

AUGUST 2015

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 8

TARRYTOWN NEWSLETTER A Newsletter for the Residents of Tarrytown

The Tarrytown Newsletter is a monthly newsletter mailed to all Tarrytown 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 team, social group, etc., and would like to submit an article for the newsletter. you can do so online at www. 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!

Items Wanted for Charity Garage & Estate Sale

Submitted by Andi Kelly

and garage can help children have a better life. jewelry, sporting goods, home decor, holiday Simons and Betty Jo Harris. decorations and more. Donations can be dropped

The unloved, outgrown items in your house off at the warehouse at 1600 Payton Gin Road on Mondays from 9 a.m. to noon or contact the free The Settlement Home for Children, an Austin Pickup Hotline at 512-448-5302. The Settlement nonprofit that has been helping individuals Home's famous Preview Party is Thursday, with histories of severe trauma, abuse or neglect November 5 at Palmer Events Center. Tickets are for 99 years, is ramping up efforts for the 40th on sale at www.settlementhome.org. General sale Annual Charity Garage & Estate Sale. We are days are Friday, November 6 – Sunday, November looking for new or gently used items to sell at 8. All proceeds benefit The Settlement Home. our charity sale. We accept furniture, art, rugs, This year's event chairs are Nancy Wade, Debbie

Welcoming the World to our Town

in our area will be welcoming a new member into their families. They have chosen to open their hearts and their homes to an International Exchange Student. These courageous, dedicated and talented high school students leave their countries and their homes to fulfill one of their lifelong dreams of spending a year as an American teenager.

• Bring the World Home

• Share a new language and culture with your family

• Teach a student about American values and from the U.S. and around the world. traditions

- Change the course of a student's life
- Increase cultural awareness in your community
- Make a Difference

If your family enjoys exploring new cultures and nurturing youth, please contact us to

Throughout the month of August, neighbors request more information about this amazing opportunity to share your life with a special young person and to learn how you can make a difference. The application process for the 2016/2017 school year will start in October – it is recommended to start now as available schools spots fill up early.

30+ Years Connecting People & Cultures

Ayusa is a non-profit organization founded in 1981 to promote global learning and leadership through foreign exchange, study abroad, and leadership programs for high school students

For more information about hosting a high school foreign exchange student, please contact your local representative Vicki Odom at 832.455.7881 or vodom@ayusa.org or Ayusa at 1.888.552.9872 or by visiting the website at www.ayusa.org.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	
Fire	
Ambulance	
Police Department	
Sheriff – Non-Emergency	
Animal Services Office	

SCHOOLS

Austin ISD	
Casis Elementary School	
O. Henry Middle School	
Austin High School	512-414-2505

UTILITIES

City of Austin	512-494-9400
Texas Gas Service	
Custom Service	1-800-700-2443
Emergencies	512-370-8609
Call Before You Dig	512-472-2822
Grande Communications	512-220-4600
AT&T	
New Service	1-800-464-7928
Repair	1-800-246-8464
Billing	
Time Warner Cable	
Customer Service	512-485-5555
Repairs	512-485-5080
Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste	512-974-4343

OTHER NUMBERS

Ausitn City Hall	
Ausitn City Manager	
Austin Police Dept (Non Emergency)	
Austin Fire Dept (Non Emergency)	
Austin Parks and Recreation Dept	
Austin Resources Recoovery	
Austin Transportation Dept	
Municipal Court	
Post Office	
City of Austin	www.AustinTexas.gov

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ARTICLE INFO

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*. The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the issue.



PET PLACE DIY TREATS FOR OUR FELINE FRIENDS **TUNA CATNIP KITTY TREATS**

(Makes about 2 dozen)

1 (5 oz.) can tuna, no salt added packed in water, drained

1 cup oat flour*

1 large egg 1 heaping Tablespoon dried catnip 1 Tbsp olive oil

Place a rack in the upper third of the oven and preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper and set aside.

In the bowl of a food processor fitted with a blade attachment, combine all ingredients. Blend until mixture is smooth. It will be thick, but pliable and not terribly sticky.

Roll dough into half teaspoon balls and place on prepared cookie sheet. Use a skewer to press an X-shape into each cookie ball.

Bake cookies 10 to 12 minutes, until they are dried on top and slightly browned. Allow to cool completely.

Place treats in an airtight container and store in refrigerator for up to seven days.

*Note: It's easy to make your own oat flour. Simply grind oldfashioned oats in a spice grinder (or a super clean coffee grinder) until it is transformed into a light powder.

CHEWY CAT TREATS

(Makes about 50 small treats)

1 (4 oz.) jar of chicken and brown rice baby food (or something meaty, can use wet cat food)

- 1 large egg 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 2 Tablespoon water

1/4 cup parsley, coarsely chopped 1 cup brown rice flour ¹/₂ cup cooked white (or brown) rice

1. Prepare same as #1 above (Tuna Catnip Kitty Treats).

2. In a medium bowl, whisk together egg, baby food (or wet cat food), parsley, olive

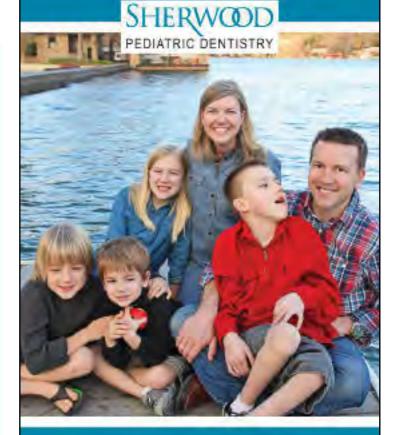
oil and water. Add brown rice flour and cooked rice. Stir to incorporate. Mixture will be thick but spreadable.

Spread mixture onto prepared baking sheet, creating a rectangle that is about 1/3 inch thick. Bake for 12 to 15 minutes.

Remove from the oven. Let rest until cool enough to handle, then slice the soft dough into bite-size pieces. Return pieces to the oven to bake for 8 more mins.

Remove from the oven. Allow to cool completely. Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator.





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TARRYTOWN REAL ESTATE MARKET REPORT

Here is a brief update on the market and for September I will plan to compare the summar assess to prior summars.

 Median list and sold prices are up 36% in 2015 YTD vs. the same time period in 2014, while sold price / sq ft is up 8%.

 Days on market has inched up from prior years, the highest it has been since 2012 at 25 days on market. Through mid-July in 2013 and 2014, it was less than 2 weaks. All these numbers reflect

Single Family	Year-to-Date Stats					
Homes	for Tarrytown	YTD 2015	YTD 2014	YTD 2013	YTD 2012	
SOLD	Single Feerily Houses Sold	87	71			
Lint Price	Avg List Price	\$1,109,318	\$1,037,007	\$1,074,087	3040 ,281	
	Madian List Price	\$1,085,000	\$200,000	\$640,000	\$78,000	
Sold Price	Avange Nat Sold Price	\$1,126,889	\$1,000,700	\$1,000,710	\$100,040	
	Maximu Nat Sold Price	\$1,089,000	\$778,000 \$009,000		\$70H,000	
"List Price	Average Lint Price / Sq Pt	\$402.48	\$179L BB	\$200 D1	\$100.00	
\$/Sq P*	Madian Lint Price / Sq Ft	\$405.90	\$381.42		\$100.1 2	
*Sold Price	Average Nat Sold Price / Sq Ft	\$267.70	\$070.M		\$200.00	
\$/Sq P*	Madium Nat Sold Price / Sq Pi	\$281.44	n.me‡	\$117.20	\$200.16	
Cays on Market	Average Days on Market	R	43	ļ	84	
	Marine Cays on Madest	28	10	13	-	
Size of House	SqfRt (licial)	2000	2412	7822	2	
Age of House	Your of Construction	1686	1982	1855	182	
	•	-		-		

plenty of demand.

 Sold homes are generally a little larger than last year with the median at 2,659 eq ft. Almost 20% of the transactions have been for homes larger than 4,000 eq ft, vs. less than 14% in 2014 and roughly 17% in 2013.

 Homes are trending toward alightly never, as the median year of construction has increased from 1952 to 1959. Over 10% of the transactions in 2015 have been for new construction, compared to isse than 3%.

Regulatory Update:

I wrote back in April about an upcoming change to the regulatory environment for transactions and how that impacted mortgage lenders, home-buyers and the closing process. Those changes have been pushed back to October 3, 2015.

Hole: All dide courses from the Acadia Board of Resiliens' MLS report, reducting activity Brough JuLY 15, 2015.

August 2015

by Trey McWhorter

Everyone's got an opinion. **Ours is Board Certified.**

Contemporary Irthodontic S James R. Waters, DDS, MSD

Orthodontics is more than just straightening

teeth. Orthodontists understand the complexity of growth development and facial form: Treatment plans include issues related to the jaw and bite, not just movement of teeth. There's a reason orthodontists go to additional years of highly competitive orthodontic school - to learn and perfect their ability. in the speciality. A general dentist is ideal for providing regular cral health check-ups, comparable to your family doctor. Many dentists offer orthodonlic treatment plans, but have not been trained or educated in the area.

A board certified orthodontist is committed to the highest level of patient care including a comprehensive treatment approach to ensure quality work. And board partified orthodombists must re-new their certification every 10 years to demonstrate their continuous commitment to excellence

COMPLETION OF ORTH RESIDENCY IS-SYRS. Orthodontist ACCEPTANCE TO COMPETITIVE COREDITED+ ORTHODONTIC PREGRAM MACUATION FROM AN ACCREDITE OFNIAL SCHOOL (2-4765) Dentist

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TEXAS A&M

GRILIFE

TAWNY CRAZY ANTS

The Tawny crazy ant, formerly known as the Rasberry crazy ant, was originally found in Harris County in 2002. It is currently confirmed in 27 Texas counties.

Tawny crazy ants have a cyclical population level throughout the year with populations peaking in late summer, decreasing in the fall and then beginning to build again in the spring. Tawny crazy ants are capable of biting, but do NOT sting like fire ants. They are mostly nuisance pests, but can reach extraordinary population levels (in the millions) and can become a problem when getting into electrical equipment. Tawny crazy ants do not have nests or mounds like fire ants; they tend to nest under things- rocks, landscape timbers, flowerpots, etc.

For more information on this particular ant species go to http:// urbanentomology.tamu.edu/ants/rasberry.html

Treatment Options

Removing harborage areas- fallen limbs, rocks, leaf litter, etc. These ants will nest under pretty much anything on the ground, so you may want to remove anything that is not necessary.

Alter moisture conditions (crazy ants prefer moist, humid conditions)- reduce watering, repair any leaks, improve drainage

Eliminate honeydew producers from area. Crazy ants tend honeydew producers such as aphids, whiteflies, hoppers, mealybugs and scale insects.

Use pesticide sprays to treat infested areas- under rocks, along landscape edging, etc. Pesticide sprays can also be used to create a barrier around the outside of the home. Piles of dead ants may build up in treated areas, so they must be removed to keep the barrier maintained.

Hire a pest management professional (PMP). PMPs have access to pesticides that are unavailable to homeowners and they also have experience dealing with pest problems regularly.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

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Back To School

School starts in August, so now is the time for drivers to pay closer attention to the school zones in the neighborhood. We want to remind you that the speed limit in a school zone is 20mph and traffic fines double!

Other changes to be aware of include;

- Children behaving unpredictably
- School Bus Stops
- Crossing Guards please obey the guards! Remember, they are there for the safety of you and your children
- New areas of traffic congestion
- Be prepared for delays
- Use of cell phones in schools zones is prohibited!

Please give yourself extra time in the mornings and midafternoons and remember if you are traveling in a school zone to slow down.

Time To Slow Down



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Fit and Fun: Health Tips for You & Your Children

By: Concentra Urgent Care

Getting fit and staying fit can be a fun process. That's true for individuals, and it's especially true for families.

Fitness is an important topic, especially when your daily routine involves a lot of sitting, whether at work, at school, or at home in front of a computer or TV screen.

The habits that we learn as children are often the habits we carry into adulthood. As parents, we can help our children build healthy habits and find new, fun ways to motivate ourselves and our children to get active.

Below are some ideas for getting off the couch and having some fun while getting fit:

• Take an active vacation: It's tempting every day to think of your vacation as a time to sit and relax. But isn't that what your body does everyday? Instead, you can plan a trip that includes hiking, biking, skiing, and other activities that the whole family can do together.

• Visit a local park: It doesn't have to take a whole day, but you could spend a few hours playing at a park. Take a ball (football or soccer), a Frisbee, or a hacky sack, and play. You can invite some friends to join you, too. And remember: It's not just about the kids moving around – it's your time, too!

• Hold a block party: Call your neighbors, and block off the closest cul-de-sac for a get together that includes fun and active games. From freeze tag and relay races to hide-andseek and kickball, there are hundreds of activities to choose from that are fun for everyone.

• Go for a hike: Find a local area where you and your family can go and hike for a few miles. Spend time outdoors, and enjoy what nature has to offer while you all get fit!

For more ideas about fun activities, visit the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance's Web site at: www.aahperd.com.

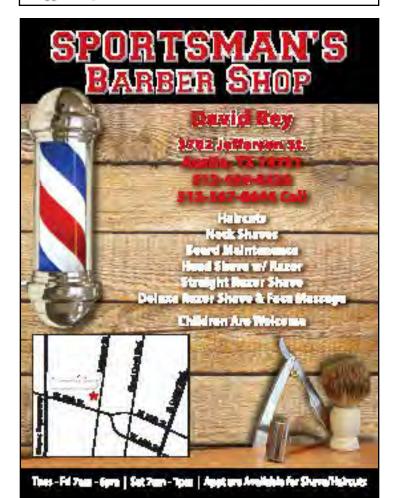
The Goal: Be instrumental in encouraging children to develop the good habit of moving through space, nurturing their physical power, and getting fit.

For more information about healthy activities, contact your health care provider or your Concentra health specialist. For more information on the importance of fitness for children, visit the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website at:

www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/physicalactivity/

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			7		3		4			

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.





"Tennis for Children 11 years and older – Yellow Ball"

This series of Tennis Tips is focused on how to involve children of all ages learning to play tennis and offering tips to the parents on how to assist at home. In the last issue I offered advice for children 9-10 years old and under playing with the softer green ball on a 78' foot court. This issue, will focus on children 11 years and older playing with the yellow ball on a 78' foot regular size court.

The children should be using rackets ranging in length from 25" to 27" long. The size of the racket will depend on how tall and strong the players are. The grip size should now range from 4" to $4 \frac{1}{2}$ ", again depending on the size of their hands.

Caption 1: Tennis Court: For those players ready to cover the regular size court, they will now be playing on a 78" x 36' tennis court. Lines are now painted regular white making it much easier to see the ball landing, especially while the opponents are serving. Players need to be physically ready to cover the entire court.

Caption 2: Groups: The key to children learning how to play the game of tennis, is to assemble them in group lessons. Most clubs offer them according to age level and ability. The tennis professional

will separate them so each player is comfortable in their respective group. A good ratio is 6 players to 1 pro, and the range going from beginner to advance.

Tennis camps are also an excellent way to give them a concentrated learning experience. The students usually spend two hours working on fundamental strokes and also playing games. At the end of the week, these players should be able to start playing on their own and/or with the help of their parents. Of course, if additional help is needed, they may consider taking tennis lessons from a certified tennis professional.

Children at this age are already playing points and are given tips on how to hit groundstrokes, volleys and serves with control. The USTA provides tournaments and leagues for children 12, 14, 16 and 18 and under using the yellow ball. Matches are normally 8 game pro-sets and they are encouraged to play round robins and/ or consolation rounds.

Look in the next Newsletter for: "Tips for Adult Beginner Lessons – The Forehand". For more information about our programs and club information, you can visit us at www.greyrocktennis.com or call us at 512-301-8685.



TRAVELING TARANTULAS NATUREWATCH

by Jim and Lynne Weber

Relatively common throughout Texas, the Tarantula (Aphonopelma sp.) is Texas' heaviest and largest spider. Typically,

the head and legs are dark brown, and the abdomen is brownish-black. Coloration varies between individuals as well as between the 14 different species found in Texas. Identification of individual species is difficult, however, and is often performed only on mature males under a microscope.

Tarantulas are typically found in grasslands and semi-open areas, and use burrows, natural cavities under stones or fallen logs, spaces under loose tree bark, and

even old rodent holes as shelters. They are also capable of digging their own burrows, and often line them with webbing, placing a few strands across the front to help detect passing prey. Laying several hundred eggs in a hammock-like web constructed inside

the burrow, females will guard them until they hatch. Females have lived in captivity for over 25 years, while males rarely live over two or three months after reaching maturity.

Like many animals, tarantulas molt their exoskeletons several times as they grow. The skin on the hard upper shell and abdomen splits, and the tarantula begins the process of squeezing through

the opening. Most of the time, tarantulas molt while positioned on their backs, twitching, stretching, and kicking until the entire exoskeleton has been cast off. After they have wriggled free of their old skin, this discarded exoskeleton is a perfect replica of the spider, minus its head and fangs.

Other insects such as crickets, beetles, grasshoppers, cicadas, and caterpillars form the basic diet of the tarantula. They inject their prey with a poison when they bite, which liquefies the prey's insides, making it easier to ingest. While they can climb, they are usually restricted to the ground, where the majority of their prey is found. The hairiness and large size of tarantulas often evokes concern, but the bites of Texas species are not serious to humans. Tarantulas maneuver quickly to face whatever disturbs them, often raising up on their hind legs and stretching out their front legs in a threatening posture. They have also been observed rapidly brushing the top of their abdomen with their hind legs to dislodge hairs that can be used to irritate the attacker's eyes or skin.



Tarantula

For a few weeks late in the summer or early fall, one of the most spectacular spider events occurs in Texas. Not well understood,

this phenomenon is often called a migration, but it may be related more to mating rather than seasonally motivated movement. Males actively wander to seek out females, and can travel 50 miles in search of a mate. Populations seem to follow a boom and bust cycle, depending on weather patterns and the availability of food, but a good year can be a sight to behold if summer rains have been plentiful. While the males are out searching, females wait in their burrows for

a suitor to appear. Larger and more robust, the female does not always accept any male that comes along, and will kill and eat males that are deemed unsuitable.

As formidable as they may seem, tarantulas are not without their

own enemies. In fact, in late spring and early summer they are routinely hunted by female Tarantula Hawks as food for their larvae. Belonging to a group of spider wasps in the genera Pepis and Hemipepsis, tarantula hawks are large, 2-inch long wasps with iridescent blue-black bodies and bright, rust-colored wings. This vivid color combination is a form of aposematism or warning coloration, a



Tarantula Hawk

type of advertising signal to both predator and prey that these species are potentially harmful. These wasps have the ability to deliver a powerful sting, and their long legs have hooked claws for grappling their victims.

Flying low over the ground, the female tarantula hawk will find a tarantula and sting it, which paralyzes the spider but does not kill it. She then drags the inert tarantula into her burrow or transports it to a specially prepared nest, where she lays a single egg on the spider's abdomen, then seals the opening to the burrow as she leaves. When the wasp larva hatches, it creates a small hole and enters the spider's abdomen, where it feeds voraciously, avoiding vital organs to keep the spider alive as long as possible. After several weeks the spider dies, the larva pupates, and then it emerges from the spider's abdomen to continue its lifecycle.

Send your nature-related questions to naturewatch@austin.rr.com and we'll do our best to answer them. Check out our blog at naturewatchaustin. blogspot.com if you enjoy reading these articles!



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TRY

Squeeze in a little more fun these last few weeks of summer!

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- 8th-9th August City-Wide Gazage Sale Palmer Events Center . www.citywidegaragesale.com
 - 12th KGSR's BLues on the Green Zilker Park . www.kgst.com
 - 22^{III} Bat Fest Congress Avenue Bridge Www.roadwayeyents.com
 - 23th Austin Chronicle Hot Sauce Festival Fiesta Gardens • www.austinchronicle.com/hot-sauce

28^m-30^m Home & Garden Show Austin Convention Center - www.austinhomeandgardenshow.com

29th-30th *Le Garage Boutigue Sale* Palmer Events Centar
Www.legaragesale.net





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