

FOREST CREEK

F O R U M

March 2013

Volume 7, Issue 3

VISTA RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT GRADUATION 2013

4th Annual Spring Bazaar!

Easter, Mother's Day and Graduation Day are just around the corner!

Please join us for some springtime shopping

When: Saturday, March 23th, 2013 10:00AM-4:00PM

Where: Vista Ridge HS Cafeteria, 200 S. Vista Ridge Blvd, Cedar Park

We will also feature a Vendors Raffle Basket, Silent Auction, Bake Sale and Concessions. Check out the Silent Auction at the Vista Ridge Project Graduation Facebook Page.

Interested vendors please contact us at vhspgspringbazaar2013@gmail.com or Monica Hanzel 512-497-5146 or go to our Project Graduation website at vrhsprojectgraduation.com.

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- Artists and Artisans Festival

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, March 9 and 10.

Texas artists and craftspeople display their works in wood, metal, photography, silk, watercolor and much, much more.

- Shou Ping's Paper Sculptures

Saturday, March 9, through Monday, May 27.

Meet the artist from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 10, in the McDermott Learning Center

- Jim LaPaso's Sculpture in the Gardens

Saturday, March 9 through Monday, May 27

- Texas Majesty, Watercolors by Denise Counley

Saturday, March 9, through Monday, May 27

Meet the artist from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday in The Store.

Center open Easter Sunday, March 31

The Forum

NEWSLETTER INFO

NEWSLETTER

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JOSEPH 06/1996

Joseph is a confident young man and describes himself as being 'cool' and 'awesome'. He loves being outdoors and enjoys sports including football and basketball. Joseph likes to build things with his hands and hopes to have a career as an architect. He performs well in school and plans to graduate early in the Spring of 2014 at the age of 17.

Joseph wants to be adopted by someone who will love him for who he is! The ideal family is a single mom with or without children as he gets along with children of all ages. Joseph needs a loving, committed family now!!

For more information on Joseph, please contact Stephanie Berka at the Adoption Coalition of Texas by email stephanieberka@adopttexas.org or by phone: 512-450-8750.



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Tennis Tips

By USPTA/PTR Master Professional
Fernando Velasco



HOW TO EXECUTE THE SERVE

In previous newsletters, I offered tips on how to hit a forehand groundstroke, a two-handed backhand, one-handed backhand, forehand volley, and the two handed backhand volley. In this issue, I will give you instructions on how to execute the serve, considered as the most important stroke, since the player has complete control of the game at this time. In these pictures student Helen Bourgeois demonstrates the proper form and technique. Photos by Charlie Palafox.

Step 1: Ready Position: The body is sideways with the right hand holding the end of the racket in a forehand grip position and the left hand is holding the ball under the throat of the racket. The left arm is slightly straight and the ball is held with the thumb, index finger and middle finger. This allows for a consistent toss without using the wrist and/or elbow. Feet are a shoulder width apart and the body is in equal balance. For beginners, it is okay to change the grip slightly toward the forehand grip. As the player gets more advanced, the continental grip will be a better one to give more spin on the ball.

Step 2: Back Swing: The left arm comes down and the right arm follows it. It is vital to slow down the motions to allow for both of the arms to have good balance in the front and behind the body. Notice that the hand is in the process of tossing the ball in front

of the body and the left wrist is bent down. It is imperative to have a good consistent toss since it will dictate the success or failure of the serve.

Step 3: The wind up: While the ball is in the air, the right arm will bend forcing the head of the racket to pick up speed by going behind the body. Notice the left arm is still up high and the toss is at least four to five inches above the possible point of contact on the sweet spot. The head and eyes are focused on the ball and the body is still turned sideways. Knees are bent to allow maximum explosion of the lower body.

Step 4: Point of contact: Once the player is ready to hit the ball, the right arm will force the racket toward the point of contact, while the left hand will come down toward the body. This allows for the “snap” of the wrist to accelerate and bring the ball down. Notice that the point of contact is slightly higher than then center of the racket. Eyes are still focused on the point of the contact and will be ready to look down as soon as the ball leaves the frame. The right hip is extended to allow the body to extend up.

Step 5: Follow Through: The racket speed will extend to the left side of the body. The right foot is coming forward and is pointing toward the net. The trunk is straight and eyes are focused on the direction of the ball. At this point the player will take the split step and will jump either behind the base line to rally with the opponent or will move toward the net to serve and volley.

Look for in the next Newsletter: The Half Volley





BE SMART ABOUT SPRING PLANTING



IN THE SUMMER, outdoor water use can account for 50 to 80 percent of home water use. Texans must use their precious water resources more efficiently, or we will have longer, more frequent water shortages, especially during droughts and hot Texas summers. Much of the water used outdoors is wasted through inefficient landscape watering practices. By reducing the amount of water we waste, we will save money and protect the quality of life of future Texans.

DESIGN A WATER-WISE LANDSCAPE, planting water-efficient, well-adapted, and/or native shrubs and trees. Choose plants that are drought tolerant (or at least have low water requirements) and heat tolerant and can survive the minimum winter temperatures in your local area. Native plants are also most resistant to diseases and pests.

Put drought-tolerant groundcover instead of grass in areas that are narrow, small, sloping, odd-shaped, or close to pavement. Limit turf areas to those needed for practical uses. Bermuda, buffalo, and zoysia are drought-tolerant grasses.

KEEP MONEY IN YOUR POCKET, using water-efficient landscape practices, such as proper mowing, mulching, and moderate fertilizing. Most water utilities charge higher rates during the summer or increase rates in increments based on use. Please reduce your outdoor water use by determining how much water your landscape needs to stay healthy and don't use an excess when drought conditions exist. Thank You for your help in preserving Lake Travis. Remember; be mindful to CONSERVE WATER FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW.



JOIN US FOR GOLF AND A GREAT CAUSE!

DATE: Tuesday, April 30th

11:00 am Registration - 1:00 pm Start

LOCATION: River Place Country Club

FORMAT: 4-person scramble

COST: \$165 per golfer*

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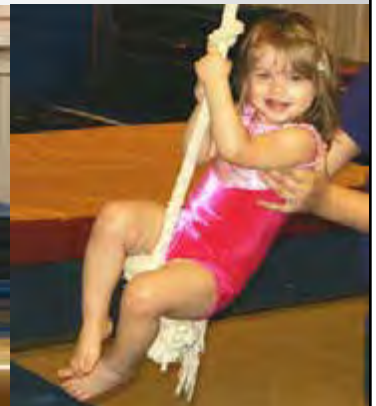
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The Forum

A Focus on Healthy Snack Ideas

By: Concentra Urgent Care

March is National Nutrition Month. Celebrate by trying out some of these healthy snack ideas:

- Whole grain bagel with melted low fat or non-fat cheese
- Baked tortilla chips and salsa
- Cereal (preferably whole-grain) and low-fat or fat free milk
- Homemade trail mix of wheat or bran Chex or cheerios, pretzels, raisins, and nuts
- Whole wheat toast with butter or margarine and jam
- Baby carrots, broccoli, cauliflower, or celery and yogurt-based dip
- Fruit, including fresh, frozen, canned, or ready-to-eat fruit, such as apples peeled and sliced, oranges cut into sections, cantaloupe and pineapple in bite-sized cubes, or fruit salad
- Fruit shake or smoothie made with frozen fruit and a cup of fat free or low-fat milk or yogurt
- Vegetable soup
- Bean burritos or burrito bites containing canned, fat-free refried beans, low-fat cheese, and salsa on a tortilla – roll up and cut into bite-sized pieces
- Tortilla roll-ups: spread chicken breast strips, salsa, and lettuce on a tortilla. Roll up and cut into bite-sized pieces. Or, leave out the tortilla and roll up the chicken and salsa in the lettuce
- Yogurt, alone, or as a dip or topping for fresh fruit
- Layer fruit, yogurt and grape-nuts in a glass for a parfait
- Nuts
- Peanut butter on graham crackers
- Peanut butter on sliced apple or celery
- Milkshake made with nonfat or low-fat frozen yogurt
- Sugar-free pudding or Jello cup
- Oatmeal raisin or peanut butter cookies and fat free or low-fat milk
- Zucchini or pumpkin bread
- Low fat Cottage cheese and fruit
- Turkey sandwich on wheat bread
- Granola or cereal bar



For more information about healthy snacks and diets, contact your health care provider, your Concentra health specialist, or visit the Department of Health and Human Services at: <http://www.health.gov/dietaryguidelines/dga2005/recommendations.htm>

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CRIME PREVENTION FOR YOUR HOME

DOORS & WINDOWS

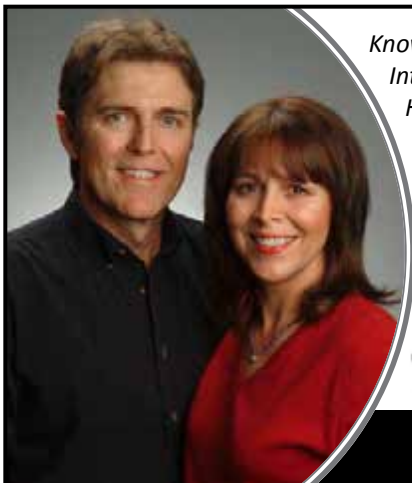
- All exterior doors should be solid core or of metal construction.
- All entry doors should be equipped with a good quality deadbolt lock having a minimum of a one inch throw.
- A good quality double cylinder deadbolt lock should be used if there is glass within 40 inches of the lock. If using such a lock, be certain a key is readily available in case of emergency. In all cases, use a heavy duty strike plate with Number 12 gauge 3" woodscrews.
- All exit doors without side hinges should have their hinges pinned. Install a peephole with at least a 180 degree viewing area.
- Secure all sliding doors with an anti-lifting device and a secondary locking device, and install secondary locking devices on all windows.

EXTERIOR & LANDSCAPE

- Install lighting in areas around doors, walkway, and driveways.
- Use inexpensive timers to automatically turn the lights on and off at dusk and dawn. Do not leave ladders or tools outside. They can assist someone in gaining entry.
- Be certain your shrubs/trees do not hide your address & it is visible so if necessary, emergency personnel can find your home quickly.

ALARM SYSTEMS

- Choose a reputable, well established company.
- Learn how to use your alarm system properly to reduce false alarms (fines can be assessed for false alarms).
- Do not write your alarm code/password on or near the alarm keypad. Put a warning sign on windows and entrances.
- Be certain your alarm call-back list is up-to-date.
- Additional Information
- Acknowledge all callers through locked doors and/or your peephole.
- Keep doors, windows and garage doors closed and locked, even when you're at home. Draw all curtains and shades at night to prevent viewing from the street.
- When traveling, keep your home looking lived-in by having the grass cut, mail and newspapers picked up and lights turned on and off with a timer.
- Before moving into a new house, re-key or change all exterior locks and also change the code to your garage opener.
- Engrave valuables with your Texas driver license (preceded by the letters "TX"). Engravers are inexpensive and are available in hardware departments.



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- Kids Stuff -

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Eleven-year-old Cait was trying to fall asleep when her 8-year-old brother, Doug, came into her room. He looked around a bit, but seemed really out of it. Then Doug went back into the hallway and stood there staring up at the hall light. Little brothers can be weird, but this was really strange. Cait didn't know what to do. Just then, Cait's father appeared and explained that Doug was sleepwalking.

WHAT IS SLEEPWALKING?

Not all sleep is the same every night. We experience some deep, quiet sleep and some active sleep, which is when dreams happen. You might think sleepwalking would happen during active sleep, but a person isn't physically active during active sleep. Sleepwalking usually happens in the first few hours of sleep in the stage called slow-wave or deep sleep. Not all sleepwalkers actually walk. Some simply sit up or stand in bed or act like they're awake (but dazed) when, in fact, they're asleep! Most, however, do get up and move around for a few seconds or for as long as half an hour.

Sleepwalkers' eyes are open, but they don't see the same way they do when they're awake and often think they're in different rooms of the house or different places altogether. Sleepwalkers tend to go back to bed on their own and they won't remember it in the morning. Researchers estimate that up to 15% of kids sleepwalk regularly. Sleepwalking may run in families and sometimes occurs when a person is sick, has a fever, is not getting enough sleep, or is stressed.

IS SLEEPWALKING A SERIOUS PROBLEM?

If sleepwalking occurs frequently, every night or so, it's a good idea for your mom or dad to take you to see your doctor. But occasional sleepwalking generally isn't something to worry about, although it may look funny or even scary for the people who see a sleepwalker in action. Although occasional sleepwalking isn't a big deal, it's important, of course, that the person is kept safe. Precautions should be taken so the person is less likely to fall down, run into something, or walk out the front door while sleepwalking.

WHAT WILL THE DOCTOR DO?

There's no cure for sleepwalking, but the doctor can talk to you about what's happening and try to find ways to help you sleep more soundly. Most kids just grow out of sleepwalking.

For kids who sleepwalk often, doctors may recommend a treatment called scheduled awakening. This disrupts the sleep cycle enough to help stop sleepwalking. In rare cases, a doctor may prescribe medication to help someone sleep.

HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO HELP PREVENT SLEEPWALKING:

- Relax at bedtime by listening to soft music or relaxation tapes.
- Have a regular sleep schedule and stick to it.
- Keep noise and lights to a minimum while you're trying to sleep.
- Avoid drinking a lot in the evening and be sure to go to the bathroom before going to bed. (A full bladder can contribute to sleepwalking.)

HOW DO I TAKE CARE OF A SLEEPWALKER?

One thing you can do to help is to clear rooms and hallways of furniture or obstacles a sleepwalker might encounter during the night. If there are stairs or dangerous areas, a grown-up should close doors and windows or install safety gates.

You also might have heard that sleepwalkers can get confused and scared if you startle them into being awake. That's true, so what do you do if you see someone sleepwalking? You should call for a grown-up who can gently steer the person back to bed. And once the sleepwalker is tucked back in bed, it's time for you to get some shut-eye, too!

Reviewed by: Larissa Hirsch, MD

Date reviewed: February 2008

Originally reviewed by: Michael H. Goodman, MD

This information was provided by KidsHealth, one of the largest resources online for medically reviewed health information written for parents, kids, and teens. For more articles like this one, visit www.KidsHealth.org or www.TeensHealth.org. ©1995-2006. The Nemours Foundation



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