BARTON CREEK News for the Residents of Barton Creek

March 2009 Volume 2, Issue 3

Looking for a Way to Spend your "Best Day Ever"?

Register to play in the Colin's Hope Classic golf tournament on Thurs, April 23!

The tournament is a fundraiser for a new local charity, Colin's Hope, which was founded in August 2008 in honor of Colin Krogh Holst. Colin was only 4 years old when he drowned in a local public pool last June. Sadly, after struggling to understand how this

could happen, his family and friends learned that his death is only one of so many like it, as drowning is the second leading cause of death in children under the age of 14. Armed with this knowledge, Colin's family decided to find a way to turn their unimaginable loss into an organization driven to save

children from drowning, and Colin's Hope was born.

The charity is a nonprofit foundation which creates and supports programs to aid in the prevention of childhood drowning. Colin's Hope has had the privilege to work

alongside other nonprofits such as The Junior League of Austin, YMCA and Partnerships for Children to implement initiatives such as sponsoring swim lessons for underprivileged children and educating parents, children, and lifeguards on water safety. You can learn more about Colin's Hope at www.colinshope.org.

The foundation's first fundraiser was the sale of Colin's Cookbook in the fall. The cookbook, which began with recipes from all the meals provided to the family after Colin's death, was a huge success, raising more than \$10,000 for Colin's

Hope and allowing the foundation to begin to have a presence in our community.

The Colin's Hope Classic will be the second major fundraiser for Colin's Hope, and its all-volunteer staff hopes to raise more then \$40,000. This would allow them to initiate many more water safety

awareness programs and efforts to improve water safety standards throughout the community as the summer swim season approaches! Colin's Hope is privileged to have Garrett Weber-Gale, a Gold Medal Olympian at the 2008 Beijing Olympics and Texas Longhorn alum, as

the Honorary Chair for the tournament. Garrett

Weber-Gale has generated his own buzz lately by winning his first of two Olympic

gold medals as part of the U.S. 4x100 relay team in the race that is now widely considered to be the best relay swimming race of all time!

The tournament will be held at The Hills of Lakeway, Yaupon course, on April 23, 2009 at 1:00pm. Registration fees are \$150 per person, which gives the golfer a spot in the 4-person scramble, lunch, dinner and numerous generously donated prizes. You can register to play in this inaugural tournament securely online at www.colinshope.org. Once registered, participants have the opportunity to help support Colin's Hope through raising pledges. However, if golf is not your game but you are interested in helping this amazing group in honoring Colin and helping prevent childhood drowning, the tournament is still looking for sponsors,

prize donations or simply good, old-fashioned volunteers! All questions or interested parties should be sent to info@colinshope. org. However you choose to participate, we do know, as 4-year old Colin loved to say, that it will be one of your "best days ever."



COLIN'S HOPE

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Please support the businesses that advertise in the Barton Creek News. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Barton Creek residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 888-687-6444 or <u>advertising@PEELinc.com</u>. The advertising deadline is the 10th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

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Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Barton Creek residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail <u>articles@peelinc.com</u>.

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Hill Country Ride: Get Out, Get Fit and Make a Difference!

By Lori Barrett

Ever thought about riding your bicycle to get rolling on those New Year's Resolutions? Considered doing a charity ride to give yourself a goal, and a group of people to ride with? The Hill Country Ride for AIDS, coming up April 25th, was listed one of the 10 best rides in Texas by Austin Monthly, and is registering riders and teams for the 2009 ride!

With routes of 10, 45, 65 and 100 miles, staging just outside of Austin, the Hill Country Ride has a route for everyone. Get the whole family involved! Kids age 8 and up can ride with a parent or guardian who is also registered to ride, and children of all ages are welcome at the Kids' Adventure, a festive and activity-filled area. Expanding for 2009, the Kids' Adventure will have a bouncy house, obstacle courses and a variety of activity areas, including hat-making and bike part art stations.

Many riders join the Hill Country Ride because they've heard about the great people involved, and the crucial services it supports. Some riders join because they want their charitable donations to stay local to Texas. Still others join because, hey, it's cheaper than a gym membership, and what better way to get fit, than rolling through the beautiful Texas Hill Country? Throw in free, fully-supported training rides, and you even have a workout plan for the first few months of the year.

Add all these up, and you have a strong argument that the Hill Country Ride for AIDS is one of the best charity bike rides around! With a moderate-sized group of 500 or so participants, ride organizers are able to treat riders like their guests, offering complimentary massage and chiropractic work after the ride is finished. Also compelling is the beautiful start/finish site of Krause's Springs, listed as one of the most beautiful swimming holes in the state by TexasOutside.com. Finish enjoying the sprawling vistas of the ride, take a dip and relax spring-side before enjoying a quick massage, while supper is being laid out for all of the riders.

Now in its 10th year, the Hill Country Ride has raised over 3 million dollars for HIV/AIDS service organizations in central Texas, providing life-saving support to our central Texas neighbors.

Beyond that, the Hill Country Ride is a remarkable event that offers participants an opportunity to challenge themselves, make a difference in our community and experience some of the most beautiful countryside in Texas. Contact the ride office with any questions: 512.371.RIDE (7433) or info@HillCountryRide.org.

Register yourself, your family or your Neighborhood Association Team now: HillCountryRide.org. See you at the Start line!





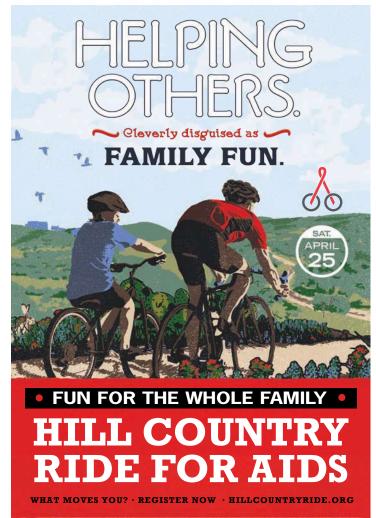
Voter Registration Roll Purged

At the end of January Travis County Voter Registrar removed approximately 35,000 names of voters from the roll of Travis County registered voters in accordance with Texas law. The purge takes place every two years, however the names removed have been in suspense four years – over the course of two federal elections.

The purpose of the purge is to maintain accurate voter records. The names purged today reflect those voters who did not respond to mailed inquiries and whose mailed voter certificates and other correspondence have been returned as undeliverable by the postal service.

If a voter was purged, it does not mean they cannot vote. A voter registration application completed and submitted by the next deadline ensures voting eligibility. The next regularly scheduled election conducted by Travis County is the May 9, 2009 Joint and Special Election. The deadline to register is Thursday, April 9, 2009.

Voters may download a voter registration application and check their voting status at anytime online at www.traviscountytax.org. For telephone assistance, contact the tax office at (512) 854 9473. Office hours are 7:30 am to 5:30 pm, Monday through Friday.



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A Day in the Sun By Stephanie Rangel

As spring and summer approach, the warm weather of South Texas does as well, which means more days spent out of school and out of the house. If you're having trouble thinking of fun things to do with the family or worrying about spending too much money going out, try your local parks and recreational areas. There are so many different, low costing things to do – from picnicking at the park to barbecuing by the lake. My most recent excursion out in Austin was canoeing on Barton Creek at Zilker Park Boat Rentals. For \$10 an hour, with my coupon for a second hour free (which can be printed from their

website at zilkerboats.com), I was able to enjoy a nice day rowing on the lake with my husband. We saw other couples, families, and even a rowing class doing the same. The paddles were not hard to work at all and someone could even row by themselves. The nature and scenery to be seen on the creek is beautiful, as you can clearly see in the pictures below. Along with the beautifully green trees, it consisted of swimming fish, turtles, ducks, and swans. I would definitely recommend something like this to anyone looking for something fun and inexpensive to do out in Austin.









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March Events at the Wildflower Center

Artists & Artisans Festival

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 21 and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 22

Favorite artists return and new ones appear to exhibit their work in watercolors, metal, wood, ceramics and many other materials. Dalhart Windberg, introduces his annual print benefiting the Wildflower Center, noon to 5 p.m. Saturday. Shou Ping shows her watercolor sculptures and Mary Catherine Gardner, official Wildflower DaysTM 2009 artist, signs her print, 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Sign up for Go Native U

This is our popular series of how-to gardening classes plus—new this year -- five sustainability classes focused on ways to manage soil, water, plants and materials to improve sustainability. Register at www.wildflower.org

Texas Society of Sculptors Exhibit

March 3 through May 31.

Outdoor works by Texas sculptors on display throughout our gardens.

Nature Nights, Look to the Stars

6 to 9 p.m. Friday, March 6

Join Kyle Fricke of McDonald Observatory for an engaging look into the cosmos. Field telescope viewing. \$1 admission.

Wildflower DaysTM Begin

The Center is open every day 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. until March 16 until May 31.

Artists Reception

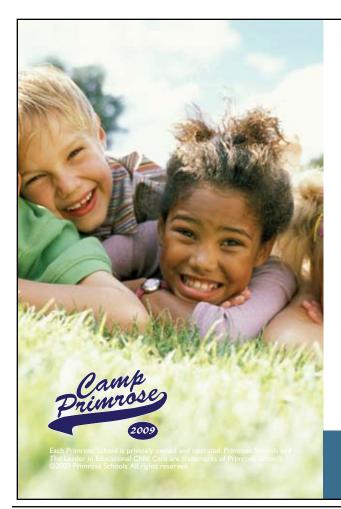
1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 15

Join us to meet the sculptors and members of the Texas Society of Sculptors.

Shou Ping Exhibit

March 14 through May 31

This renowned artist creates watercolor paintings of and cuts them to form three-dimensional sculptures. At the McDermott Center.





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Is Your Child's Development Behind?

Local Program Can Help, by Jennifer Vu

If you are a parent of an infant or toddler, birth to 36 months, and have questions about how your child is growing or developing, why wait? ECI (Early Childhood Intervention) is here to help!

ECI is a statewide program that has helped Texas babies and toddlers for more than 25 years. We partner with families to work together as a team and offer services where your child lives, learns and Help Starts Her plays. Early is best when you have concerns about your child's development and income does not determine eligibility for services. ECI professionals have expertise in working with babies, toddlers and their families. Licensed and/or credentialed specialties include: Early Intervention Specialists, Speech and Language Pathologists, Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Registered Dieticians, Hearing and Vision Specialists and Social Workers.

Red Flags

Red flags are a way to track your infant or toddler's development and help identify if he is unable to do something most children already can. Below is a list of behaviors or red flags that can keep

Childhood Intervention your child from learning. Appearance of red flags is not a cause for alarm, but a call to action. If they happen often, call your local ECI program or your child's pediatrician.

Baby

- Cannot bend arms or legs
- Does not smile, move or look at you when you talk or play with her
- · Does not want to be held
- Does not make sounds by 3 months
- Does not babble by 6-9 months

- Has tantrums that last 20 minutes or longer
- Breaks things on purpose
- Hurts or bites other people
- Does respond to her name by 12 months
- Does not play appropriately with toys
- Flaps hands, rocks or sways over and over

(Continued on Page 9)





For details, call 512.302.5555 ext. 7000.

14 Metro Locations

BARTON CREEK NEWS

Is Your Child's Development - (Continued from Page 8)

- Does not point at objects he wants or use gestures by 12 months
- Has no words by 18 months
- Does not follow simple or familiar directions by 18 months
- Does not engage in pretend play by 24 months

Any Age

- Is fussy or cries a lot, even when not tired or hungry
- Has trouble falling asleep or staying asleep
- Does not notice people
- Is unhappy most of the time
- Any loss of speech, babbling, or social skills (i.e., eye contact)
- Becomes easily and consistently upset with change in routine or when moving from one activity to another

ECI offers free developmental screenings and evaluations. Call your local program, Infant Parent Program ECI, at (512) 472-3142 to request more information or to refer your child for a screening or evaluation.

To search online, visit DARS/ECI website at www.dars.state. tx.us/ecis.

Newsletter Article Submissions

Interested in submitting an article? You can do so by emailing <u>articles@peelinc.com</u> or by going to http://www.peelinc.com/articleSubmit.php. All news must be received by the 9th of the month prior to the issue. So if you are involved with a school group, scouts, sports etc – please submit your articles for The Barton Creek News. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, special celebrations and military service are also welcome.

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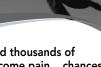
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Ever Imagined a Shopping Spree Where the Clothes are Free?

Submitted by: Jane Seaman

At present we are all looking for ways to cut back on expenses, so what if I told you there's a place where you can shop with no need for a credit card, a check book, or cash and that this wonderful place is right on your doorstep, literally.

As an Image Consultant when a client says they "have nothing to wear" the first thing I do is take them shopping in their closet, because within lies a multitude of opportunities. Consider what is actually in your closet; clothes that you liked when you purchased them, clothes from the past that remind you of a particular time or event and possibly some clothes that were gifted. But so many items are never worn. Why? When my clients have an opportunity to consider this, their response is often the same; the closet is so full they forget what they have, they are bored with their clothes, some items no longer fit, some items are out of style, or they have nothing to match it with. Does this sound familiar?

Think again! Your closet can become your personal boutique, all you have to do to shop there is allocate some time. If possible include a family member or friend to help and encourage you. Then open up your closet and go shopping. Take out each clothing item and really, really look at it. If it doesn't fit, could it be made to fit? There are an abundance of excellent tailors in Houston. Look at the item differently, let's say it was a long paisley dress, could it now be shortened and worn over leggings for a more modern look? Could you remove the sleeves, add a belt? Often styles have changed with Jackets and the ones in your closet may now be too long, or have those wonderful 'Dallas' shoulder pads. Yes, they are still lurking in

closets everywhere! Could the shoulder pads be removed and the jacket shortened? Sometimes it's simply a case of changing the buttons. Imagine that navy jacket with new bright red buttons, a red tee and denim jeans, it might just work.

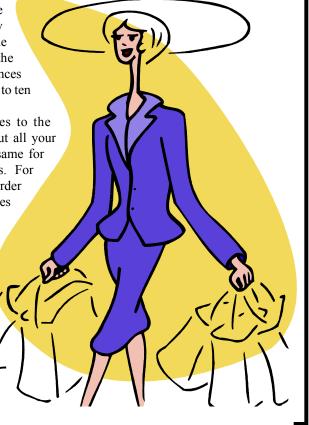
The key to successful closet shopping is to have fun and think outside of the box; try that cocktail dress on then add a denim jacket and a simple pair of sandals for a more dressed-down look. Add bright accessories to a tee and a pair of slacks for a more dressed-up look. Try colors together you would never have dreamed of matching, you'll be wonderfully surprised. Forget those old rules of Black and Brown should not be worn together, yes, they can. Consider 'color blocking'; put together an outfit entirely in one color, right down to the shoes, this will

minimize horizontal lines on the body and is guaranteed to make us look taller and slimmer. Now add bright accessories to give the outfit a wow factor. Forget the rules and be creative. The chances are, at minimum, you'll find six to ten new outfits in YOUR closet.

When returning your clothes to the closet hang them in groups; put all your jackets together and then the same for trousers, blouses, skirts, dresses. For your tops try hanging them in order of sleeve length. Hang your suites as separate pieces so you can visually see that they can be worn with other items other than just as a suit.

And at the end of your closet shopping you may have found some items that have to go. Take a look at these items closely and ask has the item been worn much, is it somewhat in style? If so,

then make sure they are cleaned and pressed and take them along to one of the many consignment stores. You might just earn some extra cash. If you feel the item is not up to being sold then a charity will make good use of it? And finally, in six months time go through the whole process again and reinvent some new outfits from your personal boutique....what fun!



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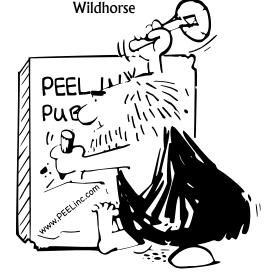
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