

# THE VILLAGE

## Gazette™

"It takes a Village..."

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

## Porcelain Art Club of Austin Annual Exhibit and Christmas Sale

*submitted by Carol de Wind*

The Porcelain Art Club of Austin will be combining its Annual Exhibit and Christmas Sale this year.

The Club will be exhibiting some beautiful pieces of hand-painted china, designed and painted by our members.

Many pieces will be for purchase. This year, we will be offering a lovely gift box, stuffed full of items for that special person on your list. We will also have a raffle drawing for a painted piece of porcelain.

Please come and join us at Zilker Botanical Gardens, 2220 Barton Springs Road, on December 6 between 10 AM and 3 PM.

You are also very welcome to visit us at our meetings, the first Monday of each month, 9 AM to 1 PM, at Zilker Gardens.

For more information, please call Joanna Burch at 512-392-5151 or Alice Nelson at 512-261-3387.

For membership information, please call Carol de Wind at 512-301-5143.



### PARTNERSHIPS FOR CHILDREN

Paul is a sweet, loving boy—and he almost always has a smile on face! While he is extremely active and loves to play sports and be outside, Paul does well academically and is a polite young man.

Paul is 7 years old and is confident in his abilities to entertain others with his dance moves, creativity, and jokes. An abundance of support and patience will help Paul achieve success in his promising young life.

To find out more about Paul, please contact Grace Lindgren, LMSW, Wendy's Wonderful Kids Recruiter, at (512) 810-0813 or [glindgren@helpingandhome.org](mailto:glindgren@helpingandhome.org).

Adopting a child from the foster care system requires little or no cost to the adoptive family and funding may be available to help the adoptive family support the child or sibling group.

The Heart Gallery of Central Texas is a program of Partnerships for Children. To learn more about the adoption or fostering process, please call the Heart Gallery of Central Texas at (512) 834-3102, email [heartgallery@partnershipsforchildren.org](mailto:heartgallery@partnershipsforchildren.org) or visit our website at [www.partnershipsforchildren.org](http://www.partnershipsforchildren.org).

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| EMERGENCY .....               | 911          |
| Fire.....                     | 911          |
| Ambulance .....               | 911          |
| Sheriff – Non-Emergency ..... | 512-974-0845 |

### SCHOOLS

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Elementary     |              |
| Clayton.....   | 512-841-9200 |
| Kiker.....     | 512-414-2584 |
| Mills .....    | 512-841-2400 |
| Patton .....   | 512-414-1780 |
| Middle         |              |
| Bailey.....    | 512-414-4990 |
| Small.....     | 512-841-6700 |
| Gorzycki ..... | 512-841-8600 |
| High School    |              |
| Austin .....   | 512-414-2505 |
| Bowie.....     | 512-414-5247 |

### UTILITIES

|                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Water/Wastewater                |                |
| City of Austin.....             | 512-972-0101   |
| City of Austin (billing) .....  | 512-494-9400   |
| Emergency .....                 | 512-972-1000   |
| Texas State Gas                 |                |
| Customer Service .....          | 1-800-700-2443 |
| Gas related emergency.....      | 1-800-959-5325 |
| Pedernales Electric Cooperative |                |
| New service, billing .....      | 512-219-2602   |
| Problems .....                  | 512-219-2628   |
| ATT/SBC Telephone               |                |
| New Service .....               | 1-800-288-2020 |
| Repair .....                    | 1-800-246-8464 |
| Billing .....                   | 1-800-288-2020 |
| Allied Waste .....              | 512-247-5647   |
| Time Warner Cable.....          | 512-485-5555   |

### 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   |

### NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

|                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Peel, Inc. ....           | 512-263-9181               |
| Article Submissions ..... | villagegazette@peelinc.com |
| Advertising.....          | advertising@PEELinc.com    |

## 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 [villagegazette@peelinc.com](mailto:villagegazette@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](http://www.PEELinc.com).

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# NATURE NOTES: Talking Turkey

by Peter English

Last month we talked about Mississippi Kites and their amazing 5500 mile migration. It turns out that they are not alone in the hawk world with that tremendous migration. Swainson's Hawks are even more amazing, as they travel from as far north as Alaska to the plains of north-central Argentina - south of where the Mississippi Kites end up stopping. All that distance to spend Thanksgiving in a place that has better weather and better food than they would find if they stayed in North America with us.

Speaking of Thanksgiving - one of the iconic parts of the holiday revolves around a bird. Turkeys are native to North America and are found in all of the lower 48 states. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, the number of Turkeys dwindled as people shot pretty much anything that moved in the wild. Passenger Pigeons and Carolina Parakeets ended up going extinct from all the shooting, but Turkeys made it. Their wide distribution today is primarily the result of reintroduction programs and rational hunting laws.

This round of reintroductions in the 1940s and onward was

actually the second big reintroduction of Turkeys in the US. Back in the 1500s and 1600s, explorers from Europe were shipping all kinds of things back to home from the New World. Among these were Turkeys from Mexico. The Europeans of the time found the Turkeys to be delicious, and soon figured out how to domesticate them. When British settlers came to North America in the 1700s they brought domesticated Turkeys here with them.

But the Turkeys the Europeans had domesticated were the Western US/Mexican subspecies, and it has white tips to the feathers at the base of the tail and the tail itself. The other four North American subspecies that are found in most of the US have brownish tips to the tail. So the domesticated Turkeys the Europeans brought had white feathers where the native turkeys had brown. As domesticated turkeys escaped and joined the local wild populations, bits of white started turning up in the tail feathers. To this day you can tell if a Wild Turkey has domesticated blood in it by the color of its tail.

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## CARPENTER ANTS

Carpenter ants nest outdoors in dead wood (tree stumps or dead limbs, fences, firewood, etc.). They may also be found in wood siding, beams, joists, fascia boards or trim on structures. Damage is usually limited since carpenter ants tunnel and nest within wood; they do not eat wood. However, wood can become weakened by carpenter ant excavation.

Carpenter ants are large ants that can vary in color from all black to reddish to yellowish or a combination of colors. These ants have one node, no stinger and a circle of hairs at the tip of their abdomen.

Galleries in the nest are excavated following the grain of the wood and have clean, smooth walls. Nest locations may be discovered by searching for piles of sawdust-looking material under exit holes. Sawdust is coarse and may also contain soil or sand, uneaten insects as well as dead ants from the colony.

Carpenter ants are able to enter homes from tree branches or utility lines touching the home, through cracks and crevices around windows and doors, cracks in foundation walls, ventilation openings

or heating and air conditioning ducts.

Here are some tips for a carpenter ant infestation:

- Remove dead trees and/ or limbs and remove tree stumps from the landscape. Many times you can remove the (possible) nesting sites and get rid of the ants without using pesticides.
- Prune trees and shrubs that touch the home. Carpenter ants will often use these areas as a bridge to enter the home.
- Replace wood that is water damaged. Carpenter ants are drawn to moisture damaged wood, so make sure to repair any water leaks and replace damaged wood.
- Remove wood debris and firewood that is near the home. Carpenter ants may nest in firewood and when it is stacked right next to the home, it allows the ants to enter more easily.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600.

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NOVEMBER 2014

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SEPTEMBER 2013 VS 2014



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### SPREADING THE WORD!

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*-Armanda and Danielle Martinez, Jr., Seller/Buyer*

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