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ARTICLE INFO

The Bee Cave Messenger is mailed monthly to all Bee Cave area residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to include information about their organizations in the newsletter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, recipes, special celebrations, and birthday announcements are also welcome.

To submit an article for the Bee Cave Messenger please email it to beecave@peelinc.com. The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the issue.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS	
EMERGENCY	911
Fire	
Ambulance	
Police Department	
Sheriff – Non-Emergency	
Travis County ESD No.6/Lake Travis Fire R	
Administration Office	
Travis County Animal Control	
,	
SCHOOLS	
Lake Travis ISD	512-533-6000
Lake Travis High School	
Lake Travis Middle School	512-533-6200
Lake Travis Elementary	512-533-6300
Hudson Bend Middle School	512-533-6400
Lake Pointe Elementary	
Lakeway Elementary	512-533-6350
Serene Hills Elementary	512-533-7400
Bee Cave Elementary	512-533-6250
UTILITIES	
Travis County WCID # 17	512 266 1111
Lakeway MUD	
Hurst Creek MUD.	
Austin Energy	
Pedernales Electric	
Texas Gas Service	
Custom Service	1-800-700-2443
Emergencies	
Call Before You Dig	
AT&T	
New Service	1-800-464-7928
Repair	
Billing	
Time Warner Cable	
Customer Service	512-485-5555
Repairs	
Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste	
OTHER NUMBERS	
Bee Cave City Hall	
Bee Cave Library	
Municipal Court	
Lake Travis Postal Office	
City of Bee Caveww	w.beecavetexas.com
NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER	
Peel, Inc.	512-263-9181
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End of Year Reminder

FOR PATIENTS WITH MEDICAL SAVINGS OR FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNTS

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- Reading Glasses
- Sunglasses
- Corneal Refractive Therapy
- Corneal
 LASIK
- Contact Lenses
- · Any other health related expenses

Happy Holidays!

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COVER PHOTO

Do you take great photos?

Do you take great photos? Would you like to see your photo published? We are looking for great cover photos for upcoming issues of the Bee Cave Messenger. Our deadine for submittals is always the 9th of the month prior to the issue. All photos should be submitted electronically by the deadline date in high resolution (300 dpi) to beecave@peelinc.com. Portrait (vertical) photos work best.

This month's cover photo was submitted by Maria de la Luz Martinez, Bee Cave resident.

To view other photos submitted please visit www.PEELinc. com/Lakeway, and view any of the past newsletters.

By submitting your photo you agree to allow your photo to be published in future issues of the Bee Cave Messenger or other Peel, Inc. publications.

First Annual Taste of Bee Cave

The first annual Taste of Bee Cave event held at The Grove at Falconhead was a success with over 150 attendees. Visitors throughout the day were able to get a 'taste' of local businesses and restaurants in the Bee Cave area including Santa Catarina, Gumbo's, At Your Service Catering, and Tito's Vodka. Ash Creek Homes partnered with the Bee Cave Police Benevolent Foundation (BCPBF) and agreed to donate \$10 for every registered attendee at the event.

The day also marked the Grand Opening for the

newest community by Ash Creek Homes, The Grove at Falconhead, which features 47 Tuscan inspired villas that afford a low maintenance yet luxury lifestyle as these homes include full lawn maintenance. The Grove at Falconhead is nestled amongst mature trees and highlights unique community features such as a resort style pool, a community cabana, and an interactive dog park. The location of The Grove at Falconhead is conveniently located and still highlights the lowest property taxes in the county and benefits from the highly rated Lake Travis ISD.

"On behalf of the Bee Cave Police Benevolent Foundation and the board of directors, we would like to thank Ash Creek Homes for their generosity. Taste of Bee Cave was a very successful event and we are very appreciative that they partnered with the foundation for their grand opening. We welcome The Grove at Falconhead to the Bee Cave community and look forward to all the new residents that will grow this area" said Teresa Breuggeman, President of the Bee Cave Police



Benevolent Foundation. The foundation will be using funds donated from the event to fulfill the Bee Cave Police Chief's 'wish list' that includes police equipment, community support items, updates to the police facility, and support for the officer's and their family.

Grateful for the flawless weather, Marketing Director for Ash Creek Homes, Jenna Gracey said, "We were extremely pleased with the turn out and the overall success of the day. The Bee Cave Police Foundation was recently established and we really wanted to get behind

and support a great cause and we hope to continue working with them for events and fundraising in the future." Ash Creek Homes intends to continue this relationship and give back to the community by working with the BCPBF.

ABOUT ASH CREEK HOMES

For the past 30 years, Ash Creek Homes has created communities in North Central and West Austin that appeal to people looking for high quality and unique living. Ash Creek is known for its reputation for superior craftsmanship, exquisite detail, innovation, and most importantly, a willingness to customize and build homes to fit a buyer's needs. Together with nationally recognized architects and designers, Ash Creek Homes has built in the area's finest neighborhoods, for Austin's most refined buyers. From contemporary to classically traditional, all Ash Creek Homes adhere to green building standards providing the homeowner with an energy efficient beautiful home.





Home Athletics Schedule December 2012

Date	Sport	Opponent	Time
12/1	WBB	Ozarks*	1 p.m.
	MBB	Ozarks*	3 p.m.
12/17	MBB	Northwood	3 p.m.
12/20	WBB	Texas-Dallas*	1 p.m.
	MBB	Texas-Dallas*	3 p.m.
12/29	WBB	Wisconsin-Stout^	4 p.m.
12/30	WBB	Rust^	4 p.m.
12/31	MBB	Wisconsin-Stevens Point	11 a.m.

MBB (M. Basketball) WBB (W. Basketball)

! CTX Tip-Off Tournament

* American Southwest Conference Opponent

^ CTX Christmas Classic

CTX Athletics Is Now Accepting Tornado Club Applications!!!

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Athletics and to register online for the ticket
pass, please check out our website at:

athletics.concordia.edu

DECEMBER EVENTS

at the Hill Country Galleria

- **1** Bluebonnet Montessori School performance 10am; Amphitheater
- ${f 1}$ Trinity Episcopal School performance 4:30pm-6:00pm; Amphitheater
- 1 Santa's Hours from 12p-8p
- 2 Santa's Hours from 12p-6p
- **6** Santa's Hours from 4p-8p
- 7 Santa's Hours from 4p-8p
- **8** Santa's Hours from 12p-8p
- **8** Studio E singers performance 2pm; Amphitheater
- 9 Santa's Hours from 12p-6p
- 10 Santa's Hours from 4p-8p
- 11 Santa's Hours from 4p-8p
- **12** 620 Dance Centre performances 6pm; Amphitheater
- 12 Santa's Hours from 4p-8p
- 13 Wine Walk: 5pm-9pm, start at Twin Liquors
- 13 Santa's Hours from 4p-8p
- **14** Barton Creek Elementary choir performance 6:30pm; Amphitheater
- 14 Santa's Hours from 4p-8p
- 15 Snow Day! 12p-4p, Amphitheater
- 15 Santa's Hours from 12p-8p
- **16** Upstage Theater Company presents 'All the Children Sing' children's play 12pm; Amphitheater
- 16 Santa's Hours from 12p-6p
- 17 Santa's Hours from 4p-8p
- 18 Santa's Hours from 4p-8p
- 19 Santa's Hours from 4p-8p
- **19** Lake Travis Elementary School choir performance 4pm; Amphitheater
- **20** Santa's Hours from 4p-8p
- 21 Santa's Hours from 4p-8p
- 22 Santa's Hours from 12p-8p
- 23 Santa's Hours from 12p-6p
- **23** Church at Bee Cave choir performance 4pm-6pm, Amphitheater
- **24** Santa's Hours from 12p-6p
- **25** CENTER WILL BE CLOSED Christmas Day (check stores & restaurants as their hours may vary)



Austin Urology 512.694.8888

www.austinurologyinstitute.com

Lake Travis Fiction Writers Hone Genres

To be commercially successful, debut authors must select a commercial genre, whether that be romance, mystery, young-adult, thrillers or other category and sub-category defined by publishers and literary agents today. To help debut authors choose a genre for their novel, the Lake Travis Fiction Writers, sponsored by the Bee Cave Public Library, will present "What's Your Genre: The Evolving Target" on Tuesday, December 17, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Old Bee Cave School House.

Presenter and group organizer Pat Evans will review today's various fiction genres and highlight which are selling well. Afterward, member-writers will have a roundtable discussion about their current projects.

Evans has a master's degree in creative writing and literature and has taught writing at the University of Missouri, Kansas City and at the Austin Community Schools. She is working to publish her first novel TO LEAVE A MEMORY.

"Unfortunately, my novel falls under the vast genre of 'literary fiction,' which is what I learned to write in college long ago. Trouble is, 'literary fiction' by a debut author is a very tough sell, according to literary agents I've queried. That's why my next novel will definitely fall into a commercial genre, this time women's fiction," Evans says.

The Old Bee Cave School House is located between the Bee Cave police and fire stations at 13333 Texas 71 Hwy., tucked in the southeast corner of the Hill Country Galleria. To attend, please e-mail AustinWriterGirl@Yahoo.com. There are no dues, but a \$1 donation is requested to cover refreshments and materials.











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Around Bee Cave

Travis County Tax Bills for 2012 Should Be In Your Hands!

Submitted by Tina Morton, Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector & Voter Registrar

If you own property in Travis County, chances are you already received a 2012 property tax bill. Over the past several weeks, 269,550 bills hit mailboxes. And if you are among the 122,569 homeowners who escrow through a mortgage company or lending institution, don't worry, the mortgage company probably requested the bill and will pay your property taxes. But you might want to check with them to be sure. Anyone who needs a tax bill can download a copy at www.traviscountytax.org or call (512) 854-9473 to request a mailed copy.

"All taxpayers or their mortgage companies should have received their bills," said Travis County Tax Collector Tina Morton. "Especially for owners of multiple properties, this is the time of year to make sure you have received the bills for all of your properties." The deadline to pay 2012 property taxes is Jan. 31, 2013. Morton said many taxpayers want the advantage of federal tax deductions that require taxes be paid by the end of the year. Any payment postmarked by Dec. 31 will be recorded as a December payment regardless of when the payment arrives by mail. Payments can be made in person at any of the five tax office locations during normal business hours. Taxpayers can deposit checks or money orders in the tax office drop box after hours or pay online by credit card at www.traviscountytax.org by midnight, Dec. 31.

"Some taxpayers believe that if they do not receive a bill, they are not liable for tax payment," Morton said. "Taxpayers are responsible for requesting a tax

bill if they do not receive one."

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 Feb. 1, Apr. 1, June 1 and Aug. 1. Last year 3,943 eligible property owners 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 to our main office on Airport Boulevard and make payment arrangements," Morton recommended. "You don't need to wait until the deadline. We can assist taxpayers even before the bill becomes delinquent." The Travis County Tax Office main location is 5501 Airport Boulevard, between Koenig Lane and 531 1/2 Street. The office opens at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 5:30 p.m., M-F. Drive-through service is available. Satellite offices open at 8am and close at 5pm and include the following locations:

- \bullet 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.*



HOLIDAYWISHES2012

Each year, neglected and abused children in the Austin area must be removed from their homes by Child Protective Services caseworkers.

Separations occur all year, but it is especially difficult during the holidays. Partnerships for Children is making a difference in the lives of these children and we invite you to join us by participating in our Holiday Wishes program.

With your help, how many children can we impact this year? **Please contact us at:**

512.834.4756

holidaywishes@partnershipsforchildren.org

GET INVOLVED:

- ✓ SPONSOR a child by purchasing items from their wish list
- ✓ MAKE a donation and we will shop for you
- ✓ DONATE general gifts for children that are not matched with community donors
- ✓ ORGANIZE a drive to collect gifts commonly requested on children's wish lists

Thank you for your support!

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LIBRARY EARNS FIVE-STAR RANKING AGAIN

For the third consecutive year, Bee Cave Public Library has received a Five Star rating in Library Journal's national rating of public libraries, the LJ Index of Public Library Service 2012. Five stars is the highest rating that a library can receive. Of the 7,570 libraries in the nation that qualified for the 2012 ratings by submitting data, only 262 received Star designations based on their service output. Bee Cave is the only library in the Austin area to receive any stars at all, and one of only four libraries in Texas to receive a 5 Star rating this year. The Index of Public Library Service was begun in 2007 as a way to showcase those public libraries whose levels of service delivery distinguish them among their peers. Libraries are rated based on service outputs in four areas: annual number of library visits, circulation of materials, program attendance, and public Internet computer usage as reported to the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Each library is compared to the mean for those statistics in the expenditure group to which the library belongs. Bee Cave was rated this year in the \$200,000-\$399,000 group, and placed 10th nationally in its peer group.

"We are thrilled to be recognized again as a Star Library by Library Journal," said Library Director Barbara Hathaway. For the third year in a row, Bee Cave Public received 5 stars, placing it among the best in the nation. "In fact," Hathaway added, "we are one of only 4 Five Star Libraries in the entire state of Texas. Because this index compares us to libraries operating with comparable financial resources, it is a tribute to our hard-working staff who take great pride in their work and strive to deliver outstanding library service to our community."

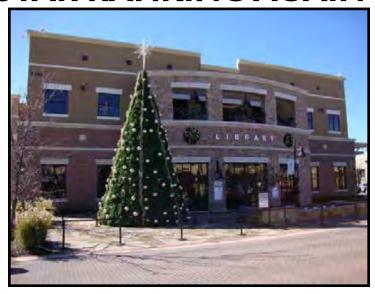
The Five Star rating will be recognized at the City of Bee Cave's 25th Anniversary Celebration and Holiday Open House to be held on Wednesday, December 12 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Atrium between City Hall and the library. The evening will include refreshments, stories and crafts for the kids, and a book signing with Bee Cave's own local historian, Elaine Perkins, author of the newly-published A Hill Country Paradise? Travis County and Its Early Settlers, a history of the Bee Cave and Lake Travis area of Western Travis County. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing.

LIBRARY HISTORY

In its seven years of operation, Bee Cave Public Library has grown from a donated collection of books housed in a portable building adjacent to the old administration building to a collection of 32,000 volumes housed in a 5,000 square-foot library at City Hall in the beautiful Hill Country Galleria in the heart of Bee Cave. As the library's collection has grown, its membership has soared to nearly 16,000 cardholders. The library recorded more than 100,000 annual visits last year, and circulated 160,000 items. Bee Cave Public Library offers a wide range of resources for all ages and in all formats, to meet the needs of its learning-focused community. "We added digital content this past year, and offer downloadable books and audiobooks to our patrons for reading or listening on their favorite device. We recently added additional shelving to buy us a little more room for growth, but space is definitely a challenge for us as the community continues to grow and demand for library service grows along with it."

PROGRAMMING FOR ALL AGES

During a typical year, regular weekly programs include multiple sessions of storytime for preschoolers and toddlers that have developed a wide and



loyal following. During the summers, Bee Cave Public Library offers reading programs for school-aged children that feature unique incentives to encourage reading. The library's practice of hanging a "personalized poster" of each child who completes the program on the library wall throughout the summer was featured at a Texas Library Association annual conference as an example of an innovative but inexpensive practice that can be emulated by other libraries. "The kids get so excited to see their photos on the wall with their friends or siblings, that it motivates them to read enough minutes to get their picture taken for a poster," said Hathaway. "Our first summer reading program in 2006 served 100 children; by 2011, we reached more than a thousand kids with book clubs, craft days, performances, and other activities designed to get them excited about reading. This past year, due to the construction to repair our building, we had no summer activities at all, and still served more than a thousand children who logged more minutes of reading than in any previous year."

Other programs typically include book clubs, summer reading programs for teens and adults, author events, and family activities like the annual March celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday which is attended by more than 500 people each year. The library also cooperates with neighboring libraries in Lake Travis and Spicewood to offer Lake Travis Reads, an annual "One Book, One Community" program designed to foster reading and discussion of a single book or author by the entire community. "The City Council recently approved expanding the library staff and operating hours in 2013, so we look forward to adding new programs and activities once we get finished with the construction," added Hathaway.

LIBRARY'S MISSION

In founding the library, the City Council established its mission to provide intellectual, cultural, educational, and recreational resources in a variety of formats, and to offer an inviting environment, promote lifelong learning, and foster a sense of community. "We are very fortunate to live in a community whose leaders value libraries and education, and have made Bee Cave Public Library a true community center whose resources and services are available to all," concluded Hathaway. "We would like to once again say thank you to everyone involved who helped to make us your five-star library."

3rd Annual LTISD Elementary and Middle School

Submitted by Deby Childress

The Bee Cave Arts Foundation hosted the 3rd Annual LTISD Elementary and Middle School Art Exhibition at the Hill Country Galleria on Sunday Oct. 28th. Student artists from Hudson Bend Middle School, Lake Travis Middle School, Lakeway Elementary, Lake Travis Elementary and Bee Cave Elementary had their work on display. Students were very proud to see their artwork hung in a gallery space and parents were thrilled to attend. The event was a big success.

Bee Cave Arts Foundation

www.deby_childress@roundrockisd.org

















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School News

District Approves Plan For Potential Stadium Video Display

Purchase of video display dependent upon ad sales

Lake Travis Independent School District trustees have approved an agreement with Daktronics Sports Marketing for market research and advertising sales in conjunction with the potential purchase of a video display board at the Lake Travis High School main stadium. The unanimous vote occurred during a regular meeting of the trustees held November 13, 2012.

"For several months now, we have researched this item extensively," said Dr. Brad Lancaster, LTISD superintendent. "This (agreement) simply gives us the authority to work with Daktronics representatives to sell advertising packages on the proposed video board. The school board has not approved the purchase of the video display."

According to the agreement, Daktronics must provide LTISD with a minimum of \$89,500 in pre-sold advertising packages within six months. If the annual threshold isn't met, LTISD officials may terminate the agreement with no obligation to purchase the video display board.

"With the great academic and athletic reputation that is present in Lake Travis, Daktronics Sports Marketing is excited to begin working towards providing the school district with a video display," said Thomas Mathews of Daktronics Sports Marketing. "Local businesses in the Lake Travis community willing to show support for students through advertising partnerships will be the chief motivators in making this a reality.

If sufficient advertising packages are secured, LTISD will have two options in which to finance the video display board. Option A provides that the school district purchase the video display board at a cost of \$436,508. In doing so, LTISD would retain 85% of all advertising packages sold. Option B provides that Daktronics installs the video display board at no cost to LTISD. Under this option, however, the District would retain 60% of advertising revenue only when sales exceed the annual threshold.

"The Board will re-evaluate its finance options once Daktronics has completed its market research and advertising sales," continued Dr. Lancaster. "If enough revenue is generated, it may make more sense for us to purchase the display outright. At a minimum, Daktronics will install the video display at no cost to the District. But regardless of financing, it's important to note that the purchase and installation of a video board will not have a negative impact on ticket prices, student participation fees, or on any program or service we offer our students."

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School News

SchoolMessenger: District Information DirectTo Your Phone

Dear LTISD Parents and Guardians:

We are excited to announce the full implementation of SchoolMessenger with a new service: delivering important information to you via SMS text messages to your mobile phone, if you choose. District and campus officials will use the service to provide parents with timely and relevant information regarding emergencies, news, events and activities. Please know however, this service is not intended to replace our existing means of communication rather it will enhance them.

The contact information you provided during your child¹s registration process earlier this year will automatically be used for notifications as part of the SchoolMessenger system. However, you must indicate your willingness to receive text messages to your mobile phone. The process is simple and only takes a few seconds to complete:

- 1. Send a text message to 68453
- 2. In the body of the message, type: yes
- 3. Send the message.

You'll know you were successful if you receive the following reply message: "You are registered to receive aprox 3 msgs/mo. Txt STOP to quit, HELP for help."

You may repeat the opt-in process for any wireless numbers



that you wish to include.

In addition to performing the opt-in process above, you¹ll want to insure that we have your wireless number in our student information database. If you haven¹t already provided that information or should it need to be updated, please contact us via email at portalhelpdesk@ltisdschools.org or call us at 512-533-6029.

The District will officially launch the new service on Monday, December 3, so until then you won¹t receive any further text messages.

Please note, although the District does not charge for this service, it does not pay for text message charges that may be incurred by you for sending or receiving text messages. Check with your wireless carrier for possible charges.

Thank you,

Marco Alvarado, LTISD Director of Communications



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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RAMS!!



NFL - SW Austin 3/4 grade Superbowl Champions. The RAMS competed against 22 other SW Austin teams at Smalls Middle School. With a season of 5 wins and 1 loss, the RAMS were seeded 4th in the playoffs. After 3 hours of football and tough teams to beat in the playoffs, the RAMS were victorious! Congratulations to the players for their discipline and hard work and the coaches for their time. What a great season!

(Bottom, left to right) - Heath "Bone Crusher" Grafton, Reeve "Lightening" Kolinek, Jack "Sweet Feet" O'Malley, Hays "Hollywood" McCannon, and Carter "Canadian Bacon" Creath. (Top, left to right) - Austin "A-Town" Dickey, Michael "Moose" Chard, Luke "Luuuuke" Larson, Drew "Bam Bam" Dickey and Reed "2-Tall" Humann.

Coaches - Ed O'Malley and Mike Chard.
Not pictured - Trey "Dawg" Dorsett and
Coach Bob Dorsett.



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Sponsor a Family For The Holidays

LTYA and local charity Families For Families (FFF) are teaming up to make sure every LTYA participant family has the opportunity to enjoy Christmas presents this year. It is our goal to invite any LTYA participant who received financial aid this last year to be "adopted" and have gifts delivered to them. Many other families in need will also receive gifts this year as well through this local charity.

Families For Families is a nonprofit organization which pairs families in need with families who would like to give at Christmas. It was started and is currently run by a group of Lake Travis High School students/ Boy Scouts and overseen by their adult leader.

If you would like to show your children the true meaning of Christmas and provide Christmas presents for a less fortunate family, this is your chance.

THE PROCESS:

- 1. Go to www.austinfamiliesforfamilies.org
- 2. Sign up to sponsor a family. The deadline is December 17th. Within a few days of signing up you will be given a family with first names, ages, and gender. You can specify in the comments section if you prefer to adopt an LTYA participant family, a Lake Travis area family, or an Austin inner city family. Please

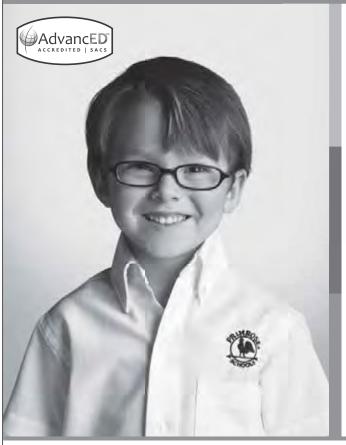
note that many of the Lake Travis area families being "adopted" understandably wish to remain anonymous and in that case FFF would make the actual gift delivery for you.

3. Take your children shopping for the family you "adopt". The average amount spent should be in the range of \$250. You can combine with one or more other families to sponsor one family if you would like.

You will need to decide if you would like to deliver the gifts with your family or have FFF deliver them for you. If you choose to "adopt" an LTYA or a Lake Travis area family and that "adopted" family chose to remain anonymous then FFF will make the delivery for you.

*You can also click "Simply donate" on their website and make a monetary donation. FFF will use this money to purchase gifts for a family in need.

While your generosity is appreciated, please do not feel any pressure at all to participate. This is a voluntary opportunity. If you would like to sign up to participate, learn more, or contact Families For Families please go to www.austinfamiliesforfamilies. org.



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News You Can Use



By Sugandha Jain | Master Registered Texas Trainer and Director of Accreditation at a local preschool

WHAT ARE ALPHA GIRLS?

The term comes from a 2006 book of the same name by Dr. Dan Kindlon, a child psychologist at Harvard University. Dr. Kindlon interviewed nearly 1,000 girls, in 6th through 12th grades, before writing the book. In it, he describes Alpha Girls on the cusp of incredible achievement.

Statistics released by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), from studies conducted by the U.S. Department of Education, seem to bear this out in terms of academics. Girls consistently outperform boys in reading and writing: the 2004 NAEP reading scale results show that girls' outscore boys by five points at age nine, 10 points at age 13, and 13 points by age 17. Young women also head to college in larger numbers: they currently encompass 58% of students enrolled in two- and four-year colleges.

"Young women are achieving more than young men," says Dr. Linn Goldberg, a professor of medicine at Oregon Health and Science University. Dr. Goldberg has conducted extensive studies on drug and alcohol use among adolescents. He says girls simply aren't falling prey to the same pitfalls as boys. "They are less likely to be deviant and be engaged in many harmful behaviors, such as substance use and abuse," he says. "[Or] be involved in altercations, be arrested, among other maladaptive actions."

What's more, says Dr. Kindlon, is that girls aren't just succeeding, they're doing so in a psychologically healthy manner.

"Today, we have a generation of girls who have more psychological skills to play both the feminine roles and the roles that men played in the past," says Dr. Kindlon. "They are poised to do great things."

HOW CAN PARENTS RESPOND?

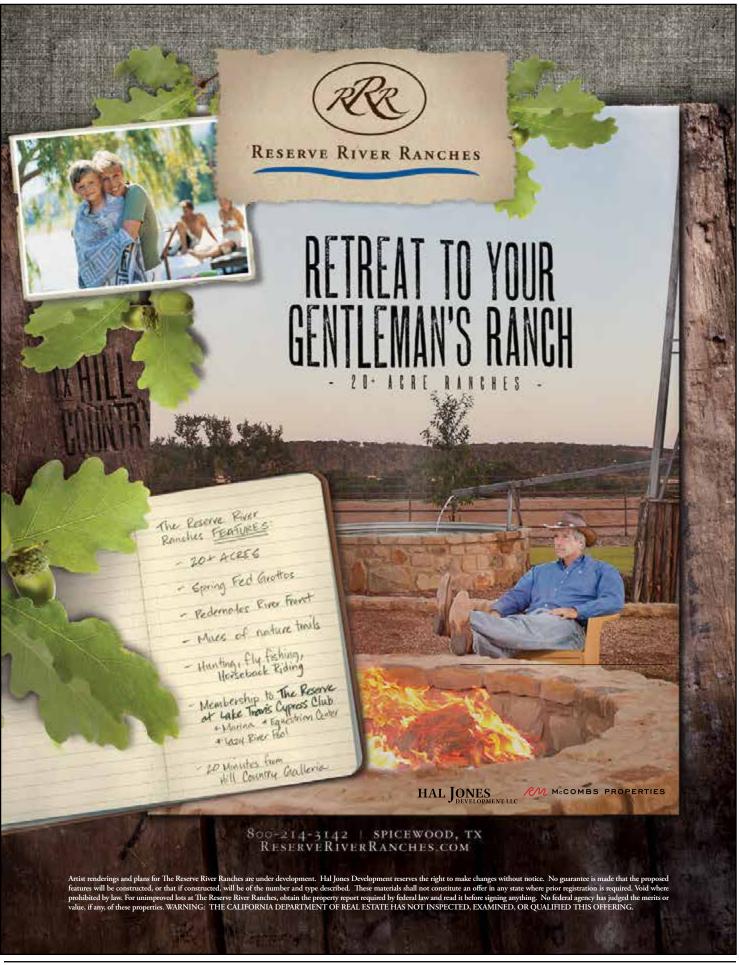
Parents of Alpha Girls likely are proud when their daughters exhibit high achieving traits; some may think their girls aren't prone to any particular problems. Either way, it's important for parents to convey the message that girls don't have to be "perfect" to be successful and happy in life.

Teaching girls media literacy—how to evaluate the information they receive through television, magazines and other media—is one way to help them combat potentially harmful messages. Several organizations offer parents tools to do this, including the Center for Media Literacy (www.medialit.org) and Commercial Alert (www.commercialalert.com).

Parents also have to be vigilant about being models of appropriate body image. This means mothers, in particular, have to mean what they say when they talk with their daughters about their bodies. A mother shouldn't in one breath tell her daughter she is perfect and beautiful, then in the next make disparaging comments about her own body, says Ms. Martin.

Most important: parents should focus on their daughter's well being as well as her achievements—and consistently convey the message that there are myriad ways to be successful in life.

"Help your daughter develop her potential," says Dr. Diane Halpern, a psychology professor at Claremont McKenna College in California and the author of Sex Differences in Cognitive Abilities. "The only way parents can do that is to make sure that their daughters have a wide range of opportunities and know what their choices are."



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Seven Business Networking Groups in the Area

STEINER RANCH REFERRALS BNI GROUP - Meetings are on Tuesday mornings from 8:00am to 9:30am at Uncle Billy's at the Oasis. Visitors are welcome! If you are interested please contact Michael Bennett at michael@bennett-tech.net for more information or visit www.BNIAustin.com.

FOUR POINTS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - The Four Points Chamber of Commerce provides networking opportunities at social gatherings, luncheons with guest speakers and activities. The Chamber brings businesses together along highway 620 from Hudson Bend to Anderson Mill and Ranch Road 2222 from Jester to Volente. Four Points Chamber supports business growth in the community where we live, work and play. In less than 6 months Four Points Chamber of Commerce exceeded its first year membership goals and continues to grow! For information about participating in upcoming events or membership benefits visit www.fourpointschamber.com or call (512) 551-0390. Membership inquiries may also be sent directly to membership@FourPointsChamber.com.

NETWORKING NORTHWEST AUSTIN - Networking Northwest Austin is expanding its member base of businesses in our area. We believe in business by referrals and having a limited member base. We have a caring, positive, involved group of people who wish to build their businesses using the strength business referrals. No fees. Business education and speakers. Networking Northwest Austin meets on the second and fourth Mondays at 11:30 at Cheddars HWY 183 and Anderson Mill Rd. Visit http://www.meetup.com/NetWorking-NorthWest-Austin/

STEINER RANCH MARKETERS MEETUP GROUP - Join other marketers who live in Steiner Ranch and work in online marketing, search engine optimization, affiliate marketing, search engine marketing, social media optimization, social media marketing, pay-per-click advertising, email marketing, and other areas of Internet marketing. Informal get-togethers in the community to learn and share things, as well as make connections with others. The group is open to anybody who lives in Steiner Ranch and is interested in Internet marketing: entrepreneurs, freelancers, 9-to-5ers, business owners and aspiring marketers alike. More details at SteinerRanchMarketers.com

YOUR LOCAL CITY - Steiner Ranch has a new business networking group. Your Local City is a positive, membership based, business networking organization with 17 groups meeting all over the Austin area. The Steiner Ranch group meets every Friday at 8:00 am at Lakeside Pizza and Grill located in the Shops at Steiner Ranch at Steiner Ranch Blvd. and Quinlan. Come join us to grow your business.

LAKEWAY NETWORKING, INC. - We are a diverse group of business professionals in the Lake Travis area, helping our members grow their businesses through qualified referrals. We meet every Thursday at 8AM at Santa Catarina, 1310 RR 620 South, in Lakeway. Come visit us and see how your business can benefit by being a member of Lakeway Networking. For more information, please contact Kelly Connor at Kellyconnor@austin.rr.com or 512-736-2495.5.

A+ REFERRALS BY THE LAKE BNI (LAKEWAY) - BNI is a professional business networking group that helps you build a team of partners to market your business. Come join us on Mondays from 11:30-1:00pm at Fore in Lakeway. Lunch is \$10 and visitors are welcome. Please feel free to contact Kimberly McLaughlin at kimberly@LaHaPro.com or visit www.BNIaustin. com for more information.



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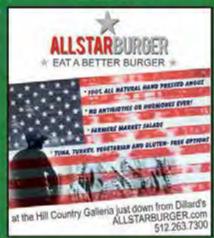
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