.

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## *Area Development Continues*

*by Ian Gordon*

Construction of the four townhouses at 2412 and 2414 Mandell is moving at an accelerated rate. Framing is to the roof-line and the building silhouette is taking strong shape. This will be an improvement over the former complex of aqua rental units. The upscale Mexican restaurant remodeling at the old Imperial Plumbing site has been on hold recently because of the death of its main financial investor, but refinancing was completed on December 20th and construction will begin with the new year. Before the interior is finished out, windows and entrances will first be completed to secure the building and an upper structure will be built to house mechanical equipment. Adjacent remodeling of the concrete block storage building is moving at an accelerated rate. A garage addition to the private office/residential building in matching materials with new concrete drive and reroofing are nearing completion.

The exterior of the new house at 1717 Haver is complete in classic white clapboard. The house is now secured with locked doors and windows and interior work proceeds.

Latest word on the proposed teahouse at the cleared land at Westheimer and Yupon is that it will open in May. There will be 1200 square feet of building with seven on-street and one off-street parking spaces. Some thought was given to buying the dilapidated 1601 California property behind the teahouse and turning the two properties into townhomes, but the new housing market appears to be past its peak and this idea was discarded.

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## *Civic Club Christmas Party a Success*

Twenty-some neighbors and several Houston Parks Board and city officials attended the Cherryhurst Christmas party. The civic club served a 22-pound roast turkey and a ham, with side dishes and desserts sup-

plied by neighbors. Eight Poinsettia plants decorated the event and were given away to lucky neighbors. Free tickets for the Planetarium, Butterfly and Natural History Museum, left over from the recent successful Cherryhurst Children's Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest, were distributed by Cherryhurst Park Advisory Council President James Engel.

A new Cherryhurst Tee Shirt was awarded to the first arrival at the party, Cindi Walker, who was accompanied by lovely daughter Alyssa. Watch for Cindi to model the Cherryhurst tee shirt as weather allows. Neighbors caught up to date with old friends and new and shared good cheer (without alcoholic beverages on City Property). There was a pound of turkey/ham per attendee, so please join us next Christmas to help spread the good cheer and food.

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## Spotlight on Your Neighbor

by Ian Gordon

The neighborhood spotlight this month is on John Wilmore, who lives at 1705 Missouri on the South perimeter of Cherryhurst Park. John graduated from Ball State University, Indiana, in 1980 with a journalism degree. He first job was a cub news reporter for an Atlanta television station. He has since followed his interests and instincts through several career changes to become a successful hair stylist in Houston, going on ten years. His salon, "We'll Never Tell", is located at 3100 Timmons. Seventy-five percent of his clients are female, though his male clientele include two television weathermen.

John moved to Cherryhurst two and a half years ago. He previously lived in custom homes built for him inside the loop, one south of Highland Village and another at Mid Lane Street just east of the Galleria. Like so many new arrivals to Cherryhurst, John immediately began a major remodeling of his 1400 square foot home. Exterior work included a front face-lift with new entry and custom walkway, and new roof dormer with complete reroofing.

New energy efficient storm windows were also added to the twenty-some double hung original windows, which were reglazed. The single-pane storm windows are unobtrusive and maintain the bungalow-style look of the neighborhood at a cost of about \$2500. This provided John with a \$100 monthly savings on summer electric air conditioning bills. Be advised that removing original windows for replacement alters the look of the architecture and reduces home

value by \$10,000.

The interior of the house was completely remodeled with new crown molding throughout, relocated doors and arched passageways, marble fireplace and beautifully designed bathroom in detailed granite. Furnishings are immaculate in eclectic European styling with quality antiques and Indian rugs. Personalized pieces and artwork highlight the decor, including two obelisks at the center coffee table and one on a nearby end table.

When John purchased the house, an eleven-foot high wood fence was located directly behind the house with the rear yard exposed to the alleyway and unused. John hired neighbor Peter Begin to relocate the fence to the rear lot line. This was done after much hassle with the City, which required a special permit and a ten-foot maximum fence height, even though the original fence was eleven feet. John demanded the higher fence for his privacy and safety and finally prevailed. The rear yard was then completely and beautifully fitted out with decks, custom paving, planting and wooden carport. A recent assessment of the property determined that the remodeling has added \$100,000 to the value of the property.

John finished the remodeling in two years. He has been living in relative peace, comfort and quiet for the past six months, but is now envisioning a new bathroom addition to the side of the house off the second bedroom. John's busy schedule keeps him from attending most civic club activities, but after seeing club members working on the park across the street, he wanted to be part of our effort. John delivers the newsletter regularly for Missouri and California Streets.

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## Cherryhurst Park First Annual Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest

by James Engel

The Cherryhurst Park Advisory Council (PAC) held its first annual Cherryhurst Park Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest on Saturday, November 10. The contest was open to children ages 2 to 10.

All the children that participated received certificates and free coupons to enjoy the IMAX, or Cockrell Butterfly Exhibit, or the Planetarium, or the Houston Museum of Natural Science. In addition, prizes were awarded to the top artists in three age categories: 2-4, 5-7, and 8-10. One of the prizes for each age category was a \$25 savings bond that was graciously donated by the Cherryhurst Civic Association.

The children had a wonderful time dec-

orating their sidewalk square, and the parents, judges, and the PAC committee enjoyed the beautiful morning and the creativity that our neighborhood children possess. The artwork remained intact for at least a week before we had a rainstorm that washed it away. The PAC hopes you had a chance to see the creations, both colorful and imaginative.

This was the first activity of the PAC since the completion of the park renovation. The PAC intends to continue to showcase the park, ensure that the park continues to serve the needs of the community, and ensure that the City places the appropriate emphasis on maintaining and improving the park.

Cherryhurst is very fortunate to have such a lovely park that is used by so many people. The park and the activities it hosts would not be possible without the efforts of so many people. It is all of these people that make Cherryhurst and Cherryhurst Park so great!

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## Cherryhurst Civic Club

Post Office Box 541641, Houston, TX 77254

### Officers 2001

President.....	Ian Gordon
	<i>HecGordon@aol.com</i>
Co-Vice .....	Jeffrey Kuchar and
Presidents .....	Mark Johnson
	<i>jeffrejk@morganpersonette.com</i>
Treasurer .....	Mark Johnson

### Committees

Benevolent Actions.....	Beth Johnstone
Deed Restrictions.....	Sydney Moen
Greeting .....	Pauline Edgar
Newsletter .....	Mark Johnson
Newsletter Distribution.....	John Wilmore
	Phil Dyer, & Brenda Gordon
Park Improvements.....	Peter Begin
Security Patrol Contact .....	Randy Pike
PIP Representative .....	Brenda Gordon
Recycling .....	Jana Wright
Yard of the Month.....	Lynn Pannill
	<i>lpannill@wt.net</i>

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## Newsletter Notes:

Thanks to Ian Gordon, Lynn Pannill and James Engel for the articles in this month's Newsletter. Your comments and letters about the Newsletter are welcome! To send articles or letters to the Newsletter Editor, contact: Mark Johnson, Box 541632, Houston, Texas 77254-1632; Voice (713) 520-8902; FAX (713) 520-9040; E-mai: editor@cherryhurst.com