

Get Involved

We Need You...

We are looking for folks to serve on the neighborhood committees. These committees play important roles in maintaining the value and quality of our neighborhood. We are looking for more volunteers for the Maintenance & Safety committee and a neighborhood website manager. The time commitment is very minimal. Please write to board@scofieldridge.org if you would like to volunteer or learn more about what these committees do.

Property Management Website!

If you are adding a new structure or replacing any current structure on your property (front or back yard), please remember to fill out an application for our Architectural Approval Committee to review before you start your project. This includes fences, sheds, landscape changes, decks, roofs, etc. The form is available at sco.goodwintx.com along with several other useful links.

Are You In the Group?

Neighbors, be sure to join the Scofield Ridge Yahoo Group. Sign-up is quick and easy! Exchange information, find out about neighborhood events, and hear community news. To join, go to: www.yahogroup.scofieldridge.org

We want to hear from you! If you have any questions or concerns for the Board, please let us know at board@scofieldridge.org

HOA Board of Directors:

Craig Moore, craig@scofieldridge.org
Amanda Young, amanda@scofieldridge.org
Anjuli Herrington, anjuli@scofieldridge.org

Property Manager:

Debra Johnson, debra.johnson@goodwintx.com

Website:

www.scofieldridge.org

Sponsoring this newsletter is a great way to reach every resident! If you're interested in sponsoring the newsletter, contact us at publicity@scofieldridge.org



Cynthia Maguire

TOP PRODUCER: 2008, 2009, 2010

M: (512) 657-4400

O: (512) 744-4568

cynthia.maguire@sbcglobal.net

2007 Sam Bass Rd.
Round Rock, TX 78681

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Take a Look

Scofield Ridge 2010 Real Estate Year-In-Review and Property Outlook, *page 2*

Winter Safety Tips, *page 3*



Issue 4

A Quarterly Newsletter of the Ridge at Scofield Farms

Ridge Reporter

Upcoming Events

February 5

Wine Tasting



No experience or prior knowledge of wines required—just a desire to enjoy an evening with fellow residents.

April 21

HOA Annual Meeting

Get up-to-date on issues facing our community and the initiatives your HOA is pursuing to make life better for all residents.

April 23

Easter Egg Hunt



When the Easter Bunny visits Scofield Ridge, he always brings a basket of family fun.

Keep an eye on the community signposts and bulletin boards, as well as www.scofieldridge.org and our Yahoo! Group for the latest info on these events and other important issues.

Dogs in the Ridge

There have been several inquiries this year on the rules for pets. The City of Austin has pet ordinances and our neighborhood also has several restrictions on pets. As a friendly reminder to pet owners, no animal shall be allowed to make an unreasonable amount of noise, or to become a nuisance; and no domestic pets will be allowed off the homeowner's property unless confined to a leash. Please also pick up and dispose of your pet's waste.

Protect Your Property

National Neighborhood Watch Institute offers a proven system for property protection. This system includes decals for windows or outside surfaces and inventory worksheets. In combination, these tools provide a deterrent to a thief by making your valuables easily traceable when your unique, personal identification number is engraved into an appropriate metal surface of the valuable. Additionally, if your valuables are ever stolen, your law enforcement agency will be able to get them back to you quickly.

The Maintenance & Safety Committee will be sponsoring OPERATION IDENTIFY in the Spring. We will be loaning out engraving pens for you to mark your valuables, along with an inventory work sheet so you can keep a record of your belongings. When you are finished with the engraving pen we will exchange it for an Operation Identification vinyl decal to post inside your window by the front door. The decal states: "All items of value on these premises have been marked for ready identification by Law Enforcement Agencies."

We will have more details as the project gets closer.

New Website!

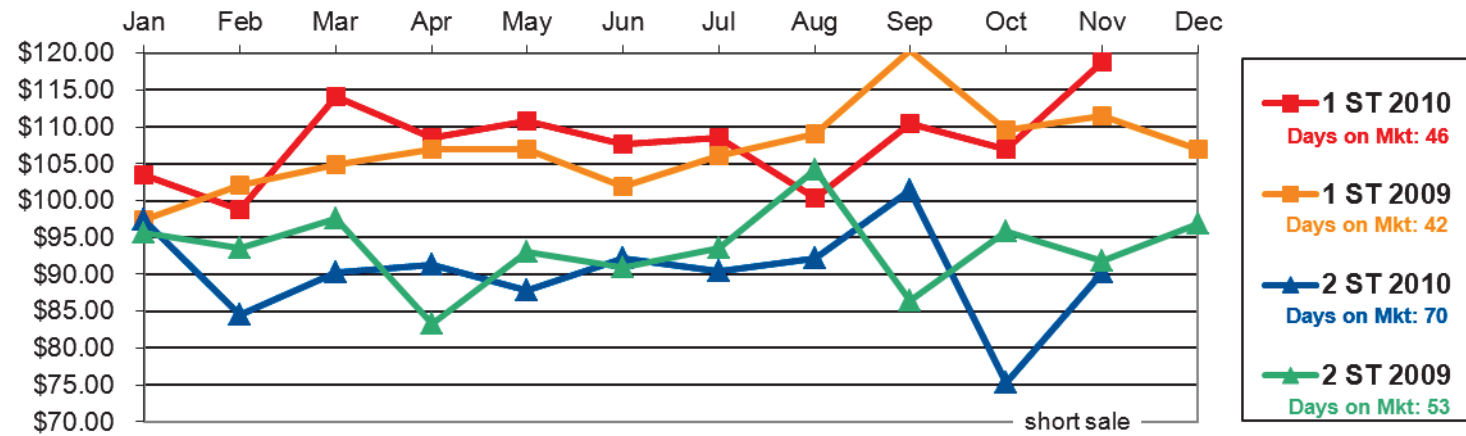
The new website launches this January. We have revamped the Scofield Ridge website to show off our great neighborhood and to make it easier to announce upcoming events. Visit our new look at www.scofieldridge.org in January and let us know what you think!

The Ridge at Scofield Farms: 2010 Real Estate Recap

By Cynthia Maguire

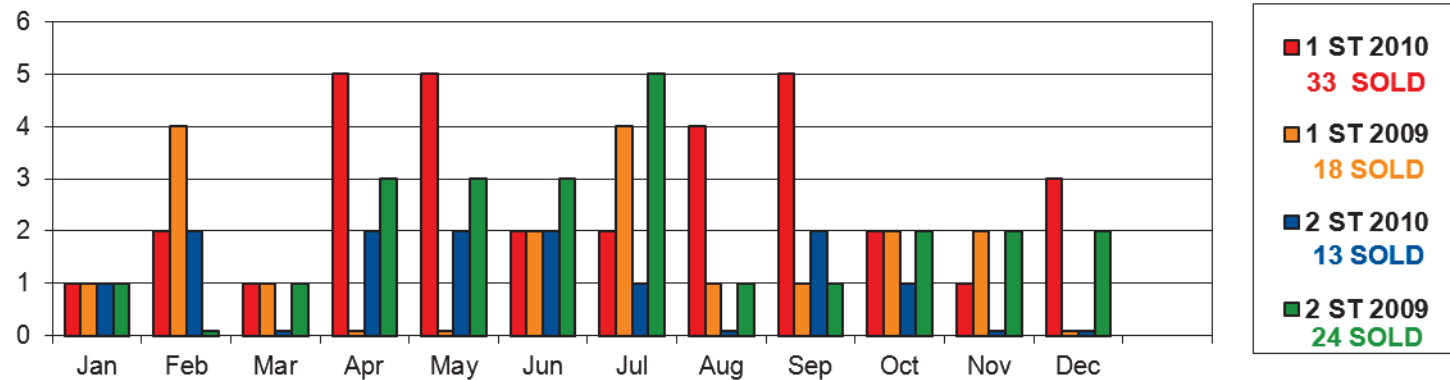
2010 was a banner year for single stories in The Ridge with sales almost doubling over the previous year. Additionally, single stories outsold two stories almost 3 to 1. Price per square foot remained fairly steady for one stories at an average of \$108 per square foot. We did see several sell for over the \$115 per square foot mark due to meticulous condition and significant upgrades (e.g., flooring, outdoor decks/patios, stainless appliances, granite counter-tops, new lighting, landscaping). Many of these going under contract in under one week! I expect to see this trend of single story sales to continue.

Price Per Square Foot 2009/2010



Two stories had a tougher time in 2010 with sales in units at less than half of 2009 levels. The smaller two stories fared better as there seemed to be a price resistance to anything over the \$250K mark with only one home selling over that price point. I attribute this price resistance to the tightened credit markets and many first time home buyers in the area in the lower \$200K market. We had several sellers of larger two stories pull their homes from the market to "wait it out." Average price per square foot dropped from \$93 in 2009 to \$90 in 2010 for two stories.

Homes Sold in 2009/2010



One final thought and piece of advice: Maintain Your Investment! Selling your home has become a beauty pageant of sorts. When you choose to place your home on the market, the best maintained and nicest (this does not necessarily mean most upgraded) homes sell the quickest and for the most money. That combined with the right marketing will get buyers in your home. If you would like to know what upgrades get the "biggest bang for the buck" or the newest marketing tools, please contact me.

Cynthia Maguire is a realtor with RE/MAX Capital City. Cynthia specializes in real estate in the Scofield area and would welcome the opportunity to represent you in your next real estate transaction. She is aware of the changes that affect the Scofield area and your property values. You may view her website at: www.cynthiamaguire.remaxtexas.com or contact her at: cynthia.maguire@sbcglobal.net or (512) 657-4400.

Winter Safety Tips

The holiday season and winter breaks from school often mean travel in the weeks before and after the new year! Always advise your neighbors when you will be gone, and ask them to keep a look out for unusual activity. Inexpensive timers connected to lamps are an easy way to keep your home from appearing empty. These can be found at local retailers and hardware stores. Temporarily stopping mail and newspapers, and asking a neighbor to park in your driveway from time to time are others. If you have an alarm system, be sure to turn it on while you're gone.

If you are spending the winter break at home, be careful with what can be seen through your windows. Christmas trees seen from the street are a wonderful way to carry the Christmas spirit into the new year, but be careful that open gifts around the tree are not in sight to tempt would-be thieves. Make sure that empty boxes don't advertise the things you received this season. When putting out the box from your new flatscreen TV, taking the time to break it down and turn it inside out can help guarantee you'll be able to enjoy it well into 2011!



Finally, take care of yourself! Many people are injured each year using ladders improperly. Be extra careful when taking down your holiday decorations. Make sure the ladder is on level ground. Have someone help you and move the ladder so that you do not stretch too far. And remember, outdoor holiday decorations should be taken down within 30 days after the holiday. Be safe this New Year!

Thanks for Keeping the Holidays Bright!

"I wanted to give you a sincere THANK YOU for your donations to the Brown Santa toy/food drive. We collected over 200 bags curb-side pickup and from the Scofield Santa event and delivered them to Brown Santa.

The sheriffs were so excited to see all the donations and the families appreciate your generosity. You guys are a great bunch of people and I feel blessed to be a part of the neighborhood. Happy Holidays and Thanks Again!"

- Jenny Walker, Brown Santa Coordinator, jenny@realtyaustin.com

"Congratulations to Alicia Blount on Calf Roping Trail for snagging first place in our Home Holiday Lights Contest! The Hawk family on Equestrian Trail took second place and deserve an enthusiastic congratulations as well! Winners were presented with gift cards, and a BIG thank you goes out to all who entered the contest.

The Social Committee enjoyed driving around the neighborhood and viewing the decorated homes. Determining our winners was no easy task, it took us nearly two hours to judge! Every home had decorative and unique characteristics to be enjoyed by all!"

- Colette Bonstead, Social Committee Chair

Sour Cream Cranberry Bars

Winter may have settled in for a stretch, but nothing warms the colder months better than fresh baked goods, hot from the oven! This New Year, enjoy these delicious cranberry treats—they're perfect for the season, easy to make, and a wonderful winter twist on the delicious cake and cookie bars children and adults love so much.

Makes 32 bars

- 1 cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 cups quick-cooking oats
- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 cups dried cranberries
- 1 cup sour cream
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon grated lemon peel
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 egg

Heat oven to 350°F. Mix butter and brown sugar in large bowl with spoon. Stir in oats, 1 1/2 cups flour and the baking soda until crumbly. Press half of the mixture in ungreased 9x13 inch pan. Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until golden brown.

Mix remaining ingredients in large bowl. Pour over baked crust. Crumble remaining oat mixture over filling.

Bake 25 to 30 minutes or until top is golden brown and filling is set. Cool completely, about 1 hour. For 32 bars, cut into 8 rows by 4 rows.

Source: www.bettycrocker.com

