



## 1996 Annual Neighborhood Meeting

10:00 AM, Saturday, November 16, 1996

Bryker Woods Elementary School

*Guest Speakers.. Election. ...Bruegger's Bagels & cream cheese, coffee, juice... Neighborhood News*

### BRYKERWOODS NEIGHBORHOOD: MODEL FOR THE FUTURE OR RELIC OF THE PAST?

Faculty members of the U.T. School of Architecture Regional and Community Planning Program will be featured speakers at the Annual Neighborhood Meeting. They will share with us some ideas on the future of neighborhoods such as Bryker Woods. Residents who have lived here since the '60s - before the first real estate boom - have seen it change from a quiet, secluded area to a desirable, easily-accessed neighborhood with steadily increasing traffic and constantly increasing home prices (and property evaluations). Whether you own or rent property in Bryker Woods, you owe it to yourself to come and gain an insight into what the years will bring, and whether we can affect any changes we don't like.

### ...AND A WORD ON CRIME PREVENTION

Lt. Greg Lasley, from APD Crime Prevention, will also be on hand for the Annual Meeting. There is always considerable interest in what he has to say. West Austin has a lower crime rate than some other parts of town, but that is little consolation if you are the victim of one of the burglaries or acts of vandalism reported weekly in the newspapers. Kerbey Lane, Gaston, Harris Blvd at 29<sup>th</sup>, and Jefferson were the sites of crime reports in just one recent issue of the West Austin News. Burglaries on Bryker Drive and Northwood Road were reported in the American-Statesman.

Special thanks to Bruegger's Bagels on the Drag for the donation of our refreshments! Check out all their locations for other deli delights including soup and sandwiches.

### ELECTION OF BWNA OFFICERS AND BOARD

The following will be presented for election to positions on the Neighborhood Association Board:

- President - Don Zappone  
(477-4395)  
Vice President - Irene Pickhardt  
(451-6820)  
Secretary - Rachel Kolberg  
(477-0026)  
Treasurer - David Boenisch  
(469-4572)  
Newsletter Editor - Lee Jones  
(478-6135)  
Members At Large -  
Jerry Balaka (453-1072)  
Joyce Basciano (454-0207)  
Lisa Curry (453-7512)  
Michael Curry (453-7512)  
Betty Gross (453-3504)  
Susan Handy (480-0800)  
Matt Richter (480-0800)  
Tom Shefelman (477-9176)  
Barbara ten Brink (482-0532)  
Bill Woods (454-9180)

Nominations from the floor will be accepted.

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### BRYKER WOODS SCHOOL HONORED

Our elementary school has been a part of Bryker Woods neighborhood since 1939. It currently serves approximately 389 students in kindergarten through sixth grade, and is truly a "school of choice" - almost half its students attend Bryker Woods as transfers from other Austin schools. Of those of us who live in the attendance area, many moved here and stay here because of Bryker Woods Elementary. So, the school is both a neighborhood school and a "school of choice!"

Bryker Woods was rated in August of this year by the Texas Education Agency as an "exemplary" school. This designation, the highest available, was based on Bryker Woods' performance on the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills and on student attendance. In the spring of 1996, Bryker Woods 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders took the TAAS test, with 98.1% of those tested passing the reading portion of the test and 91.4% passing the mathematics portion. In November, Texas Monthly ranked Bryker Woods among the best elementary schools in the entire state, sharing that honor with only two other Austin schools.

Obviously, we are very proud of these recognitions, but there is more to Bryker Woods than standardized tests. Just as the Bryker Woods neighborhood is a community, our elementary school is one also. We have a dedicated principal, faculty and staff who all care about the students and who are committed to providing the best educational environment possible. We also have an active group of parents and friends who work hard to support the school in many different ways. We raise money to improve the physical campus, to support academic enrichment programs, to provide professional development opportunities for our faculty and to assist with student needs of all kinds. Bryker Woods is also fortunate to receive support from area businesses through the Adopt-A-School program. The Neighborhood Association itself has provided much appreciated donations and mentors to our school.

If you have not visited Bryker Woods Elementary School lately, you are invited to visit our school and learn more about us. We are happy to be a part of this wonderful neighborhood!

- Merrily Porter, Bryker Woods PTA President



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