



WALL OF WELCOME PROJECT

A project by Jean Graham and the Crestview/Brentwood neighborhoods.

MORE INFORMATION ON THE WALL OF WELCOME PROJECT

This project was conceived by neighborhood artist, Jean Graham to transform a block-long wall on Woodrow Avenue next to the historic Crestview Shopping Center into dynamic visual destination that will reflect the community and document some of the history of the neighborhood.

A City of Austin Cultural Contract was awarded to Jean Graham in 2002 for the project, however funds were insufficient and were used for a smaller mosaic project with Brentwood School students where the PTA could match the funds. *(See Brentwood Transformation Project.)*

Individuals from the neighborhood gathered to discuss the project and the Violet Crown Arts Committee was formed to help with fund-raising. Several fund-raising events have been held including Pancake Breakfasts at the North Austin Lions Club and the first Violet Crown Festival. The Violet Crown Festival has continued since that time.

Site for project at Crestview Shopping Center along Woodrow Avenue with the preliminary conceptual design for the project.



The Crestview Shopping Center was built in the 1950s and since that time has maintained its place as the heart of the neighborhood, especially with long-time residents.



MOSAIC CONCEPT REVISED

- Phase 1

Interested residents create mosaic “tiles” for the wall. The cost of \$25 per tile helps to fund the project and allows direct contribution from residents. At least 100 square feet of the wall will be covered with the square mosaic tiles that are made by people in the neighborhood.

- Phase 2

Collect photographs, anecdotes and history about the neighborhood. Incorporate some of these into the design of larger sections and text for the wall. Finalize design and present to owners of Crestview Shopping Center and neighborhood.

- Phase 3

Complete a scale drawing and create the larger “history” segments as tiles. Finish creating other “filler” pieces for the wall.

- Phase 4

Install on site.



Rough design for mosaic segment

Neighborhood squares are along top border of wall. Background of the land and the violet crown ribbon incorporate individual clay pieces made by people at the Violet Crown Festival. Historical facts presented as text in the circles.



AUG 1950 *Studeer* S.A.TEX.

SAMPLE HISTORIAL PHOTO

Ruth Avenue 1950. Photo courtesy Kay Ramsey.



The backyard. Photo courtesy Kay Ramsey.



TILE-MAKING CLASSES

Space donated by the North Austin Lions Club

Neighborhood classes were taught by Jean Graham. Participants gathered for three 2-hour sessions to:

Design their tile and make the clay pieces

Glaze the clay pieces

Finalize the mosaic materials & thin-set to tile

Each person was encouraged to create an image that represents their niche of the neighborhood or what they value most about it.



MAKING CLAY PIECES







GLAZING





SETTING MOSAICS







Mother-daughter teams, couples, individuals, families, neighborhood groups, and churches have all participated so far...















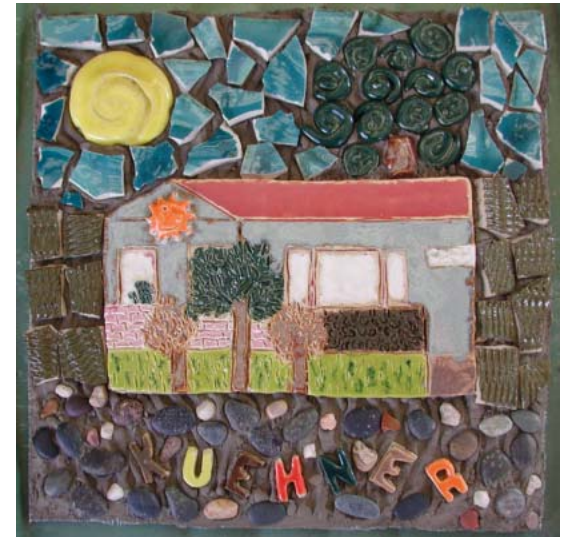
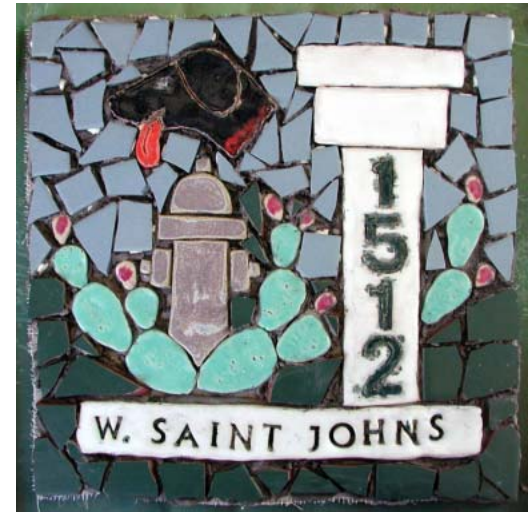


A finished tile!

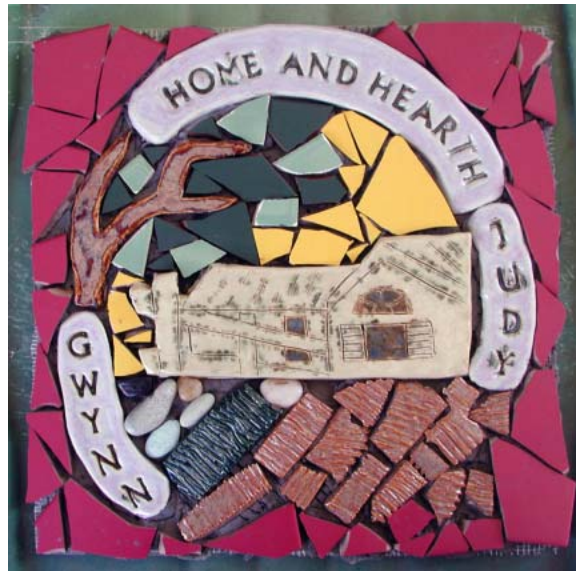


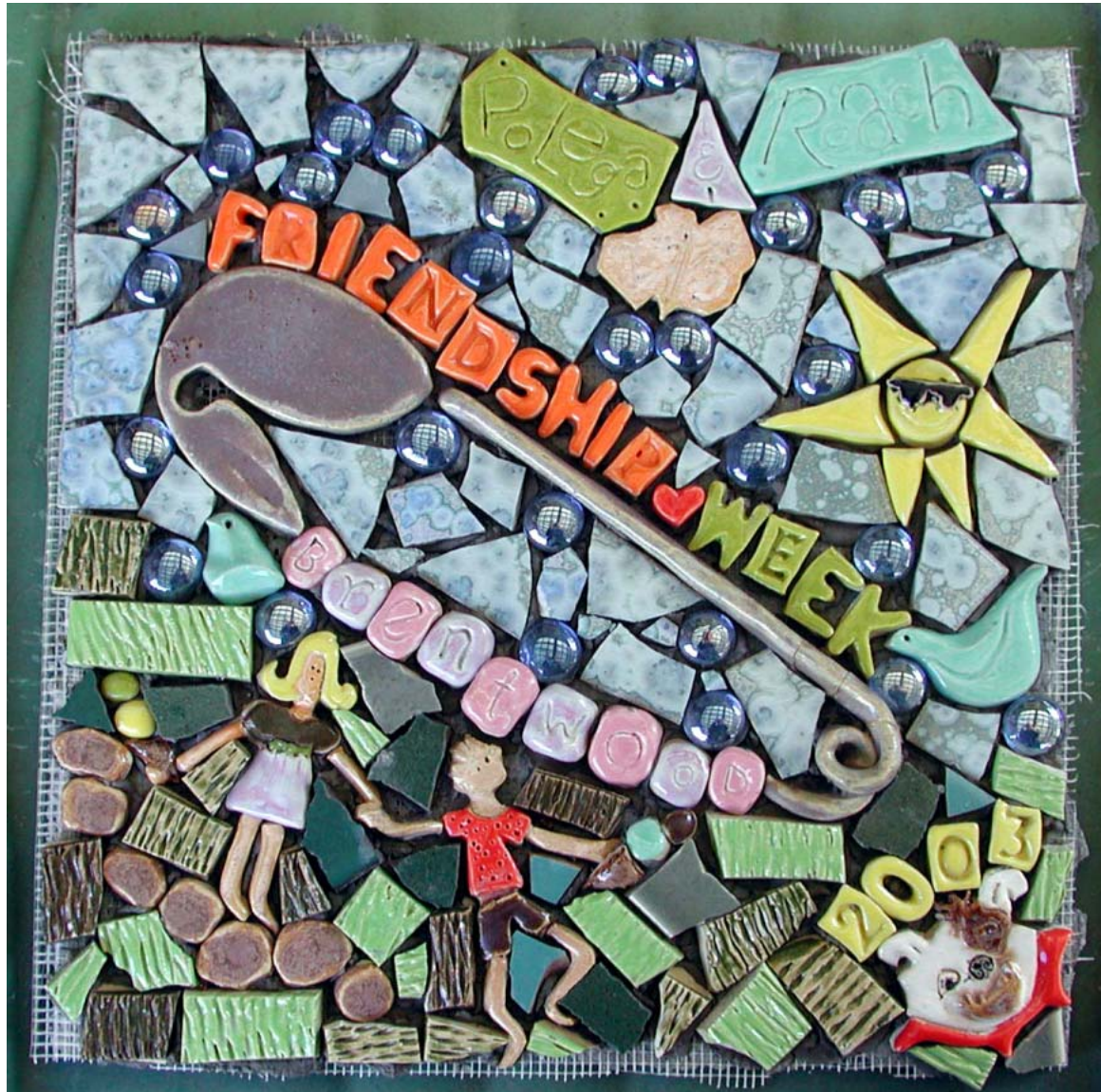
NEIGHBORHOOD TILES (before grouting)











Sponsored by
a class at
Brentwood
Elementary
School who
sold friendship
pins to raise
the funds.

Tile by
neighborhood
artist Cheryl
Goveia.



Several churches in the neighborhood are represented.





Creating the history sections.

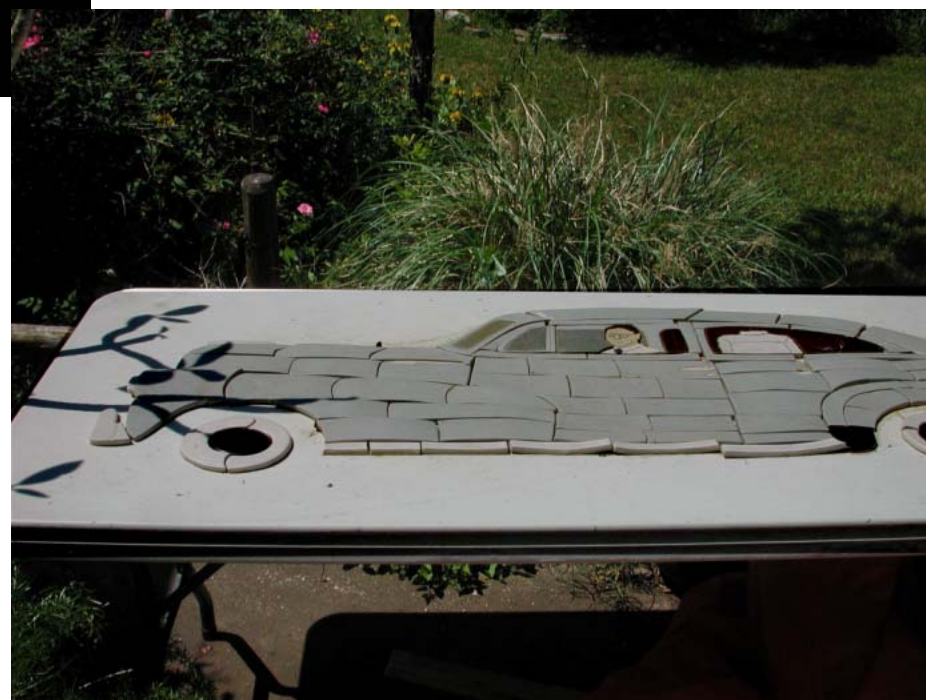




Scale drawings from neighborhood photographs.



Sample tiles in process.





Some finished history tile sections.



Creating tiles
based on old
photographs
collected from
residents.

