

10 POWERHOUSE FOODS

THAT WILL HELP YOU BURN FAT IN THE NEW YEAR

Marissa Balch - CPT, Nutrition Coach - Texas Fit Chicks Boot Camp

1. Oatmeal - Great source of soluble fiber and slow-digesting carbohydrates that will keep blood sugar and insulin in check so fat burning can stay high.

2. Eggs - A form of well-absorbed protein, healthy fats and Vitamin D (found in the egg yolk). Eggs also contain lecithin, which promotes healthy liver function, thereby helping the body to burn fat.

3. Salmon - High in omega-3 fatty acids, salmon reduces inflammation in the body and lowers LDL and triglyceride levels while raising good HDL levels. Salmon also has a beneficial effect on leptin (hunger hormone) levels in the body, which means it helps to suppress your appetite.

4. Nuts - Another source of fiber and rich in omega-3s, these fats help to regulate blood sugar and protect the heart and the immune system.

5. Grapefruit & Berries - These fruits contain slow-digesting carbs and are rich in fat-fighting fiber. Strawberries, raspberries, blueberries and blackberries all are loaded with soluble fiber and antioxidants that protect blood vessels and promote healthy blood flow.

6. Avocado - It's got fat, yes, but the good kind! The monounsaturated fats found in avocado are burned readily for fuel during exercise and actually encourage fat burning. Good source of fiber and antioxidants.

7. Leafy Greens - Broccoli, specifically, is a fibrous carb that can make you feel full quickly—one reason why it's a great food for getting lean. Broccoli also contains phytochemicals that can help enhance fat loss.

8. Cinnamon - Helps to reduce blood sugar levels, which in turn prevents the body from storing sugar as fat. Add it to your oatmeal and yogurt to enhance flavor without adding calories.

9. Green Tea - Drink this! Not only is green tea packed with antioxidants, it also contains catechins, a phytochemical that helps speed up metabolism and burn more fat.

10. Beans & Legumes - Great sources of protein and they normalize insulin levels and help keep your blood sugar steady throughout the day. Black beans, Garbanzo beans, red beans and lentils are all great to incorporate into your diet.



WELCOME

A Newsletter for Meridian residents

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

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

Our goal is to keep you informed!

ADVERTISING INFO

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

NEWSLETTER INFO

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SWING Networking Group

Promote your business with local independent business owners. SWING (South west Austin Inclusive Networking Group) has been meeting every Thursday morning from 8AM to 9:30AM at the Waterloo Ice House on Escarpment for 8 years.

We have no dues, no initiation fees, we don't take attendance. Just pay for your own breakfast. The more often you show up the better we get to know you. We are an inclusive group, we will enjoy competition. So, bring your business cards and a good attitude and let's get to know you.

If you want more information, contact Liz Jensen at 512-301-6966 or lizleej@gmail.com or Peter Berardino (The King of SWING) at 512-695-2334 or peterberardino@gmail.com.

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Empowering Austin Homeless

by: Kathleen Highsmith

On Tuesday, August 26th 2014, the Texas State Enactus class started for the Fall semester and I started to see the difference this group makes in central Texas. Enactus students continually work on projects that benefit the community and also help individuals to help themselves.

One of the main goals of Enactus is to empower people through our projects. My favorite project that does just that is Mobile Loaves and Fishes, which is currently building sustainable housing for the homeless in Austin. Along with housing we also provide the homeless with employment by helping them sell crafts and frozen treats during the many festivals in and around Austin. Our ultimate goal with Mobile Loaves and Fishes is to help build a set of skills that the homeless can use to find steady work and help get them off the streets. Enactus is all about helping people help themselves and as an Enactus student I have learned some valuable lessons and grown as an individual while doing just that.

Enactus is a global, non-profit organization that is literally

changing the world through highly dedicated student teams on more than 1600 university campuses in 40 countries. Enactus offers these students the opportunity to develop leadership, teamwork, and communication skills through learning, practicing and teaching the principles of free enterprise, thereby improving the standard of living for millions in the process.

Texas State Enactus is one of the leading collegiate teams within the United States. Enactus has been helping others achieve their dreams through free enterprise education for more than 25 years. Today, Enactus is the world's prominent and largest university-based free enterprise organization.

If you would like to learn more about Enactus please visit the Enactus website, <http://www.business.txstate.edu/sife/>, or contact Sam Walton Fellow, Vicki West at vw03@txstate.edu or 512-245-3224, Enactus President, Chelsea Watkins at ccw40@txstate.edu or 281-757-7854, or Kathleen Highsmith at kah160@txstate.edu or 512-466-3000.

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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.

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Recipe of the Month

Chicken Enchilada Soup

Sauté in large pan:

- 1 small onion, chopped 1 clove garlic, crushed
- 2 Tbs. vegetable oil

Add & simmer 1 hour:

- 1 - 4 oz. can chopped chilis, undrained
- 1 - 14 ½ oz. can beef broth
- 1 - 14 ½ oz. can chicken broth
- 1 - 10 ¾ oz. cream chicken soup
- 1 - 6 ¾ oz. can chicken
- 1 ½ cup water
- 1 Tbs. steak sauce
- 2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tsp. cumin
- 1 tsp. chili powder
- 1/8 tsp. pepper

Then add and simmer for 10 more minutes:

- 3 cups shredded cheese
- paprika
- 6 corn tortillas, cut in 1/2" strips

Serve with tortilla chips.

Submit your recipes to info@peelinc.com.

2014-2015 Bowie-Austin FFA Alumni



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#2 TOP PRODUCING AGENT IN AUSTIN (AUSTIN BUSINESS JOURNAL, 2014)

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TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE

Fruit flies can become a problem at any time of year because they are attracted to ripe or fermenting fruit. Fruit flies can be brought into the home from ripe fruits or vegetables picked from the garden or items purchased at the grocery store.

Adults are small (about 1/8 of an inch) and usually have red eyes. The front portion of the body is tan while the back portion is dark brown or black. If given the opportunity, females can lay up to 500 eggs. Larvae feed near the surface of fermenting foods or other organic matter.

Prevention is the best way to deal with fruit flies. Do not purchase over ripened fruit or vegetables. Fruit and vegetables should be eaten in a timely manner or stored in the refrigerator. If storage in the refrigerator is not an option because you are ripening the item, place it in a paper bag and use a clothespin or chip clip to close the bag. All recyclables should be rinsed thoroughly before placing them into the recycling bin. The recycling bin and garbage can should be cleaned out on a regular basis to eliminate any spilled material.

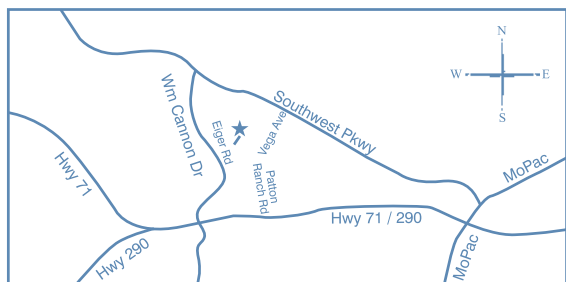
FRUIT FLIES

To eliminate a fruit fly infestation, all sources must be located and eliminated. Insecticides will not help if sources are not eliminated. While searching and eliminating breeding sources, a trap can be constructed to capture adult flies. Create a paper funnel by rolling notebook paper and place the funnel into a jar that contains a small amount of apple cider vinegar in the bottom.

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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TENNIS TIPS

By USPTA/PTR Master Professional
Fernando Velasco



The Modern Game: The Forehand Return Serve Drop Shot

In previous newsletters, I offered tips on how to execute the basic strokes for players who are just beginning to play tennis or who want to resume playing.

I am now offering suggestions on how to play the “modern” game mostly geared towards players who are happy with hitting the ball over the net and controlling the point with consistency. These players may already be playing for leagues or in tournaments and are looking for more “weapons” on the court.

In this issue, I will offer instructions on how to execute “The Return Serve Drop Shot.” This shot is used when an opponent is expecting a deep service return and the player “surprises” the opponent with a short angle drop shot. It can be used in both singles and doubles play.

In the illustrations, Fernando Velasco, Director of Tennis and teacher at of the Grey Rock Tennis Club, shows the proper technique to execute this stroke. Velasco is presently ranked #1 in Singles and Doubles in the USTA Men’s 70 Division in Texas, and #13 in Singles

and #8 and #10 in Doubles in the US.

Step 1: The Back Swing: When Fernando 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, and his eyes are focused on the incoming ball.

Step 2: The Point of Contact: The success of the drop shot is to “cup” under the ball with the strings. The grip is relaxed and ready to push the ball forward and under the ball as he makes contact with it. His left shoulder is almost opening and his weight is moving through the shot.

Step 3: The Follow Through: In order to get maximum underspin, Fernando is keeping the right hand extended as long as possible. His weight is going forward. The left hand is left leaning forward for better balance.

As the shot goes over the net, and it was successful, Fernando will run towards the net, expecting his opponent to either lift the ball short, or try to drop shot his drop shot.

Look in the next Newsletter for: “The Backhand Return Drop Shot”

THE MONITOR

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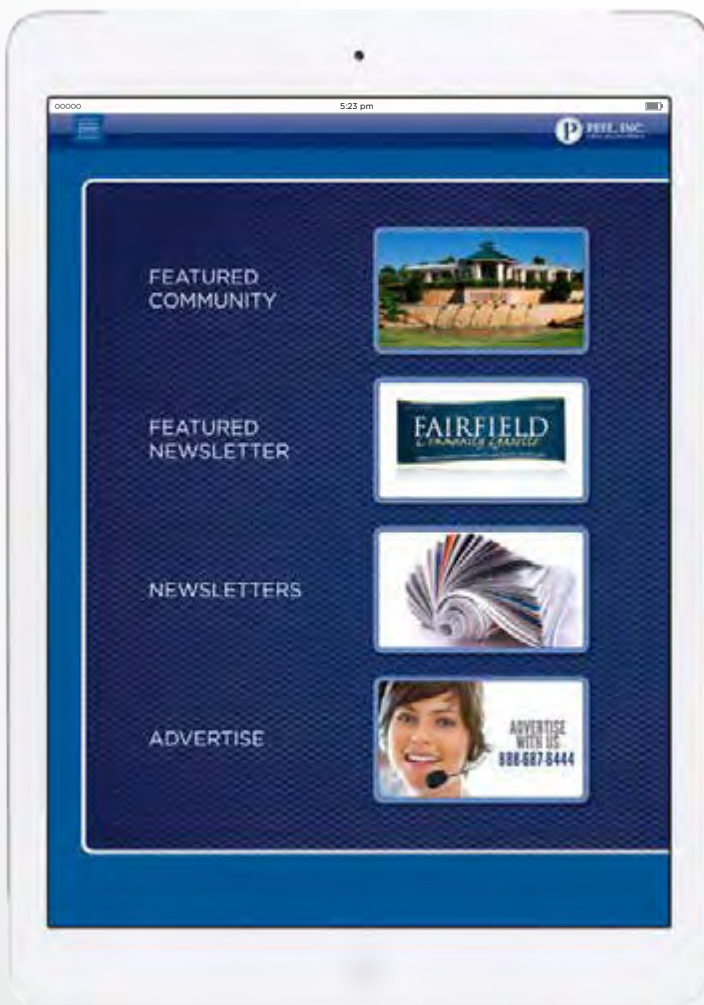
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TaraWest.Info

#1 Meridian has almost 1 1/3 months of available inventory, that's considered a Seller's Market

#2 The # of Homes recorded as SOLD in MLS for the prior 6 Months = 32, That's 11% less than same time last year

#3 The Average Price / SF for a Meridian property was \$150! That's 11% higher than same time last year.

#4 The # of ACTIVE Listings in MLS was 7, that's 46% less than last month!

#5 The # of homes under contract (PENDING) is 11, that's 57% more than last month.

GOT ~~STATS?~~ FACTS!

Meridian by Square Ft Range	6 Months Sold History (06/2014-11/2014)						Current Market	
	TOTAL	AVERAGE					TOTAL	
	Homes Sold	Square Feet	Price / Sq. Foot	Sold Price \$K	Year Built	Days On Market	Available	Pending Sale
<2500	7	2,133	\$ 159	\$ 339	2007	26	0	3
2500-2999	9	2,785	\$ 141	\$ 393	2008	7	0	2
3000-3499	4	3,171	\$ 136	\$ 430	2008	22	1	3
3500-3999	10	3,616	\$ 144	\$ 520	2008	67	4	1
4000-4500	2	4,133	\$ 221	\$ 915	2012	3	2	2
>4500	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Meridian Total	32	3,035	\$ 150	\$ 456	2008	32	7	11
% Change Mo/Mo	10%	-3%	5%	1%	0%	-3%	-46%	57%
% Change Yr / Yr	-11%	-8%	11%	2%	0%	-25%	0%	175%

Market Report data was obtained from the Austin-Multiple Listing Service (MLS) on 12/08/2014. Texas License # 515586.
In some cases new construction and FSBO homes are not included in the MLS data and therefore are not represented. Data is deemed accurate but not guaranteed.



Tara West

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