



NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF TARRYTOWN

OCTOBER 2014

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 10

## The Friends of Austin State Supported Living Center are hosting the 3rd Annual Spooktacular 5k + Fall Festival!

*We invite our Tarrytown neighbors to join in the fun on Sunday, November 2nd*

This family event will feature a chip timed 5k starting at 9 a.m. and a fall festival complete with bounce house, food trucks, live music, carnival games and much more. The festival will kick off at 10 a.m. and run to 2 p.m. on the Living Center's beautiful 95 acre campus. The Kids K will be run at 12 noon. Funds raised from the event directly support the 260 residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities who call the center home. Proceeds go towards community outings to parks and ball games, Special Olympic supplies, holiday parties and adaptive communication devices. New this year, is a marketplace with vendors' merchandise such as photography and jewelry plus an interactive "Day In the Life" booth highlighting the individuals' daily activities. Come see what it is like to be a part of the living center.

For more information and to register, visit [www.austinspooktacular.com](http://www.austinspooktacular.com). Come join the fun in support of a wonderful, local cause on November 2nd! Costumes are welcomed and encouraged!

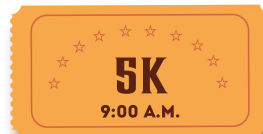
Please call Shannon Thorne at the Austin State Supported Living Center for more information on sponsorship and volunteer opportunities. 512-374-6070



**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>**

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Austin Resources Recovery .....	512-494-9400
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## ARTICLE INFO

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

To submit an article for The Tarrytown News please email it to [tarrytown@peelinc.com](mailto:tarrytown@peelinc.com). The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the issue.

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# Welcome TO TARRYTOWN NEWS

The Tarrytown News is a monthly newsletter mailed to all Tarrytown residents. Each newsletter will be filled with information written by **you** about the community, local area activities, school information, and more.

If you are involved with a school group, play group, scouts, sports team, 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 to [tarrytown@peelinc.com](mailto:tarrytown@peelinc.com). Personal news (announcements, accolades/honors/celebrations, etc.) are also welcome as long as they are from area residents.

**GO GREEN!** Subscribe via Peelinc.com to have an email sent to you with a link to a PDF of the newsletter, or have an email sent to you instead of having a newsletter mailed to you!

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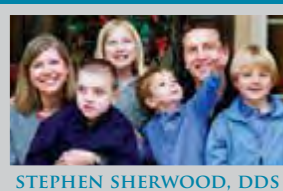
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## Dirty Hands & Wet Whistles on Fridays?

Shoal Creek Conservancy invites all Shoal Creek trail lovers to gather for a work day and happy hour.

Every 3rd Friday volunteers have an opportunity to help work on critical needs along Shoal Creek. Volunteers gather at the GSD&M parking lot on 6th St at 2:00 and head out to enhance the park trail, restoring and protecting this beloved urban oasis.

Volunteers should park at metered spaces on West Ave. or Wood St., wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water and gardening gloves.

As a reward for their hard work, volunteers head to Shoal Creek Saloon after for much needed refreshments.

Contact Joanna at 512 474 2412 or Joanna@shoalcreekconservancy.org for further information and to verify place of meeting each month.

## 2014 Ben Crenshaw Golf Clinic at Lion's Muny

*Austin, Texas - October 19, 2014, 3:30-7:00*

Please mark your calendars for the 2014 Ben Crenshaw Golf Clinic benefitting the AHS Red Jackets and Boys Golf Team! The event is Sunday, October 19, 2014 from 3:30-7 p.m. at Lions Municipal Golf Course. Two-time Masters Champion and AHS alumnus, Ben Crenshaw, will host a putting clinic where he will provide putting tips and discuss his life and career story. There will also be an opportunity to play "Beat the Pro" on Hole #10. The festivities will also include a silent auction, music and a BBQ dinner. Ticket, sponsor, auction, and event details are available by contacting Cari Ezell at carieezell@austin.rr.com or 512-426-9130.



## Vote Margie for Austin City Council District 10

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### Transportation - A Quality of Life Issue:

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- Improve traffic congestion - HOV lanes, timed on-ramps & re-timed traffic lights

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- Fund 911 call center - improve response time
- Prevent wildfires - implement fire mitigation
- Avoid loss of property - build 360 fire station

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# TARRYTOWN REAL ESTATE MARKET REPORT UPDATE

By Trey McWhorter

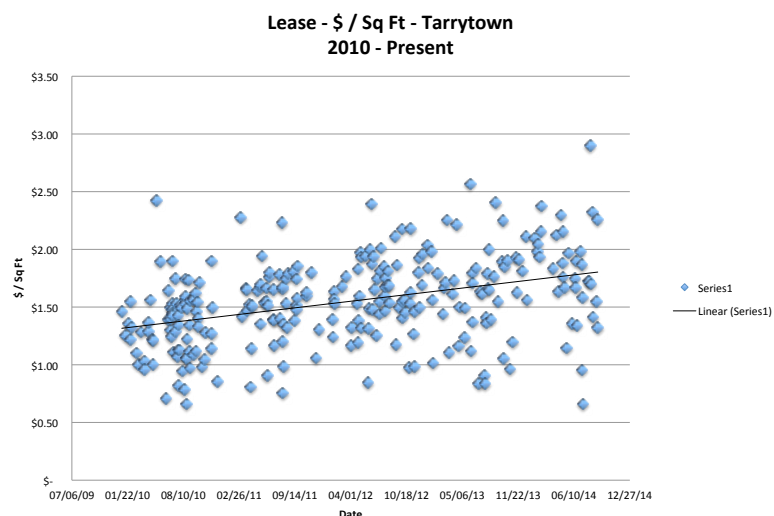
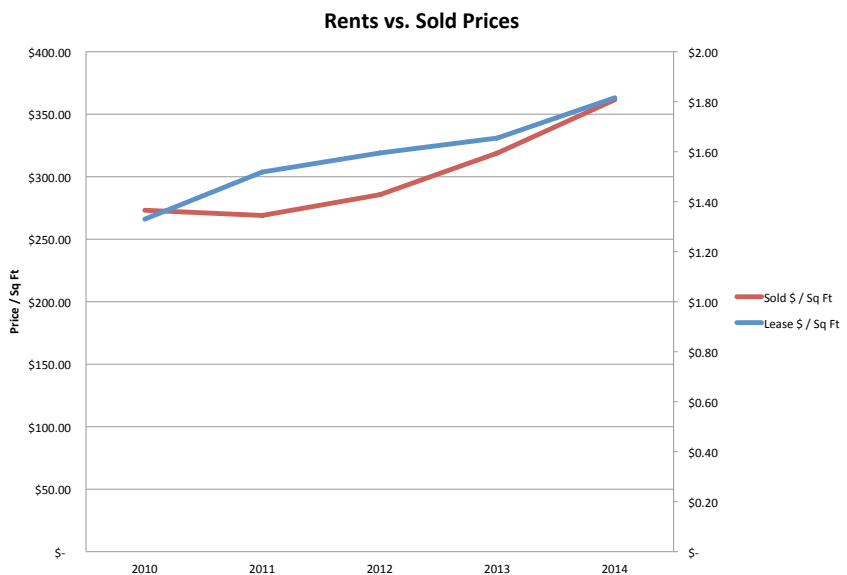
I occasionally get asked about the investment property market in Tarrytown and rent values for homes in the neighborhood. What follows is a brief analysis of the rental market in Tarrytown and a few insights.

Since the beginning of 2010 in Tarrytown, there have been 308 lease transactions recorded in MLS (for houses) on 188 different properties. As you can see in Chart 1, the trend for rents since 2010 has fairly closely tracked the appreciation in Sold prices per square foot. Median lease rates have appreciated to over \$180 per square foot, and sold prices are currently trending over \$360 per square foot in 2014.

In Chart 2, you can see a scatterplot of \$ / sq ft lease rates for homes in Tarrytown since 2010. One factor affecting the lease price per square foot is the size of the home. Smaller square footage homes generally have higher per square foot rates. For example, 2014 median per square foot lease rates are over \$180, and the median size of leased homes in Tarrytown is the lowest it has been in the last 5 years at 1,695 sq ft.

In terms of total rent values, I split out homes that were built pre-1990, and those built in 1990 or later. Newer homes tend to be larger and therefore command a higher total rent than an older, smaller home (even if the price per square foot is less). But pre-1990 homes represent the lion's-share of the rental market, outnumbering newer homes 6 to 1. The table below summarizes total rent prices for homes pre-1990 vs. 1990 and later.

If there is another real estate market question you would like to see covered in this monthly article, feel free to contact me with your suggestions and I would be happy to cover in future articles (contact information on back cover of this newsletter).



## CHAMPIONSTX CHEERLEADERS AND GYMNASTS

Gymnasts and Cheerleaders at ChampionsTX at WAYA and in Lake Travis are in the gym and FLIPPING OUT as well as making new friends!

The Team Champions Competitive Team won first place in their first meet this season while the Legacy All-Star Cheer Squad is gearing up for competition.



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*Jeffrey L. Tucker, P.E., a registered professional engineer in Texas, has been involved in structural design, inspection and repair of houses and apartments since 1965. He is uniquely qualified to perform structural analyses of wood frame structures and slab foundations; to inspect and offer assurance of structural integrity and/or repair recommendations and details.*



# TENNIS TIPS

By USPTA/PTR Master Professional  
Fernando Velasco



STEP 1



STEP 2



STEP 3



STEP 4

## The Modern Game: The Swinging Forehand Approach Shot or Volley

In this issue, I will offer instructions on how to execute “The Swinging Forehand Approach Shot or Volley.” This shot is used when an opponent hits a soft shot that is floating high on the service line area. The player will take advantage and will hit the ball on the fly with a huge swing, thus hitting with top spin high over the net and hit with power. This shot can be used as a “winner” or as an “approach shot.”

In the illustrations, Ryker Heller, one of the top players of the Grey Rock Tennis Academy, shows the proper technique to execute this stroke. Ryker is coached by the Director of the Tennis Academy, Darin Pleasant.

**Step 1:** The Back Swing: When Ryker sees the opportunity, he makes a quick turn of his upper body and takes the racket high and back. The head of the racket is now at shoulder height, his shoulders are turned, the right hand gripping the racket and arm in front. His weight is on the front foot as his momentum carries his forward to attack the ball. His right wrist is “laid back” to allow maximum point of contact.

**Step 2:** The Point of Contact: Ryker started the swing high and “looped” it to allow the head of the racket to drop down. He will be brushing around the outside of the ball as he makes contact with it. His left shoulder is almost opening and his weight has is moving through the shot.

**Step 3:** The Follow Through: In order to get maximum control and power, Ryker is keeping his right arm extended through the shot. He has “snapped” his right wrist and has the head of the racket facing down. His weight is going forward.

**Step 4:** The Finish: Ryker’s upper body acceleration forced the head of the racket to “wrap around” his left shoulder, thus creating the most power and topspin on the ball. His legs are already in position to move forward the net for a volley. His right foot should naturally move forward due to his momentum and racket speed. From his looks, he apparently hit a very deep volley for a winner.

Look in the next Newsletter for: “*The Modern Game: The Swinging Backhand Volley*”

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

- Always paint fresh wounds on oaks, including pruning cuts and stumps, with wound dressing or latex paint immediately after pruning or live tree removal at all times of the year.
- Clean all pruning tools with 10% bleach solution or Lysol™ between sites and/or trees.
- If possible avoid pruning or wounding of oaks during the spring (currently defined as February 1 through June 30). Reasons to prune in the spring include:

- To accommodate public safety concerns such as hazardous limbs, traffic visibility or emergency utility line clearance.
- To repair damaged limbs (from storms or other anomalies)
- To remove limbs rubbing on a building or rubbing on other branches, and to raise low limbs over a street.
- On sites where construction schedules take precedence, pruning any live tissue should only be done to accommodate required clearance.
- Dead branch removal where live tissue is not exposed.

Pruning for other reasons (general tree health, non-safety related clearance or thinning, etc.) should be conducted before February 1 or after June 30. Debris from diseased red oaks should be immediately chipped, burned or buried. Regardless of the reasons or time of year, proper pruning techniques should be used. These techniques include making proper pruning cuts and avoiding injurious practices such as topping or excessive crown thinning. If you are uncertain about any of this information, you should consult with a Texas Oak Wilt Certified arborist, ISA Certified Arborist, or an oak wilt specialist from a city, county or state government agency such as the Texas Forest Service or Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

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

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**60 Texas children have lost their lives to a fatal drowning this year.\***

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**Year round:** Athlete and Community Ambassadors needed. Email us: [info@colinshope.org](mailto:info@colinshope.org)

**November:** Underwater Holiday Photos! Back by popular demand, and coming soon.

Colin's Hope will again offer awesome and unique underwater holiday photos to capture your BEST Holiday picture Ever! Proceeds from photos will help us prevent drowning. Locations and dates will be posted at [www.colinshope.org](http://www.colinshope.org) and our Facebook page soon.

**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



## 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  
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LEARN CPR  
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## NATUREWATCH

by Jim and Lynne Weber

## FIELDS OF GOLD

Cooler temperatures and shorter days mark the onset of autumn, and the golden colors of the season begin to surround us. Among the amber and scarlet hues making an appearance in the landscape, one cannot help but notice two of our most common fall-blooming native plants: Goldeneye (*Viguiera dentata*) and Prairie Goldenrod (*Solidago nemoralis*).

A member of the sunflower family, Goldeneye is a bushy, drought-tolerant, multi-branched plant that tends to grow in colonies, providing rich swaths of golden color along our roadsides and in open areas. It has narrow leaves and numerous 1.5 inch daisy-like flowers at the tips of long, slender stalks. Growing to 3 feet tall in full sun or up to 6 feet tall in partial shade, this plant is native not only to Texas but to Arizona and New Mexico as well. It prefers relatively dry, partially shaded areas such as woodland edges and open prairies, and in Mexico is also known by the common name Chimalacate.

The mid to late fall blooms of Goldeneye not only provide seasonal color, but provide for native wildlife as well. Goldeneye is the larval food plant for both the Bordered Patch and Cassius Blue butterflies, and if spent flower stalks are left to stand through most of the winter, they will provide good seed forage for Lesser Goldfinches and other birds. Infusions of this plant are still used today as an antibacterial treatment for baby rash.

Prairie Goldenrod, also called Gray Goldenrod, is a slender-stemmed plant

1.5 to 2 feet tall, that blooms from June through October.

A member of the aster family, it has thin, coarsely-toothed leaves and yellow flowers that are borne on the upper side of hairy stalks, arching out and downward to create a vase-shaped flower cluster. Individual plants bloom at various times, extending the flowering season, but they are most noticeable in fall, especially when paired with purple Gayfeather and red Autumn Sage. An excellent addition to a wildflower meadow or a sunny garden, Prairie Goldenrod is naturally found in dry, open woods and upland prairies, and does well in full sun to part shade. A carefree plant, it can become invasive if left alone, but is also easily controlled.

Of special value to bees and butterflies for its pollen and nectar, and to several species of finches for its seeds, Prairie Goldenrod was also used by Native Americans to treat jaundice and kidney disorders, and as a wash for burns and skin ulcers. The Navajo burned the leaves as incense, and used the seeds for food.

As you wander along roadways and pathways this fall, admire these fields of gold that delight not only our senses, but provide a bountiful harvest for our wild neighbors as well!

Send your nature-related questions to [naturewatch@austin.rr.com](mailto: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.



*Goldeneye (Photo by Joseph A. Marcus)*



*Prairie Goldenrod (Photo by R. W. Smith)*



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**Read my market update inside.**

