

RANCH RECORD

Official Newsletter for the Steiner Ranch HOA

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2013



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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 10:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday and Sunday CLOSED

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Maintenance Technician

Angel Alvarado
Macedonio Salazar

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

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

STEINER RANCH CONTACTS

Steiner Ranch Community Association Office 512-266-7553

SCHOOLS

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

UTILITIES

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TDS (Trash & Recycle) 512-421-1300
Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste 512-974-4343

OTHER NUMBERS

Lake Travis Postal Office 512-263-2458

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ADVERTISING INFO

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

ARTICLE INFO

The Ranch Record is mailed monthly to all Steiner Ranch residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to submit information about their organizations in the newsletter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, recipes, special celebrations, and birthday announcements are also welcome.

To submit an article for consideration please email it to steinerranch@peelinc.com. The deadline is the 8th of the month prior to the issue.

COVER PHOTO

300 pumpkins, 25 hay bales, and 14 mums is what it took Brandy Finnessey of RE/MAX 1 to create the perfect photo at last year's Trunk or Treat. Look for the Pumpkin Patch Photo Booth again this year at the Trunk or Treat on October 27th.

Do you take great photos?

*Would you like to see your photo published?
We are looking for great cover photos for upcoming
November 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 November 2013 issue submittal deadline is November 8th and photos should be submitted electronically by the deadline date to Sharon Adams at sharon@steinerranchhoa.org.

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

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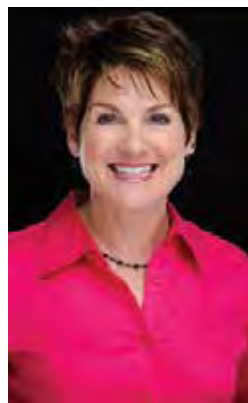
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Around Steiner

THE RANCH REPORT

Thank You, Steiner Ranch Volunteers!

As we enter the last quarter of the year and planning for the coming year begins, I would like to take some time to say thank you to the many committee volunteers and social groups that make Steiner Ranch such a wonderful place to live. These volunteers are homeowners that dedicate their time to managing and enhancing the lifestyle enjoyed by all here in the community.

The Social Committee, Facilities Committee, Firewise Committee and Finance Committee are the core committees providing feedback and direction to the Board of Directors that is vital to the board when making decisions that are in line with the desires of the community.

Within each of these committees there are various areas of responsibilities taken on by volunteers that provide input or even take on a specific task that enhances the community. For example, the Facilities Committee has groups that focus specifically on tennis, trails, pools and fields. The Social Committee has volunteers that may focus on a single social event or community function each year depending on the interests of the volunteer. By splitting out some of these responsibilities, it allows volunteers to commit to something in the community that interests them and they can focus their efforts on the one area or event without over committing their time for the entire year.

There are also groups that focus on a specific demographic group within the community. The Mom and Tots group for mothers and their children not only provides a network for the those looking of friendship and support, but they have stepped up to organize and manage some of the family events in the community such as the July 4th parade and the Trunk or Treat event at Halloween.

The Young at Heart group is one of the newest and fastest growing groups in Steiner Ranch. They organize literally hundreds of events each year for the active adults within the community. Wine Socials, dinner outings and card games are only some of the many activities the volunteers have arranged.

In the coming months, I will recognize some of the specific volunteers that have done so much for this community. If you would like to get involved in any of these areas, please contact the association offices and we will put you in touch with the appropriate contact person.

Thank you again to all of the wonderful volunteers we have in Steiner Ranch!!

Mark Your Calendars

2013 Steiner Ranch Social Committee Events

OCT 5

Fall Community Wide Garage Sale

OCT 20

Pumpkin Patch

JS Park | 10 am - 5 pm

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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Concert in the Park 2013

Thank you to all the Concert in the Park Sponsors and Attendees!

It was a perfect summer evening for this year's Steiner Ranch Concert in the Park, which drew thousands to a Steiner-style end of summer celebration. The Concert had it all, from the foam-laden kids playing in the Games-2-U Foam Pit to the Steiner local kid band, Shoulda Turned Left, the number one kid band in Austin, Taco & the Enchiladas and the very entertaining music of Luv Handle. We also had performances by the VHS Band, the VHS Legacies Dance Team, the VHS Varsity Cheerleaders, Villari's Martial arts amazing Karate Demo and a dance demonstration by the cute girls of Tap & Toe School of Dance.

Our fundraiser this year was our best to date. The success of it was in large part due to the efforts of Steiner Serves and Cindy Cummings! The Concert was able to purchase \$1,400 worth of school supplies,

in addition approximately \$1,500 worth of supplies were donated by the Steiner Ranch residents and the Steiner Serves community. These school supplies were given to LISD to distribute to kids unable to purchase supplies on their own. We also collected kid's clothes for the LISD Clothes Closet and delivered 75 bags of clothes to help fill their empty shelves! You can become involved with this group by going to their website, www.steinerserves.com.

A special Thanks to Kimberly McLaughlin of LaHacienda who Co-chaired this event and volunteered countless hours to make it a success and to Sherwin Fields of Fields Photography for his talents as emcee!

We'd also like to thank all of our sponsors who attended, which this event could not have been possible without their participation!



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ENTERTAINMENT

- Luv Handle
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- Shoulda Turned Left
- Mr. Rudy
- VHS Marching Band
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- VHS Cheerleaders
- Villari's Martial Arts
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ANNOUNCER

- Sherwin Fields, Sherwin Fields Photography
- Elle Adams

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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 empty-nesters 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 WINE SOCIAL

Towne Square Room

Friday, November 1st

7:00 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 October and November 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.

Mexican Train (Dominoes) on Monday, October 7th at 1:00 PM

Couples Game Night on Friday, October 4th at 7:00 PM

Book Club on Tuesday, October 8th at 1:00 PM

Technology Group on Thursday, October 10th at 1:00 PM

Walking Group on every Thursday at 8:30 AM

ROMEO (Men's Lunch Group) on Monday, October 14th at 11:30 AM

Ladies Social Bridge on Wednesdays, October 9th and 23rd at 12:30 PM

Canasta on Monday, October 14th at 6:00 PM

Ladies Lunching Out on Tuesday, October 15th at 11:30 AM

Bunko on Thursday, October 17 at 7:00 PM

Couples Mexican Train on Monday, October 21st at 6:00 PM

Epicureans on Wednesday, October 23rd at 6:30 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 those listed above as well as Concerts and Plays, Dinner Groups, Exploring Austin, Garden Club, Hiking, Men's Poker, Movie Club and Scrabble. 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.

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.

Garage Sale and Directional signs are allowed during the sale, but please remove them once ended at noon.



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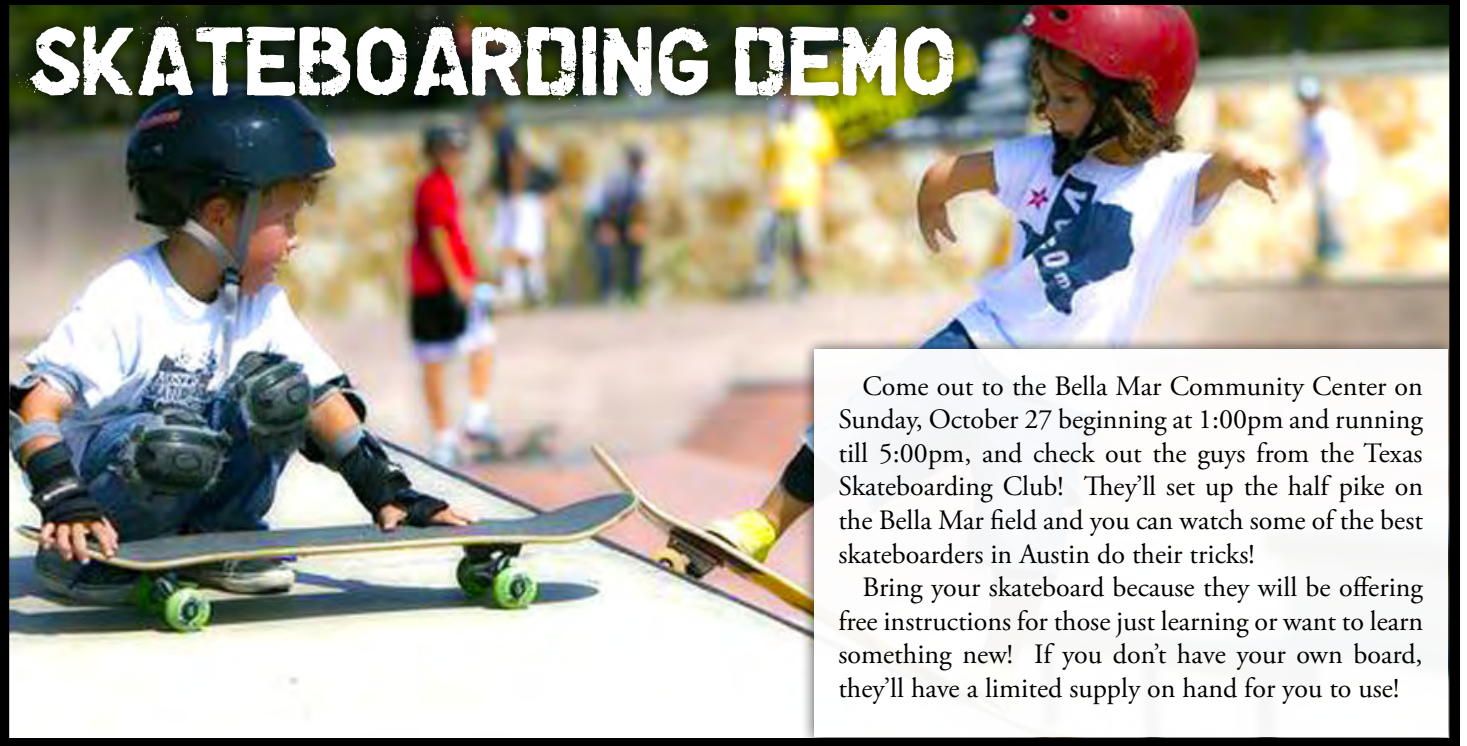
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SKATEBOARDING DEMO



Come out to the Bella Mar Community Center on Sunday, October 27 beginning at 1:00pm and running till 5:00pm, and check out the guys from the Texas Skateboarding Club! They'll set up the half pike on the Bella Mar field and you can watch some of the best skateboarders in Austin do their tricks!

Bring your skateboard because they will be offering free instructions for those just learning or want to learn something new! If you don't have your own board, they'll have a limited supply on hand for you to use!



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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 year's event below. We hope to see you and your little costumed kiddos on the 27th!

WHO IS THIS 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>

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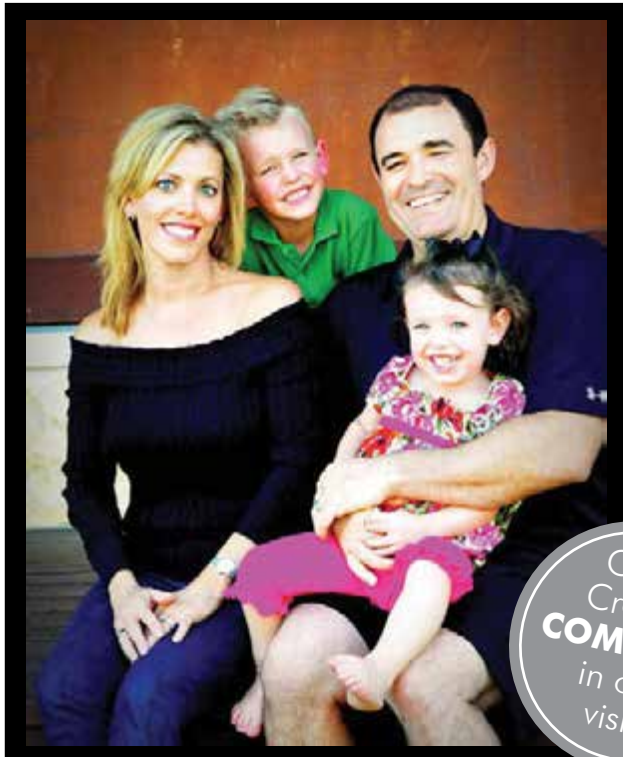
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Holiday Sales Event & Santa Photos

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, Nov. 16th from 10am - 2pm 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 and spaces outside in the covered pavilion & uncovered veranda are \$40. (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 <http://holidaysalesevent2013/eventbrite.com>. If you have any question, contact Sharon Adams, Community Coordinator at sharon@steinerranchhoa.org.

We will have something for everyone, just see who our current vendors are with more to come:

- Melissa Sehlhorst, Eternal Threads
- Bryttannee Eaton, Bryttannee Eaton Beauty, Chloe & Isabel Jewelry
- Teresa Robertson, The Lash Lounge
- Anat Inbar, Pupik Design
- Dr. Ross Coccimiglio, Four Points Family Chiropractic
- Melissa Jackson, Plexus Slim
- Andrea Svoboda, Funny Honey Frames
- Sally Albritton, Crowned Chick Designs
- Louise Gunn, Louise Gunn Art
- MICHELLE REID, Fibi and Clo
- Tami Weber, Beijo Bags
- Nion Stapp, Stella & Dot, Jewelry and Accessories
- Heather Bickel, Silpada Designs Jewelry
- Patty Rovano, Mary Kay Cosmetics
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Around Steiner

STORK REPORT!



Mariana Hartman was born on August 11
@ 9:21 AM.

HALLOWEEN CANDY BUYBACK

Bring in your unwanted
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CAMPING ON THE RANCH

All families are invited to go camping right here in Steiner Ranch! The Steiner Ranch Social Committee is hosting Camping on the Ranch so you can spend the night with your kids for some great "Ranch Style" camping fun.

WHEN:

Saturday November 2nd, 6:00pm

WHERE:

Towne Square Community Fields

Mark your calendars for Camping on the Ranch. This has to be one of the most popular and fun events the social committee does. Pull out your tents and come spend a night under the stars with your kids. Camping takes place at TSCC in the fields. The entire family is welcome however this has become hugely popular as a father/kid event.

Haven't tried camping with your kiddos yet? What a great place to try it, just minutes from the house but an adventure away. No activities are scheduled, just a great evening outdoors with your kids.

Steiner Ranch's own, The Pig Joint, will be on-site selling food, from sausage wraps to their bestselling pulled pork sandwiches, so be sure to bring cash and plan on some good BBQ! The next morning, Cups & Cones will be there selling breakfast tacos and the Social Committee will be giving away doughnuts and coffee!

Bring your own tent, sleeping bags, games and activities!

Please register for this event at <https://campingontheranch2013.eventbrite.com/> no later than Friday, November 1st.





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Around Steiner



NEW HOMEOWNER *Welcome and Wine Social*

*Thursday, November 7th
6:00pm – 8:00pm
Towne Square Community Center
12550 Country Trails Lane*

Welcome new residents of Steiner Ranch! If you have recently moved into or purchased a home here, you are invited to a Welcome and Wine Social.

*Meet Neighbors
Learn about Social Groups & Committee
Presentation by the HOA
Question & Answer session*

Wine & Hors d'oeuvres will be served, so please RSVP to Donan Grant at donan@steinerranchhoa.org by Wednesday, November 6th.



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REGISTER ONLINE FOR FALL

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2913 NORTHLAND DR, AUSTIN, TX 78757

MONDAYS | SEP 2 - OCT 24 (8 WKS) | \$124
Multi-Sport | 3-4 YRS | 3:00-4:00PM
Baseball | 5-6 YRS | 4:00-5:00PM
Baseball | 7-9 YRS | 5:00-6:00PM

MONDAYS | OCT 28 - DEC 19 (7 WKS) | \$109
Multi-Sport | 3-4 YRS | 3:00-4:00PM
Basketball | 5-6 YRS | 4:00-5:00PM
Basketball | 7-9 YRS | 5:00-6:00PM

THURSDAYS | SEP 2 - OCT 24 (8 WKS)
Parent & Child | 18 MOS-2 YRS | 9:15-10:00AM | \$100
Multi-Sport | 3-5 YRS | 10:00-11:00AM | \$124

THURSDAYS | OCT 28 - DEC 19 (7 WKS)
Parent & Child | 18 MOS-2 YRS | 9:15-10:00AM | \$88
Multi-Sport | 3-5 YRS | 10:00-11:00AM | \$109

*Fun for ages
18 mos - 9 yrs!*



STEINER RANCH WESTRIDGE PARK
12550 COUNTRY TRAILS, AUSTIN, TX 78732

SATURDAYS | SEP 7 - OCT 19 (7 WKS)
Parent & Child | 2-3 YRS | 9:00-9:45AM | \$88
6-8 YRS | 9:45-10:45AM | \$109
4-5 YRS | 10:45-11:45AM | \$109

SATURDAYS | NOV 2 - DEC 21 (7 WKS)
Parent & Child | 2-3 YRS | 9:00-9:45AM | \$88
6-8 YRS | 9:45-10:45AM | \$109
4-5 YRS | 10:45-11:45AM | \$109

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Saturday, October 26th, 1pm-5pm

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Fall Family Fun Day/Intergenerational Day is an annual fundraiser for **Youth2Seniors** · www.youth2seniors.org



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SADDLE UP AND RIDE!

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 faster and longer 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 ½ way through the ride it splits in two. The distances range from 40+ up to 60+ miles depending on the route we take.

We have many routes that we rotate between and you can see what the current weeks ride is by going to our website at www.steinerranchcycling.com

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

SUNDAY RIDES

We meet Sunday's at Cups & Cones at 8:30am for slower and shorter distance ride. Our Sunday rides average speeds are in the 13 – 15mph and distances between 23 – 30 miles. We either ride around Steiner Ranch or bike over to River Place and bike down to Ski Shores. 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

LIVESTRONG – Sunday October 20, 2013 Steiner Ranch Cycling Club has put another team together for this ride. Last year we had a great time and the course is really fun. It was a pretty flat course unless you did the 100 miler which had a hill called the MAN MAKER! About 75% of the people attempting the hill ended up walking their bikes. If you want to ride please join our team at <http://laf.livestrong.org/goto/Beef> They have a distance for everyone.

SAFETY TIPS OF THE MONTH

For Cyclists: While you may have the right of way and are signaling most motorist do not know the traffic rules so please yield the right of way. You may be right but safety should always be your number one priority.

For Motorists: This is specific to the UT Club Community area. Please do not pass cyclists in the turnabout. Let the cyclist clear the turnabout before trying to pass them. This will only take a few seconds and only a minor inconvenience.

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

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Sendero Homes

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Wild Basin Fitness

RIDE DISCLAIMER: Each rider is responsible for his or her own safety on our rides. Please join us at your own risk. Our weekly rides are open to public participation but ride leaders do NOT assume any liability for your participation. We will ask that all participants follow traffic laws and wear a helmet while on our rides. For comments or questions feel free to reach us via our website at www.steinerranchcycling.com or email Dante Fichera at dantefichera@gmail.com

REGISTRATION IS OPEN 2013 FALL PROGRAMS

FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN

The Steiner Ranch Fall Program for 2013 began 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
- Tap/Ballet/Hip Hop
- Gymnastics
- Karate
- Tennis
- Art
- Soccer
- Flag Football
- Abacus Brain Study
- Music
- Soccer/Flag Football
- Culinary Cooking Classes
- Tot Football
- Wrestling

TEEN/ADULT PROGRAMS

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

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.

OCTOBER 10, 7:00PMTSCC

Home Energy Efficiency Workshop

Workshop is designed to educate homeowners on our Radiant Barrier System as well as provide valuable energy savings tips such as LED Lighting and insulation upgrades you can do to reduce your energy costs and improve the comfort (and value) of your home.

OCTOBER 22, 6:30PMTSCC

Is Your Home Ready for the Holidays?

The holiday season is right around the corner...when you think of decorating for your favorite holiday is it 'Ho Ho Ho!' or 'Bah Humbug'? For many the holidays are full of stress, drama, anguish and frenzy. I'm here to help you.

Take the stress out of your holidays this year with the help of some quick and easy organizing tips such as how to keep track of gifts given and received, easy home decorating, and much, much more. Give yourself the gift of comfort and joy, and learn the best holiday organizing tips to make this your most relaxing holiday season ever.

To RSVP, please contact Karin Flagg either by phone (512) 585-8424 or email Karin@OrganizeWithPurpose.com

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

Kristofer Rennard is “Racing for A Cure”

By David Guthrie

Kristofer Rennard is the uber-fit cycle guy many of you have seen scorching the pavement up and down Quinlan Park Road and RR 620. Hot or cold, he seems to be grinding away with a purpose on an old beat up bike while wearing a heavy back pack. He's been referred to as the “mystery cyclist.” My name is David Guthrie, and I'm hardly a cyclist at all. Some of you may know my wife, Tammie, as the P.E. Teacher at River Ridge Elementary, and we have been in the Steiner Ranch community since 2004.

I became acquainted with Kristofer circa 2006. I was always amazed at how he rode with such focus and passion. Later I ran into Kristofer at his workplace, we started talking and our friendship began. Kristofer is somewhat of a private guy, but in a way seemed to enjoy the fact that his commitment to fitness and cycling had a following so we became friendly and conversational. This went on for several years up until early 2012 when Kristofer “went missing.”

Six months ago we reconnected and he revealed where he had been during this time. In August of 2011 Kristofer was diagnosed with stage four squamous cell carcinoma, or as the doctors told him “terminal cancer.” Kristofer prayed long and hard about the decision of treatment options up until the point he was admitted to the hospital in December of 2011 after a near death experience. At that point he had a “power port” implanted in his body to receive chemotherapy and all of his back teeth removed intended to avoid the potential infections associated with the intensive 35 rounds of radiation therapy that were planned.

Kristofer could tell you that he was most concerned about the serious side effects associated with this type of treatment, mainly the possibility that he would be unable to father children, or even worse – if he had children they would be at risk of having birth defects – that is something Kristofer could not, in good conscious, subject his unborn children to. He discussed his concerns with his oncologist, but was told that if he abandoned his treatment that within months the cancer would invade his body, and likely kill him. It was a risk he was willing to take.

In March of 2012 Kristofer walked out of the hospital making a personal decision, with God's help, that he would attempt to heal himself naturally through prayer, meditation, a radical diet, adequate rest and riding the wheels off of his bike, or better said “racing for a cure.” Radical, yes - but he committed to the plan.

Roughly a year and a half later he is still riding strong with his bicycle as his only means of transportation. Unfortunately, the cancer began regenerating itself and by February of 2013 a mass had developed on the side of this neck and he has lost a considerable amount of weight. Kris believes anything worth fighting for is never easy and he remains

dedicated in his efforts to heal himself naturally while gathering as much information as he can about this disease and sharing it with the cancer community.

After spending time together, Kristofer shared with me that he had a desire to race in the “Hotter' N Hell Hundred” in Wichita Falls, TX on August 24th. As my inspiration grew from his dedication, I committed to support the logistics in his “Race for a Cure.” We used the internet, and with the gracious support of the Steiner Ranch cycling community, Bicycle Sports Shop and so many others we were able to assemble bike parts to prepare the dated 2003 aluminum frame bike he rides for the race in the thirty-five masters class. Mind you, Kristofer is 43 so when I asked him “why would you choose to race with the younger class,” to which he responded, “I wanted to race with the fastest.” With monetary support we were also able to provide Kristofer with some cool new “threads” so he would look awesome in his “race for a cure.” We provided transportation, the HHH Race Organizers paid for lodging and I would serve as his pit crew.

Then Kristofer convinced me to ride the 25 mile tourist event on the same day. If Kristofer could race 100 kilometers competitively with the hell he has endured, I could soldier up for a recreational 25 miler. Kristofer was convinced that he could place well in his division and all of us were personally winning from the pure joy and satisfaction of supporting his big challenge. In the last mile of the race, Kristofer was jockeying for a position in the peloton that would allow him an opportunity to demonstrate his sprinting abilities. Unfortunately, a multitude of riders went down causing him to be involved in a large crash. The GoPro video camera (generously donated for the event by Bicycle Sports Shop) mounted on his bike captured the gnarly collision and grinding sound effects of bicycle bedlam at 30 MPH.

Kris' race for this day ended with a three part fractured displaced collarbone. Kristofer realizes that some people may consider his DNF (Did Not Finish) at the HHH road race a disappointment but given his diagnosis and prognosis we all consider it a 110% success. The plate and nine screws holding his clavicle together are an unplanned souvenir but testament to others of how very serious he is about witnessing his journey of faith, repentance and eternal relationship with Jesus Christ. Kristofer believes that as long as he remains strong, he has the ability to be competitive in cycling and that crashing is part of the sport. I believe the world would be a better place if everyone had the drive and resolve of Kristofer Rennard.

(Continued on Page 23)

Racing for a Cure (Continued from Page 22)

Our goal going forward is to assist Kristofer so that he is able to make the most out of the opportunity he believes God has set before him. His goal is not only to help others whose lives are affected by cancer but to demonstrate that there are alternative methods to surgery, chemotherapy and radiation treatment. He also strives to witness to the world the powerful impact scripture has had on his life. Kristofer knows this strategy may not be for everybody or every cancer, he realizes there is a real possibility that his cancer could turn for the worse and he could die. He believes that if his story can encourage just one person to come to God or beat cancer on their own terms, it has been worth the effort. We encourage anyone who can to contribute to Kristofer's fight. We want to support him not only in his training but with living expenses and the payment of medical bills until he can recover.

Kristofer is not the type of person to seek support; after the surgery he didn't take as much as an advil! He is back at work, pulling his weight just two weeks after breaking his clavicle. If you are unable to help we would appreciate your prayers and encouragement for safety and victory in whatever form God blesses us with.

If you would like to learn more about Kristofer's journey, or just post an encouraging message please go to Facebook – Kristofer is facing the fight of his life right now so your support in any form

is appreciated: www.facebook.com/pages/Kristofer-D-Rennards-Racing-for-a-Cure/424703934307406. Or, if you would like to donate to help Kristofer in his journey of recovery you can donate via PayPal: racingoracure2013@yahoo.com.

If you would like to talk with me or Kristofer directly please contact me first as Kristofer is trying to stay away from phones and computers as much as possible (they tend to affect the cancer in his body). I can be reached @ C. 512-917-6262 or email: daddyoguthrie@hotmail.com. Finally, Kristofer and I would like to give special thanks to certain individuals for all of their efforts and support: Bill Sleep, Steiner Ranch Cycling Club, Mike Linam, Thomas Lea, Bicycle Sports Shop staff, Bill Rockafellar, The HHH Team, Steve & Cindy Present, Mark Dinnes, My Wonderful wife and daughters (Tammie, Wensley & Shelby) who have stepped in and loved unconditionally just like Jesus would do, for all those who have donated thus far... you know who you are..you are special, AND, last but not least an amazing young man from Dallas Texas who has asked to remain anonymous- he was in the race with Kristofer – after Kristofer's bike was located and returned to a bike shop in Dallas he paid to have Kristofer's bike repaired (almost \$450) and then sent me home with the bike this week with an envelope containing \$2,500 to help Kristofer's efforts in recovery. Bless him and ALL of you for your support and prayers.

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www.mathnasium.com/northaustin

Around Steiner

NEW ART PARTIES BEING OFFERED!

The Steiner Ranch HOA has made arrangements for the art party to come to the community centers this Fall! Offering 2-hour painting classes designed with both beginners and experience painters in mind, with step-by-step instruction to help you paint your artistic masterpiece.

All instructors are led by Steiner Ranch artist!

November 9, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Kids Day Out "Furry Friends"

Let your child's creativity shine as they paint an adorable picture of two furry friends. Ages 4 and up. \$30 per person. 15 children maximum.

November 14, 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Ladies Night Out "Whimsical Flowers"

Grab your girlfriends and come have a fun night out. Get your "whimsy" on as we paint a flower bouquet like no other! You'll choose the colors and let your creativity flow as your brushstrokes fill the canvas. \$35 per person. 25 adult maximum.

December 7, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Parent/Child Painting Party "Happy Day"

Bring your child or children out for this one of a kind experience. You and your child will work together painting on a shared canvas to create your "Happy Day" painting. It truly will be a "happy day" creating a painting alongside your child. This is a great experience for the entire family. If there are more than two children attending this event, both parents and a second adult are desired to attend. This is a great holiday gift for grandparents, or to hang on your wall as a keepsake memory. \$60 for first canvas, \$25 additional canvas. 20 family maximum.

Register using the 2013 Program registration form at the HOA. Ladies Night Out events can register online at the Ladies Group Meet up page at <http://www.meetup.com/Steiner-Ranch-Ladies-Group/>



American Red Cross Babysitter Training Course

9:00am – 4:00pm | \$50 per person

Towne Square Community Center, 12550 Country Trails Lane

This is a very popular class, so sign up early for any of the dates below!

Oct. 19 | Dec. 7

If you're 11 to 15 years old, you can get the knowledge, skills and confidence to care for infants and school-age children. Combining video, a participant's handbook, activities, hands on skills training and discussion for a complete learning experience, this course shows you how to:

- Respond to emergencies and illnesses with first aid, rescue breathing and other appropriate care
- Make decisions under pressure
- Communicate with parents to learn household rules
- Recognize safety and hygiene issues
- Manage young children
- Feed, diaper and care for infants

Bring a sack lunch! Space is limited. Prior registration is required and the 2011 Program Registration form is available at www.steinerranchhoa.org.

LIVING, LOVING AND SELLING IN STEINER RANCH

Those of us fortunate to already live in Steiner Ranch know that October means kids team sports and Halloween. Know anyone that you would love to live here, too? I can help them find the right home.



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OCTOBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:30pm - Facilities Committee Meeting (TSCC)	2 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	3 8:30 am - YAH Walking Group	4 7:00pm - YAH Game Night (TSCC)	5 8:00am - 12:00pm - Fall Community Wide Garage Sale
6 	7 1:00pm - YAH Mexican Train 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	8 9:30am - Social Committee Meeting (Cups & Cones) 1:00pm - YAH Book Club (BMCC)	9 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC) YAH Ladies Social Bridge	10 8:30 am - YAH Walking Group 1:00pm - YAH Technology Group (TSCC) 7:00pm - Home Energy Efficiency Workshop (TSCC)	11	12
13	14 11:30am - YAH ROMEO 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	15 11:30am - YAH Ladies Lunching Out 7:00pm - SRLG Book Club (TSCC)	16 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	17 8:30am - YAH Walking Group 7:00pm - YAH Bunko (BMCC)	18 7:00pm - YAH Wine Social (BMCC)	19 9:00am - 4:00pm - American Red Cross Babysitting Class (TSCC)
20  10:00am - 5:00pm - Pumpkin Patch (JS Park)	21 6:00pm - YAH Mexican Train 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	22 6:30pm - Is your home ready for the Holidays? (TSCC)	23 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC) YAH Ladies Social Bridge 6:30pm - YAH Epicurean	24 8:30 am - YAH Walking Group	25	26 10:00am - 12:00pm - Kids Day Out Pumpkin Patch Painting Class (TSCC)
27 1:00pm - 5:00pm - Skate Demo (BM Field) 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)	31 8:30 am - YAH Walking Group 6:00pm - SRROA Board of Directors Meeting (TSCC)		

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NOVEMBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	YAH - Young At Heart SRLG - Steiner Ranch Ladies Group				1 7:00pm - YAH Wine Social	2 6:00pm - Camping on the Ranch (TS Fields)
 3 Daylight Savings Time Ends	4 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	5 6:30pm - Facilities Committee Meeting (TSCC) 1:00pm - YAH Book Club	6 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC) YAH Ladies Social Bridge	7 8:30 am - YAH Walking Group 12:00pm - YAH Technology Group (TSCC) 6:00pm - New Owner Welcome & Wine Social (TSCC)	8 6:00pm - Scrap-a-Thon (TSCC)	9 All Day - Scrap-a-Thon (TSCC) 10:00am - 12:00pm - Kids Day Out - Furry Friends Art Class (BMCC)
10 Till 4:00pm - Scrap-a-Thon (TSCC)	11 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	12 9:30am - Social Event Committee Meeting (Cups & Cones) 7:00pm - SRLG Book Club (TSCC)	13 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	14 8:30am - YAH Walking Group 7:00pm - Ladies Night - Whimsical Flowers	15	16 10:00am - 2:00pm - Holiday Sales Event & Santa Photos (TSCC) 10:00am - 12:00pm - Kids Day Out - Furry Friends Art (BMCC)
 17	18 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	19 7:00pm - SRLG Book Club (TSCC)	20 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC) YAH Ladies Social Bridge	21 8:30am - YAH Walking Group	22	23
24	25 6:30pm - FREE Yoga (TSCC) 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	26	27 8:30pm - FREE Aikido (BMCC)	28 Happy Thanksgiving!	29	30

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OCTOBER 9TH

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Belotero, perfect for fine lines on face, such as around eyes and lips, and on cheeks. \$75 Off your first syringe, \$100 off the second. All patients will also receive a complimentary rejuvenating hand peel during their appointment.

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!



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Pool & Swimming News

FALL POOL HOURS

The following hours will apply:

BELLA MAR

Closed Monday until 2:00pm

Tue- Sun 7:00am – 10:00pm

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

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

Sunday 6:30am – 7:45am

Vandegrift High School Swim Team – Monday – Thursday 7:15am – 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.
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TENNIS TIPS



By USPTA/PTR Master Professional
Fernando Velasco



How To Execute The One-Handed High Backhand Volley Approach Shot

In previous newsletters, I offered tips on how to hit a forehand groundstroke, a two-handed backhand, one-handed backhand, forehand volley, the two handed backhand volley, the serve, the forehand half-volley, the one-handed backhand volley, the overhead “smash”, the forehand service return, the backhand service return, the forehand high volley approach shot, and the two handed high volley approach shot.

In this issue, I will offer you instructions on how to execute the one-handed backhand high approach shot. This shot is used when a player is caught in “no-person’s land” (around the service line area) and receives a high ball to volley. The important part of this shot is to be able to hit a deep volley at the feet of the opponents and/or to hit a deep volley close to the baseline, so the opponent is put into a defensive mode. This will cause the player to hit a softer ball so the player can now move closer to the net for the “killer or placement volley”. In the illustrations, Darin Pleasant, Director of the ATP Academy at the Grey Rock Tennis Club, shows the proper technique to execute this stroke.

Step 1: The Ready Position and Split Step: When Darin realizes that he is caught in “no-person’s land”, he takes the split step by bending of the knees and staying on his toes. His racket is in the volley position and his feet are angled toward the path of the incoming ball. Notice that the left hand is on the throat of the racket.

Step 2: The Back Swing: Once Darin realizes that the ball has been directed to his backhand, he will turn his upper body and will take the racket slightly back. Notice that the left hand is still on the throat of the racket. He has loaded his weight onto his left foot and will be ready to step forward to meet the ball. He will make a slight change toward the continental grip on the right hand.

Step 3: The Point of Contact: Darin is now ready to step into the ball. He has kept his eye on the ball and his center of gravity now is shifted toward the point of contact. Notice the right toe pointing to the ball meeting the racket. The face of the racket is open to allow him to hit behind the ball and allow maximum net height and allow him to hit the ball deep. The control of the ball will be made with the right hand, which is holding the racket tighter. The right hand will keep the face of the racket at a 45 degree angle at the point of contact.

Step 4: The Follow Through: Once Darin has made contact with the ball, he finishes the follow through with his left wrist laid back. His left arm is pulling back for better body balance and his eyes are still watching the racket where he made contact with the ball.

Step 5: The Move for the Kill Volley: As the ball is headed toward the opponent and Darin realizes that his shot is deep He now moves closer to the net for the put away volley. If his shot was not deep, Darin will decide to stay close to the service line to protect the lob over his head. By the look in his eyes and his smile, he just did a “kill volley”.

Look in the next Newsletter for: How to execute “The Lob”

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From the Association Office

FACILITY CORNER

The purpose of this section is to highlight the work the homeowner volunteers do to help make our facilities great. We are your representatives and request your input as much as you can give it. We generally meet during the first Tuesday at 6:30 of every month at Towne Square and you are welcome to attend.

We handle multiple facility issues and try to do the best things for the community. As I'm sure you can imagine there are multiple wants but due to limited resources only so much that can be done. We also work closely with both the SRMA and the SRROA the two boards within Steiner to help get our recommendations completed. As a body we only make recommendations to the boards and then they make final decisions.

However, we are the frontline for facility complaints and thus need to address concerns and issues with the community. At our most recent meeting some of these issues included:

Winter Pool usage at Bella Mar: In a past Ranch Record issue, 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 6 of the 8 lap lanes, Monday – Friday from 3:45pm – 7pm. 100% of the LCA Steiner team is composed of Steiner Ranch residents! So, to clear up some confusion, LCA stands for Lost Creek Aquatics, but that does not mean they are bringing in outside swimmers to swim at the Bella Mar Pool. Unable to handle the overwhelming needs of the swimming community, many swimmers are still going outside of the neighborhood and still driving to pools in Lakeway, Bee Caves and Cedar Park.

Basketball Court usage on the rise: We know the Bella Mar basketball courts are seeing a lot of use and many wanting to use the courts at the same time. Since there is currently no way to reserve the courts without paying a fee, the Facilities Committee recommended to the SRMA that we upgrade Towne Square basketball goals to match the Bella Mar goals, making them more attractive to the competitive user, along with adding these two courts to the Tennis Court reservation system. We will let you know if these recommendations get approved by the SRMA Board of Directors.

Lake Club usage: We know many of you have concerns about the use of this facility by non-residents and the vandalism that has occurred. We are doing everything we can to minimize these incidences, however to take drastic steps will cost HOA funds. We are looking at ways to address these issues without affecting dues. The SRMA board is aware of these issues as well and is looking for suggestions and solutions to the problems. All SRMA members are welcome and encouraged to attend a monthly Board meeting and give your input during Homeowner Forum. SRMA meetings are

held the last Wednesday of each month, but consult the calendar on the HOA website for updates.

Survey Results – Recently we put out a survey, and we had the best survey response of all time in Steiner, 1364 out of 4,200 responding. The results were not what was expected but opened our eyes. Almost 2/3 of you resounded said No to extra costs on any projects. While we are still getting demand for new facilities, we understand the fact that the majority of you do not want to pay for it and with the path to homeowner run boards shortly in the future (the SRROA is already homeowner run) we will have to look at other options to meet demand and provide you the facility enjoyment you request without impacting your fees or dues, meaning there will be no additional pool or meeting space added since the community has spoken that they do not support funding it. The more specific results are below based on percentages:

Dog Park	27.4 Interested / 73% Not Interested
25 Yard Pool	23.2 Interested / 77.2 Not Interested
Sponsored 25 Yard Pool	28.5 Interested / 71.6 Not Interested
Basketball Court	25.8 Interested / 74.6 Not Interested
Field Renovations	30.2 Interested / 70.2 Not Interested

The survey also asked for “other” suggestions of facilities/amenities you would be willing to pay for. Here are just a few of those results:

- Baseball Fields
- Meeting/Party room for adults only
- Fitness Center
- Skatepark
- More fields
- Lights on fields
- Shade structures on playgrounds
- Outdoor mall
- Community Garden
- Pool with a slide
- Jogging Trail
- Recreational pool
- Splash Pads
- Bridge over Lake Austin
- Lacrosse Field
- Security Cameras at the Entrances
- Update pool furniture at John Simpson (Done)
- Gathering Center for Teens
- Pool and Park in each sub-division
- Tennis Courts
- Community Library
- Baseball batting cages
- Aerobics studio with spring floors
- Golf Cart Paths
- Improve Lake Club docks and parking
- Bury the Power lines
- Purchase Mixed Use lots
- Obstacle Course structures
- Sand Volleyball Courts
- Beer Garden
- Street Lights
- Fishing pond
- Parking spots at trail entrances
- Astroturf fields
- Driving Range
- More sidewalks

As you can see, the wish list is long and varied and it especially shows the diversity of the Community. Thank you to everyone that took the time to respond to the survey!


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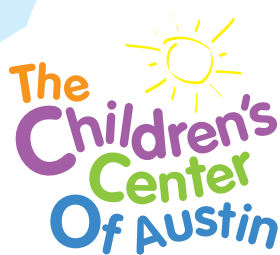
From the Association Office

Love Your Dog, Leash Your Dog

We love dogs—we really do. That's why the association is committed to enforcing the county leash law on association property. According to the U.S. Humane Society, an unleashed dog has an average life span of less than four years? Allowing your dog to run free threatens your dog's health and welfare and the happiness it brings to you.

We also love our community. That's another reason the association is committed to enforcing the county leash law—so all residents may enjoy our community.

Another great way you can help everyone enjoy our community is by picking up your dog's poop. There are several dog poop stations all along the major roadways in Steiner.



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School News



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FOUR POINTS HOMEWORK HELP IS BACK

VHS PALS (Peer Assistance and Leadership) directed by Amy Gallagher and NHS (National Honor Society Students) directed by Ashley Koble, volunteer their time each week to help Leander ISD students in our Four Points Area with their homework. This is for elementary students - high school.

It was a great success last year with students: increasing their grade point averages, forming friendships and creating a closer community bond. Four Points Homework Help is based on Peer Assisted Learning which follows LISD's 10 Ethical Principles and Learning Model. This is 100% volunteer with the gratuity being the satisfaction of making a difference and working together as a community. Many high school volunteers more than doubled their required hours because they really enjoyed helping others.

This is a privately organized volunteer program that was started last school year by Vandegrift High School Senior -NHS and PALS member - Addison Stahl. He created this volunteer organization with the support of his family based on a program in NY organized by the public library. Addison and his friends were looking for ways to volunteer and really make a difference and Homework Help became a reality.

Mrs. Gallagher and Ms. Koble believed in the idea and offered the opportunity to earn volunteer hours through this program to their students.

Cathy Richardson - CathyBDesign - donated professional graphics and posters to give Homework Help an identity.

Kristi and Rick Nordin, owners of Cups and Cones supported the cause and donated meeting space at Cups and Cones. They also offer weekly specials during Homework Help hours.

Four Points Homework Help will be held at Cups and Cones again this year starting October 22, 2014. The days will be Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30pm -7:30pm. Sessions will have an LISD approved adult volunteer supervising them. Appointments must be set up to participate.

New addition to the group is Lucas Martis. Homework Help will have a website and online scheduler to make scheduling easier. Lucas Martis - VHS Junior - is webmaster for this volunteer program and is getting the site ready to go.

For more information please email 4ptshmwkhelp@gmail.com. Please look for flyers and posters at Cups and Cones soon for the website and further information.



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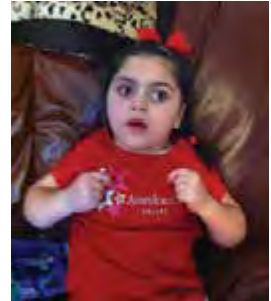
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School News



Back To School

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 mid-afternoons and remember if you are traveling in a school zone to slow down.

Time To Slow Down!

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Lady Vipers

Digs-N-Dunks



Saturday, October 19th 2013
1:00 – 5:00 @ Vandegrift High School
(Basketball 1-3:00 and Volleyball 3-5:00)

Come for a fun filled day as the Lady Vipers teach you their volleyball and basketball skills!

Be sure to wear athletic wear tennis shoes & knee pads. Kindergarten-8th Grade are welcome!

All participants will receive:

- ★ A Digs-N-Dunks T-Shirt
- ★ Vandegrift giveaway
- ★ A snack to be provided at the clinic
- ★ An unforgettable experience, learning from VHS volleyball and basketball players!

Register Now: for the \$35 Registration fee (must be received by Oct. 10th, 2013)

Walk-In price: \$45 from Oct. 11th thru event day Oct. 19th, 2013

**Register online at: <http://www.vandegriftvipers.com/volleyball.htm>

Questions: Aldy Duffield @ 512.751.3217 duffieldaldy@gmail.com or Krista @ 512.771.7031 texaskrista@yahoo.com



2013 Digs and Dunks Registration Form

Name: _____ Grade: _____ T-Shirt size: YS YM YL AS AM AL

Current School Attending: _____

Parent Name: _____ Contact #: _____

Email address (for updates): _____

Payment: Cash or check only. Make checks payable to **VHS Volleyball Booster Club**

Mail form/payment to: Aldy Duffield/ Vandegrift Volleyball Booster Club
13013 Bright Sky Overlook Austin, TX 78732

WAIVER OF CLAIMS: "I hereby release any claim I might have against Leander Independent School District, or any of its agents, which might arise from any injury or other damage my child might incur while on the property of LISD or while participating in any activity sponsored by LISD."

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

BUILDING & ADMINISTERING YOUR WORDPRESS SITE FOR BEGINNERS

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

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 (Sept. 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. 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 (Nov. 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. *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 (Dec. 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 (Jan. 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 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.

Lake Travis Republican Club



Roger Williams, US Representative for Texas's 25th Congressional District, will be the featured speaker at the monthly meeting of the Lake Travis Republican Club, to be held Tuesday, October 15, 2013, at the Hills Country Club, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. His district stretches from Tarrant County in the north to Hays County in the south, and includes much of Austin and the Texas Hill Country.

Prior to his election in November 2012, Congressman Williams served his country in a number of ways and brings a unique background to Congress. He was raised in the Fort Worth area where he graduated from high school and later played baseball for Texas Christian University. After a brief stint in pro baseball, he began working in the family car business and has owned and operated the business for 40 years.

Along the way, he also became involved civically and politically. He served as Regional Finance Chairman for Governor Bush in 1994 and 1998 before he went on to later serve as the North Texas Finance Chairman and National Grassroots Fundraising Chairman for Bush/Chaney '04, Inc. Williams was appointed by President George W. Bush in 2001 as the Chairman of the Republican National Finance Committee's Eagles Program. He has also served as State Finance Chair for John Cornyn for U.S Senate Inc., in 2002 and as the National Director of the "Patriots" program for Senator Cornyn.

In 2005, Governor Rick Perry appointed Congressman Williams to serve as Texas Secretary of State. As Chief Election Officer for Texas, he worked to insure the uniform application and interpretation of election laws throughout the state. The Congressman worked tirelessly to promote economic development investment and job creation in Texas. He also served as the state's Chief Liaison for Texas Border and Mexican Affairs as well as Chair of the state's 2005 Base Realignment and Closure response Strike Force.

Congressman Williams was elected to his first term in Congress on November 6th, 2012 and was selected to serve on the House Committee on the Budget, along with the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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.con. A lunch Buffet will be served.

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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The Real Estate Deal (RED) IN STEINER RANCH

Steiner Ranch Market Data - August 2013										
List Price Range	Homes Active for Sale			Homes Pending Sale			Homes Sold in the last 90 days			
	# of Homes	Avg List \$/SqFt	Avg Days on Market	# of Homes	Avg List \$/SqFt	Avg Days on Market	# of Homes	Avg Sold \$/SqFt	Avg % of LP	Avg Days on Market
Up to 300K	3	\$ 131.66	37	7	\$ 125.52	12	19	\$ 129.79	99.37%	12
301K-400K	12	\$ 124.90	44	13	\$ 130.39	67	39	\$ 125.94	99.05%	14
401K-500K	18	\$ 152.96	56	9	\$ 149.52	51	44	\$ 134.81	98.67%	25
501K-600K	11	\$ 156.77	45	6	\$ 159.33	33	16	\$ 147.04	98.58%	17
601K-700K	5	\$ 174.64	62	4	\$ 162.63	150	14	\$ 158.41	97.49%	61
701K - 999K	4	\$ 177.88	89	2	\$ 169.14	56	20	\$ 165.50	97.61%	61
1M and up	3	\$ 240.67	151	0	\$ -	0	4	\$ 271.90	94.29%	2
Total	56			41			156			

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

The number of sold homes (rolling 90 day average) in Steiner has increased significantly starting in Feb-April this year. The increase in home sales (90 day average) between May-July and June-August was 160%. Also notice the extremely low days on market and record low active listings. This results in less than one month of inventory at current sales rates.

Ever see the status of a home that was listed for sale "AC" or active contingent? A home that is listed as AC means that the sellers have accepted a contract from a buyer that is contingent on something else happening prior to the transaction being able to close. The most common occurrence of AC is when a buyer must close on the sale of their current home before being able to complete the purchase of their new home. When you submit an AC offer on home, there is an additional form to the contract that outlines how the contingency will work. There are a few conditions in that form that you need to understand before entering into this type of contract.

#1 – a seller may still accept another offer to purchase their home. If the seller receives and accepts another offer to purchase their home, the buyer will have a negotiated number of days to decide if they want to continue with the purchase and waive their rights to the contingency (meaning they would still be legally required to purchase this home whether or not they sell theirs before) or be in breach of contract. Typically being in breach of contract would mean that their earnest money would be at risk. If the buyer can't waive the contingency, then they can legally terminate their contract during this period of time and would be entitled to receive their earnest money back.

#2 – there is an end date for the contingency. The buyer will

sell their existing property by a negotiated date or the contract will automatically terminate and their earnest money will be refunded. This does not preclude the buyer and seller from renegotiating terms for the contingency but protects the buyer from losing their earnest money while their current home is under contract.

As a seller, you want to make sure that the buyer is pre-qualified for a loan with a credible lender. You also want to know and understand the state of sale of their current home. Are they already under contract with a credible buyer? If not, how well are they priced? What is the market like in which they are trying to sell their home? Do they really have to sell prior to buying or do they just prefer to do it this way? All of these factors are important in helping to decide whether or not you should take your home off the market for this type of contract.

As a buyer, you want to negotiate a close date with a small cushion in it to ensure that you can close on your current home before being liable to close on the new home. You also want to give yourself as long a period as possible to decide the feasibility of waiving the contingency in the event the seller receives another offer.

Having an experienced realtor to help you through this process is one of the most important things a buyer or seller can do in this situation. They can help you understand the benefits and risks to this process and make sure your money and assets are protected.

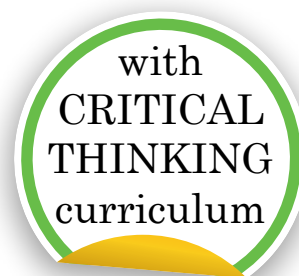
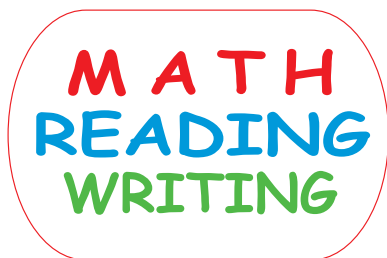
If you have any real estate related questions that you would like addressed in a future article, please contact Peel Inc. and they will forward them along to me.



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Neighbor Spotlight

By Kimbely McLaughlin

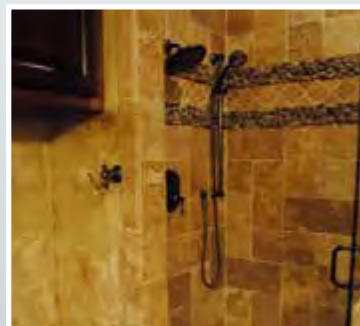
The design for the amazing space featured in this spotlight article all started with a sink.

This beautiful copper sink created the vision for this entire guest bathroom setting the tones for the colors of the walls, cabinets and granite. Notice one of my favorite features of all time – the faucet and handles are NOT on the countertop but behind the sink in the wall! Talk about easy to clean around. The granite, which this picture does not do justice, will take your breath away as soon as you enter. The cabinets are notty alder. The mirror is surrounded by small glass squares a. Don't miss the faux paint which shimmers when you turn on the light. Then you turn to the left and see this shower built for two. There are two complete sets of shower heads (only one is shown from this angle) and an adjustable showerhead that can be raised or lowered for little ones. I love the adjustable shower head especially for washing pets.

This elegant frameless shower with softened river rock under your feet (not the sharp ones that hurt your feet when you walk on them) and matching river rock horizontal accents. The shower is surrounded by rectangular and square travertine pieces in an art-like fashion. They have two built in nooks to store all your soap, shampoo and shaving products (shown in the photo below).

Now my favorite part of the bathroom ensemble – check out this awesome custom, teak wood bench. Just like you would find in any of the highest ranked spas on the planet. The perfect accent to complete the perfect bathroom and all because this home owner came across such a cool sink!

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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November: Underwater Holiday Photos! Colin's Hope will be collaborating with Flashpool Productions and pool partners throughout the Central Texas area to capture your BEST Holiday picture Ever! Proceeds from photos will help us prevent drowning. Locations and dates will be posted at www.colinshope.org and our Facebook page soon.



Thank you to AG Real Estate Services for underwriting our Underwater Holiday Photo project.



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NOW IS THE TIME TO PRUNE YOUR OAKS TREES

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>.



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