

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2013





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2 Ranch Record - September 2013

COMMUNITY INFO

STEINER RANCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS OFFICE

12550 Country Trails Lane Austin, Texas 78732 512-266-7553 – Telephone 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	
Saturday and Sunday	1

STAFF

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Maintenance Technician

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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.

"Be the Community."

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
Fire	
Ambulance	
Sheriff – Non-Emergency	.512-974-0845
Travis County ESD No.6/Lake Travis Fire Rescue	2
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	
Vandegrift High School	
Canyon Ridge Middle School	
Laura Welch Bush Elementary	
Steiner Ranch Elementary	
River Ridge Elementary	

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
Call Before You Dig	
AT&T	
New Service	1-800-464-7928
Repair	1-800-246-8464
Billing	
Time Warner Cable	
Customer Service	512-485-5555
Repairs	512-485-5080
TDS (Trash & Recycle)	
Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste	

OTHER NUMBERS

Lake Travis Postal Office	12-263-	2458
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NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc.	
Advertising	advertising@peelinc.com

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- Jester Estates
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- Meadows of Bushy Creek
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- Pemberton Heights .
- · Plum Creek Ranch at Brushy Creek
- **River Place**
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- Sendera
- Shady Hollow
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community newsletters

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 Steiner Ranch photographer Norma Harais of the Gierke family whose story is featured on page 12. It's an inspiration story, so be sure to have some tissue ready when you read it

Do you take great photos?

Would you like to see your photo published? We are looking for great cover photos for upcoming October 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 October 2013 issue submittal deadline is September 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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Around Steiner

THE RANCH REPORT Budget Season is Upon Us

By Scott Selman, Executive Director

As we head in to the fall, many of us will begin working on financial plans for 2014. The Steiner Ranch Associations are no different and will begin these efforts in September as well. Steiner Ranch has a group of dedicated volunteer homeowners that work with the management team and Board of Directors to recommend a budget each fall. They examine the current expenses and make recommendations on expenditures for the upcoming year. They also monitor the current expenditures to make sure the association is operating as efficiently as possible. The major expenses each year are landscape and facilities maintenance, trash and recycling, and staff and employee related expense. In addition, a significant amount of funds are set aside each year for future repair and replacement of the association's amenities (typically referred to as "Reserves").

If you would like to be involved in examining and recommending future expenses, there are two main committees involved on a monthly basis. The Facilities Committee meets the first Tuesday evening of most months at the Towne Square Community Center and the Finance Committee meets the third Tuesday evening of each month. Please check the association calendar of events on the website or contact the association management offices for more details if you would like to be involved.

If you would like to view the annual budgets of the association, they are available on the website under "Homeowner Resources / Documents". Once on the documents page, there is a drop down menu with a selection of "Association Budgets". The association offices at the Towne Square Community Center are also open every weekday afternoon for questions or comments on the association finances and budgets.



Mark Your Calendars

2013 Steiner Ranch Social Committee Events

> **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.steinerranchhoa.org and Facebook (Steiner Ranch Social Committee) for updates.





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Around Steiner

Concert in the Park 2013

The 6th Annual Concert in the Park was held on August 17, 2013 at the Towne Square Park. Photo's and a concert summary will follow in the October Ranch Record, but first we want to thank our organizers, Kimberly McLaughlin of La Hacienda, Sharon Adams of the Steiner Ranch HOA. Also a thanks to our fundraising Chair, Jannine Farnum, our Budget Chair, Rodney Mogen of Mogen Financial Consulting and Training, the Steiner Serves organizer Cindy Cummings and the Steiner Serves community for their huge donation effort, as well as Paula Kaisner of Cruise one for helping cover the details!

But this concert cannot happen without the Businesses of Steiner Ranch and the Four Points area. Please frequent their establishments and use their services as a way to say Thank You from the Steiner Ranch Community.



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- Steiner Ranch HOA

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- Shedstreet.com
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- New Horizones Learning Center
- Nik's Italian Kitchen & Bar
- Pilates at Four Points
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- Shannon Kramer, Keller Williams-Bartlett Real Estate
- Sheehan Farmers Insurance
- Steiner Ranch Orthodontics
- Take Shape for Life
- Texas Water Solutions, Inc.
- Thirty One, Sherri Smetena

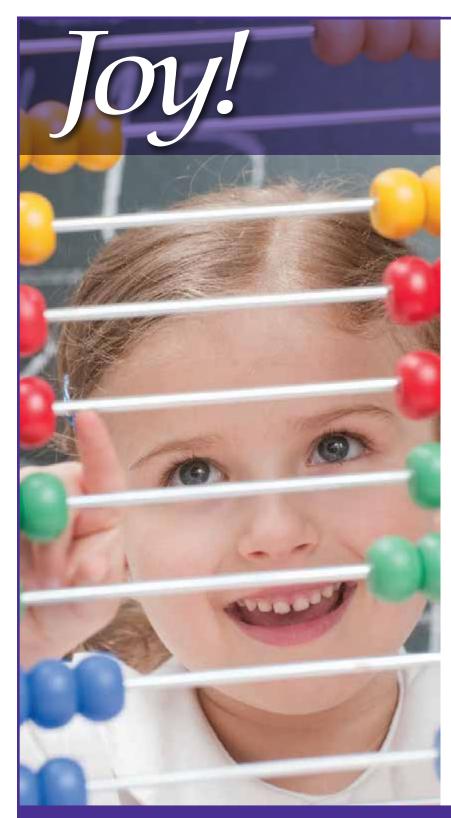
- Villari's Martial Arts
- Wild Basin Fitness

NON-PROFIT SPONSORS

- ABLE, Inc (Assisting Better Living Everywhere)
- Heart 2 Heart
- Hill Country Education Foundation
- Longhorn Village
- Steiner Ranch Neighborhood Association CHARITY BAG SPONSOR
- Cyndy Stewart, Redfin

ENTERTAINMENT

- Luv Handle
- Taco & the Enchiladas
- Shoulda Turned Left
- Mr. Rudy
- VHS Marching Band
- VHS Legacies
- VHS Cheerleaders
- Villari's Martial Arts
- Tap-N-Toe School of Dance
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Around Steiner

YOUNG@HEART

steinerranchyoungatheart@gmail.com

Young at Heart is an active group of Steiner Ranch residents in the 40+ year age range who are mostly emptynesters and enjoy having a busy social life, educational opportunities, exploring the Austin and Hill Country areas and meeting other people with similar interests. Whether you live here full time, part time or are just here visiting your family, if you'd like to attend any of our activities, please email or call.

YOUNG AT HEART HAPPY HOUR Steiner Ranch Steakhouse Monday, September 16th 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM

The format of the group encourages both regularly scheduled monthly or weekly events as well as those with flexible dates. Many activities are scheduled just a few days before they take place. Those on our contact list receive emails about all of our upcoming events.

We have a lot of activities scheduled for September and October but dates, times and places had not been decided at the time the information was provided to the Ranch Record. These activities have been scheduled but places are still to be determined.

Walking Group on every Thursday at 8:30 AM ROMEO (Men's Lunch Group) on Monday, September 9th at 11:30 AM Book Club on Tuesday, September 10th at 1:00 PM Ladies Social Bridge on Wednesdays, September 11th and 25th Happy Hour on Monday, September 16th Bunko on Thursday, September 19th at 7:00 PM

Dates, times and places will be sent by email to all on the Young at Heart list for these and all other groups and events as they are scheduled. These include Canasta, Concerts and Plays, Couples Game Night, Couples Evening Mexican Train, Dinner Groups, Epicureans, Exploring Austin, Garden Club, Hiking, Men's Poker, Movie Club, Scrabble and Technology Club. Wine Socials and Happy Hours are held in alternate months at varied times and places. Happy Hours are held in restaurants while Wine Socials are in member's homes with everyone bringing a bottle of wine and an appetizer to share.

Anyone who is interested in learning more about Young at Heart and the opportunities it offers should contact steinerranchyoungatheart@gmail.com or Dottie Thoms at 512-531-9360.



Drop off unwanted dog items at the Steiner Ranch HOA Office September 19 – 22. 12550 Country Trails Lane.

Local nonprofit dog rescue organization Wags, Hope and Healing is collecting new or gently used pet items at the Steiner HOA office, 12550 Country Trails Ln, on September 19 - 22. Alternatively, make a monetary or Amazon Wish List item donation online at any time at www.wagshopeandhealing.org.

ITEMS ON THEIR WISH LIST INCLUDE:

crates

- Canned puppy foodClean bedding/towels
- Cleaning supplies, paper towels, garbage bags
 Exercise pens and large metal
- Collars and leashes
- Plush dog toys
- Kiddie pools/Water tubs
- Rawhides
- Dog houses or shelter materials
- Flea/Tick preventative
- New or used fencing material

Please call ahead with large items so they can be picked up same-day 512-777-9936

Wags, Hope and Healing also encourages the community to learn more about their organization at www. wagshopeandhealing.org.





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Around Steiner



Two years ago, David and Jesica Gierke and their then 4-year-old daughter Emiliana were visiting Jesica's biological father on his ranch in central Mexico. It was the couple's eight-year anniversary, and they were enjoying the vacation and getting to know Jesica's father. They decided to take a drive into town, and that is when their peaceful stay changed courses.

They had been out of cell phone range, but the minute they reached a coverage area, alarms started to go off on David's phone. It was their home alarm system, notifying them that the power had been cut off. They called their Steiner Ranch neighbors right away, who were keeping an eye on the house and watching their dog, to see if there was a problem. The news that there was a wildfire in the neighborhood and that their home was in the path came as a shock to them. Even worse, in the rush and panic of evacuation, their dog Lucas had been forgotten. They drove back to the ranch

and started to pack. They were planning to leave the next day anyway. As they were getting ready, they kept reassuring each other, "After all, losing a house to a wildfire is something that happens to other people somewhere else, right?"

The next day, David, Jesica and Emiliana started their 11-hour drive back to Austin. As soon as they were in an area with cell phone coverage, David's phone began to alarm again. David and Jesica talked in code, so as not to worry Emiliana. At the same time, Jesica was texting with her cousin and neighbors to get any information she could. "Right away, we knew the house had caught fire," Jesica remembered. "It was all on our phones. The house alarm system had recorded the minute-by-minute demise of our home, complete with temperature readings."

Jesica was able to find a few websites with information as David drove. The best news came a little after noon that day when a neighbor was able to verify that a living dog had been found at their address. A different neighbor managed to return to the area. The fence was gone, the second floor was gone and most of the first floor was burned, but there were still beams standing. And he had found Lucas!

The Gierkes decided to stop in San Antonio and spend the night with Jesica's parents, seeing that Steiner Ranch had not been opened to homeowner's yet. A cousin who lives in Austin brought Lucas to Jesica's parents in San Antonio. "He had been bathed a couple of times, but he still smelled of smoke. We later had him groomed and that is when we noticed several burned spots on him. He coughed up soot for about two weeks, but he was still with us," Jesica said.





To further complicate the situation, Jesica and David had been trying to have another child. They realized that if Jesica was pregnant, she didn't need to be digging through a firedamaged house. "I took the pregnancy test the morning they gave us the go ahead to come back into the neighborhood and came down the stairs, crying," Jesica said. "I was pregnant. Nothing could spoil this day for us."

"We knew we had something to dig through, unlike some of our neighbors. But this was a little bit of happiness in the midst of all the destruction - the seed of a new beginning," David said. Within hours of entering and seeing their half-destroyed home, construction workers were there to brace the structure and help remove items. Neighbors came and helped David sift through the ashes for anything that could be saved. Someone mentioned that they needed boxes, and boxes arrived in about 45 minutes. Uncle Bob's Storage gave them free rental for three months. ABLE.org organized a plan to help save

any existing trees with a watering schedule.

"Within a day or two our wonderful neighbors donated clothes, books and toys for Emiliana. We received so much support and donations. Plus, we got so much more back than what we lost - friendship on such a level that would have taken years," Jesica said. "We can't imagine not living in Steiner."

The year 2011 had already started out as a not so good year for the Gierkes. David had been in a car accident six months before the fires. He had a blood clot in his leg and was out of work for a month. Now they had to rebuild a house, with a baby on the way.

"This whole experience has made our life fuller," David recalled. "Our family getting through that year brought us closer to God and to our community." He then points out three items that survived the fire - a Lord's Supper plaque, the wooden Virgin Mary and a slate with a painting of Jesus on it. Jesica recalled a phrase her grandfather used to say, "No hay mal que por bien no venga." (All bad things happen to a good end.)

The bumpy road continued as Jesica experienced some difficulties with her pregnancy. "But God put the right people in our lives at the right times," she said. They were able to find an amazing builder through their realtor, who happened to be the framer of their original house. The architect from their original floor plan donated his time and plans. They made some modifications to the home and picked out everything up front. Then, they waited. May 1, 2012, they moved into their new home. Eight days later, a 7 lb., 6 oz. baby boy named Liam joined the Gierke family.

A new beginning ...

HALLOWEEN TRUNK OR TREAT CALL FOR SPONSORS

Calling all Steiner Residents, Clubs, Organizations and Groups! Get your kiddos dressed in costume and your trunks and tailgates decorated for this year's Trunk or Treat and Halloween Event. The event will be held at Towne Square on Sunday, October 27th from 4—6pm. Please read details for this years' event below. We hope to see you and your little costumed kiddos on the 27th!

WHO ISTHIS EVENT FOR?

This event is for Steiner Ranch children, ages 10 and younger and their friends and families.

WHY NOT ON HALLOWEEN ITSELF?

We are hosting the event the Sunday prior to Halloween so that young children can take advantage of neighborhood Trick-or-Treating at an early time on October 31st.

HOW CAN MY LITTLE TRICK-OR-TREATER PARTICIPATE IN THE EVENT?

Participation in the Trunk or Treat component of the event is on a first-come, first-served basis. The first 300 children under 10 will be given a wristband to participate, so please arrive early.

WHAT ELSE WILL HAPPEN AT THE EVENT?

Games, rides, activities and more! Food and drink will be available for purchase. We will post additional event details on the Steiner Ranch Social Committee Facebook page as they become available.

WHO CAN HAVE A VEHICLE IN THE TRUNK OR TREAT?

We are seeking cars and trucks to get their vehicles in the Halloween spirit and hand out candy or small toys to children at the event. Get your friends together and get creative decorating those trunks! Pirates, princesses, rodeo, favorite football teams; all are great themes for your trunk or tailgate. Vehicles participating in the Trunk or Treat will be allowed into the parking lot early to decorate. Every vehicle will need to provide enough candy or toys for 300 children under 10 years old.

HOW DO I REGISTER MY VEHICLE?

To participate in the Trunk or Treat, please log on to the Eventbrite page and sign up, or call Tracy Miller at 408.460.3897. You must register to participate and spaces are limited so sign up now!

http://www.eventbrite.com/event/7774209871





14 Ranch Record - September 2013



ADC Steiner Ranch Opening Soon

Just in time for cold and flu season, The Austin Diagnostic Clinic is pleased to announce that our Steiner Ranch office will open in late fall 2013.

Our newest location will offer the following services and specialities for you and your family:

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The Austin Diagnostic Clinic Steiner Ranch - Opening Soon 5145 N. FM 620, Bldg. I 512-901-1111 • ADClinic.com My Health, My Doctor, My ADC

Around Steiner

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 planed. 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

Our 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/steinerranch-ladies-group/ we look forward to meeting you.

LADIES LUNCHEON

Organizer Sharon Adams and Myrta McGugan-Mogen Our first 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 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-ladiesgroup/.

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/.

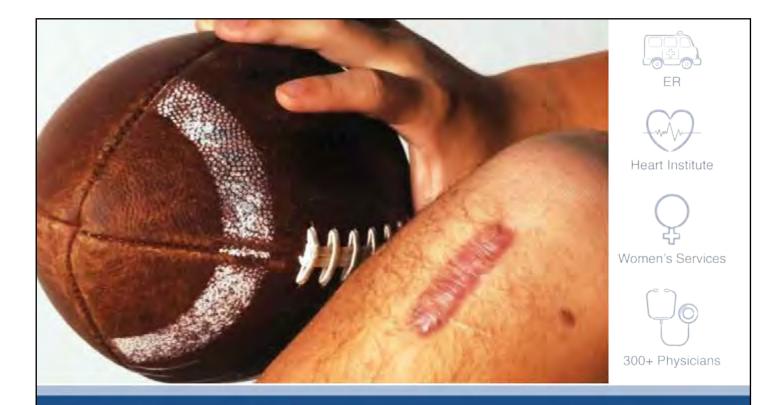
CONCERT IN THE PARK, AUGUST 17, TOWN SQUARE, 6 - 9PM

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@steinerranchhoa.org



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<u>Around Steiner</u>

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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STEINER RANCH CAMPUS

Sundays at 10:30 am (Laura Welch Bush Elementary) 12600 Country Trails Lane, Austin, TX 78732

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 provide 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 Natuaral 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
- IQuest Global
- Ice Interior Design
- Lake Side Pizza

Come Join in the Fun! Music! Food! Drinks! Raffle! Saturday, September 28, 2013 – 7pm – 11pm Towne Square Community Center



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WHAT DO ALL THESE PEOPLE HAVE IN COMMON?

BRANDY FINNESSEY HELPED THEM WITH THEIR HOME AND THEY ALL SAID THEY WOULD HIGHLY RECOMMEND HER TO THEIR FRIENDS & FAMILY.

LILING TIE AMI & KETAN SHAH FAMILY SHASHANK PORE HOWARD LU KRISHNAMURTHY FAMILY CISNEROS FAMILY PATRICK BAIN **BRAD & KAREN KEUP JOHN MCEWAN ANDREW DILLON GERALD** IESNEY DOUGLAS DOBBS MAJA DIVJAKINJA LISA CUMMIN BILL CUMMINGS LOIS MERMELSTEIN EHAB ALI SAMMY HENSON FA BROOKS KRISTIN TURPIN REVA HOFFMAN MANDI FAUL MEGHAN MCCHESNEY SCOTT MONTS CRAIG MCDOUGALD DR. SCHIRO DR. GARCIA DUSTIN CRUMP PATRICK WOYDZIAK I JIM MAUNDER DEBBRA ANDERSON JOE AUGERI BAKER JOHN BARCZI DONNIE BECKER STACY BOWERS CAS BRAUN VEANNA CATTANACH KORTNEY CHASE TONI HAAS KAT CLARK BILL MENZIES IAN HOWE DAPHNE PHILIPS DESI MAES MATT EDWARDS SHARON EISERT ERJON MANAJ JONATHAN ESCAL LAURIE FAY CRUZ FUENTES LEEANN GIBSON MANDY GONZAL WS MICHAEL GUERRA DYLAN HARVILL LAURA & ST MARK HAYNES FRED HILL JC TIMMONS CHRISTY H SHREEKANTNATEBURNHAMLISALAJOUSART&ANNMAPLECONNIE MENEFEE JASON MEYER JEFF MURPHY TROY NEW STEVE VIROSTKO NIKKI WORLEY CHRIS PELLERZI CHRISTINE REULE SANG CAPI SALEHI CHUNG ROI IINS STOCKER JOANI VALERIE CASTRO QUAN WANG KATIE WOOD ROBERT WOODRUM

Around Steiner

Holiday Sales Event & Santa Photos Vendor Registration is now open!

I know, I know, it's too early to start thinking about the Holidays, but planning has begun for the 2013 Holiday Sales show and we are looking for great, unique and fun vendors for our show. The Steiner Ranch

Social Committee will be hosting its Annual Holiday Sales event on Saturday, November 16th from 10:00am - 2:00pm at the Towne Square Community Center. You can come and get all of your Holiday shopping done without ever leaving Steiner Ranch.

Three areas are dedicated for vendor space. Vendor spaces inside the Community Center are available at a fee of \$60.00 and spaces outside in the covered pavilion & uncovered veranda are \$40.00. (Heaters are provided). Spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration fees must be paid to reserve your

> space, and no refunds will be made after November 1st. Steiner Ranch reserves the right to deny any application based on content or similarities to/ duplication of products or services. To register as a vendor, go to www.holidaysalesevent2013/ eventbrite.com.

> > If you have any question, contact Sharon Adams, Community Coordinator at sharon@steinerranchhoa. org.

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IntuitionInteriors.com 512.925.1958 *usually 6-8 hours, including consultation "You solved the function problem in the living area & the changes in the dining room are brilliant. I love it!" --L.T. ... ReDesign service

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"Now THIS Is the way to move into a house!" -- P.M. ... Move-in Magic service

"Interior designer Marcie Elliott-Smith of Intuition Interiors is the mastermind behind The Driskill's holiday decorating. 'It's just amazing what she comes up with when she's given free creative reign.' "--K. Coots, The Driskill Hotel (from CultureMap.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
- Karate
- Tennis
- Art
- Soccer
- Flag Football
- Soccer/Flag Football Culinary Cooking
- Classes
- Tot Football
- Wrestling

TEEN/ADULT PROGRAMS

- Yoga for Seniors
- Zumba
- KarateTennis
- Stroller Strides
- Walk Live
- Master's Swimming
- Akidio

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





Join us for one of the many free workshops offered to Steiner Ranch Residents!

We are always looking for more unique and different workshops to offer residents so if you or someone you know can provide education opportunities that are not already being offered for Steiner Ranch residents, please contact Sharon Adams at sharon@steinerranchhoa.org or 512-266-7553.

SEPTEMBER 24TH, 7:00PM TSCC

The Optimal Diet to Prevent Heart Disease

Presentation on obesity to discuss the epidemiology and how complicated weight loss can be, including the consequences of obesity contributing to multiple medical problems and the treatment, including medication, surgery, diet and exercise.

Dr. Rosin is an expert in the medical treatment of all above risk factors, congestive heart failure, coronary interventions including stents and pacemakers, cardiac rehabilitation, obesity, and physical fitness.

No RSVP required

For additional information go to www.steinerranchhoa. org or contact Sharon Adams, Community Coordinator at sharon@steinerranchhoa.org.



JOIN GIRL SCOUTS AT OUR UPCOMING GIRL SCOUT RALLIES!

ALL ABOUT GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scouts is the world's largest girl organization dedicated to empowering girls through leadership experiences. Girl Scouts is in the business of growing purposeful leaders. We are the only youth organization to offer the Leadership Experience, which gives girls the opportunity to develop a strong sense of self and a personalized leadership style.

WAYS TO BE A GIRL SCOUT

Girl Scouts offer the freedom to tailor girls' level of involvement to fit their schedule, interest and lifestyle. Though most choose to be in a troop, they also can be a Girl Scout that is only involved in camps, events, travel and special interest series like media, backpacking, STEM or more!

Troops offer girls an opportunity to work with the same group of girls in their own grade level. As a group, the troop participates in several activities over a span of nine to twelve months. Troops can attend council-sponsored events or use their imagination to develop their own activities. One or more adults serve as Troop Leaders who guide the girls in a variety of ways after receiving training and a variety of resources.

GRADE LEVEL GIRL SCOUTS



As a Daisy Girl Scout you will expand your world as you meet in groups of five to 10 girls with two or more adult leaders in a nurturing environment. You might go on trips, learn about nature and science, and explore the arts and your communities. You will learn the Girl Scout Law and Promise. Daisy Girl Scouts can also earn Learning Petals and participation patches.



Be adventurous and bold as you explore the world around you. Brownies do lots of fun and exciting things together. You can earn Try-Its, go on adventures in your community and beyond. Discover friendship, fun and age-appropriate activities at your Brownie Girl Scout meeting. Who knows how far you can go with your imagination and a few adults to help guide you?



Become an agent of change and discover the "power of one" and the "power of team." Join with other Junior Girl Scouts to plan and do amazing things and discover what girl power is all about. You will become more confident and courageous with every step you take to explore the world with your new BFFs and your troop/group leaders, and earn badges and patches to commemorate your Journey.



How many people does it take to make a friendship? How many people does it take to make peace in the world? As a Cadette you can navigate your own course or join with other girls to plan and carry out fun events, amazing new adventures, and community projects, all designed to create healthy and long-lasting relationships.



Imagine a world that is perfect. Let's call it Girltopia. As a Senior Girl Scout you will be challenged to envision an ideal world and use your imagination and courage to take action to move closer to Girltopia. Senior Girl Scouts are leaders. This is your time to put your skills to their best use.



At this level of Girl Scouting you won't be asking, "Who's doing something about it?" You will be doing something. Ambassadors learn to advocate for issues that are important to them. You can make a plan, present it to people of influence and create lasting change in the world, no matter where you begin.

Individual Girl Member any grade

Perhaps you are a girl-on-the-go who has no time for group meetings and sees herself as an individual with her own unique journey in mind. You can become an Individual Girl Member. This is a chance for you to be connected to all of the exciting adventures in Girl Scouts without joining a troop.

For more information about area Girl Scouts visit – www.LASUgirlscouts.org.

HOPE4JD **Family Fun Fest AND BATTLE OF THE YOUTH BANDS**

Youth bands compete to raise the most money for HOPE4JD

September 28 from I0am to 8pm at Stunt Ranch – 13317 Fitzhugh Rd.

www.stuntranch.com



Join friends and family at Stunt Ranch for great food, music, and family fun.

Activities include Silent Auction, Ziplining, Rock Climbing, Ropes Course, Bungee Trampoline, High Fall Air Bag, Inflatables, Face Painting, Snow Cones, Food Trailers, Craft Vendors, and much more...

Featuring

Dysfunkshun Junkshun

Admission: \$10 for Adults and \$5 for Kids. Free admission for kids under 3. Activity wristbands are \$5. Buy tickets online at HOPE4JD.org or at the gate. Signed waivers are mandatory for participation. They are available at hope4jd.org or at the event.

Sponsors and volunteers needed! Please visit www.HOPE4JD.org for more information

SPONSORED BY:







at 6pm

HOPE4JD is a 501(c)(3) public charity organized to support families of children up to age 21 who suffer a hypoxic/anoxic brain injury due to a nonfatal drowning in Texas. EIN # 32-0351208

SICIANS

Pool & Swimming News

Vandegrift Vipers Swim Team

The Vipers Swim season started at the Bella Mar Pool beginning August 20th at 5:30am where Vipers Head Coach, Kim Davies , Asst. Coach Carlee Bauer and over 50 swimmers tried out for the Vandergrift High School Swim Team. It takes a lot of dedication to get up that early in the morning on the last week of your Summer Vacation! Morning practices for the high school team are held at the Bella Mar pool every weekday before school from 7:30am – 9:00am.

The Swim team will hold an inter-squad meet on September 14th at the Bella Mar Lap Pool with their first meet against Leander High School at the Block House Pool in Leander on September 21st Look for information on their biggest Fundraiser of the year, the "I AM TOUGH, Swim-a-Thon" from where each swimmer will swim 10,000 yards in 100-yard increments, with sponsors donating a flat fee or a rate-per-lap donation. It's a grueling event for the kids and anyone can come out, cheer them on and donate to the cause.





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24 Ranch Record - September 2013

Steiner Ranch ORTHODONTICS

4302 N. Quínlan Park in Vista Rídge (across from the Welcome Center)

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

AFTER

BEFORE



"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."



would like to thank our sponsors that made the











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www.BracesAustin.com

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l	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	I	2 Labor Day Holiday HOA Office Closed 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	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)
A DESCRIPTION OF THE OWNER OWNER OF THE OWNER OWNER OF THE OWNER OW	8	9 11:30am - YAH ROMEO 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	LO 9:30am - Social Committee Meeting (Cups & Cones) 1:00pm - YAH Book Club	8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC) YAH Ladies Social Bridge	I 2 8:30 am - YAH Walking Group 12:00pm - YAH Technology Group (TSCC)	I 3 9:00am - 11:00am - Women's Vision Board Workshop	I 4 7:00am - 11:00am - VHS Black VS Silver Swim Meet (BM Lap Pool)
and the second se	15	16 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm – FREE Aikido (BMCC)	l 7 7:00pm - SRLG Book Club	18 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	I 9 8:30am - YAH Walking Group 7:00pm - YAH Bunko (BMCC)	20	21
No. of Concession, Name	22 7:00pm - SRLG Sewing 101	23 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	24 7:00pm - The Optimal Diet to Prevent Heart Disease (TSCC)	25 YAH Ladies Social Bridge 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)	27	28 7:00pm - Ladies Night Out for SafePlace (TSCC)
A VALUE OF A VALUE OF A	29	30 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)			SRLO	YAH - Young At Hear G - Steiner Ranch Ladie	



Chris Beltran

Mortgage Market Manager NMLS ID 418640 901 S MoPac Expy Bldg 3 Suite 140 Austin Texas 78746

C 512-750-3771 chris.beltran@pncmortgage.com pncmortgage.com/chrisbeltran A division of PNC Bank, National Association



1			62

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		6:30pm - Facilities Committee Meeting (TSCC)	2 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	3 8:30 am - YAH Walking Group	4	5 9:00am - 12:00pm - Fall Community Wide Garage Sale
6	7 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	8 9:30am - Social Committee Meeting (Cups & Cones)	9 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	IO 8:30 am - YAH Walking Group 12:00pm - YAH Technology Group (TSCC)	11	12
13	I 4 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	I 5 7:00pm - SRLG Book Club (TSCC)	I 6 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	I 7 8:30am - YAH Walking Group 7:00pm - YAH Bunko (BMCC)	18	19 9:00am - 4:00pm - American Red Cross Babysitting Class (TSCC)
20	2 I 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	22	23 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	24 8:30 am - YAH Walking Group	25	26
27 4:00pm - 6:00pm - Halloween Trunk or Treat (TS Parking Lot)	28 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	29	30 3:30pm - SRMA Board of Directors Meeting (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	3 I 8:30 am - YAH Walking Group 6:00pm - SRROA Board of Directors Meeting (TSCC)		







steiner ranch dermatology

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EXILIS SPECIAL:

Exilis Skin Tightening Special: Tighten jowls, lift the neck waddle, 20% OFF combination special.

NO DIAPERS ALLOWED

As the swim season winds down, 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!

STEINER RANCH STEAKHOUSE



We offer smoked prime rib, ribeyes and filets. Of course, as with all of our entrees, the smoked steaks come with two side items.

512.381.0800 5424 Steiner Ranch Blvd. Austin, TX 78732 WWW.STEINERRSTEAKHOUSE.COM



Pool & Swimming News

FALL POOL HOURS

migotion License Number - U 16969

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 Vandegrift High School Swim Team – Monday – Friday 7:30am –

Vanaegrift Fligh School Swim Team – Monday – Friday /:30am – 9:15am Lost Creek Aquatics – Mon – Fri 3:45pm – 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 until the water is too cold to continue.

JOHN SIMPSON

Closed Monday until 2:00pm Open Tuesday – Sunday 8:00am – 10:00pm

Please note**Lifeguard are no longer on duty after Labor Day. Swim at your own risk.



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GROUP

STEINER STEELERS ADVANCE

to NFL Flag Football National Championships

Submitted by Galan Manske

The sun burned brightly in the July Texas sky as the NFL Flag Football Austin Regional Tournament kicked off an exciting day of football and the start of the 2013 tournament season.

The 13-14 Girls bracket was filled with coaches and teams featuring former Regional and National Champions. The Lady Saints from Las Vegas (2012 Nationals), and the Texas based Neighborhood Sports teams the Steiner Ranch Steelers (2012 Nationals), the Cedar Park Vikings (2011 Nationals), and the Cedar Park Texans (3 time National Champions) had tasted victory before and came ready to battle again



The Steiner Steelers (wearing tournament issued Dallas Cowboys jerseys) are (left to right): Emily Manske, Camille Halfmann, Allie Dalle, Madie Royer, Aly Tekippe, Haley Dulak, Madison McCauley, and Avery Ross.

more true than on that hot summer day in Austin. The Cedar Park Texans and Steiner Steelers put on a defensive clinic in the decisive championship game. Sacks came in bunches for the Texans as they harassed the Steelers quarterback; the Steelers countered with big stops, including a critical interception in the end zone to deny a scoring drive. At the end of regulation, the score stood at 0-0. On to overtime.

The Steelers advanced the ball on

from the first whistle. While each boasted an impressive pedigree, only one team could earn the honor of being 1st in the nation to gain admission to the 2013 NFL Flag Football National Tournament of Champions.

Led by a stout defense and a creative offense, and bolstered by impressive victories in the qualifying rounds, the Cedar Park Texans took the number one seed into the championship game. Their opponent? A familiar foe from down the road in Steiner Ranch, the Steiner Steelers, whose "Power Pink" shorts dazzled in the hot sun as they ran and passed their way to convincing wins over the Lady Saints and Vikings. "We knew coming in that the level of competition would be high," said Steelers Offensive Coordinator David Lapping, "but we were confident that with our experience, we had a good shot to go far." "We came in with a high level of confidence - we've been in big games before - but a little swagger is nothing without the performance on the field to back it up," echoed Defensive Coordinator Micah Royer.

Defense wins championships. Never was that statement

their first two plays, only to be set back yet again by a Cedar Park blitz and sack, to end with a three and out. As Cedar Park took their turn at offense, the Steelers attacked the line of scrimmage with a blitz of their own - a sack on the first Cowboys play from scrimmage. On their second play, Cedar Park dropped back to pass again but had nowhere to go against blanket man-to-man coverage; the Steelers recorded their second consecutive sack and a safety to close out the game. A 2-0 overtime win and a return trip to Nationals for the defending Dallas Cowboys Austin Regional Champion Steiner Steelers.

"I am so proud of my girls!" gushed Steiner Steelers Chief Statistician Jennifer Purvis, "they gave me the best birthday present!!"

The NFL Flag Football National Tournament of Champions will be held in February 2014, featuring the top 8 teams in the nation per bracket across 4 age groups: 9-10 co-ed, 11-12 co-ed, 13-14 boys, and 13-14 girls. The Steiner Steelers will work hard to bring Steiner Ranch its first National Championship!

SADDLE UP AND RIDEY

The Steiner Ranch Cycling Club is a group of fun loving cyclist that enjoy the outdoors, 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 Saturday's at Cups & Cones at 7:30am. Our Saturday rides are longer and faster than our Sunday rides.

There is no cost to ride with our group. Our Saturday rides have an advanced group with average speeds in the 18 - 20 mph and we have an intermediate group which has average speeds between 16-18 mph. Both groups roll out together but about $\frac{1}{2}$ way through the ride it splits in two. We have many routes that we rotate between and you can see what the current weeks ride is going to be by reading the weekly club newsletter or going to the website. You can sign up for the newsletter by going to our website at www.steinerranchcycling.com

For our Saturday rides we try to keep the group together however you need a certain level of fitness to keep up with both groups and there are no designated sweepers. Our Sunday ride is a NO DROP ride.

SUNDAY RIDES

We meet Sunday's at Cups & Cones at 7:30am for slower and shorter distance ride. Our Sunday rides average speeds are in the 12 - 15mph and distances between 23 - 30 miles. This is a NO DROP RIDE. Please visit our website at www. steinerranchcycling.com for details regarding weekly ride updates or to sign up for our weekly newsletter.

SPECIAL RIDES

TOUR DE CURE – Sunday September 8, 2013 - Our riding club has joined the Texas Beef Council in raising over \$20,000



for a cure for diabetes. If you would like to ride with us you can join our team at http://main.diabetes.org/goto/BEEF or if you don't want to ride but want to make a donation to the American Diabetes Association you can do that through my page http:// main.diabetes.org/goto/DanteFichera

STEINER RANCH STEAKHOUSE / JACK & ADAMS -Sunday September 22, 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.

SAFETY TIPS OF THE MONTH

For Cyclists: Please use arm signals when making turns or stopping.

For Motorists: When making a right turn many motorist will race in front of a cyclist to make a right turn in front of the cyclist creating a dangerous situation for both the cyclist and others around them including other motorist and pedestrians. Please slow down and get behind the cyclist to make your right turn. It will only take a few more seconds and I promise, you won't be late to work because of this minor inconvenience.

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

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- 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

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Sports News

My "Tour de France" Experience

Pyrenees... Mont Ventoux.....Alped'Huez.....Champs-Élysées! If those words got your heart racing then you are obviously a fan of cycling and the Tour de France! I was recently lucky enough to travel to France to experience this historic event and was left with memories that will last a lifetime.

For those not completely familiar with the Tour de France ("TdF"), it consists of 21 day-long segments (stages) over a 23-day period and covers roughly



3,200 kilometers (2,000 mi).. The number of teams usually varies between 20 and 22, with nine riders in each. It not only involves incredible cycling skills, but also stamina, strength & gamesmanship. For those of us that are fans of the sport it is fun to analyze the decisions made and if they worked; did someone breakaway at the right moment, will they be able to hold this pace now that they are unprotected and riding alone & how are they working as a team to allow one member of this group to be crowned champion.

Professionally, I am in the technology field and have a close relationship with Barracuda networks, one of the sponsors of the GARMIN/CERVELO/BARRCUDA cycling team. Because of this I received "insider access" to the Tdf that I would like to share.

My first TdF experience started with one of the most legendary climbs in the history of the TdF; Alpe-d'Huez! This is a favorite for both spectators and participants alike. This Epic hill is 10 miles of climbing at an average grade of 8%, this is roughly like riding your bike up Steiner Ranch Rd to the steakhouse except for 10 miles! In addition to the steepness of this climb there are 21 legendry switchbacks in the road. Fans of the TdF will start camping out for their spot on this road over a week in advance of the riders, and when I say camping out, I mean CAMPING OUT! Tents & RV's line the sides of the road, tens of thousands of fans, all waiting for their one chance to cheer on their country's rider for all of 30 seconds! Each of these switchbacks are adopted by a country for the time they are on the mountain. The famous Dutch corner, The Irish corner, the Italian corner... all with HUNDREDS of their countries flags flying, words of encouragement written on the road & a buzz of excitement that is hard to put to words. Think about the greatest tailgate party you've ever attended, multiply this by 100 and you might be able to understand the excitement and pride they feel for THEIR countryman riding in the Tour!

Climbing Alpe-d'Huez on the morning of the race, my teammates and I wearing our Garmin/Cervelo/Barracuda jerseys, was an amazing experience. The party of the fans had already started and they wanted to cheer for anyone on a bike! Every

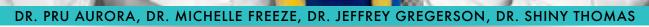
switchback was a new round of excitement and disbelief that I was here! The final 2 miles of the stage were closed to the general public but our group was allowed to proceed and continue our climb. Not only were we the only ones riding, we were doing it with Christian Vande Verde, a rider who had dropped out of the race due to injuries but stayed on to support his team... the Garmin team! Finishing this stage with the man who finished 4th in the tour just two years ago was surreal! I'm just a guy who loves to ride his bike, how is this happening?!?!

After our finish we were able to watch the team and the Peloton finish from our private viewing area at the finish line, another moment where I found myself in a state of disbelief!

This moment repeated itself several times over other stages while in the south of France before making the trip north to Paris for the final stage. Here again was an experience that left me shaking my head. Again with my teammates and our team jersey's, we took to the closed streets of Paris for some riding that was jaw dropping. The fans were 4-5 deep, hours in front of the riders when we took to the streets! Riding under the Eiffel Tower, past the Louvre, up and down the streets of the Champs-Élysées, the very route the TdF cyclists will be taking in a mere few hours was awe inspiring!

My tour experience concluded with a private party with our team riders, their families and everyone associated with our team celebrating an amazing finish to a grueling 3 weeks of riding. I was left with some of the best vacation memories of my life and a desire to return and experience this amazing event once again. For a fan of cycling this is a Bucket list item I highly encourage you to check off the list, it is better then anything you could imagine!





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THE FACILITY COMMITTEE CORNER

Thanks to the Steiner Ranch community for continuing to support the volunteer efforts in Steiner Ranch. We have several homeowner volunteers that sit on the Facilities Committee and work hard to balance the use of the facilities with the many organized groups and the ever growing community. Any homeowner can be part of this committee by contacting Sharon Adams, Community Coordinator at sharon@ steinerranchhoa.org. The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 3rd at 6:30pm at the Towne Square Community Center. Topics will include upgrading the Towne Square Basketball backstops, trial improvements and field usage.

Last month, it was published that there would be two USAS Swim teams in Steiner. Since then, one of those teams has decided to not continue, allowing for the other team, Lost Creek Aquatics, to expand into that time slot. The community support for this new team has been overwhelming and positive, so look for this team to be at the Bella Mar pool using 4 of the 8 lap lanes during the month of September, Monday – Friday from 3:45pm – 7pm. They will expand to 6 lanes beginning in October when community use drops drastically due to the cold weather. As of this date, 100% of the LCA Steiner team is composed of Steiner Ranch residents!

Regular Office Hours

Please make a note of the "Regular" office hours that are now in effect.

Community Associations Office 12550 Country Trails Lane

> **Monday - Thursday** 1:00 – 5:00pm **Friday** 10:00am – 7:00pm

> > *Telephone* 512-266-7553 *Fax* 512-266-9312

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School News





School started 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 midafternoons and remember if you are traveling in a school zone to slow down.

Time To Slow Down



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Hill Country Education Foundation

YOUR FOUR POINTS ACADEMIC BOOSTER CLUB 2013-2014 ACTIVITIES

August 19 – The Hill Country Education Foundation volunteers are busy preparing for another active year. Please participate in these upcoming events and help Your Four Points Academic Booster achieve academic success in the areas of entrepreneurship, leadership, college-readiness, science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

September 9 – VHS Open House. Visit the HCEF table to learn more.

October 1 – HCEF Giving Campaign Begins. HCEF 4th Giving Campaign gets underway. Consider how easily we write a 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 an HCEF donation 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.

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.

February 21 – HCEF Gala at the Oasis. Dinner, Drinks, 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 in Impact Grants.

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.



Business Section

Lake Travis Republican Club Meeting

Steve Munisteri, Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas, will be the featured speaker at the monthly meeting of the Lake Travis Republican Club, to be held Tuesday, September 17, 2013, at the Hills Country Club, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM.

Munisteri grew up in Houston, TX, and is a 39 year veteran of Republican politics in Texas and the United States as a conservative grassroots activist. He started his involvement in 1972 as a volunteer for Hank Grover, Richard Nixon and John Tower. He then went on to form a conservative club at Memorial High School in Houston, and in 1975, contacted then Harris County GOP Chairman Ray Barnhardt

to become involved in the Ronald Reagan for President campaign and

to become more involved in the local party. He went on to serve the

party in numerous volunteer capacities, including working as a precinct

chairman of two different precincts in Harris County, serving as delegate or alternate delegate to numerous state conventions, and serving on the State

Republican Executive Committee for State District 17. He has experience

in working in over 50 campaigns, in all aspects from blockwalking and

phone banks, to sitting in on strategy sessions for national Presidential



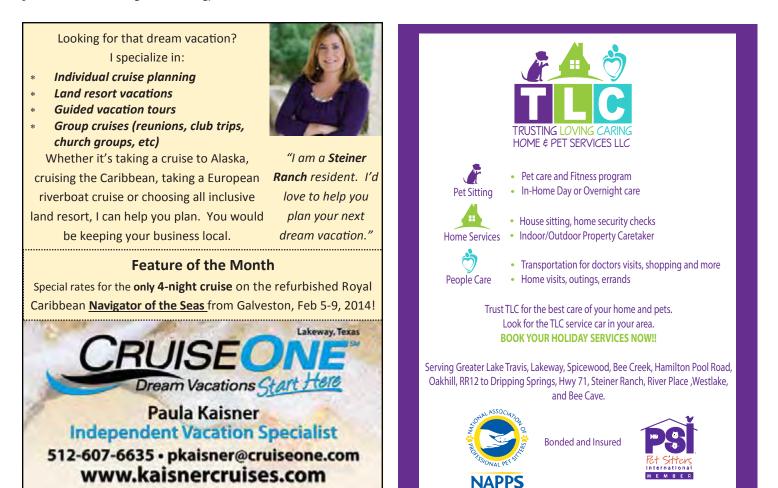
campaigns.

Steve also has a long history of involvement in the conservative movement. In 1976, he was selected as state Vice Chairmen for Texas Young Americans for Freedom and served as state Chairmen from 1977 to 1980. In 1980, Munisteri founded Young Conservatives of Texas, a group which continues to produce the future generations of our conservative leaders and elected officials in college campuses across the state.

Mr. Munisteri attended Memorial High School in Houston, before graduating from the University of Texas

in Austin with a BBA in Finance with Honors. He also earned a J.D. from the University of Texas Law School. Following his election to the State Chairmanship at the 2010 Texas GOP Convention in Dallas, Mr. Munisteri obtained a second residence in Travis County and currently serves full-time as the State Party Chairmen at RPT headquarters in Austin.

Tickets for the meeting are available for \$15.00 for members, and \$20.00 for guests. Reservations can be obtained by calling 512-261-0722, or by email at wwarmuth@austin.rr.com. A Lunch Buffet will be served.



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LOOKING FORTUTOR, high school or college age, to work with my daughter this school year. She is in 5th grade this year. She is no verbal and use a letter board to communicate. We will provide the training. She is really easy going and smart. Her academic load is the same of any other 5th grader so a lot of work to do. Please contact Grazia DeRocco at de_mail@derocs.com



Every year there is a discussion about Social Security. Social Security is an electric topic to discuss and some have called it the "third Rail" meaning touching it could kill you. SO many people have a comment about Social Security, but it appears sometimes people do not understand really what Social Security is. Which is why I decided to write this article?

To have a discussion about social security one needs to understand its origins and its history. Social security was created and signed into law during the great depression. As often happens it was a reaction of the times by Government to promote financial security among its citizens. In its first installment, Social Security was meant simply for the worker only, was a voluntary contribution program, and was set up to essentially pay out to only a small percentage of people since the average life expectancy was 59 and they set the age for 65, thus not expecting a large amount of people collecting from the program. Here is a timeline of the social security program:

935

Passed and signed into law

1935

Social Security was designed to be a single lump sum at retirement age of 65, NO MONTHLY PAYMENTS

| 939

Coverage was expanded to cover dependent and spouses – again on a lump payment of \$250. (Interesting fact that \$250 is still used today for Social Security death benefits)

1940

The first monthly payment was released for \$37 (1940 dollars) or \$455 in today's dollars per month.

1946

Became the Social Security Administration

1950

Coverage expanded to cover all industries. Prior to this only workers in Commerce and Industry were covered (i.e. retail and manufacturing)

1956

Disability Insurance added and payroll taxes rose to 3%, participation of contributions to the program no longer voluntary.

1961

Early Distribution at age 62 is allowed. Payroll taxes raised to 6% (3% employee and 3% employer)

]72

Inflation Adjustment Added – Payroll Taxes now at 9% (4.5/4.5)

978

Coverage expanded to cover senior dependents of qualified workers 10% (5%/5%)

1983

Partial Tax of benefits added, Self-Employment tax was brought up to equal 10.8%.

Several other changes have occurred since including age increases in benefits and taxable limits being increased.

2013

Payroll tax re-increased to 12.4%. Made equal now where there is a 6.2% charge to each party of employer and employee.

With this history now we can take a look at how the money that goes in is spent. It is estimated there will be \$70 Billion in payroll taxes taken in during 2013. Of that they are expecting to pay out \$50 billion to recipients annually, they are at 71% goes to recipients. They then spend another \$65 Billion on operation and administration. Have you done the math, yes they are already over? Their administration is more than the amount the pay to recipients.

This is why Social Security is such a hot topic. People need it and rely on it and others see it as an expense. So simply put, Social Security was meant to help people but not to be a dependent income source.

Proper planning should be done to diversify and reduce your reliance on this program. What thoughts do you have?



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	a of Homes	Avg List \$/SqFt	Aug Days on Market	#of Homes	Avg List \$/SqFt	Avg Days on Market	# of Homes		vg Said S/SqF1	Avg % of	Avg Days on Market
Up to 300K	3	\$ 126.99	32	. 9	\$ 127.84	18	12	\$	132.48	98.81%	22
301K-400K	10	\$ 132.29	87	10	\$ 125.94	21	43	\$	125,75	98.80%	28
401K-500K	17	\$ 154.75	39	14	\$ 141.97	49	-41	\$	137.41	98,70%	29
501K-600K	9	\$ 141.92	53	7	\$ 168.44	33	19	\$	145,18	98-32%	38
501K-700K	7	\$ 172.16	53	5	\$ 155.07	65	13	\$	158,11	96.59%	71
701K - 999K	5	\$ 170.89	76	5	\$ 167.07	113	15	\$	169.22	97.74%	80
1M and up	3	\$ 240.87	120	I	\$ 257.49	5	4	\$	259.15	92.87%	48
Total	54	-		54			147			-	

*This data was pulled from the Multiple Listing Service provide by the Austin Board of Realtors on August 8, 2013.

Inventory is still extremely low in Steiner Ranch and notice that Days on Market from list to under contract is also very low. We had a frenzy of homes that flew off the shelf in May and June with things slowing down slightly in August but don't misunderstand me, the market is still extremely good. Steiner Ranch homes are selling for very close to list price and in many cases above list price when priced right due to low inventory and high demand.

I promised this month I would talk a little about property auctions. There are several formats of property auction. I will define these and then dive into more detail about the foreclosure auctions.

Auctions are executed in different formats. There are Minimum Bid, Reserve Price and Absolute Auctions.

Minimum Bid Auction – The seller will set a minimum amount that a property will be sold for (typically published), once that minimum amount is met in the bidding process, the property will be sold to the highest bid. If the minimum bid is not met, the property will be retained by the seller.

Reserve Auction – The seller will set a strike price that is kept confidential. Bidding can start at any amount but is typically lower than the strike price to drive up the bidding frenzy. If the bidding surpasses the strike price, then the property will be sold to the highest bidder. If not, the property will remain the sellers. There have been several properties in Steiner Ranch that have tried this method of sale with varying degrees of success. I have also seen property auctions in this format where bidders have spent 10 minutes bidding each other up only to find out that even the highest bid wasn't enough to strike a sale. Needless to say, this can be very frustrating for potential buyers.

Absolute Auction – The seller will sell the property to the highest bidder.

Foreclosure Auctions - Travis County's foreclosure auction happens on the first Tuesday of every month on the county court house steps. There are several auctions that happen on that day in that location at different times.

I have personally witnessed the following types of auctions on the court house steps:

Sheriff's Sale – properties are auctioned off per a court order that included forceful seizure and then sale of a property to satisfy a judgment.

Tax Foreclosures – Tax foreclosures are homes that are foreclosed on due to delinquent property taxes.

Mortgage Foreclosures – these occur when a mortgage holder neglects to pay their mortgage and the lien holder decides to execute the foreclosure process leveraging a trustee for a sale following the Texas State Law governing that process. Texas is a "non-judicial" state with respect to the foreclosure process. For more information about what a "non-judicial" foreclosure is you can go to the following URL: http://www.propertyradar.com/foreclosure-guides/ foreclosure-101/non-judicial-foreclosure-process/. Wendy Alexander is a trustee that does a lot of business in Travis County and typically starts her auctions right at 10am. Juanita Strictland is also a trustee that works regularly with Travis County properties and I believe she runs her auctions

(Continued on Page 48)

Neighbor Spotlight

By Kimbely McLaughlin

"WOW" is the only word I can think of to describe what I am about to share with you this month. Get ready to drool guys because this is the ultimate MAN CAVE. Funny I used that term because the original inspiration for this master piece started when the husband was watching a tv show called "Man Cave" on the DIY Network. He spent about 5 years dreaming up this concept and spent about 7 months making it come to life. One of the reasons why it took as long as it did to implement, and another thing I really respect about these guys, is that they did the project in stages so that they could pay for each stage in full as they went along.

This man cave is complete with Big Screen TV viewing room, amazing custom bar and Shuffle Board Room complete with a beautifully crafted buffet. The idea was to create the ultimate place to entertain friends – talk about over achievers.

So what went into creating this masterpiece. They had to start by knocking down a few walls to open up the space but to do so they had to add structural support. They covered these structure beams with wood to beautify the space. The big screen is a 120" screen and has a projection system. In case that wasn't enough TV for you, he also added two 50" tvs and one 40" tv around the space so you will never be out of range of any sporting event.

From there we move to the bar. It literally took my breath away the first time I saw it. Remember the bar in "Cheers"? Well this blows that away! This bar is complete with 2 side by side refrigerators, an icemaker, kegerator with 2 taps, dishwasher and sink with garbage disposal. He built cabinets under the bar (instead of just open space and shelves) to store all those things you need at a bar *(Continued on Page 48)*







photos courtesy of Elle Adams

'Your Homecoming Dress Headquarters!

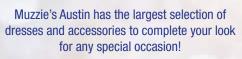
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BE LICE-FREE FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL

By Stacey Pomerantz

Back-to-school means lots of new things: new clothes, new backpacks and new supplies. It's a time to navigate a new class schedule and meet new teachers. Yet, it needn't be a time to worry about head lice. We often hear about lice during back-to-school season because kids return to a tighter environment after a summer of being outdoors. Lice are transmitted via direct head-to-head contact 95% of the time. The ideal scenario for lice transmission is when kids talk, hug or sit with heads touching. Keep in mind that lice don't jump or fly. They also die relatively quickly (24-36 hours) if they're not directly on your scalp. Lice are easier to avoid and get rid of than you might imagine. Since lice do not carry or spread disease, there is no formal exclusion policy in Texas schools. Head lice doesn't mean a child is dirty or should be shunned. Mostly, lice are inconvenient due to the time necessary to eliminate them. Here are some easy tips to stay lice-free this school year:

1. Each child should have his/her own set of brushes and combs. Store them in separate drawers or baskets at home. Label them accordingly and make sure each child knows whose is whose and keep your own separate.

2. Use lice deterrent spray every day. There are a few varieties of combination detangler/lice repellent sprays on the market. These sprays contain scents that lice find offensive, such as mint or tea tree oil. When used daily, these scents repel a louse and cause it to nest elsewhere (in another scalp). It can be most effective when applied every day, including before

sleepovers, play dates and school.

3. This is a biggie: teach your kids to avoid direct head-to-head contact when playing with friends. Show your little ones a photo of children using the iPad or reading books in very close proximity. Help them learn how to play with other kids elbow-to-elbow, not head-to-head!

4. If school reports a lice outbreak – though they are not required to – or you suspect your child has lice, do not panic! Instead,make sure you have a good quality nit comb (normal combs do not trap lice or nits). Most parents say that it is hard to see evidence of lice. Use the comb as your eyes via daily comb-outs. Catching lice early can often prevent a household contraction. If you're not sure how to do a proper comb-out, look online where many 'how to' videos exist.

5. Finally remember the rule of "once a week, take a peek." While your kids are de-compressing after a long day of learning, run your nit comb through their hair at the base of their necks and behind their ears. Nits can be many colors from a cream color to amber. They glisten in dry hair and are the shape of a sesame seed that clings to one side of the hair shaft, often close to the scalp.

If you think you see lice and want to outsource removal, there are several options who will come to your home for treatment. At the end of the (school) day, you'll be happy to have these tips in your back pocket.

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The Real Estate Deal (Continued from Page 44)

around 1pm.

Auction.Com – This is not a "foreclosure" auction but this company leverages the first Tuesday investor crowd to sell their properties. This is a seller approved "auction" of a property that can follow any of the formats described above.

I am sure there are other formats and types of auctions that exist, but these are the ones I have actually witnessed on the court house steps. It's chaotic and appears to be unorganized and very archaic in such a technology age. The crazy thing is that all of the auctions can be happening at the same time. No one uses a microphone so unless you are in one of the first 2/3 rows of people, you can't hear anything. So get there early and bring a lawn chair to save your spot in front of the auctioneer table. While property auctions can be a fantastic place to find a deal, there are several things you need to know before you dive in.

SOME OF THE THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW:

If you win the bid for the property, you not only own the property, you also own any debt associated with it. For example, if the previous owner had not paid taxes for a year, you now are responsible for that debt and any penalties on late payment. Do your research before you bid on a property. Title companies can usually help identify any liens on a property for a fee.

Tax foreclosures are not "final" foreclosures. There is a redemption period in which the previous owner can buy back the property plus a penalty. For more details about tax foreclosures you can go to the following URL: http:// www.traviscountytax.org/goPropertiesForeclosures.do. BTW, Mortgage foreclosures are final.

You never know what property is actually going to come up for auction on that day. Lists of what properties will be possibly auctioned off are published starting 3 week prior to event but properties are pulled from auction all the time. I have even seen a property auctioned off, a bidder awarded the property and then after the auction when the new owner went to pay for the property, the trustee had been instructed to remove the property from the auction.

Most sales require a cash payment in full. So you will see investors carrying around stacks of cashier checks they have ready to assign to the trustee in all denominations since you don't know ahead of time how much you might be paying for any particular property. Some auctions will allow payment by credit card for a 3% fee but not all.

I am by no means an expert at auctions but I do find the process fascinating and wanted to share what I have learned over the years about them. See you out on the court house steps every First Tuesday!

Neighbor Spotlight (Continued from Page 45)

but aren't pretty to look at. The back drop has hanging glass front cabinets with beautiful crystal and spot light shelves that house his prized sports paraphernalia. Four pendant lights hang over the bar to give it that ambient lighting you expect in a high class establishment. A brass foot rail was installed so when you are sitting in one of the 9 full bar chairs you can be extra comfortable. Yes I said 9 full, swivel bar chairs. Now look closely at the granite top - it is truly amazing. The pictures don't do it justice but what you are seeing is a double, chiseled edge granite that they used for the bar and the buffet.

The buffet was an important addition. This is where food is presented so that the bar isn't encumbered. Also, it means their guests don't have to reach over other people at the bar to get to the food. The buffet is located in the shuffle board room with the other 4 TVs. They chose an elegant hanging light and placed two, small caged fan to finish off this amazing entertaining space.

These guys thought of everything. I think I might even be able to get passed all the "49er" trophies to hang out with them and enjoy their amazing space.

If you would like to have a part of your home showcased in an upcoming "Neighbor Spotlight", please contact PEEL Inc and they will put you in touch with me.



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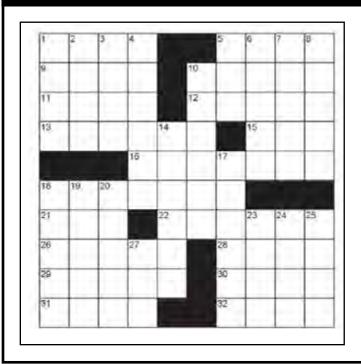
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ACROSS 1. Blow

- 5. Green Gables dweller
- 9. Not there
- 10. Ask for legally
- 11. Smooth
- 12. Island nation
- 13. Fertilized cell
- 15. Ex-serviceman
- 16. Rovers
- 18. Covered in coarse hair
- 21. Single
- 22. Sacred songs
- 26. Scrimmage
- 28. Prophet who built the arc
- 29. Remove
- 30. Canal
- 31. Eye infection
- 32. Tear

DOWN

- 1. Virtuoso
- 2. Airy
- 3. "Ribbit" animal
- 4. Singing voices
- 5. Wing
- 6. Innocent
- 7. Meat curing ingredient
- 8. Gives off
- 10. Sharks
- 14. Man's wig
- 17. Less nice
- 18. Houses
- 19. Sluggish
- 20. Electrical device
- 23. Tenet
- 24. Water pipe
- 25. Cote
- 27. East southeast

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