

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2014



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# **COMMUNITY INFO**

#### STEINER RANCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS OFFICE

12550 Country Trails Lane Austin, Texas 78732 512-266-7553 – Telephone 512-266-9312 – Facsimile www.steinerranchhoa.org

#### SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday	1:00pm - 5:00pm
Friday	
Saturday and Sunday	

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Karl Chrietzberg
0

## **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."

## **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 <u>advertising@peelinc.com</u>. The advertising deadline is the 8th of the month prior to the issue.

## **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

#### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

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Sheriff – Non-Emergency	512-974-0845
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Travis County Animal Control	512-974-2000

#### **STEINER RANCH CONTACTS**

Steiner Ranch Community Association Office.....512-266-7553

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# **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 <u>steinerranch@peelinc.com</u>. The deadline is the 8th of the month prior to the issue.

# COVER PHOTO

This month's cover photo was taken by Heather Wykrent of her youngest daughter enjoying a walk on the trail close to their home. She loves to walk down the trails with her sisters in search of new flowers, rocks, a running stream and maybe a tiny fairy in the woods.

## Do you take great photos?

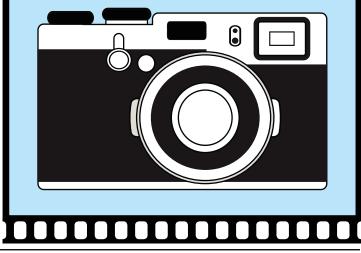
Would you like to see your photo published? We are looking for great cover photos for upcoming October issue of the Ranch Record.

#### **REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMISSION:**

- Must have been taken in Steiner Ranch (some exceptions)
- Be of High Resolution (240 dpi or higher)
- Prefer "portrait" orientation

We'd love to have something that pertains to this time of the year in some way, so be creative and give it a try. Our November 2014 issue submittal deadline is October 8th and photos should be submitted electronically by the deadline date to Sharon Adams at sharon@ steinerranchhoa.org.

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



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# Around Steiner



Noise is a concern for every resident and because you live in a community, it's important to understand that some degree of noise is to be expected. At the same time, residents need to consider the consequences of their noisy behavior. To keep everyone happy and maintain civility among neighbors, the association asks that you take a few steps to reduce or eliminate annoying noise.

Be kind and respectful. A little common courtesy makes a big difference. Keep your music and television at reasonable levels, avoid late night backyard swim parties, and before remodeling, check with the manager about acceptable hours and days of the week that work can be done. Make sure yard work is done at a reasonable and respectable time. Get to know your neighbors and be respectful of any special circumstances such as new-born children or unusual shift work that might cause irregular sleeping habits.

Keep a log. If you're disturbed by a noise problem, note the times and the nature of the noise. Ask the manager to listen and verify the noise as well. There may be a pattern in the noise that can be adjusted.

Visit your neighbor. If your neighbor is the source of the noise, try a friendly chat. Sometimes people just don't realize how noise is affecting others. People are usually considerate once they realize they're disturbing others. And, if your neighbor knocks on your door, listen politely and be willing to make changes to reduce your own noise.

Contact the manager. If a polite request doesn't change your neighbor's noisiness, it may be time to ask the manager for help. Have your noise log ready, including attempts to solve the problem yourself.

Reducing noise sounds like a good idea. A quiet, peaceful community, relatively speaking, is a happy community.

Mark Your Calendars

# 2014 Steiner Ranch Social Committee Events

OCT 10-12 – Fall Scrap-a-Thon
OCT 19 – Pumpkin Patch
OCT 26 – Halloween Trunk or Treat
NOV 15 – Camping on the Ranch
NOV 15 – Holiday Shopping 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.



# Happy 7<sup>th</sup> Birthday ALEX FINK!

October 10th





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# **Transition Committee Update – October**

By Sharon Adams, Community Manager

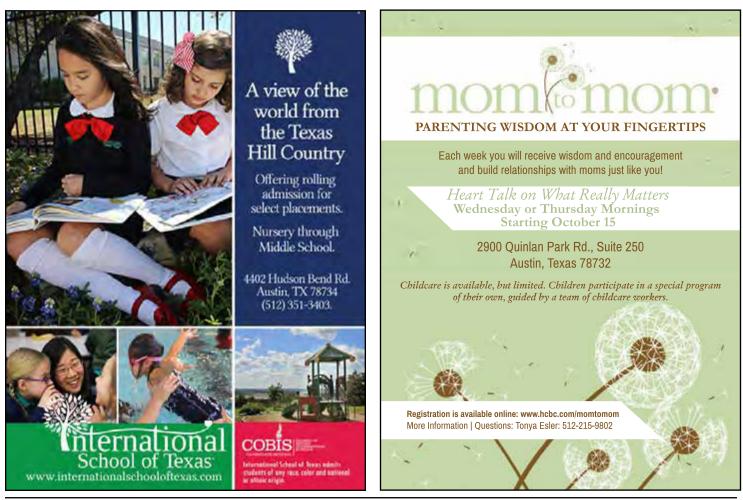
In the September issue of the Ranch Record, it was explained in detail what the Transition committee is, how it is made up and what this committee is currently trying to accomplish. In this issue, we will take a look on who this Transition Committee is and update you on their current task.

The Transition Committee is a group of dedicated Homeowners, appointed by the HOA Management team. It is made up of members of the SRMA Board of Directors, the SRROA Board of Directors, former SRMA Board of Directors, and SRMA Finance Committee members who are working together with the HOA Management staff to help with a smooth transition from the SRMA developer run board, to a successful homeowner run board. They have been meeting monthly with the HOA management team with the goal of complete transition by April 2015.

In September, their focus was on reviewing landscaping proposals, and figuring out the best way the Board of Directors should be set up, how many members and how these members would represent the SRMA. After presentations from four landscaping contractors and interviews with the committee, the Board will be presented with a recommendation from the committee and management in order to make the most informed decision. In addition, the committee made a recommendation to have a 7 member board, and to separate the community in to 6 districts. Each district will be limited to a maximum of 2 representatives on the Board to help keep the representation balanced between different areas of the community. Each board member will serve a 3 year term. The districts will be discussed in more detail in the November issue.

For October, the committee will be working with the SRMA Finance Committee and Board of Directors to develop a firm budget draft for the 2015 year, establish volunteer groups for review of commercial documents and evaluate resumes for potential candidates for the Executive Director Positon.

The Lake Club will continue to be an agenda item for this committee, but for now the owners of the Lake Club will renew the current agreement for another year, expiring in December 2015.



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# Around Steiner



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# Around Steiner

# YOUNG 🗇 HEART

#### **OCTOBER ACTIVITIES**

*Wine Social* - Friday, Oct. 10th, at the home of Jeanne and Rick Farleigh, 13422 Shore Vista Drive, RSVP Required: jeannefarleigh@gmail.com.

*Art Group* - Thurs.s, Oct. 2nd, 16th, 23rd and 30th - Carol Witt teaches Watercolor while Bonnie Wilcynski and Carol Kneisley will be teaching other genres. If you are interested in art and would like to learn more, please contact Carol Witt at carolsuewitt@gmail.com.

*Book Club* - Tues., Oct. 14th The Book Club meets on the second Tues. of each month. This month we will be discussing Mon. Mon. by Austin author .Elizabeth Crook. On Nov. 11th we will discuss The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt and in December the book will be Prince of Tides by Pat Conroy. Contact: Cheryl Howard at cchoward24@gmail.com.

*Bridge (Ladies Social) -* Wed., Oct. 8th and 22nd Ladies Social Bridge meets in players' homes. A new group is being started on different days and is looking for more players. If you have questions or are interested in playing, please contact Nancy Harger at n\_harger@yahoo.com.

*Bridge (Couples)* - dates to be determined This is a new group of experienced Bridge players. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Dottie Thoms at dottie.thoms@gmail.com.

*Bunco (Ladies)* - Thurs., Oct. 16th A fun evening playing this easy dice game. To have your name added to the the Sub List, please contact Linda Mikolajek at miko4@msn.com or Ruth Isaacson at rcisaacson@gmail.com.

*Canasta (Ladies Daytime)* - Fridays, Oct. 3rd, 17th and 31st A casual game of the Hand & Foot version of Canasta. Easy to learn - we'll teach you. To become a part of this group, please contact Dottie Thoms at dottie.thoms@gmail.com.

*Canasta (Couples Evening)* - Mon., Oct. 13th Join the group of semi-serious Canasta players. We play Hand and Foot after enjoying a light potluck supper. For more information, please contact Barbara Clark at bkc429@yahoo.com.

*CLEO (Classy Ladies Eating Out)* Tues., Oct. 21st Location to be determined. "Ladies Lunching Out" has been renamed "CLEO". On the third Tues. of every month, the ladies get together at a nearby restaurant to enjoy good food, conversation and friendship. Come to lunch, meet people and learn more about Young at Heart. For more information contact Lidia Schmidt at L79D@aol.com.

*Dinner Groups -* various times Twice a year, groups of four couples are organized to get together either in restaurants or in each other's homes. Each couple acts as the host one time and either selects the restaurant or - when in a home - prepares the entree with the others bringing the side dishes. It's a great opportunity for people to get to know each other. The groups are formed at this time. The next groups will be selected in February. If you want your name added to the list, please contact Dottie Thoms at dottie.thoms@gmail.com.

*Epicureans* - A Cornucopia of Tastes - Saturday, Oct. 25th Epicureans are people who love food and entertaining! They host theme dinners, cooking demonstrations and holiday celebrations. Many of their events have limited space while others can be open to a larger number of people. For more information, contact Donna King at donnaking200@yahoo.com.

*Euchre* - Fridays, Oct. 10th and 24th Many of us are just learning this easy trump card game popular in the Midwest. Kathy Finley is teaching and coaching us. Let her know if you'd like to join the group and learn. We meet at various locations. Contact Kathy Finley for details at jfinley825@aol.com.

*Exploring Austin* - Date TBD We're going for a guided tour of the new Trader Joe's at the Arboretum! Several times a year Exploring Austin plans a visit to a local Austin or Hill Country attraction ranging from art to history and food!

*Happy Hour* - The next Happy Hour will be in Nov.. Happy Hours are held in alternate months with Wine Socials. Young at Hearts meet at a selected restaurant for Happy Hour - a great way to meet new people in a casual atmosphere.

*Hiking* - Date TBD Once a month a group gets together to hike trails in Steiner Ranch and surrounding areas. The hikes vary in difficulty. For details, please contact Karen Steans at kjsteans@gmail.com

*International Dining* - Mon., Oct. 27th We're planning to sample the cuisine of Argentina this month. These adventurous eaters enjoy trying the cuisines of various countries and culturs together. It is open to all - couples, singles and those whose spouses don't like trying different foods. The people vary each month depending on the cuisine featured. For more information, please contact Dottie Thoms at dottie.thoms@gmail.com.

*Mah Jong* - Thurs., Oct. 16th Most of the ladies are new to the game so are playing and learning while Gail Ellenbogen teaches. Players will need to have a current Mah Jong card. Games take place in players' homes. If you'd like to play Mah Jong and want more information, please contact Gail Ellenbogen at gellenbo@yahoo.com.

*Mexican Train (Dominoes)* - Ladies Daytime - Mon., Oct. 6th On the first Mon. of each month the group meets to play Mexican Train in the home of one of the players. It's a very easy game - if you've never played, we'll teach you. A relaxing afternoon of fun! If you'd like to join the ladies, please email Joy Vostatek at jvostatek@gmail.com.

*Mexican Train (Dominoes)* - Couples Evening - Mon. Oct. 20th. On the third Mon. of every month, we meet for a light potluck supper at the home of one couple. Join us for an evening of fun and friendly competition! Details: Dottie Thoms at dottie.thoms@gmail.com.

*Movie Lovers* - Thurs., Oct. 23rd Contact Diana O'Reilly if you'd like to participate. These movie buffs meet to view the film together and then get together afterward to discuss the movie while enjoying dinner at a nearby restaurant. Those who cannot see the movie with the group can view it on their own and then meet the group for dinner and discussion. About a week before the discussion, Diana will contact everyone on her list to tell them the name of the movie and the time and place to meet. Diana's email is dbor46@aol.com.

*ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out)* - Mon., Oct. 13th On the second Mon. of every month the men get together at a restaurant in the area to enjoy good food and friendship. It's a great opportunity to relax and to meet a very interesting group of men with varied backgrounds. Please contact Rick Steans at rasteans@gmail.com to learn more.

*Spanish Conversation* - Wed., Oct. 8th On the second Wed. of each month this group meets for coffee at Cups and Cones for a morning of speaking Spanish. It includes native Spanish speakers, people who want to refresh their Spanish conversational skills as well as those who know some Spanish and are trying to improve accents and actually carry on a conversation in Spanish. Contact Maureen Michel at momichel17@gmail.com if you want to know more.

*Single Ladies Dinner Group* - Mon., Oct. 20th An opportunity for those women who are single to get together for a nice dinner at a variety of restaurants throughout Austin. This month the ladies will dine at Rocco's Grill in Lakeway. For more information, please contact Maria Kolkhorst at mkolkhorst@aol.com.

*Technology Group* - Thurs., Oct. 9th Computer Geek, Laurie Scott of Tek-Chic Systems offers monthly presentations on technology issues requested by Young at Heart members. Discussions cover such things as Smartphones, Tablets, Photo Sharing, Facebook, Computer Security and more. To learn more about this, please contact Fred Thoms at texasthoms@gmail.com.

Walking Group - Thurs.s, Oct. 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th. Every Thurs. rain or shine - a large group of Young at Hearts meets at Cups and Cones at 8:30 am and branch out from there. The walks last about an hour and groups of people walk at different speeds. It's more fun to walk with someone. To participate, contact Emilie Dacunto at emiliedev43@yahoo.com. She maintains a contact list to notify everyone of any changes - location, time, weather.

## **New Homeowner**

Welcome and Wine Social

Thursday, October 2nd 6:30pm – 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'oeurves will be served, so please RSVP to Donan Grant at donan@ steinerranchhoa.org by Wednesday, October 1st.

# **5th Annual Pumpkin Patch**

Benefiting the Children's Medical Center

Join us in raising money for the Dell Children's Medical Center Foundation!

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19TH FROM 10AM - 5PM.

We will have over 500 pumpkins for you to choose from, so come out and help us reach our goal of \$6,000. There will be lots of activities for the kids!

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Ranch Record - October 2014 13

# TRUNK OR TREAT AND HALLOWEEN EVENT 2014

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 26th from 4—6pm. Please read details for this years' event below. We hope to see you and your little costumed kiddos on the 26th!

*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!

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2014-trunk-or-treat-vehicle-participationtickets-12307446905



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Thank you to all who braved the heat of the day and came out

to the 7th Annual Concert in the Park! This year's Steiner Ranch Concert in the Park, 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, and a new teen band out of Round Rock, Allie & and featuring the very entertaining and talented guys of Suede! 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 3F Fitness.

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 \$5,000 worth of school supplies, in addition approximately \$1,000 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. You can become involved with this group by going to their website,

A special Thanks to Kimberly McLaughlin with Austin City www.steinerserves.com.

Living who Co-chaired this event and volunteered countless hours to make it a success and to Allan Rayson for his talents as emcee, Elle Adams for her amazing photos and Bird Ivideo for the fun

drone video coming to the website soon. 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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- Chicken Express
- Craig Smyser, RE/MAX Capital City
- Cruise One
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- Brain Power 5K
- **Texas Veterinary Medical** Foundation
- Steiner Ranch After School Kids **Community Bible Study**

#### **ENTERTAINMENT**

- Villari's Martial Arts
- **Texas Stars Hockey**

#### ANNOUNCER

Allan Rayson

#### **PHOTOGRAPHER & VIDEO**

Elle Adams

- Steiner Ranch HOA Austin City Living & Kimberly McLaughlin, Red in Austin
- Austin Birds Ivideo Hill Country Bible Church Austin
- Mathnasium of Steiner Ranch Oasis on Lake Travis
- **Resonance Financial**
- **Rising Stars Pediatric Dentistry**
- Salon Hue
- Shannon Kramer, Realtor
- Sheehan Farmers Insurance
- Steiner Dental
- **Steiner Ranch Orthodontics**
- The Pig Joint
- Sportball
  - Sage & Sweetgrass Wellness Spa
  - Villari's Martial Arts Centers
  - Plexus Slim
  - Wag-A-Bag
  - Oasis on Lake Travis
  - Gatsbys Mens Womens Childrens Wear
  - **Tuscan Village**
  - Lakeside Pizza
  - **JAZ** Shirts
- - Vandegrift High School Band **Booster Club**
  - Hill Country Education Foundation
  - Lonestar Soccer Club
    - Longhorn Village
  - - Shoulda Turned Left

**Birds** Ivideo

- Annie & Kate with Courtlyn lames
- Suede

- VHS Marching Band
  - **VHS** Legacies
  - **VHS** Cheerleaders

# <u>Around Steiner</u>



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 15th @ 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. 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 food, beverages, tent, sleeping bags, games and activities!

Please register for this event at https://campingontheranch2014. eventbrite.com/ no later than Monday, November 10th.



#### **CPR & Defibrillator Training**

Sunday October 19th Towne Square Community Center 3:00 – 4:30pm

Every second counts ....Be prepared! HOPE4JD & VerdTek are hosting a CPR & Defibrillator training on Sunday, October 19th at The Town Square Community Center from 3:00 - 4:30 pm. The training is free.

The cost to become certified thru the American Safety Health Institute is \$20. Register at www.hope4jd.org. The certification payment is due after the training. HOPE4JD is a 501(c)(3)public charity organized to support Texas families who have a child who has suffered a hypoxic/anoxic brain injury due to a nonfatal drowning. EIN# 32-0351208

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# Holiday Sales Event

#### 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 2014 Holiday Sales show and we are looking for great, unique and fun vendors for our show. The Steiner Ranch Social Committee will be hosting its Annual Holiday Sales event on Saturday, November 15th from 10:00am - 2:00pm at the Towne Square Community Center. You can come and get all of your Holiday shopping done without ever leaving Steiner Ranch.

Three areas are dedicated for vendor space. Vendor spaces inside the Community Center are available at a fee of \$60.00 and spaces outside in the covered pavilion & uncovered veranda are \$40.00. (Heaters are provided). Spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration fees must be paid to reserve your space, and no refunds will be made after November 1st. Steiner Ranch reserves the right to deny any application based on content or similarities to/duplication of products or services.

Please note that service type providers will be limited to a total of four this year. To register as a vendor, go to www.holidaysalesevent2014/ eventbrite.com. If you have any question, contact Sharon Adams, Community Coordinator at sharon@steinerranchhoa.org.

Have a Safe Halloween!

Halloween, October 31st, falls on a Friday night this year, so we urge you to take some safety precautions before sending your kids out to trick-or-treat in Steiner!

Steiner is DARK at night with limited street lighting, so be sure your kids have some sort of reflective material on their clothing. Glow lights are a great option!

Children shouldn't snack while they're out trick-or-treating. Urge your children to wait until they get home and you have had a chance to inspect the contents of their "goody bags."

Tell children not to accept – and especially not to eat – anything that isn't commercially wrapped.

Parents of very young children should remove any choking hazards such as gum, peanuts, hard candies or small toys.

Inspect commercially wrapped treats for signs of tampering, such as an unusual appearance or discoloration, tiny pinholes, or tears in wrappers. Throw away anything that looks suspicious.

Hope you have a safe and fun Halloween!

# WORKSHOP SERIES

#### Free Workshops for Steiner Residents

#### PROTECT YOUR CHILD IN THE DIGITAL WORLD FREE WORKSHOP!

Oct 8th from 6:30-7:30pm @ Steiner Ranch Elementary School

Natalie Kloss-Biagani from TexasChildSafety.net will share tips, tools & techniques to keep your children safe from cyber bullying, secting, & internet predators. Coach Martin w/the Premier Athletic Complex and Centex Attack Basketball will lead a youth basketball clinic for all kids interested. There will be shooting, ball handling, and passing games followed by 3-on-3 game play. Please RSVP to: www.steinerranchrealtygroup.com

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

# PAINTING 101

Come paint your story with your kids....Painting 101 Class. Learn how to use CeCe Caldwell's non-toxic paints. Perfect for "up-cycling" furniture, cabinets & home décor with no sanding or stripping. Parents practice on raw wood while kids gets to use paint & finishes to paint Halloween décor.

Saturday, October 18th 3-5 PM. Snacks will be served. Steiner Ranch Towne Square Community Center

Cost of class is \$60 per adult and an additional \$10 per child. If anyone in your family dresses up, you will be entered into the drawing for a free quart of Kissimmee Orange. See website for registration information www.steinerranchhoa.org.

# Steiner Serves October Initiative is Lake Travis Christmas Hope!

Lake Travis Christmas Hope is an all-volunteer non-profit organization of Lake Travis area residents whose purpose is to generate funds for support of Wounded Warriors and their families during treatment and rehabilitation at San Antonio Military Medical Center (SAMMC). We will have BOO bags available again this year in exchange for monetary donations at Cups and Cones starting the first week in October. BOO your neighbors and help military families in need. 100% of all donations go to the military families in need.

If you or your organization would like to directly participate in making BOO bags or donating BOO bag stuffers please go to Steiner Serves http:// steinerserves.org or email Tonya Stahl tonya@agrslaw.com. Donate funds at Cups and Cones in exchange for adorable fun filled BOO bags. Many Steiner residents helped us meet and exceed our goal last year. Thank you. Can you help us again? We are looking to raise \$500 for Lake Travis Christmas Hope during the month of October. Briefly, here are the highlights since last fall and how your service and donations have made a difference:

Grants are made primarily during the December holiday season to provide financial assistance for food, gifts or to meet other needs of families identified by the professional staff as being in dire need; thanks to the generosity of donors like you, funds are now available to support families having emergency needs at other times during the year

There are still about 550 Wounded Warriors at SAMMC in various stages of recovery; about 75% of those troops are married and have 800 children in their families

Holiday season Christmas Hope grants have been increased to \$600-\$1,100 (depending on the number of children in the family) to ease the additional financial burden on the families

Since 2009, the program has assisted 495 families with 1047 children during the Christmas holidays, expending over \$340,000; for Christmas 2013, we aided 119 families with 281 children with grants totaling \$84,150

During 2013 (other than the holiday season), the program provided another 47 families with \$54,000 in grant assistance of all types, including wheelchair access modification for a Wounded Warrior's family residence

Christmas Hope also funded a summer day camp program for the children of Wounded Warrior families; nearly 100 children were served between 2013 and 2014 with nearly \$16,000 in grants provided to the Warrior and Family Support Center-sponsored program

Christmas Hope operates under the aegis of our 501c3 organization, the Air Warrior Courage Foundation (AWCF). The non-profit watchdog web site, Charity Navigator http://www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=topten. detail&listid=7#.VAnVkFbcqBg, recently awarded - again - the Air Warrior Courage Foundation (AWCF) its highest rating of 4 stars. AWCF is also carried as #1 in Charity Navigator's "10 Charities Worth Watching" listing

As always, 100% - every cent of every dollar donated to Christmas Hope - goes to Wounded Warrior families in San Antonio

The keystone of our fundraising is via word of mouth. We ask that you tell your friends about Christmas Hope and visit our website at www. laketravischristmashope.org.

LEARN MORE: WWW.STEINERSERVES.ORG

# Around Steiner

STEINER RA

By Kimberly McLaughlin

otligh

I am so excited about my next neighbor spotlight. We are headed to Vegas Baby!!!! Okay, well that's not totally true but it kinda is. This month's spotlight is a backyard renovation in Steiner Ranch that includes am amazing outdoor living area. The idea for the project was to create a "Vegas Like Pool". If you have ever been to Vegas, you know what that means. If not, just keep reading and you will see....

eiahba

Okay so here is the overall design - Wow right! So here is what really moved me about this renovation. Ever heard the phrase: "the couple that plays together stays together"? Well, that epitomizes the owners of this home. They purposefully designed their outdoor living area to include a family area (the sitting area closest to the camera), a kids area (on the right hand side of the post in the middle) AND an adult area (on the left hand side). I think most of us who have kids spend so much time doing things for them that we forget about how important it is to foster our relationships with our significant other. This family understands the importance of family and their relationship and has designed their space to accommodate it all.

Let's start with the covered out door sitting area (nearest the camera). The outdoor kitchen is fully equipped with a grill which is a requirement for an "outdoor kitchen" but what you can't see is that they also have a covered ice chest, mini-fridge, and storage and – here is the coolest thing – a pull out trash can with an area for trash and recycling. Recycling by the pool – uh yeah – we should have this by the public pools in Steiner!!

I fell in love with the vibrant, fun colors they selected for their outdoor furniture (very Vegas). The colors also tie nicely into the colorful backsplash that they picked for accenting the area. But before we move on to the next photo please don't overlook the table in the center. The owners topped the center ottoman with a beautiful mirror that creates a solid surface to put drinks on – both beautiful and functional.

The kids section includes the largest portion of the pool. The main feature is the waterfall in the center. They plan to add decorative art to the tops of the columns that surround the water fall. You can see the in pool bar stools which is located next to an outdoor seating area (not shown) – perfect for entertaining. The beautiful blue color of the pebble tec coating helps keep a clean, colorful look to the entire area. Of course the kids area is located in close proximity to the grill and refrigerator because we all know how much food and drinks kids will consume when outside playing in the pool all day.

The adult section was purposefully located just a small step outside of their master bedroom door. It includes an oversized hot tub (when I say oversized, I think you could fit 15 of your closest friends in there at the same time), deluxe sitting area, fire pit and TV. The shimmering blue glass tile used for the hot tub just happens to pull in the colors from that beautiful glass tile surround you can see at the top of the wall, on the columns of the tv surround and the back splash in the kitchen area.

Okay let's go back to the fire pit. I just can't gloss over my favorite feature. The fire pit is oversized (-3' x 7'), gas powered and is filled with beautiful broken glass pieces. My client didn't just pick any glass for this feature, she actually spent ample time picking out a mixture of colors to match the surround perfectly. And most importantly, the fire pit was designed in such a way as to make it look like the fire was coming out of water (hot tub) when you look at it from the pool end. How totally cool is that!

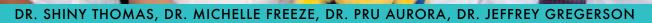
Can I just say I love my job! I not only got a chance to see this beautiful renovation but also got to meet and get to know the awesome owners. They gave me some great design ideas and at the same time restored my faith that it is possible to have a great relationships that includes family and adult time!

Have an idea for my next neighbor spotlight? Please contact me at Kimberly@REDinAustin. com. The only requirement is that the home be in Steiner Ranch.



Photos by Elle Adams and Brendan Maloney





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# Around Steiner



Aadya Krishnan, born 8/30/2014 in Austin, TX. Weighed 6lbs 12oz and 20.5 inches long.

Proud Parents -Krishnan and Gayathri



Beauty Classes in Steiner

Smokey Eye Day-to-Night Class - \$50 Sunday, October 12, 2014 from 7:00PM to 9:00 PM Towne Square Community Center

Blow-out and Volume Techniques Class - \$50 Sunday, October 19, 2014 from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM Towne Square Community Center

Lux Lashes Faux Lash Application Class - \$50 Sunday, November 9, 2014 from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM Towne Square Community Center

Holiday Makeup Trends - \$35 Sunday, November 30, 2014 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Towne Square Community Center

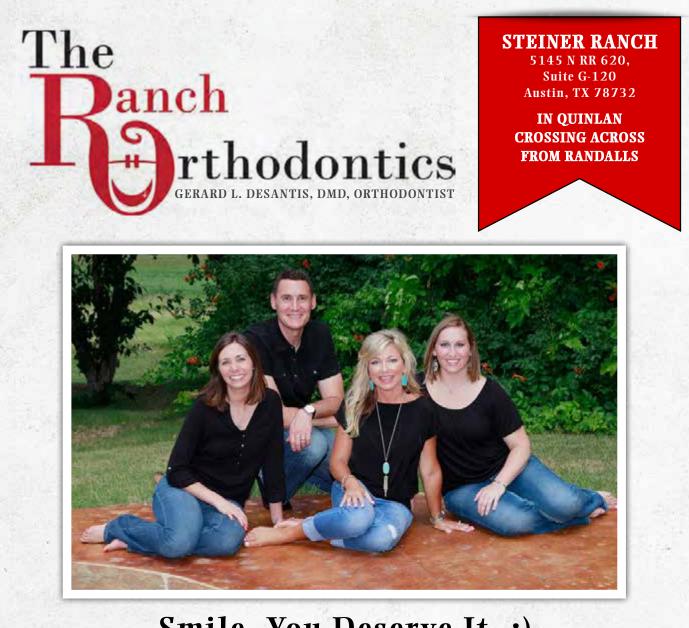
Glamorous Holiday Hair Styling - \$35 Sunday, December 7, 2014 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Towne Square Community Center

Registration information at www.steinerranchhoa.org.



20 Ranch Record - October 2014

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# Around Steiner



Donate new or gently used dog items! Friday, October 17 - Sunday, October 19 Drop off outside of Steiner Ranch HOA

#### **MOST NEEDED ITEMS:**

- Kiddie pools/Water tubs for cooling stations (plastic pools, watering troughs)

- Types of canopy, protection from the sun and rain

- Bleach, paper towels, cleaning supplies (mops, - brooms, sponges and solvents) and garbage bags

- Plush toys of all sizes
- Puppy piddle pads / Chux
- Chews and rawhides
- Dog beds and bedding
- Martingale collars & leashes
- Exercise Pens and Play pens
- Whelping Box
- Flea and Tick Preventative of any kind
- Hav

Wags, Hope and Healing is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that dedicates itself to rescuing, rehabilitating and finding loving forever homes for dogs that were the victims of neglect or abuse. For more information about volunteering, donating or adopting a dog visit www.wagshopeandhealing.org

Questions can be directed to Steiner resident and Wags Board member, Kristen West kristen@gustodogs.com. Thank you for your generosity!

#### **STEINER RANCH** 2014 FALL PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN

The Steiner Ranch Fall Program for 2014 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 ever grown 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
- Music Soccer/Flag Football Zumba Kids

Flag Football

Abacus Brain Study

Soccer

Art

#### **TEEN/ADULT PROGRAMS**

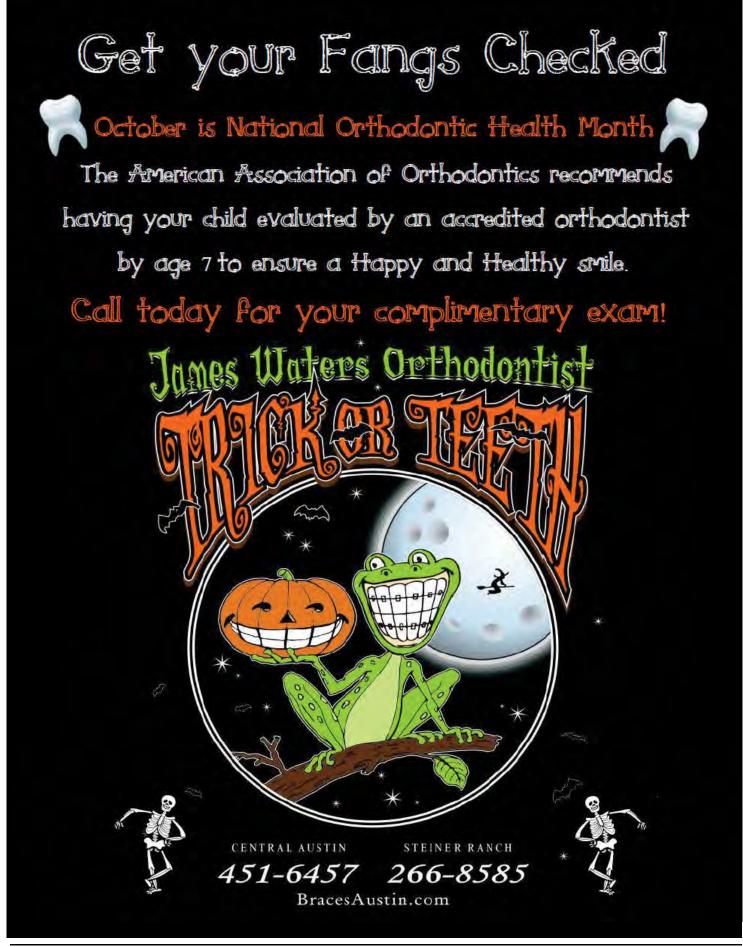
- Yoga for Seniors
- Ballet Barre
- Karate

Zumba

- Carriefit
- Tennis
- Cardio Bliss Fitness
- Master's Swimming
- Class Cardio Kickboxing

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





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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SRL	YAH - Young At Heart G - Steiner Ranch Ladies		7:30pm – SRLG Knitting & Crocheting (Cups & Cones) ACC Reviews	<b>2</b> 8:30am – YAH Walking Group 11:00am – YAH Art Group 6:30pm – New Owner Welcome & Wine Social (TSCC)	<b>3</b> 1:00pm – YAH Ladies Canasta	2
<b>\$</b> 5	<b>6</b> 7:00pm – SRNA Meeting (BMCC) 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC)	<b>7</b> 1:00pm – YAH Book Club 6:30pm – Facilities Committee Meeting (TSCC)	<b>8</b> 9:30am – YAH Spanish Conversation 12:30pm – YAH Ladies Social Bridge 7:30pm – SRLG Knitting & Crocheting (Cups & Cones) ACC Reviews	<b>9</b> 8:30am – YAH Walking Group 1:00pm – YAH Technology Group	9:30am – YAH Euchre 11:30am – SRLG Ladies Lunch 6:00pm – Fall Scrapathon TSCC 7:00pm – YAH Wine Social	All Day – Fall Scrapathon TS
<b>12</b> Till 4:00pm – Fall Scrapabthon TSCC 7:00pm – 9:00pm – Smokey Eye Class TSCC	<b>13</b> 11:30am – ROMEO 6:30pm – Free Yoga (TSCC) 7:00pm – SRNA Meeting (BMCC)	<b>I 4</b> 1:00pm – YAH Book Club 6:30pm – Social Committee Meeting (TSCC)	<b>I 5</b> 7:30pm – SRLG Knitting & Crocheting (Cups & Cones) ACC Reviews LISD Earty Release	<b>I 6</b> 8:30am – YAH Walking Group 11:00am – YAH Art Group 1:00pm – YAH Mah Jong 7:00pm – YAH Bunko (BMCC)	<b>l 7</b> 1:00pm - YAH Ladies Canasta	18
10:00am – 5:00pm – umpkin Patch (JS Park) 00pm – 4:30pm – CRP & fibrillator Training (TSCC) 00pm – 9:00pm Blowout Volume Techniques TSCC	20 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC) 6:00pm – YAH Couples Mexican Tain 6:00pm – YAH Single Ladies Dinner Group 7:00pm – Firewise Committee Meeting (BMCC)	<b>2 I</b> 11:30am – YAH CLEO (Ladies Lunching Out)	<b>22</b> 12:30pm – YAH Ladies Social Bridge 7:30pm – SRLG Knitting & Crocheting (Cups & Cones) ACC Reviews	<b>23</b> 8:30am – YAH Walking Group 11:00am – YAH Art Group 3:00pm – YAH Movie Group	<b>24</b> 9:30am – YAH Euchre	<b>2.</b> 7:00pm – YAH Epicurean
<b>26</b> OOpm – 6:00pm – Trunk or Treat & Halloween Lebration (TS Parking lot)	<b>27</b> 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC 6:00pm – YAH International Dining LISD Student Holiday	<b>28</b> 6:00pm – SRMA Board of Directors Meeting (TSCC)	29 ACC Reviews	<b>30</b> 8:30am – YAH Walking Group 10:30am – 3:30pm – CAI Conference & Expo (Palmer Event Center) 11:00am – YAH Art Group 6:00pm – SRROA Board of	<b>3 I</b> 1:00pm – YAH Ladies Canasta Halloween	

Your Community at Your Fingert Download the Peel, Inc. iPhone App



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ľ	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
DALL NO.							I
	2 DLS Time Ends	<b>3</b> 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC)	<b>4</b> Election Day 6:30pm – Facilities Committee Meeting (TSCC)	<b>5</b> 7:30pm – SRLG Knitting & Crocheting (Cups & Cones) ACC Reviews	<b>6</b> 8:30am – YAH Walking Group	7	8
AN MARK	<b>9</b> 7:00pm – 9:00pm – Lux Lashes (TSCC)	LO 6:30pm – Free Yoga (TSCC) 7:00pm – SRNA Meeting (BMCC)	I I 1:00pm – YAH Book Club 6:30pm – Social Committee Meeting (TSCC)	<b>I 2</b> 7:30pm – SRLG Knitting & Crocheting (Cups & Cones) ACC Reviews	<b>I 3</b> 8:30am – YAH Walking Group 1:00pm – YAH Technology Group 6:30pm – Women's Self Defense Class (TSCC)	<b>I 4</b> 11:30pm – SRLG Ladies Lunch 6:00pm – SRLG Craft Night (TSCC)	<b>I 5</b> 10:00am – 2:00pm – Holiday Shopping Event (TSCC) 6:00pm – Camping on the Ranch (TSCC)
L	16	<b>17</b> 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC) 7:00pm – Firewise Committee Meeting (BMCC)	<b>18</b> 6:00pm – SRMA Board of Directors Meeting (TSCC)	<b>19</b> 7:30pm – SRLG Knitting & Crocheting (Cups & Cones) ACC Reviews	20 8:30am – YAH Walking Group 6:30pm – SRROA Board of Directors Meeting (HOA Offices) 7:00pm – YAH Bunko (BMCC)	21	22
The second secon	<b>23/30</b> 30- Easy Updo's (TSCC)	<b>24</b> 6:30pm – FREE Yoga (TSCC LISD Student Holiday	<b>25</b> LISD Student Holiday	<b>26</b> LISD Student Holiday	27 LISD Student Holiday	28 LISD Student Holiday HOA Office Closed	29

ips

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#### 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:

- Wednesdays and Fridays at 5:30 a.m. until 6:45 a.m.
- Sundays at 6:30 a.m. until 7:45 a.m.
- \$50 per month for Residents

#### Come on and give it a try! It's easy to sign up:

1. You must be 18 yrs. and older.

2. 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.

3. 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!

# **No Diapers Allowed**

As the swim season gears up, 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.

## **FALL POOL HOURS**

The following hours will apply: BELLA MAR Closed Monday until 2:00pm Open 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 – Tuesday – Friday 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:

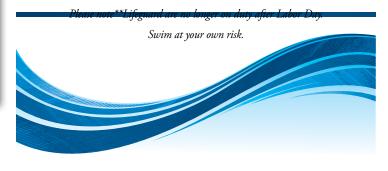
*Towne Square - Water Aerobics Mon/Wed at 6:45pm and Tue/Thur at 9:00am until the water is too cold to continue.* 

#### **JOHN SIMPSON**

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

#### The following programs will be using the John Simpson pool:

Gold Stars Swimming – Tuesday & Thursdays 3:45pm – 5:30pm until the water is too cold to continue.



# **DIVE BLOCKS**

Dive Blocks at the Bella Mar Pool are for Swim Team Use only. You must be a Coach on the Steiner Stars or other Club team in order to use them. Please do not allow your children to use or take off covers at any time! Thank you!

# SADDLE UP

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. There is no cost to ride.

#### SATURDAY RIDES

We meet Saturday's at Cups & Cones at 7:30am. The advanced group will have average speeds from 18 - 20 mph and the intermediate group will average between 15 - 17 mph. While each group will be travelling at different speeds each group will be tackling the same course and the typical course has distances between 45 up to 60+ miles. The turnout is typically between 10 - 20 riders depending on weather. Come on out and have some fun. Everyone is welcomed.

The advanced and intermediate groups require a higher level of fitness and experience and there is NO designated sweeper.

#### SUNDAY COFFEE SHOP AND BABES ON BIKES RIDES

Please join us for the weekly Coffee Shop Ride! Those wanting to explore options outside of Steiner Ranch, or those wanting a nice recovery ride option should consider joining the Sunday Coffee Shop Ride Group.

The group will leave Cups & Cones at 7:30am like the other Sunday ride groups, but will target some not-too-far coffee shop for some espresso, biscotti, and socialization. The ride will average around 14-15 mph and should be perfect for those looking for a recovery ride or to extend their range out of Steiner. Each week we will pick a different destination, but they would typically be around 15 miles from Cups & Cones. This is a no-drop ride, but you should be able to ride 30-40 miles at a 14-15 mph pace.

The other Sunday social option is Babes on Bikes, also leaving Cups & Cones at 8:30am. This user-friendly ride is intended to recruit new female riders in hopes to establish an SRC ladies group, but is open to EVERYONE - guys and gals alike - looking for a beginner ride or easy cruise.

The ride stays in Steiner, is mostly flat and about 1 hour long. Distance varies from 10-20 miles with optional hill climbs for those wanting an extra challenge. This is a no-drop ride co-lead by SRC members Cheryl Campbell and Christi Mondrik. You will learn the basics of bicycle safety, riding technique, equipment recommendations, but mostly, you will have FUN! Come join us!

Please visit our website at www.steinerranchcycling.com to check out what is going on in the Steiner Ranch cycling community.

# AND RIDE!

#### OCTOBER EVENTS

October 4

#### Crank House Cycles' Infamous Brewery First Saturday Ride

This ride will start and finish at Infamous Brewing Company, at 8 am, with 2 route options. All riders (over 21) will enjoy a complimentary Infamous beer and Brewery Tour. Additional beverages and food will be available. Infamous Brewing Company, 4602 Weletka Dr. Austin, TX 78734

#### OCTOBER 18 SRC Oasis Ride

Join us for the third Saturday of each Month when Steiner Ranch Cycling will host a ride starting from Cups & Cones at 7:30 am, covering 50-70 miles and ending at the Oasis Brewing Company. Bring your bikes up on the deck and enjoy views of Lake Travis with discounted beer and lunch options from the Noble Pig.

#### OCTOBER 19

#### Livestrong Challenge, Austin

Join Steiner Ranch Cycling and Team BEEF for the 2014 Team LIVESTRONG Challenge Austin and ride for more than just miles. Riders of all levels are invited to participate and can choose to ride 20, 45, 65 or 100 miles. Each cancer survivor receives a yellow rose when they cross the finish line, and friends, family and loved ones are able to ride in memory of those they have lost and in honor of those who are still fighting. After the ride, everyone is invited to join us at the post-event party to enjoy local food, beer, music and visit with our vendors. For more information and to register, go to http://www.livestrong.org/ events/1700/

#### **SPONSORS**

Please join Steiner Ranch Cycling in thanking the following sponsors for supporting cycling in our community and procuring our group the coolest cycling kits west of the Mississippi:

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- Austin City Living
- MapMyRide
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- Descente Cycling
- Dream Smiles Dental
- 512 Market Kitchen

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.

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# Lonestar Soccer VENOM



The Venom Soccer team were finalists in their bracket in the Lonestar Austin Labor Day Tournament. The Venom soccer team is a Lonestar Recreation team that plays in the local competitive league with Club teams. Having won all of their pool play games, the Steiner Ranch based Venom, held their own in the Championship game, only falling to the Liverpool Club team from Temple, in the last 5 minutes of the game. It was a great ride and experience for the girls, starting with an International walk out, and ending with medals and a trophy. Congratulations girls!

Pictured (from left to right) are (Front) Amelia Riddell, Kylie LeBlanc & Gabriella Pohl, (Back) Megan Schmitt, Addie Orris, Kate Jameson, Sofia Perez, Caroline Pita, Naomi Stein, and Iliana Linahan, (Coaches) Brian Jameson, Adrian LeBlanc, and Leo Perez.



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# From the Association Office

## **FACILITIES CORNER**

After 6 years of service on the Steiner Ranch Facilities Committee, Rodney Mogen is stepping down as the chairperson to continue his vigilant work with the Texas Education Agency, support his business, and to pursue his Doctorate. Rodney has worked very hard to bring the voice of the community to the committee, listening to homeowners, answering emails regarding pool use and writing numerous articles for the newsletter. The committee would like to thank him for his service!

Also thanks to Deborah Osborn, who has now stepped in to fill the Pool Committee led. However, the committee is now seeking a chairperson to led meetings. This is a great opportunity for someone looking to be more involved in the community. If you are interested, contact Sharon Adams, Community Manager at 512-266-7553 or sharon@steinerranchhoa.org.

Meetings are held most months on the first Tuesday. The job of the Facilities Committee is to listen to homeowner suggestions on current and future use of facilities and new enhancements, and make recommendations to the Board of Directors for both the SRMA and SRROA Associations. This committee is extremely important in helping the Board of Directors know what the pulse is of the community.

## ANATOMY OF A VIOLATION

The Homeowners Association is empowered to enforce the covenants, conditions and restrictions of the Master Declaration, Bylaws and any rules and regulations of the community (collectively, the "Restrictions"). So what's the process that the HOA follows for violations notices?

**Newviolation**—A courtesy notice is sent out in the form of a "friendly reminder". This notice will state the violation(s) and ask that the violation be resolved in a timely manner.

**Repeat violation** – If the violation is not cured within reasonable timeframe, a Warning-2nd notice is mailed, both by 1st class and Certified mail. This notice will state the violation, reference the Rule in violation, give you a specified amount of time to cure, give you a fine schedule if the rule is not cured and notify you of your right to a hearing before the Board of Directors.

**Continued violations** – If the violation is still not cured, then the next step will be the fining process. The same guidelines will be followed above, with the addition of the stated fine. These fines and letters will continue until the violation is resolved.

**Violation Hearing** – An owner may request a hearing before the Board to contest fines. Request for hearing must be in writing to the Association Manager within 30 days after the date of the violation notice.

**Schedule of fines** - 1st notice – Warning. 2nd notice - \$25. 3rd notice \$50. 4th notice \$100. 5th notice (and more) \$125. To view this policy in its entirety, go to www.steinerranchhoa.org, under the Document Section, click on "Community Manual", attachment 7.

CCOA-STEINER RANCH 4308 N. Quinlan Park Rd. Suite 100 Austin, TX 78732 512.266.6130 CCOA-JESTER 6507 Jester Boulevard Building 2 Austin, TX 78750 512.795.8300 CCOA-WESTLAKE 8100 Bee Caves Rd Austin, TX 78746 512.329.6633

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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.

# send us your Event Pictures!!

Do you have a picture of an event that you would like to run in this newsletter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue.

Email the picture to steinerranch@peelinc. com. Be sure to include the text that you would like to have as the caption.

Pictures will appear in color online at *www.PEELinc.com.* 

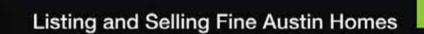




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# **HCEF Celebrates 5th Anniversary with Fall Fundraising Campaign**

The Hill Country Education Foundation (HCEF) celebrates its 5th anniversary this year. What started as an idea among a few parents has grown into an established partner with Four Points-area schools, donating more than \$300,000 dollars to date and more than \$120,000 just last year. Our mission is to support programs that focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) curriculum, as well as to promote leadership, entrepreneurship and college readiness.

#### WHY AN EDUCATION FOUNDATION?

We are blessed to live in a vibrant, active, and affluent community, where parents are engaged with their children's education. I witnessed this at the Viper's season-opening football game. Amidst all of the pageantry and excitement – from the camouflage-themed uniforms, to the gleaming 18-wheeler carrying band instruments – it's clear that football isn't just a game but an experience. Whether your child is on the team or involved in any other groups, you know that these enhancements are only made possible through booster club funding.

HCEF - Your Four Points Academic Booster Club

HCEF is committed to bringing the same kind of excitement and inspiring, experiential learning to core curricular activities. It's easy to assume that such a financially strong region has everything needed to provide a great education. However, because our public schools rely primarily on state funding, the reality is that financial resources are tight and not able to keep pace with growing demands. Advanced technology and tools for hands-on use in the classroom, outside speakers who inspire our kids about potential careers, and supplemental programs for preparing for college are all examples that can transform the learning process into a memorable, stimulating experience.

Not only do these programs heighten learning, they allow administrators to recruit and retain the best teachers. It's similar to college football – many schools can boast great coaches and shiny new facilities, but a strong and supportive fan base can be the tipping point to push the program over the top; just visit Aggieland in College Station for a good example.

#### PREPARE, INSPIRE, AND ENGAGE OUR STUDENTS

On October 1, we kick off our 2nd Annual Fall Fundraising campaign:"Prepare, Inspire, Engage!" Our goal is to raise \$20,000 that will finance programs, equipment, and activities that will take learning to the next level. Many may connect HCEF through robotics. Our strong backing of robotics teams and competitions, from elementary through high school is well known. However, HCEF promotes much more than robotics.

Prepare! – HCEF assists in funding the Naviance college readiness platform for the entire school district. With Naviance, students explore careers and majors that match their interests, discover college programs, and understand what it takes to gain acceptance. Funding for VHS' PSAT boot camp is bringing concrete results with a prestigious TEA rating and a whopping 32% increase in AP scholars this year. We also fund ReadiStep, which allows 8th graders to take practice PSAT tests so they understand whether they are on track for college success and, hopefully, minimize any game-day jitters.

Inspire! – HCEF funded the FCCLA leadership event at Vandegrift, as well as leadership programs for middle school band and high school athletics. We've helped the Entrepreneurs Club at Vandegrift, and we're exploring ways to provide internships or "career days" with local employers to give students an inside look at potential career paths for their future.

Engage! – HCEF has provided digital microscopes, iPads, laboratory sensors, measurement equipment, and interactive tools – all for students to gain hands-on experiences with real-world tools that literally "flip the classroom" into a more engaging and active environment. Each year passionate teachers ask for more tools like these. To date, we've funded \$120,000 in Impact Grants.

The next time you are writing that booster club check or driving junior to his weekly private lesson, take a moment to stop and remind yourself about why your children attend school. Your support can help make the rest of their week just as exciting as the Friday night game experience.



John Pasquarette is vice president of e-Business at National Instruments. He received his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering at Texas A&M. He and his wife Kathleen have two children. Ellie is a sophomore at VHS and Will is an 8th grader at CRMS. They have lived in the Four Points community since 2009.

Be Part of the PIE Challenge and Help Raise \$20k for Four Points Area Students!

2nd Annual Fall Fundraising Campaign

"Prepare, Inspire, Engage!" Starts October 1 Go to www.HillCountryEdFoundation



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# News You Can Use

## Pruning Guidelines for Prevention of Oak Wilt in Texas 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 treeto-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 February1 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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## WORRIED ABOUT CRIME IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

Have you ever been curious about what goes on, in and around Steiner Ranch? There is a free online service that you can sign up for to get email alerts with all the activity that Travis County Sheriff's Officers respond to. To sign up, go to www.spotcrime.com. You can receive updates via email or text messages.

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## News You Can Use

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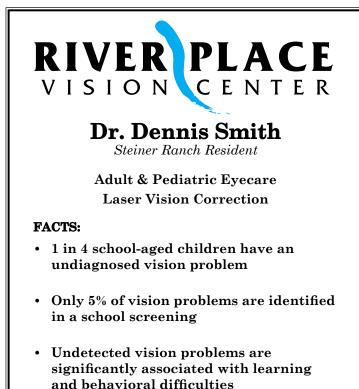
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#### **SAFETY TIPS FROM THE TRAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE** LOCK YOUR CARS!!!! • Get to know your neighbors! Report suspicious activity immediately! Secure your vehicles, homes, garage doors at all times. (If you have an alarm, use it!) Remover garage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

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



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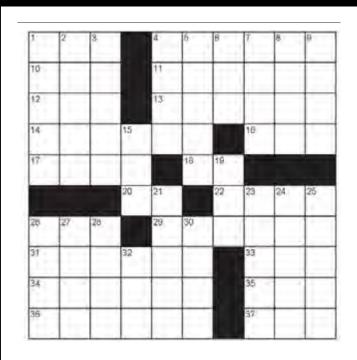
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## News You Can Use

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



Please remember to pick up after your pets and "scoop the poop"

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Thank you to our sponsors, donors, and volunteers for their year round support! A special thank you to Peel, Inc. From donated ads to pledges raised in our golf tournament, their support helps us to raise water safety awareness to prevent children from drowning.

\*Source: Texas DFPS, Watch Kids Around Water



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**Business classifieds** (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office at 512-263-9181 or *advertising@PEELinc.com.* 

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## LONGHORN SOLAR CUSTOMERS HAVE SAVED OVER \$1 MILLION IN ENERGY BILLS!



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## - Kids Stuff-

Section for Kids with news, puzzles, games and more!

#### When It's Just You in an Emergency



"Mom!" you yell down the stairs. "Where's my math book? I can't find it and the bus is coming! Please help me ... it's an emergency!"

It is kind of an emergency with the bus coming and all, but what about a medical emergency? That kind of emergency is usually more serious. If you don't have your math book or miss the bus, that would be bad. But a medical emergency means someone needs care from a doctor right away. Let's find out the right thing to do.

#### QUICK THINKING: WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Liz and her little brother Jamie are out

for a walk. Jamie decides to race ahead down a very steep hill. He's running pretty fast when he suddenly trips. Over and over he falls, rolling down the hill at high speed until he's sprawled out on the sidewalk at the bottom.

Li<sup>2</sup> rushes to her brother's side, hoping that he's OK. Then she sees some blood on the pavement. And Jamie isn't moving at all. What should she do? First things first: Liz should look around for a grown-up and call him or her to help right away. If no one is close by, she should make a phone call either on a cell phone or from the closest phone.

Calling for help is the most important thing a kid can do in an emergency. If you're going to be the one making the emergency phone call, here's what to do:

- Take a deep breath to calm down a little.
- Call 911.
- Tell the operator there's an emergency.
- Say your name and where you are (the exact address if you know it).
- Explain what happened and how many people are hurt. (The operator will need all the information you can provide, so give as many details as you can.)
- Follow all of the operator's instructions carefully.

• Stay on the line until the operator says it's OK to hang up. After calling for help, your first thought might be to rush over



In an emergency, a kid might think about playing the superhero by driving a car or racing into a burning building. Don't do it! You could cause another accident or make the situation worse. If you get hurt, too, who will call 911? to the person who's injured. But stop and look before you do. Make sure the scene is safe. If it's not, wait in a safe spot until a grown-up or an emergency team arrives.

If the scene is safe, and as soon as Liz is sure someone is calling 911 — or she has called it herself — she could return to her brother and wait until help arrives. (She shouldn't move her brother at all because he could have a neck or other bone injury. Moving someone who has that sort of injury can make it much worse.) She can help him feel calm by being calm herself.

#### IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

The best way to handle an emergency is to be prepared for one. Knowing what to do ahead of time can help you stay in control so that you can help. Here are some suggestions on how to be ready to help in an emergency:

When you're outdoors, make sure you're in an area where you can call out for help even if you don't have a phone with you.

- Know how to dial 911 or your local emergency number (in most areas in the United States, it's 911).
- If you have one, carry a cell phone or know how to use your parent's cell phone.
- Learn first aid. Look for basic first-aid classes with your local Red Cross, the YMCA or YWCA, the Boy or Girl Scouts, 4-H clubs, your local hospital, and other organizations. Or ask your school nurse to have a first-aid class just for students in your school.

It's scary to think about someone getting hurt. But the truth is that accidents can and do happen. They happen when people are being careless and careful. Sometimes, kids are the ones who get hurt. Sometimes, grown-ups get hurt. Either way, it's good to know what to do if someone needs emergency medical help. Even though you're a kid, you can make a big difference by doing the right thing.

Reviewed by: Kate M. Cronan, MD Date reviewed: October 2010

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