

Official Publication of Jester Homeowners Association, Inc.

April 2009 Volume 4, Issue 4

#### The President's Corner

The 2009 JHA Annual Meeting was held on February 24, 2009. We had a good turn out. The highlights were a report from the Landscape Committee on the great improvements we have at the Jester entrance, thanks to those of you who contributed. We also discussed some easement issues we have at the entrance and hope to have those resolved to continue the improvements we planned. There are several active social committees in Jester; we encourage you to get involved. Contact Teresa Gouldie, Jester Board Member and Social Chair for more information on the groups that have been formed or if you are interested in forming a new group.

Remember to help watch out for your neighbor. Call 9-1-1 to report life-threatening incidents – crimes that are in progress and all serious or violent crimes. You should call 3-1-1 to report incidents and situations that are non-emergencies, not life-threatening or not currently in progress. Use 3-1-1 to request information from the Police Department.

Till next time, Philip Kolman

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

#### JESTER EASTER EGG HUNT & PETTING ZOO

Saturday, April 4th 9:30 am - Jester Club See Page 3 for more information.

#### SPRING NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE

Saturday, May 16th

#### Oak Wilt Tips

Oak Wilt is a serious threat to the Live Oak and Red Oak trees in our neighborhood and central Texas. The following information is provided by NWACA, a Northwest Hills neighborhood association.

#### **PREVENTION TECHNIQUES**

#### Resident education

- Study Oak Wilt basics (see links below)
- Inform neighbors including those who may be new to Austin
- Distribute brochures and conduct presentations

#### Proper pruning

- DO NOT PRUNE OAKS during February through June (carrier beetle peak activity season)
- Sterilize tools with bleach or alcohol (Clorox, Lysol, etc.)
- Employ certified arborists and their firms (avoid scam artists)

#### Proper wound treatment

- Immediately paint wounds with pruning paint or latex paint
- Carrier beetles may be attracted within 15 minutes to untreated cuts or wounds

#### Proper firewood usage

- Select well seasoned firewood (unseasoned wood might be contaminated)
- Select Oak Wilt free firewood (no fungal mat contamination) Monitor utility easement clearing activities

#### • Review project with city project manager

- Inspect actual work for equipment sterilization and wound treatment
- Plant trees other than Live Oaks or Red Oaks (see "Trees of Central Texas" recommendation listing)

#### **CONTAINMENT TECHNIQUES**

#### Trenching

- Digging trench to bed rock
- These are major neighborhood projects costing about \$100,000 each
- Infected tree injection
- Recommend contracting with a Texas Oak Wilt Certified Arborist (TOWC arborist)
- See http://www.texasoakwilt.org/Vendors/certified\_vendor.asp
- Recommend "macro injection"
- Infected tree removal

(Continued on Page 4)

#### **Board of Directors**

#### www.JesterNeighbors.com

, ,			
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#### ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

Interested in submitting an article? You can do so by emailing diana0777@att.net 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.

## THANK YOU...

#### ...to our JHA President

Thank you to Philip Kolman, our Homeowner Association President. Philip has volunteered and been re-elected to serve a fifth term as the President of JHA. Thank you for all that you do for our neighborhood!

#### ...to our Water Volunteers!

Thank you so much Reagan Settle and Pat and Linda MacKrell. These great neighbors are the volunteers who are watering the median on Jester Boulevard and the sign landscaping at Beauford and Lakewood Drive. Thank you for all of your effort!

#### **Art Exhibit**

Jester resident Sue Wiley will be exhibiting her art in a four-woman show entitled Great Artspectations at Austin Art Space, 7739 Northcross Drive, Suite Q, from May 11 through May 23. A wine and cheese reception to meet the artists is planned for May 15 6-9PM at the Art Space gallery.

#### Dr. Michael S. Lifshen

Board Certified Family Physician

Jester Homeowner

flu shots now available -No appointments needed!

**Extended hours:** Evening and Saturday

## Capital Family Practice

912 Capital of Texas Highway, South (between Bee Caves Rd. & Lost Creek Blvd.)

Call **306-8360** for an appointment

www.capitalfamilypractice.com

# JESTER EASTER EGG HUNT and PETTING Z00

Saturday, April 4th 9:30 am Jester Club

(Note: This is the weekend!)

Please drop off one dozen eggs per child (filled with candy, money, stickers, etc.... but no chocolate, please!) Look for drop-off signs posted at various locations in the neighborhood.

Happy Easter!





## JOIN THE JESTER CLUB

For a limited time Jester Club is running a membership drive.

10% OFF
Initiation Fee

Two FREE Party Rentals (\$60.00 Value)

Sign up now and save, then enjoy our free annual members-only Kick-Off Party with food, drinks, games and prizes.

## Your Jester Club membership benefits will include:

- Jr. Olympic swimming pool
  - With Solar heating and lap lanes
  - Summer lifeguards
  - Areas available for party rentals for a small fee
  - BBO area
- Lighted tennis courts
- Half-size lighted basketball court
- Fantastic playground
- Area available for party rental
- Grass volleyball, tetherball, horseshoe, and ping pong

Please contact Cookie Bandel at 794-8867 or check out our website at www.jesterclub.org

You must be a resident of Jester Estates, Jester Wild or Canyon Ridge to join. All monies go toward maintaining and improving the club facilities.





Oak Wilt Tips- (Continued from Cover Page)

- Recommend contracting a Certified Arborist or Board Certified Master Arborist
- Red Oaks must be quickly removed to prevent fungal mat risk (Austin City Ordinance)

#### EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES and CONTACTS

All Your Oak Wilt Questions

http://www.texasoakwilt.org

City of Austin Oak Wilt Suppression Program

http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/oakwilt/

General

http://www.treesaregood.com/

Area Arborists; Search By Zip Code

http://www.isa-arbor.com/findArborist/findarborist.aspx

Texas Oak Wilt Certified Arborists

http://www.texasoakwilt.org/Vendors/certified\_vendor.asp

Tree Selection Guide

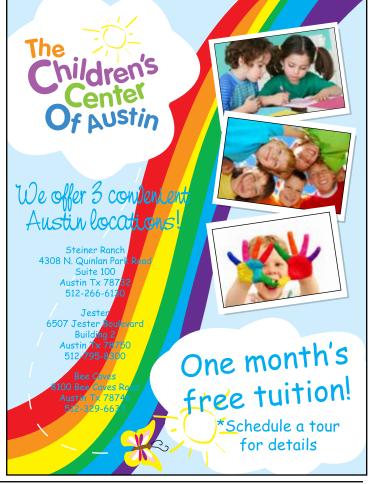
http://texastreeplanting.tamu.edu/

NWACA Oak Wilt Overview

http://www.nwaca.org/oakwilt/

Oak Wilt Information Line (TX Forest Service and LCRA) 512 473-351	7
City of Austin, Chris Dolan 512 974-188	1
Texas Staff Forester, Eric Beckers 512 339-377	2
Texas Staff Forester, Jim Houser 512 339-458	9
NWACA Oak Wilt Committee, Parker Blevins 512 345-618	2





#### Hey Mister, Pour Me Somethin' **lester Uncorked Celebrates Mardi Gras**

By David & Cherise Sonnier

The Cru of Jester Uncorked gathered at the home of Terry and Peggy Maxwell to toast Mardi Gras with a fine selection of French wines. Accompanying the wines was an array of traditional Mardi Gras cuisine including seafood, crawfish etoufee, gumbo, and pralines.

In true Mardi Gras tradition the participants wore masks, beads, and by nights end, large intoxicated grins.

A special thanks to Bret Tisdale for selecting and sharing his knowledge on a superb sampling of wines.

If you would like to join Jester Uncorked, contact David & Cherise Sonnier at sonnier@austin.rr.com.

Top Row: Ed Grober, Kathy Wade

Second row: Lauryl Eddlemon, Dave Douthit, Missy Douthit, and Kathy Grober

Third row: Elaina Griffiths, Bonnie Francis, Ted Francis, and David Sonnier

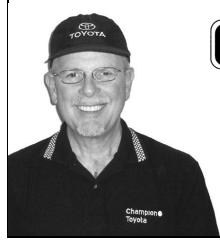
4th row: Griff Girffiths, Caroline McChrystal, and Peggy Maxwell

Front row: Trish Bales, Terry Maxwell, and Cherise Sonnier

(Bottom Picture:) Jester Revelers: Sonya Swenson, Caroline McChrystal, Bonnie Francis, Peggy Maxwell, Kathy Grober, Ginger Brendle, Elizabeth Walker, Debby McCall, and Kathy Thompson







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#### **Good Friday Service**

Friday, April 10 / 6:30 pm Family - Friendly

#### **Easter Egg Hunt**

Saturday, April 11 / 10 am Family - Friendly | Free Event Toddlers through Fifth Grade

#### One Had to Rise - Easter Musical

Saturday, April 11 / 7:00 pm / Great Hall Presented by the Great Hills Celebration Choir Free Event

#### **Easter Services**

Sunday, April 12 9:30 am - Choir & Orchestra / 11:00 am - Praise Band Children's worship for birth through fifth grade during both services.



#### **Certified Wildlife Habitat**





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#### **Neighborhood Tips**

By Dale Bulla

#### Wage War on Weeds, Not Water

The City of Austin and the Texas Cooperative Extension are launching a new educational outreach program that asks homeowners city-wide to avoid using weed and feed products. Atrazine, the most prevalent weed killer in popular home lawn care products, is now showing up at more than 70% of our groundwater monitoring sites, in 72% of the samples collected. This makes the problem more widespread and consistent than previously believed and, while the levels of the chemical detected are fortunately still low, the City and Extension would like to take a proactive approach to reduce those numbers.

We believe these combined fertilizer and herbicide products are not environmentally sound for several reasons. First, the two ingredients are best applied during different seasons - a fertilizer should be used when the turf is actively growing and the weed killer works best when the grass is dormant. Equally important is the fact that broadcasting a weed killer is considered excessive in most cases. If a lawn is primarily weeds, then you don't need a fertilizer, and if it is

not, the weed killer is excessive! Any chemical that is not absorbed by the targeted weed stays unused on the turf where it can wash off during rain or filter into our groundwater supply. We believe this is why we are seeing so much of the chemical in our water quality monitoring tests.

We'd like to encourage you to help protect water quality by not purchasing a weed and feed product at the store. Buy a straight fertilizer (organics are a good alternative) and then hand-pull or spot-treat weeds instead. If you use a lawn care professional for yard maintenance, please ask them to treat weed problems only when they are visible and then make sure the chemical isn't over-applied.

Look for our Public Service Announcements during television newscasts during March and April or on our website at www. growgreen.org. The website, as well as Grow Green fact sheets which are available in nearly every nursery and home improvement center in town, will offer additional earth-wise gardening information.

With a little help from you, we can help protect our water one yard at a time.





#### **Nature Watch**

by Jim and Lynne Weber

#### Surprises After a Rain

Magical things happen when it rains in the Texas hill country! Historically, spring and fall generally bring the most amount of precipitation to our area, and the flora and fauna respond accordingly. Exotic-looking rain lilies pop up and bloom a few days after a good rain, but what you might not know is that there are two species of this delicate plant that are native to central Texas.

Cooperia pedunculata, or hill country rain lily, tends to have a main spring bloom season after significant rains occurring March through early August, although it can bloom sporadically over the rest of the growing season. These lilies begin to open slowly at dusk and are fully opened the next morning. An all white bloom with three petals and three sepals, the flower is trumpet-shaped, roughly two inches across, and is at the top of a single unbranched blue-green stem about five to nine inches high. The leaves are thin, long, and branch away from the stem at the base. The slightly fragrant bloom lasts only a day or two, turning from white to light pink as it fades.

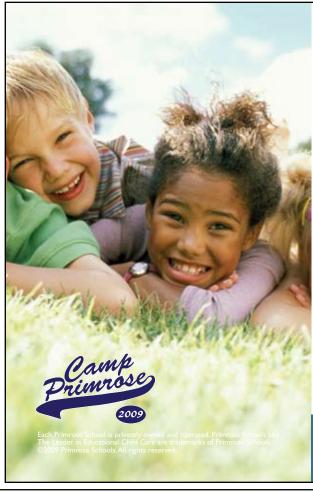
Often found in groups in meadows, open woodlands, and even roadsides, these lilies can be grown easily from seeds or bulbs and combine well with groundcovers or plants that have naturally short foliage. They are native to east and southwest Texas as well as adjacent Mexico, and have since spread east to Louisiana.

Cooperia drummondii, or evening rain lily, tends to have a slightly later bloom season, occurring from late May through September, with the most frequent flowering in late

(Continued on Page 9)









## Explore<sub>summer</sub>

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#### Nature Watch - (Continued from Page 8)

summer and fall after a substantial rain. The solitary, fragrant, and ephemeral white flower is made up of six petals and tops a leafless, twelve inch stem. It too opens in the evening, and after two to four days the flower turns pink and withers. After it fades, the smooth, gray-green, grass-like leaves elongate. The bloom is quite similar to the hill country rain lily, but slightly smaller in terms of size.

Originally native to northern Mexico, the western two-thirds of Texas to New Mexico, and southeast Kansas and Louisiana, the evening rain lily has expanded its range to Oklahoma, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Alabama. It gets its species name from Thomas Drummond, a naturalist born in Scotland that arrived in Weslaco, Texas in 1833. He spent twenty-one months working the area between Galveston Island and the Edwards Plateau, focusing on plants and birds along the Brazos, Guadalupe, and Colorado rivers, and contributing extensively to natural history collections for museums and scientific institutions around the world.

The next time you see some of these elegant beauties gracing an open field or a grassy area on the side of a road, think of them as a treasured gift given to you by a recent rain and a reminder that rain brings more than just rainbows!

Send your nature-related questions to naturewatch@austin.rr.com and we'll do our best to answer them.



#### **JESTER DINNER CLUB**

New Jester residents Anna and Richard Buteau will host the April Dinner Club at their home at 7114 Foxtree Cove. Theme: French

Anna and Richard will provide the main course and guests will bring appropriately paired side dishes, appetizers, wine, or desserts.





### Spring is Upon Us,

## Make Sure Your Irrigation System is Ready Article submitted by Jacob Johnson, Austin Water Utility, Water Conservation Division

Spring is quickly approaching and now is the time to make sure your irrigation system is ready to start working again after being off all winter. How? Follow the tips below:

#### See For Yourself

The fastest way to check your irrigation system is to check it yourself. Here's how:

- First, set your controller to operate a two-minute test program. (If the controller does
  - not have a pre-programmed test program, set each zone to come on for only two minutes using the C or D program that may not be normally used.)
- Start the program manually and then watch the system as it runs through each station.
- Look for heads that are broken or leaking, heads that are misaligned and not watering what they ought to, or heads that are clogged or obstructed by grass runners or shrubs.

Ideally, the test program should be run monthly to keep track of how the system is functioning. This may also prevent increases in your water bill caused by leaks or multiple broken heads. To keep your irrigation system running as efficiently as possible, call a licensed irrigator to fix the problems for you.

#### Don't Overdo It

Your spring watering schedule should be half of what you'd water during the summer. Yet, in their eagerness to see new green grass, spring is when people are most likely to overwater plants and turf.



With cool temperatures in the evenings and mornings, it is not necessary to water as frequently as you would during the summer.

- Beginning in March or April, we recommend watering once every 7 to 10 days with one start time.
- Remember, the mandatory watering schedule begins on May 1st each year. Any irrigation with an automatic system or hose-end sprinkler must be used on an assigned watering day.
- Set controllers to run before 10 a.m.
- or after 7 p.m. It's a more effective use of water, and it's the law.
- Hand-held hoses can be used any time on any day. If an area of your landscape needs extra attention, it's best to spot-water as needed.

#### **Get Some Help**

How can you tell if you may be overwatering? If your water bills exceed 25,000 gallons per month, you might benefit from professional help. The Water Conservation Division offers free irrigation system evaluations to check out your system and provide you with a recommend watering schedule based on your plants, the amount of light the yard receives, and the type of sprinkler heads installed. The service is available to all City of Austin water customers or eligible MUD customers, and is ideal for new owners of irrigation systems as well as those who just aren't sure about their lawn's water needs. Call Water Conservation at 974-2199 to schedule your free irrigation system audit, or to talk with a licensed irrigator about your system. You can also schedule audits online at www. waterwiseaustin.org.

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#### **PET REGISTERY**

Mail (or drop off) your pet info to:



Carol Philipson 7502 Clematis Cv Austin, TX 78750



Include type of pet, name, male or female, description, age, medications, veterinarian's name, whether it is microchipped, and pet owner's name, address, and contact information.

For lost or found pets, call 338-1519.

#### Classified Ads

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Jester Estates residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail Diana Hempstead at diana0777@att.net.

Business classifieds (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office @ 512-263-9181 or advertising@PEELinc.com.

#### Jester Homeowner's Association Website!

www.JesterNeighbors.com Community Registration Code: 3328

- Pet registry
- Special Announcements: online & via email
- Online Suggestion Box: Make suggestions to the association board
- Important homeowner association documents
- ... and much more



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CERTIFICATE OF		CERTIE	ICATE OF
DEPOSIT <sup>1</sup>		_	POSIT <sup>2</sup>
6 MONTHS	2 17%	6 MONTHS	2 27%

DEPOSIT <sup>1</sup>	CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT <sup>2</sup>
6 MONTHS REGULAR' 12 MONTHS REGULAR' 24 MONTHS REGULAR' 24 MONTHS REGULAR' 24 MONTHS	6 MONTHS JUMBO <sup>2</sup> 12 MONTHS JUMBO <sup>2</sup> 2.42 APY 2.44 MONTHS JUMBO <sup>2</sup> 2.52 APY

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### **SOCIAL GROUPS - Contact Info**

BABYSITTING CO-OP- Jester parents babysit each other's children and pay with hour and half hour credits. Contact Jennifer Springfield at 502-5593 or romejennifer@hotmail.com

BOOK CLUB - Be a founding member of Jester's 2nd Book Club, contact Valerie Walley at vwalley@randomhouse.com

**BUNKO** - If you'd like to join or be put on the list as a sub, contact Bonnie Francis, at bonniefrancis@att.net. They are a lively group and play on the 1st Thursday of every month at 7 pm.

CYCLING - Want to join a Jester road biking group and participate in organized rides? Contact Troy Reish at troy.reish@gmail.com or call 241-0592.

DINNER CLUB- Join our new dinner club. Meet friends and enjoy great food! Contact Joan Simental at 809-5992 or joan.simental@ edwardjones.com

FISHING - Do you like to fish? Then this is the group for you. Contact Terry McFarland at 795-1131

HILL KINDERGARTEN YAHOO GROUP- This group is helping connect Jester families with others who also have children entering Hill Kindergarten in Fall '08. Email JesterHill2008-subscribe@yahoogroups. com to subscribe.

JESTER KIDS YAHOO GROUP - This group is helping Jester parents connect with other parents who have children with similar ages or interests! Contact Jayne Rosso at jesterkids-subscribe@yahoogroups.

JESTER UNCORKED - Wine lovers of Jester, unite! Join our evergrowing group of wine lovers. Contact David and Cherise Sonnier at 343-6528 or sonnier@austin.rr.com.

**KAYAKING** - Have some fun with this great water sport! For more info contact Dan Wolfson at dwolfson@austin.rr.com or call 795-8218.

**NETWORKING GROUP** - Are you a resident who owns a business or provides a service? Build your business by referral! One individual or company per professional category. Contact Teresa Gouldie at tgouldie@ gmail.com or call 751-8000.

**ROWING** - Interested in sweep rowing and sculling? Contact Julie Donnie at 340-0432 or JulieDonnie@yahoo.com.

**TENNIS** - Our tennis group meets on Thursdays – all skill levels welcome! Contact Ed Grober at tennis@isoexpress.com or call 306-7275.

WELCOMING COMMITTEE - Darla Rowan and JoAnn Welles are co-chairs of this committee, which is designed to welcome new residents to Jester, including newborns. Volunteer to help by emailing JoAnn at joann-welles@sbcglobal.net or call her at 346-0349

WOODWORKING GROUP - Join our woodworking group to share knowledge and techniques! Contact John Parker at 345-6991 or JParker84@austin.rr.com

YOGA - Interested in joining a yoga group that meets in your own neighborhood? Contact Pama Gangatirkar at pgangatirkar@yahoo.com or call 349-2555.









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## PLAYGROUPS

#### Weekday Playgroups:

Kate Murdock - KFM.associates2005@ sbcglobal.net





#### Parents of Children 3 – 5

The Jester 3 – 5 play group meets Mondays at 10:30 at various locations near the neighborhood. We also go on field trips from time to time. Contact Julie Stoakley at 527-8683 or at stokes@austin.rr.com.

Parents Children 6 – 8
Tori Nordin at 231-8842
VNordin@austin.rr.com



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## Jester Networking Group Moves to Morning Breakfast

Join us on the second Wednesday of each Month at Waterloo Ice House at 7:30 am



Are you a resident who owns a business or provides a service?

Build your business by referral! Join our group! This is a non competitive referral organization that admits one quality individual or company per professional category. We offer our members the opportunity to share ideas, contacts, and most importantly, referrals. Interested in learning more? Contact Teresa Gouldie at 751-8000 or tgouldie@gmail.com.

## Travis County Sheriff's Crime Prevention Reminder

Burglaries of Vehicles- Most Burglary of vehicles occur between the hours of midnight and 4:00am. You can help prevent this crime by locking your vehicles and removing your personal items from your vehicle. Suspects often use a flashlight to look in your vehicle before committing the crime. If they don't find what they are looking for they will most likely move on. Always report suspicious activity to your local Law Enforcement Agency by dialing 911 or our non-emergency number 512-974-0845.

Illegal Dumping- Illegal dumping in Travis County continues to by a major concern for our department. Please contact our dispatch to report illegal dumping. Do not dig through someone else's trash, you have no way of knowing what contaminates are in the dumping area or in the trash itself. Try to obtain license plates of vehicles seen in the dumping areas

and report the activity immediately.





### Attention KIDS: Send Us Your Masterpiece!

Color the drawing below and mail the finished artwork to us at Peel, Inc. - Kids Club 311 Ranch Road 620 S, Suite 200 Lakeway, TX 78734

We will select the top few and post their artwork online at www.PEELinc.com. DUE: April 30th

Be sure to include the following so we can let you know!

Name:

(first name, last initial)

Email Address:

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IF

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## Teresa Gouldie Jester Resident / Broker 751-8000 tgouldie@gmail.com



UNITED, REALTORS

www.ColdwellBankerUnited.com

Each Office is Independently Owned And Operated

Easter Egg Hunt and Petting Zoo

Sat. April 4, 9:30 a.m. Jester Club

### WHY CHOOSE TERESA?

#### **Just Ask Her Satisfied Sellers!**

#### **Scott and Mary Miller, Jancy Drive:**

"Teresa was so experienced with the Jester neighborhood that she was our pick hands down. She was an amazing, responsive, completely hands-on real estate agent. She gave us a thorough checklist of what we needed to do to get everything ready and stayed in constant touch. We highly recommend her."

<b>April Events</b>
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Complime	nts of Teresa Gouldie 751-8000	Coldwell Banker, United
Apr. 1 - 4	82nd Annual Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays High school, college and professional athletes	UT Campus 471-4602 texassports.com
Apr. 3	Jerry Sienfeldin a return to his first love – stand-up comedy.	Bass Concert Hall 471-2787 utpac.org
Apr. 4	Jerry Jeff Walker's Annual Texas Bash Annual birthday celebration, Austin-style!	Paramount 472-5470 austintheatre.org
Apr. 4	Louisiana Swamp Romp and Crawfish Festival Vibrant celebration of dancers, Cajun food, Zydeco	18th and Congress music roadstarproductions.com
Apr. 5	Bruce Springsteen and The E Street Band "Working on a Dream" Tour	UT Erwin Center uterwincenter.com
Apr. 16 - 19	Texas Hill Country Wine and Food Festival The best chefs and wineries pair their best!	Various Locations texaswineandfood.org
Apr. 16 - 19	StatesmanCars Auto Show 200,000 square feet of new cars, trucks and SUVs	Convention Center autoshowaustin.com
Apr. 18 - 19	Austin Reggae Fest Music, arts & crafts, and Jamaican foods	Auditorium Shores austinreggaefest.com
Apr. 19	Austin Earthday Festival Environmental partners expo with activities for kids	Republic Square Park austinearthday.com
Apr. 23	James Taylor - one intimate and memorable night of	
Apr. 24	George Lopez - "Tall, Dark & Chicano" Tour	Bass Concert Hall utpac.org
Apr. 25	Los Lobos Graceful, gritty sound and thought-provoking lyrics	One World Theatre oneworldtheatre.org
Apr. 25	Eeyores 46th Annual Birthday party Children's events, outrageous costumes, live music	Pease Park eeyores.sexton.com/
Apr. 25 - 26	Art City Austin Original artwork & award-winning live music	Downtown Austin artallianceaustin.org
Apr. 30	Sugarland - "Love On The Inside" Tour With special guests Billy Currington and Eric Hutchin	UT Erwin Center nson uterwincenter.com
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serving JESTER ... Just a Little Closer to Heaven!