



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3  
MAY 2010

# Ranch Review

## ALAMO RANCH

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ALAMO RANCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

## Maintain Your Yard *Safely*

Properly maintaining your yard helps your home and our community look good. Just make sure that safety is a priority when undertaking your landscaping efforts:

- Clear sticks and debris before you mow. Random debris kicked up by a lawn mower can seriously injure you and those around you. Also, mowing debris shortens the life of your mower and dulls the blade.
- Replace the cord on your weed trimmer. Your trimming will be safer if you have strong trimmer cords. Always wear eye protection when using a trimmer.
- Maintain your lawnmower in top working condition. If you find yourself mowing the same areas again and again, it's time to inspect your lawnmower. Keep a maintenance checklist of important components like air filters, blades and oil.
- Keep plants and shrubs about five feet from foundation walls, and keep trees at least six to 20 feet away, depending on their size. Plant roots that are too close to the foundation not only cause damage to the structure, but may also attract bugs and mold into your home since they tend to hold moisture.

## FRUGAL WAYS TO STAY HEALTHY



Medical costs are on everyone's mind these days with the ongoing debate about health care. Check out these tips from the Federal Citizen Information Center for easy ways you can trim the cost of medicine, fitness and more:

**Switch to generic.** Because of legal restrictions, a generic drug might not look exactly the same as the name brand, but it contains the same active ingredients and should be just as effective. Brand name drugs cost more than their generic counterparts because the makers of the original, brand name versions had to pay for the research, development and marketing of the medications. To learn more, go to <http://go.usa.gov/IWk>.

**Watch out for scams.** They keep coming back in different forms on TV and the Internet, but one thing stays the same: health scams for "miracle" cures can cost you lots of money. And the diet pills and energy products they push could be dangerous or have harmful interactions with your other medicines. Save your money for doctor-prescribed medicines. Find out more at <http://go.usa.gov/l5x>.

**Reconsider the gym.** If you aren't using your membership regularly, it could be one place where you could save some money. If you're worried about how you'll fit your exercise in without the gym, the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services suggests several alternate forms of exercise that you can fit into your everyday life in an online brochure at <http://go.usa.gov/IWB>.

You can also order printed copies of these brochures (subject to availability) by: visiting [www.pueblo.gsa.gov](http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov) to place your order online. Or call toll-free 1-888-878-3256, weekdays 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST. Ask for **Health Scams** (Item 576V); **Be Active Your Way** (Item 116V); or **Generic Drugs** (Item 555V).

# RANCH REVIEW

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY .....911  
Fire..... 911  
Ambulance..... 911  
Bexar County – Non-Emergency.....210-335-6000  
Geronimo Village VFD .....210-679-7051  
24 Hour Association Emergency .....1-866-409-8364

### OTHER NUMBERS

CPS Energy.....210-704-7297  
(Electricity/Gas/Garbage & Waste/Environment Accounts)  
Grey Forest Gas Company .....210-695-8781  
Heritage Station Post Office .....800-275-8777  
.....210-543-8237  
Helotes Main Post Office .....800-275-8777

### NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. ....888-687-6444  
Advertising..... advertising@peelinc.com  
Editor..... Stephanie Ramirez, sramirez@ccmcnet.com

## COMMUNITY INFO

### ALAMO RANCH

210-679-0303  
4550 Del Webb Blvd.  
San Antonio, TX 78253  
www.alamoranchcommassoc.com

### OFFICE HOURS

8 am - 5 pm

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#### Compliance Officer

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## THE POOL IS OPEN!



If you are ready to jump in the pool and catch some sun your Alamo Ranch pool is open for fun! You'll need to pick up your new AR pool key card from the Association office Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm. If you cannot make it during those hours please make arrangements with Stephanie Ramirez to pick up the key card after business hours.

**The lifeguards will start their 12pm-7pm schedule for Memorial Day weekend and will go full swing when school lets out in June. The slide will be operating during those hours so come out and catch some rays!!!**

## ★ UNITED ★ Gymnastics Academy

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Now enrolling all  
**SUMMER CAMPS & CLASSES!**

Boys & Girls Camp  
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## ★ Free Trial Class! ★

Bring in this Coupon and Receive \$10 off!  
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## Located in Helotes!

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## NO SECRETS

Association members are welcome to read official association documents. There's nothing secret about the business of the association. In fact, you should already have copies of key documents like the bylaws or rules. Other common documents that are open for members to review include:

- Board meeting minutes
- Insurance policies
- Financial statements and annual audits
- Declaration and bylaws
- Rules and regulations

### HERE'S HOW TO GAIN ACCESS:

- Send the board a request in writing specifying exactly what records you wish to review, the date of those records and the purpose of your request.

- The board will respond to your request within 30 days. During that time the board or manager will locate the correct documents and get them ready for you.
- The records you requested will be available for your review during regular business hours at the manager's office for 30 days after we process your request.
- The association will make copies of records for a reasonable fee.

Please do not request documents that infringe on the privacy of an individual. Some requests might be denied if they involve ongoing legal or contractual obligations that might expose the association board or manager to liability.

## Advisory Committee Meeting

The Advisory Committee meets on the third Tuesday of every month at the Alamo Ranch Clubhouse at 6:30pm. Should you desire to submit a community question or concern please do so through the AR website [www.alamoranchcommassoc.com](http://www.alamoranchcommassoc.com), through the Resources tab- Board/Committee, at least a week before the meeting. Get your voice heard or get answers to questions you've been meaning to ask!



## Tired of Hard-Bad Tasting Water?

### WATER SOFTENERS AND DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS

- ◆ Hard water scale on faucets & appliances?
- ◆ Unpleasant taste & chemical odors?
- ◆ Soap scum build up, spots on dishes?
- ◆ Stains in sinks, tubs, showers & toilets?
- ◆ Dry hair, skin and scalp?
- ◆ Water Filtration for City, Well & Lake Water.

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WATER FILTRATION SYSTEM  
Expires 5/31/10

**FINANCING AVAILABLE**  
1YR. SAME AS CASH  
Expires 5/31/10

**FREE CASE OF WATER WITH APPOINTMENTS!**



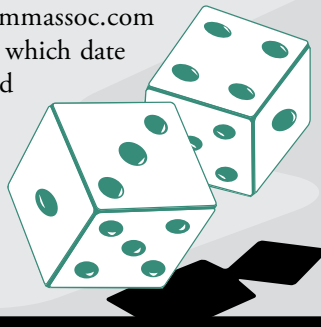
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# RANCH REVIEW

## Let's Play Bunco!

Looking for an evening of games, food, and fun? Well look no further! Alamo Ranch Community Association has a Bunco group that meets on the first Tuesday of every month at the AR Clubhouse from 6pm-10pm. Come out and meet fellow Alamo Ranch residents for a pot-luck style meal and play the game of Bunco. If you're a professional or just looking to learn the game, everyone is welcome. Space is limited and arrangements for food have to be made ahead of time so please RSVP either through the website ([www.alamoranchcommassoc.com](http://www.alamoranchcommassoc.com) – in "Events Calendar" select which date you would like to attend and click on the "here" link at the bottom of the page to RSVP for the event) or email Brenda Sawin directly at [brendasawin@yahoo.com](mailto:brendasawin@yahoo.com).



## Recipe of the Month

### Cheesy Potatoes

6 medium potatoes, cooked & chunked  
*Pour cooked potatoes into a lightly greased 8 x 10" baking dish.*

**Cook the following in ¼ lb. margarine or butter until tender:**

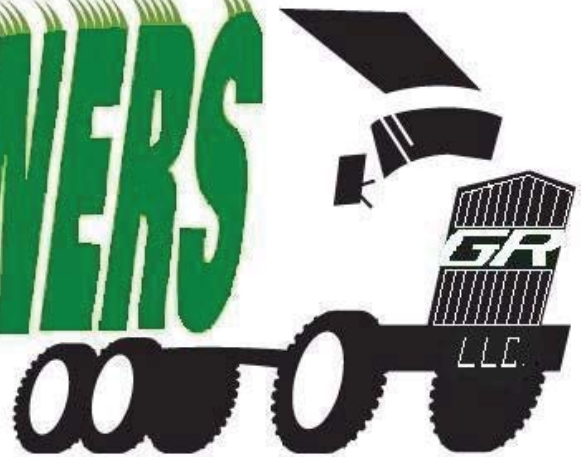
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 green pepper, chopped
- 3 stalks celery, chopped

**Add the following to cooked vegetables:**

- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 small can evaporated milk
- ½ lb. Velveeta cheese
- 1 small jar pimentos

*Sprinkle with parsley if desired. Stir until cheese melts and pour over potatoes. Bake in 350 degree oven until bubbly.*

# GRASSRUNNERS



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Irrigation

Services

# New Solar Tax Credit

Save up to **70%** on your system.

By combining the new Federal Tax Credit with local incentives and our Alamo 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.

Alamo  
Ranch goes  
**Green**

## WHY GO SOLAR?

- Up to \$50,000.00 in city rebates
- 25+ years of savings
- Energy independence
- Tax free ROI

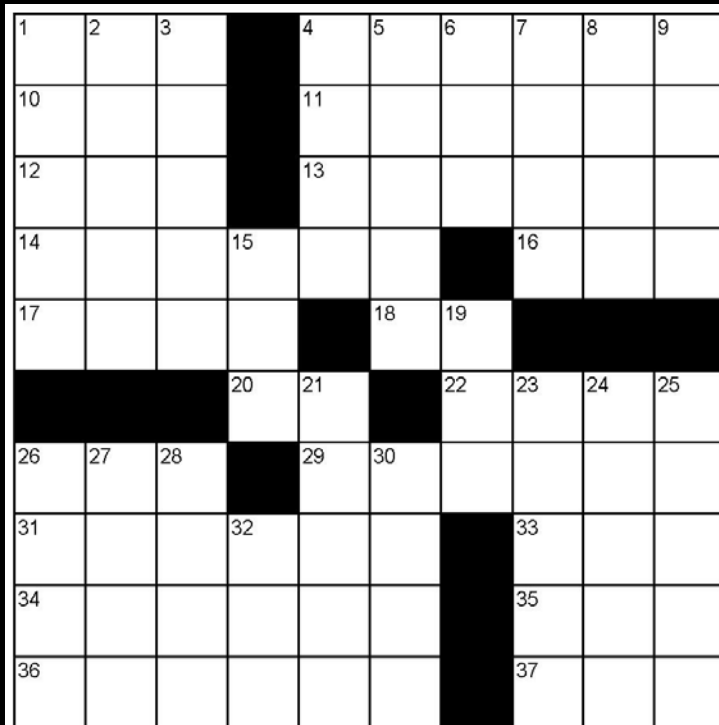


Contact Shelby Ruff for  
more information

512.775.1360 | [www.solarcommunity.net](http://www.solarcommunity.net) | [shelby@solarcommunity.net](mailto:shelby@solarcommunity.net)

# RANCH REVIEW

## Crossword Puzzle



### ACROSS

1. Bad (prefix)
4. Asks for legally
10. Monkey
11. Author of "Sense and Sensibility"
12. Gross national product (abbr.)
13. Plan
14. More humble
16. Swab
17. Retired persons association (abbr.)
18. Education (abbr.)
20. Headquarters (abbr.)
22. Cool
26. Poisonous snake
29. African country
31. Penzoil is this (2 wds.)
33. MD
34. Build
35. Kimono sash
36. Walk quietly
37. Misty

### DOWN

1. Lava
2. Sleep disorder
3. Biblical outcast
4. Casing
5. Money
6. Tree
7. Detail
8. Business note
9. Metal fastener
15. Kilometers per hour
19. Cell stuff
21. Capital of Ecuador
23. Give
24. Mud brick
25. Inferred
26. Account (abbr.)
27. Dress
28. Secondary
30. Rejoicing
32. Grain

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\*Solution at www.PEELinc.com

As a resident of **Alamo Ranch**, you and your immediate family are eligible for membership.

# Change is Good!

## Cash Back Checking

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on all Debit Card purchases



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If you use your debit card to make purchases denominated in a foreign currency, you will be charged a foreign exchange fee by MasterCard® to convert currency. Federally insured by the NCUA.

# RANCH REVIEW

## Not Available Online

*Do You Have Reason  
to Celebrate?*

We want to hear from you! Email [sramirez@ccmcnet.com](mailto:sramirez@ccmcnet.com)  
to let the community know!

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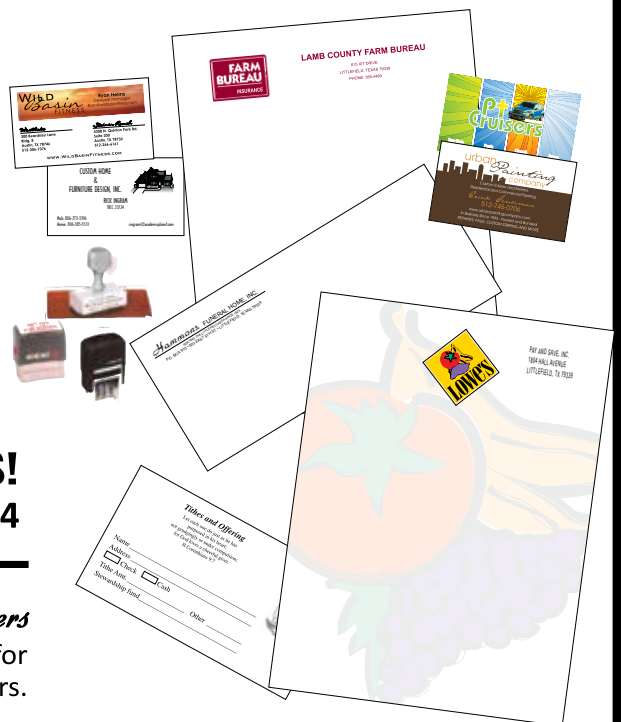
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## FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DROWNING

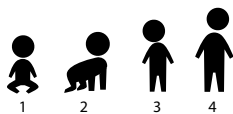
### DROWNING CAN STILL OCCUR EVEN IF YOU KNOW HOW TO SWIM

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

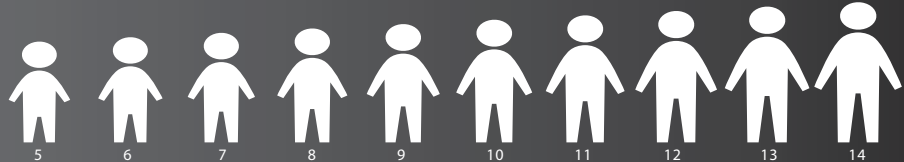
Falls, entrapments, and injuries lead to drowning regardless of swimming level.

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

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.

### 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

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