



# The Jester Warbler

Official Publication of Jester Homeowners Association, Inc.

February 2012

Volume 7, Issue 2

## President's Corner

Hello, I am Diana Miller, Interim President of Jester Homeowners Association. I have served on the JHA Board in several roles for the last ten years and have lived in Jester for thirteen years. We are already missing the fine leadership of Philip Kolman as the President of JHA. Board members encourage you to come to the Jester Homeowners Association, Inc. 2012 annual meeting that will be held on February 21st at 7:00 pm at the Shepherd of the Hills Christian Church, 6909 West Courtyard Drive. We will have reports from our committees, and an open discussion period to hear questions and concerns of our neighbors. We hope that 2012 will be a great year for more community involvement from our neighbors and look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting.

*Jester is a great place to live...Diana Miller*

## JESTER HOA Annual Meeting

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, | 7 P.M.  
REGISTRATION STARTS AT 6:30 PM**

Shepherd of the Hills Christian Church | 6909 West Courtyard Drive

## Green Neighborhood Results

*by Dale Bulla*

Happy New Year. I would like to give a summary of our Green Neighborhood results this past year: We have 113 Certified Wildlife Habitat Addresses in Jester. We have 66 hybrid vehicles in Jester. We have 5 plug-in vehicles in Jester. We have 22 homes in Jester with solar panels. For more information on our green neighborhood, go to our city website: [http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/watershed/greenneighbor/gn\\_jester.htm](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/watershed/greenneighbor/gn_jester.htm). If you are not sure that you are included and would like your statistics included, contact Dale Bulla, [dale-bulla@pobox.com](mailto:dale-bulla@pobox.com).



## CHEERS for CHILDREN Mardi Gras Style

**WINE, SCOTCH & FOOD TASTING  
FEBRUARY 23, 2012 | 6:30 – 9:00PM  
TWIN CREEKS COUNTRY CLUB**

*Benefits Dell Children's Medical Center*

*by Lisa Sejnowski*

Northwest Austin Circle of Friends presents our 13th Annual CHEERS for Children event benefiting Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas. This exciting event, a premier wine, scotch, and food tasting, will be held Thursday, February 23, 2012, 6:30 to 9:00 pm at Twin Creeks Country Club (3201 Twin Creeks Club Drive, Cedar Park, 78613), nestled in the lovely hill country setting between northwest Austin and Cedar Park.

You are invited to join us for a fun and exciting Mardi Gras celebration filled with premier wines, single malt scotches, delicious cuisine from local restaurants, funky jazz music on the veranda and complimentary Mardi Gras beads - all included in the ticket price - as well as live and silent auctions with unique and tempting items. Don your masks and costumes (if you dare), and join the fun - all for a good cause!

Tickets are \$55 in advance (\$65 at the door). 100% of funds raised benefit Dell Children's Medical Center and are directed to The Texas Child Study Center, the mental health program at DCMC.

For more information or to purchase tickets online go to [DellChildrensCircleofFriends.org](http://DellChildrensCircleofFriends.org) (listed under "upcoming events") or contact Elliott Weir, Chairman NWA COF, at [eweir@austin.rr.com](mailto:eweir@austin.rr.com) or 922-2231.

## Board of Directors

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## ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

Interested in submitting an article? You can do so by emailing  
diana0777@att.net or by going to:

[www.peelinc.com/articleSubmit.php](http://www.peelinc.com/articleSubmit.php).

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of the month prior to the issue.*

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# Roving Ringtails

NATURE *by Jim & Lynne Weber* WATCH

The common but elusive Ringtail or Ringtail Cat (*Bassariscus astutus*) is not a cat at all, but a member of the Procyonidae family and a close relative of the Northern Raccoon. The origins of its scientific name comes from *bassar* or fox, *isc* or little, and *astute* or cunning. In Texas, it is found mostly in the Trans-Pecos, the Edwards Plateau, and the Cross Timbers regions.

While ringtails are cat-sized mammals, their face is fox-like with a pointed snout, their body is elongated, and their tail resembles a raccoon. The ears are large, and their big, dark eyes are each surrounded by a patch of light-colored fur. The fur on their body is buff to brown-colored above and whitish below, with a spectacularly bushy, ringed tail. This tail is often longer than their body, and is marked by a series of 14 to 16 alternating black and white rings (black rings incomplete on the underside) with a black tip.

Mainly nocturnal but sometimes seen at dawn and dusk (crepuscular), ringtails are roving, solitary mammals that come together only to mate. Their breeding season starts in late February and continues to mid-April, and females are in heat for only one 24-hour period during this time. In early May to mid-June 2 to 4 cubs are born fuzzy, white-haired, and with a tail that is not yet colored with the distinctive black and white bands. The cubs



open their eyes at one month, and at four months begin hunting for rodents, insects, lizards, birds, and berries. Ringtails are quite vocal, especially the young, and will make a variety of sounds including squeaks, chatters, grunts, growls, and hisses, with the typical call being a loud, plaintive bark. In the wild, ringtails live an average of seven years.

Ringtails can be found in our oak-juniper woodlands that have rocky areas associated with water, including riparian canyons and caves, limestone cliffs, and sometimes in man-made structures like mine shafts. They can den in tree hollows, rock crevices, other animals' abandoned burrows, and even seldom-used spaces in buildings. They roam frequently, rarely spending more than three straight nights in one den. Interestingly, the ankle joint of the Ringtail is very flexible and is able to rotate over 180 degrees, which

makes them very agile climbers. By pressing their feet against one wall and their back against the opposite wall, or by pressing both right feet against one wall and both left feet against the opposite wall, they are able to 'stem' or ascend/descend narrow passageways and wide cracks in the rock. Their strong tail can provide balance for negotiating narrow ledges and limbs, and even allows them to reverse direction by performing a cartwheel!

Ringtails have many other common names, including Miner's Cat, as they were often kept by miners and settlers as pets, to keep their cabin free of mice. A hole was cut in a small box that was placed near a stove or fireplace, which acted as a dark, warm place for them to sleep during the day, and they returned the favor at night, hunting mice and keeping them and other rodents at bay. In the native language of the Nahuatl Indians of Mexico, ringtails were called 'cacomistle', which is derived from the word *tlahcomiztli* meaning 'half mountain lion.' Whatever you call them, consider yourself lucky should you spot one of these beautiful, timid, and rarely seen nocturnal mammals!

*Send your nature-related questions to [naturewatch@austin.rr.com](mailto: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**, published by Texas A&M University Press.*



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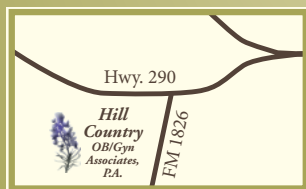
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# Jester Estates

## Jester BOOK CLUB

by Caroline McChrystal

The Jester Book Club held their annual Christmas Party at the homes of Caroline McChrystal and Anneliese Geis. Starting off at Caroline's for a supper buffet and then down to Anneliese's for the show stopping dessert table. As the club will be entering its' eleventh year, the members are looking forward to the great reads that the New Year will bring.



*Pictured from left to right going up the staircase: Eva Wisser, Mangal Gangatirkar, Meg Bergquist, Elaina Griffiths, Cathie Trider, Marianne Weiss Kim, Carol Ekerdt. (Bottom row): Caroline McChrystal Gayland Williams, Marjorie Griffiths, Anneliese Geis*



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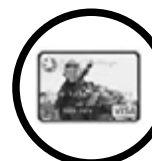
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## Breast Cancer Awareness

Breast Cancer Awareness and Tennis Event, Rally For The Cure, benefiting Susan G Komen non-profit will take place on Saturday February 4 from 9-Noon at the Barton Creek Country Club. Andy Roddick and the University of Texas Girls Tennis Team will be providing exhibition matches and teaching clinics for the whole family. Light breakfast and prizes for all who attend!! 25\$. To RSVP, please call 512/329-4008 by February 3, 2012.



## & Pinktober365

Team Tiara is a 501(c)(3) dedicated to raising money to fund research and education for breast cancer as well as provide outreach services to those affected by it. 2012 will mark our 7th year in this fight against breast cancer. To date, we have raised over \$600,000 for breast cancer awareness, research and direct support for survivors. In 2012, Team Tiara will begin directly funding research into metastatic breast cancer. This is an under-funded area of research where we need to have a lasting impact. Men and women do not die when their cancer is confined to their breasts. We lose them when that cancer spreads to their bones, liver, lungs, brain and other organs -- robbing them of time with their families and friends. This is the heart-breaking side of breast cancer, and an area of research we need to be a part of.

Our goal is to raise \$100,000 in 2012, specifically targeted to metastatic breast cancer research. SO WE are excited to announce that [www.pinktober365.com](http://www.pinktober365.com) launched January 1. This new website will profile 365 pink warriors -- survivors, walkers, researchers, and advocates. We want to hear your story, whether you are a fighter, survivor, family or friend affected by breast cancer. Go to [www.pinktober365.com](http://www.pinktober365.com) to share your story or obtain more information. Team Tiara would be honored to hear from you.



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## American Diabetes Association

### ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL AUSTIN-BASED CENTRAL TEXAS TOUR DE CURE CYCLING EVENT IN 2012

#### *Planning committee seeks sponsors, riders and volunteers*

Now in its eleventh year, the American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure has been a fundraising cycling ride from San Antonio to Austin, Texas. For the first time, in 2012, the event's fundraising efforts will be focused on twenty-six (26) Central Texas counties, and the ride will start and end in Austin at the Travis County Expo Center on May 5, 2012.

"The ADA has decided that it needs to turn up the volume on its efforts to heighten our nation's sense of urgency about the disease, and to move beyond just awareness to encourage people to engaging with the Association in meaningful ways and become a part of the movement to Stop Diabetes®. The Tour de Cure takes place in 43 cities nationwide, and the Central Texas one has been so successful that the national organization encouraged Austin-area leaders to forge its own ride and

focus on getting local word out about the cause," says Mercedes Feris, Tour Manager of the Austin-based chapter.

The new one-day, family-focused event, sponsored by lead sponsors Austin Energy and Seton Healthcare Family, will feature various cycling routes for all skill levels (from 15 to 100 miles in length). No matter which distance riders choose, they will be fully supported with route marshals, SAG vehicles, mechanical support, and rest stops stocked with hydration and a variety of snacks. At the finish, there will be an Austin-style celebratory theme at the Travis County Expo Center with cheering volunteers, live music, great food and much more.

"Though we have made substantial progress in combating diabetes, the number of Americans burdened by this disease continues to grow at a rapid pace," says Jane Koble, Executive Director of the association's Central

Texas chapter. "Approximately 8.3 percent of Americans have diabetes. In Central Texas, we're looking at 10% of our population. It's an urgent health issue that touches Texans at a much higher percentage than the general population of the United States and the number of adult Texans with diabetes is expected to quadruple over the next three decades if the current trend continues."

Diabetes can have a devastating impact on the health and well-being of those it affects. People with diabetes are more likely to suffer from complications such as heart attacks, strokes, high blood pressure, or kidney failure.

- **Type 1** diabetes inhibits the body's ability to produce insulin and can be managed with insulin injections, diet, and exercise.
- **Type 2** diabetes accounts for 90 percent of diabetes cases in the U.S. and for those

*(Continued on Page 9)*

  
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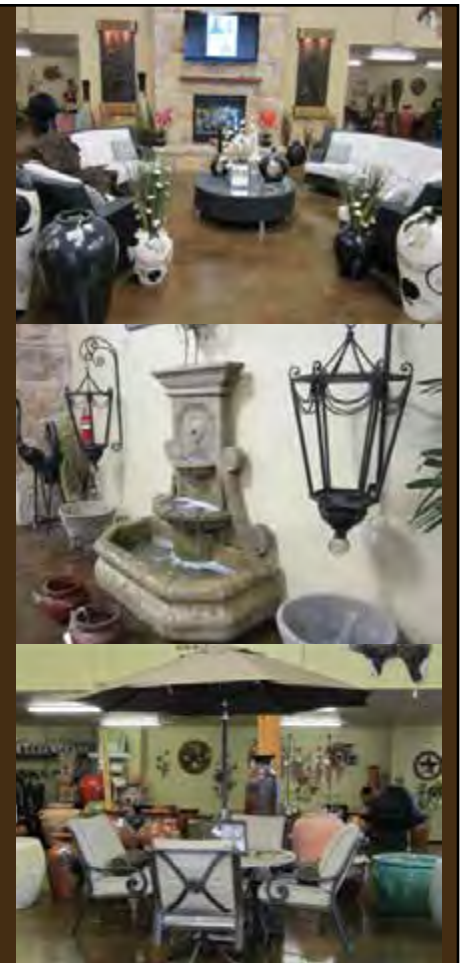
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## Tour De Cure...- (Continued from Page 8)

with this type, either their body does not produce enough insulin or the cells ignore the insulin. Individuals can reduce their risk of developing Type 2 by adopting a healthy diet, exercising regularly, and consulting a medical professional about their individual needs and risk factors. The increase in Type 2 diabetes among the Nation's children is linked to the rise of childhood obesity.

Traditionally, Tour de Cure has been the Central Texas chapter's largest annual fundraiser. The planning committee for the 2012 Austin Central Texas Tour de Cure hopes to attract 550 riders to the inaugural event, who will each raise a minimum of \$200 to help prevent, treat, and manage the disease.

For more information, to volunteer or to sign up, go to <http://www.diabetes.org/austintourdecure> or call 1-888-DIABETES. Ongoing updates are also available on Twitter at @DiabetesAustin or the event's Facebook page: "Austin Central Texas Tour de Cure."

The American Diabetes Association is leading the fight against the deadly consequences of diabetes and fighting for those affected by diabetes. The Association funds research to prevent, cure and manage diabetes; delivers services to hundreds of communities; provides objective and credible information; and gives voice to those denied their rights because of diabetes.

## Jester Homeowner's Association Website!

[www.JesterNeighbors.com](http://www.JesterNeighbors.com)

Community Registration Code: 3328

- Pet registry
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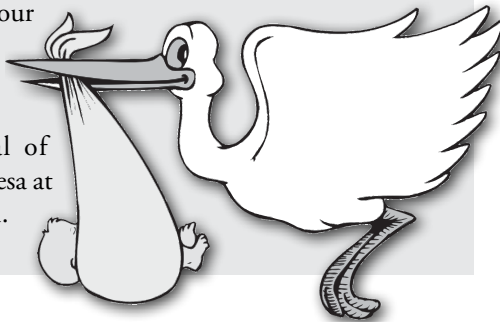
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## JESTER STORK REPORT PLEASE SUBMIT INFO & PHOTO!

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## PET REGISTRY

*Get your pets registered TODAY! This is a complimentary neighborhood service!*

***Mail (or drop off) your pet info to:***



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Include type of pet, name, male or female, description, age, medications, veterinarian's name, whether it is microchipped, and pet owner's name, address, and contact information.

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### CONTACT INFO

**BUNKO** - If you'd like to join or be put on the list as a sub, contact Carol Biggar at cabiggar@austin.rr.com or 512-795-8446 (home) or 512-914-7517 (cell). They are a lively group and play on the 1st Thursday of every month at 7 pm.

**CYCLING** - Want to join a Jester road biking group and participate in organized rides? Contact Troy Reish at troy.reish@gmail.com or call 241-0592.

**FOODIES OF JESTER** - Join our new group...meet friends and enjoy great food! Contact Rachelle Abercrombie at 512-779-5298 or rabercrombie@hotmail.com.

**HILL 2011 KINDERGARTEN GROUP** - This group is helping connect Jester families with others who also have children entering Hill Kindergarten in the Fall 2011. Email beth@schaffer to be added to our email distribution list.

**JESTER DOG LOVER'S GROUP** - Put a smile on your dog's face and a wag in his tail — sign up now to be a founding member of the Jester dog lovers group. Contact Carol Powell at 340-0321 or email her at carolpowell@austin.rr.com

**JESTER KIDS YAHOO GROUP** - This group is helping Jester parents connect with other parents who have children with similar ages or interests! Email jesterkids-subscribe@yahooogroups.com to subscribe.

**JESTER PAGE TURNERS** - Check out the Jester Page Turners, a neighborhood book group that meets the second Wednesday evening of each month. Contact Rachelle Abercrombie at 512-779-5298 or rabercrombie@hotmail.com.

**JESTER UNCORKED** - Wine lovers of Jester, unite! Join our ever-growing group of wine lovers. Contact Tonya Andrien at (512) 795-0086 or tandrien@yahoo.com.

**KAYAKING** - Have some fun with this great water sport! For more info contact Dan Wolfson at dwolfson@austin.rr.com or call 795-8218.

**NETWORKING GROUP** - Are you a resident who owns a business or provides a service? Build your business by referral! One individual or company per professional category. Contact Paul (Griff) Griffiths at 241-1644 or griff@albioncomputergroup.com

**ROWING** - Interested in sweep rowing and sculling? Contact Julie Donnie at 340-0432 or JulieDonnie@yahoo.com.

**SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT GROUP** - Interested in developing relationships and sharing spiritual life experience? Contact Jim Irwin at jimirwin@austin.rr.com or 502-0797

**WELCOME COMMITTEE** - Darla Rowan and JoAnn Welles are co-chairs of this committee, which is designed to welcome new residents to Jester, including newborns. Volunteer to help by emailing JoAnn at joann-welles@sbcglobal.net or call her at 346-0349

**WOODWORKING GROUP** - Join our woodworking group to share knowledge and techniques! Contact John Parker at 345-6991 or JParker84@austin.rr.com

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## Want to make your new year's resolution stick?

### CELEBRATE RECOVERY Mondays @ 7:00 pm

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(for those with loved ones struggling with addiction)

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#### Chemical Addiction Groups (men's & woman's groups)

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## February Events

*Compliments of...* Teresa Gouldie 751-8000 Coldwell Banker, United

Jan. 25 -	<b>Next to Normal</b>	ZACH Theatre
Mar. 4	<i>The 2010 Pulitzer prize-winning new musical!</i>	<a href="http://zachtheatre.org">zachtheatre.org</a>
Feb. 3	<b>Blood, Sweat &amp; Tears World Tour</b>	One World Theatre
	<i>One of the greatest horn bands in the history of popular music</i>	<a href="http://oneworldtheatre.org">oneworldtheatre.org</a>
Feb. 4	<b>Carnaval Brasileiro</b>	Palmer Events Center
	<i>Live samba music, conga lines, costumes and wild abandon</i>	<a href="http://sambaparty.com">sambaparty.com</a>
Feb. 10	<b>Andrea Bocelli Valentine's Concert</b>	uterwincenter.com
	<i>World-renowned Italian tenor - debut performance in Austin!</i>	
Feb. 10 - 26	<b>MID-LIFE! The Crisis Musical</b>	Texarts' Kam and James Morris Theatre
	<i>A hilarious romp about the trials and tribulations of the unavoidable process of aging</i>	<a href="http://tex-arts.org">tex-arts.org</a>
Feb. 17 - 19	<b>George Winston</b>	One World Theatre
	<i>This grammy award-winning solo pianist's concert will support the local food bank</i>	330-9500
Feb. 17 - 19	<b>Sesame Street Live "Elmo Makes Music"</b>	<a href="http://oneworldtheatre.org">oneworldtheatre.org</a>
	<i>Elmo, Abby Cadabby, Big Bird and all their Sesame Street friends are taking to the stage to share their love of music</i>	Frank Erwin Center
Feb. 19	<b>Livestrong Austin Marathon and Half Marathon</b>	477-6060
Feb. 21	<b>Evening with Deepak Chopra: The Future of Wellbeing</b>	<a href="http://sesamestreetlive.com">sesamestreetlive.com</a>
	<i>One of the world's greatest leaders in the field of mind-body medicine</i>	<a href="http://youraustinmarathon.com">youraustinmarathon.com</a>
Feb. 24	<b>Jeff Dunham "Controlled Chaos"</b>	<a href="http://thelongcenter.org">thelongcenter.org</a>
	<i>The man whose standup concerts rule the comedy world is bringing new laughs and hilarious additions</i>	
Feb. 24 - 26	<b>Austin Jugglefest</b>	Frank Erwin Center
	<i>Three days of circus art, juggling and unicycling with demos, workshops &amp; plenty of games</i>	<a href="http://utterwincenter.com">utterwincenter.com</a>
Feb. 25 - 26	<b>That Takes the Cake!</b>	<a href="http://juggling.place.org/jugglefest">juggling.place.org/jugglefest</a>
	<i>Sugar art show &amp; cake competition featuring celebrity demos</i>	<a href="http://thattakesthecake.org">thattakesthecake.org</a>

*serving JESTER ... Just a Little Closer to Heaven!*