

RANCH RECORD

Official Newsletter for the Steiner Ranch HOA

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2013



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512-266-9312 – Facsimile
www.steinerranchhoa.org

The Association Office is no longer open on Saturdays. Please make a note of the “Regular” office hours that are now in effect.

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 1:00pm - 5:00pm
Friday 10:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday 9:00am - 3:00pm
Sunday CLOSED

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MISSION STATEMENT

Peel, Inc. Community Newsletters

Our goal is to provide the Steiner Ranch community with one source of local news content that is provided by Steiner Ranch residents. Our goal is to help build Steiner Ranch by connecting local businesses with residents and residents with relevant neighborhood information.

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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY 911
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Ambulance 911
Sheriff – Non-Emergency 512-974-0845
Travis County ESD No.6/Lake Travis Fire Rescue
Administration Office 512-266-2533
Travis County Animal Control 512-974-2000

STEINER RANCH CONTACTS

Steiner Ranch Community Association Office 512-266-7553

SCHOOLS

Leander ISD 512-570-0000
Vandegrift High School 512-570-2300
Canyon Ridge Middle School 512-570-3500
Laura Welch Bush Elementary 512-570-6100
Steiner Ranch Elementary 512-570-5700
River Ridge Elementary 512-570-7300

UTILITIES

Travis County WCID # 17 512-266-1111
City of Austin Electric 512-494-9400
Texas Gas Service
Custom Service 1-800-700-2443
Emergencies 512-370-8609
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AT&T
New Service 1-800-464-7928
Repair 1-800-246-8464
Billing 1-800-858-7928
Time Warner Cable
Customer Service 512-485-5555
Repairs 512-485-5080
TDS (Trash & Recycle) 512-421-1300
Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste 512-974-4343

OTHER NUMBERS

Lake Travis Postal Office 512-263-2458

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ADVERTISING INFO

Please support the advertisers that make The Ranch Record possible. If you are interested in advertising, please contact our sales office at 512-263-9181 or advertising@peelinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 8th of the month prior to the issue.

ARTICLE INFO

The Ranch Record is mailed monthly to all Steiner Ranch residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to submit 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 consideration please email it to steinerranch@peelinc.com. The deadline is the 8th of the month prior to the issue.

COVER PHOTO

This month's cover photo was taken by Elle Adams, recent graduate of Vandegrift High School at last year's Concert in the Park at the popular helicopter landing. Star Flight will be at the Concert again this year and we hope to see everyone there.

Do you take great photos?

*Would you like to see your photo published?
We are looking for great cover photos for upcoming
September issue of the Ranch Record.*

REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMISSION:

- Must have been taken in Steiner Ranch (some exceptions)
- Be of High Resolution (240 dpi or higher)
- Prefer "portrait" orientation

We'd love to have something that pertains to this time of the year in some way, so be creative and give it a try. Our September 2013 issue submittal deadline is August 8th and photos should be submitted electronically by the deadline date to Sharon Adams at sharon@steinerranchhoa.org.

By submitting your photo you agree to allow your photo to be published in future issues of the Ranch Record or other Steiner Ranch publications.

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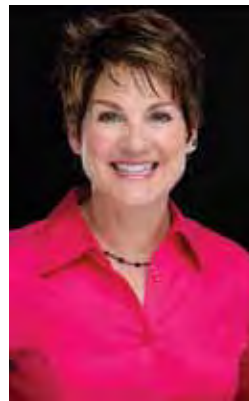
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Angie Noeth

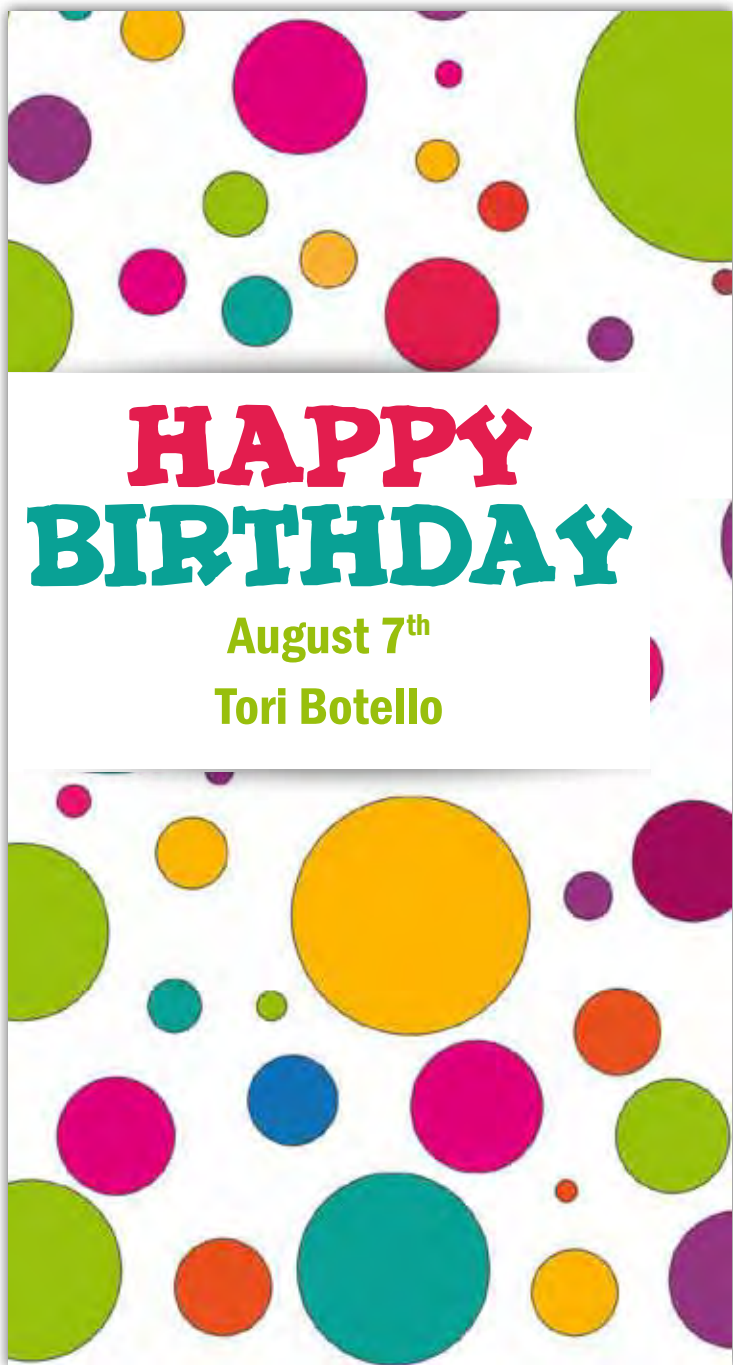
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Around Steiner



Mark Your Calendars

2013 Steiner Ranch Social Committee Events

AUG 3

Movies in the Park

AUG 17

Concert in the Park
6 pm -- TS Park

SEPT 28

Ladies Night Out for SafePlace

OCT 5

Fall Community Wide Garage Sale

OCT 20

Pumpkin Patch

OCT 27

Halloween Trunk or Treat

NOV 2

Camping on the Ranch

NOV 8-10

Fall Scrap-a-Thon

NOV 16

Holiday Sales Event & Santa Photos

All Events are tentative and subject to change or cancel, so please check monthly issues of the Ranch Record, the Steiner Ranch website at www.steineranchhoa.org and Facebook (Steiner Ranch Social Committee) for updates.



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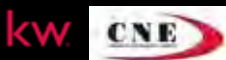
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THE RANCH REPORT

By: Scott Selman, Executive Director

As summer comes to a close, it is time for the main event of the Steiner Ranch social calendar. Concert in the Park has become the premier event of the year thanks to the hard work of dozens of homeowner and business volunteers and the local retail and commercial participants of the Steiner Ranch and Four Points areas.

Not only is there great music, family fun, and food, but the opportunity to build on the outstanding community spirit here is Steiner Ranch, one which should bring everyone out for a visit. By meeting new

neighbors or hanging out with old friends, community events such as Concert in the Park, reinforce the sense of community in our neighborhood and can only increase the enjoyment and safety of the community throughout the year. So bring your cooler to share your favorite beverage along with a smile and a friendly wave and build some new and lasting relationships with your neighbors.

For a complete list of music, food, and activities, please visit www.steinerranchconcerts.com.

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Steiner Ranch 6th Annual **CONCERT IN THE PARK**

Saturday, August 17th at the Towne Square Community Park, 6 pm - 10 pm

Featuring Live Music by Shoulda Turned Left, Taco and the Enchiladas and LUV HANDLE.

This concert is benefiting the children of Leander ISD. Please bring school supplies for Middle or High School Students. See complete list of items accepted on the concert website.

Residents are invited to spend an afternoon with the entire family and enjoy fun and games, concessions, local business exhibits, and get their groove on with the sounds of live local music we've come to expect from living in Austin, the Live Music Capital of the World!

Vendors will be on hand giving away items, selling food and showing their appreciation to the Steiner Ranch residents for their continued support. Be prepared to cool off from the heat with the Gene Arant Reality team's giant hillside water slide.

Let's make this "Back to School Event" the best one yet!

Congratulations to the winner of this year's Concert in the Park Logo Contest, Sara Qualls. Sarah won a \$100 Visa Gift card for her entry.

Sponsorship and vendor information as well as the most recent updates are available online at www.steinerranchconcerts.com.



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Ladies Night Out for Safe Place

Ladies Night Out for Safe Place a Domestic Violence Shelter, is a fundraiser held by the Steiner Ranch Social Committee in which the sole purpose is to raise awareness of domestic violence and to help provided funding for the shelter. This event is a fun filled celebration of women and their accomplishments. We have many women owned or co-owned businesses. Please welcome some of our 2013 vendors:

- Little Red Dragonfly
- Painting with a Twist
- Barefoot Books Ambassador
- Nanny's & Granny's
- Silpada
- Hamptons Jewels
- Austin Natuural Jewelry
- Crowned Chick Designs
- Miss B
- Muzzie's Austin
- River Hills Family Medicine
- Four Points Family Chiropractic
- Vista Ridge Dental
- Cross Keys Designs, LLC
- BeneFIT Bikram Yoga
- Resolute Fitness: Cycling & Yoga
- Koko FitClub
- Beijo Bags
- Thirty One
- Lake Austin Spa Resort
- Plexus Worldwide
- Mary Kay
- Salon Hue
- NeriumAD
- Rodan + Fields Dermatologists
- Pink Poodle
- Lake Travis Animal Hospital
- Cups & Cones
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Saturday, September 28, 2013 – 7pm – 11pm

Towne Square Community Center



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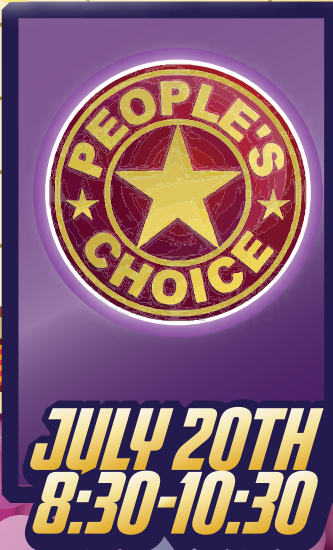


2013 MOVIES IN THE PARK

@ TOWNE SQUARE



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8:30-10:30



JULY 20TH
8:30-10:30



AUG 3RD
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STEINER RANCH MOVIES IN THE PARK 2013

Thank you to everyone who took the time to vote for the People's Choice movie, the winner being Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone that showed on July 20th.

The Steiner Ranch Movies in the Park second and third movies of the season are still on the way. On August 3rd "RV" starring Robin Williams will show at 8:30pm at Towne Square and on September 7th at 8:30 The Incredibles will show at Bella Mar Community Center. A rain date of August 24th is still set aside should any of the showings needed to be cancelled.

The 2nd Annual Steiner Ranch Movies in the Park has been sponsored by many Steiner Ranch Small Businesses including; Brandy Finnessey of RE/MAX1, School in the Hills-Montessori in Steiner Ranch, Steiner Ranch Orthodontics, Square Cow Movers, TLC Home Inspections, Gerald McChesney of Mortgage Mentors and Reel Big Screens Outdoor Entertainment.

All the movies will show on Reel Big Screen's 2 story-outdoor movie screen in one of our neighborhood parks, under the Steiner Ranch stars. Expect the best spots to go early, as movie attendees who enter the drawing are eligible to win a FREE iPad. Yes, at each one of this summer's movies; the sponsors will be proudly giving away a FREE iPad! There is No Purchase Necessary! Last year, many families, took the opportunity of the preshow time in the park to play a game of catch, catch up with neighbors and friends, and even try their hand at flying kites! Feel free to come early & truly make it a family event.

Also this year, the Lady Vipers Lacrosse Team will be selling drinks and snacks. All proceeds will be going towards the Viper Lacrosse Association, a 501c3, to help pay for fields, equipment, referees, coaching and scholarships. Please come out and support your local Vandegrift Vipers & enjoy the 2nd Annual Steiner Ranch Movies in the Park!

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YOUNG @ HEART

steinerranchyoungatheart@gmail.com

Young at Heart is a group that plans various activities for Steiner Ranch residents in the 50+ age group to provide opportunities for people to meet others with similar interests. Since so many people travel or are away from home for extended periods of time, activities are planned to be enjoyed as frequently as members want. Whenever possible, these events take place in Steiner Ranch or close by. Residents who are on the Young at Heart contact list receive emails announcing upcoming activities. If you would like to receive announcements and invitations from Young at Heart, just send your name, phone number and email address to steinerranchyoungatheart@gmail.com. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Dottie Thoms at dottie.thoms@gmail.com or at 512-531-9360. Activities take place weekly, monthly or occasionally. Dates, times and places are included in the monthly emails.

The Steiner Ranch Young at Heart group was the guest of Beau Theriot for their May Wine Social. With beautiful weather, we enjoyed outstanding views of Lake Travis as well as live music for dancing. Great food and wine were enjoyed in the amazing home filled with unique antiques and artifacts.



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Steiner Ranch Ladies Group

This newly formed group is just for the Ladies (over 21) of Steiner Ranch! It's for the working moms, stay-at-home moms, single, divorced, married, empty nesters and every Lady in between!

We look forward to meeting you at any of the events we have planned. We want to keep the Steiner Ranch ladies connected and active. Join the Meet up group and the Facebook page for the latest updates. Just to start, here is what we have planned:

WINE GROUP

Organizer Paula Kaisner

Our Wine Group will be exploring the Austin area for fun filled evenings with flavorful Wines and Friends. Please join us in September for our first adventure. Please join us at <http://www.meetup.com/steiner-ranch-ladies-group/>.

LADIES NIGHT OUT

Organizer Jamie Clevlen

Hi, I am looking forward to meeting you at our Fun Ladies Night Out adventures. Our kickoff is Steiner Ranch Ladies Night Out for Safe Place, September 28th at Town Square, 7-11pm. We have a fun filled calendar for you join us at <http://www.meetup.com/steiner-ranch-ladies-group/> we look forward to meeting you.

LADIES LUNCHEON

Organizer Sharon Adams and Myrta McGugan-Mogen

Our next Ladies Luncheon will be in September, location to be determined. We are looking forward to meeting you. Please join us at <http://www.meetup.com/steiner-ranch-ladies-group/>.

COOKING CLASSES

Organizer Chef Mike of Nola's Kitchen

Ladies, The Chef is looking forward to showing you the joy of cooking. You will also learn how to run your kitchen more efficiently saving you time and money. Please join us Sept. 3rd at <http://www.meetup.com/steiner-ranch-ladies-group/>.



BOOK CLUB

Organizer Cathy Hill

First book Club Meeting will be in September, the Book to be reviewed will be Book One - Mark of the Lion by Francine Rivers. Please join us at <http://www.meetup.com/steiner-ranch-ladies-group/>.

RUNNING GROUP

Organizer Sara Ferniza

I have lived in Steiner for the past three years. I am very passionate about running and enjoy sharing my knowledge with others. All levels are welcome. Distance between 3 to 6 miles depending on the group. Please bring a bottle of water. Contact me at through www.meetup.com/steinerranchladiesgroup/ if you have any questions.

WALKING GROUP

Organizer Myra Antell

Hi ladies! I love to walk and explore our beautiful neighborhood as part of my fun fitness routine. Our starting points will vary, just to keep it fun and interesting. Walks will be about an hour and we'll keep a pace that is comfortable for the group, smell the flowers, enjoy the scenery and each other's company. Our first walk will depart from the playground at Town Square. I am looking forward to seeing friends and making new ones! Please join us at <http://www.meetup.com/steiner-ranch-ladies-group/>.

CONCERT IN THE PARK

AUGUST 17, TOWN SQUARE, 6 – 10PM

Organizer Steiner Ranch Social Committee

LADIES NIGHT OUT FOR SAFE PLACE

SEPT 28, TOWN SQUARE, 7-11PM

Organizer Steiner Ranch Social Committee

If you are interested in starting and organizing a group, just let us know!

Myrta McGugan-Mogen – mmgugan1@live.com
Sharon Adams – Sharon@steinerranchboa.org

NEWCOMER ORIENTATION

Welcome new residents of Steiner Ranch! If you have recently purchased a home here, you will receive an invitation to the Newcomer Orientation held on Thursday, August 1st at 6:30pm in the Towne Square Community Center at 12550 Country Trails Lane. You will have the opportunity to become better acquainted with your new community, as well as with other new homeowners. A brief presentation will be given on Steiner Ranch, the organization of the homeowners associations, the homeowner committees, the assessment rates community rules and regulations and future development plans for Steiner Ranch. Light refreshments will be served.

Not able to attend? Future orientations will be scheduled throughout the year and you can come to any of them.

Have you lived here a while and never attended an orientation? Do you want to know more about Steiner Ranch? We would love to have you come and join us. Please RSVP to 266-7553 or to Donan Grant at donan@steinerranchhoa.org.

COMMUNITY WIDE FALL GARAGE SALE

The Steiner Ranch Fall Community Wide Garage sale is scheduled for Saturday, October 5th from 8:00am – 12:00pm.

Place the items you wish to sale in your driveway or garage before 8:00am. It's that easy! We will do the advertising for you!

This is a well attended event and the best time of the year to clear out your home of unwanted items.



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Want To Learn More About How To Protect Your Home From A Wildfire?

Can you spare some time to share this information with friends/neighbors in Steiner?

We are organizing a team of Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Assessors to help give individual assessments/recommendations for Steiner residents. If you would like to learn more about how to protect your home from wildfire AND are willing to share that knowledge with others in Steiner, please consider joining this team. Beyond the initial training, there is no hard time commitment required – we simply ask the HIZ Assessment team to sign up as needed and as their schedules permit to conduct HIZ assessments for Steiner residents. An individual assessment generally takes about an hour. We have a small backlog of requests already and will likely sign up a few more at Concert in the Park.

The Austin Fire Dept will be offering training sessions this fall (schedule TBD). The training is free and is typically one full day or split into two half days. If you are interested, please contact us so we can let you know when the training date(s) are announced. (If we have enough people interested, we could arrange a class in Steiner Ranch).

Please reply to SRFirewise@gmail.com for more information. We also will be at the Concert in the Park on August 17, taking requests for HIZ Assessments and passing out general Firewise information.

VOLUNTEER WITH THE GIRL SCOUTS!

Area Girl Scouts are already looking forward to the fun events they will attend, as well as the accomplishments they will achieve in the 2013-2014 year! The Lake Austin Service Unit consists of about 1,000 scouts K-12 and parent volunteers from the Four Points community. Please consider volunteering with the LASU to fill one of these positions:

- Fall Products Coordinator(s)
- School Coordinators for: LWBE & SRE
- Cookie Sales Coordinator(s)
- Cookie Warehouse Coordinator
- Bridging Coordinator(s)
- FOGS Coordinator (Friends of Girl Scouts, fundraising)

Please visit LASU.girlscouts.org to sign up for these volunteer positions or to get more information about Girl Scouts in the area.





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Ms. Sims wanted to move up and better accommodate her family's needs and wants. Brandy helped her and this is what she stated about her experience working with Brandy, "Brandy truly cares about achieving your family's goals during the process of selling and purchasing a home. She has supported me though 2 home purchases and one home sale and her expertise and negotiating skills are superb!" -T. Sims

The Brooks Family has been considering selling for a few years & were seeing homes sell for rock bottom prices. They contacted Brandy Finnessey & learned they didn't have to settle for average service, poor marketing & a lesser price. Selling doesn't have to be difficult and you don't have to give your house away. The Brooks Family Sold their home in just 4 days but for only \$2,000 off their listing price & the best terms that worked for their family's move schedule.

**AND SO WILL YOU WHEN
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Brandy.Finnessey@Remax.net



Around Steiner

SADDLE UP AND RIDE!

The Steiner Ranch Cycling Club is a group of fun loving cyclist that enjoy getting outside, burning calories, and meeting new people. Cycling is easy on your body, good for your health and a great way to build community.

SATURDAY RIDES

We meet every Saturday at Cups & Cones at 7:30am for a 45+ mile bike ride unless there is a special ride which you can find out about by getting on our email list or going to our club website at www.steinerranchcycling.com. There is no cost to ride with our group. Our Saturday rides have an advanced group with average speeds in the 17 – 20 mph and we have an intermediate group which has average speeds between 14-16 mph. We have several routes that we rotate between. You can see what ride we have planned for the week by going to the club website at www.steinerranchcycling.com. We try to keep the group together however you need a certain level of fitness to keep up with both groups. There are no designated sweepers.

SUNDAY RIDES

We meet every Sunday at Cups & Cones at 7:30am for slower ride and shorter distance ride. Our Sunday rides average speeds are in the 12 – 15mph and distances between 23 – 30 miles. We typically ride within Steiner Ranch. This is a NO DROP RIDE. Please visit our website at www.steinerranchcycling.com for details regarding weekly ride updates.

SPECIAL RIDES

HOTTER'N HELL – August 24, 2013 - This ride needs no further introduction. This is the largest century ride in the Country ridden during the hottest day of the summer. I have no idea why anyone in their right mind would want to do this ride but there are over 10,000 participants and thought it would be worth mentioning. <http://www.hh100.org/>

STEINER RANCH STEAKHOUSE / JACK & ADAMS - Sunday August 25, 2013 This ride is broken into three groups, Advanced, Intermediate, and the No Drop entry level ride. We will roll out of the Steiner Steakhouse parking lot at 8:30 a.m. for two distances of 15 miles and 34 miles. Jack Murray of Jack & Adams and Sid Steiner of Steiner Steakhouse will be on hand as 2 of the

many shop ride leaders. Post ride, half price brunch will be available courtesy of Steiner Steakhouse. All items on the brunch menu sit between \$7 and \$15 bucks. So for half off you can eat for \$3.50 to \$7.50 per person. There will also be live music on the patio that overlooks Lake Travis.

RIDEAMERICAS – Saturday August 31, 2013 This ride is going to be AWESOME! You will be able ride the Circuit of the Americas on your bike. Do as many laps as you want in 3 hours. Register at www.rideamericasnow.com

SAFETY TIPS OF THE MONTH

For Cyclists: Please stop at all stop signs and lights.

For Motorists: When a cyclist is bicycling down the road and you are sitting at a stop sign waiting to make a left turn please wait for the cyclist to clear the intersection before you make your left turn. Making a left turn while a cyclist is in the intersection is a traffic violation.

Please join Steiner Ranch Cycling in thanking the following sponsors for supporting cycling in our community:

PLATINUM

- PayPal
- Texas Beef Council
- GOLD
- Austin City Living
- Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr
- Cups & Cones
- Pinnacle Sports Performance and Rehabilitation
- Independent Investment Bankers Corp.
- PMB Helin Donovan
- Lake Travis Eye and Laser
- RoadBikeGear.com
- Microventures
- Sendero Homes
- Mogen Consulting Financial & Training
- South Oaks Family Medicine
- Wild Basin Fitness
- Moreland Properties

RIDE DISCLAIMER: Each rider is responsible for his or her own safety on our rides. Please join us at your own risk. Our weekly rides are open to public participation but ride leaders do NOT assume any liability for your participation. We will ask that all participants follow traffic laws and wear a helmet while on our rides.

For comments or questions feel free to reach us via our website at www.steinerranchcycling.com or email Dante Fichera at dantefichera@gmail.com.



REGISTRATION IS OPEN 2013 FALL PROGRAMS

FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN

The Steiner Ranch Fall Program for 2013 will begin in late August/early September. Most of the programs were offered last spring, but we also have a few new ones that have been added to the ever growing list of Programs. The Fall Program Guide and registration information can be downloaded from our website at www.steinerranchhoa.org. Classes being offered this Fall are:

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| • Sportball | • Abacus Brain Study |
| • Tap/Ballet/Hip Hop | • Music |
| • Gymnastics | • Soccer/Flag Football |
| • Karate | • Culinary Cooking Classes |
| • Tennis | • Tot Football |
| • Art | • Wrestling |
| • Soccer | |
| • Flag Football | |

TEEN/ADULT PROGRAMS

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| • Yoga for Seniors | • Zumba |
| • Karate | • Stroller Strides |
| • Tennis | • Walk Live |
| • Master's Swimming | • Akidjo |

For questions or to obtain more information, please contact Sharon Adams at 512-266-7553 or sharon@steinerranchhoa.org.



Look for registration forms and current information on-line at www.steinerranchhoa.org.

Here are the summer camps we are offering for the final month of summer:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Sportball | • Score 1 Sports |
| • Ultimate Frisbee | • Browns Gymnastics |
| • Arbrakadoodle Art | • Mad Science |
| • Kidventure | • Drawing Realistic Animals Camp |
| • Steiner Tennis | |

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- * **Group cruises (reunions, club trips, church groups, etc)**

Whether it's taking a cruise to Alaska, cruising the Caribbean, taking a European riverboat cruise or choosing all inclusive land resort, I can help you plan. You would be keeping your business local.



*"I am a **Steiner Ranch** resident. I'd love to help you plan your next dream vacation."*

Feature of the Month

Special rates for the **only 4-night cruise** on the refurbished Royal Caribbean **Navigator of the Seas** from Galveston, Feb 5-9, 2014!



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Around Steiner

Cycling in the Heat and Pickle Juice

By Derrick Jones

Now that the temperature is soaring like your typical Texas Uhber Summer, it is important to think about how to continue to be active outside and not be intimidated by the heat. Well, let's face it, we are all intimidated by the heat. But by taking a few precautions you can still enjoy riding during the heat of the summer and survive.

I learned my lesson the hard way early in the summer on the Real Ale 80 miler leaving out of Blanco through the thick of the Texas Hill Country. The Steiner Ranch Cycling Team had a good showing of about 10 riders. Andrew Struck, Thomas Lee, Ben Wheatley, Stuart Sullivan and I really pushed it to get into the lead group which was pretty exciting considering there were several thousand riders and we had started at the back of the 80 mile group. The first bit was mostly downhill until we reached the lead group of about 40 to 50 riders. Climb after climb kept breaking up the pack and the high pace of over 20 miles per hour was an issue for many. At about mile 35 there were only six of us left in the lead group and four of the riders were from Steiner Ranch but by mile 40 or so another group of 8 had caught us. At mile 49, after an average pace of 20.5 miles per hour, a temperature of about 90 degrees, and about 3500 feet of climbing, both Thomas and I started to cramp in our thighs and calves at the same time. OUCH!

It is obvious that we got dropped by that group but with 30 miles to go neither of us were sure we could make it to the end. Thomas pulled over to rest and I, very slowly, crept up the hills constantly in a state of cramping or near cramping. After about 2 miles of agony, I reached the next rest stop. I did my best to rehydrate, eat some food, replace some electrolytes but nothing seemed to help. I asked one of the volunteers if they had any ideas about how to stop cramping. They simply said without hesitation, "try some pickle juice". What? Pickle Juice? I have been riding bikes for about 30 years and had never heard of drinking pickle juice but I gave it a try. Within about 5 minutes, I was able to recover and get back in the big chain ring and finished with a reasonably strong push and I owe it all to the pickle juice.

Pickle Juice is high in sodium content and is acidic so it may not be right for everyone, but in my case it got me to the finish line. Some researchers say the acidic nature aids in the absorption of fluids and most say that it will alleviate or eliminate cramps in the weekend warriors. The best advice I can give for summer riding is to be fully hydrated prior to the ride, start your ride early, drink at least one large bottle per hour of riding, have an electrolyte drink in one bottle, and have a strong base fitness level for the event that you are attempting. And who knows, you may want to take along a bottle of pickle juice. By the way, Andrew Struck finished second out of all those people and he did it without pickle juice.

Derrick Jones is a 15 year resident of Steiner Ranch, A Realtor with Austin City Living and a member of the Steiner Ranch Cycling Team.

Neighbor Spotlight

By Kimbely McLaughlin

My next neighbor spotlight can best be described by "Simple but Elegant". These Steiner Ranch Residents turned a boring art niche in their hallway into a beautiful wine rack. I was shocked to hear how the idea came into fruition. The enclosure for the wine rack is actually just a frameless, glass shower door. The same thing you would use to create a steam shower in your master bathroom, masterfully leveraged to create this enclosed wine rack. They added hard tile to the wall, recessed lighting and the racks themselves and voila – they created a much more interesting, elegant art niche that is also functional. I remember the "wow" factor I had when I walked around the corner and saw it. The owners also converted the desk area next to the art niche into a full bar. They used glass shelves in the upper cabinets to allow the light to shine through, added a beautiful glass tile backsplash and granite countertops to finish it out. Now the hard part, keeping it stocked!



Photo courtesy of Elle Adams

If you would like to have a part of your home showcased in an upcoming "Neighbor Spotlight", please contact Peel, Inc. at steinerranch@peelinc.com.

The Real Estate Deal (RED)

IN STEINER RANCH

Steiner Ranch Market Data - June 2013										
List Price Range	Homes Active for Sale			Homes Pending Sale			Homes Sold in the last 90 days			
	# of Homes	Avg List \$/SqFt	Avg Days on Market	# of Homes	Avg List \$/SqFt	Avg Days on Market	# of Homes	Avg Sold \$/SqFt	Avg % of LP	Avg Days on Market
Up to 300K	3	\$ 126.77	28	7	\$ 134.84	9	9	\$ 132.19	100.74%	17
301K-400K	11	\$ 124.21	56	14	\$ 130.07	20	48	\$ 125.70	98.65%	28
401K-500K	11	\$ 160.82	28	18	\$ 135.32	28	27	\$ 136.74	98.19%	38
501K-600K	13	\$ 152.72	29	8	\$ 152.12	32	17	\$ 145.66	98.03%	45
601K-700K	8	\$ 167.73	49	6	\$ 161.44	75	9	\$ 150.95	95.61%	75
701K - 999K	8	\$ 174.73	23	7	\$ 171.86	36	9	\$ 165.77	102.40%	124
1M and up	3	\$ 243.20	51	2	\$ 245.05	4	3	\$ 269.76	91.25%	63
Total	57			62			122			

**This data was pulled from the Multiple Listing Service provide by the Austin Board of Realtors on July 5, 2013.*

Real Estate in Steiner Ranch is still moving at a fast pace with average days on the market declining in most of the price categories month to month. The most incredible news has to be the percentage of the average sold price to the average list price. Two of our price categories show homes selling on average for more than they are listed for in the Multiple Listing Service (MLS). Over the last couple of years, Steiner has maintained an average ratio of sold price to list price closer to 3% - 5% so this is a positive change for home sellers.

There are several reasons why a home will sell for more than the list price for a couple of reasons. #1 – A rising market. Prices can be raised above list price when more than one buyer is fighting to purchase the same property. #2 - The agent and owner purposefully list the home at a low price in the MLS to attract more

buyers to submit offers creating a bidding war on the property with hopes of raising the final sale price to market or above. You see this with most properties that go to auction. #3 – Houses that are outdated or have significant deferred maintenance. In this scenario, a buyer may be able to get a loan based on the improved value of the home and use the cash difference between the improved value and the actual sale price toward those improvements. #4 – Buyers can ask the seller to agree to a higher sale price for the same amount of cash towards closing costs. This can work as long as the house can appraise for the higher value and the buyer can qualify for the larger loan. This option reduces the buyer's outlay of cash.

Stay tuned to next month's article in which I will discuss property auctions.

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Pool & Swimming News

Stars Swim Teams Have Successful Season

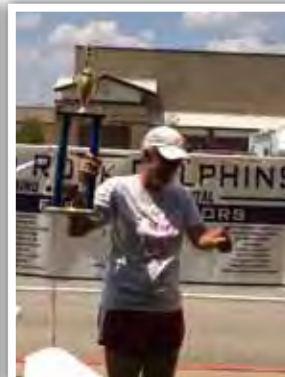
On July 6th, both the Red and Blue teams competed in their championship meet within their respective divisions in the Northwest Swim Circuit, with the Stars Red team traveling to Round Rock and Stars Blue traveling to Brushy Creek for their divisional meets.

Red team came out on top in their division with an unbelievable, undefeated season. The meet of the season had to be the match up between Stars Red and Anderson Mill. After 10 years of never beating them in a dual meet, they finally did it...they won! The season culminated with a fantastic matchup at the divisional meet with Stars Red, Anderson Mill and Round Rock. Stars Red came out on top and had a never seen before year. Congratulations Stars Red on your Division I Championship and an undefeated season.

Congratulations to the Blue team on its first season in Division II. Between the two teams, the Steiner Stars have won a division championship these past four seasons.

Wrapping up the season, these teams then travelled to the University of Texas pool downtown on the very next day to compete at the Invitation Meet with the invitational qualifiers from the 13 teams in the Circuit. The Stars Red Team had 106 swimmers qualify, while the Stars Blue Team had doubled the amount of qualifiers from last year with 69 swimmers. Way to represent Stars!

For those interested in one of the Stars recreational league swim teams, please check the website (www.steinerstars.org) in the March 2014 timeframe for more information.



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Steiner Ranch ORTHODONTICS

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"The American Dental Association recommends your child see an accredited Orthodontist by age 6"

BEFORE

AFTER



"The first photo shows severe crowding, multiple blocked and impacted teeth with underbite. Three years after braces removed, spaces remain closed and the bite remains stable with ideal overjet and overbite. Note the natural angulation of the incisors."



Presents



Summer Smile Smash

Live DJ * Free Food * Water Slide * Face Painting
Prizes * Sack Races * Real Frog Hopping Contest

August 22, 2013 6:00 – 9:00 PM



4302 N Quinlan Park Rd
Food Drive Benefiting
Capital Area Food Bank
of Texas



Your donation of non-perishable food items to help support
this event is greatly appreciated!

266-8585

www.BracesAustin.com

AUGUST 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 8:30 am - YAH Walking Group 6:30pm - New Resident Orientation (TSCC)	2	3 Movies in the Park - RV (TS Fields)
4	5 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	6 6:30pm - Facilities Committee Meeting (TSCC)	7 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	8 8:30 am - YAH Walking Group	9	10
11 	12 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	13 9:30am - Social Committee Meeting (Cups & Cones)	14 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	15 8:30am - YAH Walking Group 7:00pm - YAH Bunko (BMCC)	16	17 8:00am - VHS Band March-a-Thon 6:00pm - Concert in the Park (TS Fields)
18	19 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC) Last Day to Register for Fall Field Lottery	20 Fall Field Lottery	21 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	22 8:30 am - YAH Walking Group 7:00pm - Treatment to Prevent Strokes and Blood Clots (TSCC)	23	24 Movies In The Park (Rain Date)
25 	26 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	27	28 3:30pm - SRMA Board of Directors Meeting (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	29 8:30 am - YAH Walking Group 6:00pm - SRROA Board of Directors Meeting (TSCC)	30	31



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SEPTEMBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day Holiday HOA Office Closed	3 6:30 pm - Facilities Committee Meeting (TSCC) 7:00pm - SRLG Cooking With Chef Mike (BMCC)	4 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	5 8:30am - YAH Walking Group	6	7 8:30pm - Movies in the Park - The Incredibles (BM Fields)
8 	9 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	10 9:30am - Social Committee Meeting (Cups & Cones)	11 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	12 8:30 am - YAH Walking Group 12:00pm - YAH Technology Group (TSCC) 7:00pm - SRLG - Identifying Your Financial Vision (Cups & Cones)	13 12:00pm - SRLG Luncheon	14
15	16 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	17	18 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	19 8:30am - YAH Walking Group 7:00pm - YAH Bunko (BMCC)	20	21
22 	23 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	24	25 3:30pm - SRMA Board of Directors Meeting (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	26 8:30am - YAH Walking Group 6:00pm - SRROA Board of Directors Meeting (TSCC) 7:00pm - SRLG - Laying the Financial Foundation (Cups & Cones)	27	28 7:00pm - Ladies Night Out for SafePlace (TSCC)
29	30 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)					

YAH - Young At Heart
SRLG - Steiner Ranch Ladies Group

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Back to School

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NEWS FROM THE POOL

We have had an eventful, fun, and busy summer so far at the pools. Once again, we are experiencing record numbers of residents using and enjoying the pools here in Steiner.

We've had some great feedback on the cleanliness of the pools this summer. We owe that to the new addition of our summer maintenance staff. This summer, the HOA hired Sam Stilley to help specifically with pool maintenance, by skimming the pools, keeping chairs straight and keeping decks cleaned. He has been a great addition to the staff, so if you're at the pool and see Sam, let him know what a good job he is doing.

While at the pools, please be mindful of your safety and your environment. There are still too many children jumping off blocks, or jumping onto lap lanes or running on the deck. The lifeguards are doing their job, but need your help. Please make sure you are still supervising your kids while at the pool. Also remember that the pools close at 10pm and residents should not be swimming after that time.

While summer is heating up, the Steiner Stars are still trying to cool off from a successful summer. Once again there were

many records set and multiple children and families were able to participate in some fun adventures. The Shooting Stars program swam at the John Simpson pool during the month of July, just ending August 1st and gave residents another way to be involved in swimming.

Beginning in August, you'll see that there are two programs swimming at the Bella Mar Pool, offering year round swimming to Steiner residents. Austin Elite Swimming will be using 4 lanes from 4pm - 5:30pm and the Lost Creek Aquatics program will be using 4 lanes from 5:30 - 7pm. These times will be subject to change based on the number of participants they have in their program, so the times could be earlier or later. What will not change will be the amount of lanes the programs can use, which for the months of August and September, will be 4 total. This will leave the other half of the pool for lap swimming and/or recreational swim.

Enjoy the final months of summer at the pool! Lifeguards will be at the pools until school starts, then weekends until Labor Day!

If you have any concerns or comments about the pool, as always feel free to contact us at Rodney.g.mogen@gmail.com.

STEINER RANCH STEAKHOUSE

Happy Hour is from 4:00 - 6:30 pm
Every Day of the Week

Specialty Cocktails - \$5

Well Drinks - \$5

Select House Wine - \$5/glass

Draft Beer - \$3

All Bottled Beers - \$1 Off Regular Price

Wines by the Glass - \$2 Off Regular Price

Plus we have a new Happy Hour Food Menu that you have to see to believe! ---- Buffalo Quail Legs, Tenderloin Beef Tips, Tataki, Fried Green Tomatoes and much more!!

512.381.0800

5424 Steiner Ranch Blvd. Austin, TX 78732

WWW.STEINERRSTEAKHOUSE.COM



Pool & Swimming News

NO DIAPERS ALLOWED

As the swim season gears up, please be aware of the pool policy regarding children who are not potty-trained:

Children who are not potty-trained and who use swim diapers are not allowed in the Bella Mar Lap Pool.

ALL OTHER COMMUNITY POOLS

Double diapers (swim diaper + plastic pants) must be worn by children who have not been completely toilet trained. This policy is in place to help keep accidents from happening and reducing the need to close pools due to contamination.



Year Round Swimming Program for Adults

Come join the Masters Swim Program! The workouts are adjusted for everyone from beginners all the way to advanced -- no swim experience needed! No intimidation allowed! If you can swim one length of the pool, then you are ready to join in on the fun. Currently, we have "newbies" who haven't ever participated in organized adult swim classes, new and experienced triathletes who want to improve the swim part of their triathlons, and experienced master's swimmers looking to enjoy an organized swim workout. Regardless of your skill level, you will find a lane with swimmers who match your ability and enthusiasm.

Our swim schedule is as follows:

Wed - Fri 5:30 a.m. - 6:45 a.m. | Sun 6:30 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.

\$45 per month for Residents | Come on and give it a try! It's easy to sign up | You must be 18 yrs. and older.

Join U. S. Masters Swimming! To be eligible to compete in masters' meets, to get a great magazine, and for HOA insurance purposes, go to the United States Masters swimming website, www.usms.org/reg and join our team Red Giants Masters swimming. You can print your card immediately and take a copy to the HOA office. Fill out the Program Registration form at the HOA office, provide a copy your USMS card and submit payment! As this is a Year Round Program, it's a great way to meet new friends and be a part of a fun community of swimmers and neighbors!

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Congratulations to Dr. Misti James!

In recognition for her outstanding effort and accomplishments in the dental field, Dr. James has been awarded:

- 2013 New Dentist of the Year Award
- James R. Fricke, Jr., DDS, MSD Mentoring Award
- 2013 Texas Dental Association New Dentist Leadership Award

And she will continue to be a positive impact to the Austin community as she steps into her new role as the 2013 President of the Capital Area Dental Society.

LYNLEY A. SHOOK, DDS
MISTI PHILLIPS JAMES, DDS

512.795.2800



NOW OPEN IN STEINER RANCH



As an Air Force Veteran fitness is very important to me, Thanks to Koko, I am **stronger than ever** and my performance in Tough Mudder and half-marathons has improved tremendously. I highly recommend Koko FitClub for your fitness goals whether you simply want to lose a few pounds or you are a driven athlete. — **Kristy Santelia**

As an athlete that has played rugby all over the world and had strength and conditioning coaches train me for years, I was looking for something I could rely on in Austin. **Koko FitClub is by far the best place to train and get results.** It is better than having a trainer and I get results with the perfect reps and varying workouts every time. — **Rick Medina**



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SUMMER POOL HOURS

The following hours will apply:

BELLA MAR

Closed Monday until 2:00pm

Tue- Sun 7:00am – 10:00pm

The following programs will be using the Bella Mar lap pool:

Master's Swim Program – Wednesday & Friday 5:30am – 6:45am;
Sunday 6:30am – 7:45am

Austin Elite Swimming – Mon-Wed-Fri 3:30pm – 4:15pm

Lost Creek Aquatics – Mon-Fri 5:30pm - 7:00pm (4 lanes)

TOWNE SQUARE

Closed Monday until 12:00pm

Open Tuesday – Sunday 8:00am – 10:00pm

The following programs will be using the Towne Square pool:

Towne Square - Water Aerobics Mon/Wed at 6:45pm and Tue/Thur
at 9:00am.

JOHN SIMPSON

Closed Monday until 2:00pm (Note new pool closing hours)

Open Tuesday – Sunday 8:00am – 10:00pm

*Please note**Lifeguard will be on duty at Bella Mar & Towne Square
7 days a week from noon – 8pm and at John Simpson Fri-Sun noon –
8pm. Swim at your own risk.*



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Pool & Swimming News

STEINER OFFERS 2 OPTIONS FOR USAS SHORT COURSE SEASON

AUSTIN ELITE SWIMMING

Austin Elite Swimming will be conducting swimmer try-outs for the 2013-14 USAS Short Course Season beginning August 5th at Bella Mar Pool in Steiner Ranch. Short course season runs August through April. Swimmers can try-out for 2-5 days at the end of day 5 all registrations must be in for AES Club and USAS Membership. Information packets will be available at try-outs. Please bring copy of swimmer's birth certificate or complete USAS member transfer form if transferring from another USAS swim club.

Group I: Grade School, Middle School 4:00-4:45 p.m.

Group II: Must be proficient in all four strokes. Middle School, High School 4:45-5:30 p.m.

Please follow us on Facebook for more information. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. We look forward to seeing you at the pool! For information contact Deborah Osborn, President and Board Chair at 512-694-0827 or osbornelite@gmail.com.

LOST CREEK AQUATICS

Lost Creek Aquatics (LCA) in Steiner Ranch coming Fall 2013!!

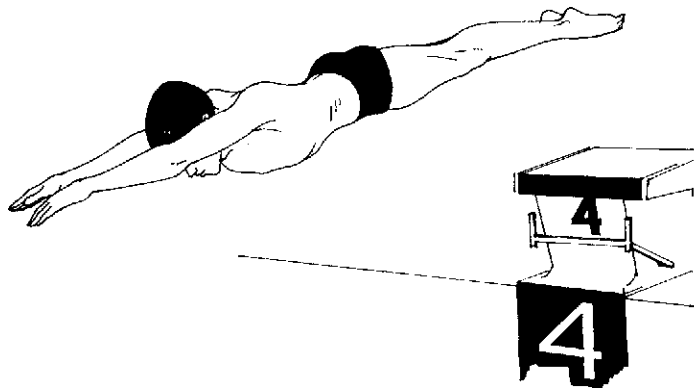
LCA was founded in 2000, and is an outstanding member with USA Swimming. LCA is a developmental/competitive swim program with the mission to nurture and develop our swimmers for success in competition and in life. Be a part of a this growing tradition beginning this Fall in Steiner Ranch.

Please join us Wednesday, July 17 @ 6:30pm, or Saturday, July 20 @ 9:00am at Bella Mar for an informational meeting for parents.

Online registration will be open for one week July 29 - August 3.

For more information/questions, please contact Becky, team administrator, at teamadmin@lostcreekaquatics.com or (512) 892-1205x134.

DIVE BLOCKS AT THE BELLA MAR POOL ARE FOR SWIM TEAM USE ONLY.



Dive Blocks at the Bella Mar Pool are for Swim Team Use only. You must be a Coach on the Steiner Stars or other Club team in order to use them. Please do not allow your children to use or take off covers at any time!

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POOL PROCEDURES

Due to the high demand and use of the Steiner Ranch pools, for the 2nd year you will see gate monitors during varies times and days at the Bella Mar pool. Their job will be to check that only HOA members in good standing and no more than four of their guest are entering the gates of the pool. If you have reserved a room or pavilion, they will check in your guest and give them a wristband. This will help the gate monitors and the guards identify your guest.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO YOU?

- Make sure you take your key fob with you to the pool. Gate monitors will not allow you to enter the pool without it.
- Make sure you are in good standing with the HOA. Good standing means you have no outstanding HOA fees, no outstanding violations and, if you are a tenant, you are registered.

- Do not bring more than four guests to the pool. (Unless you have a reservation)
- No one under 14 will be allowed to enter without an adult 18 years old or older.

WHY GATE MONITORS?

- Our main reason for the gate monitors is for the safety of our patrons. Too many people that are not residents of Steiner Ranch have had easy access to the pools when gates are left open.
- To help prevent "accidents" in the pools. Contamination of the pools cost thousands of dollars each year. Gate monitors will be able to inform parents of young children the rules regarding diapers.

We hope that the addition of the gate monitors will help provide a safe and fun environment for you when enjoying the Steiner Ranch Pools.

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Steiner Ranch Towne Square

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Pool & Swimming News

WATER AEROBICS

If you want to get into an exercise program, but cannot get motivated, or the pavement plays havoc on your knees, legs or hips, or you just don't want to exercise in the workout room by yourself, try WATER AEROBICS. Water aerobic classes will again be offered this Spring/Summer @ Towne Square Pool in Steiner Ranch. Classes will begin May 1st. The schedule will be as follows:

Mon/Wed @ 6:45 pm

Tues/Thurs @ 9:00 am

16 classes/month @ \$75

8 classes/month @ \$45

4 classes/month @ \$25

(plus \$5.00 for non-residents of Steiner Ranch)

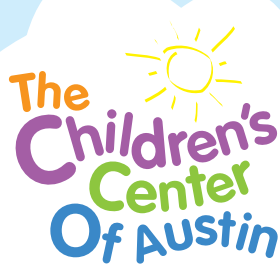
These classes are a great way to start the morning or end a "trying" day at the office or work. Come join us for lots of fun & great workouts to music. It's an opportunity to meet your neighbors & make new friends. These classes are for both adult men & women.

Classes are 50 minutes long & will incorporate a full body workout in the water. Classes are lead by a certified water aerobics instructor.

Some of the benefits of water aerobics fitness program are:

- strengthen & improve muscle tone
- enhances muscular flexibility
- increases range of motion
- improves posture & physical appearance
- relieves tension & stress
- increases energy levels & stamina
- burns up calories
- strengthens the cardiorespiratory system (heart, muscles, & brain)

For more information, call Ann @ 266-4780 or email askennedy@austin.rr.com. Sign up will take place prior to the first class of every month @ Towne Square Pool.



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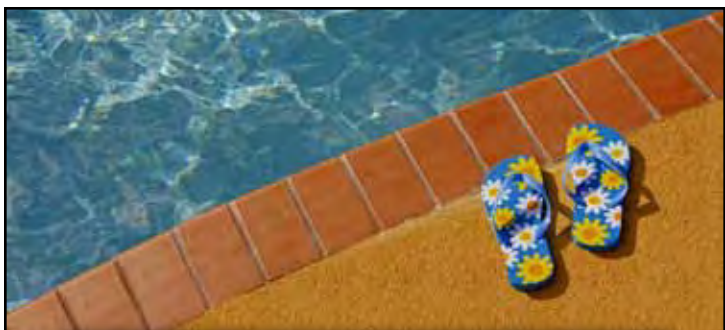
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Pool & Swimming News



Planning a Pool Party?

The Steiner Ranch pools are a great place to have a party! They are fun, clean and safe for you and your guest. The main goal for the HOA and Lifeline Aquatics is to keep it that way. If you are renting a facility (Pavilion, Community Room, etc.) and plan on using the pool with more than 40 guests, you will be required to hire additional lifeguards, at your expense, to help protect all of the patrons at the pools.

To hire lifeguards, please contact the Lifeguard Company directly at 1-877-354-1313 or admin@lifelineaquatics.com.

Swim Lessons offered in Steiner Ranch

Beginners: Instructors teach basic water safety fundamentals and stroke techniques to children ages 3 to 6. The emphasis of the class is to increase the students' level of comfort while in and around the water to create a safe, fun experience for all. No previous swimming experience is required. Safety and fun go hand in hand with these new learners!

Intermediate: Instructors work with swimmers who have previous swimming experience to further develop, improve upon, and refine their strokes. Designed to allow students to become 100% comfortable and safe around the water!

Advanced: Instructors teach advanced stroke techniques, turns and starts, and lap swimming strategies, with a focus on preparing swimmers for swim team and other competitive aquatic events. Students will also learn to utilize aquatics equipment to improve their strokes on their own, and become better swimmers all around!

Each session is 2 weeks (8 classes) long for a cost of \$75.00. For information and registration go to www.steinerranchhoa.org.

NOTE** If you wish to hire someone to teach a private lesson (other than the vendor provided by the HOA), the instructor must provide the HOA with General Liability coverage prior to any lessons being conducted. Question? Call Sharon Adams at 266-7553.



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It's a true working meeting where we discuss your specific family situation and goals. You'll complete some information prior to our meeting, and in about a half hour, you'll know what it takes to properly protect your family and what the flat fee would be for us to develop your legal plan.

From the Association Office

BOATS & WATERCRAFT PARKING

Where can I park them?

As summer approaches, boats and other watercraft are frequently seen in Steiner Ranch. Please remember that boats and watercraft must be stored in an enclosed space at all times. Do not store them in your driveway or park them on the street. They are unsightly in your driveway and are an extreme safety hazard in the street. Repeat violators are subject to fines and/or towing.

If you see a boat, trailer or other recreational vehicle, feel free to report it to the Association at www.steinerranchhoa.org through the "Report a Problem" link. Please include a description of the violation and the address where the violation has occurred.

Do You Need A Field For Practice?

Are you planning on coaching a team in the Fall? Need a place to practice?

Then mark your calendar for the 2013 Fall Field Lottery to be held on Tuesday, August 20th.

Register your team*** by sending an email to sharon@steinerranchhoa.org. Registration must be in by 5:00pm on Monday, August 19th with the following information:

- Name
- Coach name (if different)
- Address
- Phone number
- Organization (CC United, Town & Country, etc.)
- Sport (soccer, baseball, etc.)
- Age group
- 1st, 2nd & 3rd choice of field, day & time. (See below)

If you are coaching more than one team, please list each team separately.

Once the lottery is complete I will be contacting you by email with assigned field.

**** Please Note*** If you are with Neighborhood Sports (soccer or flag football) or Viper Lacrosse, you do not need to register your team for the lottery.*

Representatives will be attending the lottery on your behalf.

FIELDS:

- Towne Square Side
- Bella Mar Baseball Side
- Bella Mar Tennis Court
- Steiner Ranch Elementary
- Westridge Fields (off of Flat Top Ranch Road)
- River Ridge Elementary (questionable for Fall)

TIMES:

Hourly beginning at 4:00pm until Sunset

DAYS:

- Monday – Friday only
- Saturday – Game Days

No field assignments on Sunday to leave open for Resident recreational use.

For more information, please contact Sharon Adams at 512-266-7553 or sharon@steinerranchhoa.org.

THE FACILITY COMMITTEE CORNER

Chair Rodney Mogen

When it comes to the use of the Steiner Ranch amenities, there are always some "hot topics" that residents can become very passionate about, such as use of the pools, fields and tennis courts. We on the facilities committee are here to help!

One question we get a lot is "what does the facility committee do and why don't I hear about it?" So I figured I would start writing a monthly column about the happenings of the facility committee.

First let me clear up some misconceptions:

The Steiner Ranch Facilities Committee is a group of volunteer homeowners who meet nine times a year and all have a common interest.....Steiner Ranch! They spend countless hours in volunteer time working for the benefit of Steiner Ranch and are vital in providing input and recommendations to the Board of Directors and the management team.

We make recommendations to the Board of Directors about improvements, use and/or needs of the various common areas of Steiner Ranch, including trails, pools, fields, courts, playgrounds and community centers. Involvement in the Facilities Committee, either through speaking to them at one of their meetings, or through becoming a member, is the best way to have your opinion heard and

considered, and to make an impact on the future of the Steiner Ranch Facilities uses and improvements. Anyone can join and all are welcome. Please join us at every meeting and share your thoughts about facilities in the community.

The facility committee meets the first Tuesday of every month with some exceptions. Usually Tuesdays in February, July and December are busy with vacations and holidays thus we don't hold a meeting. Our next meeting is at 6:30, August 6th at the Towne Square Community Center.

We are working on many agenda items, and you the community have spoken, in our recent survey, we took our most popular ideas and suggestions and asked your opinion. On all 6 items over two thirds of you spoke loudly you felt our facilities were over used and we didn't have enough options but you did not want to pay for any more additions. Several of the survey comments included the condition of the furniture at the John Simpson Pool. This was noted and recommended to the Board to replace the furniture, which was done in early July.

Please share your feedback and what you would like to see happen in Steiner. You can contact the HOA, show up to a meeting, or send me a quick email at Rodney.g.mogen@gmail.com.

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Back To School

School starts in August, so now is the time for drivers to pay closer attention to the school zones in the neighborhood. We want to remind you that the speed limit in a school zone is 20mph and traffic fines double!

Other changes to be aware of include;

- Children behaving unpredictably
- School Bus Stops
- Crossing Guards – please obey the guards! Remember, they are there for the safety of you and your children
- New areas of traffic congestion
- Be prepared for delays
- Use of cell phones in schools zones is prohibited!

Please give yourself extra time in the mornings and mid-afternoons and remember if you are traveling in a school zone to slow down.

Time To Slow Down!

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www.mathnasium.com/northaustin

Viper Band March-A-Thon Parades Through Steiner Sat. Aug. 17

Donations will benefit the band students

The Vandegrift High School marching band will perform for the community on Sat. Aug. 17 during their annual March-A-Thon parade - a five mile, musical march through Steiner Ranch as a fundraiser for the band. Later the 260-strong band will play the opening music for the annual Steiner Ranch Concert in the Park at about 6 p.m. the same day.

The March-A-Thon parade begins at 9 a.m. at John Simpson Park with a fire-engine send off and police escort and continues until a 1 p.m. finish at the Steiner Ranch fire station. Hundreds of people show up on the route and donations are encouraged.

The March-A-Thon event began in 2009 as a way to raise funds for a starting band program and as a means for exposure of the band program - and everyone loves a parade, said Director of Bands Jeremy Spicer. Along the route the band stops to play personal concerts in the front yards of residents who donated up to \$100 for the service. It's not every day that a 260-person marching band plays 6 songs for you at the curb, said one resident who is looking forward to this year's parade.

Taking regular water breaks, the band continues on to play their longest concert at Westridge Park on Flat Top Ranch Road. Neighbors there love to watch the band and to see the students give it their all.

It is a great way to give back to the community via music and earn some money in the process, Spicer added. The money donated goes directly to benefit the band for such things as uniforms and band scholarships. The VHS band is accepting donations online using PayPal at <http://vhsband.com/fundraising/2013-2014-march-a-thon/>. Residents also have the option to donate in the name of their favorite band student.

Beginning August 5 the band will be doing two-a-days from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. for three weeks to get ready for the football season beginning with the first game on Fri. Aug. 30 against McNeil High School.



CRMS PTA Ice Cream Social!

All CRMS students and their families are invited
Wednesday, August 21st from 8:00pm-9:00pm
Immediately following the 6th Grade Open House
Ice cream and toppings generously provided by



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**Also get your Spirit gear and Join the PTA!
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2013-14 School Year Key Activities for Hill Country Education Foundation

With the start of the 2013-2014 school year only a few weeks away, Hill Country Education Foundation volunteers are busy preparing for another active year. Please participate in these upcoming events and help your Academic Booster Club and Four Points-area students achieve academic success in the areas of entrepreneurship, leadership, college-readiness, science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

Thursday, August 15 – HCEF Membership Drive Begins. HCEF 4th Annual Membership Drive gets underway. Consider how easily we write a \$100 check for one of our kids to participate for a few months on swim team or basketball, or even more for marching band, cheer or a club sport. Now consider the impact we can make as a community when we co-mingle a \$100 HCEF family membership with the other 6,200 Four Points-area families and create an empowering educational experience for our students. For quick and easy giving, go to www.HillCountryEdFoundation.org.

Saturday, August 17 – Concert in the Park. Stop by the HCEF tent and enter a chance to win a \$100 Moviehouse & Eatery gift card.

Wednesday, August 21 – CRMS & FPMS 6th Grade Open House.

Thursday, August 22 – Elementary Schools Open House.

Thursday, August 29 – CRMS & FPMS 7th & 8th Grade Open House.

Monday, September 9 – VHS Open House. Stop by the HCEF table at any of these open houses.

Wednesday, October 16 – VHS Homecoming Parade & Pep Rally. Visit HCEF volunteers inside the stadium and find out how you can help your Academic Booster Club.

Early November – 5th Annual FIRST® LEGO® League Scrimmage. To learn more this HCEF event, email HCEF Robotics Chair BeckyLCarter@gmail.com.

Friday, February 21 – HCEF Gala at the Oasis. Dinner, Open Bar, Silent and Live Auctions, Heads or Tails Game, Live Band and more planned for HCEF's largest fundraiser of the year. To volunteer, donate or learn more, contact mlbeck@HillCountryEdFoundation.org.

Early May – 4th Annual Impact Grant Awards. HCEF Grant Committee will surprise area teachers and administrators with program funding during the annual grant patrol. To date, HCEF has awarded more than \$80,000.

ABOUT HILL COUNTRY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

As the Academic Booster Club for eight public schools in the Four Points community, the Hill Country Education Foundation enhances the educational experience of students attending or preparing to attend Vandegrift High School by developing and financing innovative, quality programs and projects. HCEF focuses on leadership, entrepreneurship, college-readiness, science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). HCEF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The eight schools include Grandview Hills, Laura Welch Bush, River Ridge, River Place and Steiner Ranch Elementary Schools, Canyon Ridge and Four Points Middle Schools and Vandegrift High School.

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DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

Tips for keeping your dog cool

By Kristen West

Exercise in the early morning or after the sun goes down. The hottest part of the day is often just as you're getting home from work. Aim for the early morning or after the sun goes down at night for those longer walks.

Go swimming! Not only will this help you both cool down, but this activity burns energy and is gentle on joints and muscles.

Set up a kiddie pool in the shade. Make sure you dump and change the water out often to avoid contamination and mosquito breeding.

Get them wet from the belly, up. Use a wet towel or cool mist to cool your dog down, but make sure you get the belly wet, too, as dogs cool most efficiently from the underneath.

Keep them hydrated! Dehydration can happen fast. Make sure there are several bowls of water around your dog's environment that cannot be tipped over. Always offer your dog water while you're out on walks, too.

Use booties. Flip off your sandals and put your feet to the ground one afternoon to see how hot the ground gets. Imagine walking on that for long periods of time! Dog booties are helpful if you do have to walk during the hotter parts of the day. A little dorky? Yes, but we won't tell.

Never leave your dog in a parked car or hot garage. Even on "cooler" days in the 80s, a car with the windows cracked can reach temperatures of over 100 degrees in less than 15 minutes.

Bucket o' ice treat. If your dog is going to be outside, a neat treat idea is to fill a container with water, chicken stock and some treats of choice. Stick it in the freezer and the next day Fido has something that will not only keep him busy, but it will also help keep him hydrated.

Cooling pads. You can buy cooling pads that can be used inside a dog house, crate, or just out somewhere in the shade.

When possible, leave your dog inside in the air conditioning. This is the best option, especially when you're away for long hours. Ask your neighbor to come by and let him outside for a potty break, or hire a dog walker. Doggie doors are also all the rage these days! :)

HOW FULL ARE THE LAKES?

36%

Lakes Travis and Buchanan are our region's water supply reservoirs and currently hold about 727,638 acre feet of water combined. 7.16.13

Austin Newcomers Club

Whether you've just moved to Austin or have lived here for years and just had a change in lifestyle - stopped working, became an empty-nester, etc - the Austin Newcomers Club gives you an opportunity to connect with other newcomers and learn more about the Austin area. Monthly Luncheons at the unique Green Pastures restaurant in South Austin feature speakers from all around this area. Welcome events provide information and opportunities to meet members and other newcomers. Choose from more than 40 interest groups including Hiking, Photography, Kayaking, Walking Tours, Opera Lovers, Daytrippers, Cinema, Book Groups, Bridge and many other card and board games. Austin Newcomers Club is a non-profit social and recreational group established to welcome newcomers to Austin. The Austin Chronicle has named the club as the "Best Way to Get Acquainted With the Best of Austin". For more information, go to www.austinnewcomers.com.

TEXAS XERISCAPES

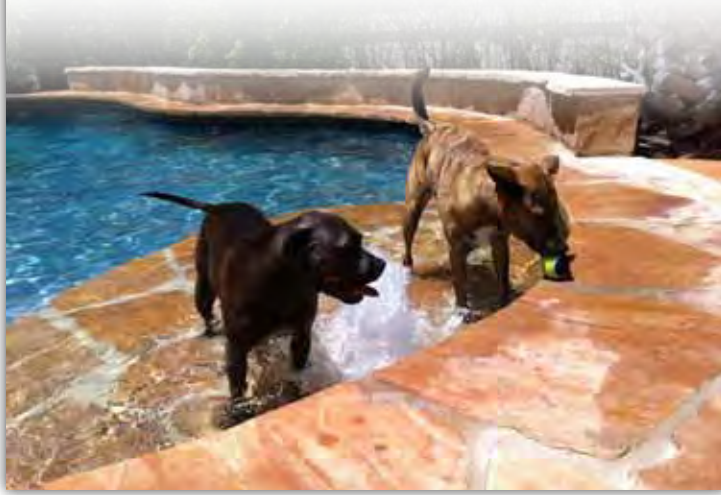
By Debbie Cole

Xeriscape (not zeroscape) is a philosophy based upon water conservation in our landscapes. It consists of 7 key principles of proper landscape enhancements for homes, communities and commercial properties. We will address each of these principles over the coming months.

FIRST PRINCIPLE OF XERISCAPE: PLAN & DESIGN

First: Xeriscape does not equal a particular "look", a plant type, a soil type. It does equal water conservation.

This means that a homeowner, landscape architect, landscape designer should create a diagram or plan, drawn to scale, that shows the major elements of the landscape. This should include all structures, hardscapes, parking, walks, decks, patio, existing trees and elements. Once a base plan of an existing site has been determined, the creation of a conceptual plan that shows the areas for turf, beds, views, screens, slopes, etc is undertaken. Once finished, the development of a plant plan that reinforces the areas in the appropriate scale is done. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder and/or the community or surrounding environment. Wishes of the owner/inhabitant are critical as well as meeting any rules, regulations, ordinances of the site/surroundings. Xeriscapes can be full and lush or can be sparsely planted. There are many resources on various web sites which help in selection of living and non-living materials.



WATERTALK

Why Do I See Workers Opening Fire Hydrants And Letting Water Run Out? I Thought We Needed To Conserve Water?

Keeping water pipes clean is a big job, as Water District 17 has over 240 miles of pipeline. Almost all water pipes have a thin film of rust on the inside. Although this film is harmless, buildup of this material may cause problems such as clogged fixtures, cloudy water, or reduced levels of disinfectant in the water as it passes through the pipes. District 17 has an ongoing program of flushing and cleaning the distribution pipes to ensure that these pipes are kept clean and proper level of disinfectant is maintained. Unfortunately, during this process some water is lost, however, if pipes aren't flushed regularly, rust and microbes would cling to the pipe walls and more disinfectant would need to be used. Flushing is done by opening fire hydrants and letting the water rush out. It must to be done in many areas to make sure every pipe is reached.

Check out the new District 17 website! www.wcid17.org. District 17's website got a makeover! It's brighter, easier to navigate, and packed with information for customers, Realtors, builders and plumbers. The site features the latest water news and public notices as well as many links to local area sites. The site is brand new, so enjoy exploring it and if you notice any glitches, be sure to let us know so we can get them corrected. Be sure to check back often as we'll be updating our news section regularly. Send your comments via email to lsandlin@wcid17.org.

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- Kids Stuff -

When It's Just You in an Emergency



"Mom!" you yell down the stairs. "Where's my math book? I can't find it and the bus is coming! Please help me ... it's an emergency!"

It is kind of an emergency with the bus coming and all, but what about a medical emergency? That kind of emergency is usually more serious. If you don't have your math book or miss the bus, that would be bad. But a medical emergency means someone needs care from a doctor right away. Let's find out the right thing to do.



Be a Hero - the Smart Way

In an emergency, a kid might think about playing the superhero by driving a car or racing into a burning building. Don't do it! You could cause another accident or make the situation worse. If you get hurt, too, who will call 911?

After calling for help, your first thought might be to rush over to the person who's injured. But stop and look before you do. Make sure the scene is safe. If it's not, wait in a safe spot until a grown-up or an emergency team arrives.

If the scene is safe, and as soon as Liz is sure someone is calling 911 — or she has called it herself — she could return to her brother and wait until help arrives. (She shouldn't move her brother at all because he could have a neck or other bone injury. Moving someone who has that sort of injury can make it much worse.) She can help him feel

calm by being calm herself.

QUICK THINKING: WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Liz and her little brother Jamie are out for a walk. Jamie decides to race ahead down a very steep hill. He's running pretty fast when he suddenly trips. Over and over he falls, rolling down the hill at high speed until he's sprawled out on the sidewalk at the bottom. Liz rushes to her brother's side, hoping that he's OK. Then she sees some blood on the pavement. And Jamie isn't moving at all. What should she do? First things first: Liz should look around for a grown-up and call him or her to help right away. If no one is close by, she should make a phone call either on a cell phone or from the closest phone. Calling for help is the most important thing a kid can do in an emergency. If you're going to be the one making the emergency phone call, here's what to do:

- Take a deep breath to calm down a little.
- Call 911.
- Tell the operator there's an emergency.
- Say your name and where you are (the exact address if you know it).
- Explain what happened and how many people are hurt. (The operator will need all the information you can provide, so give as many details as you can.)
- Follow all of the operator's instructions carefully.
- Stay on the line until the operator says it's OK to hang up.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

The best way to handle an emergency is to be prepared for one. Knowing what to do ahead of time can help you stay in control so that you can help. Here are some suggestions on how to be ready to help in an emergency:

- When you're outdoors, make sure you're in an area where you can call out for help even if you don't have a phone with you.
- Know how to dial 911 or your local emergency number (in most areas in the United States, it's 911).
- If you have one, carry a cell phone or know how to use your parent's cell phone.
- Learn first aid. Look for basic first-aid classes with your local Red Cross, the YMCA or YWCA, the Boy or Girl Scouts, 4-H clubs, your local hospital, and other organizations. Or ask your school nurse to have a first-aid class just for students in your school.

It's scary to think about someone getting hurt. But the truth is that accidents can and do happen. They happen when people are being careless and careful. Sometimes, kids are the ones who get hurt. Sometimes, grown-ups get hurt. Either way, it's good to know what to do if someone needs emergency medical help. Even though you're a kid, you can make a big difference by doing the right thing.

Reviewed by: Kate M. Cronan, MD Date reviewed: October 2010

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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