

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2009





## **COMMUNITY INFO**

#### STEINER RANCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS OFFICE

12550 Country Trails Lane Austin, Texas 78732 512-266-7553 – Telephone 512-266-9312 – Facsimile www.steinerranchhoa.org

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday thru Thursday	1:00pm –	5:00pm
Friday	. 10:00am –	- 5:00pm

#### STAFF

#### CMCA, Executive Director

Scott Selman.....scott@steinerranchhoa.org

#### CMCA, Community Coordinator

Sharon Adams ...... sharon@steinerranchhoa.org

Facility Manager Kenneth Romich ...... ken@steinerranchhoa.org

#### Maintenance Manager

Rafael Echazarreta..... rafael@steinerranchhoa.org

#### Accounting Assistant

Mindy Stout .....mindy@steinerranchhoa.org

#### Architectural Coordinator

Brandi Moegelin .....brandi@steinerranchhoa.org

#### Administrative Assistant

Alyssa Tucker .....alyssa@steinerranchhoa.org

Compliance Coordinator Beth Meyers.....beth@steinerranchhoa.org

#### Front Office Coordinator

Donan Grant.....donan@steinerranchhoa.org

- Maintenance Technician Angel Alvarado
- Maintenance Technician Macedonio Salazar

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

#### Peel, Inc. Community Newsletters

Our goal is to provide the Steiner Ranch community with one source of local news content that is provided by Steiner Ranch residents. Our goal is to help build Steiner Ranch by connecting local businesses with residents and residents with relevant neighborhood information.

"Be the Community."

## **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

#### **EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

EMERGENCY	911
Fire	
Ambulance	
Sheriff – Non-Emergency	512-974-0845
Travis County ESD No.6/Lake Travis Fire Re	
Administration Office	512-266-2533
Travis County Animal Control	512-972-6060

#### **STEINER RANCH CONTACTS**

Steiner Ranch Community Association Office5	512-266-7553
Development Office	512-266-5833

#### SCHOOLS

Leander ISD	
Cedar Park High School	
Vandegrift High School	
Canyon Ridge Middle School	512-570-3500
Laura Welch Bush Elementary	512-570-6100
Steiner Ranch Elementary	512-570-5700
River Ridge Elementary	512-570-7300

#### UTILITIES

Travis County WCID # 17	
City of Austin Electric	
Texas Gas Service	
Custom Service	1-800-700-2443
Emergencies	512-370-8609
Call Before You Dig	
AT&T	
New Service	1-800-464-7928
Repair	1-800-246-8464
Billing	
Time Warner Cable	
Customer Service	
Repairs	
IESI (Trash & Recycle)	
Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste .	
•	

#### **OTHER NUMBERS**

Lake Travis Postal Office	458
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#### **NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER**

Peel, Inc.	
Editor	James Plasek
Advertising	advertising@peelinc.com

### GO GREEN! GO PAPERLESS!

Sign up to receive the Ranch Record directly to your inbox. Visit PEELinc.com for details.



Welcome to the new *Ranch Record* published by Peel, Incorporated Community Newsletters. Since 2006, Peel, Inc. has published *The Star* for the Steiner Ranch community while the HOA has distributed the *Ranch Record*. We have joined forces with the Steiner Ranch HOA and have combined both publications to better serve you - the Steiner Ranch residents. Peel, Inc.'s mission is to provide the Steiner Ranch community with one source of local news content. Our goal is to help build Steiner Ranch by connecting local businesses with residents and residents with relevant neighborhood information.

Kelly Peel Peel, Inc. VP Sales and Marketing Steiner Ranch Resident

### Comfortable Dentistry You Can Trust & Afford

## END of SUMMER SPECIAL!

Complimentary TRES' WHITE Tooth Whitening Kit With exam and cleaning.

Welcome Children's Exam & Cleaning ~ \$99 Includes exam, fluoride treatment, cleaning & necessary x-rays.

Call for your appointment and more details.



## **ADVERTISING INFO**

Please support the advertisers that make The Ranch Record possible. If you are interested in advertising, please contact our sales office at 512-263-9181 or <u>advertising@PEELinc.com</u>. The advertising deadline is the 10th of the month prior to the issue.

## **ARTICLE INFO**

The Ranch Record is mailed monthly to all Steiner Ranch residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to submit information about their organizations in the newsletter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, recipes, special celebrations, and birthday announcements are also welcome.

To submit an article for consideration please email it to <u>steinerranch@peelinc.com</u>. The deadline is the 8th of the month prior to the issue.



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## **Home Sales Competition is** Heating Up...





## **Call Today For Your Free Market Analysis!**



#### **Call Angie Noeth** THE Steiner Ranch

**Realty Sales Specialist** (512) 695-7025 www.agent-angie.com

## **Developer's Corner**

## **Developer's Update**

#### Subdivision Development

New home sales continue in Steiner Ranch at a slow but steady pace. The large number of resale homes in the community brought on by the economic recession has been one reason for the reduction in new home sales. The combination of low interest rates and builder sales incentives still makes this one of the best times in many years to buy a new home. As we move out of this recession and home sales do return to more normal levels, construction costs are sure to increase, which means the same home next year will certainly cost more than it will today.

Taylor Woodrow Communities will be completing streets and utilities on the next phase of 70' lots in Palisades by the end of this year. Future phases of lots in the Bella Mar, Santaluz and golf communities should start construction in 2010, depending upon home sales in the existing neighborhoods.

Custom lot sales continue in The Bluffs on south Quinlan Park Rd., Bellagio Estates on Lake Austin, and in the newest phase of the golf community, Shoreview Overlook, at the end of University Club Drive. For more information on these custom homesites and all other builder neighborhoods in Steiner Ranch, you may contact the Welcome Center at 266-5833.

#### Commercial/Mixed-Use Development

Steiner Elementary School #3 – River Ridge - Construction has been completed on the third Leander ISD elementary school in Steiner Ranch, located between the Tierra Grande and Monterrey neighborhoods and across Quinlan Park Rd from Sierra Vista. Local schools throughout our community make this a great place to raise a family.

Longhorn Village Retirement Community – The first residents have moved into the new patio home units at Longhorn Village, and the independent living apartment building with commons area and dining facilities should be ready for occupancy in September. In addition to the patio homes and independent living apartments, Longhorn Village will offer assisted living apartments and nursing care units, along with appropriate amenities. Please stop by the Longhorn Village sales information center on South Quinlan Park Rd if you have further questions about their community.

Longhorn Canyon Townhomes – Kemp Management has completed the first 8 of the 29 townhomes located along the 5th hole of the UT Golf Club course immediately across Quinlan Park Rd from the Towne Square Community Center. For more information on this development please call Kemp Properties at 441-1062.

(Continued on Page 7)



www.bluebonnetschool.com

#### **Developer's Update-** (Continued from Page 6)

Fairways at Steiner Ranch - Colonial Bank currently owns this site along the 3rd through 6th holes of the UT Golf Club course. Over the past few months, they have completed clearing and grading on the site and have installed additional landscape buffering along the golf course. We understand that the Bank is negotiating with a builder to be determined to build out the remainder of the 88 patio home units on this site. More information about the development and sales should be forthcoming in the near future.

Taylor Woodrow Communities continues to receive interest from various developers for the remaining mixed-use development sites in Steiner Ranch. Vintage Fine Homes has completed city/county site plan approvals to build approximately 20 patio homes on Tract #18 along Steiner Ranch Blvd. across from the Monterone apartments. With the slow down in the local housing market they have not announced a timeframe to begin construction on this site. Also, pre-leasing continues on the retail/office mixed use development on Tract #4 at the southwest corner of Quinlan Park Rd and Steiner Ranch Blvd. More information on these and other mixed-use sites will be available in the future as development plans progress.

Please visit or call the Welcome Center (266-5833) if you have any questions about home construction and development within Steiner Ranch, or just want to pick up a copy of the updated master plan map. You may also contact Robert Long directly (532-2129) if you have more specific construction or development status questions.





Enter a new AI RA®

in Retractable Door and Window Screens



AIRA<sup>®</sup> retractable door and window screens fit virtually and provide solar shading while naturally creating cross-ventilation.

These fine products are also available:







# STEINER PALOOZA Music Festival & Pool Party

The bands have all been booked and are furiously rehearsing for the big day. The roadies have begun checking the mics. Carpenters have begun work on the custom stage. You've heard your neighbors all talking about it, in eager anticipation of the exciting festivities that are about to unfold... and the big day is nearly upon us! On Saturday September 26, the Bella Mar pool will be host to an awesome familyfriendly event, the likes of which has not been seen in Steiner Ranch since the Willie Nelson Outlaw concert back in 1976! No need to pay high ticket prices and fight the traffic down to Zilker Park... the Steiner-Palooza will be providing a full day and evening of top quality musical entertainment right here in your own backyard... and it's all FREE of charge, courtesy of your hardworking Homeowner's Association.

Bring the family and join your neighbors at what will certainly be the most rockin' Steiner Ranch party event of the year. Jump in the pool for a dip, or bring a beverage and lounge pool-side listening to the fantastic musical talents of your fellow Steiner Ranch residents. The Vandegrift High School Marching Band Boosters will be providing snack concessions and a great time will be had by all.

Saturday September 26th, 2009

Bella Mar Pool – 12401 Bella Mar Trail

BYOB – No Glass Containers Please

The scheduled entertainment line-up is as follows:

Time:	Band or Artist:
Noon	26-Music Rock Campers
	Youthful modern rock
1:00 pm	The Beamers (Colleen & Rick)
	Variety Party Duo
2:00 pm	Robert Salas
	Texas Singer-Songwriter
3:00 pm	Debbie Myers & Friends
	A Joyful Message
4:00 pm	Eyes Burn Electric
	Modern Rock
5:00 pm	WarTime Social
	Psychedelic Rock Fusion
6:00 pm	Relentless Jones
	Rock with a Groove
7:00 pm	Dark Blonde
	Popular Rock Mix
8:00 pm	The Purple Fuzz
	Retro Garage Power Punks





# Steiner Ranch Orthodontics

4302 Quinlan Park Road (Across from the Welcome Center in the Vista Ridge Center) **266 8585** 

Come see the difference a Board Certified Orthodontist can provide. Dr. James Waters graduated at the top of his class from the University of Texas Dental School in San Antonio in 1996. He served a one year residency at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and practiced for two years as a General Dentist in Oregon. Realizing the complexities of Orthodontics, he sought to pursue ADA accredited advanced specialty education prior to offering this service to the public. As all specialists are required, Dr. Waters left his General Dentistry practice to attend a 30 month Post-Doctorate University. After graduating Valedictorian from the prestigious Saint Louis University Orthodontic Program with a Master's degree in Orthodontics, Dr. Waters moved to Austin in 2001 and joined the nationally recognized practice of orthodontist Dr. Robert Kavieff who pioneered many early treatment techniques and appliances over his 40+ years in practice. Dr Waters worked side by side with Dr. Kavieff over the next year as he gained further invaluable experience from reviewing hundreds of cases and he learned techniques known only to those who have been in the specialty field for a lifetime. After retirement, Dr. Kavieff passed the torch to Dr. Waters who is pleased to open his new office to his neighbors in Steiner Ranch.

Come in and see our new office and see what Contemporary Orthodontics from a trained specialist can do for you and your family. *We provide more than just a smile!* 

Meet Dr. Waters and receive your Complimentary examination today. All insurances Accepted. Visa/MC/Discover.







### **Back To School**

Now that the kids are back in school, it's time for drivers to pay closer attention to the school zones in Steiner Ranch. With the addition of River Ridge Elementary School, we want to remind you that the speed limit in a school zone is 20mph and traffic fines double!

Other changes to be aware of include:

- Children behaving unpredictably
- School Bus Stops
- Crossing Guards please obey the guards! Remember, they are there for the safety of you and your children
- New areas of traffic congestion
- Be prepared for delays

Please give yourself extra time in the mornings and midafternoons and remember if you are traveling in a school zone to slow down.

### Time To Slow Down!

#### Beautiful skin reflects a healthy you!

Steiner Ranch Dermatology is led by Dr. Ted Lain, one of Central Texas' leading Dermatologists.

#### Offering

- General Dermatology for all ages
- Botox Cosmetic
- Juvederm
- Evolence
- Sculptra
- Radiesse
- Laser Hair Removal
- Personalized Skin Care Programs

#### Now offering Spa Services

- Facials
- Waxing
- Brow / Eyelash Tinting
- Microdermabrasion
- Chemical Peels



STEINER RANCH Dermatology

4300 N Quinlan Park Rd. St. 225 Austin, TX 78732 Ph: 512.266.0007 | www.steinerranchdermatology.com



### WCID #17 Mandatory 2 Day Per Week Watering

NO CALENDAR IS NEEDED, all you need to do is set your irrigation system to your two designated watering days. **Steiner Ranch residents:** 

• odd numbered addresses will water Wednesdays and Saturdays • even numbered addresses will water Thursdays and Sundays. Residential customers will be required to adhere to this schedule May 1 through September 30,

and encouraged to adhere to it the rest of the year.

#### Systems such as the one used by the Steiner Ranch HOA using reclaimed or recycled water will not be subject to the restrictions.

The time of day residents may water. To reduce wasting water through evaporation during daytime heat, watering with an automatic irrigation system is permitted before 10am or after 7pm. Watering with a hand held hose or bucket may be done any time of day or any day of the week. Other water uses such as washing cars or boats is not restricted to watering days unless increased conservation measures become necessary.

### **Attention Dog Owners** Free Ice Cream!

How can you get free ice cream as a dog owner? Just get caught by one of our Association Staff members being a responsible pet owner. All you have to do is help keep Steiner Ranch a pleasant, clean, and safe neighborhood for all, while you are out walking your dog.

- Scoop the poop
- Latch the Leash
- Ban excessive barking

If you get caught - we will give you a coupon to Cups and Cones for a free double scoop of ice cream!



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## **The Annual Steiner Ranch** Spring Clothing Drive was a Huge Success! Submitted by Tom Henry

Once again, the residents of Steiner Ranch showed an overwhelming response to help others in our community. Over 2500 clothing items were donated to benefit Dress for Success Austin and the Arc of the Capital Area.

Thanks to all who donated and volunteered their time; especially:

Cathy, Meagan and Caitlin Henry Jennifer Swenson Sharon Adams Kathy Mayer Heather Bland-Ho of Conquer Your Chaos Organizing Four Sons' Quality Cleaners Cups and Cones Steiner Cares 4 Points Business Association

We are looking forward to next year's event; and thank you for your continued support of those in Austin who need your help.

## **Bluebonnet Salon**

2900 N Quinlan Park Rd. #2300 Austin, Tx 78732 (512) 266-9225

#### Haircut & Styling

· Men's Haircut · Women's Haircut · Kid's Haircut · Shampoo and Style

Updo · Updo for Parties

**Chemical Services** · All Over Color · Highlight/Lowlight · Chemical Straightening · Perm

> Waxing · Lips and Brows

Bring In This Ad and Receive 10% off, exp. Aug. 31st 2009

#### We'll Have a Special Section for Kids with Very Cute Styling Chairs by June 2009



### **Steiner Ranch Facilities** Committee

The Steiner Ranch Facilities Committee is a group of volunteer homeowners who meet nine times a year and all have a common interest.....Steiner Ranch!

What does the Facilities Committee do? They make recommendations to the Board of Directors about improvements, use and/or needs of the various common areas of Steiner Ranch, including trails, pools, fields, courts, playgrounds and community centers.

What has the Facility Committee accomplished? Most recently the Trails Committee has worked with the Boy Scouts on various trail improvements, such as building bridges and the installation of the new trail marking system. The Fields Committee worked with our contracted landscaping company to restore the Bella Mar and Towne Square fields. In the past, this committee put together a sub-committee that helped pave the way for the Bella Mar Community Center and the stand-alone restroom facility at Westridge Park.

Any homeowner is welcome to become a member of the Facilities Committee by contacting Sharon Adams, Community Coordinator at the Association office at 512-266-7553 and attending the next meeting on October 6, 2009 at 6:30pm at the Towne Square Community Center. All it takes is a desire to help keep Steiner Ranch a beautiful place to live.





The Jones' Quintuplets

Brooklyn Faith Britton Grace Jack William Lila Addison Ryan Elizabeth

Arrived: January 16th, 2009

Proud Parents: Casey & Ethan Jones and Big Sister Eliot

Submit your information on the arrival of your little one to steinerranch@peelinc.com.



Dance Classes for All Ages
★ ballet ★ tap ★ jazz ★ gymnastics

Pre-Professional Dance Team Auditions for ages 7-12 August 31st in Steiner Ranch



**Four Convenient Locations:** Steiner Ranch • S. Lamar Lake Austin Blv. • Koenig/Burnet

DanceDiscovery .Com

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419-7611



It's that time of the year again. The chance to sell your treasures or buy new ones from your neighbors!

The Steiner Ranch Fall Community Wide Garage sale is scheduled for

Saturday, September 12th from 8:00am - 12:00pm.

Sign up is not required to participate. Just place the items you wish to sell in your driveway or garage before 8:00am. It's that easy! We will do the advertising for you!

### Steiner Scrappers Scrap-A-Thon

Steiner Scrappers will be dedicating hours of hard work and exceptional creativity at the Steiner Scrappers Scrapbooking Marathon!

> When: Friday, October 23 at 6:30pm to Sunday, October 25 at 4:30pm Cost: \$75 for the entire weekend!Where: Towne Square Community Center

What Can I Expect?:

- No distraction from kids, spouse, or home
- One six foot long table of your very own for scrappin' (leave it set up the entire weekend)
- Meals & snacks
- Fabulous gifts
- Meet old & new friends
- A Creative Memories Consultant with inventory for sale & supplies

Hurry! Space is limited to the first 25 reservations! First Come, First Served! Registration opens on September 1st and forms are available on-line at www.steinerranchhoa.org



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### **Steiner Ranch Fall Program** For Adults & Children

The Steiner Ranch Fall Program for 2009 is geared up to start in early September, but it's not too late to sign up for most of the programs! The Fall Program Guide and registration information can be downloaded from our website at www.steinerranchhoa.org. Classes being offered this Fall are:

#### **Children's Programs**

- Sportball
- Tap/Ballet/Hip Hop
- Gymnastics
- Karate
- Tennis
- Art
- Soccer
- Flag Football
- Abacus Brain Study
- Spanish
- Music

#### **Teen/Adult Programs**

- Yoga
- Karate
- Tennis
- Master's Swimming
- Turbo Kick
- Stroller Strides
- Camp Gladiator
- Art (teens only)

For questions or to obtain more information, please contact Sharon Adams at 512-266-7553 or sharon@steinerranchhoa.org.

## GET SOLD! For details on these featured homes www.JacquiHoltzman.com

- Steiner Ranch Specialist...
- Many Effective Marketing Systems Give Your Home Maximum Exposure
  - Call Jacqui for Results & Home-Prep Assistance Plan Savings
- OWNER/AGEN

Jacqui Holtzman Your Steiner Resident Realtor Avalar Steiner Ranch 512-736-SOLD (7653)

• Be In The Know...

Area Real Estate Activity

Showing Feedback & More



Thank you for the opportunity to serve you



## Steiner **Scrappers**

• • • • • • • • • • •

Do you love to scrapbook? Then get ready for our monthly scrapbooking sessions and come to the Towne Square Community Center, grab a table, and bring a snack or beverage to share and scrapbook the night away.

The room will open for your use at 6:00pm sharp on the following nights:

> 2009 Sept 18 Oct 23 – 25 Scrap-a-thon

## FEATURED HOMES:



Sierra Vista Custom **BIG VIEW!** Great New Price!\*



River Heights Overlook Like New! Walk to School & Park!

- Just Dance

### 2009 Steiner Ranch Social Committee Events

Sept 12 – Garage Sale Sept 26 – Steiner-palooza Oct 23 – 25 – Scrap-A-Thon Oct 31 – Halloween Event Nov 7 – Holiday Sales Event Nov 14 – Camping on the Ranch Dec 4 – Holiday Wine Social All Events are tentative and subject to change or cancel

September marks the time to plan the 2010 Social Event Calendar. If you'd like to be involved, please come to the September Social Committee Meeting on 9/8/2009 at 6:30pm at the Towne Square Community Center. All residents are welcome to attend and we welcome new ideas.

## Holiday Sales Event Enjoy Holiday Shopping

To get you in the Holiday spirit, the Steiner Ranch Social Committee will be hosting a Holiday Sales event on Saturday, November 7th from 10:00am - 2:00pm at the Towne Square Community Center. Come and get all of your Holiday shopping done without ever leaving Steiner Ranch.

Want to be a Vendor? Do you make fabulous jewelry? Are you an artist? Do you have a home based business or service? Then become a vendor and show Steiner Ranch what you can offer. Three areas are dedicated for vendor space. Vendor spaces inside the Community Center are available at a fee of \$60.00 and spaces outside in the covered pavilion & uncovered veranda are \$40.00. (Heaters are provided). Spaces are available on

a first-come, first-served basis. Registration fees must be paid to reserve your space, and no refunds will be made after November 1st. Steiner Ranch reserves the right to deny any application based on content or similarities to/duplication of products or services. Residents must be in "good standing" with the Association.

Application forms are available online at www. steinerranchhoa.org under the "documents" section. If you have any question, contact Sharon Adams, Community Coordinator at sharon@steinerranchhoa.org.



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Did you know that you can "opt out" of receiving the Yellow Pages?

If interested, go to www.yellowpagesgoesgreen.org.

## Did you know the community schools recycle paper and receive funds for it?

You can take your paper to the green and yellow Abitibi Paper Retriever bins located in the school parking lots.

#### Did you know that Steiner Ranch has a newly formed Recycling Committee to come up with ideas and programs to help Steiner Ranch become more "green"?

Contact Sharon Adams, Community Coordinator to discuss ways to improve recycling efforts in Steiner Ranch.



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New Patient Visit

for Local Residents

\*\$250 value when

You mention this AD

exp. 09/30/09

### Water Aerobics Continues

The Steiner Ranch water aerobics classes will continue through the end of September (or until the water gets too cold) and there are a few spots open in both the morning & evening classes.

> Towne Square Pool Monthly \$45 for 8 classes/month Mon/Wed at 6:45pm Tue/Thur at 9:15am Classes are 50 minutes long

Registration using the 2009 Program Registration form found at www. steinerranchhoa.org

# WINTER POOL HOURS

To date, the Steiner Ranch Board of Directors and the Facility Committee have not yet set pool hours for the winter, but for the month of September, pool hours will be as follows:

#### Bella Mar:

Closed Monday until 2:00pm Lap Pool: Tue-Sun 5:30am – 10:00pm Master's Swim Program – Wednesday & Friday 5:30am – 6:45am; Sunday 6:30am – 7:45am VHS Swimming Monday – Friday 7:15am – 9:15am Lap lanes will be available to lap swimmers during these sessions.

#### Towne Square:

Closed Monday until 12:00pm Tuesday – Sunday 8:00am – 10:00pm Water Aerobics – Monday & Wednesday 6:45pm – 7:30pm; Tuesday & Thursday 9:15am – 10:00am

#### John Simpson:

Closed Monday until 2:00pm Tuesday – Sunday 5:30am – 10:00pm



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



### **Masters Swim Program**

Wednesday and/or Friday -5:30 a.m. until 6:45 a.m. Sunday - 6:30 a.m. until 7:45 a.m. Bella Mar Pool

The monthly fees for Steiner Ranch residents and non-residents are as follows:

\$30 for resident/\$35 for non-resident

You must be registered with United States Masters Swimming, at www.usms.org. Click "Join USMS." Join South Texas and the name of the team "Red Giant Masters Swimming". This is for insurance purposes and to enable this program to operate under the HOA.

Once registered with USMS, complete the 2009 Program Registration form found at www.steinerranchhoa.org, attach a copy of your USMS registration card and payment to SRMA.

Masters Swimming is an organized program of swimming for adults. Anyone 18 years and older can join regardless of swimming ability and skill level.

## **First Aid for Your PC**



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We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities. **Now English**, strong **Kids Barring Counselors** at Laura Bush, Steiner Ranch **8.** River Ridge Elementary Schools as well as other locations throughout Williamson County **Y YMCA of Greater Williamson County** 

Cedar Park: (512) 250-9622 Round Rock: (512) 615-5563 • Taylor: (512) 365-9622 www.ymcagwc.org • financial assistance available

### Nominate Your Favorite Yard for Yard Of The Month

Congratulations to The Yard of the Month for August!

#### 3143 GRIMES RANCH ROAD

Do you know a neighbor who takes excellent care of their property or a neighbor who has added something new to their yard?

Nominate them by emailing the address to steinerranch@peelinc.com. Please include a photo if possible.

Mannem

Dentistry hetic, Implant, Restorative Dentist



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**512.451.0101** 3906 North Lamar, Ste. 102 Austin, TX 78756

## www.DrMannem.com

WHITENING KI'I

\* Take Home Kit

New Patients Only

### **Rogue Trails Threaten Steiner**

From the Steiner Ranch Trails Committee

People are cutting down trees on our greenbelt and this could be a danger to you and your family. On the Westridge Canyon Loop trail, someone has cut down trees to clear two or three rogue trails which go over several steep drop-offs. These are not authorized trails and are actually dangerous routes. Imagine a young biker who unknowingly follows that section and severely crashes when they go over the multiple steep ledges. And this is not the only example of rogue trails in Steiner. Ultimately this activity will only hurt the trail system and all residents.

Cutting in the greenbelt is never allowed. Cutting in the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve (BCP) is a Federal offense. (An exception is nipping the odd face-level branch on an existing trail – this is encouraged). Did you know your HOA considers our trails an "acceptable nuisance" from the legal standpoint of liability? That is, while no place is perfectly safe, the approved trails are safe enough for residents to use. But if someone cuts a new trail and then a resident gets hurt or lost, the trails could then be considered less safe and could possibly be closed.

This has already happened at Forest Ridge, a former hike-andbike trail managed by the City of Austin and the BCP. After rogue trail cutters would not stop making new trails, the entire system was closed. Now only small groups of hikers holding a permit are allowed in Forest Ridge. We have similar wildlife preserves throughout Steiner Ranch.

Rogue trails also cause erosion, and the runoff degrades the water quality of the streams in our area. Loss of the overhead canopy causes hot, compacted soils which attract snakes. And when done improperly, cutting branches from oak trees can contribute to the spread of oak wilt.

You can help plan new trails here! Your Trails Committee now has a volunteer who is looking into where new

trails can be made within Steiner Ranch. Working with our developer Taylor Woodrow Commmunities, we are exploring possible new routes. We invite all residents who have an idea or a desire for a new trail to come work with us to make it happen. These are your trails, and you pay for them. But we don't want to pay to close and re-vegetate

(Continued on Page 23)



#### Rogue Trails Threaten Steiner- (Continued from Page 22)

rogue trails; that's just a waste of money. Please come to the next Trails Meeting on Thursday October 8 at 7 PM at Bella Mar Community Center. For more information contact Rich Keith, Trails Committee Chair, richardk@austin.rr.com (512) 266-8498.

If you see a problem on the trails, call the HOA at 266-7553 or visit http://www.steinerranchhoa.org under "Report A Problem." If you see dangerous activity, including motorcycles anywhere on the trails or in the parks, call the Travis County Sheriff West Command at (512) 854-9728.

## What should I do if I see a coyote?

#### To report coyote sightings, call 3-1-1.

You will be asked to describe in detail the nature of your complaint, time, location, etc. The city's Animal Control Program will gather data related to coyotes and provide that information to Texas Wildlife Services for response/follow-up once the agreement between that agency and Travis County is in place. Animal Control will respond to reports of injured or trapped coyotes.

Call 9-1-1 to report a coyote attack on a human (to date there have been no reports in Travis County of coyotes attacking humans).



# 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

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### **Workshop Series - September**

Steiner Ranch monthly Workshop Series for the month of September is offering many new workshops for you to attend. We are always looking for more workshops to offer residents so if you or someone you know can provide education opportunities for Steiner Ranch residents, please contact Sharon Adams at sharon@ steinerranchhoa.org or 512-266-7553

September 1st – Healthy Living Workshops; How to Eat Out, by Kelly Bruneman, Nutrition Specialist – Learn how to make wise and healthy decisions when eating out at restaurants, family picnics, BBQ's and more!

RSVP www.wildbasinfitness.com

7:30pm Wild Basin Fitness Center- Free

September 10th – Introduction to Solar Power for Homeowners, by Brandon Mathis and Jeff Wolfe, founders of Solar Community - Attendees will learn how homeowners can put their roofs to work to harness the power of the sun and turn it into savings on their monthly electric bill. Topics covered include the financial and environmental benefits of adopting clean renewable energy, Government and Utility rebates and incentives that help pay for a large portion of the cost of the system, going solar as a home investment, and what to look for when determining whether or not your home is a good candidate for solar power. Refreshments will be served.

RSVP (512) 904-9006 6:30pm TSCC - Free

6:50pm 1SCC - Free

September 12th – The Competitive Edge: College and Career Prep Strategies for Teens, by Jenifer Price of College and Career Planning Services (CCPS) – In this interactive and informative session, parents will identify and review strategies for preparing their teen for college ahead of time. Topics addressed in this session include: keys to academic success, career exploration strategies, and ways to streamline the selection process for college and a career.

10:00am - 11:30am TSCC

Fee: \$29 (payable to SRMA)

Register at the Homeowners Association by September 4th for entry in door prize drawing.

**September 12th – Show Me the Money: How to Find and Win Scholarships,** by Jenifer Price of College and Career Planning Services (CCPS) – Teens (and their parents) have an opportunity to learn how to fund the journey through college with scholarships and other overlooked resources. They are even introduced to the process of creating a personal scholarship search strategy and will receive practical advice on how to implement this plan successfully.

12:30pm – 2:00pm TSCC

Fee: \$29 (payable to SRMA)

Register at the Homeowners Association by September 4th for entry in door prize drawing.

September 15th – Say What you See – Eye-Opening Solutions for Parents, by Sandy Blackard, author and founder of Language of Listening – Open your mouth and out pop your parents' words...the ones you swore you would never say? Stop reacting and start responding in one simple step. Explore how adding seeing to hearing can change your most challenging moments with children into rewarding ones.

7:00pm - 8:30pm TSCC

RSVP (512) 750-3004 or sandy@languageoflistening.com - Free

**September 17th – Maximize your Wardrobe Inside & Out,** by Michie Reid of Essential Bodywear – Are you tired of wearing undergarments that do not fit properly? Do you want to look and feel your very best? Join Michie Reid for a brief introduction and discussion, then fittings will be available every 15 minutes after the clinic begins.

#### 6:30pm BMCC

RSVP (512) 809-9001

**September 22nd – New Retirement Strategies,** by Rich Keith of Primerica - We examine your "retirement environment" in light of today's realities. Learn how to grow your assets, reduce taxes and protect your family's income. How to build your nest egg with no more risk than is necessary, and shield your assets from the forces of inflation and unexpected future events.

7:00pm BMCC - Free

RSVP (512) 632-0162 or RKeith@primerica.com

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#### Workshop- (Continued from Page 24)

September 29th - Back to School Boot Camp for Students & Parents, by Dr. Ross Coccimiglio & Dr. Bolden Harris -**RSVP**: 6:00pm TSCC - Free

For additional information go to www.steinerranchhoa. org or contact Sharon Adams, Community Coordinator at sharon@ steinerranchhoa.org.

#### 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 steinerranch@ peelinc.com.

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

## **The Drought of Lake Travis** Written by Kalei Lucas-Marinelli – 4th Grader at Steiner Ranch Elementary

Our wonderful lake! Just look at the horrible crisis Lake Travis is being lowered into. Just a few weeks ago, I left for California. I came back to a terrible, terrible lake nightmare. What had been part of the beautiful sparkling lake before I had left was now dry, hard sand. I was utterly shocked at how much water had drained from the lake in a 2 week time period. It was then that I realized how much humans can carelessly waste our precious resource.

If this continual waste process does not improve (or better, stop) we will continue to be in a dangerous drought. That lovely lake we see every day will be gone. Boaters across Austin will not be able to boat across the wonderful lake. Animals will die and pretty plant vegetation will become fewer. The restaurants that line the lake and rely on the lake view to keep their businesses up, would quickly go out of business. The houses that have spectacular views of the lake would not have those awesome views anymore. What we know today as Lake Travis, might, one day, be history.

So, please stop wasting water and consider and conserve each drop of water that you use. One way you can conserve water is, while you are washing your hands, to turn off the faucet while you soap up your hands. Remember, every ounce of this water is extremely precious and we should all conserve water the absolute best way we can.



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## Get Ready for Football Season with The UT Golf Club!

Fall is here bringing with it great football and cooler temperatures but for the last 9 months and through the sweltering heat---The UT Golf Club's Junior Program has been HOT HOT HOT!!! The Junior Longhorn Team Golf Program is a program offered at The UT Golf Club for members' children—in addition to its usual summer and spring break junior golf camps. It is geared towards the advanced junior golfer looking to gain more in-depth instruction and competitive experience. The Junior Longhorns practice year-round and matches run January through September. Throughout the year they have been practicing hard under the guidance of Coach Corey Lundberg, Senior Assistant Golf Professional.

As of the writing of this article—mid August—The UTGC Junior Longhorn Golf Team is currently undefeated. Their record is 9-0. The team consists of Sean Crisp, Sophia DiGesualdo, Dalton Doerr, Cooper Dossey, Luke Dossey, Brogan Edwards, Caden Edwards, William Garvey, Colin Geraci, Kennedy Grimes, Brandon Hoff, Hunter Huang, Jordan Jalufka, Morgan Lay, Daniel Martinez, William Martinez, Chase Phillips and Justin Piegat. Join us in congratulating your fellow Steiner Ranch residents and UT Golf Club members! Way to go Junior Longhorns!

Now that football is underway, The UT Golf Club is bringing back their popular Friday Night Tailgate Parties before every UT home game. This year's line-up of entertainment includes Taboo, Suede, Lost In Austin, Texas Unlimited Band, Duck Soup and special guest, Cory Morrow.



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## 😤 Steiner Ranch History Corner 🍣

#### Submitted by Rich Keith

What was it like to teach school in our area almost 100 years ago? Miss Thelma Lina Jones, born in 1903, was a teacher in the Cedar Park and Anderson Mill areas who taught at several schools during the 1920's and beyond. The length of the terms of a oneteacher school was six months, and school usually started when most of the crops were harvested. The enrollment was usually thirty to forty pupils. She received \$105 per month to teach as many as seven grades, sometimes fewer.

The Cypress School and the Round Mountain schools were near the Travis-Williamson County border. Most one-teacher schools were quite similar. The teacher's desk was on a platform. The pupil's desks were on the sides of the room, and a long bench was in front facing the teacher's desk. This was the recitation bench. There was a morning and afternoon recess period of 15 minutes and an hour at noon for lunch and play time. Calling the students back was done with a large brass dinner bell which could be heard around the neighborhood.

Teachers were typically boarded at local homes. Miss Jones was first boarded at the Crumley Home, then the Lohman home and

later the Faubion Home and then again with the Lohmans. Each home offered something different. For example, at the Lohman home, wonderful meals came out of the log cabin kitchen. And on Sunday nights local neighbors and guests came for Sunday night singing.

Later Miss Jones taught at the three-teacher Decker School, where she taught the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades and one seventh grade subject. The next year, during 1928-1929, she was back at the Cypress one-teacher school. That year she married Clark Faubion. The new Mrs. Faubion drove a car to school which was quite novel. It was 12 miles by rough road from Leander. Mrs. Faubion said that the outstanding thing about teaching in rural areas was the warmness that the people had for one another and for the teacher.

Mrs. Faubion indicated the community really looked forward to the Christmas program. Children would play Christmas carols on the guitar and violin. One year they teamed with the nearby Nameless School for what was called a pantomime. The Christmas scene was acted out and while the characters were acting, a type of colorized *(Continued on Page 29)* 

#### **STEINER RANCH** STEINER RANCH PRIMARY CARE PRIMARYCARE New Patients Welcome. New Patients Welcome. Medicare and Most Insurances Accepted. Medicare and Most Insurances Accepted. EXCEPTIONAL PHYSICIANS **EXCEPTIONAL PHYSICIANS EXCEPTIONAL CARE! EXCEPTIONAL CARE!** Gwendolyn B. Miller, MD Claudia L. Legere, MD Board Certified in Internal Medicine Family Practice **AREAS OF INTEREST: AREAS OF INTEREST:** Primary Care for Patients 18yrs + Primary Care for Patients 3yrs + Menopause • Fibromyalgia Minor Injury Wellness Exams Womens Health Adolescent Care *Geriatrics* Women's Services Routine Health Maintenance Illness Treatment Periodic Physicals Same Day Appointments Available Same Day Appointments Available PRACTICE **LOCATION:** PRACTICE **LOCATION: HOURS:** 2900 N. Quinlan Park Rd. 2900 N. Quinlan Park Rd. **HOURS:** Monday-Friday Monday-Friday Suite 430 Suite 430

8:00 a.m. - Noon

1:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.

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8:00 a.m. - Noon

1:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Austin, Texas 78732

512.266.8877

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Austin, Texas 78732

512.266.8877

### **Hill Country Bible Church** Launching New Campus in **Steiner Ranch**

An award-winning community of ~15,000 people and no church is an odd thing in Texas...In fact, it's so odd that some residents in Steiner have mobilized and will be launching a Hill Country Bible Church campus in the neighborhood this Fall. The desire to share the love of God and meet the needs of the community is not a new thing for these folks. They've been investing in the community for years through weekly Bible studies, Backyard Bible Clubs, Run the Ranch 5K, Movie in the Park, Josh Davis Swim Clinic, Concert in the Park and Steiner Cares. "The inherent need for community is something we all have in common, and a church campus will help foster that through worship, children's programs and small group gatherings," said Brad Van Stavern- 10 year Steiner Ranch resident.

Look for more information on the new campus in upcoming issues of the Ranch Record.

### **American Red Cross Babysitter Training Course**

9:00am - 4:00pm \$45 per person Only 12 kids per class, so sign up early!

Classes for 2009



October 17th (Full) More Classes Coming...

Towne Square Community Center 12550 Country Trails Lane

If you're 11 to 15 years old, you can get the knowledge, skills and confidence to care for infants and school-age children. Combining video, a participant's handbook, activities, hands on skills training and discussion for a complete learning experience, this course shows vou how to-

- Respond to emergencies and illnesses with first aid, rescue breathing and other appropriate care
- Make decisions under pressure
- Communicate with parents to learn household rules
- Recognize safety and hygiene issues
- Manage young children
- Feed, diaper and care for infants

Bring a sack lunch!

Space is limited. Prior registration is required and forms are available at www.steinerranchhoa.org



#### Steiner Ranch History Corner-

(Continued from Page 27)

gunpowder was set afire, which made a beautiful light, sometimes green, sometimes vellow, or red. And at the Round Mountain school, they had a spring play in which the pupils were dressed as Texas flowers. At the end of school would be a farewell picnic with box lunches. She says, "To teach in rural areas was a lovely experience." Later she retired from teaching and moved to Leander where they ran a general store.

Source: adapted from a 1981 interview with Mrs. Thelma Jones Faubion, from A Legend Collection: Fact and Fantasy 2ed, published by Anderson Mill Gardeners Association, 2008.

### **Cover Photo**

Do you take great photos? Would you like to see your photo published? We are looking for great cover photos for upcoming issues of the Ranch Record.

All photos submitted must be in Steiner Ranch and we'd love to have something that pertains to this time of the year in some way, such as a great Halloween or Fall Festival photo.

Our October issue submittal deadline is September 6th and photos should be submitted electronically by the deadline date in high resolution

to Sharon Adams at sharon@steinerranchhoa.org. By submitting your photo you agree to allow your photo to be published in future issues of the Ranch Record or other Steiner Ranch publications.

This month's photo was submitted by resident, Heather Schramm.



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- Specializing in the design and installation of 🛛 🗾 From concept to completion, we are committed Texas native plants, trees, soils and mulch
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### **COMMUNITY GROUPS** WAYS TO BECOME INVOLVED IN STEINER RANCH

## Girl Scout Registration is Open Submitted by Carmen Tucker

Girl Scouts of Central Texas registration is open year-round to girls in grades K-12. Now is the perfect time to register in order to take advantage of summer experiences like overnight camp, robotics day camp, backpacking trips and more. Registration is \$10 per year and girls can choose to join a troop or participate as individuals.

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. Through fun, informal and educational experiences girls can discover their potential, connect with others and take action to make the world a better place. Girl Scouts provides a wide variety of experiences for interests such as the arts, science, technology, nature, athletics, community service, health, leadership and more. To learn more or to register, contact Carmen Tucker at CarmenT@gsctx.org or (512) 490-2360. Discover Girl Scouts online at www.gsctx.org.

### Steiner TechNet Wants You!

Submitted by David Dyke

If you work in technology and live in Steiner Ranch, we have a new community for you. This includes a quarterly social mixer in Steiner with opportunities to meet new neighbors, discuss business issues, find job opportunities and share best practice ideas, etc.

For more information, email David Dyke at david@austintechnet.com and join Linkedin Groups Steiner TechNet.

Are you a member of a community group or organization here in Steiner? Email the information about your group to steinerranch@ peelinc.com and it will be included in each issue. Feel free to submit post event write-ups and photos.

### Pack 203

Welcome all Steiner Ranch Boys!! Grades 1st-5th

Do you know what Cub Scouts and Scouting is all about? Pack 203 at LWBE does fun things with fellow scouting friends every month! We get together as a Pack to wear our cool uniforms, show off our scout spirit, and participate in exciting scouting activities. As a Cub Scout, you will get to go camping and fishing with your family, shoot BB guns, sleep over on real U.S. Naval ships and do archery! We play all kinds of sports and build cool race cars and spaceships to race. Do you want to learn the secret scouting code and earn really cool patches? Do you want to learn more about nature and your community? Find out how enriching being a Cub Scout can be!

Contact Kim Skelton for more information nelson2930@austin. rr.com

## Steiner With Out Kids Social Group (SWOK) Submitted by Paula Kaisner

Did you know there is a social group in Steiner called Steiner w/o Kids (SWOK). We have been established since January 2006 and have had many couples join who've made new friendships. Whether you've never had kids or you have grown children, you are welcome to join this fun social group. We get together once a month at someone's home in Steiner for food and drinks along with making new friends and/or enjoying old friends! It's a great way to meet other couples and form new relationships with people who also don't have children at home. For more information please email Paula Kaisner at paula@kaisner.org



# New Solar Tax Credit

## Save up to 70% on your system.

By combining the new Federal Tax Credit with local incentives and our Steiner Ranch "Neighborhood Solar Program," it has never been more affordable to go solar. Contact us to see how purchasing solar with your neighbors is good for your wallet and good for the planet.

### WHY GO SOLAR?

Up to \$50,000.00 in city rebates

Steiner Ranch goes

- 25+ years of savings
- Energy independence
- Tax free ROI

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**SolarCommunity** 

### Architectural Modification – Playscape Structures –

Are you looking at a new playscape to put in your back yard this Fall for your children to enjoy? Then don't forget to submit your playscape to the Architectural Review Committee prior to installation.

Playscapes are reviewed on an individual basis by the AC, but the following requirements should be kept in mind when designing or selecting your playscape:

• The primary material for the playscape structure must be constructed with lumber that resists rotting and deterioration, i.e. redwood or treated lumber. Metal playscapes and swingsets are prohibited.

• Canopies on the playscape must be a solid color, preferably green or earth tones.

• Setbacks for playscapes up to 10' in height are to be no less than 5' from each side and/or rear property line. For playscapes, which exceed 10' in height, the portion over 10' in height can not be any closer to side and/or rear property lines than 10', while the remaining portion under 10' in height shall be no less than 5' from side and/or rear property line. Additional screening may be required at the discretion of the AC.

For more specific questions regarding playscapes, please call the Steiner Ranch Association at 512-266-7553.

### Notice of Large Item Garbage Disposal

The Steiner Ranch Homeowners Associations has made arrangements with your trash collector, IESI, for another large item trash drop-off day on Saturday, September 19th from 8:00am – 12:00pm. Please bring your items to the Towne Square Community Center parking lot at 12550 Country Trails Lane. NO CURBSIDE PICK-UP IS AVAILABLE. There will be an IESI representative in the parking lot to direct you.

Please be aware that NO HAZARDOUS WASTE will be accepted. Examples of hazardous waste include, but are not limited to, paint, tires, batteries, Freon, appliances containing Freon, etc.



### Watering the Common Area Grass Reclaimed Water

Reclaimed water is the product of an advanced treatment process which cleans wastewater. This treatment process produces water ideal for plant irrigation and other commercial uses. The Steiner Ranch Wastewater Recycling Plant treats the wastewater to standards required by State and Federal agencies.

Reclaimed water is also far less expensive than potable water. Reclaimed water is also safe for all human contact (except drinking directly). For more than 50 years, reclaimed water has been safely used throughout the country in recreational lakes, sprinkler systems for homes and businesses, food crop irrigation and manufacturing processes.

Since reclaimed water is used for non-drinking uses, a separate set of distribution pipelines has been built to deliver reclaimed water from the Steiner Ranch Wastewater Recycling Plant to the University of Texas Golf Club and the Steiner Ranch Homeowner's Association. The approximate amount of potable water saved is 200-400 thousand gallons per day.

Reclaimed water is easily identified by the purple sprinkler heads and by signs in all common areas. If you have questions about the use of reclaimed water, please contact Water District #17 at 512-266-1111.



## You're just one phone call away from a beautiful lawn and carefree weekends. <u>Guaranteed!</u>

Try our lawn care & landscape services for one month. --- If you're not absolutely delighted with the results, we'll refund 100% of your money.

#### Professional Lawn Care & Landscaping You Can Trust!

Austin Detailers --part of the Better Business Bureau since 2003, <u>with an A+ rating!</u> When you hire our professional lawn care team, you'll be assigned your own personal lawn care account manager; someone dedicated to your neighborhood; someone you'll know on a first-name basis; and someone you can trust to take care of your lawncare and landscaping needs, 100% guaranteed.

We're a year round professional landscape management company, not just a "lawn service" or part time "lawn guy." We offer a full range of lawncare and landscape management services, and we deliver with integrity and competence. We pro actively manage your lawn, landscape, and sprinkler system so you can avoid unsightly or expensive problems down the road.

#### Specials:

- Introducing our NEW <u>Bi-Weekly</u> service! (Available because of the drastic heat wave of 2009). Our new Bi-weekly program will be available at the beginning of September 2009. It will include 25 service visits (mow,trim,edge, and blow off driveways, walkways etc.) and will also include leaf clean ups through out the entire year. And of course, will include our detailed work ethic and dependable service.
- Ask about our Referral Program! Refer your neighbors and friends and get up to a years worth of free lawn service (\$1500-\$3500 value).



## From the Association Office

## **Prohibited Pesticides**

Did you know that Steiner Ranch prohibits some pesticides under the Steiner Ranch Conservations Easement – Balcones Canyonlands Preserve? They are;

- Atrazine/Gesprim 50
- Azinphos-methyl
- Bendiocarb/Ficam
- Chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides
- Chlorphyritos/Dursban
- Lindane
- Malathion/Cythion
- Methyl parathion
- Pentachloriophenol/Permite
- Propoxur/Baygon

What can you do to control pests in your lawn?

Physical Control: Change the habitat of pests by adding mulch or by moving/ adding plants (some plants are naturally pest repellent). Capture pests by hand or in traps and remove from the site. Biological Control: Encourage pests' natural predators and parasites. Avoid using chemical insecticides, which could destroy the "good" insects, such as ladybugs, spiders, and bracnid wasps, along with the "bad". These beneficial insects can also be purchased from local nurseries.

The Last Resort: If these controls are not effective, some pesticides can be used relatively safely in the lawn and garden. Rotenone, for example, is a product of biological origin that controls many types of insects. Dormant oil is another such product that controls pests on fruit trees.

However, for the most effectiveness and safest pesticide usage, consult with your local nursery expert.

## I Didn't Know...

When the Steiner Ranch HOA puts on an event, activity or program....we hear, "I didn't know about this" all the time. Well, the best way to receive the latest information about what's going on in Steiner Ranch is to sign up for our email alerts.

How?

- 1. Go to www.steinerranchhoa.org
- 2. Enter your email address in the "Join/ Edit" the Steiner Ranch mailing list box and press "go".
- 3. Enter your email address in the list you'd like to receive:
  - a. Activities
  - b. Safety
  - c. Lost/Found Pets
  - d. Community
- 4. Once you've signed up, you will need to respond to an email to confirm.





## ABS, ABS & MORE ABS

# WE KILL CALORIES!

## THE <u>REAL</u> STEINER RANCH BOOTCAMP!

**\$25 BACK TO SCHOOL DISCOUNT** 

## September 7 - October 2

Early Morning Class • M, W, F • 5:30 am - 6:30 am

John Simpson Park \$190.00 per Individual / \$290.00 per Duo



You will drop weight. You will be tougher. You will feel better. You will have a blast!

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## School News





Head Coach David Lapin



Assistant Coach Eric Glass

#### Vandegrift Lacrosse Coaching Submitted by David Emerick

The Vandegrift High School Boys Lacrosse team has announced the hiring of its coaching staff and is excited about the prospects of building a program that the Vandegrift community will be proud of. While the club team in not officially sanctioned, affiliated or supported by Leander ISD or Vandegrift High School, its players and coaches are supported by the Vandegrift Boys Lacrosse Booster Club and all players are students at Vandegrift.

The Vipers have hired Head Coach David Lapin and Assistant Coach Eric Glass. Lapin is the former Head Varsity Coach at Westlake High School. Prior to that, he was instrumental in creating the Westwood HS lacrosse team. Coach Lapin has been playing lacrosse since he was young and played in Long Island for WT Clark High School in East Meadow ISD and played for Georgia Tech where he was a leading NCAA scorer. He has also represented the U.S in the World Games and played for notable men's teams such as the Crease Monkeys and the Long Island Jesters.

Coach Lapin said, "I am excited to be part of the Vandegrift Lacrosse family and look

forward to building it into the top program in Central Texas from the youth level through High School". He added, "Any Vandegrift freshman or sophomore is welcome to come out and play; no experience necessary".

Assistant Coach Eric Glass is a former Assistant Coach at Westlake High School. He played youth lacrosse in Baltimore Maryland then moved to Austin where he played for Westwood High School under Coach Lapin. He attended Texas Tech and played for its team when it won the Lone Star Alliance Championship in 2005.

Club President, John Lichtenberger is also very pleased with the addition of coaches Lapin and Glass stating,



(Continued on Page 37)


### Vandegrift HS- (Continued from Page 36)

"Needless to say we are fortunate to have such notable coaches that are passionate about the game, that have deep roots and looking forward to developing our players to be the best. We are excited about our inaugural season."

For more information about the Vandegrift Boy's Lacrosse team visit www.viperslax. net or contact the club at viperslax@gmail. com.

### Vandegrift High School Boy's Lacrosse Team

The Vandegrift boy's lacrosse team is forming and looking for players. If you are an incoming freshman or sophomore at Vandegrift HS and are interested, then we are looking for you. NO PRIOR PLAYING EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

For more information visit viperslax.net or email the team at viperslax@gmail.com

### New Phone Numbers for LISD Schools

Please make a note of the new phone numbers:

**River Ridge Elementary** 12900 Tierra Grande Trail Austin, Texas 78732 512-570-7300

### **Steiner Ranch Elementary**

4001 Quinlan Park Road Austin, Texas 78732 512-570-5700

### Laura Welch Bush Elementary

12600 Country Trails Lane Austin, Texas 78732 512-570-6100 Canyon Ridge Middle School

12601 Country Trails Lane Austin, Texas 78732 512-570-3500

<u>Vandegrift High School</u>

9700 McNeil Drive Austin, Texas 78750 512-570-2300

### Cedar Park High School

2150 Cypress Creek Road Cedar Park, Texas 78613 512-570-1200



# School News

## Leander ISD Rated Recognized by TEA

The Texas Education Agency today released its Accountability Ratings for Texas public schools and school districts, and I am delighted to report that Leander ISD was rated Recognized. The district rating improved from Academically Acceptable last year, and did so across all subgroups without the use of the Texas Projection Measure. I am very proud of everyone who contributed to this success!

I am also pleased to inform you that today's release showed 27 of 31 rated Leander ISD campuses ranked either Recognized or Exemplary (90%). This shows improvement over our 2008 ratings, when LISD had a total of 22 of 28 rated campuses ranked either Recognized or Exemplary (79%). (New Hope High School is not included in these calculations. As an alternative high school, the highest ranking it can receive is Academically Acceptable, although the campus results were much higher.) I know you join me in congratulating our terrific students for their hard work, as well as thanking our dedicated teachers, campus staff, principals, support staff and central office staff who all played an essential part in order to achieve these outstanding results.

Ten of Leander ISD's campuses went up in the ratings from last year:

• Academically Acceptable to Exemplary: Grandview Hills Elementary School

• Recognized to Exemplary: Faubion, Block House Creek, Mason, Giddens, Cox, Pleasant Hill and Rutledge Elementary Schools

• Academically Acceptable to Recognized: Vista Ridge High School and Knowles Elementary School

Leander ISD's three newest campuses received their first ratings this year. Parkside

and Westside Elementary Schools both received Exemplary ratings while Rouse High School was Recognized.

In addition, six of Leander ISD's campuses - Canyon Ridge Middle School, and Cypress, Steiner Ranch, Laura Welch Bush, Deer Creek and River Place Elementary Schools - maintained Exemplary status, and nine saw student performance worthy of maintaining the Recognized ranking category - Cedar Park High School, Cedar Park Middle School, Leander Middle School, Running Brushy Middle School, Wiley Middle School, and Whitestone, Naumann, Plain and Winkley Elementary Schools. Three LISD campuses remained rated Academically Acceptable - Leander High School (missed Recognized by one subgroup in science and one on completion rate), Henry Middle School (missed Recognized by two subgroups in science), and Bagdad Elementary (missed (Continued on Page 39



#### Leander ISD Reated- (Continued from Page 38)

Recognized by two subgroups in science). As noted earlier, the highest ranking New Hope High School can be awarded by the state is Acceptable, and thus is not included in the above list. No Leander ISD campuses went down in the ratings.

The Accountability Ratings are based on spring 2009 student performance on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) statewide testing program, as well as on dropout and completion rates for students. The ratings assigned by TEA are based on as many as 35 indicators, with the lowest score determining your rating in one of four categories. They are – from highest to lowest – Exemplary, Recognized, Academically Acceptable and Academically Unacceptable. This year, based on Legislative requirements, Texas adopted the Texas Projection Measure, a measure that estimates student success on the TAKS at a future grade. Fourteen LISD campuses benefitted from this state-level change.

Texas public school students are tested in five subject areas: Reading/ English Language Arts, Writing, Social Studies, Mathematics and Science. Each Texas public school campus and district is measured by the performance of all tested students, and for African-American students, Hispanic students, White students and Economically Disadvantaged students, if a campus or district has a sufficient number of students in a particular student group to qualify. This gives 25 TAKS-related performance measures for Leander ISD, a district with ever-increasing diversity. Of these 25 performance measures, 19 increased, five remained the same, and one decreased by only one percentage point (although it remained at the Exemplary level).

While I am proud of all the improved results, I am particularly pleased with the results we achieved in science. This year, all subgroups improved to above the Recognized standard, reflecting the increased attention our science curriculum and instruction has received over the past several years.

Also included in our accountability ratings was our completion rate, which shows the percentage of students graduating from high school in four years or continuing in high school for a fifth year. Leander ISD met the Recognized standard for all subgroups except Economically Disadvantaged, but showed a significant improvement in closing the gap for those students (8.3% increase). And while we know that one dropout or one non-completer is one too many, I'm happy to report that we met a high level of required improvement in order to be Recognized.

There is truly much to celebrate in this year's TEA Accountability ratings for Leander ISD, its campuses and its students. While our performance shows the success of our overall approach to teaching and learning, it demonstrates the need to stay focused on continuing *(Continued on Page 40)* 



# School News

### Leander ISD Reated- (Continued from Page 39)

to increase academic challenge for all students, working to close the achievement gap and increasing our completion rate. I love that we continue to build bridges to student success and that we're continuing to work and partner with our parents to make this the finest school district in the nation.

Once again, congratulations to our students and teachers for these results. I am excited to see what terrific things the 2009 – 2010 school year will bring! As always, we appreciate your support as we continue our pursuit of excellence.

Respectfully, Bret A. Champion, Ed.D. - Superintendent



### Sign Up to Volunteer, Renew Your Application Today

As we gear up for another great school year in Leander ISD, we encourage all parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles to reactivate their online volunteer application for 2009 - 2010 by visiting the district website at www.leanderisd.org, click on volunteers. Volunteers can make address, phone and email changes, as well as update their child's grade level, campus and years of service.

If you are new to LISD or a first-time volunteer, it's never too early to start the application process to ensure you are ready to volunteer once school begins. Visit the volunteer webpage at http://www. leanderisd.org/default.aspx?name=comm.volunteer for program goals and guidelines, the volunteer handbook and a quick link to the application. Anyone interested in volunteering in Leander ISD, including mentors, PTA/PTO members, booster clubs, etc..., is required to complete the online application and criminal record check prior to volunteering.

Please contact your campus volunteer coordinator if you have any questions or concerns.

Expand Your Universe... Volunteer.



## Leander ISD Graduation Requirements

This summer, the 81st Texas Legislature passed House Bill 3 (HB 3), the new state accountability bill. One item in the legislation that could immediately impact our students is a change in graduation requirements for students in Texas public schools who will be graduating under the Recommended Graduation Plan.

For the Recommended Plan, the new state graduation requirements eliminate one semester of health, two semesters of technology applications, and one semester of physical education (only two semesters are required instead of three). The communication applications credit is still required at this point, but is under consideration for elimination by the State Board of Education. The bill does allow school districts to adopt additional requirements beyond the state requirements.

We received a clarification from the Texas Education Agency which states that, in lieu of a phase-in, the new graduation requirements could go into effect for all students enrolled in the 2009-2010 school year. However, Leander ISD will be phasing in the new graduation requirements.

We will require sophomores, juniors and seniors who are enrolled in the 2009-2010 school year to graduate under the prior graduation requirements. In other words, 2009 - 2010 sophomores, juniors and seniors will still need the health, technology applications, and three semesters of physical education (plus the required ACE course) to graduate in our district. These requirements ensure that all students who were enrolled in high school during the prior school year will have the same graduation requirements throughout their high school careers.

For this year's freshman students (and younger), we will continue to require our students to complete the District's Academic/Career Education (ACE) course and a Health course, eliminating the technology applications course and one semester of physical education (two semesters required). For our freshman students who are currently enrolled in a technology applications course for the 2009-2010 school year wish to change that elective course, we will accommodate schedule requests to the best of our ability.

I regret the confusion that has been created by the late implementation of HB 3 and hope that this clarifies the graduation requirements for our students in LISD. Should you have specific questions regarding your child's schedule, please contact your child's school counselor. Thank you.

Bret A. Champion, Ed.D. Superintendent



### Three Business Networking Groups in the Area

Are you looking to grow your business in 2009? If so, you might be interested in a few of the business networking groups in the area. There are a few to choose from: **Steiner Ranch Referrals BNI Group** 

Meetings are on Thursday mornings from 8:00am to 9:30am at Thai Harmony in Steiner Ranch. Visitors are welcome! If you are interested in visiting a meeting please contact Mark Taylor at marktaylor@ actioncoach.com for more information or visit www.BNIAustin.com.

#### Four Points BNI

Meetings are on Wednesday at lunch from 11:30am to 1:00pm at the River Place Country Club. Visitors are welcome! If you are interested in visiting a meeting please contact Amy Oehler at Amy@Lending360. net or visit www.BNIAustin.com.

### A Business Referral Group Made Fun

Networking Northwest Austin is expanding its member base of businesses in our area. NWNWA members build close business and personal relationships. We believe in business by referrals and having a limited member base (not duplicating professions), so you will not see your competitors here. We have a caring, positive, involved group of people who not only wish to build their business, but also want to build the strength of our networking group. NWNWA meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday at Waterloo Ice House, 360 & FM 2222 from 7:00am to 8:30am. And a fun happy hour once per month at a beautiful location. Come to a breakfast or call Dorothy Scarborough, President - dscarborough5@austin.rr.com, 512-589-3678.

### Women Entrepreneurs of Steiner Ranch Expo

Please join us on Wednesday, September 9th from 1:00pm – 7:00pm at the Towne Square Pavilion for an Expo for the women entrepreneurs of Steiner Ranch. By Women and For Women. "Women helping other Women" is our motto.

Women will be sharing their Businesses, Products, and Services to the community to come by, shop and learn.

Do you have a "women owned" business here in Steiner Ranch and would like to participate please contact Kathy Yates at (512)217-7962.

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### 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 <u>steinerranch@peelinc.com.</u>

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





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# Calendar of Events

	har	SEPI	<mark>rembe</mark>	<mark>R 2009</mark>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday				
		<b>I</b> 7:30pm – Healthy Living Workshop – How to Eat	2	3	4	5				
		Out (Wild Basin Fitness)		۵ <u>۱</u>						
6	7	8	9	10	11	12				
	Labor Day Association Office Closed LISD School Closed	6:30pm – Social Committee Meeting (TSCC)	1:00pm – 7:00pm Women's Expo (TSCC)	6:30pm – Introduction to Solar Power (TSCC)	7:00pm – Knitters & Quilters (TSCC)	8:00am – 12:00pm – Garage Sale 10:00am - College & Career Prep (TSCC				
/				٥ĵ		12:30pm - How to fin Win Scholarships (BC				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19				
Grandparents Day	10:00am – Music Together Sample Class (BMCC) 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC)	7:00pm Say What You See (TSCC)		6:30pm – Essential Bodywear Fitting (BMCC)	6:00pm – Scrapbooking (TSCC)	Rosh Hashanah 8:00am – 12:00pn – Large Item Drop C (TS Parking Lot				
	7:45pm – Just Dance (TSCC)			۵ <u>ش</u>						
20	21 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC) 7:45pm – Just Dance	<b>22</b> 7:00pm – New Retirement Strategies (BMCC)	<b>23</b> LISD Early Release	24 11:00am – 5:00pm – CAI Trade Show (Norris Conference Center)	25	<b>26</b> 12:00pm – 10:00pr Steiner-Palooza (BMC				
	(TSCC)			្វាំ						
27	28 Yom Kippur 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC) 7:45pm – Just Dance (TSCC)	29 3:30pm – SRMA Board of Directors Monthly Meeting 6:00pm – Wellness Workshop – Back to School Bootcamp (TSCC)	30	• odd n We • even n T Residential custo	Andatory 2 Day Per Week Watering numbered addresses will water Wednesdays and Saturdays numbered addresses will water Thursdays and Sundays. tomers will be required to adhere to thi e May 1 through September 30.					



44 Ranch Record - September 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				I	2	3
				7:00pm – New Owner Orientation (TSCC)		
				Orientation (13CC)		
				o ĝ		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC)	6:30pm – Facility Committee Meeting		7:00pm – Trails Committee Meeting	7:00pm – Knitters &	
	7:45pm – Just Dance	(TSCC)		(BMCC)	Quilters (TSCC)	
	(TSCC)			3 🏦		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	LISD Student Holiday	6:30pm – Social Committee Meeting		6:30pm – Essential Body ware Fitting (BMCC)		9:00am – 4:00pm – American Red Cross
	6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC)	(TSCC)				Babysitting Class (FUL
	7:45pm – Just Dance (TSCC)			<b>•</b> #		
18	19	20	21	<b>3 🕅</b> 22	23	24
	6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC)	7:00pm – Say What you See (TSCC)			6:30pm – Scrap-A-Thon (TSCC)	All Day – Scrap-A-Tho (TSCC)
	7:45pm – Just Dance (TSCC)	7:00pm – Estate Planning & LTC (BMCC)				
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
All Day – Scrap-A-Thon (TSCC)	6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC)	3:30pm – SRMA Board of Directors Monthly Meeting		6:00pm – SRROA Board of Directors Meeting		3:00 – 5:00pm – Children's Hallowee Event
	7:45pm – Just Dance (TSCC)	6:00pm – Wellness Workshop (TSCC				







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## News You Can Use

### A Sensible Plan for College Funding

Submitted by Rich Keith

Previously we discussed that how you fund college expenses is divided naturally between using your money, and by using other peoples' money. This sounds simple but each scenario requires understanding of the long-term impacts. The first thing your financial coach should be asking you is about your strategy for funding. Are you willing to fund 2 years? 4 years? Graduate school too? Community college, public university or private?

In President Lincoln's time, the typical family chose only one promising male child to attend college. While these men often became very successful (witness William Henry Seward, Lincoln's Secretary of State), their other children were left out of the equation. Today's children are much luckier. Even so, ask the hard questions starting at or before your oldest child's 15th birthday. While they may tell you that attending a community college will deprive them of the college experience, consider what that college experience will cost in real dollars. And, getting into college as a junior is sometimes less competitive than entering as a freshman. Better yet, some community colleges have written agreements with universities on which classes are transferrable. Importantly, parents need to figure out their college budget ahead of time and then discuss it with their child before he or she applies. In this way, colleges with the net cost above the predetermined budget can come off the list. The funding budget is made of a combination of moneys coming from your pre-tax accounts, regular (taxable) savings, and retirement accounts, to name a few. Several savings plans are available and many are tax-advantaged. Your financial professional and tax pro can help you here.

There are advantages and disadvantages to using your own money for college expenses. A detailed plan will reveal the opportunity cost of funding everything yourself. That's one reason why people turn to loans. Remember the power of using the IRS "tax scholarships" to help you maximize every dollar saved. Any time you can reduce your tax it's the same as a scholarship or grant. And the benefits to you increase as your tax bracket increases. Importantly, all educational tax strategies must be reviewed with your tax advisor in order to coordinate the interrelationship between tax, other financial aid and your family's overall financial plan for the future. Next month: more on tax scholarships.



### Water Treatment Plant 4 Public Meeting

The City of Austin invites you and your neighbors to attend a very important community meetinga in September, where project team members will provide the most current information available regarding Water Treatment Plant 4 (WTP 4). The plant is scheduled to be operational by 2014 to meet the City's drinking water needs.

The meeting will be held at Concordia University, located off of FM 620 North at 11400 Concordia University Drive (please go to <u>http://www.concordia.edu/</u> and click on "maps" for directions). WATER TREATMENT PLANT 4 PUBLIC MEETING: Tuesday, September 15, 2009

6:30 p.m.

Concordia University in Building A, Auditorium and Lobby

This meeting will provide current information that focuses on other vital WTP 4 components, such as the Lake Travis intake, the plant layout and building renderings, environmental protection activities and the schedule as well as construction this fall of the Bullick Hollow Road expansion. The City's water and wildland conservation programs will be highlighted at this meeting as well. Additional information about this September 15 community meeting will be provided in the weeks to come.

For more information, please call 498-9874 or email info@wtpfour. com. Visit the web site at <u>http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/water/wtpfour.</u> <u>htm</u>



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## NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE

Padies Bible Study

Begins September 16, 2009 Wednesdays 9:30-11:30am 7:00-8:30pm

The Church at Canyon Creek 9001 FM 620 North Phone: 512-331-7340 www.tcacc.net





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# See our Passion in Action:



# News You Can Use

## Eating to Live: 5 Foods You Should Eat Daily Submitted by Dr. Tenesab Weine

1. Spinach - Spinach is the best source of omega-3s (plant-based), and folate, both help reduce the risk of heart disease, stroke, and osteoporosis. Incorporate Spinach into your salads, add spinach to scrambled eggs, or drape it over pizza.

2. Blueberries - Blueberries have more antioxidants than any other North American fruit; blueberries help prevent cancer, diabetes, and age-related memory changes (they are nicknamed "brain berry"). Blueberries are rich in fiber and vitamins A and C, they also boost cardiovascular health. Aim for 1 cup fresh blueberries a day, or 1/2 cup frozen or dried. Stick them into yogurt, cereal, or a smoothie. Of course they are great alone!

3. Yogurt - Yogurt containing probiotics will boost your immune system by building the gut lining. One ailment I test for in my office is candid/yeast, when positive I treat with probiotics. Not all yogurts have probiotics, so make sure the label says "live and active cultures." Aim for 1 cup of the calcium and protein-rich yogurt a day. Avoid yogurts with high sugar content, goat yogurt is most preferred.

4. Walnuts - Walnuts are richer in heart-healthy omega-3s than salmon, loaded with more anti-inflammatory polyphenols than red wine, and packing half as much muscle-building protein as chicken. Other nuts combine only one or two of these features, not all three. A serving of walnuts - about 1 ounce, or 7 nuts--is good anytime, but especially as a post workout recovery snack. Walnuts are great sprinkled over a salad. 5. Tomatoes - Red are the best, because they're packed with more of the antioxidant lycopene, and processed tomatoes are just as potent as fresh ones, because it's easier for the body to absorb the lycopene. Diets rich in lycopene can decrease your risk of bladder, lung, prostate, skin, and stomach cancers, as well as reduce the risk of coronary artery disease. Aim for 22 mg of lycopene a day, which is about eight red cherry tomatoes or a glass of tomato juice.

Note: While eating blueberries and other fruits you want to eat them on an empty stomach. You may have heard people complaining - every time I eat watermelon I burp, when I eat durian my stomach bloats up, when I eat a banana I feel like running to the toilet. When you eat fruit with foods, the fruit mixes with the putrefying other food and produces gas, hence you will bloat!

When you eat fruit, it immediately wants to go straight through the stomach into the intestines, but it is prevented from doing so when other food is present in the stomach. Adding fruit to a meal causes the whole meal to rot, ferment and turn into acid. The moment fruit comes into contact with the food in the stomach and digestive juices, the entire mass of food begins to spoil.

This will not arise if you eat the fruit on an empty stomach. If you eat fruit on an empty stomach, or right before a meal, it will play a major role to detoxify your system. It supplies you with a great deal of energy for weight loss and other life activities.

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## Host an Exchange Student Experience another culture

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Submitted by Katie Robinson

iE International Student Exchange is seeking host homes for high school exchange students from Germany and other nations. We are seeking couples, singles, or families who are willing to open their home to one special exchange student for 6 weeks or for the entire 2009-2010 school year. You will be amazed to find what you gain from the experience, as well as what you give: the chance for one international student to have a lifechanging encounter. This is a great opportunity to connect with someone from another culture! All you need to host is a spare bed and an open heart!

Contact Katie Robinson, Local Coordinator for Austin - 512-538-8080 or k.leigh. robinson@gmail.com.

### **Outdoor Water Conservation Tips**

Even though we use water every day, it's easy to take it for granted. Just imagine how you would function without clean water. It's everyone's responsibility to conserve and protect water resources. The decisions and actions you make today truly affect our water resources for the future. The following suggestions will help you get in the habit of saving water in the great outdoors:

- Use mulch around landscape plantings. Mulch will help eliminate weeds and hold moisture in the soil.
- Select hardy plants that don't need much water. Native plants that are well adapted to your climate and soils will survive well without supplemental watering. A copy of the Steiner Ranch Approved Plant list is available on the website at www.steinerranchhoa. org.
- Water during the cool part of the day to avoid rapid evaporation and follow the WCID #17 Mandatory 2-day per week watering schedule.
- When watering is necessary, water slowly and thoroughly. If you notice puddles or runoff, turn water off and wait for water to soak in. Also be sure your sprinkler puts water where you need it-not on driveways or sidewalks.
- Wash cars efficiently. First give the car a quick rinse, and then turn the water off. Wash one section of the car at a time and rinse that section quickly. Turn the water off each time.

Visit www.auduboninternational.org for more conservation tips.



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## News You Can Use



Farewell, My Subaru by Doug Fine

I sought out this book, Farewell, My Subaru by Doug Fine after coming across an article that suggested it as a good "green" read. The environment is a topic close to my heart and I thought it might help me become more aware and propel action within our own communities.

The author takes us on his journey to live a green life by using less oil, powering his life by renewable energy, eating locally and not dying in the process. To do this, he moves to New Mexico and in a year's time buys a ranch, some goats, chickens, plants, solar panels and a diesel-fueled truck that can also run on the grease from used vegetable oil.

Fine describes his experience using humor and quick wit intertwined with sharp sarcasm and quite a few political jabs. He also demonstrates his sensitive side, which I found really endearing, especially in his relationship with his goats.

Included in his journal are facts and tips relating to the environment. Some of this information seemed a bit out of context and could use a better frame of reference. However, there are some great things I learned. He even threw in a couple of food recipes. For example, did you know:

• Solar panels are mandatory for all buildings in Spain

• It takes about \$40,000 of solar equipment to power an average American home by the sun

• Renewable sources of energy—solar, wind and geothermal will supply nearly half of the world's energy needs by 2050

• To ship store-bought organic tomatoes that were grown eight hundred miles away from New Mexico (in California), roughly a hundred and twenty gallons of fossil fuels were used

Fine also uses strong statements that back-up his cause. For example, he quotes Ralph Nader, "The use of solar energy has not been opened up because the oil industry does not own the sun." He then proceeds to list Exxon/Mobile's \$9.28 first quarter 2007 profits.

The author's encounters with Mother Nature were severe, but ultimately brought extreme joy to his life and reconnected him to Earth. "Living local and green was not an all-or-nothing proposition. Each day I had another chance to make good choices..."

You must check out the great ideas and resource list in the back of the book.

Caution: If you love George W. Bush, don't read the book! The analogies the author uses frequently include references to either the former president or his staff.

Recycling is one way we can be more green within Steiner Ranch. I called IESI who told me that they will collect and recycle the following items. They do this through a process called "one or single-stream recycling" which means that you don't have to separate the different types of materials – they all go together, increasing the cost-effectiveness of the collection.

Recycle These!

1. Aluminum and tin/steel cans

2. Paper: Newspaper, magazines, junk mail, envelopes, wrapping paper

3. Cardboard and boxboard, including cereal boxes, shoe boxes, gift boxes, food packaging containers (but not pizza boxes because of the oils that leak onto the cardboard)

4. Plastics #1 - #7 (including milk/water jugs, water bottles, yogurt and margarine tubs)

5. Glass (any color, rinsed)

These Items Not Accepted:

- Plastic bags
- Styrofoam®
- Pizza boxes
- Yard waste/leaves (set out for yard trimmings pick up)
- Food waste

• Wire coat hangers (recycle at your local dry cleaners)

• Aluminum foil, aerosol cans, window glass, light bulbs, crystal, phone books, dishes, rubber bands.

For large items (refrigerators, washers, dryers, etc.) please contact IESI at 282-3508 for arrangements. No tires or hazardous waste will be accepted.

Extra recycling can be placed in a cardboard box or you can call IESI and request an additional 18-gallon bin for recycling (at no extra charge).

Other related reading:

- The Armchair Environmentalist
- Naked in the Woods
- The Green Parent
- Hey Mr. Green

## Barktoberfest

The Central Texas SPCA invites all Austin-area animal lovers to its 7th annual Barktoberfest festival and dog walk. All proceeds benefit the CTSPCA's adoption program. This family-friendly event will be held a little earlier than usual this year - Saturday, September 26 - at Old Settlers Park in Round Rock.

The 3K dog walk will start the day with free event t-shirts for walkers raising \$25 or more in pledges. Registration for the pledge walk begins at 9:30 AM and the 3K walk begins at 10:00 AM. Festivities and entertainment will start at 10:30 AM and will include a canine costume contest, music, food booths, an education station, a kids' fun area, vendor booths, Greyhound Pets of America's Speed Alley, a low-cost microchip clinic, and much more!

Admission is free to walk participants and kids; a \$5 donation is suggested for other adults. It's a howling good time for dogs and humans of all ages!





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## NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE



# Water Safety Word Find

L	Ε	Α	R	N	Т	0	S	W	Ι	М	Α	L	Α	0	А	L	C	Α	W
Y	Α	C	Т	Н	Α	Ι	Α	D	W	Α	Α	0	Y	М	Т	Α	Ρ	W	Α
D	F	Ε	Ε	т	F	Т	R	S	т	Ι	Α	0	F	т	Α	L	Α	Α	т
D	Α	R	D	А	L	Α	Α	Α	L	Α	R	Ρ	R	Α	Ι	А	G	S	E
U	L	Α	Ε	0	Α	W	Α	Α	Α	Ε	Α	Т	Α	F	D	т	Α	Ν	R
В	Ε	С	Ρ	А	Α	Y	Α	Α	Н	Α	G	Α	Ε	Α	Α	Ε	Α	0	Α
н	Α	Т	J	А	М	Ι	Α	C	Α	Α	I	G	Α	Е	0	К	G	S	0
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1	Р	Α	F	А	Α	Α	W	Α	Α	Α	Α	I	М	Е	Α	Α	Α	Ε	D
w	R	Α	А	A	W	Α	Α	Α	R	Α	Α	N	Α	J	Α	J	Α	L	L
м	Α	I	Α	R	Α	Т	Α	D	0	Т	Α	N	Н	W	А	Ε	Α	М	0
1	Α	Α	Ε	т	Α	Α	М	Α	F	А	Α	U	Α	Т	А	F	G	Ι	0
w	Α	Т	Α	Ε	0	Α	Α	W	Α	D	Α	R	Α	Ε	А	Ι	Α	W	Р
s	A	Α	L	A	Α	0	В	Ε	Y	Ρ	0	0	L	R	U	L	Ε	S	Α
w	A	J	Y	0	А	G	C	Р	R	A	Ε	N	A	A	W	Ε	F	D	Α

### Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The words may be hidden in any direction.



POOL LIFE JACKET LIFEGUARD LEARN TO SWIM NO RUNNING AT POOL SWIM LESSONS FEET FIRST SWIM WITH BUDDY OBEY POOL RULES WATER WATCHER



For more information check out our website at:

www.colinshope.org

Colin's Hope is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that creates and supports programs that aid in preventing children from drowning. Despite numerous sources for water safety, the number of children who drown per year is staggering. Colin's Hope of saving children from drowning is being achieved through increased water safety awareness and improved standards throughout the community.



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Wood Floors & Iron Balusters

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