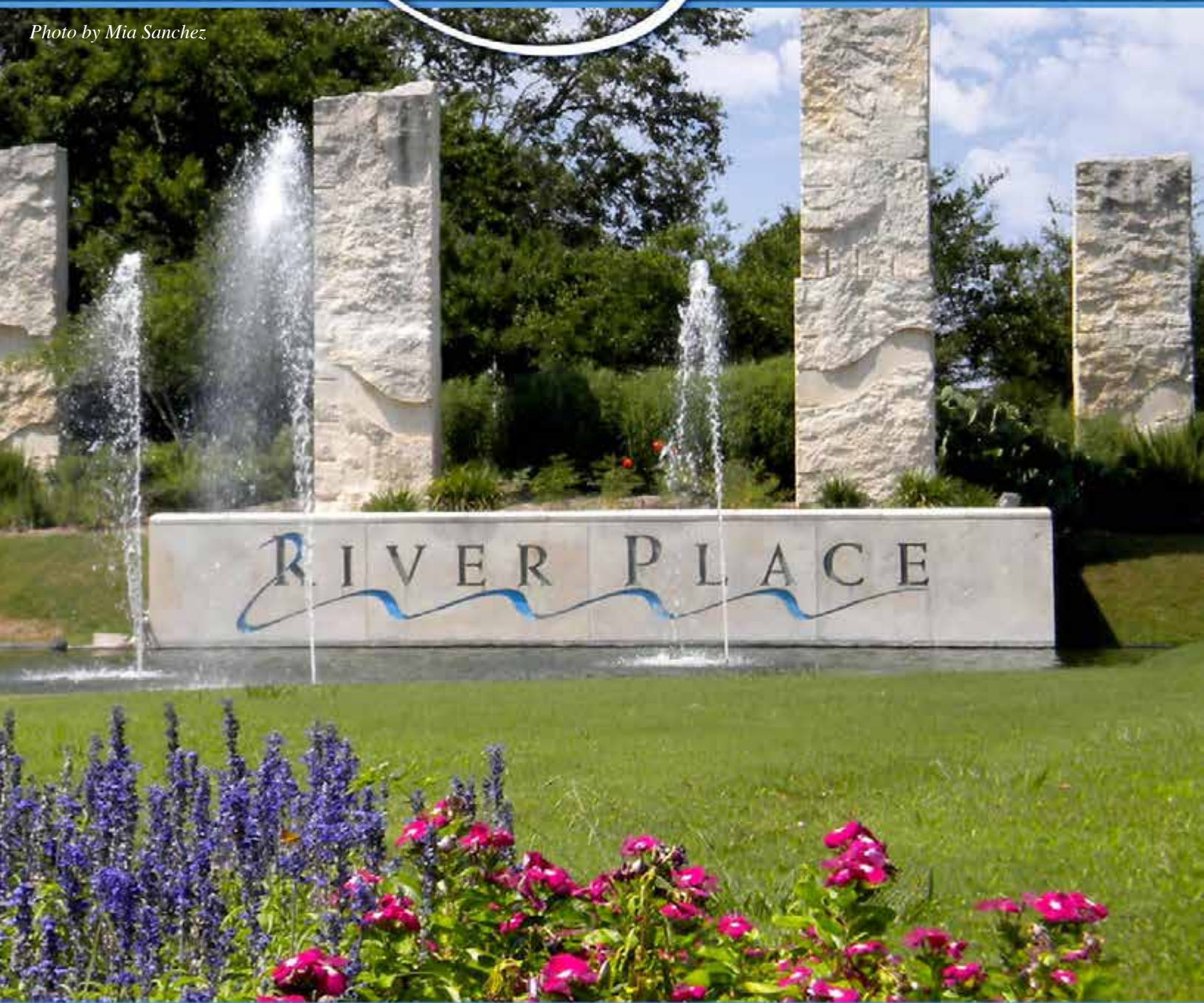


THE RIVER REVIEW

October 2013

Volume 7, Issue 10

Photo by Mia Sanchez



NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF RIVER PLACE



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THIS FALL

Filler Special

OCTOBER 9TH

Includes a complimentary
hand peel.

See Details Below!

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* Limit 3 at the special price

Filler Special - October 9th only

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ADVERTISING INFO

Please support the advertisers that make River Review 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 River Review is mailed monthly to all River Place residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to include 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 the River Review please email it to riverreview@peelinc.com. The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the issue.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
Fire	911
Ambulance	911
Sheriff – Non-Emergency	512-974-0845
Hudson Bend Fire and EMS	
Emergencies	512-266-1775
Information	512-266-2533

SCHOOLS

Leander ISD	512-570-0000
Cedar Park High School	512-570-1200
Vandegrift High School	512-570-2300
Four Points Middle School	512-570-3700
River Place Elementary	512-570-6900

UTILITIES

River Place MUD	512-246-0498
City of Austin Electric	512-494-9400
Texas Gas Service	
Custom Service	1-800-700-2443
Emergencies	512-370-8609
Call Before You Dig	512-472-2822
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
IESI (Trash)	512-282-3508

OTHER NUMBERS

River Place Postal Office	512-345-9739
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COVER PHOTO

Do you take great photos?

Do you take great photos? Would you like to see your photo published? We are looking for great cover photos for upcoming issues of the River Review. All photos submitted must represent River Place or the surround area. Our deadline for submittals is always the 9th of the month prior to the issue. All photos should be submitted electronically by the deadline date in high resolution (300 dpi) to riverreview@peelinc.com. Portrait (vertical) photos work best.

To view other photos submitted please visit www.PEELinc.com/RiverPlace, and view any of the past newsletters.

By submitting your photo you agree to allow your photo to be published in future issues of the River Review or other Peel, Inc. publications.

If your business is interested in sponsoring the cover call 512-263-9181 to find out how to be featured on the cover of the Lakeway Voice.

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AUGUST 2013 YARD OF THE MONTH



Kathy and Sam Ferguson of 10612 Merrywing Cove were the winners for September Yard of the Month given by the River Place Garden Club. They have lived in River Place for seven years and after the summer of 2010 with the severe heat and long periods of draught, they replaced high-water using plants with drought-tolerant plants. Also, they concentrated on replacing non-native plants with natives. Now the Fergusons' yard is filled with plants that are thriving even with the heat of August and the limited watering restrictions. Esperanza, also known as yellow bell, plumbago, and lantana are blooming and are framed with fountain grass and crepe myrtles. Kathy said that working in

their beds gives them a sense of satisfaction in seeing results. In addition, Kathy indicated that the Titan Garden at River Place Elementary School, where she has been a volunteer, has been a resource in choosing plants.

The garden club congratulates the Fergusons and welcomes them and all residents of River Place to our meetings which take place on the second Thursday of each month, September through May. If residents would like to join the club or attend a meeting as guests, please contact President Patricia Thomas by email at RiverPlaceGarden@gmail.com for information about meeting locations and topics.

Girl Scout Happenings

Fall Product Sale is October 1 – October 12th

Troops keep 35% of the proceeds they earn from selling nuts and candy and \$2 for each magazine subscription ordered! You can show your support for Lake Austin Girl Scouts by renewing your current magazine subscriptions, ordering a new magazine or giving gift subscriptions to friends, relatives or business associates. Magazine orders are due by October 31st while the rest of Fall Product Sale orders are due October 12th. Thank you for supporting your neighborhood Girl Scouts.

Monthly Leader Meetings will be Monday, October 28th at 9:30am at Cups & Cones and at 6:45pm at St. Luke's church

All Lake Austin Service Unit leaders and parents are welcome to attend our monthly meetings where we discuss Service Unit events and business and share our knowledge and experience with each other. This month's meeting will focus on our upcoming camp out. Attendees will learn campfire songs and are encouraged to bring their swap collections to show those who might not have made swaps before or who might need a little inspiration. This monthly meeting occurs the last Monday of each month typically and is fun for leaders and troop parents to get to know each other and learn more about upcoming events, trainings and Girl Scouts.

OUR ANNUAL SERVICE PROJECT

In addition to the dozens of service projects undertaken by troops every year, the Service Unit chooses a project to incorporate into our annual camp out. This year, the Service Unit has chosen to benefit Hope Happens from the Message of Hope Foundation. This program donates 20,000 Happy Hope bags to top-rated children's hospitals throughout the country. This year we are hoping to make up to 500 bags at camp, which will include handmade greeting cards from our girls. We will be collecting donations until October 30 of items such as:

- Crayons or colored pencils
- Stickers
- Playdoh
- Coloring books or notepads
- Slinkies, playing cards
- Chapstick
- Kids' toothbrushes
- iTunes gift cards.

Donations should be gender-neutral and can be left in our collection bin at Millie & Mox, located in the Quinlan Crossing Shopping Center at the front of Steiner Ranch.



Our annual Service Unit Camp Out, this year themed 'Camping with the Stars' will be November 1 – 3rd at Camp Champions, Marble Falls, TX

Our fall camp out is an event girls and adults alike look forward to year after year. Where else can you stay up late giggling with your fellow Girl Scouts while the ducks quack their nighttime chatter? Where else can you roast s'mores and perform skits and songs passed down through generations? And where else can you test your bravery as you ride The Screamer, climb a rock wall and fly down a zip line? Camping with the Stars offers fun for all ages and memories that last a lifetime. Visit www.LASUgirlscouts.org for more details including registration information.





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RIVER REVIEW



CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

- LOCK YOUR CARS!!!!
- Get to know your neighbors! Report suspicious activity immediately!
- Secure your vehicles, homes, garage doors at all times. (If you have an alarm, use it!) Remove garage door openers from your vehicle at night and when you are out of town.
- Utilize timers for lights, radios, and televisions to give the appearance that someone is home when you are out of town.
- Secure patio doors with a rod.
- Keep the perimeter of your home well lit.
- Take pictures of valuables and keep them stored in a secure location.
- Keep an inventory of all serial numbers for valuable items that can be given to Law Enforcement to track your items if stolen.
- Never leave a vacation message on your answering machine.
- Have a friend or family member pick up newspaper and mail, or stop delivery until you return.
- Keep shrubbery trimmed, to prevent hiding places.
- Park in well-lit areas at night.
- Do not leave valuables in plain sight. Lock them in the trunk or take them inside.
- Organize a community watch program in your neighborhood.
- Secure all windows and doors at all times.

DON'T BE A VICTIM

CitizenObserver is being used by the Travis County Sheriff Office to communicate information to Citizens ranging from crime alerts and offender notifications. Be in touch with what's happening! Visit www.citizenobserver.com today and Be Informed!

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The goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each digit may appear only once in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box.



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Lady Vipers DIGS-N-DUNKS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19TH 2013
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Questions: Aldy Duffield @ 512.751.3217 duffieldaldy@gmail.com or Krista @ 512.771.7031 texas krista@yahoo.com



2013 Digs and Dunks Registration Form

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Four Points Chamber of Commerce Partners with WordPress Austin

Four Points Chamber of Commerce Partners with WordPress Austin Meetup to Bring a WordPress Educational Series to Four Points.

BUILDING AND ADMINISTERING YOUR WORDPRESS SITE FOR BEGINNERS SERIES

Four Points Chamber of Commerce partnering with the Austin WordPress Meetup bringing a WordPress Educational Series to Four Points to help educate people looking to build and maintain a website powered by WordPress. This partnership will provide hands on Building and Administering Your WordPress Site for Beginners Series in a series of 7 classes.

These free classes are open to the public and will provide hands-on training. After attending the 7 classes, students will be well prepared to build and maintain a WordPress website or blog.

Meetings started in July and are on the third Monday of the month from 7pm – 9pm at Austin Baptist Church, located at 7016 Ribelin Ranch Dr, Austin, TX 78750.

The Austin WordPress community is unique as it has many world recognized experts in the field and they help others learn

how to use WordPress. The Austin WordPress group is over 1500 members strong and has the most active Blog out of the worldwide WordPress Meetups. The organization is run by volunteers who love and support WordPress.

REMAINING CLASSES:

How to Choose and Install a WordPress Theme

(September 16, 2013)

There are thousands of free themes available on wordpress.org, and that doesn't even include all of the premium themes and frameworks that are available, much less the option for creating a custom theme. With all those options in mind, choosing between all of these themes can be bewildering. But it doesn't have to be that way. This month, we will discuss how to make smart choices when picking out a theme for your site. We will discuss how your theme relates to your site's structure, purpose, and audience, and how to find a theme that offers you the right amount of custom options and features to best suit your needs.

(Continued on Page 12)



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RIVER REVIEW

(Continued from Page 11)

We will also devote part of our meeting to audience questions and theme suggestions, so if you're in the middle of this dilemma now and are looking for ideas – or if you have a favorite theme you'd like to discuss – this would be a great opportunity to do so. Bring your laptops and your questions!

Best Practices for Effective Content Creation

(October 21, 2013)

This Hands-On WordPress presentation will focus on the tools and processes available to help you develop and implement a winning content creation strategy. After making all the hard choices to design and develop a great looking website every website owner faces the same problem — “feed the beast” syndrome. How do we continually produce steady stream of engaging content for our WordPress site? How often should we update the content on our site's 'static' pages? What can we do to add some dynamic content to our static pages to keep the search spiders coming back? We will discuss both offline and online tools and resources to help you brainstorm topics for your site's blog, produce great content for your target audience, and ways to use that content to your build your online community. This presentation will cover the use categories in content organization, styles of written

content that are most effective, curating content, mobile-friendly content formats, and the increasing importance of photos & video content.

Image Handling: Understanding the Basics of WordPress Media

(November 18, 2013)

Good photos, logos, icons and other images on a site are key to a website's appeal, popularity and conversion rates. We will review uploading images in pages and posts, including the media settings, size options, as well as default image sizes – resizing images, creating thumbnails and the value of the alt tag and captions for SEO.

The presentation will also demonstrate how to use the WordPress built-in image alignment features and help attendees understand how images interact with the text; and will include wrapping text around images, changing margins, padding and borders around the images within the content and when and how to use the 'Featured Image' option. Photoblogs and Galleries will also be discussed, as well as some of the best plugins to use to manage and/or display images. We will close with a Q&A. Please bring your computer and your questions about image handling in WordPress.

(Continued on Page 14)

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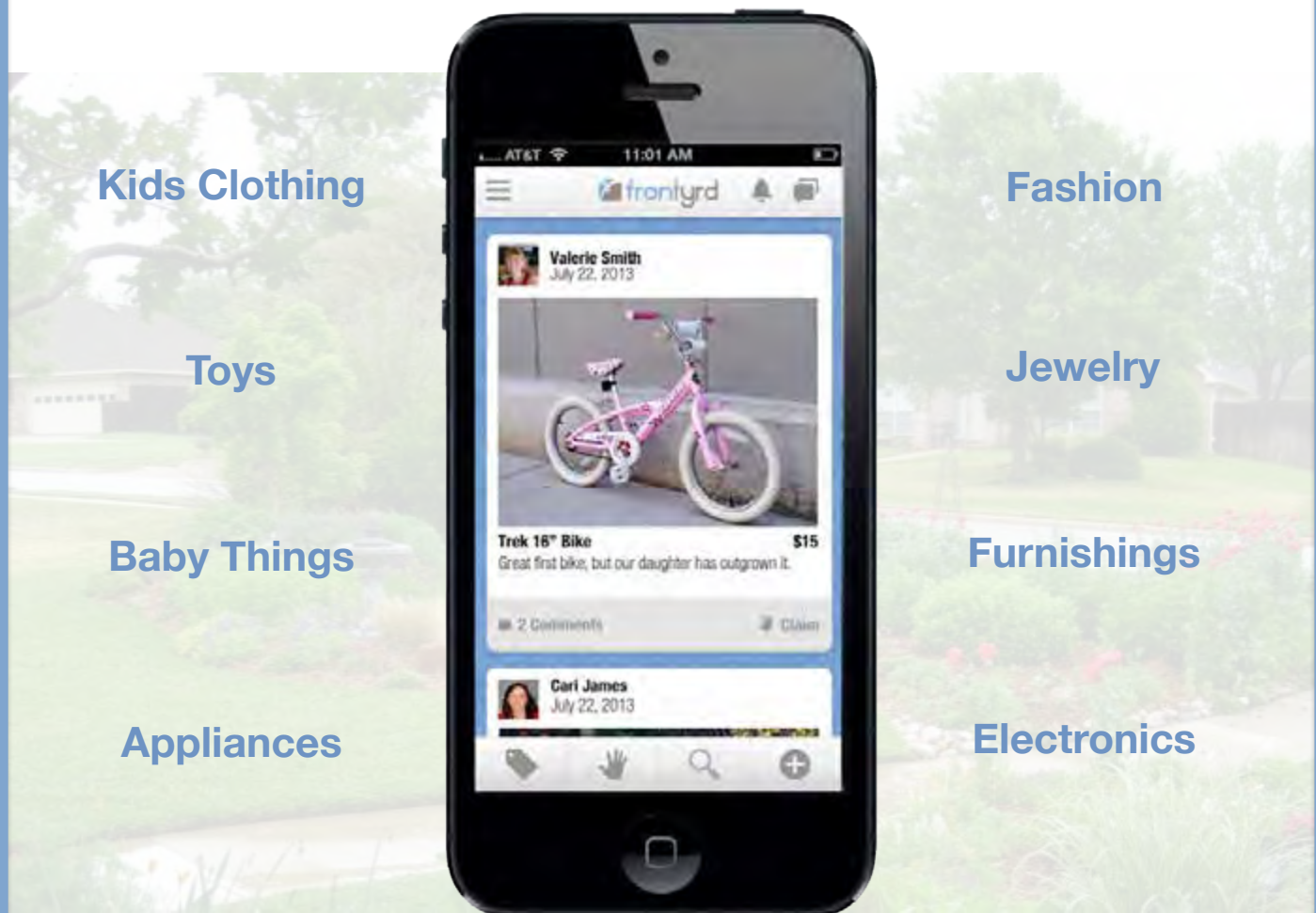
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RIVER REVIEW

(Continued from Page 12)

Reminder: This is a class designed for those new to WordPress. We will not be discussing advanced image handling techniques. If you have advanced questions please save them for the Q&A at the next general WordPress Meetup.

Sane Approach to SEO *(December 16, 2013)*

Creating a well organized, visually captivating WordPress website with interesting and helpful content, without understanding how to get your site found by search engines, is common problem for those new to internet marketing. Planning and building your site is just step one in the process of building a successful online presence. Join us for a presentation that demystifies the SEO jargon that has held you back from exploiting the true power of the web, and equips you to get your site indexed by search engines and seen by millions of potential customers around the world.

A sane approach to search engine optimization has nothing to do with luck or black-hat-trickery, but it has a lot to do with focused action steps and consistency. Join us at this month's Hands-On WordPress Meetup to learn how to structure a Sane Approach to SEO.

Simple Ways to Secure and Maintain Your WordPress Website *(January 20, 2014)*

The good news is that WordPress is the most commonly used platform for websites on the web – 14% of all sites, and nearly 55% of site that use a Content Management System. That's also the bad news because big targets attract hackers. We will take you through the mind and methods of a hacker, the most common mistakes made in installing and maintaining your WordPress site, and then show you a series of easy and common sense steps to make your WordPress safe and secure. It's not hard, and it's not

(Continued on Page 15)



Fall Festival

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(Continued from Page 14)

scary once you know how. Topics will include general security best practices, backups, and disaster recovery. Please bring your security related questions and concerns for post presentation Q&A.

You can find all the details and register on the Four Points Chamber of Commerce Web site www.fourpointschamber.com. While you are at the Chamber's Web site be sure to check out the other networking activities offered by the chamber, including the bi-monthly Connectors networking meetings, happy hours and luncheons.

The Four Points Chamber of Commerce provides networking opportunities through social gatherings, luncheons and business network meetings. Now well over 100 members strong and growing, the Four Points Chamber of Commerce brings businesses together along Highway 620 from Hudson Bend and Mansfield Dam to Anderson Mill, and along Ranch Road 2222 from Jester to Volente, to support business growth in the community.

For more information about upcoming events contact us at FourPointsChamber@gmail.com, visit www.fourpointschamber.com or call (512) 551-0390. Membership inquiries may also be sent directly to membership@FourPointsChamber.com.

Four Points Chamber of Commerce Hosts Congressman Michael T. McCaul *at the October 2013 Chamber Luncheon*



Four Points Chamber of Commerce are proud to be hosting Congressman McCaul on Thursday, October 17th, 2013 at River Place Country Club from 11:30am-1:00pm for the October luncheon. Congressman McCaul will present a DC update where he will highlight key things going on in Congress with a heavy focus on what the House Homeland Security Committee is working on (cyber, terrorism, etc).

We will have four spotlight members: Tom Radack, Marissa Radack, and Tim Moncrief of Bartlett Real Estate Group, Andrea Connell of VIK Medical, Amee Geren of Steiner Ranch Steakhouse, and Gene Arant of Gene Arant Real Estate Team, Keller Williams Realty. They will be sharing with you information about them and their business.

Some additional events for meeting people in the community this month are :

October 3rd 5:30-7:30pm – Ribbon Cutting at How Do You Roll? (located in Plaza Volente).

October 10th 12:00-1:00pm – Ambassador/Membership Committee Meeting at Four Points Chamber Visitor Center.

October 14th 9:00-10:00am – Events Committee Meeting at Four Points Chamber Visitor Center.

October 17th 5:30-8:00pm – Ribbon Cutting at Nik's Italian Kitchen + Bar.

October 21st 7:00pm-9:00pm – Fourth Class in Building and Administering Your WordPress Site for Beginners Series, meeting at Austin Baptist Church, 2nd Floor.

October 31st, 5:30pm-8:00pm – Happy Hour at Steiner Ranch Steakhouse for casual networking.

You can find all the details and register on the Four Points Chamber of Commerce Web site www.fourpointschamber.com. While you are at the Chamber's Web site be sure to check out the other networking activities offered by the chamber, including the bi-monthly Connectors networking meetings, happy hours and luncheons.

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EIN # 32-0351208



Pruning Guidelines for Prevention of Oak Wilt in Texas

Oak wilt, caused by the fungus *Ceratocystis fagacearum*, is the most destructive disease affecting live oaks and red oaks in Central Texas. Most of the tree mortality results from tree-to-tree spread of the pathogen through interconnected or grafted root systems, once an oak wilt center becomes established. New infection centers begin when beetles carry oak wilt fungal spores from infected red oaks to fresh, open wounds on healthy oaks. Wounds include any damage caused by wind, hail, vehicles, construction, squirrels, birds or pruning. Research has shown that both oak wilt fungal mats on infected red oaks and insects that carry oak wilt spores are most prevalent in the spring. *Below is a brief description of how you can reduce the risk of fungal spread when pruning.*

Always paint fresh wounds on oaks, including pruning cuts and stumps, with wound dressing or latex paint immediately after pruning or live tree removal at all times of the year. Clean all pruning tools with 10% bleach solution or Lysol™ between sites and/or trees.

If possible avoid pruning or wounding of oaks during the spring (currently defined as February 1 through June 30). *Reasons to prune in the spring include:*

- To accommodate public safety concerns such as hazardous limbs, traffic visibility or emergency utility line clearance.
- To repair damaged limbs (from storms or other anomalies)
- To remove limbs rubbing on a building or rubbing on other branches, and to raise low limbs over a street.

On sites where construction schedules take precedence, pruning any live tissue should only be done to accommodate required clearance.

Dead branch removal where live tissue is not exposed.

Pruning for other reasons (general tree health, non-safety related clearance or thinning, etc.) should be conducted before February 1 or after June 30.

Debris from diseased red oaks should be immediately chipped, burned or buried.

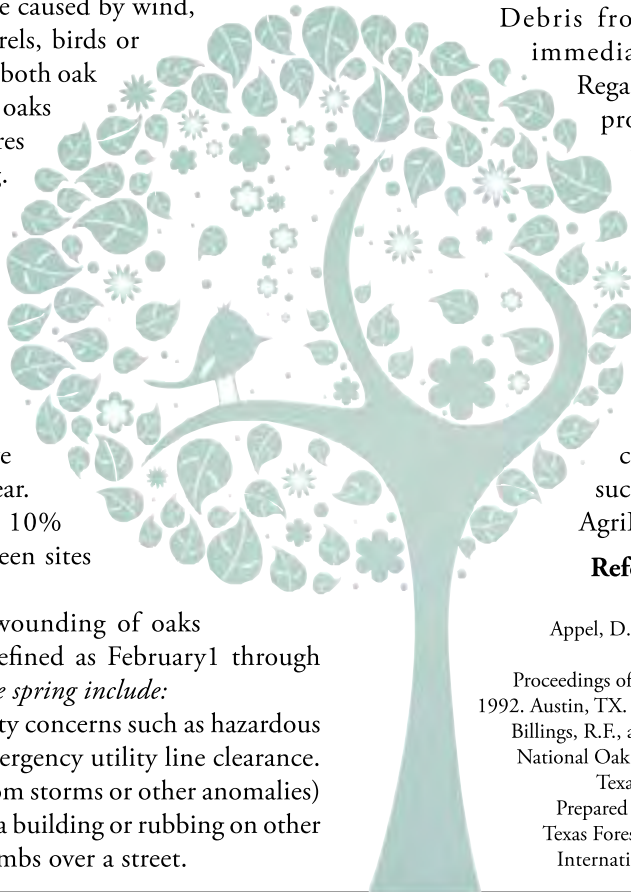
Regardless of the reasons or time of year, proper pruning techniques should be used. These techniques include making proper pruning cuts and avoiding injurious practices such as topping or excessive crown thinning. If you are uncertain about any of this information, you should consult with a Texas Oak Wilt Certified arborist, ISA Certified Arborist, or an oak wilt specialist from a city, county or state government agency such as the Texas Forest Service or Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

References (available at <http://www.TexasOakWilt.org>):

Appel, D.N., and R.F. Billings (eds.). 1995. Oak wilt perspectives:

Proceedings of the Nation Oak Wilt Symposium, June 22-25, 1992. Austin, TX. Information Development, Houston, TX. 217 p.
Billings, R.F., and D.N. Appel (eds.). 2009. Proceedings of the National Oak Wilt Symposium. June 4-7, 2007, Austin, TX. Texas Forest Service Publication 166. 267p.

Prepared January 12th, 2011 in cooperation between Texas Forest Service, Texas AgriLife Extension Service & International Society of Arboriculture Texas Chapter.



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