



Twin Creeks TRIBUNE

July 2008

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Deep in the Heart of Texas!

FAMILY ROAD TRIPS

By Wendi Baird

I have a new neighbor from out of state who recently asked if I could suggest some places around Texas for family vacations. As a 5th Generation Texan, I could easily think of a few suggestions for her. So if you're also new to Texas, or just looking for new places to visit, here are my family's favorite summer destinations in the Lone Star State.

- 1) Garner State Park** – Texas has some really great State Parks for camping, as well as many private campgrounds. But one stands out above the rest for being the kind of place where families return generation after generation. Garner State Park is located 90 miles west of San Antonio in the beautiful Texas Hill Country. Situated down in a valley, one of Garner's main attractions is the clear, cold waters of the Frio River – the same river that was immortalized in George Strait's song "All My Ex's Live in Texas". In addition to swimming & tubing in the Frio River, Garner offers hiking trails, miniature golf, and even jukebox dances at an outdoor pavilion. You'll find kids of all ages – 2 to 92 – dancing under the stars every summer night at Garner State Park.
- 2) Port Aransas** – Anyone who's been in Texas long enough knows that Port Aransas is a favorite destination for both fishermen and beach bums. Another fun activity in Port Aransas is eating! There are an abundance of restaurants offering enough fresh seafood to satisfy any appetite. For rainy days at the beach, Corpus Christi is just a 30-minute drive down the coast. The Texas State Aquarium in Corpus is always popular with the kids.
- 3) Moody Gardens, Galveston** – Another popular beach destination in Texas is Galveston, just south of Houston. This is the place to go when you want more than just sun-sand. Moody Gardens in Galveston is a Resort Hotel/Theme Park/IMAX/Beach all in one. There is enough to do there to

occupy an entire weekend. Next to Moody Gardens is the newest Schlitterbahn, an indoor water park open year round. And when leaving Galveston, be sure to detour through the small town of Kemah. The Kemah Boardwalk and Marina has an old-fashioned feel to it with a giant ferris wheel and carousel, and there are several great restaurants with outdoor seating on the water. The kids love to watch the boats coming and going while waiting for their food.

- 4) San Antonio** – This is my hometown, and definitely one of our favorite vacation destinations. There is so much to see and do there, you really need to plan on several trips to fully enjoy it all. The Downtown area with the Riverwalk is a great destination for romantic getaways. Then moving away from Downtown toward the outskirts of San Antonio, you have the Theme Parks – Sea World and Six Flags Fiesta Texas. And in between are numerous restaurants serving up some of the best Mexican food in Texas.
- 5) Fredericksburg** – This quaint little German town in the Texas hill country has become world renowned as a vacation destination. Main Street offers some of the best eating and shopping in the whole state. And be sure to stop by the Admiral Nimitz Museum of the Pacific War. There are also several wineries near town that are well worth a visit to their tasting rooms. If you plan to stay overnight, you can choose from numerous Bed-n-Breakfast Inns, in addition to the national chain hotels. Or if you have a camper, then make reservations at one of the local RV parks.

Like the motto says, Texas really is "like a whole other country". And there is something to do for everyone. These are just a few of our favorite getaways. If you have one to add to the list, let us know!

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Don't want to wait for the mail?

View the current issue of the Twin Creeks Tribune on the 1st day of each month at

www.PEELinc.com

Community Open House Sunday

Are you selling your house? If the answer is yes, then let your realtor know that Twin Creeks will have a community wide Open House the third Sunday of every month from 1:00pm - 4:00pm. A sign will be posted at each entrance on the Friday before the Open House Sunday.

Realtors can still hold an open house on other days. However, the third Sunday of the month will be the designated neighborhood open house day. It's a great way to draw more interest to all the homes for sale in Twin Creeks!



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Austin CVB Launches All New, Tech-Savvy AustinTexas.org

State-of-the-Art Website Features Interactive Trip Planning and User-Friendly Navigation for Industry Professionals

AUSTIN, TX - The Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau (Austin CVB) unveils its all-new, interactive website today at www.AustinTexas.org. The new site serves as the ultimate online destination for business and leisure travelers seeking information on Austin.

The redesigned site reflects the Bureau's efforts to move the city into an increasingly internet-based world of travel and tourism and fortifies the city's reputation as a high-tech hub. [AustinTexas.org](http://www.AustinTexas.org) is one of the nation's most advanced destination websites, designed to bring Austin's vibrant, 24-hour attitude to life with experiential videos, avatar guides and a timeline tool that allows users to build their perfect day in the Live Music Capital of the World®. Local musicians provide the soundtrack as users discover that with outdoor attractions, a rich history and an active population of sports enthusiasts, artists and politicians, music isn't the only thing playing in Austin.

"This new site raises the bar for online destination marketing," says Bob Lander, President and CEO of Austin CVB. "With interactive videos, personal timelines and extensive information readily available, the site is sure to enhance both the business and leisure traveler's experience."

Avatars of local personalities guide visitors through a wide variety of experiences including shopping, dining, arts and culture. Aided by video and audio narratives, users can experience the Austin City Limits Music Festival or a cycling trip on the Barton Creek Green Belt. Dine

on smoky barbecue at The County Line or indulge in sophisticated regional cuisine at Jeffrey's. Dance the night away at Carnaval, the biggest festival of its kind outside of Rio, or relax with a soothing massage at Milk & Honey day spa. Each featured experience can be added to a virtual timeline and shared with friends.

Along with these interactive features, [AustinTexas.org](http://www.AustinTexas.org) incorporates information that is pertinent to the different audiences that utilize CVB services, including leisure visitors; meeting planners; tour guides and travel agents; film industry professionals; music industry contacts; members of the media and sports event producers. Users can always search for accommodations, things to do and special events through global modules and universal navigation on each page. The trip building tool is also accessible on each page, allowing visitors to quickly access attractions or activities they may have bookmarked on their timeline.

"Austin is known for our live music scene, but that's just the beginning" says Jennifer Walker, Austin CVB's Director of Marketing Communications. "With miles of hike and bike trails, unique boutiques and can't miss restaurants, Austin is a diverse, one-of-a-kind destination that you just have to experience to understand. We wanted to encourage users to find out what a day in Austin might truly be like – and the new site allows us to do just that." Walker adds, "The new [AustinTexas.org](http://www.AustinTexas.org) showcases each of our city's unique attributes, providing users with the ability to see Austin as never before."



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Locks of Love Kickoff

Sunday, June 8 was the official “Ice cream kickoff” for the 1st annual “Locks of Love” campaign, the brainchild of Sandra Bennett.

Locks of Love is a not-for-profit organization that provides free hairpieces to children 18 years and younger in the US and Canada suffering from any type of medical hair loss.

The exceptionally well attended event was hosted by Rick and Kristi Nordin, at Cups and Cones in Steiner Ranch, Chandi Wagner, an executive with the Girl Scouts of America and other business sponsors.

The 69 girls, women and “Moms” who recently signed up to shed their locks for this worthy cause were treated to fancy “nails” & “toes” administered by local Girl Scouts, ice cream cones, fun games and more. Each participant was provided a beautiful headband to embellish and wear to all the coming events. “Jewels”, puffy paints and glue were supplied at the craft table.

Most participants were photographed by Liz Humphrey. The girls will be treated to a “Back to School Measurement Party” in October. On December 7, 2008, the girls will be photographed again with their sleek new look.

Girls ranging in age from 3 years old to “Moms” have signed up to donate their luxurious locks to kids who cannot grow their own

hair. Moms and daughters have joined together to support this great cause. Girls from all over Austin, including Georgetown, Round Rock, South Austin, Steiner Ranch, Grand View Hills, River Place and Leander are participating. Many local Girl Scout Troops (including one entire Troop) and their leaders are also among the participants. Each contributing Girl Scout will earn a Merit Badge.

It’s not too late to donate your long tresses to this most deserving group of kids. Hair must be ten inches long at time of cut and can be colored, but not highlighted or permed.

The next event created for these great girls is a fabulous “Girls Night Out”. There will be more fun activities in store for the donors over the next 6 months. Mom and Daughter teams are encouraged to join in on the merriment.all in the name of fun, fun fun!

Local businesses have come together to support and help implement Sandra’s idea. For more information, contact Sandra Bennett at 512-372-3500.



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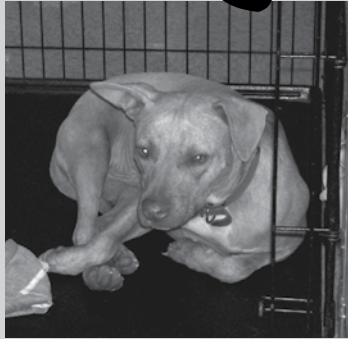
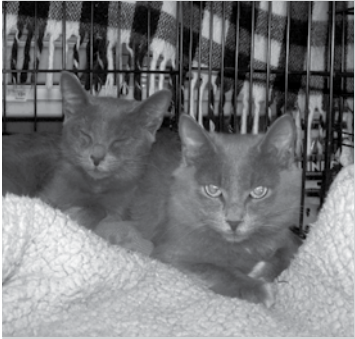
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Submitted by Heather Pennington

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Texas Events - July

10—AUSTIN

Violet Crown Radio Players Present an episode of Dangerous Assignment in a live re-creation of a 1950s radio broadcast. Begins at 7 p.m. Jessen Auditorium, Harry Ransom Center. www.hrc.utexas.edu 512/471-8944

11-13—SAN MARCOS

BIGFest! Celebrates Texas music and benefits the Cheatham Street Music Foundation, which serves to preserve and perpetuate Texas music and assist songwriters. Historic Cheatham Street Warehouse. www.cheathamstreet.com/bigfest

12—GEORGETOWN

Market Day Features arts & crafts, antiques, collectibles and festive foods. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Historic Downtown Georgetown. www.downtowngeorgetownassociation.com 512/868-8675

17—AUSTIN

Tosca String Quartet Tribute to the Beats. Jessen Auditorium, Harry Ransom Center. hrc.utexas.edu 512/471-8944

18-19—TAYLOR

59th Annual Taylor Rodeo East Williamson County Events Center. 512/970-8756

18-20—FREDERICKSBURG

Trade Days Shop more than 350 vendors. Hwy. 290 E, across from Wildseed Farms. www.fbgradedays.com 210/846-4094


18-Aug. 17—FREDERICKSBURG

Tantalizing Textile Exhibition & Sale Showcases the finest textiles and fiber art from across the state. Demonstrations take place from noon to 3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Artisans at Rocky Hill, 6266 E. U.S. 290. www.artisansatrockyhill.com 830/990-8160

25-27—FREDERICKSBURG

Gourmet Chili Pepper & Salsa Festival Includes guest chefs, plant experts, music and more from 3 to 6 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Wildseed Farms. www.wildseedfarms.com 830/990-8080 or 866/839-3378

(Continued on Page 7)



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<h3 style="text-align: center; background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px;">Money Market Rates</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">\$2,000 - \$74,999 2.22%**** \$75,000 - \$124,999 2.38%**** \$125,000 Plus 2.53%****</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center; background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px;">Share Certificate Rates</h3> <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th colspan="2">APY%****</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Term</th> <th>Minimum Deposit</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>12 mo.</td> <td>\$1,000</td> <td>3.44%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24 mo.</td> <td>\$95,000</td> <td>3.55%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>36 mo.</td> <td></td> <td>3.65%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>48 mo.</td> <td></td> <td>3.75%</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>3.85%</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>3.96%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		APY%****		Term	Minimum Deposit		12 mo.	\$1,000	3.44%	24 mo.	\$95,000	3.55%	36 mo.		3.65%	48 mo.		3.75%			3.85%			3.96%
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Texas Events - (Continued from Page 6)

25-27—FREDERICKSBURG

Auto Swap Meet Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park. www.fredericksburgcarclub.com 512/633-0328 or 325/388-2223

25-27—NEW BRAUNFELS

Quilt Show Threads of Our Past Features quilts, gift emporium, silent auction, vendors and more from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. New Braunfels Kongresshalle (Civic Center). www.newbraunfelsareaquiltguild.org 512/268-0822

25-Aug. 10—WIMBERLEY

Rose's Dilemma The Wimberley Playhouse. www.wimberleyplayers.org 512/847-1592

26—AUSTIN

Family Fishing Fun Day Includes "learn to fish" classes, fishing derby and more. Hours are 9 a.m. to noon. McKinney Falls State Park. 512/243-1643

26-27—JOHNSON CITY

Arts Encounters at Beninis Sculptors, painters, musicians,

poets and more share information about their work. The Benini Foundation Galleries and Sculpture Ranch, 377 Shiloh Road. www.artscountersatbeninis.com 830/868-5244

28-Aug. 9—WIMBERLEY

Shakespeare Under the Stars This year's productions are The Comedy of Errors and King Lear. EmilyAnn Theatre. www.emilyann.org 512/847-6969

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