



# The Jester Warbler

Official Publication of Jester Homeowners Association, Inc.

January 2013

Volume 8, Issue 1

## Winners of Jester Lights Contest

*by Christi Taylor*

What a fantastic Christmas season in Jester!!! It seems like so many Jester residents chose to celebrate the holiday season, filling the neighborhood with sparkling lights and beautiful decorations.

A very special thanks to our Jester advertisers and sponsors, who so generously contributed prizes to make the contest more exciting! Please support the following businesses who donated prizes for our lights contest. We appreciate all that they do for our neighborhood!

- Louis Drott Mortgage - \$100 gift certificate to Trulucks
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- Waterloo Ice House - \$50 Gift Certificate

*(Continued on Page 3)*

AND THE WINNER IS.....(drum roll, please)...

Congratulations to 2012's winner: 6600 Winterberry! The house was the epitome of elegance. Beautifully draped scalloped lights adorned the windows while sparking icicles hung from the roof. The yard was adorned with Christmas trees, red bushes and green lights on the sago palms. Candles graced each window and the entry was decorated with holly and a giant wreath. The prizes for 1st place totaled \$275.



6600 Winterberry

## Jester Forming Wildfire Safety Committee

*by Jeff Shapiro, Jester Firewise Committee*

Wildfire...certainly not a topic that is pleasant to think about, but it's a topic of great importance to the roughly 900 homes in Jester. While Jester has been spared a close encounter with wildfire in recent years, that's been more a matter of luck with respect to not experiencing nearby ignitions. Luck ran out for Steiner Ranch, Bastrop and other communities last year, and all of these areas are now engaging in prevention activities to avoid repeating their past mistakes. Rather than testing our luck further, it makes sense for Jester to work on becoming "firewise"

now. Are you wondering how?

The first step is formally authorizing a "Firewise Community Committee"... already done! The Jester HOA Board approved formation of this committee late last year. Now we are seeking members for a committee (minimum of 12 members). If you're interested in protecting our neighborhood and willing to help, please contact Jeff Shapiro at [firewise@jesterneighbors.com](mailto:firewise@jesterneighbors.com).

Much of what we need is a combination of instruction on landscape management, creating home safety zones and emergency

*(Continued on Page 2)*

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

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

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

## Wildfire Safety - (Continued from Cover Page)

planning. Jester's Firewise Community Committee will host future meetings for homeowners interested in learning more about how to protect their properties and working with the City of Austin and other agencies to develop a community protection strategy. Watch for meeting announcements on signs that will be posted at the neighborhood entrances.

Last year's dangerous fire season in and around Austin will reoccur assuming the persistent periods of hot, dry, windy weather continue. Since such climate is becoming the norm in this area, odds are not in our favor, particularly with the Jester neighborhood being surrounded by wildland. If your home isn't along the perimeter, don't assume everything is fine. Wildfires elsewhere have demonstrated the ability to surge and similar fires would move throughout Jester without much warning; however, by taking the proper steps, we can greatly reduce that risk as well as improve the results should a fire occur.

Please join us at an upcoming Firewise Community meeting, and if you want more information on how you can protect your home now, check out <http://www.firewise.org/>. And don't forget, we need committee volunteers to help us in this education process. Without sufficient interest and volunteers, this committee will not get off the ground. Please contact me.

*Jeff Shapiro*

*Email: [firewise@jesterneighbors.com](mailto:firewise@jesterneighbors.com)*

## The Results Are In....

## Jester is the official winner of the 2012 NEIGHBORHOOD HABITAT CHALLENGE!

Congratulations to Jester! They had a grand total of 57 newly certified habitats!! It's a HUGE number and it couldn't have happened without the tireless work of Dale and Pat Bulla. Great job Dale and Pat and congratulations to Jester. More information to follow.

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### Holiday Light Contest - (Continued from Cover Page)

Second Place went to 7862 Lakewood Dr.! Winter Wonderland was the theme. Beautiful red and white lights matched the many candy canes and Christmas trees. The highlight of the yard was a sleigh, decorated with garland and ribbons. It was pulled by reindeer and filled with presents just waiting for Santa Claus! Wreaths decorated each window and the sides of the garage. Ornaments hung from several trees. The home was a delight to see, day or night! The prizes for 2nd place totaled \$200.



7862 Lakewood

Third place went to 8112 Vailview Cove! Huge snowflakes hung above curtains of colorful lights. Twinkling stars and a "Merry Christmas" sign hung on the rock wall while the yard was filled with a nativity, snowmen, penguins and a dozen mini Christmas trees. The colors and decorations truly provided something for everyone to enjoy! The prizes for 3rd place totaled \$170.

#### HONORABLE MENTIONS:

8325 Jancy - Gorgeously done with boughs of holly and lights highlighting the home and yard. This home would have made Southern Living proud!

7806 Nutmeg - This home wins it's honorable mention for Jester's best wrapped tree. 5500 lights were used to decorate even the tiniest of branches. Job well done!

7407 Curly Leaf - With its magical Christmas tree entry and rear Christmas tree, that faced 2222, this house stood as a proud beacon for Jester!

7711 Basil - The simplicity of a white nativity against blue lit trees was just stunning!

7314 Jester Blvd - The article would not be complete without mentioning this past winner. With a combination of Christmas and Hanukah decorations, tons of different colored bushes and several pairs of lips, this home would make Mick Jagger proud! Thanks for making so many of us smile with delight!

Kudos also goes out to the homes around Basil, Sansivera and the end of Winterberry for having so many participants in close

(Continued on Page 5)

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### CONTACT INFO

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

**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](mailto: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@yahoo.com](mailto:jesterkids-subscribe@yahoo.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 Nicky Shore at [Shorenm@gmail.com](mailto:Shorenm@gmail.com).

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

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**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](mailto: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](mailto:JParker84@austin.rr.com)

## Holiday Light Contest - (Continued from Page 3)

proximity!

50 lucky Jester residents received a free medium cheese pizza and coupon book...just for decorating!

It seems that every year more homes are decorated. Each year, the Jester Lights Contest gets bigger and the prizes multiply (thanks to our generous sponsors). Start planning and get ready for next year, Jester residents! There will be categories for different styles of design. 1st place can't be won twice in a row so put your decorating skills to work... You have 11 months to brain storm!

Thank you to everyone who decorated their homes and yards, sharing the spirit of the holidays!



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## WELCOME COMMITTEE NEWS

In the last month, the Welcome Committee has delivered 12 welcome bags and hopefully some holiday cheer to new residents. The committee itself shared some of that holiday cheer at the last meeting of the year, with lots of camaraderie, yummy snacks and white wine. The six members of the Welcome Committee were all there: Deb Lewis, Darla Rowan, Jen Schwan, Janice Toreki, JoAnn Welles and Eva Wissner. After we wished each other happy holidays, we finished the year's deliveries. Since it would be the last delivery of the year, we left the bags on any doors where the new resident wasn't home but it was clear they had moved in!

Deliveries were made to:

- Angela and her 2 daughters on the 7700 block of Jester. They closed in August, but we were finally able to catch them at home.
- A new resident on the 8000 block of Jester. We literally left the (black and white) cat with the bag! Well, the cat was inside and the bag was left outside, but we feel he/she took charge of the delivery.
- A new resident on the 6800 block of Winterberry. We left the bag on the doorstep.
- Luis and Veronica on Kolache Cove. Their neighbor Kip was nice enough to take the bag for them and promised his kids wouldn't eat the cookies.
- Vicky and Donny with children Logan and Mason on the 6800 block of Tree Fern. They've been renovating and living in an apartment, so will be happy to finish up and move in. They have relatives living on Winterberry. It's nice to have another multi-generation family living within the neighborhood!
- Patricia and Diego with children Santiago and Julieta and dog Coca. They came to us from Uruguay and Spain by way of Chicago.
- Leslie and Kevin with their 3 daughters on the 8100 block of Jester Blvd.
- Matt and Ruth on the 7400 block of Anaqua. They've been in Austin a year and have a baby on the way.
- Rene and Dave with their 'children' Ruby, Lolita and Petey on Ligustrum Cove.
- A new resident on Chardonnay Cove. We left the bag on the doorstep.
- John and Erin with boys Claude and Guy (and dog Raffie) on the 7300 block of Halbert Drive. They relocated from Athens, Georgia.
- Alan on the 7600 block of Basil Drive. Alan's a musician who moved from Dallas.

It's great that we're getting so many new, happy to be here, residents. It makes us enjoy being on the Welcome Committee. This year we've delivered 47 packages, with only one remaining undelivered. It looks like everyone's making an effort to move before the end of the holidays!

Please contact JoAnn Welles at (512) 346-0349 or joann-welles@sbcglobal.net if you've moved to Jester lately and we haven't welcomed you officially. We may have tried to deliver a package but not found you home!



*Alan on Basil Drive*



*Patricia, Santiago and Julieta and dog Coca on 7300 block of Halbert*



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## SANTA IN JESTER!

by Teresa Gouldie, Social Chairman

One Jester kiddos had a great time on December 1st as Santa stopped by our neighborhood via a fire truck. Excited children and grandchildren of our residents had an opportunity to sit on Santa's lap and relay what they hoped to receive under the tree this holiday season. A big thanks goes out to the firemen who answered countless questions, graciously posed for pictures, and let the kiddos explore all aspects of the fire truck. They allowed the children to sit in the driver's seat and even put on the earphones as if they were answering a call!

We do appreciate the volunteers who continue to make our events possible. These include Eva Wissner, Bryce Bayles, Brooks Loflin, Charlotte Glikman and Jenny DeVilla. Three special young ladies pictured below, Haven Erenkil, Elaina Hilliard and Sarena Webster, were also a great help and really added to our event. In addition, a very sincere thank you goes out to Stacey Hull, who was instrumental in lining up seven very energetic NHS students from Anderson High School. (See photo) They brought such fun and excitement to our event and the kiddos LOVED them! The prize walk was the liveliest it's been in my 14 years in Jester, so THANK YOU, students!

We are also grateful to Jester Club and manager Terri Milan who graciously allow our neighborhood to host events at their location. The next event will be the Easter Egg Hunt and Petting Zoo on Saturday, March 23rd.



Firemen – C. Morse, D. Dominguez, W. Cook and T. Fohey  
NHS Students – John McDonald, Aaron Hartwell, Courtney Chambers, Gabbie Dinglasan, Scott Brown, Sam Blunt, and Josh Tomazin



Reid McCampbell, son of Amy and Jason McCampbell, visiting Santa at 5 days old!



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# Financial Focus

## Make Some New Year's (Financial) Resolutions for 2013

Once again, it's time to make some New Year's resolutions. This year, in addition to promising yourself that you'll hit the gym more often, learn a new language or take up a musical instrument — all worthy goals, of course — why not set some financial resolutions?

Consider these suggestions:

- **Boost your retirement account contributions.** If your income will rise this year, consider putting more money into your employer-sponsored retirement plan, such as a 401(k), 403(b) and 457(b). You typically contribute pre-tax dollars to your plan, so the more you put in, the lower your taxable income. Plus, your retirement plan has tax-deferred growth potential.

- **Don't overreact to the headlines.** Lately, you've heard a lot about the "fiscal cliff," political paralysis, the debt ceiling and other Really Scary Topics. These issues are not insignificant — but should they keep you from investing? After all, in any given year, you won't have to look hard to find warnings and negative news events — and many people do use these ominous-sounding headlines as a reason to head to the investment "sidelines" for a while. But if you're not investing, you're unquestionably missing out on opportunities to make progress toward your financial goals. So, instead of focusing on the news of the day, make your investment decisions based on the fundamentals of those investments you may be considering, along with your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon.

- **Keep whittling away your debt.** Over the past few years, Americans have done a good job of lowering their debt burdens. Of course, the economy is still tough, and it can be

challenging to avoid taking on new debts. But the less debt you have, the more you can invest for your retirement and other important objectives.

- **Rebalance your portfolio to accommodate your risk tolerance.** If you spend too much time worrying about the ups and downs of your investments, then your portfolio's potential for volatility may be too great for your individual risk tolerance. On the other hand, if you continually see little growth in your holdings, even when the financial markets are going strong, you may be investing too conservatively — especially if you are willing to take on some calculated risk to potentially boost your returns. So review your portfolio at least once in 2013 to see if it needs to be "rebalanced" to fit your risk tolerance.

- **Get some help.** Navigating the investment world by yourself is not easy. For one thing, there's a lot to know: different types of investments, changing tax laws, the effects of inflation, interest rate movements and much more. Furthermore, when you're making investment decisions on your own, you may have a hard time being objective — so you might end up investing with your heart, not your head. The need for knowledge and objectivity points to the advantages of working with an experienced financial professional — someone who understands both the financial markets and your individual needs and goals.

These aren't the only financial resolutions you could make for 2013 — but if you follow through on them, you may well need to make fewer ones when 2014 rolls around.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.*

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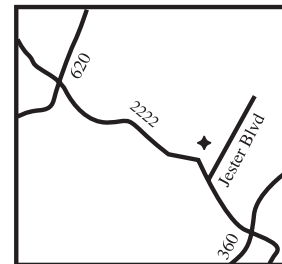
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## PEDESTRIAN RIGHT OF WAY

*by Brooks Loflin*

The article in the December Warbler by a Jester resident regarding Pedestrian Right of Way, could be misleading. I understand the point is safety and awareness between pedestrians and drivers. However, her summary implies an incorrect interpretation of the law.

The quoted law is correct. But her implication is the only place where pedestrians have the right of way to cross Jester is at the marked crosswalk at the bottom of the hill at FM2222. This is incorrect, the law (as quoted) states a pedestrian DOES have the right of way at marked and UNMARKED crosswalks

So what is an UNMARKED crosswalk? Any street intersection that has sidewalks on both sides of the street to be crossed. Of course, for any interaction between a pedestrian and a vehicle, regardless of who is legally right, the pedestrian should be careful. And if a pedestrian is cutting across Jester in the middle of a block, they do not have the RoW.

But if you are driving and a pedestrian is crossing at an intersection (like Jester and Anaqua), please be courteous.

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# TORNADOS

## 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)

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RESIDENTIAL ODD ADDRESS	RESIDENTIAL EVEN ADDRESS	COMMERCIAL MULTIFAMILY EVEN ADDRESS	COMMERCIAL MULTIFAMILY ODD ADDRESS
<b>AUTOMATIC IRRIGATION SYSTEMS</b>			
<b>Wednesday</b> BEFORE 5 A.M. or AFTER 7 P.M.	<b>Thursday</b> BEFORE 5 A.M. or AFTER 7 P.M.	<b>Tuesday</b> BEFORE 5 A.M. or AFTER 7 P.M.	<b>Friday</b> BEFORE 5 A.M. or AFTER 7 P.M.
<b>HOSE-END SPRINKLERS</b>		<b>PUBLIC SCHOOLS</b>	
<b>Saturday</b> BEFORE 10 A.M. or AFTER 7 P.M.	<b>Sunday</b> BEFORE 10 A.M. or AFTER 7 P.M.	<b>Monday</b> AUTOMATIC IRRIGATION SYSTEMS BEFORE 5 A.M. or AFTER 7 P.M.	

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## Likin' Lichens

What lies beneath our feet and in front of our eyes, typically small and unassuming, sometimes brightly colored, but always waiting patiently for their contributions to take hold? Lichens! Composite organisms made up of a fungus and a photosynthetic partner, most commonly an algae, lichens are ecosystem pioneers. They break down rock surfaces and prepare areas for mosses, grasses, and trees to follow. Certain species that also contain cyanobacteria can improve the fertility of the soil by adding necessary, usable nitrogen, and many species are used as bio-indicators of air quality. They are also highly efficient collectors of airborne substances, and recycle these substances into the soil. Historical uses for lichens include food, natural dyes, and herbal remedies.

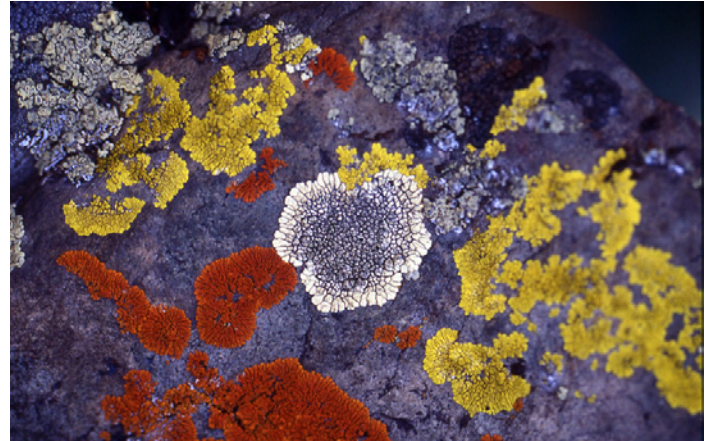
Lichens can be observed in many places, including on the ground, on rocks, and on trees. The surface, or substrate, on which they are found provides a place for them to attach and grow. Some species are substrate-specific while others can grow on a wide variety of substrates. Ground substrates can include sand, soil, mosses, and downed decomposing logs. These lichens act as soil stabilizers and contribute to soil fertility. Rock substrates include natural substances like cliffs, talus slopes, boulders, and pebbles, and man-made substances such as concrete and roof shingles. Lichens on rock substrates often colonize the rock and act as decomposers, turning it into soil. Tree substrates include both deciduous trees such as oaks and conifers such as firs, cypresses, junipers, and pines. Older trees often have a greater diversity of lichens, partly due to a more fissured bark that has a specific texture, chemistry, and moisture-holding capacity.

Lichens are mostly commonly divided into three growth forms: crustose, foliose, and fruticose. Crustose lichens look like they are spray-painted on their substrate, and their lower surface or 'medulla' is the same color as and blends into that substrate. Foliose lichens are leafy growths with distinct lobes, and their medulla is a different color. Fruticose lichens are often bushy or shrubby growths, and can be highly variable. They often form obvious disk or cup-shaped structures called 'apothecia.'

As composite organisms, lichens have been used worldwide as indicators of air quality. They are very sensitive to the presence of low levels of sulfur, nitrogen, and fluorine-containing pollutants that adversely affect their community composition, growth rates, reproduction, biomechanics, and appearance. By concentrating a wide variety of pollutants in their tissues, they act as pollution monitors, and are the subjects of many biomonitoring studies regarding air quality and climate change being conducted jointly by the U.S. Forest Service and the Environmental Protection Agency. Since lichens are long-lived, can be observed in the field in any season, and with many species having extensive geographical ranges, they allow for changes in pollution to be studied over large areas and long periods of time.

As you can see, the lichen has almost all it needs to survive. While most species of lichens grow very slowly, they all require a proper substrate, clean air, moisture, sunlight, and warmth to thrive. Turning air into life, they are truly one of nature's alchemists!

*Example of a crustose lichen:*



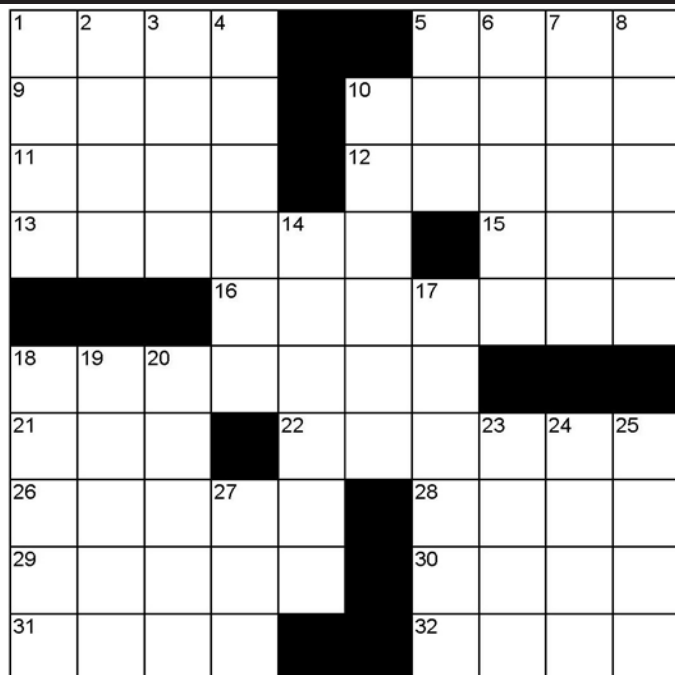
*Example of a foliose lichen:*



*Example of a fruticose lichen:*



## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### ACROSS

1. Syllables used in songs (2 wds.)
5. Dress
9. Time periods
10. Satan
11. Tap in lightly
12. Adult insect
13. Prioress
15. Today
16. Chapel
18. 10,000 squared meters
21. Cutting tool
22. Scents
26. Small herring
28. Two
29. Fish tank dweller
30. Volcano
31. Otherwise
32. Hold

### DOWN

1. Soft white cheese
2. Arabian
3. Mutton
4. Facet
5. Jewel
6. \_\_\_-garde
7. Severity
8. Wispy
10. Render harmless
14. Soft drink brand
17. Lacked
18. Hurry
19. Deport
20. Tic tac's competitor
23. Pear shaped instrument
24. Alley
25. Close the door hard
27. Be

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To access DIRECTV HD programming, HD equipment required. Number of HD channels based on package selection. Local channels eligibility based on service address. Not all networks available in all markets. Programming, pricing, terms and conditions subject to change at any time. Pricing residential. Taxes not included. Receipt of DIRECTV programming subject to DIRECTV Customer Agreement; copy provided at [directv.com/legal](http://directv.com/legal) and in order confirmation. ©2012 DIRECTV. DIRECTV and the Cyclone Design logo, CHOICE, CHOICE XTRA and GENIE are trademarks of DIRECTV, LLC. All other trademarks and service marks are the property of their respective owners.



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## January Events

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

Jan. 2 - 31	<b>LBJ Wildflower Center - Free admission all month!</b>	<b>wildflower.org</b>
Jan. 11 - 13	<b>Austin Spring Home &amp; Garden Show</b> <i>Educational seminars, high quality exhibits, and the newest plants, products and services</i>	Convention Center 404-4000 <b>showtechnology.com</b>
Jan. 13	<b>B.B. King - Legendary Blues performer</b>	<b>austintheatre.org</b>
Jan. 16 - Feb. 10	<b>Disney's The Lion King</b> <i>Breathtaking spectacle of animals brought to life</i>	Bass Concert Hall <b>texasperformingarts.org</b>
Jan. 17 - 20	<b>Austin Boat Show</b> <i>Over 20 dealers and 200 booths, including free lectures. Kids can fish in the giant catfish tank!</i>	Convention Center 494-1128 <b>austinboatshow.com</b>
Jan. 19	<b>Austin Gorilla Run</b> <i>Run a 5K in a gorilla suit to benefit mountain gorillas</i>	<b>austingorillarun.com</b>
Jan. 19	<b>Igudesman &amp; Joo: A Little Nightmare Music</b> <i>Russian violinist Igudesman and Korean/British pianist Joo are the new kings of classical music comedy with 30 million hits on YouTube</i>	The Long Center <b>longcenter.org</b>
Jan. 24 - 25	<b>Harlem Globetrotters - 2012 World Tour</b> <i>Our greatest trick is bringing families together</i>	Frank Erwin Center <b>uterwincenter.com</b>
Jan. 26	<b>Tree Talk Winter Walk</b> <i>Habitat hikes and activities for kids</i>	LBJ Wildflower Center 232-0100 <b>wildflower.org</b>
Jan. 26	<b>If you Give a Mouse A Cookie &amp; Other Storybooks</b> <i>A dazzling musical revue of children's books</i>	One World Theatre <b>oneworldtheatre.org</b>
Jan. 26	<b>Blood, Sweat &amp; Tears</b> <i>One of the greatest horn bands in the history of popular music</i>	One World Theatre <b>oneworldtheatre.org</b>
Jan. 26 - 27	<b>Seussical the Musical</b> <i>The Cat in the Hat tells the story of Horton, the elephant</i>	TexArts Academy <b>tex-arts.org</b>
Jan. 27	<b>An Evening with Cesar Millan: The Dog Whisperer</b> <i>Learn to apply his proven techniques to the training and rehabilitation of dogs in a fun and interactive experience</i>	Paramount Theatre <b>austintheatre.org</b>

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