

# West Lake Hills ECHO

Volume 5, Issue 10

October 2016

## WESTLAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNOUNCES 14TH ANNUAL WESTLAKE GOLF CLASSIC

The Westlake Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce the tee-off of The Westlake Golf Classic at Falconhead Golf Club, 15201 Falcon Head Blvd, Austin, TX 78738. The tournament is Monday, November 7, 2016 and begins with registration and an open driving range at 10:30 am, registration starts at 11 followed by the Shotgun Start–Four Person Scramble at 12:00 pm. Tournament fee is \$150 per individual or \$500 per four-person team and includes: green fee with carts and range balls, lunch, dinner, and three drink tickets per golfer. There will be prizes for the winning teams, holes-in-one, the longest drive, and closest-to-the-pin. Sponsorships are still available!

The Westlake Chamber of Commerce, founded in 1995, is dedicated to the economic stability and well being of the greater Westlake community. Members of the chamber choose to contribute their time, expertise, and/or resources to supporting Chamber growth, the Westlake community, and philanthropic projects.

Mark Twain said, "Golf is a good walk spoiled." Come spoil your walk at the Westlake Golf Classic. To learn more, call 512-327-3088 or visit [www.westlakechamber.com/pages/WestlakeGolfClassic](http://www.westlakechamber.com/pages/WestlakeGolfClassic).



# IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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| Ambulance.....                       | 911          |
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| Sheriff – Non-Emergency.....         | 512-974-0845 |
| Fire Department Administration ..... | 512-539-3400 |
| Travis County Animal Control.....    | 512-972-6060 |

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| Ninth Grade Center.....          | 512-732-9260 |
| West Ridge Middle School .....   | 512-732-9240 |
| Hill Country Middle School ..... | 512-732-9220 |
| Valley View Elementary.....      | 512-732-9140 |
| Forest Trail Elementary.....     | 512-732-9160 |
| Eanes Elementary.....            | 512-732-9100 |
| Cedar Creek Elementary .....     | 512-732-9120 |
| Bridge Point Elementary .....    | 512-732-9200 |
| Barton Creek Elementary .....    | 512-732-9100 |

## UTILITIES

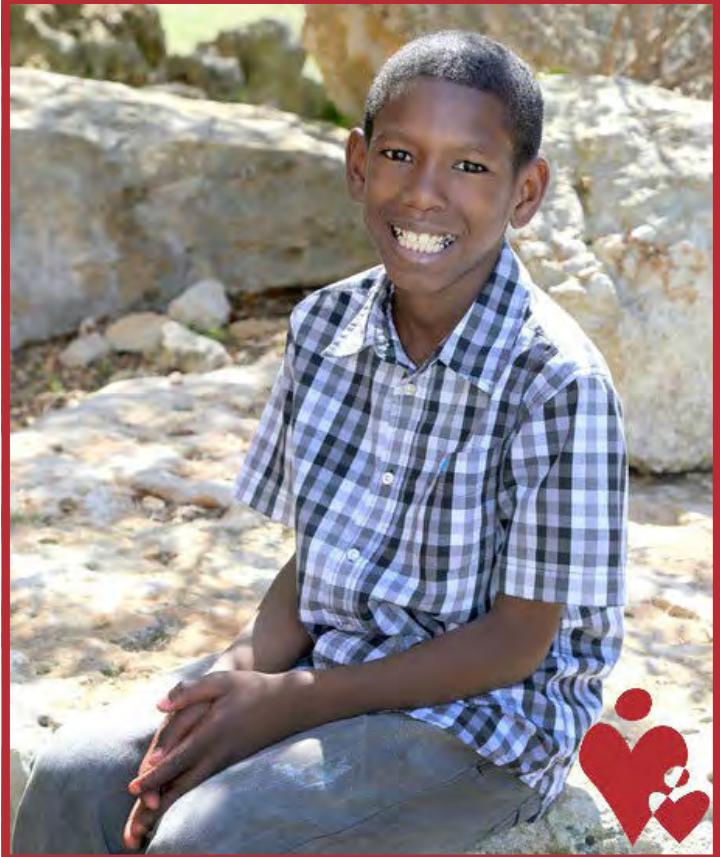
|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Water District 10 .....                       | 512-327-2230   |
| Wastewater                                    |                |
| Crossroads Utility Service 24 Hour Number.... | 512-246-1400   |
| New Accounts .....                            | 512-402-1990   |
| Austin Energy .....                           | 512-322-9100   |
| Texas Gas Service                             |                |
| Custom Service.....                           | 1-800-700-2443 |
| Emergencies.....                              | 512-370-8609   |
| Call Before You Dig.....                      | 512-472-2822   |
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| New Service.....                              | 1-800-464-7928 |
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| Billing.....                                  | 1-800-858-7928 |
| Time Warner Cable                             |                |
| Customer Service.....                         | 512-485-5555   |
| Repairs.....                                  | 512-485-5080   |
| Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste .....    | 512-974-4343   |

## OTHER NUMBERS

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
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| Municipal Court .....         | 512-327-1863   |
| Property Tax .....            | 512-854-9473   |
| Appraisal District .....      | 512-834-9317   |
| Chamber of Commerce.....      | 512-306-0023   |
| City of West Lake Hills ..... | <a href="http://www.westlakehills.org">www.westlakehills.org</a> |

## NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Peel, Inc. ....  | 512-263-9181   |
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| Advertising..... | <a href="mailto:advertising@peelinc.com">advertising@peelinc.com</a>     |



# Partnership For Children

*Submitted by Megan Ransom*

Meet 10 year old Jamarrian, he is an energetic, friendly and outgoing child. He enjoys doing puzzles, playing video games and being outdoors. Jamarrian is a very intelligent young boy and does well academically. The ideal forever family would provide him with ample love and support, as well as consistent rules, boundaries and expectations. Learn more about Jamarrian on the Heart Gallery of Central Texas Website- [www.heartgallerytexas.com](http://www.heartgallerytexas.com).

There are no fees to adopt from the foster care system regardless of which agency you work with. There is only one pool of children, and they are all in care of the state, every licensed agency has the ability to assist in adoption of any foster child in Texas. Child placing agencies are also foster care providers. The first step is to choose a child placing agency to begin your journey. Learn more about starting the adoption process and the children waiting for forever families at [www.heartgallerytexas.com](http://www.heartgallerytexas.com).

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# The Echo

## Texas Legal: Identity Theft 101

Sadly, more and more people are realizing Identity Theft is an issue they may face, and they may need legal support if affected.

Texas Legal, the nonprofit that has been offering legal insurance to Texans for 40+ years, has partnered with AllClear ID, a technology leader in the identity protection market, to provide its members identity repair services, monitoring and restoration. If affected, a licensed investigator goes to work on your behalf to restore your credit to its accurate state.

### It's a big and growing problem.

According to the FTC (Federal Trade Commission), there are more than 9 million victims of identity theft in the U.S. every year. That's about nine out of every 300 people, so there is a good chance you or someone you know has been affected or will be affected. There are various ways a thief can use your personal information, including misusing your Social Security number, making purchases with your lost or stolen credit cards, using your checking account or fraudulently opening an account in your name, among others.

While many identity crimes are about buying something on someone else's dime, that's not all identity thieves can do with your information. These days, thieves are also using your information to get medical services (called medical identity theft) or to obtain a job (employment fraud). Both can cause serious repercussions for your future, including

the denial of medical benefits or your dream job.

Often, sadly, many victims of identity theft actually know the person who perpetrated the theft. It could be an employee, a neighbor or even a family member. Be very wary of sharing your accounts, usernames, passwords, social security numbers or other personal information with anyone. Older adults are particularly vulnerable to having their information stolen by caregivers who abuse their trust.

While we generally think of identity theft victims as adults – stolen credit cards, email passwords, data breaches, etc. - children are actually much more likely to be victims of identity theft. AllClearID data shows children are 35 times more likely to have their identity compromised. This is because children have clear credit histories which are easy to take advantage of. And, no one is paying attention, so the theft can go on for years before someone notices and intervenes.

### So What Can You Do?

Personal information is a valuable commodity. Knowing how to protect your information –and your identity – is a must in the 21st century and can help reduce your risk of identity theft. Texas Legal shares these six tips:

- Keep your personal information secure online. If you post too much information about yourself on social media networking sites, an

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## Tim Whitten

Board Certified Family Law Attorney

812 San Antonio Street, Suite 401  
Austin, TX 78701

[www.whitten-law.com](http://www.whitten-law.com)  
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(Continued from Page 4)

- identity thief can find information about your life, use it to answer ‘challenge’ questions on your accounts, and get access to your bank accounts and other information.
- Keep your personal information secure offline. Review account activity regularly, not just when statements come out. When you order new checks, don’t have them mailed to your home unless you have a secure mailbox with a lock. Destroy labels on prescription bottles before you throw them out.
  - Properly dispose of devices. Before you dispose of a computer, use a wipe utility program to overwrite the entire hard drive. Before you dispose of a mobile device, check the service provider’s website or device manufacturer’s website on how to delete information permanently.
  - Safeguard your Social Security number. Ask questions before deciding to share it, including if you can use a different kind of identification. Safeguard the social security numbers of your children and their confidential information too.
  - Keep your devices secure. Don’t use an automatic log-in feature that saves your username and password. Always log off your laptop when you are finished. Before you send personal information over your laptop, tablet or smart phone on a public wireless network, see if your information is protected. If you use an encrypted website, it protects only the information you send to and from that site. If

you use a secure wireless network, all the information you send on that network is protected.

- Secure your home wireless network/wifi. Don’t leave your home network unprotected, change your wifi network name and password from default, and often if you share it. Use your router’s built in protection, make sure both encryption and the built in firewall are turned on.

This content provided by Texas Legal, a statewide, nonprofit legal insurance plan founded by the State Bar of Texas and the Texas Legislature in 1972 as an effort to better serve the legal needs of Texans. More at [www.texaslegal.org](http://www.texaslegal.org).

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# NATUREWATCH

## Mysterious Migration

by Jim and Lynne Weber

Fall migration season is upon us, and that usually conjures up thoughts of songbirds and hawks using the central flyway through Texas to make their way south to the subtropics and tropics for the winter. However, birds are not the only ones who migrate, and while much has been said about the complex, annual migration made by Monarch butterflies, the record for the longest insect migration (twice the distance of the Monarch) belongs to a dragonfly species, the Wandering Glider (*Pantala flavescens*). In fact, dragonfly migration has been suspected for over 100 years, and up to 50 of the world's 5,200 dragonfly species are thought to migrate (about 16 out of 326 in North America), but not much is known about where they are coming from or where they are going.

In Texas, there are several species of dragonflies that migrate in addition to the Wandering Glider. They include the Common Green Darner (*Anax junius*), Black Saddlebags (*Tramea lacerata*), Variegated Meadowhawk (*Sympetrum corruptum*), and Spot-winged Glider (*Pantala hymenaea*). Cooler nights seem to trigger the dragonflies' journey south, and like birds, they build up their fat reserves before setting out. They may use the lay of the land as a navigation guide, and some scientists speculate that they have an internal magnetic compass, as those that fly off course and out to sea appear to realize their mistake and reorient themselves.

Dragonflies migrate during daylight hours, and green darners have been found to break their journeys every three days to rest and feed, using oak and juniper trees as stopover sites. Like monarchs, the full migration circuit takes multiple generations to complete, as it is the offspring of the generation that traveled south in the fall that is migrating north again in the spring.

Swarms of dragonflies can create one of nature's most impressive spectacles, with tens to hundreds of thousands of individuals

streaming southward along lakeshores, mountain ridges, and coastlines. Even with the origins and destinations poorly known, the migration in the fall is more noticeable than that in the spring, presumably because the spring event occurs over a wider front and a longer period of time. However, migration is the only explanation for how dragonfly adults appear in early spring in places where their nymphs or larvae from the previous year or years have not yet emerged.

The ecological role of migrating dragonflies is another facet of the mystery yet to be resolved. Since several species use the same migration strategies and timing as migratory birds, traveling at the same times and concentrating in the same places, it is likely that certain bird species are exploiting the abundance of dragonflies as a



Wandering Glider



Spot-winged Glider

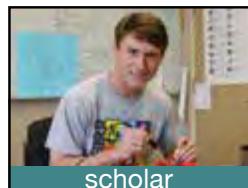


Common Green Darner



Black Saddlebags

(Continued on Page 7)



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source of fuel for their own migration. More research is being done to solve these mysteries, most notably the Xerces Society's Migratory Dragonfly Partnership initiative, which uses "research, citizen science, education, and outreach to understand North American dragonfly migration and promote conservation."

Send your nature-related questions to [naturewatch@austin.rr.com](mailto:naturewatch@austin.rr.com) and we'll do our best to answer them. If you enjoy reading these articles, check out our book, *Nature Watch Austin* (published by Texas A&M University Press), and our blog at [naturewatchaustin.blogspot.com](http://naturewatchaustin.blogspot.com).



Variegated Meadowhawk

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