

LONG CANYON Gazette

January 2012

Volume 5, Issue 1

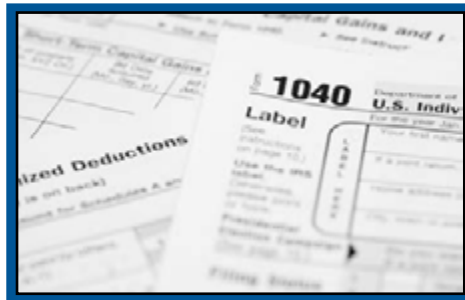
A Newsletter for the Residents of the Long Canyon

Signed, Sealed, & Delivered

TRAVIS COUNTY TAX BILLS FOR 2011 SHOULD BE IN YOUR HANDS!

If you own property in Travis County, chances are you already received a 2011 property tax bill. And if you are among the 121,880 homeowners who escrow through a mortgage company or lending institution, don't worry, the mortgage company probably received the bill and will pay your property taxes. But you might want to check with them to be sure. "All taxpayers or their mortgage companies should have received their bills," said Travis County Tax Collector Nelda Wells Spears. "Especially for owners of multiple properties, this is the time of year to make sure you have received all bills." Spears said many taxpayers want the advantage of federal tax deductions that require paid taxes by the end of the year.

Any payment postmarked by December 31 will be recorded as a December payment and the receipt issued will show the same. "Some taxpayers believe that if they do not receive a bill, they are not liable for tax payment," Spears said. "Taxpayers are responsible for requesting a tax bill if they do not receive one." Spears said anyone who needs a tax bill can download a copy at www.traviscountytax.org or call (512) 854-9473 to request a mailed copy. Over the past several weeks, 266,953 bills hit mailboxes, Spears said.



Seniors and disabled taxpayers may take advantage of a special provision in the law that allows for four installment payments with no penalty and interest provided payments are made before February 1, April 1, June 1 and August 1. Last year 3,234 persons participated in the program. Senior and disabled taxpayers interested in the installment payment plan should call (512) 854 9473 for details. One of the most common questions this time of year concerns the ability to pay taxes. "If you can't pay any or all of your tax bill, please call or come in and make arrangements," Spears recommended.

The deadline to pay 2011 property taxes is January 31, 2012. Those who want a tax receipt showing payment in calendar year 2011 must make payment in the current calendar year. Payments postmarked December 31, 2011

will be recorded in 2011 regardless of when the payment arrives by mail.

For those who wish to pay online, the deadline is midnight on December 31. Payment in person should be made Friday, December 30. All county offices will be closed Monday, January 2 in observance of New Year's Day. Finally, payment by check or money order may be deposited in the tax office drop box by midnight, December 31.

The Travis County Tax Office main location is 5501 Airport Boulevard, between Koenig Lane and 5312 Street. The office opens at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Drive-through service is available. Satellite offices offer convenience to those in East Austin, Oak Hill, Pflugerville and near Austin-Bergstrom International Airport.

All satellite offices open at 8:00 am and close at 5:00 pm. East Austin-4705 Heflin Lane at Springdale and MLK Blvd (drive through service) Oak Hill Office - 8656 Highway 71W Building B, second floor Pflugerville Office-15822 Foothill Farms Loop (drive through service) Southeast Office -4011 McKinney Falls Parkway (drive through service) Call (512)854-9473 for assistance at all locations.

NEWSLETTER INFO

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. www.PEELinc.com, 512-263-9181
Article Submissions longcanyon@peelinc.com
Advertising advertising@PEELinc.com, 512-263-9181

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Long Canyon Gazette. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Long Canyon residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 512-263-9181 or advertising@PEELinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 8th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Long Canyon residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail longcanyon@peelinc.com

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

**NOT AVAILABLE
ONLINE**

Start the New Year by Attending AUSTIN NEWCOMERS CLUB JANUARY LUNCHEON

Austin Newcomers Club is a non-profit social and recreational organization of 500 member- households celebrating its 60th year. It is dedicated to introducing residents to the Austin Community and giving them the opportunity to meet and make new friends. Attend the January luncheon to learn about the forty-five Interest Groups, including book clubs, card and board games playing, dining, gardening, kayaking, golfing, hiking, dancing and special events for both couples and singles. The Austin Chronicle has named the club as the "Best Way to Get Acquainted with the Best of Austin."

The January luncheon speaker will be **Mike O'Krent**, founder of *LifeStories Alive, LLC*, specializes in making personal history videos for families that value their heritage. They create family heirlooms in video – digitally mastered records of life stories with personal accounts, photos and mementos of family history.

- **When & Where:** Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at Green Pastures Restaurant, 811 West Live Oak Street, pre-payment \$20.00. Reservations are required by: January 11th.
- **Time:** 11 a.m. Social Hour, Luncheon begins at noon.
- **For Luncheon Reservations: Email:**
LuncheonDirector@AustinNewcomers.com
- **Welcome Coffees:** You are invited to attend a morning or evening Welcome Coffee & Orientation. For more information visit the website at: www.AustinNewcomers.com
- **To Join Austin Newcomers Club:** Any person who has a zip code beginning with 787 is eligible for a new membership with the annual dues payment of \$40.00. Membership includes The Welcome Mat, the monthly newsletter, and the annual Members' Directory. Contact Dotti Thoms, New Member Services, at (512)314-5100. For more information visit the website at: www.AustinNewcomers.com





United Heritage
Credit Union

LAST CHANCE!

ENTER TO WIN
through January 14

16GB Apple iPad2 with WiFi

Dinner & Shopping
valued at \$500:

An Evening of Food, Drink &
Entertainment provided by
Steiner Ranch Steakhouse
&

\$200 UT Golf Club Pro Shop Gift Card

Drawings open through January 14. Must be at least
18 years old to enter. One entry per person. Employee,
Employee household and Board Member accounts
are not eligible. Chance of winning based
on number of entries received.
Each entry is eligible for one prize.

River Place
10815 Ranch Rd 2222
Austin, TX 78730

Lobby

M-F 9AM - 6PM
Sat 9AM - 2PM

Drive-Thru

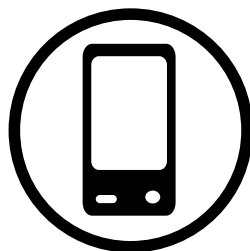
M-F 7AM - 7PM
Sat 9AM - 2PM

Be Smart. Bank Smart.

512.435.4545 WWW.UHCU.ORG 800.531.2328

NOW OPEN

River Place Blvd & 2222



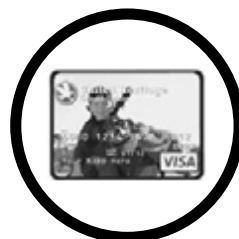
Mobile Banking
with two convenient and
secure options
Mobile Web
(m.uhcu.org) and App

GREAT RATES on
Automobile Loans



Business Services
Commercial Lending
Checking & Savings

SmartDesign
Customized VISA debit
card with your own
personal photo



Membership is open to anyone who lives or works in Travis,
Williamson, Bastrop, Caldwell or Hays county.

366 SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES

GREAT RATES NIGHT DROP ACCESS
EXTENDED HOURS FOR DRIVE-THRU LANES
DRIVE-UP ATM FREE CAPPUCCINO!

AUSTIN FAMILY FINDS HELP FOR CHILD WITH AUTISM

GRANT TO FUND THERAPIES FOR AUTISM AWARDED TO CENTRAL TEXAS FAMILY

Imagine A Way, an Austin based charity that helps families with children with autism, announces their first award of over 600 hours of therapy.

"When we established Imagine A Way, we knew we wanted to find those families who fell through the cracks. Children diagnosed with autism whose parents were doing everything possible, and it still wasn't enough," says Joel Price, founder of Imagine A Way. And they have.

This month, four-year-old Joshua Crostley was chosen to receive the charity's first full sponsorship. With Imagine A Way's help, Josh will receive over 600 hours of speech, occupational, and other prescribed therapies.

Joshua was diagnosed with autism at the age of 2. Like most children with autism, Josh was a healthy, happy baby who at first progressed with typical development. At 12 months he had great eye contact, was

babbling, and even waved good-bye. But at 18 months, his development plateaued. By age 2, he was regressing. He lost all eye contact, quit babbling, lost words he was already speaking, and withdrew from virtually all interaction. A withdrawn and silent child with unusual, repetitive behaviors, common to children with autism, replaced the once active and engaging little boy.

Joshua's parents, Jeremy and Adriana, have relentlessly pursued help for their son. Adriana put her career on hold to devote her full attention to Josh's care, which immediately put extra financial strain on the family. They relocated to be closer to family for support, but soon realized their new location was tremendously behind in services and educational opportunities for children on the spectrum. Seeking the best help for Josh, Jeremy took another job and they relocated again, this time to Austin.

Here, the family could have access to quality, progressive care for their son. But paying for the care proved challenging. The demands of raising a child with autism are significant. Jeremy and Adriana, like so many families in this situation, do not qualify for government assistance. And while insurance covers a portion of therapies, it falls far short of the sessions recommended for Josh.

While the cause of Autism is still unknown, early intervention has shown proven success. The window for making the biggest difference is between the ages of 2 and 6, and every day children, like Josh, are entering and leaving this window of time. Limited resources can mean the difference in reaching the child or losing them. The Crostleys were putting everything they had toward getting their son help, but it was not enough. Tight finances were limiting Josh's therapies. And limiting

(Continued on Page 6)



VALLURE™
REALTY

FEE-FOR-SERVICE LISTING PLANS
TAILORED TO YOUR NEEDS.

RECEIVE FULL-SERVICE
REPRESENTATION PLUS A
2% BUYER REBATE

Office #: 512-249-6299
Mobile #: 512-740-2300
np@vallurealty.com

*Experienced. Trusted.
Bringing You the BEST Value!*

Nicole Peel
Broker/Realtor®



 www.NicolePeel.com
Follow on Facebook - www.facebook.com/vallurealty



The Children's Center Of Austin

Now Enrolling
Register by
Dec. 31st, 2011 and receive
**ONE MONTH'S
FREE TUITION!**

*Offering 3 Convenient
Austin Locations!*

Steiner Ranch
4308 N. Quinlan Park Road
Suite 100
Austin Tx 78732
512-266-6130

Jester
6507 Jester Boulevard
Building 2
Austin Tx 78750
512-795-8300

Bee Caves
8100 Bee Caves Road
Austin Tx 78746
512-329-6633

www.childrenscenterofaustin.com



*Across the
globe.*

*Across the
country.*

*Across
the kitchen
table.*

As you look to protect and grow your wealth, it's important to work with a firm that has a unique global perspective, translated through the relevant and trusted advice of a Financial Advisor. Together, we'll craft your own unique plan, and work with you every step of the way to help you achieve it—on your terms.

**Advice you can trust
starts with a conversation.**

Meece, Suttle, Barr Group

Ray Barr, CRPC®

Vice President - Investments

ray.barr@ubs.com

98 San Jacinto Boulevard

Suite 600

Austin, TX 78701-4301

512-330-8007 800-833-1494

ubs.com/fs



As a firm providing wealth management services to clients, we offer both investment advisory and brokerage services. These services are separate and distinct, differ in material ways and are governed by different laws and separate contracts. For more information on the distinctions between our brokerage and investment advisory services, please speak with your Financial Advisor or visit our website at ubs.com/workingwithus. Neither UBS Financial Services Inc. nor any of its employees provides legal or tax advice. You should consult with your personal legal or tax advisor regarding your personal circumstances. Chartered Retirement Planning CounselorSM and CRPC[®] are registered service marks of the College for Financial Planning[®]. **UBS Financial Services Inc. is a subsidiary of UBS AG.**

At no time will any source be allowed to use the Long Canyon Gazette 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 Long Canyon Gazette is exclusively for the private use.

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.

Imagine A Way - (Continued from Page 4)

therapies to a child like Josh means losing valuable time that cannot be regained. Joel understands. "After our own son's diagnosis we saw the huge progress the therapies brought. The early intervention and therapies gave us our son back. We wanted other families to have that chance". And for this Austin family, Imagine A Way has given them this chance.

The Crostleys are grateful. Joshua's dad shares "When we found out we were receiving this help, we were stunned. I was speechless. My wife had tears of joy. After trying so hard for so long to get our son what he needs, we finally found a way! There's nothing more frustrating, nothing that makes you feel more helpless, than knowing there's something out there to help your child but you can't get to it. We couldn't believe it when Imagine A Way told us! To realize that so many people went to so much effort to do something this kind for someone they didn't even know... the more we think about it, the more unbelievable it is. It's pretty incredible."

ABOUT IMAGINE A WAY:

Imagine A Way is an Austin based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization bringing support, therapies and hope for the future to Central Texas Area families affected by Autism.

For more information about Imagine A Way visit their website www.ImagineAWayFoundation.org or call (512) 220-4324.

Spring Baseball and Softball *Register Now!*

Open to ages 5-15 for baseball and grades K-12 for softball, Northwest Little League is accepting online registrations through February 2nd.

**TO GET MORE INFORMATION OR TO
REGISTER ONLINE,**

*please visit: www.nwll-austin.org
or e-mail: registration@nwll-austin.org*

*Come join us at the finest youth
baseball facility in Austin!*



Courage, Loyalty and Character

LAYERS OF PROTECTION



CONSTANT VISUAL SUPERVISION



LEARN TO SWIM



WEAR LIFE JACKETS



MULTIPLE BARRIERS ON ALL POOLS & HOTTUBS



KEEP BACKYARDS & BATHROOMS SAFE



ALWAYS CHECK POOL/HOTTUB FIRST FOR MISSING CHILD



LEARN CPR



COLIN'S HOPE

Increasing water safety awareness and standards

For more information,
check out our website at
www.colinshope.org



In 2011, more than 50 Central Texas children have drowned or nearly drowned. This number is higher than in recent years. Please continue to keep kids safe in and around the water.

Drowning is Preventable

SAT., JAN. 21 @ EMPIRE AUTOMOTIVE WAREHOUSE (604 E. 7th) 8-11 PM

TIX: \$20 ONLINE, \$30 AT THE DOOR

LIVE MUSIC FROM

MORE C&WBELL

★ ★ AND DJ KURV ★ ★

TASTY FOOD SERVED UP FROM

THE SIDE BAR

AIRSTREAM ★ TRAILER

**BEST DAY
EVER BASH**

TO PREVENT CHILDHOOD DROWNING

BEVERAGES FROM:

DEEP EDDY SWEET TEA VODKA
SAVVY VODKA
ZICO COCONUT WATER
CLIF FAMILY WINERY
A LOCAL BEER TBA

EVENT T-SHIRTS SERVED UP FROM THE

**SANCTUARY
PRINTSHOP**
EL CAMINO

BEST ★ WATER INSPIRED ★ ART AUCTION EVER

FEATURING ART FROM MIG KOKINDA, WILL HERON, WYLAND, LAUREN HAMMONDS, HR CUOZZI, ZEB MATTHEWS, PETER DAVIS, DAVID HURTADO, BARBARA MATTHEWS, CHENIN CAMILLE, NATALYA MADALORA AND MORE.

BEST ★ WATER INSPIRED ★ ART AUCTION EVER



CLIF FAMILY
WINERY



NATURALLY POWERED
ZICO

HONEST
tea



SAT., JAN. 28 @ NITRO SWIMMING (BEE CAVE) 1-5pm

Visit us online

**COLIN'S HOPE
got swim clinic**

Register Online: \$35 - Ages 7 to 17
Olympic Swimmer Instructors

Brendan Hansen ★ Kathleen Hersey
Garrett Weber-Gale



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



PEEL, INC.

308 Meadowlark St. South
Lakeway, TX 78734

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

LY

ADVERTISE
*Right on mark
for your
target audience*
Call Today 512-263-9181.

PEEL, INC.
community newsletters

www.PEELinc.com

512-263-9181