

THE STAR

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 7

SEPTEMBER 2007

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

School is back in session as of August 27th. Please be aware of children walking and biking to and from school. Of course, we want all children to be safe and school buses are relatively safe. However, accidents and injuries involving school buses do happen. More often than not these injuries happen when children are entering or exiting the bus. Here are some safety tips for school bus riders.

- Have a safe place to wait for the bus, away from traffic and the street.
- Stay away from the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the driver signals you to enter.
- Hold onto the handrails when entering or exiting the bus.
- Once on the bus, take your seat and remain seated face forward.
- Talk quietly so that you don't distract the driver.
- Never throw things on the bus and keep your hands to yourself.
- When you exit the bus, take ten giant steps away from the bus. When you are closer than 10 feet from the bus, the driver might not see you. This is known as the DANGER ZONE.
- If you forget something on the bus, do not return to the bus to get it. The driver might not see you.
- Be aware of the street traffic around you.
- If you need to cross the street, cross in front of the bus never behind the bus.

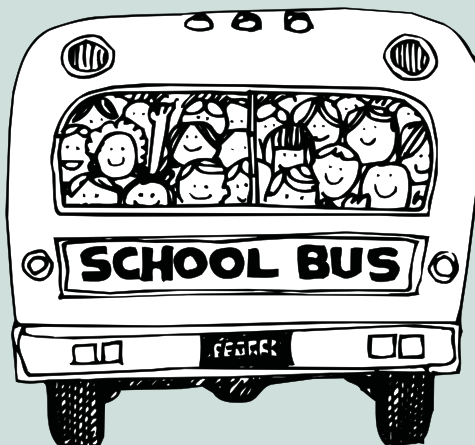
Motorists should follow safety rules around school buses. Yellow flashing

lights indicate that the bus is preparing to stop. Motorists should slow down and be prepared to stop. Red flashing lights indicate that the bus has stopped and that children are getting on or off. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red flashing lights are turned off.

Here are a few more traffic safety tips for motorists.

- When backing out of the driveway or garage, watch out for children.
- When driving through neighborhoods and especially in school zones, watch out for children. Children don't always pay attention to traffic and don't always know that motorists have trouble seeing them.
- Slow down. Watch out for children walking or playing in the street.
- Be alert and ready to stop. Children sometimes dart into the street.

Basically "Watch out for our Steiner Ranch children!"



Gardening Tips

By Belinda Smith

(Provided by Travis County Master Gardner Association)

Things to Plant in September:

Flowers: Ajuga, Alpine Aster, Wax Begonia, Boltonia, Butterfly Weed, Calico Plant, Candytuft, Chinese Forget-Me-Not, Cockscomb, Cornflower, Dianthus, Daisy (English, Shasta and Painted), Euryops, Impatiens, Larkspur, Liatris, Lobelia, Petunia, Phlox, Obedient Plant, Salvia, Sedum, Stock, Stokes' Aster.

Bulbs: Allium, Amarcinum, Calla, Autumn Crocus (Colchicum), Cooperia, Daylily, Dietes, Hardy Cyclamen, Spider Lily, Louisiana Iris, Liriope, Lycoris, Iphelon, Monkey Grass, Oxalis, Rain Lily, Scilla, Watsonia, Purchase Tulip, Crocus, Hyacinth, and Daffodil bulbs to pre-chill.

Things to Do in September:

Fertilize: Fertilize chrysanthemums every 2-3 weeks until buds appear, then weekly until buds show color. Fertilize roses, gardenias, and magnolias.

Water: Water trees and shrubs deeply and slowly.

(Continued on page 2)

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Hudson Bend Fire and EMS	
Emergencies	512-266-1775
Information	512-266-2533

SCHOOLS

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Cedar Park High School	512-435-8300
Canyon Ridge Middle School	512-424-7500
Laura Welch Bush Elementary	512-435-4750
Steiner Ranch Elementary	512-434-7100

UTILITIES

Travis County WCID # 17	512-266-1111
City of Austin Electric	512-494-9400
Texas Gas Service	
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Emergencies	512-370-8609
Call Before You Dig	512-472-2822
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New Service	1-800-464-7928
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Time Warner Cable	
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Repairs	512-485-5080
IESI (Trash)	512-282-3508

OTHER NUMBERS

Lake Travis Postal Office	512-263-2458
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Advertising Information

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Gardening Tips- (Continued from Cover page)

Lawn Care: Watch for brown patch in St. Augustine turf as temperatures cool. Lawns with a history of the disease should be sprayed in late month and again in 3 weeks with Terraclor or Daconil. Early morning is the best time to water lawns. Mow every 5-7 days, leaving clippings on the lawn. **Diseases/Pests to Look For:** Watch for grub worms, chinch bugs, and fire ants in lawns. Look for aphids and powdery mildew on crape myrtles.

Diseases/Pests to Look For: Watch roses for blackspot and mildew. Fall webworms are easiest to control when treated early with *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt).

Prune: Remove dead and damaged wood from shrubs and trees. Lightly prune pyracanthas so berries will show.

Note: To repel deer: spray your plants with fermented hot peppers combined with dishwashing liquid. Hot mouth for the deer!



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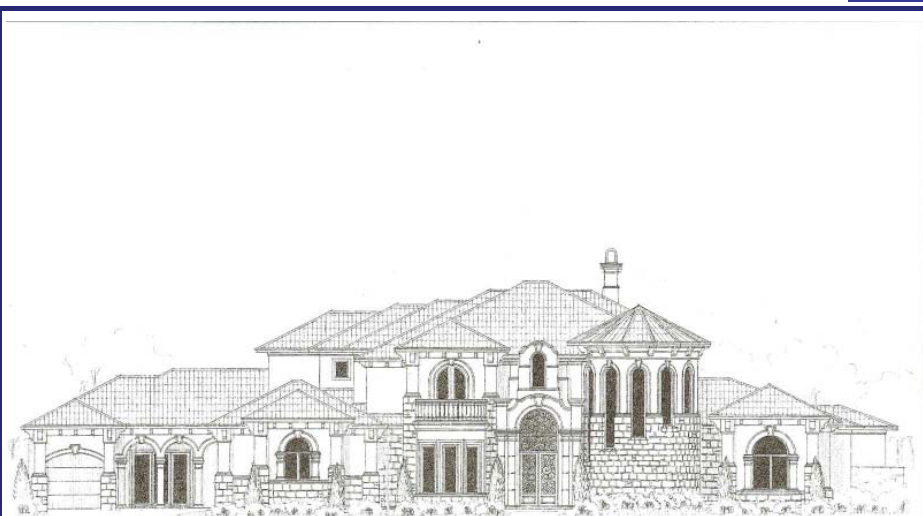
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Music Education and Your Child: Part 1 - Why Study Music?

By Cyrus Albertson

I hear questions regarding music education daily from concerned parents who want the best for their children. As music education is being removed from the primary and secondary education curriculum, more and more parents are finding themselves in the position of being responsible for their child's musical education.

Five years ago, 113 million or 53% of people 12 years of age or older in the USA had some form of music education. (1997 "American Attitudes Towards Music" poll conducted by the Gallup Organization) Unfortunately, this percentage has begun a drastic decline that will only worsen over the next 15 years. This trend bodes ill for the future of our children, as those who study music benefit in so many ways. Music students are outperforming non-music students on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).

College-bound seniors with coursework or experience in music performance scored 52 points higher on the verbal portion and 37 points higher on the math portion of the SAT than students with no coursework or experience in music. (College-Bound Seniors National Report: Profile of SAT Program Test Takers. Princeton, NJ: The College Entrance Examination Board, 2001.)

In addition to performing better on the SAT, secondary students who participated in band or orchestra or studied music privately reported the lowest lifetime and current use of all substances (alcohol, tobacco, illicit drugs). (Texas Commission on Drug and Alcohol Abuse Report, 1998) Many parents underestimate the benefits of music education, yet what better gift can parents give their child? But how should a parent go about getting their child interested in and exposed to music education? Although a person of any age can study music, the optimum time to begin music education is between the ages of three and ten. During this time, a child's brain is the most receptive to learning and processing musical concepts.

Once music lessons begin, I urge parents to do whatever they can to help keep their child in music study for at least two years. Every

(Continued on page 6)

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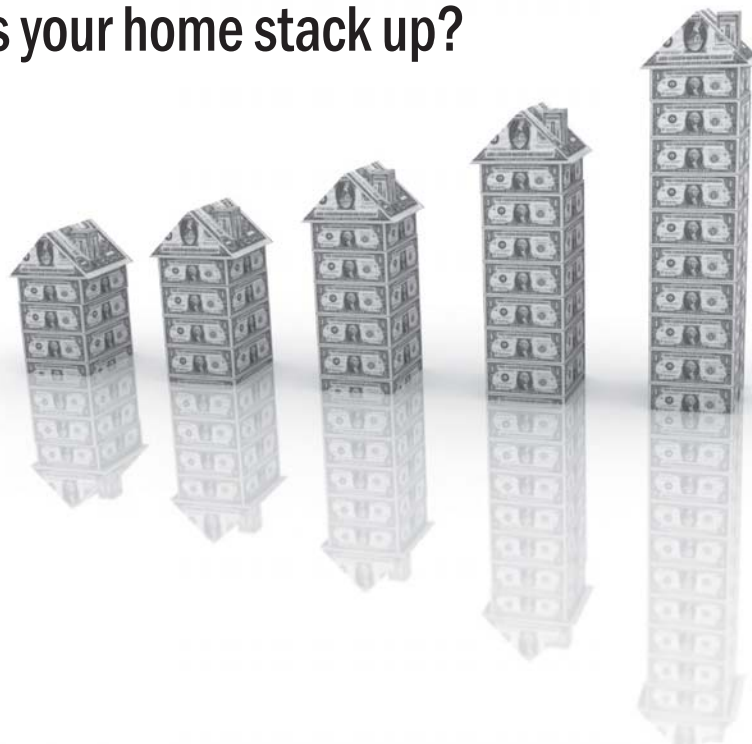
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THE STAR

Music- (Continued from page 4)

student has ups and downs in their learning process. Sometimes they will love to study, practice, and attend lessons, and sometimes they will resist and want to stop. If you impress upon your children that music study is an important part of their growth and development, and that you expect them to make a commitment to music for this minimum amount of time, they will have enough time to learn the fundamentals of music. After that, if they choose to quit, they will have enough knowledge that they can easily return at a later time, and music can bring them joy throughout their lifetime.

This is one of the few activities in life that can be started as young as four or five years old and continue to be enjoyed and engaged in for the next ninety years. Parents can support their children's commitment in several ways: provide a distraction-free place to practice, set up a normal practice time that is part of the child's daily routine, don't expect too much at first - even 5 to 10 minutes a day of practice can get a child off to a successful start! Parents should praise their children's successes - even if they are small, allow the teacher to handle corrections, and show an interest in the child's lessons and practice. Studying music will have challenges, but so does life! Also like life, studying music will bring joy! This creative activity truly will benefit your child in so many ways.

--- Cyrus Albertson is a concert pianist, taught in the secondary school system.

The live wire

September 14, 15 & 16 Austin City Limits
Zilker Park..... <http://www.aclfestival.com/lineup.aspx>
September 15th..... The Derailers
Broken Spoke
September 15th..... Jimmy Lafave
Cactus Café
September 21st Dale Watson
Broken Spoke
September 21st The Subdudes
Antone's

The "Live Wire" is not a paid advertisement or endorsed by the performers or venues. The list of suggested events is provided as a convenience in support of Austin's status as the "Live Music Capital of the World"; it is compiled from information available at the time of submittal, and may change. Readers are encouraged to validate accuracy with the performer or the venue.

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The San Marcos: A River's Story

An exhibit of Jerry Kimmel's stunning photographs of the river and its ecosystem. Prints and books for sale at the store September 1 through September 30.

Labor Day Weekend Sale

Big reductions on gifts, books and apparel at the store. Ask about our newly- arrived bluebonnet wallpaper Jerry and Jim Kimmel sign their book, The San Marcos: A River's Story, 1 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, September 1

Go Horns!

University items 20 percent off. Saturday, September 15

Diez y Seis

Save 16 percent on any purchase at the store over \$50. Sunday, September 16

Texas Plant Conservation Conference

This conference will highlight the plant conservation work of students from around the state, particularly with Texas rare plants. Registration at www.wildflower.org. Public \$55, Professionals \$35 Students/Volunteers \$15.. Wednesday through Friday, September 19,20, 21

Nature Nights

Plants & People: How native plants are used past, present and future. 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, September 21

Austin Museum Day

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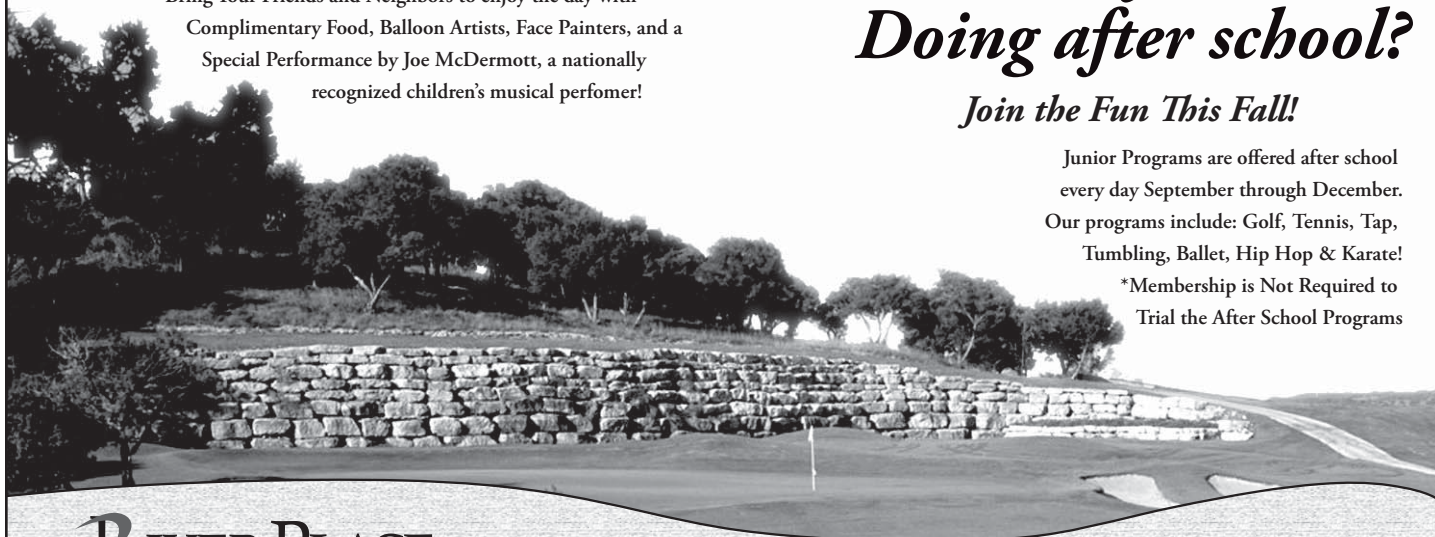


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Oak Wilt

What is oak wilt?

Oak wilt is caused by a fungus that invades and disables the water delivery system of the tree. Leaves at the top of the tree are usually the first to die. The spread of the disease is primarily through the interconnected root systems. It can travel up to 150 feet in any one direction in a year. Small beetles also transmit the disease by carrying spores from fungal mats on red oaks to open wounds on live oaks.

What trees are susceptible?

Red oaks (e.g., Spanish, Shumard, Texas Red, and Blackjack oaks) are particularly susceptible. An infected red oak will generally die in 3 to 4 weeks. White oaks (e.g., Post, Bur, Chinkapin and Lacey oaks) are resistant and rarely die from oak wilt. Live oaks fall somewhere in between but are vulnerable because they are essentially one big root system connecting all of the trees in a large area, and that facilitates the spread of the disease from tree to tree.

How do I know if my trees are infected?

It is not always easy to identify oak wilt infection as opposed to fungal leaf spot or some other problem but Dolan provided the following guides.

- Watch red oaks for out of season color displays. Fall color in the spring is not a good thing.
- Keep an eye on the very top branches of live oaks. If they start to defoliate, call the City (512-974-1881) and set up an appointment to have an expert come and take a look.
- Examine oak leaves on the tree for chlorotic



(yellow) veins. Look for veinal necrosis (brown veins) on leaves on the ground.

Often it takes an expert to make the identification. We are fortunate that we have access to an arborist through the City's oak wilt program. If you have concerns, contact him at the number shown above or at chris.dolan@ci.austin.tx.us.

How do I stop this disease?

Prevention (worth a pound of cure)

- Eliminate diseased red oaks (or don't plant them in the first place).
- Handle firewood properly (make sure to buy wood that has been thoroughly dried for at least one year and don't store it near healthy oak trees).
- Avoid wounding oaks (including pruning) from February through June and immediately treat all cuts or wounds with a wound or latex paint.
- Trenching (not the easiest thing in a suburban neighborhood)
- Break root connections between live oaks by digging at least 4 feet deep and a minimum

of 100 feet from infected trees.

- Remove trees within the trenched area and closely monitor those immediately outside for several years.

Fungicide (needs to be repeated every 2-2 1/2 years)

- Injections of propiconazole applied prior to infection have proven effective as a preventative.
- Fungicide injection does not stop root transmission but it can offer protection if trenching is not practical.
- Use a trained professional to ensure the best results from this treatment.

What do I do now?

Go out in your yard and look at your trees? Identify the oaks (Not sure what they are? Put a few leaves in a zip lock bag and take them to a local nursery for identification. A photo would help.) and pay attention to the foliage. Watch for unusual color changes and leaf drop.

If you suspect something is wrong, contact Chris Dolan. Even if you know you are going to lose the tree, call him so he can record the location. This helps him monitor the progression of the infection. The City also has some cost-sharing provisions for infected tree removal.

Where do I get more information?

There are many resources and your first stop should be the City of Austin's Oak Wilt Program web site, www.ci.austin.tx.us/oakwilt. Texas Oak Wilt Information Partnership also has a lot of information at their web site, www.texasoakwilt.org including a list of oak wilt certified arborists.

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THE STAR

Austin Newcomers Club - September Luncheon

Submitted by Pattie Cabrera Webster

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VIDEO GAME PROGRAMMING LESSONS!

If you or your child wants to grow up to be a video game developer then now is the time to get started!

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Fernando M. Velasco - USPTA Master Professional

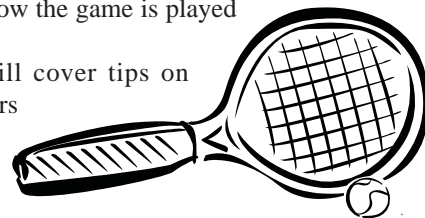
First of all, the player needs to be physically and mentally prepared to be competing. Strokes should be pretty solid and the player should be able to serve and keep the ball in play. At this point, they should be able to anticipate the deep balls and the short balls and react to meet the ball without bouncing twice.

Second, the player should have knowledge of the basic rules of tennis and the scoring system that is used for each game. Different scorings are used for different types of activities whether is a USTA League, a CATA tournament or an USTA sanctioned tournament.

Third, the player should have the proper equipment. Tennis shoes are a must, since they have a different fit and sole than running or walking shoes. A good tennis racquet with proper strings and grips will help the player to hit with good strokes, and they need to wear comfortable t-shirts and shorts with pockets, so they can place the second ball when serving.

The last step is to make sure that the player understands the value of winning and losing the game. At this point, the player should be looking for “court” experience rather than “another trophy.” The more time they spend on the courts playing, practicing or competing, will give them more ideas of how the game is played and enjoyed.

In the next issue, I will cover tips on how adult and junior players need to “behave” on and off the court during competition.



Margaret Hutchison
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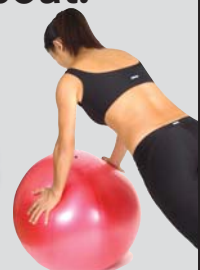
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Garage Doors: Getting What You Pay For

Submitted by Kat Brogden

We often get telephone inquiries from prospective clients seeking pricing on replacement garage doors. Often times the request is for a "standard size" or a "single car" door. The perils of such shopping techniques are numerous and erroneous for both the dealers and the homeowners. I am aware of a company that "sells" garage doors over the phone. The installers report as many as 50% of these sales result in wrong sizing and/or colorations being delivered and a high percentage of customer dissatisfaction due to hidden add ons on lesser quality that expected.

The following tips will help guide homeowners in selection:

1. Know your Service Company. Often times companies with no more than a tech with a truck in Central Texas use call centers out of the area to book appointments and do not have a bona fide office location in the service area.
2. Know the Product. Over 90% of new doors today are designed to last less than 5 years. Factors such as thickness of steel in the door and moving parts, plastic vs. steel in critical components and the design of the spring system will affect life expectancy.
3. Usually warranties quoted apply only to the paint. The majority of door manufacturers provide only a 12-month parts and labor warranty on moving parts.
4. How are Warranty Calls Handled? Ask about duration of

response, are annual service calls required, has the company been in business long term.

5. Does the Company Request an On-Site Inspection Before Finalizing Price? A large percentage of installations are not "standard" due to structural design, foundation settlement, etc.
6. Be Aware of Hidden Warranty Escapes. For instance, most door manufacturers require a special bracket when connecting a garage door opener to preserve their warranty. Most service companies don't mention it.

A garage door is not only a significant investment, it is also a potential safety hazard and in most cases, the largest decoration on the front of your home.



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Tip From The Pro

By Kyle O'Brien

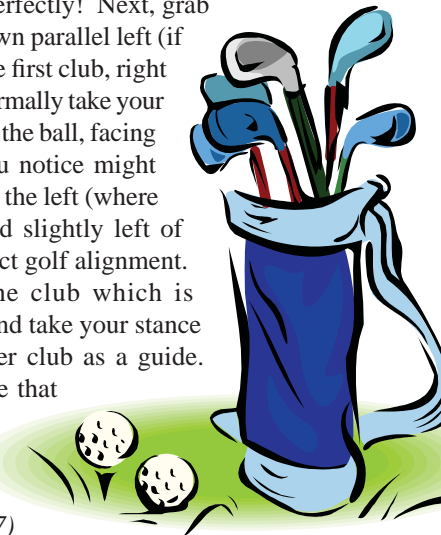
As the Head Golf Professional of River Place Country Club I find it very important to relay to my students the importance of the fundamental factors that take place before you ever swing a golf club. There are four basic fundamentals of golf that must be done correctly to be able to make a solid repeatable swing. Grip, posture, alignment, and ball position are all essential to making a proper golf swing. Today we will discuss something that everyone thinks they do correctly, but few take the time to check, and that is their alignment.

Everything in your swing is connected, from start to finish. Poor alignment leads to a variety of problems in your swing; because there must be another fault in your swing in order for you to get the ball headed toward the hole. For example, if you are lined up too far to the right, one of two things will happen; you will make a good swing and hit the ball to the right of your target (where you are aligned), or you will make a bad swing and pull the ball towards the target (left of where you are aligned). The problem with the latter, is the bad swing can be difficult to consistently repeat (it's easy to make a bad swing, however difficult to repeat that same bad swing), and will also limit how solid and how far you can hit the ball.

Alignment in golf is a bit different than most sports. For example, if you're throwing a baseball, you would turn your shoulders and hips

toward the target, and throw. In golf, the ball is out in front of us, not in our hand, thus our alignment must be different. The best way to practice your alignment is by using a couple of golf clubs. Next time you're on the range try this. Grab any club and lay it down directly behind the ball pointing toward the target. Make sure you take your time and line it up perfectly! Next, grab another club and lay it down parallel left (if you're right handed) to the first club, right about where you would normally take your stance. Now stand behind the ball, facing your target, and what you notice might surprise you. The club on the left (where you will stand) is pointed slightly left of the target. That is a perfect golf alignment. Now simply pick up the club which is directly behind the ball, and take your stance as normal, using the other club as a guide. Don't forget to make sure that your hips and shoulders are also aligned with the club. This drill, especially

(Continued on page 17)



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Tip from the Pro- (Continued from page 16)

for beginners, should be done every time you hit the range.

If you have trouble with alignment on the course, try this simple drill. Before you hit, stand behind the ball and pick out a spot about 12 to 18 inches in front of the ball (either an old divot, a leaf, or a discolored piece of grass) in line with your target. Now step into the shot by aligning your clubface to the spot you picked out. Then align your feet, hips, and shoulders to your clubface. You should now be properly aligned to your target. It takes a bit of practice, so try this drill on the range first, and check yourself by laying a club down next to your feet, and then step back (don't forget, your not allowed to lay clubs down on the course).

Hopefully these two simple drills will help improve your game. They are not difficult, but they do take some discipline. I promise that if you can make yourself practice these two drills and focus on making alignment a disciplinary part of your game, you will see improvement in your scores.

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4 eggs 1/4 Cup cocoa
1 tsp. vanilla Pecans (optional)

Cream shortening and sugar. Add eggs and vanilla.
Combine flour, salt, and cocoa. Add to creamed mixture.
Add chopped pecans. Bake in greased and floured pan.
350 degrees for 30 minutes.

*If you would like to submit YOUR recipe to
The Star email it to thestar@peelinc.com.*

Austin City Council Approves Mandatory Watering Schedule

The Austin City Council has approved a water conservation ordinance that restricts watering times and imposes a mandatory watering schedule. The rules are effective Oct. 1, 2007.

The twice-a-week watering schedule is imposed year-round for commercial and multifamily customers, and between May 1 and Sept. 30 for residential customers.

Residential customers with addresses ending in odd numbers must water on Wednesdays and Saturdays only, and residential customers with addresses ending in even numbers must water on Thursdays and Sundays only.

Commercial and multifamily customers must water on Tuesdays and Fridays only. No customers may water on Mondays.

Watering-time restrictions require that automatic irrigation systems not water during the daytime, between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. year round. No hose-end sprinkler watering is permitted between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. if the date is past May 1 or before Sept. 30.



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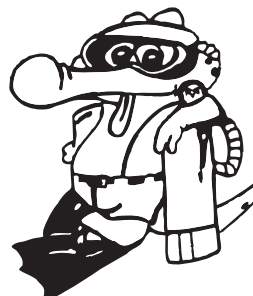
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Helping Your Overweight Child

Submitted by Alica Harrison

HEALTHY eating and physical activity habits are key to your child's well-being. Eating too much and exercising too little can lead to overweight and related health problems that can follow children into their adult years. You can take an active role in helping your child—and your whole family—learn healthy eating and physical activity habits that can last for a lifetime.

Is my child overweight?

Because children grow at different rates at different times, it is not always easy to tell if a child is overweight. If you think that your child is overweight, talk to your health care provider. He or she can measure your child's height and weight and tell you if your child is in a healthy range.

How can I help my overweight child?

Involve the whole family in building healthy eating and physical activity habits. It benefits everyone and does not single out the child who is overweight. Do not put your child on a weight-loss diet unless your health care provider tells you to. If children do not eat enough, they may not grow and learn as well as they should.

Be supportive

- Tell your child that he or she is loved, is special, and is important. Children's feelings about themselves often are based on their parents' feelings about them.

- Accept your child at any weight. Children will be more likely to accept and feel good about themselves when their parents accept them.

- Listen to your child's concerns about his or her weight. Overweight children probably know better than anyone else that they have a weight problem. They need support, understanding, and encouragement from parents.

Encourage healthy eating habits

- Buy and serve more fruits and vegetables (fresh, frozen, or canned). Let your child choose them at the store.

- Buy fewer soft drinks and high fat/high calorie snack foods like chips, cookies, and candy. These snacks are OK once in a while, but keep healthy snack foods on hand too and offer them to your child more often.

Healthy snack foods for your child to try:

- Fresh fruit
- Fruit canned in juice or light syrup
- Small amounts of dried fruits such as raisins, apple rings, or apricots
- Fresh vegetables such as baby carrots, cucumber, zucchini, or tomatoes

(Continued on page 22)

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Helping Your Overweight Child- (Continued from page 21)

- Reduced fat cheese or a small amount of peanut butter on whole-wheat crackers
- Low-fat yogurt with fruit Graham crackers, animal crackers, or low-fat vanilla wafers

Foods that are small, round, sticky, or hard to chew, such as raisins, whole grapes, hard

vegetables, hard chunks of cheese, nuts, seeds, and popcorn can cause choking in children under age 4. You can still prepare some of these foods for young children, for example, by cutting grapes into small pieces and cooking and cutting up vegetables. Always watch your toddler during meals and snacks.

- Eat breakfast every day. Skipping breakfast can leave your child hungry, tired, and looking for less healthy foods later in the day.
- Plan healthy meals and eat together as a family. Eating together at meal times helps children learn to enjoy a variety of foods.
- Eat fast food less often. When you visit a fast food restaurant, try the healthful options offered.
- Offer your child water or low-fat milk more often than fruit juice. Fruit juice is a healthy choice but is high in calories.
- Do not get discouraged if your child will not eat a new food the first time it is served. Some kids will need to have a new food served to them 10 times or more before they will eat it.
- Try not to use food as a reward when encouraging kids to eat. Promising dessert to a child for eating vegetables, for example, sends

the message that vegetables are less valuable than dessert. Kids learn to dislike foods they think are less valuable.

- Start with small servings and let your child ask for more if he or she is still hungry. It is up to you to provide your child with healthy meals and snacks, but your child should be allowed to choose how much food he or she will eat.

Encourage daily physical activity

Like adults, kids need daily physical activity. Here are some ways to help your child move every day:

- Set a good example. If your children see that you are physically active and have fun, they are more likely to be active and stay active throughout their lives.
- Encourage your child to join a sports team or class, such as soccer, dance, basketball, or gymnastics at school or at your local community or recreation center.

- Be sensitive to your child's needs. If your child feels uncomfortable participating in activities like sports, help him or her find physical activities that are fun and not embarrassing.

FUN physical activities for your child to try:

- Be active together as a family. Assign active chores such as making the beds, washing the car, or vacuuming. Plan active outings such as a trip to the zoo or a walk through a local park.
- Because his or her body is not ready yet, do not encourage your pre-adolescent child to participate in adult-style physical activity

(Continued on page 23)



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Helping Your Overweight Child- (Continued from page 22)

such as long jogs, using an exercise bike or treadmill, or lifting heavy weights. FUN physical activities are best for kids.

Discourage inactive pastimes

- Set limits on the amount of time your family spends watching TV and videos, and playing video games.
- Help your child find FUN things to do besides watching TV, like acting out favorite books or stories, or doing a family art project. Your child may find that creative play is more interesting than television.
- Encourage your child to get up and move during commercials and discourage snacking when the TV is on.

Be a positive role model

Children are good learners and they learn what they see. Choose healthy foods and active pastimes for yourself. Your children will see that they can follow healthy habits that last a lifetime.

Classified Ads

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Steiner Ranch residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail thestar@PEELinc.com.

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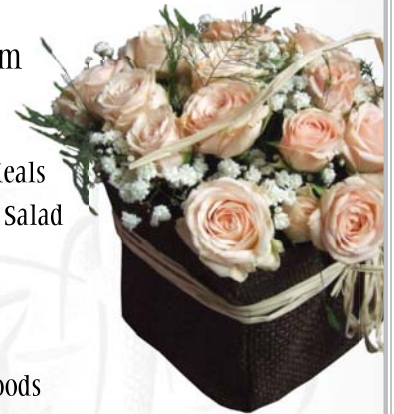
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September – October Events in Austin

Austin BatFest - September 1, 2007 to September 2, 2007

Two days of bat mania on the Congress Avenue Bridge includes more than 150 art and crafts and food booths, musical performances, bat education displays and, naturally, bat watching.

The Austin Triathlon - September 3, 2007

The Austin Triathlon will be a premier international distance triathlon event held in downtown Austin. Imagine a world class triathlon held in Austin's front yard, but with the atmosphere and intimacy of a small hometown race.

Arts Run - September 8, 2007

The Arts Run begins and ends at the Paramount Theatre on Congress Avenue and consists of two races, a Kids K and an adult 5K Fun Run/Walk.

Speak Up for Kids CASA 5K Run - September 9, 2007

Join us for our 2nd Annual Speak Up For Kids CASA 5K. The event offers a day of fun for trained runners, novices, and the entire family. Both the Adult 5K and the Kid 1K will take place at The Domain.

Austin City Limits Music Festival - September 14, 2007 to September 16, 2007

The annual Austin City Limits Music Festival will rock Zilker Park on Sept. 14–16, 2007. Each year, the Festival features more than 130 musical performances across multiple stages, giving fans a mix of rock, roots, gospel, bluegrass, funk and hip-hop, among other genres.

Moon Festival Celebration - September 22, 2007 to September 23, 2007

Come celebrate the Moon Festival at Chinatown Center Austin. This free two day event will have authentic Asian entertainment, vendors, prizes, a kid's area, and much more. Bring the whole family to be enchanted by this yearly lunar festival.

Ballet Austin Season Premiere: A Midsummer Night's Dream - September 27, 2007 to September 30, 2007

Ballet Austin opens its 51st season with artistic director Stephen Mills' rendition of the Shakespearian classic A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Gruene Music & Wine Fest - October 5, 2007 to October 7, 2007

This Americana event features the best in live Texas music and

Texas food and wines at Gruene Hall and The Grapevine in Historic Gruene Texas. Come celebrate with vintner and music events, wine & food samplings, the Great Guitar Auction and a very special Sunday Gospel Brunch with a Texas Twist.

Austin Film Festival - October 11, 2007 to October 18, 2007

Recognized as one of the top film festivals in the country, this cinematic event shines the spotlight on top-billed films and indies alike; panelists include notable Texas screenwriters Tommy Schlamme (West Wing), Bill Broyles Jr. (Apollo 13) and Bill Wittliff (Lonesome Dove).

Day Out With Thomas 2007: All Aboard! Tour - October 11, 2007 to October 14, 2007

25-minute train rides behind the famous storybook engine Thomas the Tank Engine, plus kid-friendly activities including storytelling, photos with Thomas, live music, arts and crafts, and more

LIVESTRONG Challenge & Ride for the Roses - October 12, 2007 to October 14, 2007

Tour de France legend Lance Armstrong leads the pack during a weekend of runs, cycling events and galas to raise money for cancer research.

Makert Faire - October 20, 2007 to October 21, 2007

A two-day, family-friendly event that celebrates arts, crafts, engineering, science projects and the Do-It-Yourself (DIY) mindset. It's for creative, resourceful folks who like to tinker and love to make things. We call them Makers.

Texas Clay Festival - October 27, 2007 to October 28, 2007

Respected potters and sculptors from around Texas display, sell their wares, and demonstrate a variety of techniques. Hands-on activities are available for children.

Austin Symphony Children's Halloween Concert - October 28, 2007

It's creepy, crawly and spooky! The Halloween children's concert features music from the Harry Potter movies and other seasonal favorites that are certain to delight young audiences.

Halloween on Sixth Street - October 31, 2007

More than 60,000 costumed revelers make this one of the country's largest Hallow's Eve celebrations.



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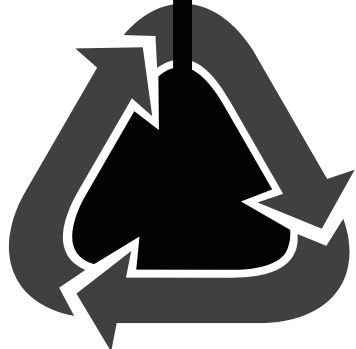
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RECYCLE



According to the City of Austin Solid Waste Services, Austin area citizens generate enough trash to fill the Erwin Special Events Center every four months. For every \$11 Americans spend on food, \$1 is for packaging. Rather than throwing everything in the landfill, consider recycling these items at the following places:

City of Austin Landfill's Recycling Diversion Center - Appliances, car batteries and large metal items (NO microwaves, TV's, computer monitors or used oil). Tip: They do not charge for receiving these items and sometimes they also have free mulch. Call 512-243-1894 for recycling and 512-243-3325 for mulch.

Ecology Action at Ninth Street and IH-35 (on the southbound access road) accepts more than Austin's Curbside Program. They accept aluminum foil and pie plates, scrap metal, corrugated cardboard (any size), all types of paper, paperboard, books, phone books, ink jet cartridges, toner cartridges and cell phones that include the battery (during open hours). Call 322 - 0000 or visit www.ecology-action.org.

Computers - Take functioning computers to Austin Free-Net: 236-8225 or Austinfree.net, non-functioning to Goodwill.

Styrofoam - Cycled Plastics, 10200 McKalla Place, 339-8787

Packing peanuts - Econo Box, 218-9888 or www.econo-box.com

Plastic grocery bags - take these back to the store to be recycled. Most grocery stores can recycle their own plastic bags, but not those from other stores

Household batteries (not car batteries) - Radio Shack
Cabinets, hardware, lumber, plumbing supplies, tile, electrical fixtures, furniture (all in good condition) - Habitat for Humanity's Re-Store at 310 Comal, 478-2165

Cell phones - Easter Seals (919 W. 281/2 St., 615-6800)

Baby clothes, supplies, unopened formula, gently used cribs and mattresses, highchairs, maternity clothes - Any Baby Can, 1121 E. 7th, 454-3743

Sudoku

The challenge is to fill every row across, every column down, and every 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9. Each 1 through 9 digit must appear only once in each row across, each column down, and each 3x3 box.

			8	6	3	9		
			4					1
							6	
		2			9			
		1				4		9
9	6		1	8				
6						3		4
			7	1		8		
	1		3					5

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Teenage Job Seekers

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Attention Teenagers

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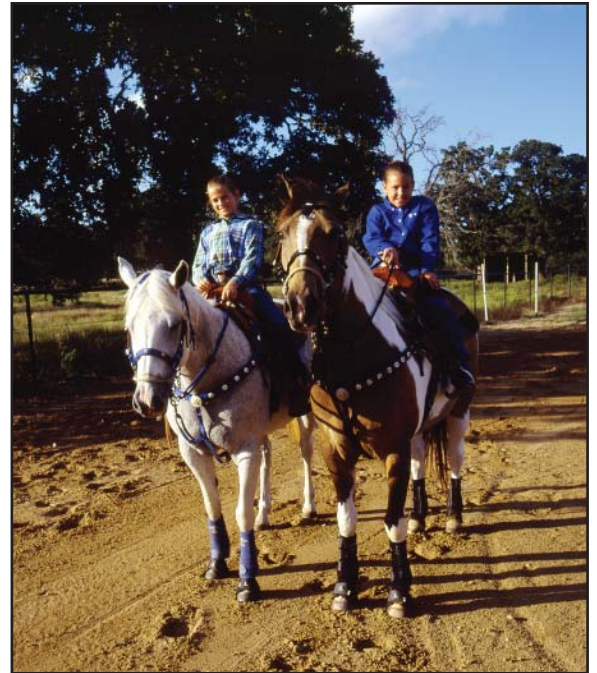
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THE STAR

Looking for Fun? Get A Copy of New Explorer's Guide

Submitted by LCRA



Top Left: Exceptional golf awaits at Hyatt Lost Pines' Wolfdancer Golf Club in Bastrop, one of Golf Magazine's Top 10 New Courses.

Top Right: Take a relaxing trail ride and explore nature from a completely different perspective.

Bottom Right; The Edythe Bates Old Chapel at Festival Hill in Roundtop, Texas.

Want to do some exploring? High gas prices have you looking for a nearby getaway? Then order a copy of LCRA's Explorer's Guide, listing hundreds of fun, entertaining and cultural things to do and see along the Colorado River Trail.

Recently updated, the easy-to-use Explorer's Guide helps the traveling public decide what to do and see in communities along the 500-mile-plus trail that runs from San Saba in the Texas Hill Country to Matagorda Bay on the Gulf of Mexico.

For campers as well as day-trippers, the full-color guide also includes information on LCRA's many parks located in 11 counties along or near the Colorado River.

The guide highlights monthly events and categorizes attractions such as historic sites and communities, arts and cultural, driving and walking tours, entertainment, food and drink, golf courses, museums, horseback riding, outdoors and recreation and plants and animals.

The Colorado River Trail ties together the attractions, places and events along the twists and turns of the river. Tourists have a good time exploring the trail while communities benefit from a boost in their economy.

To have a copy mailed to you, make a request at ecodev@lcra.org or call 1-800-776-5272, Ext. 3399.

LCRA protects people, property and the environment of Central Texas. To learn more, subscribe to Currents, LCRA's online newsletter, at <http://lcra.org/subscribetocurrents>.



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3409 Latimer Dr. **Steiner Ranch.** Charming home on private greenbelt lot. 3 Bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, Office/ , large Game room. Extra large Gourmet Kitchen, Open Floor plan with view of Greenbelt backyard.



12112 Horseback Hollow Crt. **Steiner Ranch.** Gated, Savannah. Brand New Construction. Luxury home: Fantastic wood floors. Gourmet Kitchen. Cul-de-sac Greenbelt Lot, Fabulous Views. Study, Game Room, Media Room 3,949 sqft. Balconies and Covered Decks.



1645 LakeCliff Hills Ln., **UT Golf Course, Steiner Ranch.** Very Private UT Golf Lot & VIEW, Greenbelt. Brand NEW construction. Game Room, Media Room, Extra large 1 acre Golf Course lot, 4,614 sqft, 4 Bedrooms, 3 Car Garage.



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Texas Events - September 2007

14-16—AUSTIN: Austin City Limits Music Festival Zilker Park. www.acfestival.com 888/512-SHOW

15—BARTLETT: Friendship Fest Includes a morning parade, arts & crafts, car shows, children's activities and more. A street dance, showcasing local entertainment, is held in the evening. 254/527-4060

15—BLANCO: Market Day Features arts & crafts, antiques, collectibles, jewelry, unique gifts, food and more. Old Blanco County Courthouse, 301 Main St. www.historicblanco.org 830/833-2211

15—KERRVILLE: Original Team Roping Enjoy the excitement of cowboys competing in this popular attraction. Kerr County Youth Exhibit Center. 830/896-9016

15—MANOR: Lions' Manor Fest Includes parade, children's games, barbecue cook-off, margarita-making contest, arts & crafts booths, live auction and more. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 512/272-4247 or 512/926-3029

15—MARBLE FALLS: Market Day More than 100 vendors offer a variety of items. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Main Street. www.marblefalls.org 800/759-8178 or 830/693-2815

15—MENARD: Jim Bowie Days Includes a parade, arts & crafts, food booths and more. River Park. www.menardchamberofcommerce.com 325/396-2365

15—SAN MARCOS: Junior Texas Water Safari This 16-mile water adventure begins at City Park and ends in Staples. www.sanmarcoscharms.com 888/200-5620

15—WIMBERLEY: Quilt & Stitchery Show & Sale Includes quilt show/contest, plus vendors. Wimberley Community Center. www.wimberley.org 512/847-2201

15-16—ANDICE: Andice Crafters Fair 254/793-9438

15-16—GRUENE: Old Gruene Market Days Nearly 100 vendors offer uniquely crafted items and packaged Texas foods. www.gruenemarketdays.com 830/832-1721

15-16—HONDO: Medina County Fair Includes a kick-off parade Saturday morning, arts & crafts, various vendors, demonstrations, carnival, tractor pull and entertainment. Saturday evening entertainer is Kevin Fowler. www.medinacountyfair.org 830/426-5406

15-Oct. 14—WIMBERLEY: Man of La Mancha Wimberley Players present the musical version of the classic Cervantes tale. Wimberley Playhouse, 450 Old Kyle Road. www.wimberleyplayers.org 512/847-1592

16—BURNET: Tri-Hard Triathlon Includes 800-meter swim, 18-mile bike ride and 5-K run. Inks Lake State Park. www.cgazette@tstar.net 512/756-6640

21—AUSTIN: Nature Nights Enjoy habitat hikes, talks and plenty of kids activities. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. www.wildflower.org 512/292-4200

22—GRANITE SHOALS: Fall Festival Includes children's activities and games, vendor booths, food booths and music. Hwy. 1431 at Pips Ranch Road. 830/598-8698

22—KERRVILLE: Kerr County Market Day Offers original art, handmade crafts and homegrown plants and produce. www.kerrmarketdays.org 830/792-4655 or 830/895-7962

22—LAKES: 27th Annual Medina Lake Cajun Festival Home of the Great Gumbo Cook-Off. Lakes Civic Center. www.cajunfestival-medinalake.com 830/751-3130

22-23—ROUND ROCK: Sami Arts & Crafts Show Dell Diamond. www.samishow.com 512/441-7133

22-Nov. 25—HONDO: South Texas Maize Includes cornfield maze, children's play area, fresh cut flowers, vegetables and more. Two miles east of Hondo on Hwy. 90. www.cornfieldmaze.com 830/741-3968

23—AUSTIN: Jane Monheit One World Theatre. www.oneworldtheatre.org 512/329-6753

23—GEORGETOWN: Sun City Visual Arts Club Second Annual Art Show & Sale 512/864-3459

25—MASON: Opry Features Justin Trevino. Odeon Theater. www.heartoftexas.com 325/247-5354

27-Oct. 13—INGRAM: Circling the Drain Play traces the lives of three West Texas sisters from 1942-1992. Elizabeth Huth Indoor Theater. www.hcaf.com 830/367-5121

28—AUSTIN: Spyro Gyra One World Theatre. www.oneworldtheatre.org 512/329-6753

28—KERRVILLE: Texas Heritage Living History Day Showcases Native American storytellers and dancers, vaquero, cowboy singers and poets, Texas singer/songwriters, chuck wagons, tribute to Jimmie Rodgers and more. www.texasheritagemusic.org 830/792-1945

29—AUSTIN: TheatreworksUSA's Seussical One World Theatre. www.oneworldtheatre.org 512/329-6753

29—BLANCO: Heritage Day Includes food booths, chuck wagon, blacksmith, storytelling, music and dance at night. Yett Memorial Park. 830/833-2207

29—GEORGETOWN: Up the Chisholm Trail Cattle Drive & Chuck Wagon Cook-Off Enjoy a cattle drive, chuck-wagon cooking contest, cowboy music, trick roping show, Western craft exhibition, chuck-wagon displays, Western authors, historical trail drive re-enactors and exhibits. San Gabriel Park & Downtown Georgetown. www.wchm-tx.org/Chuckwagon_2007.htm 512/943-1674 or 512/943-1670

29—SAN MARCOS: Pet Fest Celebrates the role of animals in people's lives and promotes responsible pet ownership. Banks of the San Marcos River. www.sanmarcoscharms.com 888/200-5620

29—STONEWALL: Blacksmithing at Sauer-Beckmann Farm Lyndon B. Johnson State Park and Historic Site. 830/644-2252

29-30—AUSTIN: Pecan Street Fall Festival Features more than 300 artists. Includes film, plays, comedy, music, carnival rides, games, zoo and more. Sixth and Seventh streets. www.oldpecanstreetfestival.com 512/443-6179

29-30—AUSTIN: WFTDA Flat Track Roller Derby Championship Includes bands, games, scrimmages and merchandise. Austin Convention Center. www.txrollergirls.com 512/404-4404

29-30—JOHNSON CITY: Arts Encounters 2007 Series The Benini Foundation. www.artsencountersatbeninis.com

29-30—MASON: Rock Crawling Katemcy Rocks. www.katemcyrocks.com 325/347-6333

29-Jan. 13—AUSTIN: It's a Nano World Discover really small things and the tools used to see them. Austin Children's Museum. www.austinkids.org 512/472-2499

30—KERRVILLE: Symphony of the s Kathleen C. Cailloux Theater. www.symphonyofthes.com 830/792-7469

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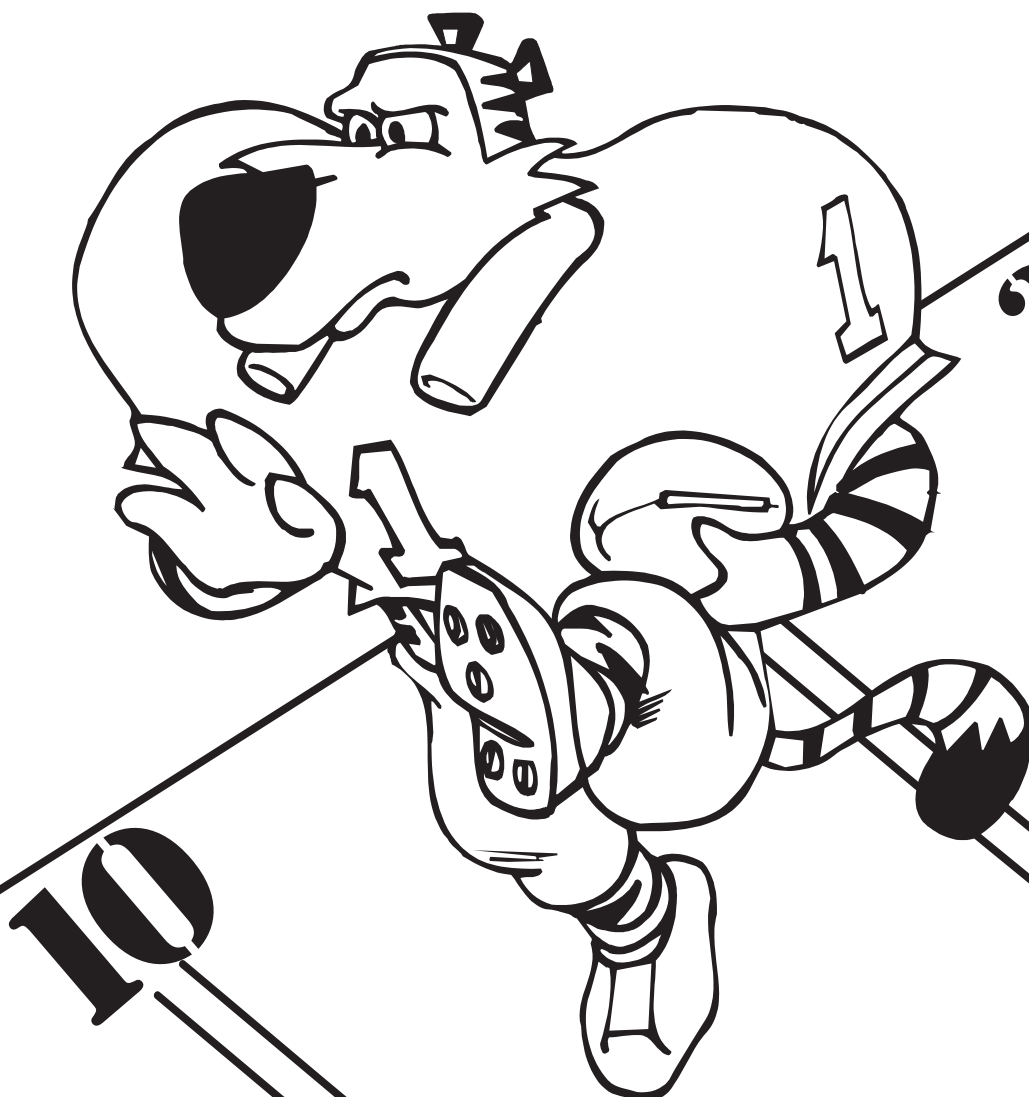
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Jester Estates
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Pemberton Heights
Ridgewood
River Place
Scenic Brook
Sendera
Shady Hollow
Shadow Glen
Steiner Ranch
Stone Canyon
Tanglewood Oaks
Travis Country West
Villages at Western Oaks
Westcreek
Wood Glen

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Brook Meadows
Eldorado Heights
Eldorado HOA
Estates of Russell Creek
Glendover Park
Highlands of Russell Park
Stone Brooke Crossing
Timarron
Woodbriar Estates
Woodland Hills

-- Houston --

Berkshire
Coles Crossing
Cypress Mill
Enchanted Valley
Fairfield
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Kings Manor
Lakes on Eldridge
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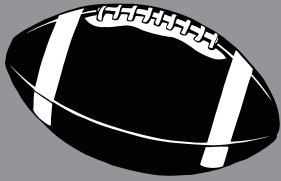


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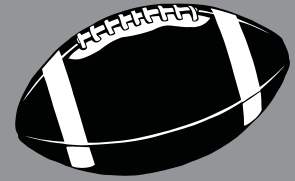
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FOOTBALL SCHEDULES



Cedar Park High School Timberwolves - Varsity

Date	Day	Team	Site	Time
September 7	Friday	Harker Heights	Killeen	7:30
Sept. 14	Friday	Hays	Buda	7:30
Sept. 21	Friday	Shoemaker	Bible	7:30
Sept. 28	Friday	Georgetown	Georgetown	7:30
October 5	Friday	McNeil	Bible	7:30
Oct. 12	Friday	Stony Point	Dragon Stadium	7:30
Oct. 19	Friday	Pflugerville	Pflugerville	7:30
Oct. 26	Friday	Westwood	Bible	7:30
November 2	Friday	Round Rock	Dragon Stadium	7:30
Nov. 9	Friday	Leander	Bible (Home)	7:30



Texas University Longhorns

Date	Day	Team	Site	Time
September 1	Sat.	Arkansas State	Home	6:00
Sept. 8	Sat.	TCU	Home	6:00
Sept. 15	Sat.	Central Florida	@Central Florida	2:30
Sept. 22	Sat.	Rice	Home	6:00
Sept. 29	Sat.	Kansas State	Home	TBA
October 6	Sat.	Oklahoma	@Dallas	TBA
Oct. 13	Sat.	Iowa State	@Iowa State	TBA
Oct. 20	Sat.	Baylor	@Baylor	TBA
Oct. 27	Sat.	Nebraska	Home	TBA
November 3	Sat.	Oklahoma State	@Oklahoma St.	TBA
Nov. 10	Sat.	Texas Tech	Home	TBA
Nov. 23	Fri.	Texas A&M	@Texas A&M	2:30



Texas A&M University Aggies

Date	Day	Team	Site	Time
September 1	Sat.	Montana St.	Home	6:00
Sept. 8	Sat.	Fresno St.	Home	2:30
Sept. 15	Thurs.	ULMONROE	Home	6:00
Sept. 20	Sat.	Miami	@Miami	6:30
Sept. 29	Sat.	Baylor	Home	6:00
October 6	Sat.	Oklahoma St	Home	1:00
Oct. 13	Sat.	Texas Tech	@Texas Tech	6:00
Oct. 20	Sat.	Nebraska	@Nebraska	TBD
Oct. 27	Sat.	Kansas	Home	1:00
November 3	Sat.	Oklahoma	@Oklahoma	TBD
Nov. 10	Sat.	Missouri	@Missouri	TBD
Nov. 23	Fri.	Texas	Home	2:30



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