

# MERIDIAN *Community Monitor*

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF MERIDIAN

## OUR COMMUNITY CARES SPOTLIGHT

### Baldwins Care and Share Holiday Drive

*Submitted by Jacquelyn Waldrop, Austin Real Estate Partners and Baldwin PTA*

The students and families at Baldwin have worked together to make the holidays merrier for a few of our Baldwin Bobcats. Each class at Baldwin has sponsored a family for the holidays. Based on the information the family has shared, including personal needs and a few Christmas wishes, the students have each signed up to bring an item from the family's wish list. Last year, Baldwin supported 16 families in this annual holiday tradition.

It's not too late to donate, and Meridian community members are invited to participate.

Frequently requested items: Laundry detergent, dish soap, all toiletries, toilet paper, paper towels, diapers/wipes, household cleaners, new socks-any size, grocery and Target/Walmart gift cards in any denomination.

All items must be delivered to Baldwin on the morning on Monday, December 14 so they can be sorted and ready for the Families for pick-up later that week.

Thanks to the Baldwin community to for your continued generosity again this holiday season. For more information on how you can help, please contact:

**Tara Stromberg @ [tstrombe@gmail.com](mailto:tstrombe@gmail.com).**

## Baldwin PTA News

*Submitted by Jacquelyn Waldrop, Austin Real Estate Partners & Baldwin PTA*

### Baldwin Santa Night

*Thursday, December 10th from 5-8pm @ Baldwin Gym*

Join us for our annual Santa Night brought to you by Baldwin PTA, which brings together the school and neighborhood families to kick off the holiday season. The night's events will include a performance by the Bobcat Choir, a visit from Santa with photo opportunities with your own camera and dancing to holiday tunes. Food and drink will be provided for sale as a PTA fundraiser and the Baldwin Book Fair will be open late so you can get in a little holiday shopping too! Contact Emily Mirkin: [jingo151@me.com](mailto:jingo151@me.com) for more information or to volunteer to help with a short 30 minute time slot.

### Help earn money for our school through the convenience of online shopping!

Join us for our annual Santa Night brought to you by Baldwin PTA, which brings together the school and neighborhood families to kick off the holiday season. The night's events will include a performance by the Bobcat Choir, a visit from Santa with photo opportunities with your own camera and dancing to holiday tunes. Food and drink will be provided for sale as a PTA fundraiser and the Baldwin Book Fair will be open late so you can get in a little holiday shopping too! Contact Emily Mirkin: [jingo151@me.com](mailto:jingo151@me.com) for more information or to volunteer to help with a short 30 minute time slot.

### Baldwin will be holding a contest for Box Tops and Labels for Education during the month of December

The class that brings in the most labels wins a popcorn party after Winter Break. Please send in your Box Tops and Labels for Education by December 18th by 2pm. Label the bag or collection sheet of labels with your student's and teacher's name so they can be counted toward the contest and drop them in the blue bin in the lobby.

*(Continued on Page 3)*

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*Baldwin PTA News (Cont. from Cover)*

Thank you to Baldwin's Fall Carnival Corporate and Family Sponsors as well as all the volunteers and those that attended the event on Friday, Oct 16th. Together, we raised about \$25,000 for our school's PTA programs, which go directly to help our students.

**SAVE THE DATE: Baldwin's next PTA Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 13 @ 6:30pm.** Join us and see the incredible programs where all the funds we are raising are being used!

## National PTA Reflections Program "Let Your Imagination Fly" Participants

*Submitted by Jacquelyn Waldrop, Austin Real Estate Partners & Baldwin PTA member*



Many thanks to all of Baldwin's students who participated in the National PTA "Reflections" Art program! This year's theme is Let Your Imagination Fly. We are so proud of all of our Bobcats that submitted artwork in the following categories: dance choreography, film production, literature, music composition, photography and visual arts.

The creativity displayed truly impressed the judges. Each student who participated in Reflections this year was recognized at the school's assembly on Friday, November 20th.

Submissions from the following student artists have advanced to the Austin Council level: Ana D., Bryce N., Daniela D., Elizabeth W., Ivy N., Kathryn S. Lily W., Lotus K., McKenna M., Neha G., Sydney M., Viviana D. and William G.

A special thanks goes out to Amy Herzog, a Meridian resident and Baldwin PTA member, that coordinated the program for our school. She organized all the student art work and secured judges from the appropriate art fields.

## Holiday Entertaining Made Easy

*Submitted by Jacquelyn Waldrop, Realtor,  
Austin Real Estate Partners*

Is the whole family coming over for the holidays? Or perhaps you'd like to share some festive cheer with your neighbors? Whatever the reason, 'tis the season, so now's the time to start planning.

**Stock Your Pantry** -- Get ready for hosting with a well-stocked pantry and freezer. Must-haves include quick, no-cook appetizers; basic baking ingredients; spices and marinades; and frozen puff pastry, pie and cookie dough.

**Set the Mood** -- Keep decorative accessories handy during this season of entertaining. A vase with fresh-cut flowers and tea lights in frosted glass holders are enough to add that festive touch.

**Pre-Plan and Prep Cook** -- Come up with a few go-to holiday menu plans and try to prep cook many of the elements in advance. This will prevent you from spending the day slaving over a hot stove and allow you to enjoy your guests.

**Find a Place for Everyone** -- Consider your holiday hosting capacity. Do you have enough space at the dinner table? Do you need extra chairs or place settings? Is your oven space adequate for the quantity of food you'll be preparing?

**Bring on the Fun** -- Have a variety of board games, books, playing cards and movies ready for those times when your guests need to entertain themselves. If you're hosting young ones, have a few age-appropriate toys available as well.

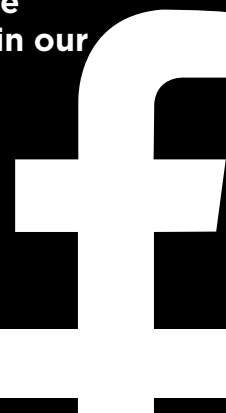
**Ready the Guest Room** -- If your houseguests are staying overnight, make sure they have everything they need to enjoy their stay. Set out extra towels, toiletries and bed linens, as well as maps and guidebooks for the area.

**Like this page brought to you by Jacquelyn Waldrop & Austin Real Estate Partners and be the first to know about the good news and happenings in our great neighborhood.**

Get the scoop on:

- Meridian neighborhood activities
- Baldwin Elementary PTA programs and Spirit nights
- Cool Community updates
- Special offers and freebies from local Circle C/Meridian area businesses

**facebook.com/Meridian411**





# THE MONITOR

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## WELCOME

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### *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](http://www.PEELinc.com) or you can email it [meridian@peelinc.com](mailto: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!

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## *Do you take great photos?*

*Would you like to see your photo published?  
We are looking for great photos for the upcoming  
issues of the Monitor.*

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMISSION:**

- Ideally taken in or around Meridian
- Be of High Resolution (240 dpi or higher. 300 dpi is best)
- Prefer “portrait” orientation

We'd love to have something that pertains to the time of the year in some way, so be creative and give it a try. Our submittal deadline is the 8th prior to the issue. Email them to [meridian@peelinc.com](mailto:meridian@peelinc.com).

By submitting your photo you agree to allow your photo to be published in future issues of the *Monitor*.



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## HALLOWEEN VISITERS TO QUASSIA DR

*Submitted by Carol Koester*



### Your Meridian Real Estate Expert



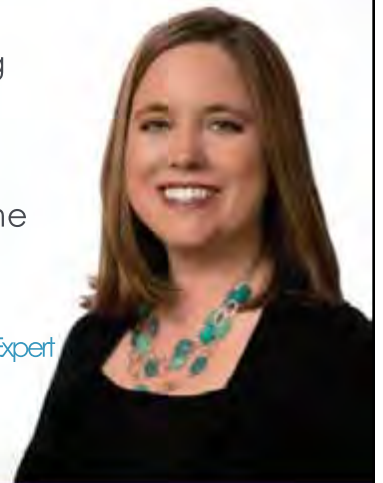
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# THE MONITOR

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## CALLING MERIDIAN MAMAS TO JOIN CIRCLE C MOM'S CLUB

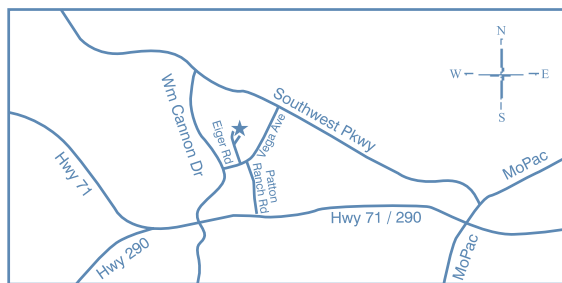
*Submitted by Jacquelyn Waldrop, Austin Real Estate  
Partners & Circle C Mom's club member*

Circle C Mom's is a group of neighborhood moms that coordinate events for children, moms and families. Children's events include weekly age-specific playdates, holiday parties and field trips. Weekly moms' events are usually hosted at members' homes or nearby restaurants and include activities such as bunko nights, book club, craft night, movie nights, recipe/supper club, ladies-only lunches and much, much more! These activities are a great opportunity for moms to get out and enjoy a little "adult" time and meet new friends.

If you're interested in joining, please contact Kimberly De LaGarza @ [delagarzakim@yahoo.com](mailto:delagarzakim@yahoo.com).



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All Specials \$10.00 Ready at 5pm		Blackened Shrimp 1 Scampi, Fettucine, Cesar Salad	Chicken Fried 2 Chicken, Mashed Potatoes & Creamy Gravy, Roasted Corn	Orange Lime 3 Halibut Champagne Coriander Sauce Acorn Squash Roasted Vegetables	Fresh Tarragon 4 Grilled Porkloin chop, Oven Roasted Potatoes, vegetables	CHoA Kids event – SATURDAY, DEC 5 <sup>th</sup> for more info call 288-8663
6	Caribbean 7 Cornish Hens Basmati Rice, Roasted Garlic Sauce Glazed carrots	Blackened Salmon 8 Served with a Lemon Caper Sauce, Orzo Pasta, Ceasar Salad	Chicken Stuffed 9 Brie Cheese & Cranberry, White Wine Crème Sauce, Basmati Rice, Vegetables	Blackened Mahi 10 Mahi, Crème Sauce, Sage Polenta, Vegetables	Apple Ginger 11 Pork Tenderloin Sundried Fruit Sauce, Sage Polenta, Vegetables	12 <i>Check out the Wildflower Center's Luminations CHoA Adults event DEC 12th – for more info call 288-8663</i>
13 <i>Check out the Wildflower Center's Luminations</i>	Pistachio Crusted 14 Porkloin, Cabernet Cherry Sauce Garlic Mashed Potatoes Grilled Vegetables	Sage Pesto 15 Marinated Chicken Pomegranate Sauce Cranberry Rice Vegetables	Grilled 16 Rib eye, Baked Potato, Shallot Sauce, Green Beans	All Spice 17 Grouper, Fennel Crème Sauce, Tourné Potatoes, Vegetables	Sliced BBQ 18 Brisket, Chicken, Sausage, Ranchero Beans, Potato Salad, Corn Bread	19 Closed for the Holidays Will reopen Jan 6th

**We wish your family a Merry Christmas & we look forward to serving you in the New Year!**

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