



Courtyard Caller

OFFICIAL COURTYARD NEWSLETTER

Courtyard Homeowners Association, Inc.

September 2009

Volume 5, Number 9

Board Message

Whew, we made it through the summer – well almost. Children are back at school, and the days are getting shorter. More of the early morning and evening activities in the neighborhood are taking place in “twilight” – that time between darkness and sunrise or sunset when people are often in the biggest hurry to get somewhere. As we move into the fall, please continue your efforts to drive safely in our community. Watchout for children walking to and from their buses and for our many walkers and joggers (both the two and four-legged kind), as well as the increasing numbers of bicyclists who share our streets.

Residents are again complaining about various paper flyers and other forms of business advertising appearing on doors and in mailboxes. Please be aware that the Board can do very little to directly prevent these solicitations. In this situation, the homeowner is probably in the best position to discourage such unsolicited activity by contacting the offending business and letting them know that these direct solicitations will, most likely, have the opposite effect. If you see someone distributing door-to-door advertisements, you can ask them to stop. Let them know that their actions mean you will not be purchasing what they are selling nor will you recommend them to others. Good luck.

Take some time to view the pictures from events in the Courtyard so far this year. See, the “Photo Gallery” page of our website: www.courtyardhoa.org. If you have ideas for articles or information you would like to see published in this newsletter or on the website, please contact the Communications Committee or any Board member and let us know. All you have to do is go to the “Contact Us” page of the website – or call, telephone numbers are listed in this newsletter. Your input is also welcome concerning ways to improve communications. Thank you.

**Blue trash can days in September are
Fridays, September 4 and 18.**

Your Courtyard Homeowners' Association Board of Directors

Book Club

A Voyage Long and Strange is the book for discussion at the Courtyard Book Group on Tuesday, September 8 at 1 p.m. at the Courtyard Club. A Plymouth park ranger tells the book's author, Tony Horwitz, “Many visitors think that Columbus sailed to America, dropped off the Pilgrims and sailed back to Europe.” Horwitz examines his own knowledge of this period, finds it severely lacking and sets out to learn and write about the time between Columbus' discovery of America and the arrival of the pilgrims at Plymouth. He refers to the exploration of North America during this period as “an international food fight” with explorers from a host of European countries in competition to find gold, converts, even eternal youth. The English were the last at the table. In an effort to experience what these early explorers endured, Horwitz puts on 60 pounds of armor and re-enacts conquistador life, takes a canoe down the Mississippi River, and retraces the routes followed by early explorers. A reader describes the book as a combination of history and modern travelogue. Seldom do reviewers describe a work as both carefully researched history and as “funny, lively, and irreverent.” The New York Times calls the book “History of the most accessible sort . . . full of vivid characters and wild detail.”

Tony Horwitz is a journalist trained at Brown University and the Columbia School of Journalism. He reported from locations around the globe as a foreign correspondent for the *Wall Street Journal*. Other best selling titles by Horwitz are *Confederates in the Attic: Dispatches from the Unfinished Civil War* and *Blue Latitudes: Boldly Going Where Captain Cook Has Gone Before*.

UPCOMING BOOK GROUP SELECTIONS:

October: *The House of Mr. Biswas* by Naipaul

November: *The Worst Hard Time* by Egan

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| Center Court: | |
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Did You Know . . . Camp Tom Wooten on Bull Creek ? ? ?

Ever wonder about the Boy Scout Camp that used to be located in the area we now know and love as "The Courtyard" subdivision? The land, originally 125 acres, was purchased by Austin physician, Dr. Goodall H. Wooten, for a mere \$5,000. In 1934, Dr. Wooten presented the land to the Boy Scouts of America Capitol Area Council for the creation of a Boy Scout Camp and soon thereafter, the Council began construction of cabins, buildings and a water system. Named "Camp Tom Wooten" in memory of Dr. Wooten's only son who had died of epilepsy in 1927 at the age of 21, the Boy Scout's new camp was located just across Bull Creek from the "Bull Creek Lodge," a favorite watering hole for hamburgers, drinks, and renting canoes. The former Lodge is now the very popular "County Line on the Lake."

One of the many challenges at the Camp was the Lone Star Trail, which ran from the Camp and went all the way to Mansfield Dam – a little over 20 miles distance. It took two days to hike there and two to get back. Campsites was established at the end and along the way for overnight stops. A portion of the route went through East L Ranch, probably more familiar to you today as the area along both sides of City Park Road, just west of 360, off of FM 2222. Enjoy more pictures and greater details of camp life at the Boy Scout website noted below.

Camp Tom Wooten on Bull Creek, as it was officially known, was enjoyed by Boy Scouts of all ages and classifications from 1934 to 1983, when the camp property was sold to the developer of "The Courtyard Tennis Center" as part of the Loop 360 construction. Money from this purchase went into a trust and in 1998 was used to help purchase 562 acres near Bastrop, Texas, from the Lower Colorado River Authority. This land became the present-day LCRA Lost Pines Scout Reservation. A new Camp Tom Wooten, with eight campsites, makes up about half of the Lost Pines Scout Reservation and is used primarily for weekend camping and Cub activities

[Interesting side note: The "Goodall Wooten House," now known as "The Mansion at Judges' Hill" located along MLK Boulevard near the University of Texas campus, was built for Dr. and Mrs. Wooten in 1898 as a wedding present by his father, Dr. Thomas Dudley Wooten, who was also one of the founders of the University of Texas at Austin.]

Coming Next Month: Many of our neighborhood street names in The Courtyard are derived from locations in Camp Tom Wooten. Does your street have some interesting local history? Check out next month's newsletter! Or do YOU have some Camp history you'd like to share? Email your missives to the Communications Committee through the "Contact Us" page on our website: www.courtyardhoa.org.

Thanks to Frank T. Hilton, Camp Director (1964 to 1966); John W. Wittliff, Trading Post Operator (1961) and Provisional Scoutmaster (1966); Leo C. Lee, Camp Director (1957).

[For additional information and photos, go to: www.westtexascoutinghistory.net.]

(Continued on page 4)

WELCOME TO *good health*



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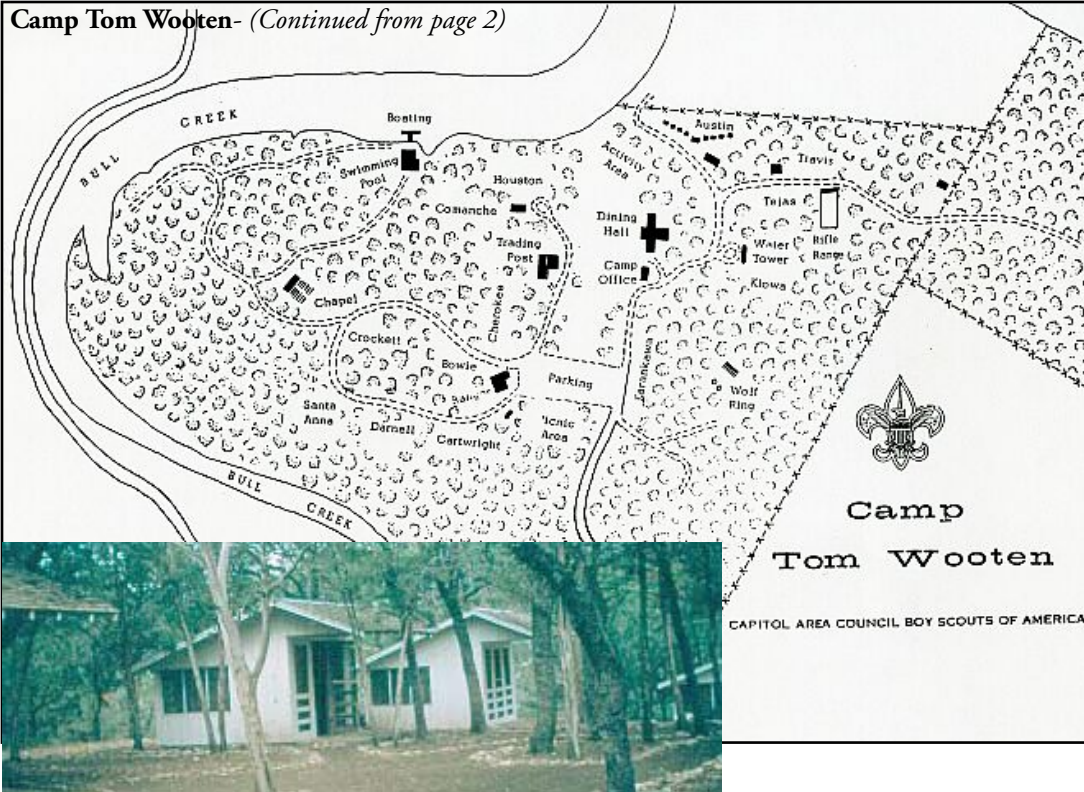
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COURTYARD CALLER

Camp Tom Wooten- (Continued from page 2)



Sam Houston Campsite

This campsite was located just above the swimming pool and overlooked Bull Creek. The shelters were made of wood and had screening. This made them a favorite place to camp and be protected from the rain (as long as it was not blowing) and mosquitoes. Over the years, the rain washed the dirt away around the concrete floors and one would have to be careful stepping off them. Note the neat rock work on the trails. Campsite inspections were based in part on how you improved your campsite. Rock was plentiful so making neat trails out of them was a popular way to earn points.

(Continued on page 5)

The Original PowerBook



Go back to school this year more prepared than ever.

Great Hills Baptist Church Sunday Schedule

9:30 & 11 am - Bible Life Groups (all ages)

9:30 am - Celebration-Connection (Worship Choir & Orchestra)

11:00 am - Life-Connection (Worship Band)

10500 Jollyville Road . Austin, TX . 78759 | www.ghbc.org | 512.343.7763

Camp Tom Wooten- (Continued from page 4)



Here is the swimming pool at Camp Tom Wooten. It was built right next to the river so that water from Bull Creek could be pumped into the pool through sand filters. You can see the pit for the sand right behind the lifeguard stand at the end of the pool. The storeroom and chlorinator were located directly under the pool at that end. The showers and dressing area was located to your right off the shallow end of the pool.

The waterfront staff stayed in tents at the swimming pool in the early days. That prevented a lot of late night Scout swimmers!



This group is taking an orientation hike around camp by one of the staff members. Here they are looking over the bluff toward Bull Creek and Lake Austin.

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.....

(Continued on page 6)



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COURTYARD CALLER

Camp Tom Wooten- (Continued from page 5)

Camp Tom Wooten on Bull Creek (1934 - 1983)



Looking at Camp Tom Wooten from Bull Creek Road (FM 2222). In the right center of the photo are the log cabin, parade ground, and dining hall. At the bottom of the photo is Bull Creek and you can see the boat docks next to the beach. The swimming pool is just above the boat docks.

(Continued on page 7)



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COURTYARD CALLER

Camp Tom Wooten- (Continued from page 6)



The camp staff always included a bugler. He also taught handicraft or was the office clerk. His job was to climb the tower next to the log cabin and blow the various calls during the day. This included reveille, call to meals, time to change classes, assembly, retreat and taps. The megaphone was used so that Scouts in the lower part of camp could hear the bugle.

The bugler would blow his horn in four different dir



Following a Capital Funds Drive by the Capital Area Council of Boy Scouts of America in the early 1950s, the new dining hall was built in 1957, just in time for summer camp. It followed the National Engineer's Design of the Boy Scouts of America. There were three fire places in the dining hall. The staff ate in the wing shown in this photo. You can see one of the two entrances to the dining hall where the two wings meet.



Camp Tom Wooten in 1966. On the left is the dining hall and on the right is the log cabin.

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(Continued on page 9)

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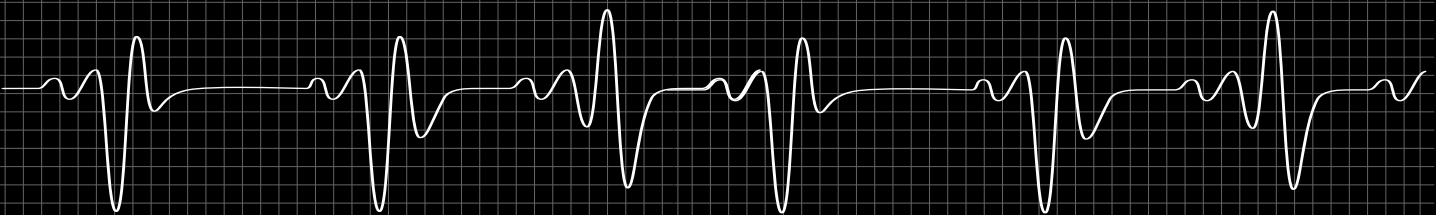
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| The Cutrer Chard-Sonoma Cutrer...Was...\$32.99 / Now ...\$27.99 | |
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| Stags Leap Chardonnay | Was...\$28.99 / Now...\$19.99 |
| Ferrari Carano Chardonnay | Was...\$28.99 / Now ...\$19.99 |
| Sonoma Cutrer Chard Russian River.Was...\$26.99 / Now ...\$20.99 | |
| Cuvaison Chardonnay | Was...\$24.99 / Now ...\$18.99 |
| Simi Russian River Chardonnay | Was...\$24.99 / Now ...\$19.99 |
| Santa Margherita Pinot Grigio | Was...\$26.99 / Now ...\$19.99 |
| Newton Chardonnay Red labe.....Was...\$20.99 / Now ...\$15.99 | |
| Frei Brothers Chard.....Was...\$19.99 / Now ...\$15.99 | |
| Merryvale Chardonnay | Was...\$20.99 / Now ...\$14.99 |
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| Kendall Jackson Grand Rsv Chard...Was...\$18.99 / Now ...\$14.99 | |
| Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc.....Was...\$18.99 / Now ...\$14.99 | |
| Franciscan Chardonnay | Was...\$18.99 / Now ...\$13.59 |
| Murphy Goode Chardonnay | Was...\$16.99 / Now ...\$12.99 |
| Simi Chardonnay | Was...\$16.99 / Now ...\$13.99 |
| Oyster Bay Sauv Blanc | Was...\$15.99 / Now ...\$12.99 |
| Kendall Jackson Chardonnay | Was...\$14.99 / Now ...\$11.99 |
| Rodney Strong Chardonnay | Was...\$19.99 / Now ...\$10.99 |
| Chateau St. Jean Chardonnay | Was...\$14.99 / Now ...\$10.99 |
| Toad Hollow Chardonnay.....Was...\$14.99 / Now ...\$10.99 | |
| Simi Sauvignon Blanc.....Was...\$14.99 / Now ...\$10.99 | |
| Edna Valley Chardonnay.....Was...\$13.99 / Now ...\$10.49 | |
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| | |
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| Far Niente Cabernet Sauvignon.....Was...\$132.99 / Now . \$99.99 | |
| Silver Oak Napa Cab Sauv.....Was...\$100.99 / Now . \$84.99 | |
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| Joseph Phelps Cabernet Sauvignon..Was...\$59.99 / Now ...\$44.99 | |
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| Mt. Veeder Cab.....Was...\$40.99 / Now ...\$32.99 | |
| Stags Leap Merlot.....Was...\$42.99 / Now ...\$24.99 | |
| Ferrari Carano Cab Sauv | Was...\$36.99 / Now ...\$22.99 |
| Ferrari-Carano Merlot | Was...\$32.99 / Now ...\$19.99 |
| Franciscan Cabernet / Merlot.....Was...\$26.99 / Now ...\$19.99 | |
| | \$18.99 |
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| La Crema Pinot Noir.....Was...\$22.99 / Now ...\$16.99 | |
| Markham Merlot | Was...\$22.99 / Now ...\$17.99 |
| Sterling Cabernet Sauvignon | Was...\$21.99 / Now ...\$17.99 |
| Angeline Pinot Noir | Was...\$24.99 / Now ...\$16.99 |
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| Murphy Goode Cab/Merlot | Was...\$19.99 / Now ...\$14.99 |
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| Dynamite Cabernet / Merlot | Was...\$19.99 / Now ...\$12.99 |
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| Cline Ancient Vines Zinfandel.....Was...\$18.99 / Now ...\$12.99 | |
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| 337 Cabernet Sauvignon | Was...\$15.99 / Now...\$10.99 |
| Estancia Merlot | Was...\$14.99 / Now ...\$10.99 |
| Liberty School Cab | Was...\$13.99 / Now\$9.99 |
| Mark West Pinot Noir | Was...\$15.99 / Now\$9.99 |
| Cline Zinfandel.....Was...\$12.99 / Now\$9.99 | |
| Red Truck Red Blend | Was...\$10.99 / Now\$7.99 |

COURTYARD CALLER

Camp Tom Wooten- (Continued from page 7)



The dining hall still exists and is now part of the clubhouse at the Courtyard Tennis Club.



Here is the inside of the dining hall. No air-conditioners or fans, but it was much cooler thanks to the windows and insulated ceiling. This is a noon meal, evidenced by the lack of Scout uniforms. You can see one of the fireplaces at the end of the room.



This is a rare photo of the old dining hall that was used up into the late 1950s. The kitchen was on the left of an "L." The eating section was on the right and was screened in as shown in this photo.

In 1959, they converted the old dining hall to a combination trading post, warehouse, recreation area (covered) and central shower. The summer camp staff stayed in tents behind the facility.



The most prominent feature at the camp was the log cabin. It housed the Office, and at times was the First Aid Lodge, the Trading Post and sleeping quarters for one or two staff members.

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Security - Vandalism at the Tennis/Swim Club

On July 13, 2009, sometime between 10:00 p.m. and 4:30 a.m. the following morning, Court #10 at the Courtyard Tennis and Swim Club was damaged when person(s) unknown dumped oil on the court's surface. Just six days later, on July 19, vandals struck again between 8:00 p.m. and 4:40 a.m. This time, they damaged Court Nos. 11, 12, and 13 by spraying them with oil. Aside from the general inconvenience to players who enjoy the use of these busy courts, even when cleaned, there is no guarantee that the courts will not become slippery again under moist conditions. Besides the obvious tragedy of someone falling and seriously injuring him or herself, it will necessary to either repaint or resurface these courts, which is not an insignificant cost.

While club members are understandably outraged, the fact that this senseless crime happened in our community makes it a concern to all residents of the Courtyard. Just as we are encouraged to watch out for our personal safety and property, please make an effort to be aware of strangers and suspicious activities going on *anywhere* in the Courtyard and report anything of concern to the authorities. We hope this is the last we see of this activity here in the Courtyard. If anyone has information that would help apprehend these vandals, please contact the Club, police, or any member of the Board.

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Low Water Crossing Bridges & Widening of FM 2222

*Important Meeting - Thursday,
October 1 at 7 PM*

Most of you are aware by now that the City of Austin (City) will be replacing the low water bridge on Lakewood Drive at Bull Creek Park, and the State will be replacing the low water bridge over Bull Creek on FM 2222 and widening FM 2222. The first phase of this project is to relocate the utilities. This is about to start as you probably noticed.

Lakewood Club, our neighbors to the north along Bull Creek, will be sponsoring a meeting regarding the construction of these bridges and the related required lane closings. We are invited to this meeting to learn firsthand about these construction projects that will impact our neighborhoods.

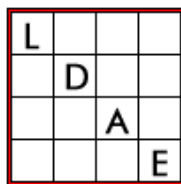
The meeting will be held on Thursday, October 1 at 7:00 p.m. at Murchison Middle School, 3700 North Hills Drive, Austin, 78731, (512) 414-3254. Representatives from the Texas Department of Transportation and the City will be present to discuss the construction schedule and what they will be doing to minimize traffic delays.

Please check the "News" page of our website periodically at www.courtyardhoa.org for any updates to this scheduled meeting.

Area Development and Zoning Liaison
Bill Meredith

Brain Exercises

Puzzle #1



Using the letters AAEEIIMPPPTT complete this grid. The grid will read the same across as down.

Puzzle #2

This is an unusual paragraph. How quickly can you discover what is so unusual about it? It looks so plain you would think nothing is wrong with it. In fact, nothing is wrong with it! It is unusual though. Study it, and think about it, but you still may not find anything odd. But if you work at it a bit, you might find out. Try to do so without any coaching!

Puzzle #3



Hidden below are eight 7-letter words. Each word begins with the center letter S. You can move one letter in any direction to the next letter. All of the letters are used only one time each. What are the words?

Answers in the October issue of the Courtyard Caller.



Recipe of the Month

Chocolate Peanut Butter Balls



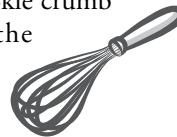
At just 56 calories and 2 grams of fat per serving, this sweet treat is a great way to get your chocolate fix without sabotaging your weight loss goals! And this no-bake recipe is easy to make and ready to enjoy in minutes. Whip it up fast for family gatherings or a movie night at home:

SHOPPING LIST:

- 25 Chocolate wafer cookies, finely crushed
- 1c + 2 Tbsp confectioners' sugar
- 1/3c honey
- 1/4c + 2 Tbsp smooth peanut butter

MIX – the cookie crumbs and 1 cup of confectioners' sugar in a large bowl.

WHISK – together in a medium bowl the honey and peanut butter until well-combined. Add to the cookie crumb mixture and stir well (the mixture may be crumbly at this point).



SHAPE – the mixture with your hands into 1" balls (the mixture should hold together as you shape it).

SET – the balls aside at room temperature until ready to serve, or store them in an airtight container at room temperature for 2 to 3 days. Just before serving, roll the balls in the remaining 2 tablespoons of confectioners' sugar.

Makes 36

[Per ball: 56 cal., 2 g fat, 0 mg chol, 36 mg sodium, 0 g fiber]

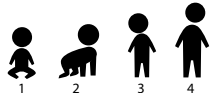


COLIN'S HOPE

Increasing water safety awareness and standards

FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DROWNING

Drowning is the leading cause of unintentional injury-related death in children ages 1-4



DROWNING WILL AFFECT YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW



Drowning is the 2nd leading cause of unintentional injury-related death ages 1-14.

For more information, check out our website at

www.colinshope.org

DROWNING CAN STILL OCCUR EVEN IF YOU KNOW HOW TO SWIM

NO ONE is "drown proof" – no matter their level of swimming ability.

Falls, entrapments, and injuries lead to drowning regardless of swimming level.

A majority of people overestimate their own and their child's ability to swim, especially in a panic event.

DROWNING IS QUICK AND SILENT



Drowning occurs in as little as 2 minutes.



Irreversible brain damage occurs in as little as 4 minutes.



Most children are out of sight or missing for less than 5 minutes and usually in the presence of 1 or both parents.



Most children die who are submerged for as little as 6-10 minutes.

Children who drown do not **scream, splash, or struggle**. They silently slip beneath the water, even with adults & lifeguards present.

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