



# HOME *on the* RANCH



Brookside • Casitas • Champions • Creekside • Enclave  
Granite Shoals • Glenfield • Greens Highlands • Landing • Morningside  
Overlook • Parkside • Reserve • Waters Edge • Westchester



November 2011

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE AVERY RANCH HOA

Volume 5, Issue 11

## FROM THE AVERY RANCH HOA PRESIDENT

*Residents,* This past August, you elected four new board members to serve you. Sometimes you may wonder exactly what your board members do. Lately, we have been very busy constructing our budget for the coming year. In order to maintain the integrity of our neighborhood, it is necessary to plan for the maintenance and replacement of our resources, which include pools, sprinkler systems, walkways, parking lots, light poles, iron and stone fences, etc.... To do this properly, we must know exactly what we have, how long it is expected to last, and how much money will be required to maintain them. Once these items are identified, we are able to estimate how much funds need to be put aside as savings to manage the HOA properly. These funds come from your dues: a portion goes into the reserve savings account, while another portion is used for day-to-day maintenance and expenses.

A Reserve Study is the term for the procedure that accomplishes the above task. A Reserve Study was done several years ago, and was recently updated, thanks to board members who literally walked a lot of the properties collecting information and making necessary changes to the old study. After these two studies, we feel more confident in our ability to project our future needs. This is very tough to do, when there are new amenity centers like Glenfield being added, with yet another set to come on line in 2013.

Avery Ranch has long been behind in our recommended reserve funding balance, as well as our contributions to these reserves. The proper funding of our reserves is an item that realtors use to indicate if a neighborhood is properly managed, if it plans for the future, and if the HOA is doing their job. No one wants to move to an area that is destined for failure. This year, I'm happy to report that we are even closer to the point of being adequately funded. This has been accomplished through the Board's prudent management of our resources, having a great property manager that oversees the property, and of course, the dreaded raising of the assessments. Still, our assessments remain less than other subdivisions of our size in the Austin area. We should all be proud to live in Avery Ranch. To see your board members at work, you are always welcome to attend our regular monthly board meetings which occur on the second Monday of the month, 7pm, usually at the Glenfield Amenity Center.

*Steve Roebuck*

## CALENDAR

### HOA MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

*Next meeting - Monday, November 14th*

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

### AVERY RANCHYARD & GARDEN CLINIC

*Thursday, November 17th | 7-8:30 p.m.*

*(Monthly activity) Main Amenity Center (MAC)*

Master Gardener Bob Beyer and landscape professional Lisa LaPaso offer free landscape advice. If you have received an HOA landscape violation letter, have a tree concern, stressed lawn, questions about plant selection, soil conditioning, watering, or organic gardening, then the third Thursday meetings at the MAC is the place to be.

### HOLIDAY SLEIGHRIDE

*Saturday, December 17th from 6-8 pm*

*Main Amenity Center (Morningside)*

Come out for a horse drawn carriage ride and a visit with Santa. Hot Chocolate and cookies will be served. Come visit Avery Ranch's winter wonderland!

*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 Jean Mayo at [jmayo002@austin.rr.com](mailto:jmayo002@austin.rr.com)*

# HOME ON THE RANCH

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY .....911  
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  
Perdarnales Electric..... 512-219-2602

#### TEXAS GAS SERVICE

Custom Service..... 1-800-700-2443  
Emergencies..... 512-370-8609  
Call Before You Dig..... 512-472-2822

#### AT&T

New Service..... 1-800-464-7928  
Repair..... 1-800-246-8464  
Billing..... 1-800-858-7928

#### TIME WARNER CABLE

Customer Service..... 512-485-5555  
Repairs..... 512-485-5080

Solid Waste Services..... 512-494-9400

## NEWSLETTER INFO

### EDITOR

Rona Quejada..... arnewsletter@hotmail.com

### PUBLISHER

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

## BOARD MEMBERS

### RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

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

### RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

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

### RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

April Aguren ..... april.aguren@averyranchhoa.com

### RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

Marc Boucher ..... mbouchertx@sbcglobal.net

### RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

Mark Bittman ..... mbarhoa@hotmail.com

### RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

Khris Mire ..... khrismire@yahoo.com

### RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

Nick Sargologos ..... nick.sargologos@gmail.com

### RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

Lance Goldsmith ..... b.lance.goldsmith@gmail.com

### RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

Mike Steinkoenig..... msteinkoenig@pobox.com

### RESIDENT BOARD MEMBER

David Dziadziola ..... zadz2@hotmail.com

### D.R. HORTON

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

## AVERY RANCH HOA WEBSITE

Visit the Avery Ranch HOA website at  
[www.AveryRanchHOA.com](http://www.AveryRanchHOA.com)

## FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS

Contact our Property Manager & HOA Board for any  
questions/concerns about your neighborhood at  
[GetHelp@AveryRanchHOA.com](mailto:GetHelp@AveryRanchHOA.com)



**MARK  
THE FENCE GUY**  
**(512) 785-9825**  
[www.markthefenceguy.com](http://www.markthefenceguy.com)

BBB  
ACCREDITED  
BUSINESS

# HOME ON THE RANCH

## Chatter

By Rona Quejada, Newsletter Editor

If you are a customer of Austin Water, you would have received a notice regarding implementation of Stage 2 Water Restrictions and the change in wastewater averaging. We're re-printing some portions of the notices in case you missed them.

### - FROM AUSTIN WATER - WASTEWATER AVERAGING STARTS IN NOVEMBER

Austin Water calculates wastewater cost based on the amount of water used during three winter billing periods. This year and in the future the average will be based on your water use for all three months. This means the highest month of the wastewater average period will NOT be dropped from the Calculation. Those three periods occur between mid-November and mid-March, because less outside water is used during these months. It's a good measure of the volume flowing through your wastewater system. You can lower your wastewater costs for the next year by conserving water use during these billing periods.

Visit [www.AustinWater.org](http://www.AustinWater.org) and click on the Wastewater Averaging icon. You can also use our online water calculator, utility statement graphs, and online utility usage history table to keep track of your water habits.

# STAGE 2 WATER RESTRICTIONS


## One Day Watering ONLY

<b>RESIDENTIAL ODD ADDRESS</b> <b>Saturday</b>	<b>RESIDENTIAL EVEN ADDRESS</b> <b>Sunday</b>
<b>AUTOMATIC IRRIGATION SYSTEMS: BEFORE 10 A.M. HOSE-END SPRINKLERS, SOAKERS: BEFORE 10 A.M. OR AFTER 7 P.M.</b>	
<b>COMMERCIAL, MULTIFAMILY ODD ADDRESS</b> <b>Tuesday</b>	<b>COMMERCIAL, MULTIFAMILY EVEN ADDRESS</b> <b>Friday</b>

**REPORT VIOLATIONS TO 3-1-1**



**SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 11 AM // BIBLE LIFE (all ages) @ 9:30 AM**  
**WATCH LIVE SUNDAY MORNINGS OR VIEW ANYTIME ONLINE**  
 Great Hills Baptist Church // 10500 Jollyville Road . Austin 78759 // 512.343.7763  
[www.ghbc.org](http://www.ghbc.org)



## Water Use Calculator

1. Fill out number in your household.

2. Fill out water use activities.

3. View calculator and take the 10% pledge.

**DAILY WATER USE**

Shower & bath: 27 gallons

Toilet: 3 gallons

Use our online calculator and take the 10% water saving pledge. The calculator can be found at [www.ci.austin.tx.us/watercon/calculator.cfm](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/watercon/calculator.cfm)



**Quiznos @ Parkline Shopping Center**  
**11301 Lakeline Blvd. #100**  
**(512)331-5912**  
[www.deliverybyquiznos.com](http://www.deliverybyquiznos.com)  
**Free Chips & Drink**  
**w/ Purchase of**  
**Any Size Sub/Entree Salad**  
 Excludes Toasty Torpedo & Bullet  
 CLU-1238B Expires 9/30/11





# HOME ON THE RANCH

## Austin Kindergarten Student Picked National Poster Child!

By Connie Ripley

Five year old Max Whitney, kindergarten student at Rutledge Elementary, is named the 2012 National Poster Child for Autism Speaks. Max's picture was chosen from hundreds of entries by a New York advertising firm hired by Autism Speaks. The announcement comes just as the Greater Austin Walk broke all goals and records for the local walk on the 24th with about 4,000 participants. The local Walk has thus far raised over \$140,000 in support of Autism Speaks' work, both locally and nationally, to increase awareness about the growing autism health crisis and fund innovative autism research and family services.

More children will be diagnosed with autism this year than with AIDS, diabetes and cancer combined, yet only 0.5% of the budget of the National Institute of Health goes to autism research. The research falls to private funding—like Autism Speaks, North America's largest autism science and advocacy organization. Children with autism are normally fixated on one or two things. Max loves car washes and tornados (after watching *The Wizard of Oz*). He has his own "Favorites" on the computer where he goes and "studies" car washes and tornados for as long as his parents will allow. (A timer is always set.)

Many children with autism have food allergies and extreme food preferences. Max has both. He is allergic to milk products and eggs. He is on a casein-free, egg-free diet with a big accent on organics. He will only eat foods that are tan. He loves chicken nuggets and breads that are egg and casein-free with an occasional bite of broccoli or avocado. Peanut butter, applesauce and banana are also high on his list. (His mother, Traci Whitney, purees carrots and spreads them under the peanut butter. She also purees tofu and white beans with casein-free butter to pour over pasta.) Recent research has shown that the bodies of many children with autism are not able to rid their body of toxins and metabolize some of the vitamins and minerals they consume. Max has shown improvement with Glutathione, Methyl B12 and Folate cream rubs and DMG orally, plus a super multi-vitamin.

Max is totally integrated into a normal kindergarten classroom with the help of an aide provided by the school district, Andrea Sour. His favorite time at school is "eating". He eats almost the same thing every day. His least favorite is writing in his journal. He has great difficulty with fine motor skills and holding a pencil.



**MAX WHITNEY,  
OUR AVERY RANCH  
NEIGHBOR**


## NOTICE

We will be publishing a fresh Youth Job Seekers list in December. Please send an email to [arnewsletter@hotmail.com](mailto:arnewsletter@hotmail.com) if you are still interested to be in the list by November 7, 2011. Your email must include any age, phone number, what kind of work you wish to do (baby sit, pet sit, house sit, yard work) and relevant certificates. If you sent updates or submitted your name for inclusion since January 2011, you do not have to re-submit it again

### DO YOU HAVE REASON TO CELEBRATE?


We want to hear from you!

Email  
[arnewsletter@hotmail.com](mailto:arnewsletter@hotmail.com)  
to let the  
community know!



# Bring this coupon in for a FREE TRIAL session

in math, reading, writing or study skills.\*



Call to schedule  
**512-336-1818**  
[northaustin@austinsylvan.com](mailto:northaustin@austinsylvan.com)

**North Austin Center**  
**11066 Pecan Park Blvd. (Lakeline Plaza)**

\*Offer valid for new customers only. May not be combined with other offers. Offer ends Nov. 20, 2011.

**NOT AVAILABLE  
ONLINE**



## **You clearly have your father's eyes.**

But what about his heart? Heart disease may run in your family and there's an easy, painless way to find out. A HeartSaver CT scan at Heart Hospital of Austin can quickly determine your risk in its earliest and most treatable stages. In heart disease, early detection is critical. And you can trust our expertise with hearts, because for six years in a row, HealthGrades® has ranked us as the number one heart program in Texas.

**To schedule a HeartSaver CT scan, call  
512-407-SAVE today.**



A campus of St. David's Medical Center

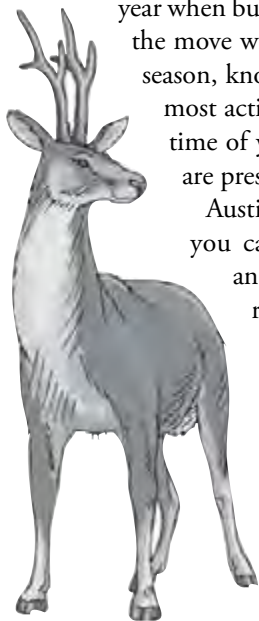
[HeartHospitalofAustin.com](http://HeartHospitalofAustin.com)



# HOME ON THE RANCH

## DEER SEASON IS HERE

*Submitted by Robin Abbott*



November through December is deer season in Texas. It is the best deer-watching season of the year. Late fall is the time of year when bucks have grown their antlers and fawns are on the move with their mothers. It is also the deer-mating season, known as the "rut." During this season deer are most active and more likely to run and bolt, so it is a time of year to use extra caution in areas where deer are present.

Austin is one of very few large cities in Texas where you can still experience urban deer. Northwest and southwest Austin are home to most of our remaining neighborhood herds. Many area residents enjoy the deer's charismatic presence and quiet beauty. Young parents report finding teachable moments in watching does care for their fawns, while for seniors interaction with the deer can be life affirming. Others simply value the opportunity to observe wildlife living freely as they go about such daily business as walking the dog or driving to work.

DeerAustin is a group of Austin neighbors and animal lovers who are committed to living compatibly with urban wildlife and especially to protecting and preserving Austin's urban deer herds. Visit us at [www.DeerAustin.org](http://www.DeerAustin.org). We are providing the following information that is helpful to keep in mind during deer season:

- Always walk dogs on leashes.
- Observe the speed limit.
- Be extra cautious when deer or deer crossing signs are present and when driving from dusk to dawn.

To report an injured deer, call the Game Warden at 389-4848 or Austin 311. To report a dead deer for pickup, call Austin 311. Be prepared to give the operator an address or otherwise be able to describe the location of the deer (for example, "Loop 360 just north of Spicewood" or "the intersection of Mesa and Greystone"). If you need additional help – email [admin@DeerAustin.org](mailto:admin@DeerAustin.org).

We hope you enjoy the fall season and the opportunity to interact with deer that is a part of what makes Austin a special place to live. Please take care, enjoy the wildlife, and Keep Austin Deered!

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED AT PARMER AND MCNEIL

### INTERNAL MEDICINE CLINIC

6301 W. Parmer, Suite 102  
Austin, TX 78729

### Same Day Appointments!

Treating adults when  
they are sick ... and  
keeping them healthy  
in the meantime.



ALICIA W. GROSSMANN, MD  
[www.doctorgrossmann.com](http://www.doctorgrossmann.com)

Call 512-568-3565  
for your appointment

\*Most major insurance carriers accepted\*



### CEDAR PARK EYE CARE



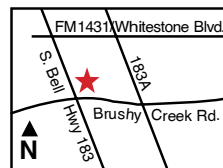
#### Dr. Dennis R. McCarty Therapeutic Optometrist

- Diabetic Eye Exams
- Blade-Free Custom iLASIK comanagement
- Routine Eye Exams
- Dry Eye Treatment & Management
- New Bifocal Contact Lenses
- Designer Eyewear
- Eye Infections & Minor Injuries
- Financing for products and iLASIK available through Care Credit.
- EyeScreen allows us to examine your retina without dilation drops for all ages!

Get Ready for  
Back to School!



Mention this ad for a \$59 Kids Exam.  
Some restrictions apply. Call or come in for details!



Cedar Park Eye Care - 302 S. Bell



249-0808



(Just N. of Buttercup Creek Blvd; behind Dominos)

[WWW.CEDARPAREYECARE.COM](http://WWW.CEDARPAREYECARE.COM)



## Complete Quiz to Win a Prize

*Provided by RBFCU*

*Courtesy of your Architectural Design & Review Committee (ADRC)*

All answers can be found in this issue of "Home on the Ranch" and the official Avery Ranch HOA website ([www.averyranchhoa.com](http://www.averyranchhoa.com))

- What is the name of the largest N. American autism science and advocacy organization?
- Name three of the performers that will be at the Williamson County Centennial Celebration?
- What is the name of the study that shows the funding the HOA needs to have in savings?
- What is the name of the discount program offered to homeowners from Alliance?
- Where can a homeowner find the guidelines for installing a basketball goal?

The first three residents with accounts in good standing who submit correct answers via email to [ContestAvery@gmail.com](mailto:ContestAvery@gmail.com) will win a gift certificate chosen by the ADRC and funded by a local business. Answers must include your Name, Address, and Phone Number in the email. Board Members or Committee Officers are not eligible. Winners are limited to once every twelve months.

Congratulations to the September and October newsletter quiz winners: Mike Gath, Sue Greening, Manh Pham, Jennifer O'Neal, Matt Mayfield, and Rebecca Terry.

## County Courthouse Centennial Celebration

*by Williamson County Commissioner Lisa Birkman*

Come enjoy the Courthouse 100th Anniversary Celebration at the historic courthouse, on the square in Georgetown at 710 S. Main Street, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, November 5, 2011. This date commemorates the County Bar Association's dedication of the newly completed courthouse in 1911. To foster county-wide participation, the event will honor any person, business or farm having already achieved its 100th anniversary. Highlighting the celebration will be performances from various groups and cultures representative of Williamson County. Performers include Round Rock Ballet Folklorico, Round Rock Symphony Orchestra, Taylor Czech Chorus and more! Krissy's Cakes in Leander will be building a cake in the shape of the courthouse especially for the celebration!

At 1 p.m., an official ceremony will take place with the singing of "Happy Birthday" by the Round Rock Christian Academy. Following the ceremony, all party participants will be invited to enjoy a slice of birthday cake donated by Krissy's Cakes or a mini cupcake from Custom Order Cakes. Several organizations around the county will have displays on 8th Street to showcase their unique attributes as vital partners in the growth and prosperity experienced over the last 100 years. To perform or have a display at the celebration, contact Connie Watson at 512.943.1663 or [cwatson@wilco.org](mailto:cwatson@wilco.org). For more information on the centennial celebration, visit the county's website, [www.wilco.org](http://www.wilco.org) and click on the Courthouse Centennial button. And for assistance with any county issue, please contact me at [lbirkman@wilco.org](mailto:lbirkman@wilco.org) or 244-8610.

## BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

**EVERY RANCH SPECIAL !** Call Devcon Security Rep Douglas McDougle @525.3043 FREE Basic install/ Low monitoring rates OR Up to 20% OFF your current monitoring rates.

**Advertise  
Your Business Here  
888-687-6444**

**Specializing in  
Residential Repaints**

**NO MONEY  
DOWN!**

- Residential and commercial re-paint specialists
- Interior and exterior with wood replacement if necessary
- Popcorn ceilings and wallpaper removal
- Wall texture
- Kitchen Cabinets
- Quick turnaround
- Insured and written warranty
- References available
- Locally owned and operated
- Crown Molding Installation



**\$100 OFF**  
any job over  
**\$1,000**  
Expires 11/1/11.



**Call for a  
Free Estimate  
512-851-2400**

**[www.carnivalpainting.com](http://www.carnivalpainting.com)**

# HOME ON THE RANCH

At no time will any source be allowed to use the Home on The Ranch Newsletter contents, or loan said contents, to others in anyway, shape or form, nor in any media, website, print, film, e-mail, electrostatic copy, fax, or etc. for the purpose of solicitation, commercial use, or any use for profit, political campaigns, or other self amplification, under penalty of law without written or expressed permission from Peel, Inc. The information in the newsletter is exclusively for the private use of Peel, Inc. and the Avery Ranch Homeowners Association.

**DISCLAIMER:** Articles and ads in this newsletter express the opinions of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Peel, Inc. or its employees. Peel, Inc. is not responsible for the accuracy of any facts stated in articles submitted by others. The publisher also assumes no responsibility for the advertising content with this publication. All warranties and representations made in the advertising content are solely that of the advertiser and any such claims regarding its content should be taken up with the advertiser.

\* The publisher assumes no liability with regard to its advertisers for misprints or failure to place advertising in this publication except for the actual cost of such advertising.

\* Although every effort is taken to avoid mistakes and/or misprints, the publisher assumes no responsibility for any errors of information or typographical mistakes, except as limited to the cost of advertising as stated above or in the case of misinformation, a printed retraction/correction.

\* Under no circumstances shall the publisher be held liable for incidental or consequential damages, inconvenience, loss of business or services, or any other liabilities from failure to publish, or from failure to publish in a timely manner, except as limited to liabilities stated above.

## Get Involved in Your Community

**WE HAVE COMMUNITY EVENTS BECAUSE  
AR RESIDENTS MAKE IT HAPPEN!**

*Are you an organizer? Maybe a person who has an eye for detail? Do you like creating checklists? Are you an arts & crafts person? Your community needs you. Join the Avery Ranch Social Committee! Contact our Avery Ranch Social Committee Chairperson Jean Mayo at [jmayo002@austin.rr.com](mailto:jmayo002@austin.rr.com)*

The Social Committee meets every 1st Thursday at 7p.m. at the Meeting Room located by the pool of the Main Activity Center (Morningside).

The Event Calendar is posted on the HOA website under the Social Committee Forum and at the Avery Ranch Neighborhood Events Page on FaceBook



<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Austin-TX/Avery-Ranch-Neighborhood-Events/132212366794767>

Playtime for kids... Adult time for parents! Become a part of the Avery Ranch Playgroup! To know more about it, contact April Aguren at [pril.aguren@averyranchhoa.com](mailto:pril.aguren@averyranchhoa.com)

**Avery Ranch  
HOA Members,  
You Can Join!**

**RBFCU**

*Lake Creek Branch*  
10135 Lake Creek Pkwy.

Join online – [rbfcu.org](http://rbfcu.org)  
512-833-3300 | 1-800-580-3300

Federally insured by the NCUA

**WANTED**

BY PEEL INC.

ENERGETIC SALES REPRESENTATIVES

**REWARD**

COMMISSION BASED INCOME

WANTED FOR WORKING FROM HOME,  
EARNING EXTRA INCOME, AND  
SELLING ADS IN YOUR NEWSLETTER

VISIT [WWW.PEELINC.COM](http://WWW.PEELINC.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION

888-687-6444 [www.PEELinc.com](http://www.PEELinc.com)



## PATSY SOMMER ELEMENTARY PTA HOLIDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**Sat., December 10, 2011, 8:00-11:00am**  
**Sommer Elementary Cafeteria**  
**16200 Avery Ranch, Austin, TX 78717**  
**\$6 at the door (2 & under eat free)**

We are proud to announce our 4th Annual Pancake Breakfast! Join us and Santa for some delicious IHOP pancakes, Rudy's famous sausage, coffee, and juice. Along with community partners Comerica Bank, Lamb's Tire and Little Smiles Pediatric Dentistry we are excited to bring you a morning full of festive activity. Get creative at the craft table, take home special reindeer food, and bring the kids to the Kids Holiday Shoppe to shop for gifts for the whole family. (Holiday Shoppe purchases not included in ticket price) Come hear the magical sounds of the holidays performed by the school choir and don't forget to bring your camera to take a picture with Mr. & Mrs. Claus! Mark your calendars and join us to celebrate the holiday season!

## GRANITE STREET SIGN SALES UPDATE

The Avery Ranch Social Committee continues to sell the beautiful granite street signs that are being removed and replaced by City of Austin approved metal signs. We have received signs from Water's Edge, Westchester, and Parkside in addition to all neighborhoods west of Parmer Lane and the list of sign availability is updated daily at [www.centraltexasgardening.info/arsigns.pdf](http://www.centraltexasgardening.info/arsigns.pdf). Sales are first come, first served, no advanced reservations, cash or check made to Avery Ranch Social Committee and all sales are final. Proceeds support Social Committee activities and events which make Avery Ranch a standout place to live.

Sign removal for remaining neighborhoods, Brookside, Morningside, Creekside, Campions and the Enclave is on hold until the HOA Board determines who will be removing them, but once removed, will be delivered to the Social Committee for sale. Unfortunately, we can't say when that will occur, so please be patient. Once the heavy granite signs are removed, they are replaced with temporary cardboard black on white signs until new City signs are installed. The picture below shows this transition.

If you see a sign available at the webpage above, don't hesitate to contact Bob Beyer, Treasurer of the Avery Ranch Social Committee at 238-6732 or [txbeyer@austin.rr.com](mailto:txbeyer@austin.rr.com) to make arrangements to get the sign(s) you want. It's just that easy to own a piece of Avery Ranch history.



## Why choose Primrose? Just ask a mom.

*"My children are learning things I never imagined they could learn at this point in their lives. My preschooler can write his name and recite his alphabet and numbers. I also have a 15-month old who is learning his shapes and colors. It's just amazing how much Primrose is teaching my children."*

— Jude & Ethan's Mom, Primrose Parent

### Primrose School of Round Rock

15925 Great Oaks Drive  
Round Rock, TX 78681

**512.733.2020**

**[www.primroseroundrock.com](http://www.primroseroundrock.com)**

Educational Child Care for Infants through  
Private Kindergarten and After School



Each Primrose School is a privately owned and operated franchise. Primrose, Primrose Schools, and The Leader in Educational Child Care are trademarks of Primrose School Franchising Company. ©2011 Primrose School Franchising Company. All rights reserved.

**Enroll today and receive  
two weeks tuition credit!**



**Primrose Schools®**  
The Leader in Educational Child Care®

## Gut Check Time for Central Texas Landscapes

*by Bob Beyer, Travis County Master Gardener*

Biting the bullet and endorsing a need for change is a tough thing for a gardener, or any other person in any other situation where traditional and favored ways aren't working anymore. How far will we go before we are convinced that change is the best alternative? Will dead St. Augustine lawns, dying shrubs, trees and garden perennials be enough? Will water restrictions and fruitless efforts to save our favorite non-adaptable plants be enough? This is central Texas and we have been taught a lesson this summer that should hit every gardener's and homeowner's nerve. Ninety days of 100+ temperatures, 23 inch shortfall in rain over the past year, lake reservoir water levels over 50' below capacity and resulting water rationing, and dire predictions of longer term drought and heat has provided overwhelming evidence that our landscapes must change in order to survive.

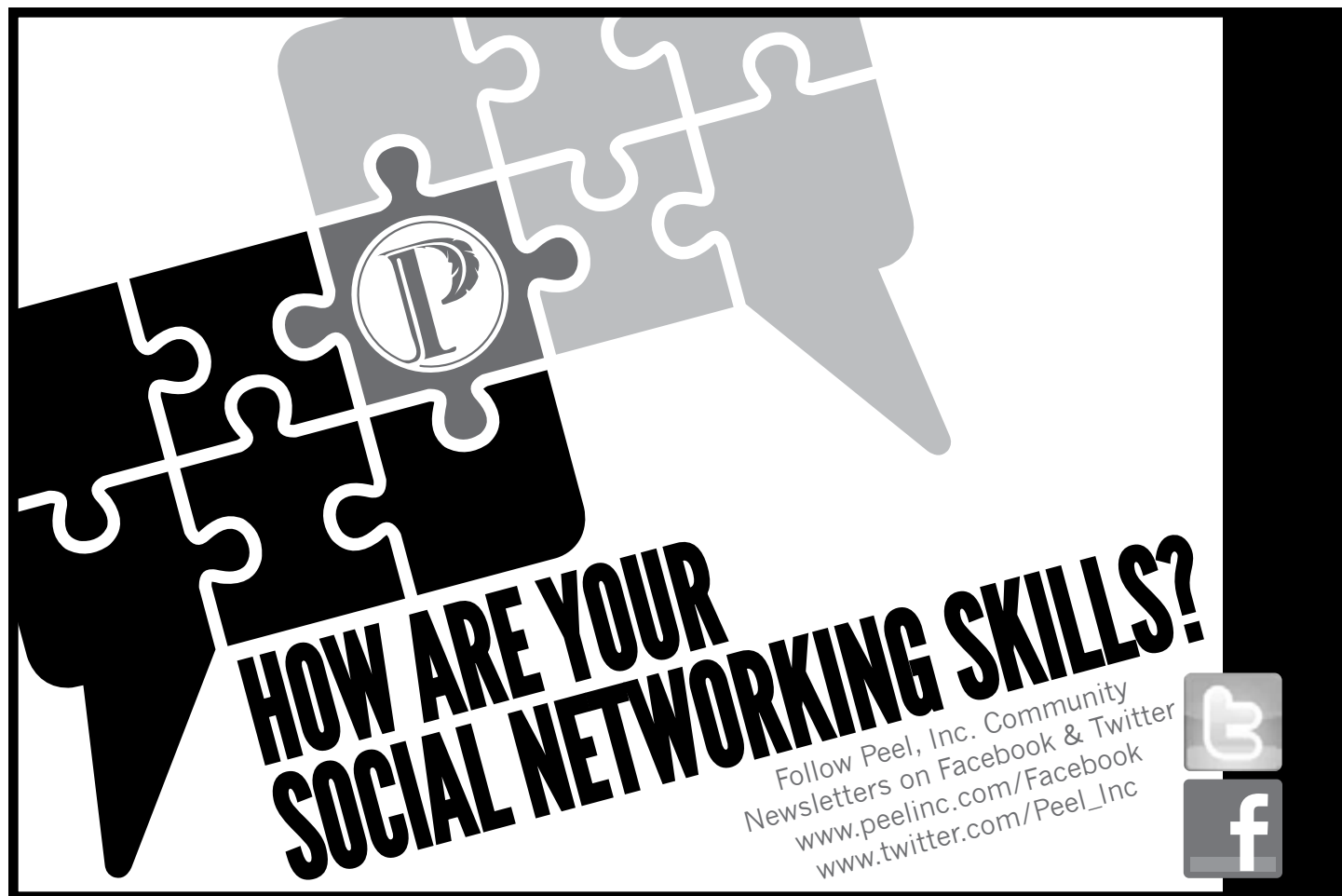
We have reached that point and made that decision. Have you? This fall, all water thirsty (and now dead) St. Augustine grass is being removed and replaced with a combination of Buffalo grass and hardwood mulch with native shrubs and perennials blended in. We have a thoroughly thought through plan and design for re-landscaping our front yard on a limited budget. It will mean doing most of the work ourselves (and we are seniors), with some contracted help for tasks beyond our capability, but we have found this process to not be a negative but very positive experience in several ways.

We have studied, researched, and learned about native and adaptive plants over many years but now have an opportunity and compelling reason to creatively design a natural and pleasant landscape using these tough and enduring plants. We have taken

a systematic approach to planning the new front yard such as defining which areas will be turfed with Buffalo grass vs. mulch covering, micro-environmental factors affecting plant choice, defining plants by type, height, and desired characteristics (with the help of the wonderful City of Austin Grow Green book), and defining materials needed to implement the plan. In any DIY project, work must be phased appropriately from high to lower priority tasks and in do-able stages. Before we break ground, we break pencil leads first and document our plan thoroughly. We drove around to view and take pictures of what others have done to see what we like and dislike. This helps in our conceptualization.

Other positives are that we won't have to spend money on lawn care or have to mow our lawn in the heat of summer. Our

*(Continued on Page 11)*



**HOW ARE YOUR  
SOCIAL NETWORKING SKILLS?**

Follow Peel, Inc. Community  
Newsletters on Facebook & Twitter  
[www.peelinc.com/Facebook](http://www.peelinc.com/Facebook)  
[www.twitter.com/Peel\\_Inc](http://www.twitter.com/Peel_Inc)

# HOME ON THE RANCH

## Gut Check Time... - (Continued from Page 10)

lawnmower will become a surplus item. We will save money on our water bills and know we are helping our environment. The up-front effort and hard work will pay off many times over in years to come.

Facing changing realities and taking proactive steps to get ahead of the game is beneficial. In 2001, we foresaw gas prices skyrocketing and fuel shortages lingering in the future, so converted to a hybrid vehicle which we still drive 10 years later. Today we see climate warming proving to be a reality and are thinking a decade in advance in planning and implementing a landscape that will meet this future challenge. Waiting for a crisis to hit before acting will be much more painful than taking preventive measures today.

Let me share some ideas that might be helpful. If you have spreadsheet software like Excel, making row height equal to column width creates graph paper, each square being 1 sq. ft. A good area diagram can be hand or computer drawn (in pencil with a good eraser) for planning purposes first defining what's there, what will remain there, and what will be added or changed. Start with defining turf or ground covering before considering plant alternatives. When choosing candidate plants, always base it on maximum growth size although initial plantings will be considerably smaller. Consider placement of non-living objects to accent the landscape. Consider hours of sun vs. shade if trees are nearby nearby. Consider the house

architecture and general theme of existing landscape plantings when selecting, so everything is compatible with each other.

Finally, on a positive thought, our southwest U. S. environment in central Texas is unique, like no other place in the country. Let's embrace that and see the beauty in a dry climate landscape that folks in other parts of the country can't have. The days of lush green lawns in central Texas never really existed and definitely are not part of today's reality, so use your creative imagination, design skills, opportunity to create something new and enduring, and reduce your gardening stress level by embracing xeriphytic landscaping and gardening. Xeriphytic does not mean desert-looking – it means water saving so you can still have green and colorful landscapes that say "welcome to central Texas".

You can attend the free Avery Ranch Landscape and Garden Clinic held every third Thursday of the month (except December) at the Main Activity Center meeting room at 7 PM, to get help and advice.

This has been a very painful and distressing summer for most of us, but fall is the time to make the changes we need to make to ensure that our yards and gardens will survive and thrive in the predicted long-term drought for Austin. Enjoy the cooler weather to prepare your landscape and garden for next summer.



**OPEN YEAR ROUND  
MON. - FRI.  
7:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.**

Toddler, Pre-K,  
Private Elementary (K – 6th grade)  
Now enrolling ages 18 months – 12 years  
for 2011-12, including summer programs.

- Highest level of Montessori accreditation worldwide
- Oldest family of Montessori schools in Greater North Austin
- Decades of family and staff experience in education, with highly accredited teachers
- Advanced socio-academic, character and sensory-motor development
- Highly specialized and fun learning environments
- Individualized lesson focus and variety of group activities
- Peaceful, secure and spacious facilities
- Multiple after-school and unique enrichment programs

*A Legacy of Excellence in Montessori Education*

**SAPIENTIA MONTESSORI**  
TRUST

**Cedar Park Montessori**

**Sapientia Montessori**  
**512.260.2261**  
1220 Cottonwood Creek Trail (CR185)  
Cedar Park, TX 78613  
[www.sapientiamontessori.com](http://www.sapientiamontessori.com)

**Cedar Park Montessori**  
**512.259.8495**  
400 E. Whitestone Blvd (FM1431)  
Cedar Park, TX 78613  
[www.cedarparkmontessori.com](http://www.cedarparkmontessori.com)



**Bust a move...**  
**Get your Fitness on...**  
**Giggle, dance, and sing with your child...**

Zumba • Kindermusik  
Partner Dancing • Yoga  
Nia • RhythmGym Kids  
And more



**THE Rhythm Studio**  
Located inside Sassy Pea Market  
10820 E. Crystal Falls Pkwy. • 512-567-3008  
Get more info and enroll at: **TheRhythmStudio.com**





**PEEL, INC.**

308 Meadowlark St.  
Lakeway, TX 78734-4717

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PEEL, INC.

AR

## AveryRanchHouses.com

***We'll Sell Your Home***



***For as Little as 1%\****

- *FREE Home Value Check*
- *Cancel Anytime Agreement*
- *FREE Move Up Program*
- *Lease Buy Out Program*
- *Creative Financing Expert*
- *Property Management*
- *Residential Leasing*



**19 Years Experience & Over 2600 Homes SOLD**

Active Listings ..... 72  
Pending Sales ..... 29  
Average Days on Market ..... 64  
Avg List Price vs. Sales Price ... .98%

Stats taken from ABOR on 09-07-11



**Mike Cusimano**  
**795-9918**

