

# How's your brisketiquette?

*This article was contributed by the National League  
of Junior Cotillions – Travis County*

With the summer vacation in full swing, the kids out of school, and noodles floating in the pool, it's no doubt the grill is staying fired up. But...before you kick off the flip-flops, here are a few barbecue etiquette tips to ensure your grill fest goes down as the best on the block. Wait. Barbecue etiquette, you say? Yes, it exists.

1. If you're invited to a barbecue party thrown by an individual/family, avoid showing up empty-handed. A side of coleslaw, apple pie, or pitcher of lemonade will do the trick.

2. A barbecue is an informal affair – no need to worry about which fork and knife to use. Go ahead and use your fingers in lieu of utensils. Larger pieces of food, however, should be cut with a knife and fork. No need to get medieval on us.

3. If you're like many people who wonder what is the proper way to squeeze a lemon slice and a lemon wedge? Well, here is the answer: if it is a slice, don't squeeze it-just drop it in the glass. If it is a wedge, cup your hand over it to prevent squirting, and squeeze it into the glass. Who likes lemon pulp in the eye? Not me.

4. Corn on the cob vs. man. For most people, eating corn on the cob is one of life's biggest challenges. Okay, well, maybe it's just a challenge. The best way to approach a hot cob: simply, butter a few rows of corn at a time, hold the corn firmly by the ends with two hands (or use corn skewers), and eat a few rows at a time from left to right. If you prefer to skip the bite-off-the-cob approach, you

may also cut kernels off of the cob with a knife, cutting in a vertical, downward manner.

5. Similar to corn on the cob, ribs are meant to be eaten with your hands. Given their messy nature, however, it's important to have napkins on hand. For this barbecue favorite, bibs are not necessary.

6. Sauce is boss, unless it isn't offered. While Texans are usually proud of their barbecue sauce, some barbecue purists prefer no sauce to appreciate the natural, smoked flavor of the meat. Ask for sauce only when you know it's available, or if your child requests it.

7. Grilled shrimp can be easy to eat or take a little work, depending on how it is served. As a general rule of thumb, if the shrimp has the tail on, you can use your fingers. Tails off, use a fork!

8. When hosting a large group, be sure to have a wide variety of food options for vegetarians and children.

9. To pick or not to pick? Your teeth that is. Often times, meat can be tricky to eat and require some dental maintenance. At every expense, avoid removing food from your teeth in public. Toothpicks may be used, but only in private. So what should you do if you notice someone else in the same predicament? Be discreet, but do tell.

10. Last and not least, respect the griller's domain. If the host/griller has samples to offer, he/she will do so. Never assume you may help yourself to try what "smells good."

Now that the fundamentals are covered, what's for lunch?



# THE MONITOR

## WELCOME

### *A Newsletter for Meridian residents*

The Monitor is a monthly newsletter mailed to all Meridian residents. Each newsletter is filled with valuable information about the community, local area activities, school information and more.

If you are involved with a school group, play group, scouts, sports activity, social group, etc. and would like to submit an article for the newsletter you can do so online at [www.PEELinc.com](http://www.PEELinc.com) or you can email it [meridian@peelinc.com](mailto:meridian@peelinc.com). Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, special celebrations, birthday announcements and military service are also welcome.

Our goal is to keep you informed!

## ADVERTISING INFO

Please support the advertisers that make The Monitor possible. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 512-263-9181 or [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com). The advertising deadline is the 9th of the month prior to the issue.

## NEWSLETTER INFO

### PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. .... [www.PEELinc.com](http://www.PEELinc.com), 512-263-9181

Advertising..... [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com), 512-263-9181

**NOT AVAILABLE  
ONLINE**

## YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUR VOICE

Do you have an article or story that you would like to run in this newsletter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue.

Email your document to [meridian@peelinc.com](mailto:meridian@peelinc.com).



**CIRCLE C DENTAL**

512.301.BITE (2483)

9600 Escarpment Blvd, Austin TX 78749

[www.circlecdental.com](http://www.circlecdental.com)

[www.facebook.com/southaustindentist](https://www.facebook.com/southaustindentist)

**Allstate**

When you're the boss, it's  
**Your Name**  
on the door.

Is it time to start your  
own legacy as an  
Allstate Agency Owner?

Office Hours  
Weekdays 9am-5pm  
Saturday 9am-1pm  
[allstate.com](http://allstate.com)

If you have leadership skills, experience and capital to invest  
Allstate could be the place for you. You'll get a dedicated  
business development team, no franchise fees and the  
opportunity for unlimited income potential.

**Allstate**  
You're in good hands.

CALL TODAY 972-814-5908 OR VISIT [WWW.ALLSTATEAGENT.COM](http://WWW.ALLSTATEAGENT.COM)



## Tadah! Can You Believe This?

*Your local Austin Music Teachers Association was just nominated the best in the country!*

*Submitted by: Nell Trimble, Benevolence Chair for A.D.M.T.A.*

The Music Teachers National Association just awarded your local association as being the 2014 State Affiliate of the Year or the best in our country!

Why? Because of “programming for students” which includes 20 events and “community outreach” such as Youth Music Ambassadors which means the most opportunities for your child!

Also, our Dr. Martha Hilley right here in Austin at the University of Texas, was selected as the Teacher of the Year for Music Teachers National Association. We here in Austin nominated her for that award and then she was selected as that first at the state level and then nationally! Dr. Hilley’s teaching sparkles with a fountain of electrically inspiring ideas. She also is a writer and deeply involved on a statewide level with the governing of our colleges. Her picture

and caption supporting President Powers was on page 2 of the 7/13 Sunday Austin American Statesman.

In addition Dr. Sophia Gilmsom was just awarded silver in the Global Music Awards for her CD of the Goldberg Variations On Harpsichord and Piano by Johann Sebastian Bach. Dr. Gilmsom is the head of Piano Pedagogy at the university here.

Perhaps the most outstanding concert I have ever been to was her performance of that work both on the piano and harpsichord. How totally different was the music on the two instruments!

To find a piano teacher in your area, go to [www.admta.org](http://www.admta.org), click on the link to “Community Resources” on the home page for our new “Find a Teacher” registry with descriptions of each teacher’s program in their studios.

## DROWNING IS FAST & SILENT KEEP KIDS IN ARM’S REACH



WATER SAFETY TIPS AT  
[WWW.COLINSHOPE.ORG](http://WWW.COLINSHOPE.ORG)



Volunteer - Donate  
[COLINSHOPE.ORG](http://COLINSHOPE.ORG)

**At least 37 Texas children have fatally drowned this year.\***  
Keep your children and families safer in, near and around all bodies of water.

**Take our Water Safety Quiz.** [www.colinshope.org/quiz/](http://www.colinshope.org/quiz/)

**Aug. 28th:** Got2Swim 11k Lake Austin. View event details. [www.tinych.org/Got2Swim](http://www.tinych.org/Got2Swim)

**Sept. 14th:** Colin’s Hope Kid’s Tri! Registration is now open. [www.tinych.org/KidsTri](http://www.tinych.org/KidsTri)

**Ongoing:** Volunteers needed to distribute water safety packets. [info@colinshope.org](mailto:info@colinshope.org)

**Ongoing:** Colin’s Hope Athlete Ambassadors needed. [www.tinych.org/AthleteAmbassador](http://www.tinych.org/AthleteAmbassador)

\*Source: Texas DFPS, Watch Kids Around Water



## LAYERS OF PROTECTION CAN PREVENT DROWNING



CONSTANT  
VISUAL  
SUPERVISION



LEARN  
TO  
SWIM



WEAR  
LIFE  
JACKETS



MULTIPLE  
BARRIERS  
TO WATER



KEEP BACKYARDS  
& BATHROOMS  
SAFER



CHECK POOL  
& HOT TUB  
FIRST



STAY AWAY  
FROM  
DRAINS



BE SAFER  
AT THE  
BEACH



LEARN CPR  
& REFRESH  
SKILLS YEARLY



## HOW TO CHOOSE A PEDIATRICIAN FOR YOUR BABY

By Theresa Willis, MD, ADC Pediatrics

If you need to choose a pediatrician for your baby, the task may seem daunting. Where do you start? When do you start? Does it really matter which doctor sees your baby? Here are a few guidelines to make the process a little easier and more organized.

1. Choose your pediatrician about six to eight weeks before baby is due. That way, even if your little bundle arrives early or things get busy towards the end of your pregnancy, you won't have to worry about who will be seeing your baby once he or she is born.

2. Start by checking with your medical insurance to see which doctors in your area are on your plan.

3. Talk to friends and neighbors to see who they bring their children to see. Personal recommendations are a good way to find physicians with a good reputation in your area.

4. Ask your Ob-Gyn's office. They often have a list of pediatricians that they like to refer their new families to.

5. Make sure the pediatrician you are choosing for your baby is board certified.

6. Meet the pediatrician ahead of time. If you have a couple of doctors in mind, or even just one, call their office and find out if the doctor has appointment times set aside to meet expectant parents. You'll have a chance not only to meet the doctor and find out if he or she is a good fit for you,

but you'll also have the opportunity to meet the staff and see the office itself.

Ask yourself:

- Do you feel comfortable talking with this doctor?
- Is the staff friendly and attentive?
- Is there a separate waiting room for sick and well children?
- Bring questions with you. This is a great chance to ask some important questions ahead of time.
- Will the pediatrician see my baby in the hospital after delivery?
- If planning on circumcising a baby boy, who does the procedure?
- When do we come in to the office for our first visit?
- What are the office hours? What happens if I have questions or concerns after office hours or on the weekend? Is there a nurse available to answer questions during the day? What about at night?
- What is the expected vaccine schedule for my baby?
- If baby is sick, can you get same day appointments with your pediatrician?
- How many other doctors are in the practice? How often will you have to see a different doctor if your child is sick and your doctor is not available that day?
- Once you've chosen a pediatrician for your baby, you can relax and rest easy knowing who you will see and what to expect when baby is born.

Lic#TACLA28642E



**City of Austin \$70 Instant Rebate**

**City of Austin rebates  
up to \$4300 & 0%  
financing for 60 months.**

**Your air conditioner accounts for more than half of your summer electricity usage. Our special AC Check-Up offer can help you gain energy efficiency and cost savings.**

**The expert check-up performed by *Climate Mechanical* gives you the opportunity to make adjustments early to ensure you have cool air when you need it most.**

Eligible customers pay only \$29 for an AC Check-up on the first unit, and \$19 for additional units. After each AC Check-Up is performed, you will receive a detailed report that includes:

- A list of needed repairs and appropriate next steps that will help ensure your AC runs properly and efficiently during the heat of the summer.
- A review of available rebate and low-interest loan opportunities to make air conditioning replacements and other energy efficiency measures more affordable.

**AC Check-Up customers are responsible for covering the additional cost of all needed repairs and replacements.**

**512.440.0123**

Austin, Kyle, Buda, Manchaca, Sunset Valley, Westlake, Oak Hill

**[www.climatemechanical.com](http://www.climatemechanical.com)**



# Eye Level

Learning Center

# MATH ENGLISH

**Excel in School; Succeed in Life!**

**Do you know your child's**

Confidence Level to take tests?(STAR,SAT..)

Learning Gaps?

Strengths & Weaknesses?

True Grade Level?

Eye Level will address all of these concerns and much more. Take our FREE diagnostic test and receive individualized feedback revealing your child's current academic level, strengths and weaknesses in Math and/or English, and an intelligent plan of action to address their specific intellectual needs.

**Analysis is absolutely FREE with no strings attached.**

Eye Level focuses on building each student's foundation in Math and English by developing critical thinking and analytical skills that lead to increased self-confidence and fosters a genuine interest in academic learning.

Eye Level is the key to Self-Directed Learning.

**Individualized  
Program**

**Developing Critical  
Thinking Ability**

**Small Steps  
to Success**

The ONLY after-school program that teaches both

**BASIC + 'CRITICAL THINKING' SKILLS**

**Call: 512-213-0102**

to schedule FREE Diagnostic Assessment.

Steiner Ranch

[www.eyelelevelsteinerranch.com](http://www.eyelelevelsteinerranch.com)  
[steinerranch@myeyelevel.com](mailto:steinerranch@myeyelevel.com)

Austin South

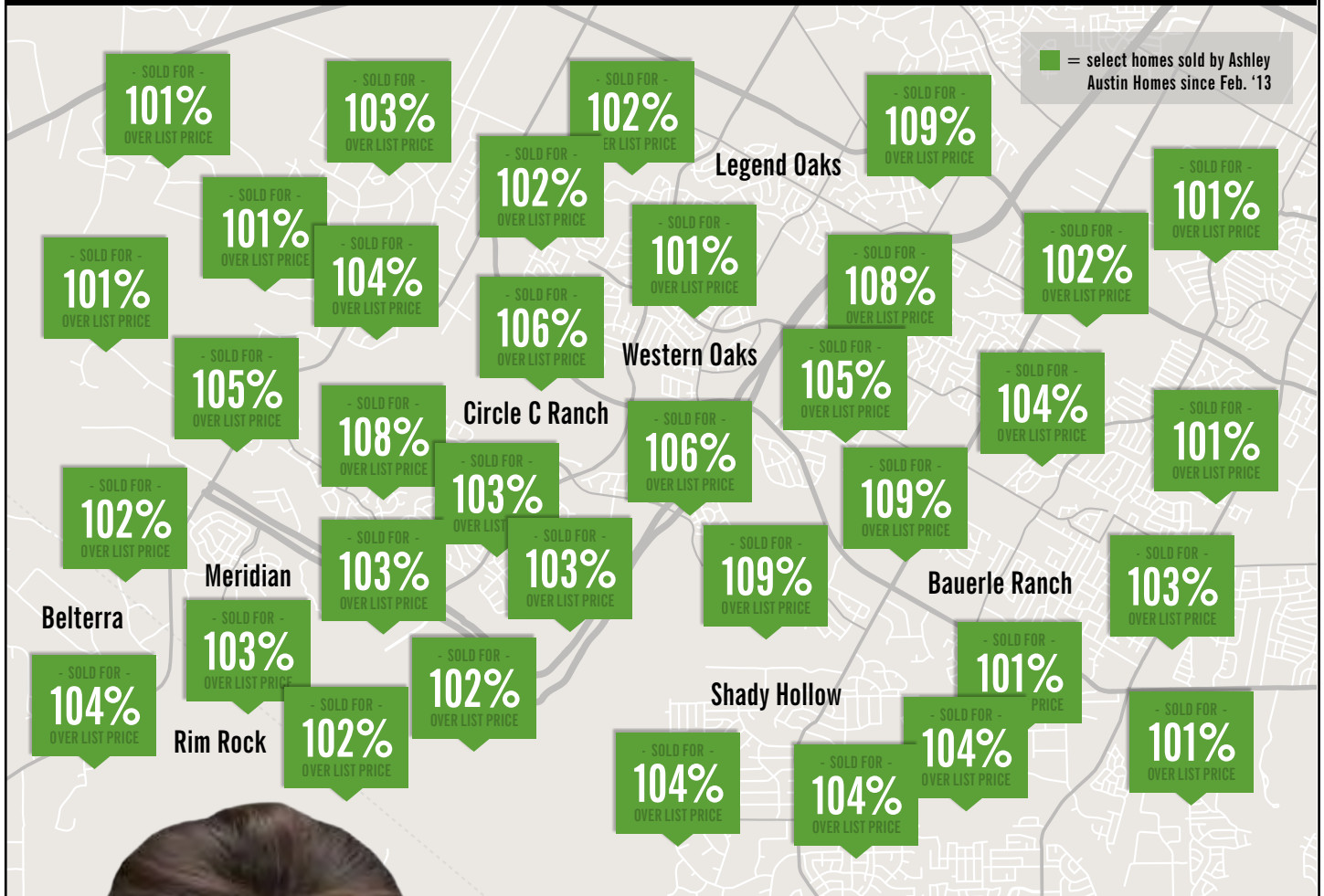
[www.eyelelevelaustinsouth.com](http://www.eyelelevelaustinsouth.com)  
[austinsouth@myeyelevel.com](mailto:austinsouth@myeyelevel.com)

Parmer

[www.eyelelevelaustinparmer.com](http://www.eyelelevelaustinparmer.com)  
[austinparmer@myeyelevel.com](mailto:austinparmer@myeyelevel.com)

# ASHLEY AUSTIN

HOMES



## Let the Bidding Wars Begin.

When you list your home with Ashley, you'll quickly learn that no agent does more to get the maximum price possible for your home. In fact, our average listing sells at 103% of the asking price! From professional home staging and photography to aggressive marketing plans, Ashley Austin Homes works harder to sell your home for the highest price possible. So, if you are ready to sell your home for more than you thought possible, call or email Ashley today and you'll see why Ashley Austin Homes was named 2014 #2 Top Producing Agent by the Austin Business Journal.

Ashley Stucki Edgar, Realtor®

**512.217.6103**

[ashley@ashleyaustinhomes.com](mailto:ashley@ashleyaustinhomes.com)

Visit [AshleyAustinHomes.com](http://AshleyAustinHomes.com)

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter!

**kw**  
KELLERWILLIAMS

## Join Girl Scouts!

Join us for a Recruitment Rally for new Girls Scouts and Leaders! Learn what Girl Scouts has to offer, get registered, and even form a new troop. Girls will enjoy fun activities with older Girl Scouts and Leaders, while parents meet with Girl Scout adult volunteers. Kinder through 12th grade girls and their parents welcome!

*Saturday September 6, 2014  
Western Hill Church of Christ  
6211 Parkwood Drive, Austin, Texas 78735*

*For homes that feed into Oak Hill, Patton, or Mills  
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.*

*For homes that feed into Baldwin, Clayton, or Kiker  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.*

*Questions? oakhillgirlscouts@gmail.com*

The Monitor is a private publication published by Peel, Inc. It is not sanctioned by any homeowners association or organization, nor is it subject to the approval of any homeowners association or organization, nor is it intended, nor implied to replace any publication that may be published by or on behalf of any homeowners association or organization. At no time will any source be allowed to use The Monitor's contents, or loan said contents, to others in anyway, shape or form, nor in any media, website, print, film, e-mail, electrostatic copy, fax, or etc. for the purpose of solicitation, commercial use, or any use for profit, political campaigns, or other self amplification, under penalty of law without written or expressed permission from Peel, Inc. The information in the newsletter is exclusively for the private use of Peel, Inc.

Articles and ads in this newsletter express the opinions of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Peel, Inc. or its employees. Peel, Inc. is not responsible for the accuracy of any facts stated in articles submitted by others. The publisher also assumes no responsibility for the advertising content with this publication. All warranties and representations made in the advertising content are solely that of the advertiser and any such claims regarding its content should be taken up with the advertiser.

\* The publisher assumes no liability with regard to its advertisers for misprints or failure to place advertising in this publication except for the actual cost of such advertising.

\* Although every effort is taken to avoid mistakes and/or misprints, the publisher assumes no responsibility for any errors of information or typographical mistakes, except as limited to the cost of advertising as stated above or in the case of misinformation, a printed retraction/correction.

\* Under no circumstances shall the publisher be held liable for incidental or consequential damages, inconvenience, loss of business or services, or any other liabilities from failure to publish, or from failure to publish in a timely manner, except as limited to liabilities stated above.

## Southwest Pediatric A S S O C I A T E S

*"With you... every step of the way"*



**Same Day Appointments Available  
Close to Home Near Seton Southwest Hospital**  
7900 FM 1826, Bldg.1 Suites 220 & 240

Kelly Jolet, M.D. | Vaishalee Patil, M.D. | Haydee Rimer, M.D.  
Nick Wagner, M.D. | Christine Fyda, D.O.

**512.288.9669 | www.swpedi.com**



## UNLOCK THEIR POTENTIAL

The Southwest Y is here to help your child get the skills they need to grow on and off the field.

### FALL YOUTH SPORTS

- Soccer
- Baseball
- Volleyball (8 weeks)



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**Registration NOW OPEN  
SIGN UP TODAY!**

### SOUTHWEST FAMILY YMCA

6219 Oakclaire Dr & Hwy 290 | 512.891.9622 | AustinYMCA.org





**PEEL, INC.**

308 Meadowlark St.  
Lakeway, TX 78734-4717

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PEEL, INC.

MER

## GOT STATS?

Meridian by Square Ft Range	6 Months Sold History (1/2014-06/2014)						Current Market	
	TOTAL	AVERAGE					TOTAL	
	Homes Sold	Square Feet	Price / Sq. Foot	Sold Price \$K	Year Built	Days On Market	Available	Pending Sale
<2500	3	2,325	\$ 147	\$ 341	2006	31	0	2
2500-2999	9	2,729	\$ 139	\$ 378	2008	6	0	1
3000-3499	4	3,287	\$ 141	\$ 463	2009	12	1	1
3500-3999	7	3,593	\$ 146	\$ 525	2008	74	2	3
4000-4500	3	4,214	\$ 174	\$ 731	2013	53	0	0
>4500	1	4,524	\$ 126	\$ 570	2006	182	0	0
<b>Meridian Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>3,222</b>	<b>\$ 145</b>	<b>\$ 468</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>% Change Mo/Mo</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>-4%</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>-5%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>-25%</b>	<b>-40%</b>	<b>-22%</b>
<b>% Change Yr / Yr</b>	<b>-27%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>-24%</b>	<b>-57%</b>	<b>17%</b>

Market Report data was obtained from the Austin-Multiple Listing Service (MLS) on 07/08/2014. Texas License # 515586.

Some new construction and FSBO homes may not be included. Data is deemed accurate but not guaranteed.



***Tara West***

***Located in Escarpment Village***

***9600 Escarpment Blvd., Suite 930***

***(512) 632-3110 ~ Tara@AustinReps.com***

