

Travel the World Without Leaving Your Hometown Host a Foreign Exchange Student By Vicki Odom

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 offland.

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 Heather Wells, Regional Director of Ayusa, a non-profit that promoting 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 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 Wells. "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 2013 - 2014 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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THE TWO-HANDED BACKHAND VOLLEY

In previous newsletters, I offered tips on how to hit a forehand groundstroke, a two-handed backhand, one-handed backhand and a forehand volley. In this issue, I will give you instructions on how to execute a two-handed backhand volley for a right hander. This stroke is used whenever the player is forced to hit a ball in the air. In these pictures student Mindy Custer demonstrates the proper form and technique. Photos by Charlie Palafox.

Step 1: Ready Position: The body is facing the net. The right hand is holding the end of the racket in a forehand grip position and the left hand is next to the right hand. The left hand is holding the racket slightly tighter than the right hand. Feet are a shoulder width apart and the body is in equal balance. For beginners it is okay to use the forehand and backhand grips for the forehand and backhand volleys. As the player gets stronger and the balls come at a faster speed, it will be best to use the continental grip for both volleys.

Step 2: Back Swing: Since the volley is usually executed when a player is close to the net and there is very little time to react to the incoming ball, the back swing is very short. The left hand will make a slight change of the grip and the right hand will be relaxed and lose. The left shoulder should take a short turn and the head of the racket should align to the flight of the ball. The left wrist should be "cocked" back slightly and the head of the racket should be above the wrist. Eyes are still focused on the incoming ball. Here I am helping Mindy to feel the hand on the racket to tilt back and still keep the head of the racket above her wrist.

Step 3: Point of Contact: The right foot is now taking a step forward and the racket is making contact with the ball. It is important to keep the left shoulder closed and not rotate the right hip too early. Flexing the right knee will allow more flexibility to find the proper point of contact and give power to the ball.

Step 4: Follow Through: Once the racket has made contact with the ball, the follow through is very short to allow the player to immediately get back to the ready position. The right arm should be close to the body. *Look for in the next Newsletter: The Serve*



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Just sayin'.



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AUSTIN NEWCOMERS CLUB

This month our luncheon program will feature Peter Bay, Music Director of the Austin Symphony Orchestra, who will speak about the Symphony's repertoire for the upcoming symphony season. He will play recordings of excerpts of the pieces, and explain the background of the compositions and his approach to conducting them.

Mr. Bay has been the Symphony's Music Director since 1998, and is also the primary conductor for Ballet Austin. He has been music director of the Britt Festival Orchestra in Jacksonville, Oregon since 1993, and in 2011 was Music Advisor of the Hot Springs Music Festival in Arkansas, He has made many national and international guest appearances conducting famous orchestras. Mr. Bay is a native of Washington, DC and received degrees from the University of Maryland and Peabody Institute of Music.

The monthly luncheon will be held on Wednesday, January 16 at Green Pastures restaurant, located at 811 West Live Oak in Austin. We get together at around 11:00 a.m. for a social hour with lunch at 12:00 noon. The luncheon is \$20 per person; reservations are required, and payment must be received by Thursday, January 10.

The club website is www.AustinNewcomers.com and the telephone number is (512) 314-5100.



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2013 Austin Boat & Travel Trailer Show

The 2013 Austin Boat & Travel Trailer Show will feature hundreds of watercraft and travel trailers from top Central Texas boat and RV dealers. Guests are invited to get a firsthand look at the many water craft and travel trailers on display, including wakeboard boats, cruisers, pontoons and fishing boats for water fun, and fifth wheels, truck campers and toy haulers for your travel needs.

Other highlights include Bubble Runners, Kid's Catfish Tank, Army Bass Anglers and new seminars regarding boat handling under power and using marine GPS.

Dates/Time:

Thur., Jan. 17: 12 p.m. - 9 p.m. Fri., Jan. 18" 12 p.m. - 9 p.m. Sat., Jan. 19: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Sun., Jan. 20: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Admission:

Adults - \$8 Seniors Over 60 - \$4 Children 7-12 - \$4 Children 6 and Under - Free

Location:

Austin Convention Center 500 E. Cesar Chavez Street Austin, TX 78701 (512-404-4000)

For more information visit www.AustinBoatShow.com or contact Jennifer McKinney at 512-494-1128 or Jennifer. mckinney@austinboatshow.com.





Home Athletics Schedule January/February 2013

DATE	SPORT	OPPONENT	TIME
1/10	WBB	Hardin-Simmons	5:30 p.m.
	MBB	Hardin-Simmons	7:30 p.m.
1/13	MBB	Fisher College	3:00 p.m.
1/29	WBB	Mary Hardin-Baylor	5:30 p.m.
	MBB	Mary Hardin-Baylor	7:30 p.m.
2/1	BB	Lubbock Christian	4:00 p.m.
2/2	BB	Lubbock Christian	1:00 p.m.
2/7	WBB	Texas Lutheran	5:30 p.m.
	MBB	Texas Lutheran	7:30 p.m.
2/9	WBB	Schreiner	1:00 p.m.
	MBB	Schreiner	3:00 p.m.
2/14	WBB	Sul Ross State	5:30 p.m.
	BB	Texas Lutheran	7:00 p.m.
	MBB	Sul Ross State	7:30 p.m.
2/15	BB	Sul Ross State	10:00 a.m.
	SB	Trinity (DH)	4:00 p.m.
2/16	BB	Ozarks	10:00 a.m.
	WBB	Howard Payne	1:00 p.m.
	MBB	Howard Payne	3:00 p.m.
	BB	Howard Payne	4:00 p.m.
2/17	BB	Texas-Dallas	12:00 p.m.
	SB	George Fox (DH)	2:00 p.m.
2/22	BB	Louisiana College	7:00 p.m.
2/23	BB	Louisiana College (DH)	1:00 p.m.

MBB (Men's Basketball) WBB (Women's Basketball) BB (Baseball) SB (Softball)

CTX Athletics is Now Accepting Tornado Club Applications!!!

For up-to-date information about CTX Athletics, please check out our website at:

athletics.concordia.edu

CANYON CHRONICLE

A Focus On Resolutions

By: Concentra Urgent Care

The New Year is a great time to make healthy lifestyle changes. According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, the most common resolutions focus on losing weight, getting fit, quitting smoking, and reducing stress. These are important themes that can reduce your risk of disease. Here are ways you can achieve your goals this year.

LOSING WEIGHT

A weight loss of five to seven percent of your body weight can improve your health and quality of life. It can also help prevent weight-related health problems, like diabetes. Changing your eating habits and increasing your physical activity are keys to successful weight loss and help to maintain optimal weight for the rest of your life. Create a plan for healthy eating and increased physical activity, while taking in fewer calories than you use. Your healthy eating plan should include:

- Taking into account foods you like and dislike
- · A focus on fresh fruits, vegetables, and whole grains
- Fat-free or low-fat dairy products such as yogurt, cheese, and milk
- Protein sources such as lean meats, poultry, fish, beans, eggs, and nuts
- Avoiding saturated and trans fats such as animal fat, butter, and hydrogenated oils
- Staying away from foods high in sodium and added sugars For more information on weight management and improving

nutritional practices, visit the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases at www.win.niddk.nih.gov/publications/for_life.htm. **GETTING FIT**

Regular physical activity for at least 30 minutes each day, or broken up into several shorter periods of 20, 15, or 10 minutes, can help you lose weight, keep it off, and stay fit. It can also improve your energy and mood and lower your risk for heart disease, diabetes, and some cancers. Try some of these physical activities:

- Walking (15-minute miles or 4 miles per hour)
- Biking
- Tennis
- · Aerobic exercise classes (step aerobics, kickboxing, dancing)
- Yard work or house cleaning (gardening, raking, mopping, vacuuming)

Taking the first step can be the hardest part. Start slowly, at a level that is comfortable for you and add activity as you go along. Sometimes, it helps to have a friend or activity buddy when you start out. It is recommended that adults get at least two and a half hours of moderate physical activity each week. Strengthening activities, such as pushups, sit-ups, or lifting weights, at least two days per week are also encouraged. For more information on getting fit, visit the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports at http://fitness.gov/. Happy New Year from Concentra Urgent Care!



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22. Scents	18. Hurry
26. Small herring	19. Deport
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29. Fish tank dweller	23. Pear shaped instrument
30. Volcano	24. Alley
31. Otherwise	25. Close the door hard
32. Hold	27. Ве

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We truly felt like you had our best interests at heart and can honestly say that we can't make that statement about any other realtor that we've worked with

in the past. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Just sayin'.



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After my divorce and an unsuccesful attempt using a discount broker, I decided to be more deliberate in my search for a realtor. Your presentation blew away your competitors, and after selling my house very close to list, in less than 30 days, in the worst possible of markets, **I am a true believer.**

— Lawrence B.

Just sayin'.

Jelly

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Cedar Fever or Common Cold?

Knowing the Difference is Key to Effective Treatment

WINTER IS CEDAR FEVER SEASON

The common cold and the Mountain cedar allergy called "Cedar Fever" often begin the same way: runny nose, sneezing, sinus pressure, scratchy throat, and headache. Yet knowing the difference between a cold and cedar pollen allergies can be very important when it comes to effective treatment options.

Cedar Fever is the popular term for cedar pollen allergies, which strike many residents in Central Texas during the winter months, when mountain cedar plants emit large amounts of pollen. The common cold, meanwhile, is caused by a virus and can occur any time of year. The problem is that the cedar season is also the height of the cold and flu season.

COLD VS. ALLERGY SYMPTOMS

"Despite the many similarities in symptoms between Cedar pollen allergies and a cold, there are some clear indications that can help you understand which condition you are suffering from," says Dr. John Villacis, an allergist and immunologist with The Austin Diagnostic Clinic (ADC). "While a cold and related symptoms may only last a few days to one or two weeks, symptoms of cedar pollen allergies may persist for several weeks or months."

Another important difference in symptoms has to do with the excess mucus production that both conditions tend to produce. While people with a cold may experience discolored mucus, those with cedar pollen allergies will experience clear mucus production. And while people with a cold may develop a fever, people who have cedar pollen allergy will not develop a fever.

WHEN IN DOUBT, ASK A DOCTOR

Dr. Villacis says people who are not sure if they have a cold or cedar pollen allergies should consult with a physician as soon as possible in order to get an accurate diagnosis and effective treatment options.

John Villacis, M.D., is an allergist and immunologist for The Austin Diagnostic Clinic, a multi-specialty clinic with physicians representing 21 medical specialties at more than seven locations throughout Austin and Central Texas. Dr. Villacis sees patients at the ADC Main Clinic, at 12221 North MoPac, and at ADC Circle C, 5701 West Slaughter Lane, Building C. For more information, visit www.adclinic. com or call 512-901-4052. PRESENT THIS AD FOR A FREE POPCORN!

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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 *canyoncreek@ 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*.





SHOW OFF YOUR SUPERHERO

Parents this is your chance to brag on your kiddos. We want pictures of your kids doing everyday things, school events, plays, sports, etc. Send in your pictures to be featured in the Canyon Chronicle.

E-mail your pictures to CanyonCreek@peelinc. com by the 15th of the month.



RISING STARS

We are proud to announce the addition of Dr. Pru Aurora to our Steiner Ranch office!

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