



The Jester Warbler

Official Publication of Jester Homeowners Association, Inc.

June 2012

Volume 7, Issue 6

Presidents Corner

Welcome Summer! Jester kids have worked hard all school year and it is going to be nice to see more of them at the pool, relaxing at home and enjoying time with friends. The Jester club summer kick-off party will be held on June 10 (4-7 pm). There will be pizza, games, prizes and more. This is open to club members, contact jesterclubmanager@yahoo.com if you are interested. With more activity in the neighborhood this would be a good time to register on the Jester website www.JesterNeighbors.com use code 3328 to register. You must be registered to get the email alerts on crime related activity. This serves as a great neighborhood watch. There have been a few incidents reported recently with great information that can help you be on alert. The Jester Board would also like to encourage more content from our neighbors for the website. Please contact a Board member if there is some content you would like to add.

Jester is a Great Place to Live! Diana Miller

TxDOT Shelves Plan to Limit Left Turns on Loop 360

by Patricia Seeger

The Texas Department of Transportation, facing huge opposition from neighborhood associations along Loop 360, says it will drop plans to add "Modified Michigan left turns" to ease congestion on Loop 360. "We just didn't have the public support that we would have liked to have seen," said Carlos Lopez, the Austin district engineer for TxDOT. Most neighborhoods along Loop 360, including Jester, banded together to challenge TxDOT's proposed plan.

FIREWORKS ALERT!

From Public Information Office Manager for the Austin Fire Department, Michelle Decrane:

"It is illegal to possess fireworks within the City of Austin. It is illegal to use or sell fireworks within the City of Austin and within 5,000 feet outside the city limits. The fine is \$248; that may not seem like much but if your fireworks cause bodily harm and/or property damage, the Austin Fire Department can charge you with assault and/or arson, both felony crimes. The U.S. Department of Transportation does not classify the following items listed as common fireworks, and their use is allowed within the City of Austin:

Wire Sparklers | Smoke Bombs | Glow Worms & Snakes Poppers, Trick Noisemakers, Snappers

Sparklers can reach temperatures of 1,800 degrees and smoke bombs shoot a flame of two to three inches when ignited. So even though these fireworks are legal, they can still be very dangerous."

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



PARADE & ACTIVITIES WEDNESDAY, JULY 4 - 9:30 AM

Paint your wagons, decorate your bikes, your pets, and yourself, and join in this festive parade! Gather at Jester Club at 9:30 am (you don't need to be a member of the club to participate). Parade route will be up Jester, around Basil, and back. Games and activities to follow!

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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.

*All news must be received by the 12th
of the month prior to the issue.*

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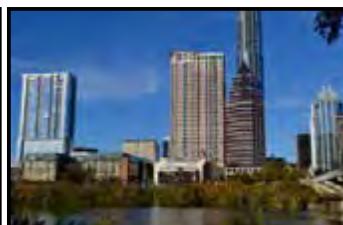
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Nature Watch

Dancing Damselflies

by Jim and Lynne Weber

Often overlooked but in the same Order (Odonata) as dragonflies, damselflies are a group of insects that differ from dragonflies by wing shape, wing position, and eye separation. Damselflies have similarly shaped fore and hind wings, typically hold their wings together over their abdomen when perched, and their eyes are widely separated but never touching. In comparison, the hind wings of dragonflies are broader basally than their fore wings, they hold their wings spread out and away from their body, and their eyes are much larger and usually touch at least at a single point.

While damselflies are less robust fliers than dragonflies, they are still quite agile in flight. They can move each of their four wings independently, and can not only beat them up and down, but also rotate them on their own axes. Most damselflies fly by alternating the two pairs of wings, and while one is moving down to propel them forward, the other is moving up. In spite of their fast wing beats, damselflies have relatively short, narrow wings that don't allow them fast flight, and they move at an average speed of about 2 meters per second.

Over 75 species of damselflies occur in Texas, more than half of the known species in North America. These species represent members of all families of damselflies, which include broad-winged damsels (jewelwings and rubyspots), spreadwings, threadtails, and pond damsels (dancers, bluets, yellowfaces, wedgetails, damsels, forketails, swampdamsels, sprites, and firetails). Like most dragonflies, the males are usually the most colorful and the easiest to identify.

Usually inhabiting small seepages and springs, the Springwater Dancer (*Argia plana*) is one of the most common pond damsels in our area, and has a blue head, face, and eyes, and a blue thorax with a black dorsal (top) and shoulder stripe. Its abdomen is also predominately blue, with black rings on most middle segments. It can often be found along roadsides, away from water. The Great Spreadwing (*Archilestes grandis*) is the largest damselfly in Texas and the US, and is recognized by its blue eyes, the metallic green stripes on the top of its thorax, and bright yellow stripes on its sides. Its wings are clear to slightly smoky, often with darker tips. Found around bodies of standing water, it perches in a distinct manner on vertical stems with its body hanging downward and its wings partly spread. Common around open streams and rivers, the American Rubyspot (*Hetaerina americana*) is a broad-winged damsel that has a metallic red thorax, a metallic green abdomen, and a vivid red patch at the base of its wings that grows larger with age.

Observed throughout the summer at almost any body of freshwater, damselflies are slender and delicate. They seem to dance around and about the water, marked with colors of the rainbow, delighting all those who take the time to get to know and admire them!

Send your nature-related questions to naturewatch@austin.rr.com and we'll do our best to answer them. If you enjoy reading these articles, look for our book, *Nature Watch Austin*, published by Texas A&M University Press.



Jester Estates

A Focus on Eye Health & Safety for Your Family

by Concentra Urgent Care

ADULT EYE HEALTH

Maintaining a healthy lifestyle is an important part of preserving good eye health. Keys to healthy vision include:

- Avoiding smoking
- Eating a balanced diet, rich in dark green vegetables and foods that contain zinc, vitamins C and E, and beta-carotene
- Staying active
- Controlling your blood pressure
- Protecting your eyes from the sun by wearing eyewear that absorbs UV rays and brimmed hats or caps
- Staying current with periodic eye exams as recommended by your doctor if you have diabetes or other chronic conditions that can affect your vision

SIGNS OF PROBLEMS

See your doctor if you experience any of the following:

- Unusual trouble adjusting to the dark
- Difficulty focusing on objects
- Squinting due light sensitivity
- Change in color of iris (colored part of your eye)
- Red, crusty, or swollen eyelids
- Recurring pain around eyes
- Double vision
- Dark spots or floaters in vision
- Distorted or wavy lines/edges
- Watery eyes
- Itchy or burning dry eyes
- Seeing spots or ghost-like images

CHILD EYE HEALTH

Newborns should be checked for inherited eye problems at the time of delivery. Between six and twelve months, infants' eyes should be checked again by a health care professional. At three to four years old, children should start getting their eyes checked at regular intervals.

EYE INJURIES

The most common causes of eye injuries in children are: misuse of toys, everyday objects, and tools (forks and knives, pens and pencils, garden tools), falls, contact with harmful household products (detergents, cleaning supplies, paint, glue), and car accidents. The best ways to avoid these types of injuries are to properly baby proof your home, read all warnings and instructions on toys, and be sure your children are properly secured in infant carriers and car seats.

Seek immediate medical attention if your child...

- has obvious pain or trouble seeing
- has a cut or torn eyelid
- does not move one eye as well as the other
- has one eye that sticks out compared to the other
- has an unusual pupil size or shape
- has blood in the clear part of the eye
- has something in the eye that cannot be easily removed

For more information on taking care of your family's sight, visit [Prevent Blindness America at www.preventblindness.org](http://www.preventblindness.org) or [The National Eye Institute at http://www.the-national-eye-institute.org](http://www.the-national-eye-institute.org).

Crime in Jester

by Patricia Seeger

This spring the Jester neighborhood experienced multiple attempted burglaries. Hard to believe, but unfortunately true. There was a burglary reported in Jester the week of May 7th. If you are concerned, there is an internet-based free service available for you to receive criminal activity reports. You enter your address and the area you want monitored, from 1 to 25 miles, and this service will send you an email when there is police activity.

The website is www.spotcrime.com.

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Visit Estância Churrascaria Brazilian Steakhouse at The Arboretum:

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Austin's first authentic Brazilian steakhouse welcomes North Austin diners to their new location at The Arboretum, bringing the rich culture and flavorful cuisine of Southern Brazil to the North side.

Estância Churrascaria, the fine-dining steakhouse known for its skewer-grilled meats, extensive salad bar and a genuine Brazilian experience is now located on the corner of Great Hills and 183 Hwy in the Arboretum, an expansive, 300 seating fine-dining restaurant set in a casual, inviting atmosphere.

An authentic Brazilian dining extravaganza, Estância is known for having the largest selection of tableside-sliced meats in Austin, **more than 14 cuts of savory meats**, skewer-grilled to guests'

desired temperature and sliced tableside by gaucho chefs.

Featured meats include Picanha (a popular sirloin cut seasoned with sea salt and also with garlic), Costela (slow-cooked, juicy beef ribs), Cordeiro (leg of lamb sliced from the bone and lamb chops), Linguica (traditional slow-roasted pork sausage), and Frango (slow-roasted chicken legs seasoned to perfection and tender chicken breast wrapped in bacon).

The restaurant's **salad bar** offers dozens of fresh produce items, as well as **imported cheeses, aged salami and prosciutto, and other chilled meat varieties**, all served alongside traditional Brazilian side dishes like polenta, garlic mashed potatoes, rice and beans, golden-fried bananas and heavenly homemade cheese bread rolls. A menu for everyone, Estância is guaranteed to win the praises of steak lovers and vegetarians alike. Estância Churrascaria also features an **impressive wine list** comprised of hand-selected wines from the best growing regions throughout the world. From Napa Valley and Sonoma County, to Argentina, Brazil, Chile, France, Italy and Australia, Estância's extensive selection of wines were chosen to perfectly complement the restaurant's authentic cuisine.

The restaurant's distinctive bar is perfect for happy hour, or a cocktail before dinner.

Estancia's expert bartenders serve a **variety of cocktails and after-dinner drinks**, including the best *Caipirinha*, and the national cocktail of Brazil – in all of Austin.

Prepared with lime, sugar-cane rum called *cachaça*, sugar and ice cubes the result is a refreshing, slightly tart cocktail unlike any other, perfect for the summer days ahead.

Diners of all ages are welcomed at Estância Churrascaria. Children five years and under are complimentary and children six years to ten years are half price, (beverages, desserts, tax, and gratuity are additional). Senior diners will appreciate the senior discount rate of available on Mondays and Tuesdays every week, beginning at 5pm and available all night long.

Estância Churrascaria is also the ideal choice for hosting your special event. Whether a business luncheon, a charity social, or any other occasion, your guests will appreciate the dedicated space in the restaurant and the premier service that the Estância staff extends to special parties. With multiple dining rooms that can accommodate intimate dinner parties as well as gatherings of up to 80 people, available, the restaurant provides the perfect place to host your event.



Estância Churrascaria is located at 10000 Research Blvd. in The Arboretum and is open daily for lunch and dinner service. For more information about Estância Churrascaria or to make a reservation or book a private party, please call **(512) 345.5600**, or visit www.EstanciaChurrascaria.com.



WEEKLY SPECIALS ★ & EVENTS ★

MONDAY

- ★ \$10 Smoked Brisket Burger & Uncle Billy's Beer
- Mug Club Members – \$3.50 Mugs
- \$7 Dulce Vida Blanco Tequila Shots

TUESDAY

- ★ Pint Specials– \$2.50 Uncle Billy's House Pints
\$3.50 Brewer's Choice Pints
- \$15 To-Go Growlers (\$10 Refills)

WEDNESDAY

- ★ Rib Night – \$1 Per Pork Rib
- Happy Hour (3 - 7pm) – Uncle Billy's Beer Specials
- \$6.50 Redstag or Bulleit Bourbon Cocktails

THURSDAY

- ★ Sangria & Sunsets – Special On Glasses & Pitchers
- Happy Hour (3 - 7pm) – Uncle Billy's Beer Specials

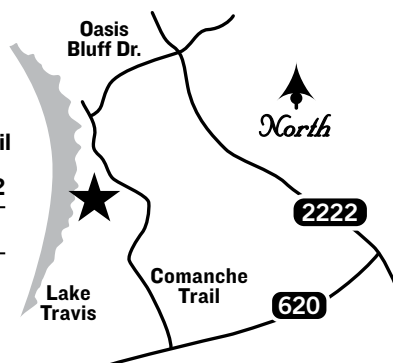
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Host a Foreign Exchange Student

TRAVEL THE WORLD WITHOUT
LEAVING YOUR HOMETOWN

by Heather Wells

Who hasn't dreamed about walking among the Egyptian pyramids, or soaking in the sun on a beach in Spain, or wandering along the Great Wall of China? Every parent wants to give their children a taste of the world, but the economic reality of international air travel for a family, not to mention hotels, passports and food, makes it tough for most of us to consider except in our daydreams. There is a way to give your children the world – without leaving your living room. How? Host a foreign exchange student from a country you've always admired! Fascinated by France? Curious about China? Intrigued by India? By welcoming an international student from one of these countries into your home, you instantly open a portal to a far off land.

"My husband and I have been hosting for the past three years and have enjoyed every minute of it!" said Vicki Odom, an Ayusa host mom from Pearland, Texas. "The various students we've had in our home have taught us a great deal about their home countries. The students also love learning about life in Texas and participate in a good deal of community service. Their latest service project was volunteering to be Super Scoopers at the San Antonio Battle of Flowers Parade." Foreign exchange students come from all over the world. Ayusa matches host families with students from more than 60 different countries including Argentina, China, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, Japan, Lebanon, Norway, Pakistan, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia and Turkey. All high school foreign exchange students are fully insured, bring their own spending money, and are proficient in English – and all high school exchange programs are regulated by the U.S. Department of State.

"We welcome host families of all shapes and sizes – families with young children, families with no children, empty nesters whose children have left home, single parents and non-traditional families," says Connie Coutu, Regional Manager of Ayusa, a non-profit that promotes global learning and leadership through foreign exchange and study abroad opportunities for high school students. "The key requirements for a host family are to provide a safe and nurturing home environment, genuinely love children, and have a desire to learn more about a different culture." Volunteer host families provide foreign exchange students a nurturing environment, three meals a day and a bedroom (either private or shared with a host sibling of the same gender). Each host family and student is supported by a professionally trained community representative who works with the family and student for the entire program. All interested host families must pass a criminal background check and a home visit by an exchange organization.

Interested host families are required to fill out an application, pass a background check and interview with a local exchange program representative in their homes. Once accepted to a program, host

(Continued on Page 7)

Host a Foreign Exchange... - (Continued from Page 6)

families can view profiles of students to find the right match for their family. "Hosting an exchange student is a life-changing experience – for the student, the host family, and the host community," says Coutu. "There is no better way to teach your children about the world around them than through welcoming an international high school student into your home." Ayusa is currently accepting applications for families to host an exchange student for the 2012 – 2013 school year. For more information about hosting a high school foreign exchange student, please contact Ayusa at 1.888.552.9872 or by visiting the website at www.ayusa.org.

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STORK

REPORT

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Recipe of the Month

Leek Risotto

by the Four Points Foodie

Ingredients

- 2 T olive oil
- 2 leeks, greens trimmed, cut in half, rinsed & sliced
- 1 C Arborio rice
- 4 C chicken stock
- 1/2 C cream
- 1/3 C Parmesan, grated
- salt and pepper to taste

Directions

Heat the chicken stock in a small pot over medium heat. I removed the fibrous green tops from the leeks and cut them in half which makes it easier to clean the sand and grit away. Pat dry and slice thinly. In a sauté pan, add olive oil and sliced leeks and cook over medium heat until the leeks are tender.

Remove to a small bowl and set aside. In the same pan, sauté the Arborio rice for a few minutes. When most of the rice has become white, add your first ladle of simmering chicken stock, stirring frequently until almost all of the broth has been absorbed.

Then add another ladle of broth, and keep stirring. Do this until all the chicken stock is gone. Remove rice from heat and add in cream and Parmesan, stirring well. Add the leeks back into the rice and this is where I added sliced cooked chicken into the risotto. Season with salt and pepper and serve. This made 2 large servings which was perfect for a meal!

Enjoy!



SOCIAL GROUPS

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 Rachele 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@yahoogroups.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 Rachele 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

DROWNING IS PREVENTABLE



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WWW.COLINSHOPE.ORG



Colin's Hope Upcoming Events Calendar

June: Water Safety Walk - Packet Stuffing and Distribution

June 7: Eat, Drink & Shop for Colin's Hope at Point of Origin Gift Boutique in Lakeway, 5-7pm

June 16: Colin's Hope Got2Swim the Pure Austin Quarry

July 21: UltiFit Challenge #2 at Reveille Peak Ranch

September 16: Colin's Hope Kids Triathlon - registration opens June 1st

**Volunteer
Signup - Register
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June Events

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

Jun. - July	Children's Day Art Park (Wednesdays) <i>Wed. mornings, June 13 – July 25 (except July 4), featuring musicians, dancers, storyteller, magicians, mimes and crafts</i>	Symphony Square 476-6064 austinsymphony.org
Jun. - Aug.	Concerts in the Park (Sundays) - Free Ensemble concerts!	thelongcenter.org
Jun. 3	16th Annual Austin Cool House Tour <i>Visit ten passive solar design and green technology projects</i>	txses.org
Jun. 8	The Intergalactic Nemesis Live-Action Graphic Novel Book Two: Robot Planet Rising <i>Comic book art work projected on a two-story high screen</i>	Long Center thelongcenter.org
Jun. 8 - 9	The Texas Tenors <i>As seen on "America's Got Talent", now come hear them live!</i>	Palmer Events Center austinsymphony.org
Jun. 8 - 9	Zilker Pops Concert - FREE! at Zilker Hillside Theater	austincivicorchestra.org
Jun. 9	The Tortoise vs The Hare <i>Presented by the Missoula Children's Theatre</i>	One World Theatre oneworldtheatre.org
Jun. 9	The Show! Best of Austin Comedy and Film <i>Live comedy, short films & web show, and interactive Q & A</i>	Stateside at the Paramount austinthatre.org
Jun. 16	Band of the Year <i>32 bands compete with the top 6 performing at ACL. Special guest artists include Patrice Pike, Guy Forsyth and others</i>	Moody Theater acl-live.com
Jun. 17	Father's Day Concert <i>Marches, musicals, and patriotic melodies will be presented. Bring a lawn chair or spread a blanket under the oaks.</i>	Zilker Hillside Theater 345-7420 asband.org
Jun. 19	Il Divo & Orchestra in concert <i>International musical break-out story of the millennium</i>	Bass Concert Hall texasperformingarts.org
Jun. 20 - 24	One-Man Lord of the Rings Trilogy <i>Charles Ross plays all the characters, creates sound effects, sings the music and fights both sides of the battlefield!</i>	Long Center thelongcenter.org
Jun. 23	Keep Austin Weird Festival + 5K	keepaustinweirdfest.com

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