#### OCTOBER 2014 VOLUME VII ISSUE X COLUME VII ISSUE X I TA COLUMA VII I

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE VILLAGES AT WESTERN OAKS AND LEGEND OAKS I

### **37th ANNUAL** MARKETPLACE November 8, 2014 from 9AM-4PM

Bethany Marketplace is planned for SATURDAY, November 8 from 9AM-4PM. This craft show, featuring handcrafted items from over a hundred craftsmen is the major mission fundraiser for the Bethany Women in Mission LWML. Lunch and baked items will be available for purchase. Admission & parking is FREE.

THIS EVENT WILL BE HELD AT BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH 3701 W. SLAUGHTER LANE AUSTIN, 78749 FOR MORE INFORMATION 512-292-8778 OR BLCMS.ORG



### 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<sup>™</sup> 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.

## **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

### **EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

EMERGENCY	
Fire	
Ambulance	
Sheriff – Non-Emergency	

### SCHOOLS

### Elementary

Exementary	
Clayton	
Kiker	
Mills	
Patton	
Middle	
Bailey	
Small	
Gorzycki	
High School	
Austin	
Bowie	
UTILITIES	
Water/Wastewater	
City of Austin	
City of Austin (billing)	512-494-9400
Emergency	
Texas State Gas	
Customer Service	1-800-700-2443
Gas related emergency	1-800-959-5325
Pedernales Electric Cooperative	

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New service, billing	
Problems	
ATT/SBC Telephone	
New Service	1-800-288-2020
Repair	1-800-246-8464
Billing	1-800-288-2020
Allied Waste	

### **OTHER NUMBERS**

Oak Hill Postal Station	1-800-275-8777
City of Austin	
Dead Animal Collection	512-494-9400
Abandoned/Disabled Vehicles	512-974-8119
Stop Sign Missing/Damaged	512-974-2000
Street Light Outage (report pole#)	512-505-7617

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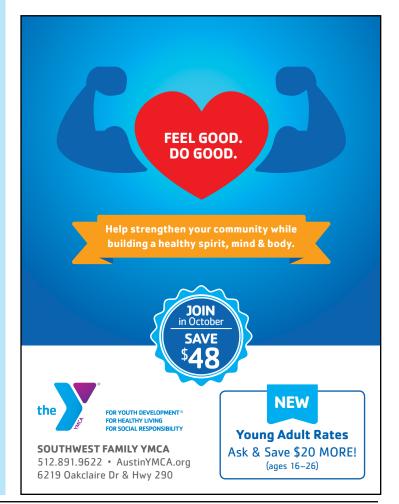
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# Forum for District 8 Candidates

Submitted by Stefan Haag SHPC Candidate Forum Facilitator

Shepherd of the Hills Presbyterian Church will host a forum for District 8 candidates on Tuesday, October 7, 2014 from 7 pm to 9 pm. The forum is free and open to the public. There will be questions from panelists Sarah Coppola, who covers Austin City Hall for the Austin American-Statesman, and Jack Floyd, Austin Community College Government Professor, as well as an opportunity for the audience to question the candidates. Shepherd of the Hills Presbyterian Church is located at 5226 West William Cannon Blvd.





### NATUREWATCH FIELDS OF GOLD by Jim and Lynne Weber

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, multibranched 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



Goldeneye (Photo by Joseph A. Marcus)



Prairie Goldenrod (Photo by R. W. Smith)

Cooler temperatures and shorter days mark the onset of 1.5 to 2 feet tall, that blooms from June through October. A member of the aster family, it has thin, coarsely-toothed

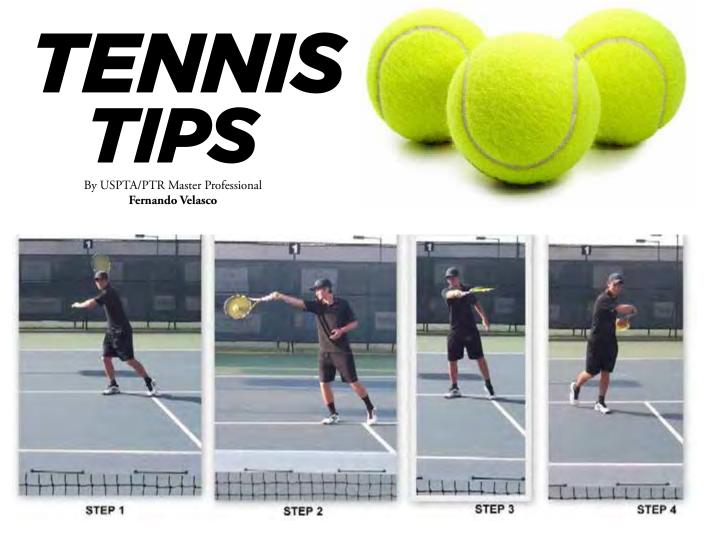
leaves and yellow flowers that are borne on the upper side of hairy stalks, arching out and downward to create a vaseshaped flower cluster. Individual plants bloom at various times, extending the flowering season, but they are most noticeable in fall, especially when paired with purple Gayfeather and 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 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.



### 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"





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# **Hackberry Psyllids**

Late summer into fall, people may notice tiny insects that are mottled grayish-brown collecting near windows, especially if hackberry trees are nearby. Hackberry psyllids (pronounced sill-ids) look like tiny cicadas and are actually closely related to them. Adults are about 1/8 an inch long.

Another name for hackberry psyllids is hackberry nipple gall maker. Adults lay their eggs on hackberry leaves in the spring. When eggs hatch, the psyllid feeds on the leaf and the leaf responds by developing a small pocket around the insect. The pocket is called a gall. Hackberry trees do not show long term damage from the galls or feeding of the psyllids, but the galls can make the tree unsightly. These insects are not harmful to humans or companion animals. In the fall, the insects are searching for overwintering sites. They normally overwinter under the bark of trees, but sometimes they will utilize whatever crack or crevice they can find. This, along with the psyllids being attract to lights at night, can lead them near doors and windows and sometimes they end up inside the home.

To manage fall invasion of hackberry psyllids:

- Use fine mesh (18) screening
- Reduce outdoor lighting or use bulbs that are less attractive to insects
- Use sealant to seal cracks and crevices
- Insects that find their way indoors can be vacuumed up

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### OCTOBER 2014

### WHAT IS GOING ON WITH THE AUSTIN REAL ESTATE MARKET?

### SOUTHWEST MARKET UPDATE AUGUST 2013 VS 2014 Median Median Median List Price **Sold Price Days on Market** AUG. 2014 \$385к S395 \$50K MOPE NORE 2013 S349k S335kAUG.





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### **SPREADING THE WORD!**

Lori was absolutely wonderful to work with. When I first started looking at homes I was in contact with a few different realtors and Lori quickly stood out from the pack. At our first meeting she provided me with tons of valuable info about the Austin housing market, what to expect as a first time buyer, and how the home-buying process works. I definitely would have been lost without her! She was prompt, fun to work with, and always had my best interests in mind. I give her an A+, 5 stars, 2 thumbs up, every other superlative imaginable. Thanks Lori!!! •Shane Wood, Google+ Review

### Lori Goto

REALTOR<sup>®</sup>, ABR, CNE, CRS, e-PRO **512.461.1577** | lorigoto@realtyaustin.com



### Looking to sell your home? Want to know how much your house will sell for in 2014? Call Lori Goto: **512.461.1577**

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Stats based on MLS from Austin Board of REALTORS<sup>®</sup> (ABOR).

# **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.

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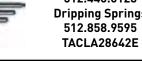
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# GriefShare

GriefShare (www.griefshare.org) will meet at Manchaca United Methodist Church, located at 1011 FM 1626, from 3:30-5:30 p.m. each Sunday beginning September 14, 2014. There is a \$15 charge for workbooks (scholarships available). GriefShare is a 13-week faith-based seminar and support group for people grieving the death of a loved one. It's a place where you can be around people who understand how you feel and the pain of your loss. You may begin the class at any point during the 13-week time frame. Call 512-970-6130 for further information.





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### 1. Passwords

Nothing is more effective than changing your online passwords regularly. Make the passwords more complicated by combining letters, numbers, special characters (minimum 10 characters in total) and change them on a regular basis. Don't include personal info in your passwords (like birthdates, pets' names, etc.). Cumbersome as it is, use different user ID / password combinations for different accounts and avoid writing them down.

#### 2. Secure your computer

Firewalls are the first line of cyber defense; they block connections to unknown or bogus sites and will keep out some types of viruses and hackers. Use anti-virus/malware software

Prevent viruses from infecting your computer by installing and regularly updating anti-virus software. Prevent spyware from infiltrating your computer by installing and updating anti-spyware software.

#### 3. Protect your Data

Use encryption for your most sensitive files such as tax returns or financial records, make regular back-ups of all your important data, and store it in another location.

#### 4. Be Social-Media Savvy

Make sure your social networking profiles are set to private. Exclude the following items from any of your social media profiles: Birthdate/ place, Mother's maiden name, home address, planned trips, phone number, names/ages of your children. Be cautious when giving out personal information on the Internet.

#### 5. Secure your Mobile Devices

Be aware that your mobile device—not just your computer—is vulnerable to viruses and hackers. Download applications only from trusted sources. Lock your mobile devise/tablet.

#### 6. Install the latest operating system updates

Keep your applications and operating system current with the latest system updates. Turn on automatic updates to prevent potential attacks on older software.

#### 7. Secure your wireless network

Wi-Fi (wireless) networks at home are vulnerable to intrusion if they are not properly secured. Review and modify default settings. Public Wi-Fi, a.k.a. "Hot Spots", are also vulnerable. Avoid conducting financial or corporate transactions on these networks.

#### 8. Avoid being scammed

Always think before you click on a link or file of unknown origin. Don't feel pressured by any emails, including pop-ups that threaten you to act immediately or else. Check the source of the message. Only trust websites with a URL that starts with https. Never reply to emails that ask you to verify your information or confirm your user ID or password.

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# Kids Stuff-

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

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



"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.

Liz 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

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

This information was provided by KidsHealth, one of the largest resources online for medically reviewed health information written for parents, kids, and teens. For more articles like this one, visit www.KidsHealth.org or www.TeensHealth.org. ©1995-2006. The Nemours Foundation



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?



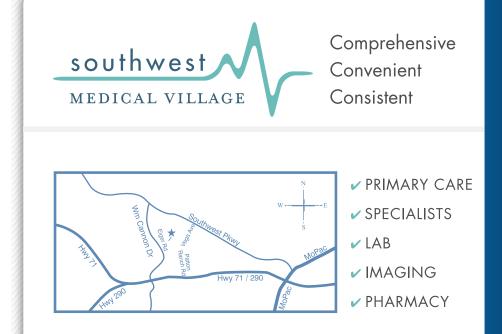
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