

THE VILLAGE

Gazette™

"It takes a Village..."

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE VILLAGES AT WESTERN OAKS AND LEGEND OAKS I

GET TO KNOW YOUR IRRIGATION CONTROLLER

Jacob Johnson | LI#17528 | Austin Water

Many residents put a lot of effort into maintaining their irrigation system, which is a necessary step towards efficient watering. However, people then often overlook an equally important aspect of irrigation—scheduling. An essential element of proper scheduling is knowing how to operate the controller. Not knowing that can cost you.

A normal flow rate for a residential irrigation system is around 14 gallons per minute. Compare that with your shower of 2 to 3 gallons per minute or a dishwasher that uses less than 10 gallons per load and you can see just how quickly minutes on the irrigation controller can add up. So if you see your usage dramatically rise in the summer months, check your irrigation settings before chastising your teenagers for their long showers. Well, I guess doing both would work.

Common features on an irrigation controller

- **1) Multiple Program Capability:** Controllers give you the option of setting multiple programs, usually labeled A, B, C, etc. These programs let you fine tune your watering. For example, you could set up your turf stations to water twice per week in the summer while keeping shrubs on a once per week schedule. The important thing to remember is that no matter what program you leave the controller on, it will run all programs that are present! Even if two programs coincide with each other, the controller finishes the first program and stacks the next program to run directly afterwards.
- **2) Multiple Start Times:** You can also set multiple start times for your program(s). Start times represent what time the program will begin and most controllers offer the option between 3 and 16 start times. There are very few controllers that require start times for each individual zone. The benefit of using multiple start times is to allow for absorption in the landscape because many sprinkler heads can apply water faster than our

(Continued on Page 4)

New Villages at Western Oaks Proudly Announces Our Annual Neighborhood INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE & CELEBRATION

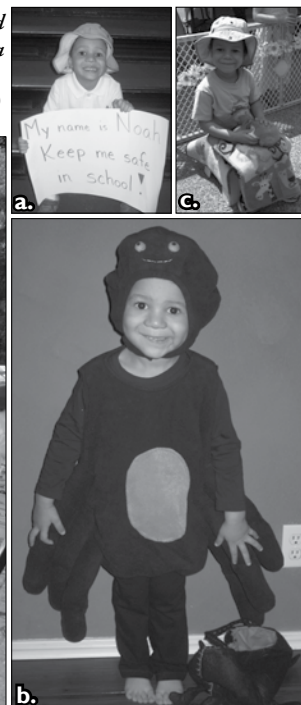
Starting in the back parking lot of Mills Elementary School Promptly at 9:00am Monday, July 4th. Decorate your bikes, wagons, strollers... and follow the NEW route to Dick Nichols Park. Fun festivities including Jungle Jim's Bugs Around the World, bounce houses, The Harold Ambler Band, tattoos, face painting, popsicles, contests and prizes! For more information and neighborhood updates, like us on Facebook:

New Villages at Western Oaks HOA.



MY SUPERHERO NOAH, 3 YEARS OLD

(a. Noah legislating at the Capitol to keep food allergic kids safe in schools.) (b. Noah dressed up as a friendly spider.) (c. Noah at the farmer's market.) (d. Noah having a neighborhood lemonade stand.)



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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EMERGENCY 911
Fire..... 911
Ambulance 911
Sheriff – Non-Emergency 512-974-0845

SCHOOLS

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Clayton 512-841-9200
Kiker..... 512-414-2584
Mills 512-841-2400
Patton 512-414-1780
Middle
Bailey..... 512-414-4990
Small..... 512-841-6700
Gorzycki 512-841-8600
High School
Austin 512-414-2505
Bowie..... 512-414-5247

UTILITIES

Water/Wastewater
City of Austin..... 512-972-0101
City of Austin (billing) 512-494-9400
Emergency 512-972-1000
Texas State Gas
Customer Service 1-800-700-2443
Gas related emergency..... 1-800-959-5325
Pedernales Electric Cooperative
New service, billing 512-219-2602
Problems 512-219-2628
ATT/SBC Telephone
New Service 1-800-288-2020
Repair 1-800-246-8464
Billing 1-800-288-2020
Allied Waste 512-247-5647
Time Warner Cable..... 512-485-5555

OTHER NUMBERS

Oak Hill Postal Station..... 1-800-275-8777
City of Austin
Dead Animal Collection..... 512-494-9000
Abandoned/Disabled Vehicles 512-974-8119
Stop Sign Missing/Damaged 512-974-2000
Street Light Outage (report pole#)..... 512-505-7617

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SOUTHWEST AUSTIN REAL ESTATE UPDATE

July 2011

www.gotoaustinhomes.com

MY SOUTHWEST AUSTIN LISTINGS SELL!

Take a look at some of my recent listings and sales below.



6007 La Naranja
JUST LISTED!



6104 La Naranja
SOLD IN 11 DAYS!



6107 La Naranja
SOLD!

“We could not be happier with Lori Goto in helping us sell our home. From the very beginning she was very friendly, outgoing and professional. She was always very prompt in returning all our calls and continually kept us updated with every aspect of the selling process. The quality she applied to the listing and advertising of our home far surpassed those of our selling competition. Lori knows the current trends of what buyer's are looking for and what it takes to sell a house quickly. After giving us great advice on staging our home she went above and beyond and helped us move our furniture. This was our first-time selling a home and Lori's hard work and calm demeanor really helped take the stress out of the whole process. We would highly recommend Lori as a selling agent!

Alex and Michelle
Seller in Western Oaks neighborhood



8404 Forest Heights
SOLD IN 5 DAYS!



6407 Wolfcreek Pass
SOLD IN 6 DAYS!



6302 Le Conte Cove
SOLD IN 12 DAYS!

SOUTHWEST AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATE

December 2010 to May 2011

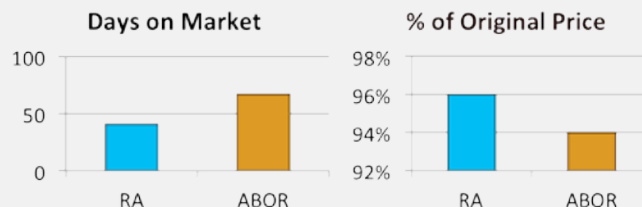
	VILLAGE AT WESTERN OAKS One Story Homes	VILLAGE AT WESTERN OAKS Two Story Homes	CIRCLE C	LEGEND OAKS WOODS LEGEND	BECKETT MEADOWS	SMITHS JW WESTERN OAKS
Active Listings:	10	12	59	6	3	1
Average List Price:	\$245,900	\$287,091	\$337,630	\$283,425	\$249,900	\$224,950
Average List Price per SQ FT:	\$126.04	\$109.34	\$120.24	\$111.38	\$114.11	\$128.26
Sold Listings:	36	29	116	30	3	7
Average Sale Price:	\$241,146	\$263,501	\$313,290	\$251,683	\$252,945	\$219,129
Average Sale Price per SQ FT:	\$125.22	\$106.86	\$116.78	\$112.07	\$107.37	\$125.03

*Data based on statistics from the Austin Board of Realtors® Multiple Listing Service (MLS). Does not include pending sales.

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THE VILLAGE GAZETTE

Your Irrigation Controller-

(Continued from Cover Page)

- soils can absorb it. Find the stations times you are happy with and then cut them in half. Instead of the program coming on at only 4:00 a.m., you could have the program (now with reduced station times) come on at 3:30 a.m. and 4:30 a.m. Remember, if using multiple start times, every minute you add or delete really equals 2 or 3 minutes depending on the number of start times present.
- **3) Seasonal Percentage Adjustment:** Another handy feature, the seasonal adjust, allows you to increase or decrease all of your stations times in 5 to 10 percent increments. This is useful if your entire landscape needs more water, but often stress will only occur in certain areas. It's a good idea at that point to only add time to the stations that need more water and an even better idea to inspect those stations to make sure the stressed

area isn't getting water due to a clogged nozzle or misaligned head. When setting station times, it's recommended to have the seasonal adjust at 100% because the seasonal adjust button uses 100% as the reference point and makes changes relative to what that number is. Some controllers will show the increased or decreased times while others will continue to show the original times, but are actually running something different.

- **4) Memory Back Up:** Most controllers now come with a non-volatile memory built into the control panel. This helps retain your settings during brief power outages, but will usually clear itself out after long periods with no power. Other controllers will revert to a default program to run everyday for ten minutes per station after a loss of power. If you have a controller that does this, remember to change out the 9 volt battery every spring when you turn your controller back on and just to be safe, check

the settings after thunderstorms.

Plant material, watering components, sun exposure, soil health, and how important each area of your landscape is to you all goes into the decision of how long you should run each station. An irrigation program with the same time on every station is usually a signal that there is room for improvement. This may involve taking time from some stations that are doing well and adding them to others that are showing signs of stress. Monitor your landscape and make changes as needed. Remember, automatic irrigation systems are great for carrying landscapes from one rain event to another, but a lack of rain will highlight deficiencies in the irrigation system.

If you need help with programming your controller and use over 25,000 gallons of water in the summer months, you may schedule a free irrigation evaluation from Austin Water either by calling 974-2199 or visiting our website: www.waterwiseaustin.org.

CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

Chris was there every step of the way, getting in front of the paperwork for me and reaching out to the stakeholders so that I understood everything they were asking of me. I cannot recommend her enough. Chris will take care of you like family!
- Barbara Joubert

The best service and support possible... You cannot have it any better than this.
- Ken Clarke

Chris is extremely knowledgeable and detail oriented with the ability to listen to and understand our wants and needs. Chris' hard work and endless patience not only helped us find the perfect home, she helped us get a fantastic price on the sale of our old house - \$20k above what we expected. - Stacie Feen

I would have to say that Chris is without a doubt the most organized, professional, attentive, detail oriented, amicable, marketing extraordinaire agent I have ever come across. Chris also stays with you after the deal is done to make sure everything continues to go smoothly. I highly recommend her and I know that she will always be my first choice in any real estate transactions I ever have in the future.
- Leo Maya



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DIAGNOSING AUTISM?

By Connie Ripley

Autism is growing at epidemic proportions costing school districts and state and federal governments millions of dollars a year. One in 110 children was diagnosed with autism in 2005 affecting 4 times as many boys as girls. Today the figure is said to be more like one in 91. (The United States Military states 1 in 80.) If the current rate continues, one half the children born in the United States could be diagnosed with autism by 2046. This is an epidemic!

For parents, a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) can be devastating. Every 15 minutes a parent hears this diagnosis. The hopes and dreams they might have had for their baby will be severely altered. The money and time involved in treating autism is staggering. A formal diagnosis of ASD from a neurologist can help open doors for a child in necessary early therapies and training. Six of twelve diagnostic criteria are required for the diagnosis. The criteria are divided into 3 parts: Atypical Social Interactions, Atypical Communication and Atypical Responses to Social and Perceptual Stimuli in the Environment.

For an ASD diagnosis, the child must have 2 of the following: (a) Impaired non-verbal behaviors such as eye contact, facial expressions, body posture and gestures used in social interaction. (b) Lacks peer relationships. (c) Does not try to share enjoyment, interests, or achievements with others, such as by leading others to, pointing to or showing off things of interest. (d) Fails to demonstrate social-emotional reciprocity. Atypical Communication involves at least one of these: (a) Delay in spoken language without compensating through other means of communication. (b) Noticeable inability to start or sustain conversation (c) Stereotyped repetitive or idiosyncratic use of language, as echolalia. (d) Does not engage in varied, spontaneous, make-believe play or social imitation.

At least one of the following must be observed: (a) Preoccupied by abnormally intense or focused stereotyped or restrictive patterns of interest. (b) Adheres compulsively to nonfunctional rituals and routines. (c) Stereotyped and repetitive movements. (d) Persistent preoccupation with parts of objects, such as their sensory aspects. Many doctors and scientists believe that the criteria for the diagnosis are not as complete as they should be, omitting things like melt-downs, etc. For this reason, the criteria used for years will be changing in 2 to 3 years.

***What can stop the progression of this disorder/disease?
What is the cause? What is the treatment?***

Some of the world's top medical doctors and scientists are fast working in numerous directions. Is the cause genetic? Is it fungal, bacterial, viral? Is it caused by toxins? Just what causes one child's brain to be affected while his brother is spared? Why are all the children in some families affected? All these answers will take time and cost billions of dollars. Autism Speaks is North America's largest autism science and advocacy organization. Autism Speaks is funded primarily by local walks. The Greater Austin Walk Now for Autism Speaks teams are being formed for the 2011 Walk at Dell Diamond and Old Settlers Park on September 24. Please contact Walk Manager Traci Whitney at traci.whitney@autismspeaks.org or go to www.walknowforautismspeaks.org/austin to register your team. Our children do not have the time!

We need to do all we can now! Please help!



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Memorial Day Service

SCOUT TROOP 256

Several Scouts from Boy Scout troop 256, along with members of the VFW took part in a Memorial Day service at the Oak Hill Cemetery. They placed flags on 26 Veterans graves including veterans of the Civil War, Spanish American war, WWI, WWII, Korea, and Viet Nam. The VFW members and the Boy Scouts joined together placing flags on the graves they walked to those who in some cases fought in two and even three wars for our country. The respect and reverence shown by our young Boy Scouts was so inspiring. All walked away with a feeling of pride in our Great Country and in those brave men and women who fought and in many cases died for our country.



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Thanks to H-E-B, Summer Nature Nights are Free! Thursdays in July

Snakes, fossils, birds of prey and more-- our family evenings offer fun and eco-education with talks, crafts, hikes and lots of action. Nature Nights are on Thursday evenings starting June 30 and continuing through August 4, from 6 to 9 p.m. Free gift at the store for each child under 12. H-E-B sponsorship also means that admission to the Wildflower Center is free all day on Nature Nights days.

Thursday, July 7..... Wildlife Tracking
Thursday, July 14..... Snakes
Thursday, July 21..... Fossils
Thursday, July 28..... Birds of Prey

JULY EVENTS *at the Wildflower Center*

Lady Bird Johnson Tribute Day

9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, July 24

Our founder, Lady Bird Johnson, would have been 99 this year. Once again, we honor her with a free admission day and a special exhibit of her memorabilia. We are celebrating her contributions to the environment and to more than 50 laws related to conservation, landscape preservation and beautification. Children's music in the courtyard by Lucas Miller noon to 2 p.m. Meet artist Catherine Flowers from 1 to 4 p.m. in the McDermott Learning Center and from noon to 3 p.m., author Jeannette Larson in the store.

-Art Exhibits-

Vibrant Blooms & Aqueous Matters

Through August 21 - Catherine Flowers' embellished painted silks in the McDermott Learning center and T.J. Mabrey's evocative sculptures in the gardens are a summer treat.



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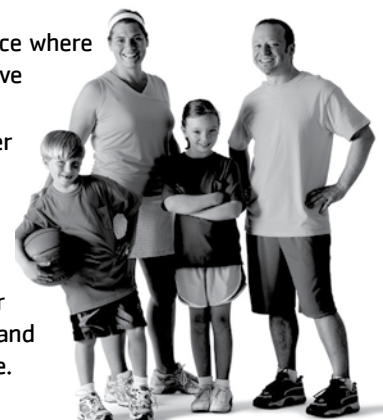
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www.AustinYMCA.org
891-YMCA

**Fall Youth Sports
Registration Opens
July 25th**

TIPS FOR A HEALTHY SUMMER - *Eat Smarter & Move More*

Submitted by Sarah S. Jordan, MS

The 4th of July holiday is almost here, and along with it comes good food, parties, and great times with family and friends. These things pretty much go hand in hand with summer.

Summer is a very common time for people to fall off the "health wagon," but it doesn't have to be that way. Eating right and getting enough activity can certainly be a challenge, especially when holidays and travel are involved. But the keys are: being consistent, making good choices, eating in moderation, and purposely finding ways to move more. Here are some tips to make your summer a healthier one for your family and friends.

Small Changes = Big Results

Making small changes for your summer cookouts and potlucks can equal big nutritional improvements.

Traditional Summer Food A More Healthy Alternative

Hot dogs	Turkey dogs
Hamburger	Turkey burger
Potato salad	Fruit salad
Chips and high fat dip	Assorted vegetables and hummus
Fried chicken	Grilled chicken kabobs with veggies
Pie	Fresh pineapple
Soda and sweet tea	Iced tea with lemon
Using high-fat mayonnaise in dishes	
.....	Use low-fat mayo or the kind that has olive oil in it

Healthy Recipe Swap: You can even request that guests bring a healthy dish and include the recipe along with the dish. After the event, the party host types up all of the recipes and emails them to party guests. Just like that - everyone is equipped with healthy things to try on their own!

Get Movin'! Instead of a party revolving solely around the food involved, why not create a "buffet of games" and activity to center the event around instead? Here are some ideas for fun backyard games to try this summer with your family and friends. Just be sure to let your guests know the "active" theme ahead of time so they can dress accordingly and be prepared to move.

Host a miniature version of the Olympics: This can consist of things like wheelbarrow races, three legged races, running, water balloon tosses, and team relays. Have prizes for the teams.

Create an art contest using chalk: Have three judges and give out prizes for the most creative pieces of art. And maybe even to the adult with the most "artfully challenged" piece of "art."

Play a classic game of "Kick the Can." Make sure you have at least 3-4 people playing this game. One person is "it" and guards the "can." (Can needs to be in an open space.) Other players hide
(Continued on Page 9)



"Our talents are the gift that God gives to us...
What we make of our talents is our gift to God".

- Leo Buscaglia

Oak Hill United Methodist Church JOB SEARCH SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesdays, 8:45 to 10:15 a.m.

Adult Education Building, Room A101-102

A community support group for Oak Hill United Methodist Church members and Oak Hill community individuals seeking career opportunities and resources.

This group is for anyone who is unemployed, under-employed, facing unemployment, looking to return to a career field, or just looking at the current employment circumstances.

Free coffee and snacks are served, if possible bring your laptop computer and wireless adapter connector.

**For more information, contact Linda at
ohumc_jobsearch@yahoo.com or join the Yahoo Group at
http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/OHUMC_job_search_support/**



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11:15 A.M. Traditional Worship Service**

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Tips for a Healthy Summer - (Continued from Page 8)

the "it" person counts to 20 and then goes to find the other players. Captured (tagged) players go to "jail." Anyone not captured can kick the can, which sets all jailed players free. If the "it" person finds all players before the can is kicked, the "it" person wins the game.

Have a Hula-Hoop contest: Crank up the fun music, and see who can twirl the longest!

Create a canvas: Hang an old white sheet on your fence or clothesline and let the creativity flow while your guests create a beautiful work of art!

Send your guests on a scavenger hunt: There are many ways to get creative with this, including giving the hunt a theme to match your party, having guests find things in nature and draw pictures of what they find, or having your guests do something (ex: 10 jumping jacks) every time they find something on the list.

Slip and Slide!: Give your party a water theme to beat the heat. Set up two identical slip and slides and see who slides the fastest and/or the farthest. Crown your champion. Test out other games like horseshoes, washers, Bocce ball, four-square, hopscotch, whiffle-ball, or kick ball.

*Here's to a Healthy & Active Summer Ahead.
Cheers!*

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NATUREWATCH

by Jim and Lynne Weber

CICADA CYCLES

A sure sign that we are in the midst of a hot summer is the sound of cicadas buzzing in the air. For their size, cicadas make as much noise as a large animal, and can be heard up to a quarter of a mile away. In fact, the word 'cicada' is a direct derivation from the Latin meaning 'buzzer.'

Most species of cicadas in North America are in the genus *Tibicen*, and are generally called the annual or 'dog-day' cicadas because they emerge every year in July and August, the dog days of summer. More widely known are the periodical cicadas from the genus *Magicicada*, who have a very long lifecycle of 13 to 17 years, and when they emerge, do so in great numbers.

Male cicadas have structures called 'timbals' on the sides of their abdomens, and it is with these structures that they create their buzzy songs. Unlike grasshoppers or crickets that rub their wings or legs together to produce sound, cicadas vibrate these timbals against their hollow abdomens which amplifies the resonance of the sounds. They can even modulate the sounds by wiggling their abdomens toward or away from the tree trunk on which they are perched. Each species has its own distinctive sound, and they use different mating songs to attract the appropriate mate.

The lifecycle of a cicada is quite fascinating. After mating, females deposit hundreds of

eggs in a slit made in the bark of a twig, normally on an oak tree. When the eggs hatch, the nymphs drop to the ground and burrow from 1 to 8 feet, feeding on the juices of the tree roots. These nymphs spend most of their lives underground, from 2 up to 17 years, depending on the species. The nymphs then construct an exit tunnel to return to the surface in mid-summer, molt or shed their skin on the bark of the tree, and emerge as adults. These adult insects are usually 1-2 inches long, have prominent, wide-set eyes, short antennae, and transparent, membranous front wings.

(Continued on Page 11)



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512-263-9181



PEEL, INC.
community newsletters

Nature Watch- (Continued from Page 10)

While there are over 40 species of cicadas in Texas, the late summer afternoon air in Austin vibrates with the sounds of several annual cicada species such as Tibicen resh (which has no common name) and the Superb Green Cicada (Tibicen superba). Once every 13 years, the periodical cicadas Magicicada septendecula (which also have no common name) emerges but they are becoming increasingly scarce.

Cicadas go by a number of common names: locusts (which is technically not correct as cicadas are unrelated to true locusts which are part of the grasshopper family), jar flies (for the way they vibrate or 'jar' when held in the hand), June bugs or July flies (in the southeastern US), heat bugs (in Canada and the mid-West), and dry flies (in parts of the southern Appalachian mountains for the shell they leave behind). Whatever you call them, you'll be sure to hear and see them in the heat of a Central Texas summer!

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, Nature Watch Austin, to be published by Texas A&M University Press in 2011.



- A. *Tibicen resh*
(Photo by Brush Freeman)
- B. *Superb Green Cicada*
(Photo by Brush Freeman)
- C. *Magicicada septendecula*

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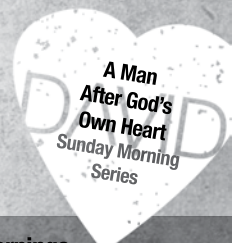
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