

Official Publication of Jester Homeowners Association, Inc.

#### May 2014

## EASTER FUN IN JESTER!

by Teresa Gouldie, Social Chairman

There was a record turn-out at our annual JHA Easter Egg Hunt! The Easter Bunny hopped into Jester early that morning and hid eggs filled with goodies for all the children of our neighborhood. After the kiddos filled their baskets with colorful eggs, they were treated to a host of games and activities.

The Petting Zoo was a huge success! The children loved having the opportunity to get "up close and personal" by petting and cuddling a variety of animals. The prize walk was a big hit as well, along with ball toss games, hopscotch, ring toss, bunny tattoos and a coloring station. Our teenage volunteers were amazing and helped the kiddos with all the activities. It was a morning enjoyed by adults and children alike, and we were truly blessed by a beautiful day in all respects.



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## **SAT, MAY 17TH @ 8AM**

Register with Teresa at tgouldie@gmail.com or call 512-751-8000

## Jester Receives Firewise Community Award

Volume 9, Issue 5

by Jeff Shapiro



Members of Jester's Firewise Committee receive National Firewise Recognition from the Texas A&M Forest Service and the Austin Fire Department

At the annual Homeowners' Association meeting, Jester was officially recognized for becoming a Firewise Community in 2013. Nick Harrison, Firewise Coordinator for the Texas A&M Forest Service, presented a Firewise Communities plaque from the National Fire Protection Association, along with Firewise street signs and a framed Texas Firewise flag. Members of the Jester Firewise Committee and the Austin Fire Department Wildfire Division staff were also in attendance.

The recognition ceremony occurred during Jester's Annual Weeklong "30-feet for Fire Safety – 2014" event. This event is designed to get homeowners involved in protecting their home from wildfire, and it resulted in 51 homes receiving Firewise evaluations, 58 homes registering for the special yard waste pickup, and more than 10 tons of biomass being hauled away by Austin Resource Recovery.

In addition, Austin Fire Department contributed significant resources to Jester BCCP Firewise demonstration projects at the Jester/Redbay intersection (11.4 tons of biomass removed) and at the end of Jester Blvd in 2 areas (10 tons of biomass removed). Since the Jester Firewise program began in 2013, we have documented removal of more than 110 tons of biomass, and we have performed over 100 Firewise property evaluations!

Firewise Committee Chair Jeff Shapiro noted at the presentation ceremony, "Jester is a wonderful community that is surrounded

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<u>Jester Estates</u>

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#### **ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS**

Interested in submitting an article? You can do so by emailing diana0777@att.net or by going to:

> www.peelinc.com/articleSubmit.php. All news must be received by the 12th of the month prior to the issue.

### Jester Homeowner's **Association Website!**

www.JesterNeighbors.com Community Registration Code: 3328

**PET REGISTRY • SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: ONLINE & VIA EMAIL • ONLINE SUGGESTION BOX:** MAKE SUGGESTIONS TO THE ASSOCIATION BOARD • IMPORTANT HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION **DOCUMENTS ... & MUCH MORE** 



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## PET REGISTRY

Get your pets registered TODAY! This is a complimentary neighborhood service!

#### Mail (or drop off) your pet info to:



Carol Philipson 7502 Clematis Cv Austin, TX 78750

Include type of pet, name, male or female, description, age, medications, veterinarian's name, whether it is microchipped, and pet owner's name, address, and contact information.

For lost or found pets, call 338-1519

#### **SIGN UP FOR JESTER EMAIL ALERTS!**

Visit Jester Homeowner's Association website and sign up to receive pertinent neighborhood email alerts.

www.JesterNeighbors.com

Community Registration Code: 3328 -**REGISTER TODAY!** 

(Continued from Cover...)



Many thanks to our young volunteers!

This event could not have been possible without the assistance of my very energetic helpers. From set-up to clean-up, these special people volunteered their time to help create memories for our Jester children. Many thanks to Edward Mokarzel, Eva Wisser, Mike



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## <u>Jester Estates</u>

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Collins and Megan, Glen Brown, Colette Fitzgerald, Bryce Bayles, Jonathan Roll and Alex, Christian, and Evan, Edgar Figueroa, Ryan Marcum and Luke, Logan and Reid, and Derek and Christy Bishop. And a huge thank you to the teenagers who got up early on a Saturday morning to help with this event: Haven Erengil, Amanda Thompson, Claire Wynn, Mackenzie Smith, Lillian Fisher, Caitlin Moore, Sophie Garza, Emma Garza, Briahna Brandt, Jordan Thompson, Sean Moore, Kevin Moore, Ernest Chan, Andrew Hresko, Brian McCluskey, Joseph Menke and Sam Williams. A note of appreciation also goes out to Terri Milan with Jester Club. It's great to have the support of the club in making this a successful event!



If you'd like to volunteer for future events, please call me at 512-751-8000 or email me at tgouldie@gmail.com. Our next children's event will be our 4th of July Parade at 9:30 am on Friday, July 4th.

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#### (Firewise...Continued from Cover)

by the Balcones Preserve, which adds tremendous beauty to our neighborhood and which our residents greatly value." By becoming a Firewise community, we have acknowledged that:

• We are partners with the Balcones preserve

• We have an obligation to protect the preserve from fires that might start in our neighborhood

• We have an obligation to protect our homes and properties from fires that might start in the preserve.

Harry Evans, Chief of Staff, Austin Fire Department stated, "It is an honor to work with the Jester Estates Firewise Committee. Because of your leadership, you have set the standard. Jester is complicated because of the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve and habitat, in addition to the vegetation and terrain. You have shown that, in spite of all those challenges, a balance can be achieved to keep the environment and habitat healthy and at the same time make your homes more ignition resistant. Well done."

Nick Harrison of the Texas A&M Forest Service agreed, "Jester has embraced the Firewise concept, has brought together a dynamic group to form its Firewise Committee, has rallied residents to get involved to protect their homes and their community, and has built cooperative partnerships with the preserve and wildland fire agencies."



## **Home Remodeling Projects Pay Off**

By Colette Fitzgerald, Realtor<sup>®</sup>, Broker Associate, CRS Jester Estates Resident

To remodel or not? That is the question. According to the 2014 Texas Remodel Valuation Report recently released by the Texas Association of Realtors, home remodeling projects in the major cities of Texas grew increasingly profitable and popular in 2013.

Dan Hatfield, chairman of the TAR, commented, "All aspects of Texas real estate are strong, including the homeremodeling market. As demand for Texas homes continues to rise, homeowners and sellers can significantly contribute to their home's resale value through small projects and smart additions."

The report analyzed the project recoup costs in 2013 for over 20 different remodeling projects nationwide, and in major Texas cities.

Austin specifically showed significant gains in project recoup costs in 2013. In all markets, smaller, functional remodeling projects showed greater increases in recoup costs than upscale, less practical projects.



Top Five Projects by Recoup Cost

Entry Door Replacement	96.6%
Major Kitchen Remodel	95.5%
Deck Addition (Wood)	87.4%
Attic Bedroom	84.3%
Garage Door Replacement	83.7%

If You Are Interested In A Consultation On Which Remodeling Projects Would Give Your House The Highest Return On Investment Please Call Me Today! 512.294.1781



#### FREE Jester Estates Community BOOTCAMP

When: Sunday, May 18th 8-9am Ladera Bend Parking Lot (Intersection of Jester Blvd. & RM 2222) Are you interested in keeping fit and having fun without leaving the neighborhood? If so, please join us for our FREE Community Bootcamp. All Jester Estates residents and guests are welcome. The more the merrier!

**Event Sponsored By: Colette** Fitzgerald with Realty Austin

\*All you need is a yoga mat & water. Look for the posted signs.

#### Please join us for a **Complimentary Professional** Photo Session

#### When: Saturday May 17th 5:00-8:00pm

Professional portraits by Kathleen Lee, Sponsored by Colette Fitzgerald with Realty Austin-both Jester Estates residents.

Kathleen will be taking photosofyou, your children, or your entire family... whoever you choose! Time slots are limited, first come first served.



RSVP by May 15th to:

Colette@realtyaustin.com | 512-294-1781



#### **Did You Know?**

Jester Estates residents have two great ways to keep in touch! Please join the Jester Estates Residents Facebook Group and the Nextdoor.com Jester Estates group. http://EZ.com/jesterestatesfb & https://jesterhomes.nextdoor.com

#### Colette Fitzgerald

Broker Associate, REALTOR<sup>®</sup>, CRS colette@realtyaustin.com 512.294.1781



## **WILDLIFE HABITAT** 7432 Anaqua Drive



## HOT GREEN TIPS FOR THE SUMMER

by Dale Bulla

For those of you that planted some new trees last winter, the most difficult time for them is the next two years. Especially in the summer, during a drought, they will need more water than a sprinkler can give them. It is recommended that once a week, you let a hose trickle slowly for 30 minutes or so for deep watering. If you notice the leaves wilting or turning brown, especially around the edges, give them extra water. You may also want to get a tree gator from the Austin Water Utility, TreeFolks or online.

The second biggest problem with these young trees is their vulnerability to line trimmers that scar their thin bark or tear it off. This allows insects and disease to invade the trunk and can even kill them. So, protect the trunk with a nice thick ring layer of mulch but don't pile it up around the trunk. Also keep that line trimmer away until they are several years old. You can also plant some native plants around the base to provide color and habitat for hummingbirds and butterflies. The mulch will help hold the moisture.

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## Are You Listening?

## <u>Jester Estates</u> NATURE WATCH

by Jim and Lynne Weber

#### **BUTTERFLY BUFFET**

The very nature of a healthy ecosystem is defined by the interrelationships and dependencies one species has on another, and nowhere is this depicted better than in the world of butterflies and their host plants.

For butterflies, life begins as a tiny round, oval, or cylindrical egg laid on the stem or leaf of a plant. From the egg, a caterpillar or larva emerges, feeding at a steady pace, often shedding its skin several times from its rapidly growing body. The mature caterpillar then pupates, or encloses its body by forming a chrysalis, in which its tissues are broken down and the adult insect's structures are formed, transforming itself into a butterfly.

While most butterflies nectar or feed on a wide variety of blooming plants, when in their larval stage they are much more restricted. They are considered to be 'oligophagous', or feeding on an especially limited range of typically related food plants, sometimes only one particular species. Often called host plants, these plants are sought out by female butterflies needing to lay their eggs on or near the plant.

While scientists are still learning how butterflies locate their host

plants, many believe it is a combination of chemical smells and taste cues that determine a plant's appeal to an insect. Butterflies have chemoreceptors at the ends of their antennae and on the bottoms of their feet, which enable them to taste or smell. They use this sense to locate both nectar and host plants, find mates, identify rivals, and avoid predators.

The dependency of butterflies on specific host plants is among the key factors in restricting the range or distribution of a particular butterfly species, although many species are widespread. In fact, host plants of certain species may vary across different geographical butterfly populations, and there is still much to learn about these relationships.

In Texas, the astounding diversity of ecological habitats and associated native plants support a wide variety of butterfly species, more than any other state. In addition, regional specialties can occur, where a species is very limited in range and not typically found in other parts of Texas or sometimes not even elsewhere in the United States.

Taking the time to learn about host and nectar plants and the butterflies that love them gives us yet another glimpse into the fascinating, ever changing web of life. It transcends the information we have gathered at the species level and raises it to the inter-species

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level, providing us with a more connected view of the inner workings of a functional ecosystem. By applying this knowledge, not only can we more fully appreciate the intricacies of nature, we can create, restore, and nourish the very places where they take place.

Send your nature-related questions to naturewatch@austin.rr.com and we'll do our best to answer them. If you enjoy reading these articles, look for our book, Nature Watch Austin, published by Texas A&M University Press.

#### TOP CENTRAL TEXAS BUTTERFLY NECTAR PLANTS

Blue Mistflower (Chromolaena odorata) Shrubby Boneset (Ageratina havenensis) Gregg's Mistflower (Conoclinium greggii) Blackfoot Daisy (Melampodium leucanthum) Woolly Butterflybush (Buddleja marrubiifolia) Button Bush (Cephalanthus occidentalis) Texas Lantana (Lantana horrida) Purple Coneflower (Echinachea purpurea) Gregg Dalea (Dalea greggii) Autumn Sage (Salvia greggii) Mealy Blue Sage (Salvia farinacea) Scorpion-tail (Heliotropium angiospermum) Zexmenia (Wedelia texana)

#### TOP CENTRAL TEXAS BUTTERFLY HOST PLANTS & THEIR BUTTERFLIES

Milkweeds	Monarch, Queen
(Asclepias species)	
Passionvine	Gulf Fritillary, Variegated
(Passiflora incarnata)	Fritillary
White Veined Dutchman's Pipe	Pipevine Swallowtail
(Aristolochia fimbriata)	-
Wafer Ash	Two-tailed Sawllowtail,
(Ptelea trifoliata)	Giant Swallowtail
Velvetleaf Senna	Sleepy Orange, Cloudless
(Senna lindheimeriana)	Sulphur, Little Yellow
Sunflowers	Bordered Patch, Gorgone
(Helianthus species)	Checkerspot
Asters	American Lady, Pearl
(Symphyotrichum species)	Crescent, Dainty Sulphur
Flame Acanthus	Texan Crescent, Elada
(Anisacanthus quadrifidus)	Checkerspot, Tiny
	Checkerspot, Crimson Patch
Frogfruit	Phaon Crescent, Common
(Phyla nodiflora)	Buckeye
Ashe Juniper	Juniper Hairstreak
(Juniperus asheii)	Î
Oaks	Oak Hairstreak, Bandec
(Quercus species)	Hairstreak, White M
	Hairstreak, Horace's
	Duskywing, Juvenal's
	Duskywing
Mistletoe	Great Purple Hairstreak
(Phoradendron species)	<u>^</u>
Dill, Parsley	Black Swallowtail



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BEE CAVES 8100 Bee Caves Rd Austin, TX 78746 512.329.6633

## <u>Jester Estates</u>

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## SOCIAL GROUPS

**BUNKO** - If you'd like to join or be put on the list as a sub, contact Vallie Marana at valliemarana@gmail.com or 925-408-5206 (cell). They are a lively group and play on the 1st Thursday of every month at 7 pm.

**CYCLING -** Want to join a Jester road biking group and participate in organized rides? Contact Troy Reish at troy.reish@gmail.com or call 241-0592.

HILL 2013 KINDERGARTEN GROUP - This group is helping connect Jester families with others who also have children entering Hill Kindergarten in the Fall 2013. Email Jester resident, Kevin Fricke at Kevin@lonestarmedia.com to be added to our email distribution list.

**JESTER UNCORKED** - Wine lovers of Jester, unite! Join our evergrowing group of wine lovers. Contact Karen Kershaw at kershawk@ me.com.

**JESTER DOG LOVER'S GROUP** - Put a smile on your dog's face and a wag in his tail — sign up now to be a founding member of the Jester dog lovers group. Contact Carol Powell at 340-0321 or email her at carolpowell@austin.rr.com

**JESTER KIDS YAHOO GROUP -** This group is helping Jester parents connect with other parents who have children with similar ages or interests! Email jesterkids-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to subscribe.

**JESTER PAGE TURNERS** - Check out the Jester Page Turners, a neighborhood book group that meets the second Wednesday evening of each month. Contact Nicky Shore at Shorenm@gmail.com.

KAYAKING - Have some fun with this great water sport!

**NETWORKING GROUP** - Are you a resident who owns a business or provides a service? Build your business by referral! One individual or company per professional category. Contact Paul (Griff) Griffiths at 241-1644 or griff@albioncomputergroup.com

**ROWING -** Interested in sweep rowing and sculling? Contact Julie Donnie at 340-0432 or JulieDonnie@yahoo.com.

**SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT GROUP** - Interested in developing relationships and sharing spiritual life experience? Contact Jim Irwin at jimirwin@austin.rr.com or 502-0797

**TEXAS HOLD'EM GROUP** - Join the fun and play tournament style Texas Hold'em. We meet once a month. Contact David Singerman to be put on the list. Email david.singerman@kw.com or call 512-207-0930.

**WELCOME COMMITTEE** - Darla Rowan and JoAnn Welles are co-chairs of this committee, which is designed to welcome new residents to Jester, including newborns. Volunteer to help by emailing JoAnn at joann-welles@sbcglobal.net or call her at 346-0349

**WOODWORKING GROUP** – Join our woodworking group to share knowledge and techniques! Contact John Parker at 345-6991 or JParker84@austin.rr.com

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