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Overlook • Parkside • Reserve • Waters Edge • Westchester



November 2010

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE AVERY RANCH HOA

Volume 4, Issue 11

CALENDAR

HOA BOARD MEETINGS

Next meeting - Monday, Nov 8th

Board Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7pm, except for holidays. Board members will meet on these dates to discuss issues related to Avery Ranch. If you have an item you would like discussed during one of these meetings, please contact Alliance Association Management, Inc. at 347-2888. The location for meetings is at the Glenfield Amenity Center.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Movie in the Park

Saturday, November 6 starting at 7:30 pm. Check the website and marquees for the title to be announced. Volunteers are needed for the set up and take down of the movie screen. If you are able to help out please contact Marc Boucher at mbouchertx@sbcglobal.net.

We want to hear from you....what events would you like to have in Avery Ranch? Let us know. Contact our Avery Ranch Social Committee Chairperson Marc Boucher at mbouchertx@sbcglobal.net.

Are You Making the Best Use *of Your land?*

Well....are you? It may be something you don't think about often, but if this is the case, it is time to do so now. Throughout history, land has been a precious commodity. With it, water, sustenance and protection in the form of shelter of ones self and family. Well we seem to have mastered (for most of us) the shelter part, having most Americans in some form of home, most with land. One thing landowners have in common no matter how large or small is the importance of making the best use of your space and conserving resources on that land.

Many cultures to this day believe it is sacrilegious, and ungrateful to mismanage the land we are in possession of. The Indian culture believes lawn to be a weed plant that takes up valuable resources. Native Americans have for centuries grown herbs crops and plants for medicine as well as food. Growing Native plants is also important to this equation as they each serve a purpose in our Eco system whether it be in the form of shelter to animals and wildlife, food for bee's and birds and supplies in the form of wood and thatch. I could mention culture after culture of gardeners and Stuarts of land and guess what... no lawns.

So I can already hear some of you saying, "I have kids and dogs, where will they play". Well my suggestion is that most cities have huge parks for just such an occasion, but to compromise, let's say we compromise How about you turn some of that water hogging sod in your back yards into a veggie and herb bed for you and your kids to discover the wonders of eating right off the vine, tree or bush, I can assure you, you haven't tasted food until you have grown it yourself. Or maybe you take up some of that lawn space with a few fruit trees or an ocean of wild flowers and cutting flowers, native grasses or herbs.

(Continued on Page 3)



HOME ON THE RANCH

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY911
Fire.....911
Ambulance.....911
Sheriff – Non-Emergency..... 512-943-1300

SCHOOLS

ROUND ROCK ISD

Patsy Sommer Elementary 704-0600
..... 16200 Avery Ranch Blvd.
Cedar Valley Middle School..... 428-2300
..... 8139 Racine Trail
McNeil High School..... 464-6300
.....5720 McNeil Dr.

LEANDER ISD

Rutledge Elementary..... 570-6500
..... 11501 Staked Plains Dr.
Henry Middle School 570-3400
.....100 N. Vista Ridge Dr.
Vista Ridge High School..... 570-1800
.....200 S. Vista Ridge Dr.

UTILITIES

City of Austin Water 512-494-9400
Perdernal Electric..... 512-219-2602

TEXAS GAS SERVICE

Custom Service..... 1-800-700-2443
Emergencies..... 512-370-8609
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Billing..... 1-800-858-7928

TIME WARNER CABLE

Customer Service 512-485-5555
Repairs..... 512-485-5080
Solid Waste Servies..... 512-494-9400

NEWSLETTER INFO

EDITOR

Teresa Miller arnewsletter@hotmail.com

PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. 512-263-9181
Advertising..... advertising@peelinc.com

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT

Steve Roebuck..... steveroe@swbell.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Pat Wimberly..... PatWimberly@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Glen Colbyglen@texas.net

TREASURER

April Aguren april.aguren@averyranchhoa.com

RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

Mark Bittman mbarhoa@hotmail.com

RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

Marc Bouchermbouchertx@sbcglobal.net

RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

Clint Millerclintonwmiller@gmail.com

RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

Khris Mire khrismire@yahoo.com

RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

Joe Pero.....jpn2004@hotmail.com

RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

Gary Wilkswilks@swbell.net

D.R. HORTON

Tom Moody.....TEMoody@drhorton.com

AVERY RANCH HOA WEBSITE

Visit the Avery Ranch HOA website at
www.AveryRanchHOA.com

FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS

Contact our Property Manager & HOA Board for any
questions/concerns about your neighborhood at
GetHelp@AveryRanchHOA.com

DON'T WANT TO WAIT FOR THE MAIL?

View the current issue of Home on the Ranch on the 1st
day of each month at www.PEELinc.com

Neighborhood News

The TCC (Texas Cave Conservancy) gives the tours of
their cave, which is located near Morningside. The cave
tour schedule can be found at: <http://www.texascaves.org>,
click the Cave Day link.

HOME ON THE RANCH

Are You Making the Best Use - (Continued from Cover Page)

The general idea is that you use your space to grow food and provide shelter for yourself and the wildlife that come to visit. The original purpose of owning land was intended to provide individuals with the space to grow food for their families, animals and hopefully enough to carry you from season to season. We have gotten so far from the path of our ancestors that we are now growing lawns and feeding them with toxic chemicals and watering them to the tune of small fortunes and for nothing more than to pollute the environment and to have another job to do each week, in having to mow, edge, blow and care for them, or worse yet..paying someone else to do it for you. What do you really get back from your lawn? Here in Texas, the grass is so scratchy and the fire ants so prevalent, I don't find myself sitting in a grass patch very often. However, my family and I have benefited tremendously from the multiple pounds of fruit, vegetables and herbs we harvest each year. Not to mention the benefit of a low maintenance, low water, plant selection, to which sod most definitely does not qualify.

Now you don't have to plant an elaborate garden, but you can start small and see the rewards for yourself. By planting a few fruit trees and saving the annual total of hundreds a year by not paying a premium for store bought, prematurely picked produce while eating the chemicals and wax they use to make them pretty.

Collect rain water to water and organically fertilize with, and start a compost pile to recycle scraps from the food you eat. You use the compost to fertilize the food you are growing and it all comes full circle the way nature intended.

Children are much more likely to try a new fruit or veggie that they grow than they are from the store, I have seen it myself in school aged children, they take pride in their successes and look forward to the daily changes in their gardens. When my oldest son was very little we started with a 10 x12 bed and grew cantaloupe, green beans, carrots, spinach, broccoli, herbs, tomatoes, watermelons and pumpkins. I would let him choose plants and seeds that he wanted to try and each year he got more adventurous. Not only does the experience make great memories and photos, but he developed a great love and appreciation for how food is grown and how to care for plants while spending time with nature. He also was far more willing to try the food he grew.

We are in great need of change, it is time we all take a piece of history back and what better place to start than in our own back yards.

Happy Gardening!!



The best time to find a family doctor? Before your family needs one.



Leila Williams, D.O., FAMILY MEDICINE

Whether it's a simple cold or something more serious, you need a doctor you can rely on. Dr. Leila Williams is an experienced family medicine physician who is dedicated to providing compassionate care to help you and your family live a healthier life. Dr. Williams provides the full range of family medical care including treating acute illnesses, managing chronic conditions, and providing preventive health services.

Dr. Williams is now accepting new patients. For an appointment, please call 512-528-7420. Same-day appointments may be available.



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Member of the Medical Staff at Cedar Park Regional Medical Center

GET INVOLVED

In Your Community

COMMITTEE:

AR Social Committee

DESCRIPTION:

Newsletter, Fun, Activities, etc.

COMMITTEE CHAIR:

Marc Boucher

CONTACT INFO:

mbouchertx@sbcglobal.net

COMMITTEE: AR Playgroup

DESCRIPTION: Playtime for kids...
adult-time for parents

COMMITTEE CHAIR:

April Aguren

CONTACT INFO:

april.aguren@averyranchhoa.com

AVERY RANCH VIOLATION REPORT

By Steve Roebuck

If you are wondering about one aspect of what Alliance Association Management does to help preserve the value of Avery Ranch, look at the violation report for this year. Many of these items are self-explanatory, though some encompass a broader range of what the exact violation may be. Violation notices are sent to homeowners when the property manager observes them, or when they are reported by a resident and verified by Alliance. To report a violation, please email gethelp@AveryranchHOA.com or call Alliance at 512-310-2300. Thank you all for keeping Avery Ranch a nice place to live!

- **PORTABLE BASKETBALL GOALS** – Are not permitted as permanent fixtures. Please see www.AveryRanchHOA.com forum under Architectural Control committee and read the guidelines.
- **TRASH RECEPTACLES** – Should be placed at the curb on the day of pick-up and returned to storage that night. Trash bins must be stored where they are not visible from the street.
- **SATELLITE DISHES** – Must be mounted on the roof of the house in an unobtrusive location. If they must be toward the front of the home, they should be placed at least 10 feet back.
- **YARD MAINTENANCE** – Generally, this is due to excessive weeds, grass that needs cutting, or overgrowth onto the sidewalk that needs trimming.

(Report on Page 5)



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HOME ON THE RANCH

Nature of Violation	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Boat/Trailer Storage	4	0	1	2	3	2	1	1	4
Detail Yard Maintenance	33	35	29	9	33	16	12	12	46
Exterior Decorative Objects	0	8	4	2	2	0	0	0	0
Fence	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	3	8
General Yard Maintenance	8	24	32	30	48	24	4	5	2
Inoperable Vehicle	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Landscaping	6	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Noise Nuisance	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Pet Nuisance	1	0	3	2	5	1	0	0	1
Portable Basketball Goal	3	3	1	4	5	1	1	2	4
Property Violation	8	5	4	11	17	1	0	12	1
Roof Replacement/Repair	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Satellite Dish	1	0	15	14	1	2	1	1	0
Signage	13	18	3	3	12	1	2	1	4
Trash & Debris	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Trash Receptacle	51	19	8	10	25	10	3	4	36
Tree Planting/Removal	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unauthorized Improvements	11	5	3	2	5	1	1	3	5
Unauthorized Signage	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Vehicle Storage	9	20	22	13	9	6	2	3	12
Total	164	143	127	104	166	69	27	47	127

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HOME ON THE RANCH

COUNTY NEWS

By Williamson County Commissioner Lisa Birkman

All registered voters are urged to vote in the Tuesday, November 2nd general election. Avery Ranch is comprised of several different voting precincts with different polling locations. To find your location, times and more information, go to the county's website, www.wilco.org, and click on the Elections icon. Voters will have the opportunity to cast their vote for governor, lieutenant governor, state representative and many more offices.

Also, I would like to invite everyone to have coffee with me on Wednesday, Nov. 17th from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. at the new JB and Hallie Jester Williamson County Annex, located in east Round Rock at 1801 East Old Settlers Blvd. This "Coffee with the Commissioner" will feature information on county transportation projects and will be a come and go event. County citizens will have the opportunity to view displays on transportation plus visit with me and county staff on any other county issue. This will be my second coffee and I plan to continue having them to give folks the opportunity to meet with me in an informal setting.

November is also the beginning of the holiday season and the Williamson County Brown Santa program will again raise money and collect toys for needy children in the county. The Williamson County Sheriff's Office sponsors the program. The program also needs donations and also volunteers to assist with various duties, such as sorting, packaging and distributing the toys plus more. For more information, visit www.wilcobrownsanta.com. Also, on Friday, November 26th beginning at 5:30 p.m., you are invited to attend a free, fun event on the historic square in Georgetown. The city of Georgetown and Williamson County will once again hold the annual "Lighting of the Square," which will include officially turning on all the holiday lights on the historic Williamson County Courthouse, as well as free hot chocolate and Christmas carols plus photos with Santa Claus in the courthouse rotunda. For more information on the event, go to www.visit.georgetown.org.

If you need more information or assistance with any county issue, please contact me at lbirkman@wilco.org or 244-8610.



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NOVEMBER EVENTS

*At the Lady Bird Johnson
Wildflower Center*

NATURE NIGHTS: ASTRONOMY

Friday, November 12, 6 to 9 p.m.

A wonderful way to learn about constellations with help from McDonald Observatory experts. \$1 admission.

PAPER SCULPTURES

Saturday and Sunday, November 20 & 21

Paper sculptures by the inimitable Shou Ping and new accessories from Leaf Leather in the store.

THE WILDFLOWER CENTER WILL BE CLOSED

Thanksgiving Day, November 25

PRE-CHRISTMAS SPECIALS.

Friday through Sunday, November 26 through 28

Save on selected cards, ornaments and gifts. Informal lunchtime modeling in the café.

BAKE SALE

Round Rock New Neighbors will hold their third annual Bake Sale on November 10th at 10:15 AM, at the Fern Bluff Community Center, 7320 Wyoming Springs Drive, Round Rock, Texas.

Come see the delicious array of baked goods and treats prepared by our members and then relax with a tasty lunch as you take pride in your purchases. For lunch reservations (\$12) call Jackie Waldecker (255-7519) by Sunday, November 7th. Join us for this special event.



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HOME ON THE RANCH

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Be Prepared for Return of Estate Tax

There's never really a bad time to do estate planning. But in the months ahead, you may have an extra incentive to look at your estate plans. Why? Because changes are coming to estate tax laws — so you'll want to be ready.

Change is nothing new in the world of estate taxes, which have been in a state of flux for years. As the law now stands, there is no federal estate tax in 2010. Then, in 2011, the estate tax is scheduled to return, with an exemption amount of \$1 million and a top rate of 55 percent. Yet, these figures are highly likely to change; ultimately, we may see a return to what existed in 2009: a \$3.5 million or \$5 million exemption and a top rate of 45 percent.

Of course, your susceptibility to the estate tax will depend on the size of your estate. But no matter what your level of assets, you'll want to have your estate plans in order. First of all, you almost certainly need a will. You'll also need to make sure you've named the proper beneficiaries in all your legal documents.

Now, let's return to the estate tax issue. Specifically, how can you help reduce any potential estate tax burden your heirs may face? Here are some ideas to consider:



- **Take Advantage of Your Exemptions** You and your spouse each receive an exemption from the federal estate tax. As mentioned above, this exemption could be anywhere from \$1 million to \$5 million, starting in 2011. To maximize these exemptions, you may want to create a credit shelter trust. In a nutshell, here's how it works: When you die, you fund a credit shelter trust with assets equal in value to your available exemption; if you have other assets, you can leave them to your spouse, free of estate taxes. Your

(Continued on Page 9)



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When it comes to experienced and compassionate OB/GYNs, Frank Hinds, M.D., and John Thoppil, M.D., of Cedar Park OB/GYN Associates, are here for you. Dr. Hinds and Dr. Thoppil specialize in caring for women at every age and stage of life. Their goal is to provide quality care for patients with individualized attention and education to help them make informed health decisions.

Dr. Hinds and Dr. Thoppil are accepting new patients and next-day and evening hour appointments may be available. To schedule an appointment, please call 512-528-7385.

John Thoppil, M.D.
Board-Certified
OB/GYN



Frank Hinds, M.D.
OB/GYN



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Members of the Medical Staff at Cedar Park Regional Medical Center

Financial Focus - (Continued from Page 8)

surviving spouse can draw income from the trust's assets while he or she is alive. Upon his or her death, the trust disperses the assets to your children or other beneficiaries, taking advantage of your original estate tax exemption. Your spouse's estate will also disperse assets to beneficiaries, using his or her exemption to reduce or avoid estate taxes.

- **Use Life Insurance** If you owned a \$1 million dollar life insurance policy, and it was subject to an estate tax rate of 55 percent, your beneficiaries would receive a death benefit of just \$450,000. But if you established an irrevocable life insurance trust (ILIT) with a new insurance policy, the trust would own the policy and distribute the proceeds to the beneficiaries you've chosen. By using an ILIT, you'd keep the life insurance out of your taxable estate.
- **Give generously.** You can give up to \$13,000 per year to as many individuals as you like without incurring gift taxes. And the more you give, the lower your taxable estate. You can also reduce your estate by making gifts to charitable organizations.

Keep in mind that estate planning can be complex. You will need to work with your legal and tax advisors before establishing any type of trust or other estate-planning mechanism. And with the looming return of the estate tax, there's no time like the present to get started.

Sudoku

The challenge is to fill every row across, every column down, and every 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9. Each 1 through 9 digit must appear only once in each row across, each column down, and each 3x3 box.

3		6			7	1		
7				8	4			5
	8				5			
2					9	3	4	
					6			
				3				
6	3							
	4			5		9		
9					8	6	7	

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CHAPARRAL WOMEN'S CLUB

is proud to announce their

Third Annual Babes in Toyland Market

November 6th, 2010 –9am to 5pm
Old Settlers Association Hall
(across from Dell Diamond)

Following the success of last year's event, The Chaparral Women's Club is excited to once again offer an exclusive shopping event that helps to raise funds for Williamson County charities. Unique vendors from the surrounding area will have everything you need to get all of your holiday shopping done.

Tickets are available at <http://www.rrchaps.org/> and are \$5 and children under 10 years old are free. Chaparral Women's Club is a non-profit service organization that has served the Williamson County for over 36 years. Funds raised by the Chaparral Women's Club go to non-profit organizations that serve residents of Williamson County. Chaparral Women's Club has volunteered countless hours towards projects such as Coats for Kids, Round Rock Serving Center Annual Food Drive, Round Rock Volunteer Center, YMCA of Greater Williamson County, Meals on Wheels, Any Baby Can, Texas Baptist Children's Home, Literacy Council of Williamson County, and Blue Santa.

Please come shop and have some fun while helping raise money for charity!

Thank you for your support, Chaparral Women's Club

To contact us please email or call Erica McDonald: vpfunddevelopment@rrchaps.org/(512)258-8775



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Kids 'R' Kids North Austin has distinguished itself as a leader in Kids 'R' Kids International's franchise consisting of over 165 early childhood education schools in 16 states, as well as a master franchise in South Korea. Kids 'R' Kids North Austin is one of four Kids 'R' Kids schools in the Austin area, and one of 65 in Texas. They have risen to the top by becoming the first Kids 'R' Kids school in the system to earn the "**Learning Academy**" distinction.

To become a Kids 'R' Kids **Learning Academy**, Kids 'R' Kids North Austin met or exceeded stringent requirements. They have consistently earned the corporation's **Platinum Award for Health and Safety**, they have earned national accreditation from NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children – the nation's largest and most influential advocate for early care and education), and they recently earned Kids 'R' Kids International's **Pride and Joy Award** for educational excellence. "To achieve a single one of these benchmarks requires tremendous effort and dedication from the school's management and staff, but to achieve all three is a monumental accomplishment," said Pat Vinson, president and co-founder of Kids 'R' Kids International, based in Duluth, Georgia.

Ms. Elwin West, Executive Director of Kids 'R' Kids Learning Academy says, "We have created a truly remarkable community, where children are not just 'cared for', but supported and nurtured by our teachers. In turn, our children practice those values with each other creating a really happy and fun environment. From the beginning of the day to the end, our children are happy to arrive at Kids 'R' Kids and they are rarely eager to leave."

We really love Kids R Kids. Being new to the area, we were looking for a business that had a family oriented environment. Well, we hit a homerun here. Our son started here when he was 2 years old and his transition was better than expected. His instructors kindly welcome him daily as they engage him in his classroom lessons of the day. Our little boy has been attending for nearly a year and he is still excited to go to school every day. He also enjoys his time spent with all of his friends and instructors. Kids R Kids has a creative, nurturing environment and the kids absolutely love to be here. We have personally witnessed the growth in our son's ability to: site alphabets / words / colors, creatively think, logically reason, spell (his name), and yes, he is even completely potty trained. In addition, our relationships with the instructors and staff are exceptional. They are always willing to listen, support, and make accommodations as applicable. I cannot say enough about Kids R Kids. We are very pleased and feel we have been truly blessed to be part of this family. Jermaine & Lateefah

The staff at **Kids 'R' Kids Learning Academy of North Austin** is committed to the education of young children through a developmentally appropriate and child-centered approach. Kids 'R' Kids is dedicated to providing a positive environment in which children and adults feel a sense of belonging, each child's development is carefully supported, and a love for learning is continuously demonstrated. They provide valuable opportunities to interact with diverse groups of children.

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NATURE WATCH

Leafy Treasures



*Flame-leaf Sumac in fall
Photo by Sally and Andy Wasowski*

Fall is the time when the quiet, green palette of summer gives way to the crisp reds, vibrant oranges, and mellow yellows that paint the natural landscape. During the growing seasons of spring and summer, our trees and shrubs use sunlight to convert water and carbon dioxide from the air into sugar. Called photosynthesis, this process begins to wane in November in Central Texas, and the leaves on some plants begin to change color in preparation for winter's rest.

Pigments are natural substances formed by the cells of leaves which provide the basis for leaf color. Most familiar is chlorophyll, which produces the color green, and is vitally important as it is required for photosynthesis. Carotenoid, which produces the colors

yellow, orange, and brown, is a common pigment in many fruits and vegetables, as are anthocyanins, which produce the color red. Both chlorophyll and carotenoid are present at the same time in leaf cells, but the chlorophyll covers the carotenoid and hence the leaves appear green in the spring and summer. Not all trees can make anthocyanins, however, and most are produced under certain conditions and only in the fall.

As the days grow shorter, the decreasing amount of sunlight eventually causes trees to stop producing chlorophyll. When this happens, the carotenoid in a leaf can finally show through, turning the leaves into a myriad of yellows,

(Continued on Page 13)



NAMES OF GOD SERIES BY **PASTOR DANNY FORSHEE**
SUNDAY MORNINGS THIS FALL



WATCH LIVE services Sunday mornings or view any time at www.ghbc.org

Sunday Morning Schedule

9:30 - Blended Worship | 11:00 - Contemporary Worship | 9:30 & 11:00 - Bible Life Groups (all ages)

Great Hills Baptist Church | www.ghbc.org | 10500 Jollyville Road . Austin, Texas 78759 | 512.343.7763

Nature Watch - (Continued from Page 12)

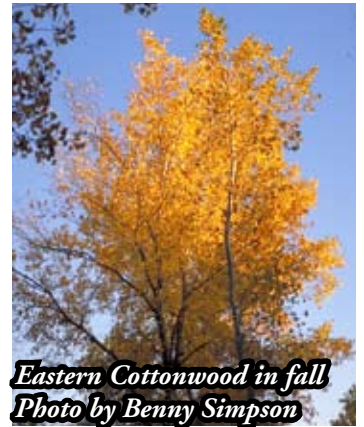
oranges, and browns. Red, on the other hand, is an entirely different matter. Affected by temperature and cloud cover, red fall colors can vary greatly from year to year. A lively showing of reds depends upon warm, sunny autumn days and cool, but not cold autumn nights. This type of weather pattern triggers the production of anthocyanins, which the tree produces as a form of protection. Anthocyanins allow trees to recover any sugar or nutrients left in the leaves, moving them through the leaf veins and down into the branches and trunk, and its presence generates the red color before the leaves fall off. Rainfall during the year can also affect fall color, with too much lowering the overall color intensity, and too little delaying the arrival of color.

Fall leaf color can easily be used to help identify local tree and shrub species. The most notable reds and oranges in our area are produced by Texas Red Oak and Flame-leaf Sumac. Dotted the hillsides, roadsides, and upper reaches of wooded canyons, they contrast well with the surrounding greens of Ashe Junipers and Live Oaks. Golden yellows are represented by Eastern Cottonwood and Escarpment Black Cherry, whose color transforms the low-lying areas near creeks and streams.



Texas Red Oak in fall

While a tree's trunk and branches can survive the colder winter temperatures, many leaves cannot. Made up of cells filled with water and sap, these tissues are unable to live throughout the winter, and the tree must shed them to ensure its survival. As the days grow shorter, the veins that carry sap to the rest of the tree eventually close. A separation layer forms at the base of each leaf stem, and when complete, the leaf falls. Some oak trees are the exception, with this layer never fully detaching and the dead leaves remain on the tree until new spring growth pushes them off to the ground. Once on the ground, the leaves slowly decompose with the help of earthworms, beneficial bacteria, and fungi, creating the soil necessary for the continuation of the cycle of life.



*Eastern Cottonwood in fall
Photo by Benny Simpson*

Send your nature-related questions to naturewatch@austin.rr.com and we'll do our best to answer them. If you enjoy reading these articles, look for our book, NatureWatch Austin, to be published by Texas A&M University Press in 2011.

- By Jim & Lynne Weber



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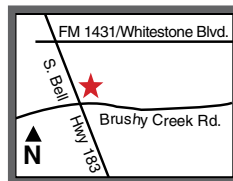
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ORNAMENTAL PLANTS TO AVOID IN YOUR CENTRAL TEXAS GARDEN

by Bob Beyer, Travis County Master Gardener

Fall is here and it is the best time of year to plant trees and shrubs for next year's garden enjoyment. We see many articles and resources about best and recommended plants to grow in our region, with emphasis on native and adaptive plants well suited to our climate and environment. However, there is a flip side to that coin - plants to avoid for various and very good reasons.

First of all, we should avoid the spreading of non-native invasive plants that overwhelm and threaten our local native plants. A list of these is found in the City of Austin's "Grow Green" book - free at any nursery or plant center in Austin. But in addition to those recommendations of plants to avoid, I see many other plants sold at local nurseries that can create major problems in your gardens and should be avoided. **Here's my top 12 "no grows".**

- *Photinia fraseri* - The "Red Tip Photinia" does produce dramatic color on new growth but has many reasons not to use it. It grows rapidly and ultimately into a small tree, yet is planted like a shrub. As a member of the rose family it is subject to a fungal disease (black spot) and requires considerable pruning

maintenance. Most often, they are planted too close to foundations and to each other for hedge effect. This inexpensive and a widely overused plant comes with many potential problems for the homeowner.

- *Artemisia vulgaris* - This species of Artemisia spreads rampantly throughout your garden from roots which can spread 5 - 10' underground and send up new plantlets everywhere! If even a tiny piece of root is left in the ground, a new plant will emerge. It is extremely rampant, yet a variegated variety (Oriental Limelight) is pending a patent and it is being widely sold at nurseries. That would be like buying variegated nutgrass for your garden! Container grow only.
- *Artemisia vulgaris* 'Oriental Limelight' - Beautiful but a menace in the garden
- *Euonymus japonica* - This plant has bold variegated color to offer along with Euonymus scale and other pests, frequent reversion to solid green, and short life. It is an inexpensive plant that is overused in landscapes. However, *E. fortunei* does not have the same problems as *E. japonica*.

- *Wax Leaf Ligustrum (Ligustrum japonica)* - The green or wax leafed ligustrum is a rapid grower, has a pungent smelling white bloom in spring, and ultimately grows to small tree proportion but is planted as a shrub. It is one of the most overused and inexpensive shrubs used in initial landscapes and if often planted too close to foundations and to each other.

Watch out for wax scale also.

- *Variegated Chinese Privet (Ligustrum sinense)* - This colorful small leafed shrub is overused and inexpensive but generally looks very nice in landscapes until it begins to revert to solid green! This is a problem! It spreads rampantly by seed endangering our native plants.
- *Nandina domestica (Heavenly Bamboo)* - The red berries are

(Continued on Page 16)



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Ornamental Plants - (Continued from Page 15)

- beautiful but all one needs to do is take a walk in an urban or rural nature area and see this plant coming up everywhere from bird spread seed. It is very invasive and endangers our local native plants. Only non-berry producing varieties should be used. Nandina can't take our intense bright sunlight and heat of summer well either.
- *Indian Hawthorne (Raphiolepis indica)* - Although popular for its spring bloom, this plant is very often infected with scale, a sooty mold and other diseases. This plant tend to be overused in southern landscapes, contributing to the spread of these undesirable infestations. It favors acidic, organic soil so is not suited well to TX hill country.
 - *Chinese Wisteria (Wisteria sinensis)* - Spring blooms are beautiful and fragrant but this vine can grow almost 12" per day and strangle anything nearby. It is especially invasive and hard to control - almost like Kudzu.
 - *Pampas Grass (Cortaderia selloana)* - People who plant this regret it! Clumps get extremely large and thick, blades contain sharp cutting edges, and it takes a stick of dynamite to remove!
 - *Running bamboos* - Bamboos are a fascinating plant, but can run rampant among your garden area unless container grown. They are very difficult to remove, once spread out, so avoid running varieties unless you have acreage to spare. Clumping bamboos, also spread but from the base, not runners, and can be controlled with periodic basal trimming.
 - *Clerodendrum bungii (Cashmere Bouquet)* - This beautiful root hardy sub-tropical plant is enjoyed for its fragrant large cluster of bloom, large foliage, and tropical look, but spreads rampantly from underground roots, plus wind and bird dispersed seed and can create its own jungle in short order. Unless contained, avoid it in the garden.
 - *Pittosporum tobira* - The Pittosporum also gets large, requires much pruning to maintain, and is subject to being damaged at below freezing temperatures and wax scale infestation.

This of course is not a complete list so do your homework before going plant shopping. I recommend going to a nursery or garden center with a specific list of researched plant selections in mind, and if not available look elsewhere. I let my fingers do the walking (telephoning local sources) when looking for a specific plant. Before deciding on an alternative plant, I once again do my homework first. So, Fall; is a good time to be thinking about next year's ornamental garden and getting new permanent plantings in place so they can become well established by spring. This is especially true of deciduous and spring flowering trees and shrubs. Knowing which plants to avoid is as important as those best suited for your garden.

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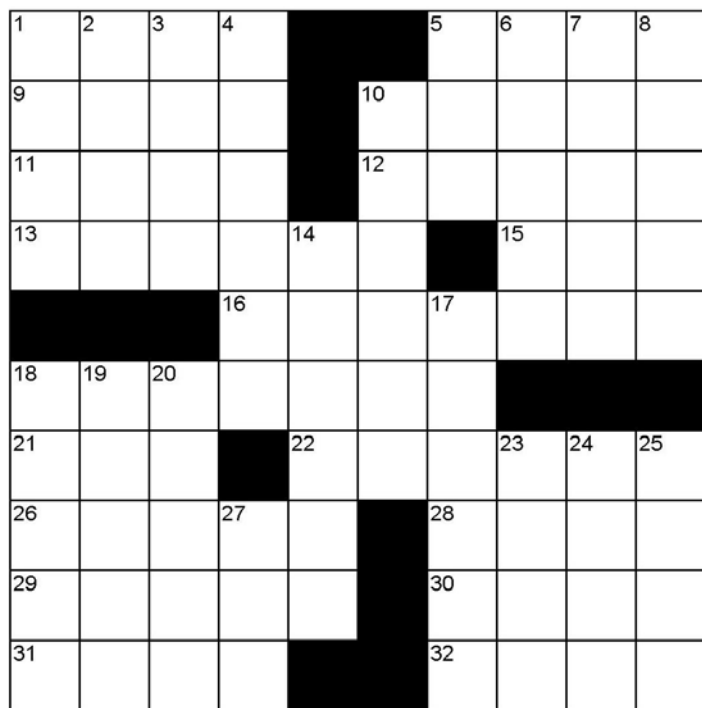
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Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1. Cleaning agent
5. Welt
9. Factual
10. Raise one's shoulders
11. Gain
12. Making a knot
13. Opposite of cubic
15. Pride
16. Passes
18. Dress up
21. Dined
22. Wagerer
26. ___ Gras
28. Possess
29. Rock and Roll "King"
30. Spread
31. Flow out slowly
32. Goody two shoes

DOWN

1. Stair
2. Spoken
3. Nimbus
4. Enclosed
5. Reporter's question
6. Sign of the zodiac
7. Surge
8. Kellogg's waffles
10. Shoot from a plane
14. Excuses
17. Type of snake
18. Ladies
19. Dickens' "___ of Two Cities" (2 wds.)
20. Sensitive point
23. Record
24. Above
25. Rip
27. Sink

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Time: 11:00 AM Social - 12 Noon Luncheon

Date: November 17, 2010

(Reservations required by Thursday, November 11th)

For Luncheon Reservations email: LuncheonDirector@AustinNewcomers.com or Diane Israelson 512-467-4979

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November Program: Dave Reilly and Bill Elsey
from the Duchman Family Winery
November 17, 2010

The Growth of the Texas Wine Industry...

To speak to us about the Texas wine industry as well as their own work are two people who know the Texas wine industry and the making of wine, intimately.

Dave Reilly began his career in the Texas wine industry over nine years ago as co-founder and grape grower at Limestone Terrace Vineyards in Wimberley, Texas - located inside the designated Texas Hill Country American Viticulture Area. Along with growing his own grapes and selling to local wineries, Dave also installed and maintained several vineyards throughout central Texas.

In 2006, Dave met winemaker Mark Penna, a 20-year Texas winemaking veteran – upon the planting of the vineyards at the Mandola Estate and Duchman Family Winery. Dave brought his knowledge of the vineyard into the winery and as an understudy to Mark Penna, soon learned winemaking on his own. In 2008, Dave became Chief of Winery Operations and Winemaker at the Duchman Family Winery where he works today.

Bill Elsey serves as the Director of Sales at the Duchman Family Winery. He manages the tasting room and wine club as well as works as a production assistant in the cellar alongside Dave Reilly. Bill is a Certified Specialist of Wine through the Society of Wine Educators and a Certified Sommelier through the Court of Master Sommeliers and is pursuing higher levels of certification in both.

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