

THE VILLAGE

Gazette™

"It takes a Village..."

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

CIRCLE C MANAGER/DIRECTOR OF TENNIS GIVES ADVICE ON HOW TO PLAY TENNIS

Q: I am an adult and I would like to start playing tennis again. How do I get started?

A: Many Private Tennis Clubs and Park District facilities offer Beginner Classes. Most of these are group lessons of 4 to 8 students per class. Facilities usually provide tennis demo rackets. All that that a player needs is tennis shoes and comfortable clothing.

Q: Once I start these classes what is next?

A: The beginner sessions will provide you with the fundamentals regarding grips, footwork and stroke production. The instructor will explain the rules of the game, how to keep score, and suggest the basic strategies for singles and doubles play.

Q: How long does it take to master the game?

A: Forever!! There are players that have been playing for over 50 years (including myself) and I am still learning new techniques and strategies. Once a player develops the fundamentals, all they need to do is to spend quality and quantity time on the court. In tennis, one needs to adjust to the opponents' strength and weaknesses and be able to compensate for them each time they hit the ball.

Q: How do I find players to play with?

A: The group lessons are an excellent way to meet people who are at the same skill level as you. I suggest getting a list of these players' phone numbers and set up a mutual time to meet and practice. Most clubs are open early in the morning and late at night if they have lights. Also, make use of the high school and middle school tennis courts when not in use.

Q: What is the best way to practice?

A: We all are competitive to a fault, and all we want to do is go out to play and beat our opponent. If you want to improve and learn to play better, I suggest that you pair up with a partner or partners who are willing to "rally" with you and practice. I recommend using more than three balls and not even new ones, since they are very lively and hard. Most students are more comfortable with a ball slightly used and softer. These balls still need to bounce high enough to be able to hit it at your waist height.

In the next issue, I will answer some questions about tennis racket equipment and what I feel are the most appropriate tennis shoes to wear. Until then, start playing and start enjoying the "sport of a lifetime: Tennis".

TENNISTIP

*By circle c manager/director of tennis
Fernando M. Velasco*

The Forehand Volley

The forehand volley at the net can either be your best friend or your worst enemy, depending on how you approach the ball with the head of the racket. Picture on the left shows the head of the racket being in an "I" position and will cause the ball to sail long if hit properly. The picture on the right, it shows the head of the racket at the same height as the player's eye level. Using this proper way, the player can now adjust for balls that may have some height or balls that may drop down, thus allowing the ball to have control, depth or power.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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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.....	512-494-9400
Abandoned/Disabled Vehicles	512-974-8119
Stop Sign Missing/Damaged	512-974-2000
Street Light Outage (report pole#).....	512-505-7617

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

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February Events at the Wildflower Center

SIGN UP FOR GO NATIVE U

Spring is just around the corner and this is the year you should learn about gardening with native plants adapted to our crazy Texas climate. Classes start March 17 with discounts for Wildflower Center members and those who take all six classes. Registration information at www.wildflower.org

LIVING WITNESS: OUTSTANDING TREES OF TEXAS

Through March 11

Ralph Yznaga's photographic odyssey in search of great historic Texas trees is on display in the McDermott Learning Center.



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SOUTHWEST AUSTIN REAL ESTATE UPDATE

February 2012

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SOUTHWEST AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATE

Stats from July 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011

	VILLAGE AT WESTERN OAKS One Story Homes	VILLAGE AT WESTERN OAKS Two Story Homes	CIRCLE C RANCH	LEGEND OAKS WOODS LEGEND	BECKETT MEADOWS	JW SMITH – WESTERN OAKS
Active Listings:	NONE - Call now! List your home.	7	21	8	1	1
Average List Price:	\$	\$273,257	\$367,946	\$275,819	253,542	\$280,000
Average List Price per SQ FT:	\$	\$107.30	\$119.20	\$ 113.97	118.78	\$133.21
Sold Listings:	29	26	153	23	6	3
Average Sale Price:	\$234,591	\$262,574	\$334,243	\$255,283	\$253,542	\$247,517
Average Sale Price per SQ FT:	\$120.40	\$107.30	\$118.79	\$113.97	\$105.69	\$114.50

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

MY SOUTHWEST AUSTIN LISTINGS SELL!

2012 is a Good Year to Make the Move

Make the Move in 2012!
FEATURED LISTING:



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MLS #: 9271414

\$572,000 - Active

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WHAT MY CLIENTS ARE SAYING

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– Blair & Cherry Williamson

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Information on this flyer is deemed to be accurate, but it is not guaranteed.

CHEERS for Children

Mardi Gras Style

WINE, SCOTCH AND FOOD TASTING

- February 23, 2012 6:30 – 9:00pm
- Twin Creeks Country Club
- Benefits Dell Children's Medical Center

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.

Your 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 (listed under "upcoming events") or contact Elliott Weir, Chairman NWA COF, at eweir@austin.rr.com or 922-2231.

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The advertisement features a close-up photo of a brown and white dog's face on the left. To the right, there is a sign that reads "Family Owned & Operated Mark & Jan Welp". Below the photo, the text "Kwik Kar" is written in large, bold, red letters with a black outline, followed by "LUBE & TUNE" in black letters on a yellow background, and "Southwest" in black letters below that.

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The goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each digit may appear only once in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box.

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.



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Austin Newcomers Club February Luncheon

Austin Newcomers Club is a non-profit social and recreational organization of 500 member- households celebrating is 60th year. It is dedicated to introducing residents to the Austin Community and giving them the opportunity to meet and make new friends.

The February luncheon speaker will be Daris Word Hale, who was a lecturer and researcher in Tanzania as a Fulbright Scholar from the United States for the 2010-2011 academic year. She taught music at Makumira University in Arusha, and collaborated with East African composers to create new music for western orchestral instruments. Just freshly repatriated, Daris teaches music at Texas State University, and is a bassoonist in the Austin Symphony Orchestra and Austin Lyric Opera Orchestra. She is a founding member of the international touring groups Wild Basin Winds and Trio 488 which have released four albums.

- **When and Where:** Wednesday, February 22, 2012 at Green Pastures Restaurant, 811 West Live Oak Street, pre-payment \$20.00. Reservations are required.
- **Time:** 11 a.m. Social Hour, Luncheon begins at noon.
- For Luncheon Reservations Email: LuncheonDirector@AustinNewcomers.com
- **WELCOME BACK!** To the 67 members who enjoyed the ANC Western Caribbean Cruise in January.
- **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** for our March 22nd Luncheon Speaker, Austin Police Chief Art Asavado

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. You are invited to attend a morning or evening Welcome Coffee and Orientation. For more information visit the website at: www.AustinNewcomers.com.



Grief Share

Submitted by Nancy Zaloga

GriefShare (www.griefshare.org) will meet at Manchaca United Methodist Church located at 1011 FM 1626, each Sunday beginning January 22, 2011, from 3-5 p.m. There is a \$15 charge for a workbook (scholarships available). GriefShare is a 13-week faith-based seminar and support group for people grieving the death of a loved one. It's a place where you can be around people who understand how you feel and the pain of your loss. You may begin the class at any point during the 13-week time frame. Led by Nancy Zaloga and Ginny Lee. Call 280-3469 for further information.

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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.

(Continued on Page 9)



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

- **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 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.

SEND US YOUR *Event Pictures!!*

Do you have a picture of an event that you would like to run in this newsletter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue. Email the picture to villagegazette@peelinc.com. Be sure to include the text that you would like to have as the caption. Pictures will appear in color online at www.PEELinc.com.



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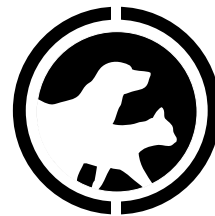
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Classified Ads

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Village at Western Oak residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail VillageGazette@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.



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What are The Top 5 Reasons to move in 2012?

- 5) Home prices are more affordable than the peak prices of a few years ago...bringing more buyers into the market!**
- 4) Pent up demand is starting to show in certain sub-markets as fewer homes are on the market!**
- 3) The economy is showing continued improvement... which boosts confidence in the real estate market!**
- 2) Low, Low, Low Interest Rates which improves buying power... and rates aren't likely to go any lower!**
- 1) All the stars may be in alignment... if you are thinking of moving up your wait is over...take advantage of the market in 2012!**

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