

WE UNDERSTAND THAT "MAN DOES NOT LIVE BY BURGER ALONE." SO, OUR SALADS ARE "ALLSTARS" TOO!

ALSTARBURGER AND FARM-FRESH SALADS

IN THE HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA

ADVERTISING INFO

Please support the advertisers that make the Bee Cave Messenger possible. If you are interested in advertising, please contact our sales office at 512-263-9181 or <u>advertising@</u> <u>peelinc.com</u>. The advertising deadline is the 8th of the month prior to the issue.

ARTICLE INFO

The Bee Cave Messenger is mailed monthly to all Bee Cave area 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 Bee Cave Messenger please email it to <u>beecave@peelinc.com</u>. The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the issue.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911	
Fire		
Ambulance		
Police Department	512-314-7590	
Sheriff – Non-Emergency		
Travis County ESD No.6/Lake Travis Fire Rescue		
Administration Office	512-266-2533	
Travis County Animal Control	512-972-6060	

SCHOOLS

Lake Travis ISD	
Lake Travis High School	
Lake Travis Middle School	
Lake Travis Elementary	
Hudson Bend Middle School	512-533-6400
Lake Pointe Elementary	
Lakeway Elementary	512-533-6350
Serene Hills Elementary	512-533-7400
Bee Cave Elementary	512-533-6250
West Cypress Elementary	512-533-7500

UTILITIES

• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
Travis County WCID # 17	
Lakeway MUD	
Hurst Creek MUD	
Austin Energy	
Pedernales Electric	
Texas Gas Service	
Custom Service	1-800-700-2443
Emergencies	
Call Before You Dig	
AT&T	
New Service	1-800-464-7928
Repair	1-800-246-8464
Billing	
Time Warner Cable	
Customer Service	
Repairs	
Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste	
,	

OTHER NUMBERS

Bee Cave City Hall	
Bee Cave Library	
Municipal Court	
Lake Travis Postal Office	
Lakeway Regional Medical Center	
City of Bee Cave	www.beecavetexas.com

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc	
Editor	
Advertising	

Around Bee Cave Why Shop Local?

We hear it all the time "shop local!" It's on commercials, advertisements and is a popular media catch phrase. But why should you? Look, I get it. I have 3 kids (1 is a very expensive teenage boy) and a husband, a very large family, and lots of monetary commitments. So saving money is a priority. Before I got on city council, I didn't really understand the value of shopping local. I just bargained shopped- watched ads, priced matched and I could online shop those deals like no one else! But then I got on city council and I saw the numbers. I became aware of stores opening and sadly, closing. I want to let you know what I know, and make you aware of the buying power of your dollar. (This is written from the perspective of shopping in Bee Cave. For specific numbers on your city, contact your local city councilmember.)

1. Shopping Local keeps our property taxes low. Bee Cave has a annual budget of \$10 million. Our property tax rate is \$.02 per \$100 valuation. What that means: the average home in Bee Cave pays \$40 for the entire year to the city. We collect around \$300k in property tax revenue. That's it! So where does the \$9.8M come from that we need..... yes, sales tax! The reason Bee Cave can have one of the lowest property taxes in the state is, a conservative budget and our local shoppers! Shopping/spending money outside the city limits or an

online store that does not have a presence in Texas, puts your dollar in different communities. (Shopping at an online store with a Texas brick and mortar facility does put sales tax in the community the package is shipped to.) I'll give you an example, earlier in November we heard a presentation about Stormwater Utility Tax. Most cities in Texas have this tax and it funds clean up from storm damage. The entire council decided not to implement such a tax in Bee Cave because we can fund it from our sales tax surplus. If the amount of money we collect from sales tax drops, and the city can't take care of itself, then the only option to keep the city running is to raise taxes. Hopefully this is something we never have to do, because I don't like paying a big property tax bill in December either!

2. Here's the obvious one: your money creates jobs. Don't create jobs in Arkansas- create them for your friends and neighbors! It's scary to start a business. Many of our small business owners invest all their savings and their financial futures in the businesses they open. They employ local workers as well. Shopping in their stores gives our friends and neighbors jobs. Those jobs keep our home values high (if you've ever seen a community with high unemployment, you know what I am talking about as far as home values.)

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3. Local businesses give back. If you've ever been on your school PTO, booster club or involved in any community charity, you know what it means to pound the pavement looking for gift cards, sponsorships or gala donations. (I have really put in my time in this area and I can tell you, it's a lot of hard work, so I'm taking a second to thank our volunteers!) But our business owners in Bee Cave are VERY generous. They take care of our kids, our sports teams and our charities. Without them, we wouldn't have the successful events, carnivals, sponsorships, charity events, and heck, "winning" a gift card at an event is FUN! Please support our local businesses that give back, and while you are in there, thank them in person. They like knowing their donations are important to us too!

4. Customer Service. Yes, it's a dying art. However, shopping local helps with better customer service. They live and work in their community and they do not want their patrons unhappy. I want to give an example I was just recently made aware of: we have a great local business whose customer base is children. This store has cool toys out for kids to play with. I know when my boys were little we would stop in there so they could play with Thomas the Train. Yes, we had Thomas at home, but somehow standing around the train table with other kids was way more appealing to them. Children can try on costumes, look through books, touch and play with many items in the store. Everything is hands on, and if you've ever been in there, you know that it is a great, inexpensive way to give some fun to your kids in the day (especially if it's too cold/too hot or rainy outside.) Well, just recently, a mom spent a lot time in that store, kids playing (cough, I mean making a mess), while mom shopped. Then at the end, she decided she would just got get everything at an online retailer to save a few bucks. Well, our small businesses can't buy the volume of merchandise that online warehouse stores can. Therefore they can't heavily discount it. But, the online warehouses also can't offer your kids a place to play (or make a mess that someone else cleans up) or socialize with other area kids, or donate to school events (see #3) or employee local workers (see #2). So is taking away all the above worth saving \$2 on a item? I will tell you, this penny pincher (and my friends will truly verify that I am one) says "no!"

5. Shopping local keeps it unique. Our local stores are more likely to buy from local entities that create and make the unique items that just can't be found on a national level. We all have those items that are special to us and don't want to look like what everyone else has, whether it's clothes, home decor, Christmas tree ornaments, handmade food items, specialized olive oils, hunting items.... the list goes on and on. Local buying power exists from local spending power! The most important thing to remember is your money has power.

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Around Bee Cave

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It's like voting, but with your wallet. Where you choose to shop, or not shop, really affects your local community. Do I go out of my way to shop local, yes. Sure, if I'm in a hurry and I need 1 item for dinner, I will stop at a store on a way home to pick it up. If I have to buy more than a couple of things, I make sure my local stores get my dollars, even if it means going out of my way a bit. Because while that may add a few minutes to my day, I sure enjoy my low property tax rate and I want to keep it that way. And I am counting down the days until my 15 year old gets his license, so he he can drive to a local job and earn his keep!

Kara King, Bee Cave City Councilmember kking@beecavetexas. gov

Kara King is serving her 2nd term on Council, is a wife mother of 3 and Business Development Director for CirrusMD. She has a Council Facebook page: Kara King's Bee Cave Council Updates and can be reached at kking@beecavetexas.gov The Bee Cave Messenger is a private publication published by Peel, Inc. It is not sanctioned by any homeowners association or organization, nor is it subject to the approval of any homeowners association or organization, nor is it intended, nor implied to replace any publication that may be published by or on behalf of any homeowners association or organization. At no time will any source be allowed to use the Bee Cave Messenger contents, or loan said contents, to others in anyway, shape or form, nor in any media, website, print, film, e-mail, electrostatic copy, fax, or etc. for the purpose of solicitation, commercial use, or any use for profit, political campaigns, or other self amplification, under penalty of law without written or expressed permission from Peel, Inc. The information in the newsletter is exclusively for the private use of Peel, Inc.

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Lake Pointe Elementary PTO

The Lake Pointe Elementary PTO is pleased to announce the Inaugural "An Eagle Affair Silent Auction & Benefit Dinner" on Friday, April 8, 2016 at the Sonesta Hotel from 7-11pm. There will be a delicious dinner served, a silent and live auction, wine pull, DJ, and photo booth fun!

Lake Pointe Elementary's PTO is a volunteer organization, and our objectives include generating financial support for educational opportunities not provided by the school district, providing parent volunteers to assist with school activities, and bolster community spirit through volunteer opportunities and community events. Funds raised at this event will directly support the following:

- · Field trips
- · Outdoor Science Lab/Garden

• Teacher Wish List Items, which include Chromebooks for the classrooms, a new Raptor system (Visitor Management System to keep our school safe), more cafeteria tables for our growing population, risers for our music programs, new books for our reading programs, Flashmasters for math curriculum, and speech and special education items

Tickets for our event go on sale February 2nd and information can be found on our website, lakepointepto.org. Tickets are \$75 for dinner and the largest party of the year. We will also have an early access party available at a charge of \$25. Community members are welcome to attend and bid on some amazing silent and live auction items, such as a night at Horseshoe Bay Resort and Golf for 2, a wine tasting for 12 at William Chris Vineyards, many restaurant gift cards, themed baskets, and much more!

Lake Pointe Elementary PTO is thankful for the generosity of our sponsors, Presenting Sponsor-Leslea Roberts, Realtor, Majestic Sponsor-High 5 Family Entertainment Center, Imperial Sponsor-The Cummins Family, and Golden Sponsor-Jill Hamlin, Hamlin Home Teams and Leslea Roberts, Realtor

Sponsorships are still available! Questions about the event can be directed to fundraising@lakepointepto.org



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Around Bee Cave



Join us for the Hill Country Galleria's Valentine's Wine Walk on Thursday, February 11th from 5pm-9pm. Shop the eclectic mix of retailers in the Galleria while discovering great wines from all over the world. We have organized the walk in such a way to have the last stop be a restaurant so you can sit down and end the night with dinner. Start at Twin Liquors to pick up a map to guide you on the Wine Walk. Keep your map with you as your ticket for each wine walk stop. This event is open to everyone, so bring your friends, family, groups, or date for a fun way to spend a Thursday evening. The first 65 attendees will receive a pink swag bag filled with Hill Country Galleria offers! Visit www. HillCountryGalleria.com for complete information.



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JOIN US FOR THE HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA

WINE WALK

SECOND THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM 5-9PM

BEGIN AT TWIN LIQUORS WHERE MAPS WILL BE PROVIDED TO GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE NIGHT. NO RESERVATION REQUIRED.



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RETIRE BETTER READY OR NOT?

WITH JOSH STIVERS

WOW! The beginning of this year was a pretty rocky start for the stock market. Going back to August, the market has experienced increased volatility not seen since the second half of 2011. The question is, were you ready?

For years, institutional investors and hedge funds have benefitted from drastic fluctuations in the market by being opportunistic during times like these. Even one of Warren Buffet's classic rules is "Be fearful when others are greedy, and be greedy when others are fearful."

Do these big money investors have information we don't? I would say NO! Due to their experience and understanding of market fluctuions, these seasoned investors learned how to manage their emotions and focus on the fundamentals underlying the volatility.

Simply put, volatility is a measure of the roller coaster ride that individual stock and public markets go on when there is nervousness and unrest based on uncertain economic conditions.

During the financial crisis of 2008, we saw many investors flee their equity positions at substantial losses and move their assets to cash. The problem is that many stayed in cash for several years and completely missed out on the 6 year bull market that followed the crisis. What if they had placed a least a portion of this cash in opportunistic investments that rebounded when the market began to level out?

The key to benefitting from market volatility is preparation. During times of relative calm in markets, it is important to begin to insulate your portfolio from the impending volatility that is sure to happen. It is possible to achieve this portfolio insulation through the use of non-correlated assets and cash.

It is also important to have a stash of cash on hand when volatility hits. The recent sell offs in public equity markets have created an opportunity to purchase quality stocks at drastically discounted prices. If you do not prepare for the eventual sale on quality stocks, then you might find yourself without enough purchasing power to make good on these name brand stock discounts.

With a proper allocation to non-correlated investments and a healthy portion of cash, many of our clients have been in a position to benefit from the recent market volatility. With more uncertainty on the road ahead, it's not too late to begin insulating your own personal investment portfolio from future fluctuations.

Ask yourself, were you comfortable with your experience on your investments over the last couple of months. If not, it may be time to stress test your current portfolio and begin to hedge your bets.

If you would like further information on this topic or to receive a copy of our report on retirement investment planning, please send your requests to the email below. As always, we are here to answer your pressing questions and concerns regarding retirement investment planning.

Send your questions and information requests to retirebetter@platinumwealthadvisory.com



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Business Section

NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE

SHOW OFF YOUR SUPERHERO

Parents this is your chance to brag on your kiddos. We want pictures of your kids doing everyday things, school events, plays, sports, etc. Send in your pictures to be featured in the Bee Cave Messenger.

E-mail your pictures to beecave@peelinc.com by the 15th of the month.







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Spicewood Lions Club Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Spicewood Lions Club is holding its Annual Charity Golf Tournament on Friday April 1 at Lakecliff Golf Club. If you would like to participate as a sponsor please call David Almond on 830-693-3645 (david@b-h-c.com) or if you would like to play as an individual (we make up teams) or as a team please contact Guy Weinhold on 512-791-5677 (spicewoodgolfguy@gmail.com). All proceeds go to help needy individuals and community organizations in and around Spicewood.

Our grateful thanks go to those businesses that have already agreed to sponsor including Stone House Vineyard, Security State Bank and Trust, Anderson Family Dental, Spicewood Plumbing, Spicewood K9 Club, Assassin Pest Control, Madigan Custom Homes, Premier Windows and Doors, Hill Country Haiku and more.

Lion David Almond, President Spicewood Lions Club

Spicewood Arts Society

Spicewood Arts Society, the Home of the Arts in the Hill Country, will hold its annual fundraiser on February 19th at the Spicewood Vineyards Event Center, 1419 CR 409 in Spicewood, Texas. Proceeds from the evening will go towards arts programs in the local schools and for scholarships awarded to students in both Lake Travis and Marble Falls high schools who will be pursuing a post-secondary education in an art related field.

The evening begins with a silent auction, open from 6PM until 8:30PM, and a buffet dinner will be served from 6:30 to 7:30PM. Then Austin's premier 10 piece show band, "The Matchmaker Band", will perform their own special renditions of Motown soul and funk as well as popular songs from the 80's, 90's, and today.

The generosity of our patrons allowed the Spicewood Arts Society's Scholarship Program the opportunity to provide six \$1,500 scholarships to deserving high school seniors in 2014 and again in 2015. During that time storytellers and musicians have performed at West Cypress Hills Elementary, Spicewood Elementary, and Highland Lakes Elementary in part due to donations received the night of the fundraiser.

Tickets, \$75 per person, are available online www.spicewoodarts. org or by calling 512-264-2820.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and grant you peace. –Numbers 6:24-26

Sunday Worship and Children's Ministry at 10:00 AM The Serene Hills Elementary School 3301 Serene Hills Drive Ecclaketravistorg 512-695-2803 Church of the Cross is a new community of faith in the Lake Travis area. There is always space at God's table, and you're invite



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