

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 1  
JANUARY 2017

# RANCH RECORD

*Official Newsletter of The Steiner Ranch HOA*

*Happy New Year!*



Follow us on  
facebook

[Facebook.com/SteinerRanchHOAevents](https://www.facebook.com/SteinerRanchHOAevents)



Wishing you and yours a year of  
health & happiness in 2017!

2017



**Rhonda Durrill**

512.994.8400

Rhonda@AvalarAustin.com



**Sarah George**

512.645.9792

Sarah@AvalarAustin.com



**Melissa Van Leeuwen**

512.230.4419

Melissa@AvalarAustin.com



**Joy Brillante**

512.423.4479

Joy@AvalarAustin.com



**Cindy Thompson**

512.698.6929

Cindy@AvalarAustin.com



**Kim Cross**

512.994.7219

Kim@AvalarAustin.com



**Kay DaSilva**

512.426.1599

Kay@AvalarAustin.com



**Marguerite Craig**

512.656.8292

MargueriteCraig@Austin.com



**Susan Russell**

512.417.2220

SusanR@AvalarAustin.com



**Lisa Nauert**

512.217.3762

LNauert@AvalarAustin.com



**Steve Craig**

512.415.0099

SteveCraig@AvalarAustin.com



**Erin Bloss**

512.264.5889

Erin@AvalarAustin.com

**Avalar Austin Real Estate**

4300 N. Quinlan Park Rd., Ste 210 (above Cho Sushi)

512.610.5000 | [www.AvalarAustin.com](http://www.AvalarAustin.com)

**Steiner Ranch Real Estate Experts**

**Since 2006**



## COMMUNITY INFO

### STEINER RANCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS OFFICE

12550 Country Trails Lane  
Austin, Texas 78732  
512-266-7553 – Telephone  
512-266-9312 – Facsimile  
[www.steinerranchhoa.org](http://www.steinerranchhoa.org)

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday ..... 1:00pm - 5:00pm  
Friday ..... 10:00am - 5:00pm  
Saturday & Sunday ..... CLOSED

### STAFF

#### *Executive Director,*

Randy Schmalz, CMCA, AMS, PCAM ..... [randy@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:randy@steinerranchhoa.org)

#### *Community Manager*

Mackal "Mack" Taylor ..... [mack@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:mack@steinerranchhoa.org)

#### *Facilities Asset Manager*

Luke Spoons ..... [luke@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:luke@steinerranchhoa.org)

#### *Controller*

Andrew Smullen ..... [andrew@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:andrew@steinerranchhoa.org)

#### *Staff Accountant*

Nick Kapa ..... [nick@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:nick@steinerranchhoa.org)

#### *Amenity Coordinator*

Patricia Campbell ..... [patricia@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:patricia@steinerranchhoa.org)

#### *Front Office Coordinator*

Cassie Burgess ..... [cassie@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:cassie@steinerranchhoa.org)

#### *Communications Coordinator*

Meredith Hamrick ..... [meredith@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:meredith@steinerranchhoa.org)

#### *Lifestyle Coordinator*

Desirre Ghebremicael ..... [desirre@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:desirre@steinerranchhoa.org)

#### *Compliance Coordinator*

Michael Russell ..... [michael@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:michael@steinerranchhoa.org)

## STEVE'S PLUMBING REPAIR

Master License: M-39722

- Water Pressure Problems
- Sewer & Drain Service
- Fiber Optic Drain Line Inspections
- Free Estimates
- Satisfaction Guaranteed

**Steve Brougher**  
**512.276.7476**



## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY ..... 911  
Fire ..... 911  
Ambulance ..... 911  
Sheriff – Non-Emergency ..... 512-974-0845  
Travis County ESD No.6/Lake Travis Fire Rescue  
Administration Office ..... 512-266-2533  
Travis County Animal Control ..... 512-974-2000

### STEINER RANCH CONTACTS

Steiner Ranch Community Association Office ..... 512-266-7553

### SCHOOLS

Leander ISD ..... 512-570-0000  
Vandegrift High School ..... 512-570-2300  
Canyon Ridge Middle School ..... 512-570-3500  
Laura Welch Bush Elementary ..... 512-570-6100  
Steiner Ranch Elementary ..... 512-570-5700  
River Ridge Elementary ..... 512-570-7300

### UTILITIES

Travis County WCID # 17 ..... 512-266-1111  
City of Austin Electric ..... 512-494-9400  
Texas Gas Service  
Custom Service ..... 1-800-700-2443  
Emergencies ..... 512-370-8609  
Call Before You Dig ..... 1-800-344-8377  
AT&T  
New Service ..... 1-800-464-7928  
Repair ..... 1-800-246-8464  
Billing ..... 1-800-858-7928  
Time Warner Cable  
Customer Service ..... 512-485-5555  
Repairs ..... 512-485-5080  
TDS (Trash & Recycle) ..... 512-329-1752  
Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste ..... 512-974-4343

### OTHER NUMBERS

Lake Travis Postal Office ..... 512-263-2458  
Coyote Sightings ..... 311  
Five Star Commercial Community Management  
Scott Selman ..... 512-337-6535 or [sselman@freestarcm.com](mailto:sselman@freestarcm.com)  
Balcones Canyonlands Preserve .....  
<https://www.traviscountytx.gov/tnr/bccp>

### NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. ..... 512-263-9181  
Advertising ..... [advertising@peelinc.com](mailto:advertising@peelinc.com)

## GO GREEN! GO PAPERLESS!

Sign up to receive the Ranch Record directly to  
your inbox.

Visit [PEELinc.com](http://PEELinc.com) for details.



## UPCOMING STEINER RANCH EVENTS

- 1/14** Mother Son Event
- 2/18** Valentine's Family Sweetheart Tea
- 3/4** Run The Ranch
- 3/11** Camping On The Ranch
- 3/31** Scrap A Thon
- 4/6** New Homeowner Social
- 4/8** Spring Community Garage Sale
- 4/15** Easter Egg Hunt
- 5/20** Shred Day
- 5/20** Movies In The Park
- 7/4** Independence Day Celebration
- 8/12** Concert In The Park
- 8/5** Movies In The Park
- 9/23** Father Daughter Dance
- 10/5** New Homeowner Social
- 10/6** Scrap A Thon
- 10/15** Pumpkin Patch
- 10/29** Trunk Or Treat
- 11/11** Holiday Shopping Event
- 11/23** Steiner Ranch Turkey Trot
- 12/9** Breakfast With Santa

Want to get involved? Join the Events Planning Committee! The Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 9:00am at Cups & Cones.

Contact Desirre Ghebremicael, Steiner Ranch Lifestyle Coordinator at [desirre@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:desirre@steinerranchhoa.org) for more information.

All Events are tentative and subject to change or cancel. For the most up to date information, follow us at: [Facebook.com/SteinerRanchHOAevents](https://www.facebook.com/SteinerRanchHOAevents) or visit the Steiner Ranch HOA website at [www.steinerranchhoa.org](http://www.steinerranchhoa.org)

## ARTICLE INFO

The Ranch Record is mailed monthly to all Steiner Ranch residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to submit 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 consideration please email it to [communications@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:communications@steinerranchhoa.org). The deadline is the 8th of the month prior to the issue.

## COVER PHOTO

This month's cover photograph was captured by Steiner Ranch Camera Club member Bradley Brandt. What a beautiful photo to start the New Year! Thank you for sharing it with the community. Happy 2017!

Have a photo you would like to see published in the next Ranch Record? Send pictures to [communications@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:communications@steinerranchhoa.org) for consideration no later than the 8th of the month prior to publication. Your photo might just be next month's cover!

By submitting your photo you agree to allow your photo to be published in future issues of the Ranch Record and/or other Steiner Ranch communications.



GO **GREEN**  
GO **PAPERLESS**



Sign up to  
get this  
newsletter  
in your  
inbox! Visit  
[peelinc.com](http://peelinc.com)  
for details.

# Table of Contents

## FROM THE ASSOCIATION OFFICE

- 4 Steiner Ranch Events
- 6 The Ranch Report
- 6 SRROA Board Opening
- 6 Message From the SRMA Board of Directors
- 7 Steiner Ranch Board Meetings
- 7 Assessment Payments Due
- 7 Pruning Guidelines
- 8 Holiday Decoration Rule
- 8 Christmas Tree Pick Up
- 8 Brown Santa Collection
- 8 Vandalism
- 9 Motorized Vehicles Not Allowed on Trails
- 9 Follow Us on Facebook
- 9 Storm Sewers Not For Yard Clippings
- 9 HOA Communications Update
- 10 2016 in Pictures

## STEINER ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

- 12 2017 Steiner Ranch Events
- 12 Valentine's Family Sweetheart Tea
- 12 Thank You Steiner Ranch Camera Club
- 13 Breakfast With Santa
- 14 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
- 15 Free Activities
- 16 Program Guide
- 16 Steiner Ranch Writers Group
- 21 Steiner Ranch Cycling News
- 21 Tai Chi
- 23 Young at Heart
- 23 Adult Swimming Program

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

- 25 Reducing Wildfire Risk on the Preserve
- 26 Winter Irrigation
- 26 Freeze Protection
- 26 Sibling Rivalry
- 27 Lake Austin Spa Recipe
- 28 How to Keep Your New Year Resolutions
- 30 New Year Trivia

## IN EVERY ISSUE

- 4 Cover Photo
- 18 Calendar
- 32 Business Classifieds
- 34 Teenage Job Seekers



follow us on  
facebook

[Facebook.com/SteinerRanchHOAevents](https://www.facebook.com/SteinerRanchHOAevents)

# Ring in the New Year with a SOLD Sign



**Angie Noeth**

*Selling Steiner Ranch  
for Over 15 Years!*

**reilly**  
REALTORS®



**512.695.7025**  
**[www.Agent-Angie.com](http://www.Agent-Angie.com)**



# From the Association Office

## The Ranch REPORT

I hope residents had a safe and enjoyable holiday, and I wish everyone a happy 2017.

Unfortunately, vandalism within the community has been an issue as of late and I ask the community for help. Please report any suspicious activity to the Sheriff's Department immediately, day or night. One of my staff recently had a conversation with a homeowner about vandalism that occurred at John Simpson Park, and the homeowner reported that they posted on facebook about suspicious activity occurring as confirmed vandalism took place. Posting about crimes will not assist with getting appropriate law enforcement personnel involved. Please, when you hear or see anything suspicious happening in the community, immediately call the Travis County Sheriff's Department.

On a more positive note, I want to take the opportunity to thank Steiner Ranch volunteers for their continued service and support. I look forward to the opportunity to continue working with community committees and boards - the resident leadership of the Master, Residential, Fairways, Casitas, and Lakeview Associations. 2016 was a year of progress and I am confident 2017 will hold additional opportunity for continued improvement. As we look ahead, I ask residents to consider volunteering on one of the many committees or boards, as seats become open. It truly is a rewarding experience, and one that makes a difference.

Here's to a great New Year!

*Randy Schmaltz*

*Executive Director*

*Steiner Ranch Home Owners' Association*

### SRROA Board Position Open

The Steiner Ranch Residential Association (SRROA) is seeking candidates interested in volunteering to serve on SRROA board. Interested homeowners who live in SRROA neighborhoods should email: [mack@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:mack@steinerranchhoa.org) for information and an application. Neighborhoods located in the SRROA include: Chapparal, Hancock Hill, Mesa North, Plateau, Rocky Ridge, The Summit at Eastridge, and The Valley at Eastridge.

### Message from the SRMA Board of Directors

#### 2017 STEINER RANCH MASTER ASSOCIATION (SRMA) BUDGET AND LONG RANGE PLANNING

The SRMA Board of Directors approved the 2017 Budget at its meeting on December 6, 2016. By now, the Budget will have been posted to the HOA website where you can view the specifics. The bottom line is the 2017 annual SRMA base assessment will increase to \$808 from \$788 in 2016, a 2.5% increase. Gated communities and the condominium associations have a supplemental assessment due to their restricted entrances and/or specific condominium requirements. These gated communities and condos sometimes have higher percentage increases in their supplemental assessment than the SRMA base assessment, especially if there is a large line item increase (such as gate maintenance or reserve assessment) that has to be distributed over just a few homes. For example, two of our gated communities have less than 34 homes in each compared to over 3600 homes in the entire SRMA.

During 2017, the major increase in expenses for the SRMA base assessment is related to adding staff to the accounting portion of our operation. As part of our transition and oversight efforts, we determined in early 2016 that the HOA's accounting function was understaffed. We spent time and effort during the year to right-size the accounting staff to 2016 requirements and for 2017 going forward. The good news is that we have savings in other areas of the 2017 budget such that the 2017 SRMA base assessment increase was held to 2.5%.

A new topic is the recent formation of the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC). It was formed to assist the Board of Directors in researching and listing the anticipated future needs of the Steiner Ranch Community. The LRPC consists of Community volunteers and its responsibilities include:

1. Planning for the long term maintenance of Steiner Ranch amenities
2. Maintaining and improving the Communities' financial condition to protect and enhance our assets and facilities
3. Researching and identifying the anticipated future amenity needs of Steiner Ranch

The first meeting of the LRPC has taken place. Meetings will be held on the second Thursday of each month. There will be more on the LRPC in future articles.

I hope all of you had a wonderful Holiday Season.

*Bill Menzies, SRMA Board President*



## Steiner Ranch Board Meetings

Residents are encouraged and invited to attend monthly Steiner Ranch board meetings, and may address board members during the resident comments portion of the meetings. See the January and February calendars within this publication for upcoming meetings, or visit the HOA website calendar at [www.steinerranchhoa.org](http://www.steinerranchhoa.org).

Agendas for all Steiner Ranch board meetings are emailed in advance to residents with emails on file with the HOA office. Board meeting agendas are also posted prior to meetings on the HOA website.

## Association Assessment Payments Due

Semi-annual assessments for January – July are due by January 31, 2017. Statements were mailed to homeowners at the mailing address on file in December. If you did not receive a statement, please contact the Community Association Office at 512-266-7553. Homeowners are not exempt from paying assessments or late fees in the event a statement is not received. Payments received after January 31, 2016 are subject to an initial \$25.00 late fee per association and a \$25.00 late fee for each additional month that the assessment remains unpaid. Assessment must be received by January 31st, not postmarked by January 31st. Your escrow account does not pay your assessments.

Online assessment payments may be made at [www.steinerranchhoa.org](http://www.steinerranchhoa.org), by clicking the “Online Assessment Payments” link. You can also sign up to receive your statements online.

Payments may be mailed to the address listed on the statement, or may be brought to the Association office at 12550 Country Trails Lane to avoid an on-line fee.

\*\*\*Please note, resident access to pools, facility rental, and attendance at or registration for social functions and programs, may be terminated if association account becomes delinquent. \*\*\*

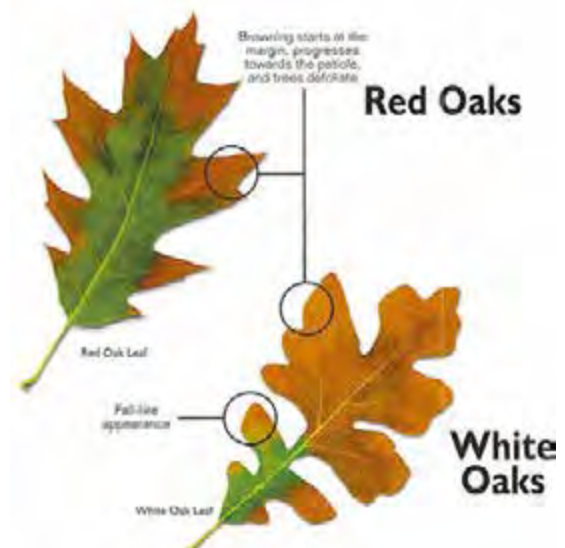
## Pruning Guidelines for Prevention of Oak Wilt

Information from [TexasOakWilt.org](http://TexasOakWilt.org)

Oak wilt, caused by the fungus *Ceratocystis fagacearum*, is the most destructive disease affecting live oaks and red oaks in Central Texas. Most of the tree mortality results from tree to tree spread of the pathogen through interconnected or grafted root systems, once an oak wilt center becomes established. New infection centers begin when beetles carry oak wilt fungal spores from infected red oaks to fresh, open wounds on healthy oaks. Wounds include any damage caused by wind, hail, vehicles, construction, squirrels, birds or pruning. Research has shown that both oak wilt fungal mats on infected red oaks and insects that carry oak wilt spores are most prevalent in the spring. Below is a brief description of how you can reduce the risk of fungal spread when pruning:

- Always paint fresh wounds on oaks, including pruning cuts and stumps, with wound dressing or latex paint immediately after pruning or live tree removal at all times of the year.
- Clean all pruning tools with 10% bleach solution or Lysol™ between sites and/or trees.
- Avoid pruning or wounding of oaks during the spring (currently defined as February 1 through June 30).
- Pruning should be conducted before February 1 or after June 30.
- Debris from diseased red oaks should be immediately chipped, burned or buried.

Regardless of the reasons or time of year, proper pruning techniques should be used. If uncertain about trimming, consult with a Texas oak wilt certified arborist, an oak wilt specialist from a city, county or state government agency such as the Texas Forest Service or Texas AgriLife Extension Service, or visit [texasoakwilt.org](http://texasoakwilt.org). A link to information about oak wilt may be found on the HOA website on the resident announcements page.



# From the Association Office

## Holiday Decorations Rule

Please remember that exterior Christmas decorations must be removed by January 15th. Happy New Year!

## Christmas Tree Pick Up

Texas Disposal Systems (TDS), trash provider for Steiner Ranch, will offer curbside Christmas tree pickup through January 13. Trees must be free of décor and must be 4 feet in length for pick up. Any cut tree pieces must be bundled with rope or twine.

Do not drop trees at the entrance of the WCID Water Treatment driveway off Quinlan Park Road and Logan's Way. Christmas tree recycling at this location is no longer available.

## Sheriff's Brown Santa Toy Collection Thanks

Thank you to the many residents who donated to the Sheriff's Brown Santa Toy Collection at the HOA office last month. Sheriff's Brown Santa provides assistance to local underprivileged children and their families during the holiday season. Thank you for your support!

## Recent Vandalism

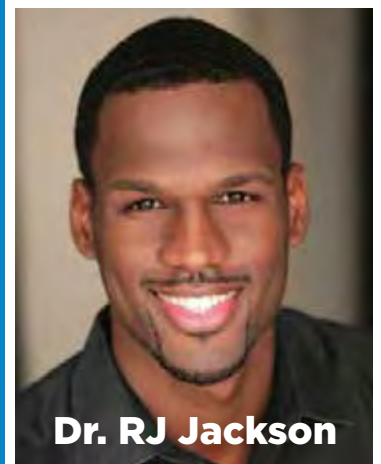
Vandalism has been a problem at Steiner Ranch parks and facilities recently, particularly at John Simpson. Within the past several weeks, vandals have targeted John Simpson facilities and have burned restroom sinks and outdoor tables, left graffiti on pool restroom walls, and damaged fields by doing "donuts" with vehicles on the grass. In addition, multiple pool chairs have been broken and a full receptacle of trash was recently found in one of the community pools.

To deter vandalism, the HOA has installed additional lighting at the John Simpson Park facility, and bathrooms located at the pool are now accessible only by assigned key fobs. The HOA has requested additional patrols within the neighborhood, and is working with the Travis County Sheriff's Department as an investigation into the most recent events is in progress. Camera footage has been shared with police. Please help the HOA protect community amenities by reporting any suspicious activity immediately to the Sheriff's Department.

**Did you know that every child should see an Orthodontist by the age of 7?**

**Dr. RJ is one of the few Orthodontists in Austin that is BOARD CERTIFIED.**

**Our emphasis is on Prevention!**



**Dr. RJ Jackson**

**Offers FREE Orthodontic Evaluations for Steiner Ranch**



 **RJ ORTHODONTICS**  
*Making Austin Smile*

**512-363-5792**

[www.rjorthodontics.com](http://www.rjorthodontics.com)

Located Behind the Walgreens at the  
Intersection of 620/2222





## Motorized Vehicles Not Allowed On Trails

The Steiner Ranch Trails Committee and HOA remind residents that motorized vehicles are not allowed on Steiner Ranch trails. Not only is operating a motorized vehicle on the trails against HOA rules, doing so poses a potential safety hazard to walkers and bikers. It also damages the trails, which the Trails Committee and other volunteers graciously maintain. Thank you for adhering to this rule.

## Follow Us On Facebook

Want to be in the know about Steiner Ranch events? Follow us on Facebook! Events offered by the Steiner Ranch Home Owners' Association are posted on our events Facebook page – the only official Facebook page of the Steiner Ranch HOA. Search Steiner Ranch HOA events to find us. To see our posts in your news feed, do the following:

1. Like our page.
2. After liking our page, hover your mouse over the button that says 'Liked.' You'll see a dropdown menu open. Click the option that says 'See First' and our posts will then appear in your feed. Because we are a business, simply liking our page will not necessarily result in our posts appearing in your feed.

Thank you for following us!

## HOA Communications Update We Have A New Look!

We thought the new year would be a good time to make a few changes to our communications tools. The Ranch Record has evolved, and starting with this issue, now features a cleaner cover layout and improved paper quality. As always, pertinent HOA information will continue to be included in the HOA monthly Ranch Record, the only community newsletter of the Steiner Ranch HOA.

Also in the works is an update and redesign to the current HOA website which is planned to be complete by the end of January. In addition to a fresher look, the goal is to improve menu navigation and usability. Visit [www.steinerranchhoa.org](http://www.steinerranchhoa.org) to see our progress.

As always, visit the Steiner Ranch HOA events facebook page for HOA organized and sponsored events as well as events offered free to homeowners at Steiner Ranch facilities.

## Don't Dispose Of Yard Clippings In Storm Sewers

Please do not put yard clippings in storm sewers. Doing so can block the sewers and cause serious flooding problems during heavy rains. Your clippings should be mulched and left on your lawn or placed in trash containers.

# Happy New Year

**IS IT TIME TO SELL YOUR HOME?**

**CALL TODAY FOR A FREE HOME VALUATION**



**FOR SALE**

3 Bedroom, 3 Bathroom,  
\$349,000



**FOR SALE**

4 Bedroom, 3 Bathroom,  
\$395,000



**FOR LEASE**

5 Bedroom, 4 Bathroom,  
\$3,100/Month



**Allan Griego**  
Real Estate Broker  
512.705.0610  
[allan@allangriego.com](mailto:allan@allangriego.com)  
[LiveinSteiner.com](http://LiveinSteiner.com)



Allan Griego Team  
Private Label Realty



## Chinese Immersion Montessori School



### Program Highlights

- Ages 18 months-6 years old
- Fully bilingual English/Chinese
- Certified Montessori instructors
- Art, music, movement, soccer, lego and creativity
- Advanced academic: reading, writing, and arithmetic by age 6



Child Centered Learning Knowledge for Life Journey Multi-cultural Experience

### Jordan International Montessori School

**NOW ENROLLING**

[www.jordanmontessori.com](http://www.jordanmontessori.com)

10713 N FM 620 #601  
Austin, TX 78726

 [info@jordanmontessori.com](mailto:info@jordanmontessori.com)  
 (512)770-6270



# As we welcome a new year, we remember 2016 in pictures.

Happy New Year  
*Steiner Ranch!*  
Here's to another great year!

*All photos by Steiner Ranch HOA  
& Emily Michelle Photography*



*Easter Egg Hunt*



*Father Daughter Dance*



*Easter Egg Hunt*



*SRROA Board*



*SRMA Board*



*Father Daughter Dance*



*Breakfast with Santa*



*Camping on the Ranch*



*Concert in the Park*





*Fourth of July*



*Fourth of July Parade*



*Mother and Son Event*



*Pumpkin Patch*



*Run the Ranch*



*Holiday Shopping Event*



*Steiner Ranch Stars*



*Trunk Or Treat*



# Steiner Activities & Events

## 2017 Events Lots of Fun In Store!

The Steiner Ranch HOA Events Planning Committee has another fun-filled year of events planned for the coming year. See page 4 for dates. Popular Steiner Ranch events such as Concert In The Park, Camping On The Ranch, Breakfast With Santa, Trunk Or Treat, the annual Easter Egg Hunt, Father Daughter Dance, and more, will return. The committee is excited to announce two new events for 2017 – a Valentine's Family Sweetheart Tea, and a Steiner Ranch Community Turkey Trot. Both new events will be lots of fun!

### Valentine's Family Sweetheart Tea Event Next Month

Make plans to attend the HOA Valentine's Family Sweetheart Tea next month, brought to you by the Events Planning Committee! What better way to say "You're my cup of tea" than at a teatime!? For event details, visit the HOA events Facebook page or website.

## Thank You

### Steiner Ranch Camera Club!



Last month the Steiner Ranch Camera Club donated multiple photographs to the HOA which depict what members love about living in Steiner Ranch. The photographs were on exhibit at Towne Square Community Center for the month of December, and are currently displayed at the HOA office. Many of the photos will be published on the cover of coming Ranch Record issues for community enjoyment, and will be incorporated on the HOA website. A heartfelt thank you to Jeff Wagner, founder of the club, and members for their generous gift. The Camera Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the Bella Mar Community Center. Interested homeowners are welcome.

## Vista Ridge Dental

Family, Cosmetic & Implant Dentistry



Cerec  
Crowns  
**COMPLETE**  
in one  
visit!

STEINER RANCH'S LOCAL DENTIST

*smiles are our speciality*

**COMPLIMENTARY  
WHITENING FOR LIFE**

With New Patient Exam.  
Some conditions may apply

Call for an appointment today!

**266-3600**

WWW.RWATSONDDS.COM  
4300 QUINLAN PARK RD, STE 230  
AUSTIN, TX 78732





# **BREAKFAST** *with* **SANTA**

*Event Photos by Emily Michelle Photography*

Mr. and Mrs. Claus visited Towne Square Community Center last month for a morning of breakfast, treats, music, crafts, and cheer. Due to demand, two seating options were offered this year. A big thank you to the Steiner Ranch HOA Events Planning Committee for hosting and organizing this festive event.





## Steiner Activities & Events

# Volunteer Appreciation Dinner 2016

The HOA held its volunteer appreciation dinner on December 8, 2016 to recognize the many volunteers who support the Steiner Ranch HOA and community. Volunteers unable to attend this evening of appreciation were missed. A heartfelt thank you to all HOA volunteers for your time, service and support.



**50% OFF BOTOX**  
with your purchase of fillers, microneedling or peels  
Good through 2/28/17

### WE'RE YOUR NEW NEIGHBORS...

Austin's trusted name in plastic surgery is now just down the street



Dr. Jeffrey Cone, Dr. P. Craig Hobar, Dr. C-J Langevin



### SEASONED PLASTIC SURGEONS HELPING YOU RESTORE YOUR YOUTHFUL APPEARANCE

- Facial fillers
- PRP microneedling
- Dermaplaning
- Chemical peels
- Botox®/Dysport®
- Customized, medical-grade skin care
- Facelift
- Facial implants
- Breast augmentation
- Eyelid surgery
- Rhinoplasty
- Liposuction

### NOW SEEING PATIENTS

Contact us today for an appointment: (512) 922-8673 or [www.wellspringaesthetics.com](http://www.wellspringaesthetics.com)

Central: 911 W. 38th St. Suite 101, Austin, TX 78705 • Four Points: 6611 River Place Blvd., #202 • Austin, TX 78730



# Free Activities For Residents

The following activities are offered to Steiner Ranch residents at no charge:

**Aikido** Meets at Bella Mar Community Center  
Tuesday evenings at 8:30pm

**Cycling Group** Meets at Cups & Cones Saturday &  
Sunday Mornings at 8:30am

**Run Lab** Coach-led run meets at John Simpson Park  
Friday mornings at 9:30am

**Tai Chi** Meets at Towne Square Community Center  
Monday through Friday at 8:15am

**Yoga** Provided by Lake Austin Spa instructor. Meets at  
Towne Square Mondays at 6:30pm

**\*Offered activities are for adults only**



## Make us a part of your New Year!

Join us for inspiring worship, relevant messages, dynamic children's and student ministries, and engaging Bible studies and events for singles, couples, and families.

**Steiner Ranch Campus**  
12600 Country Trails Lane  
Austin, TX 78732  
*Sundays - 9:30 & 11am*



HCBC.COM

# Steiner Activities & Events

## STEINER RANCH PROGRAM GUIDE

Stop by the Association office for a hard copy of the fall-spring program guide or download it at:

**[www.steinerranchhoa.org](http://www.steinerranchhoa.org)**

### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Sportball  
Tap/Ballet  
Gymnastics  
Tennis  
Soccer  
Flag Football  
Music  
Zumba Kids  
Swimming

### ADULT PROGRAMS

Yoga  
Tai Chi  
Tennis  
Hula  
Fit4Mom  
Running  
Master's Swimming  
Zumba  
Ballet Barre  
Fit4Mom  
Camp Gladiator

For questions or more information,  
please contact :

**Desiree Ghebremicael, Lifestyle Coordinator, at**  
**[desirre@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:desirre@steinerranchhoa.org)**

## Steiner Ranch Writer's Group

Calling all Steiner writers! Regardless of whether writing is your profession or your hobby, you're welcome to join us. Please bring your laptop or notebook to CUPS & CONES for any one or all of our upcoming sessions.

### Upcoming Dates & Times:

**Wednesday, January 4 – 1:30-2:30 p.m.**

**Monday, January 9 – 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday, January 18 – 1:30-2:30 p.m.**

**Monday, January 23 – 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**



**FACT:**  
It takes four weeks to go from egg, larva, pupa to adult.

**BALANCED LEARNING® WAY:**  
And in one magic moment, a scientist is born.

**SEE BALANCED LEARNING IN ACTION.  
CALL FOR A TOUR TODAY!**  
Infants - Private Kindergarten & After School

**Primrose School of Four Points**  
6606 Sitio del Rio Blvd | Austin, TX 78730  
512.795.9101 | [PrimroseFourPoints.com](http://PrimroseFourPoints.com)





# Steiner Ranch ORTHODONTICS

BOARD CERTIFIED TREATMENT

## *Celebrating 21 Years in Dentistry*

- Resident of Steiner Ranch for 16 years
- Complimentary Exams, no referral necessary
- All Insurances accepted, 0% payment plans
- State of the Art facility in Steiner Ranch
- Specialist in Early Treatment
- Available After Hours for Emergencies
- Supporter of local schools and clubs with over \$20,000 donated annually



**512-266-8585**

[www.BracesAustin.com](http://www.BracesAustin.com)



*Dr. Waters is a 1996 graduate from UT Dental School in San Antonio, a 1997 graduate of Advanced Dentistry from the University from Nebraska Medical Center and the 2001 Valedictorian from the St. Louis University Orthodontic Program being the recipient of the 2001 J.P. Marshall Award for Clinical Excellence. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Biology, Doctorate in Dental Surgery, a post-Doctorate certificate in Advanced Dentistry, post-Doctorate certificate in Orthodontics & Dentofacial Orthopedics and a Master's Degree in Orthodontics. Dr. Waters is a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics and member of the College of Diplomates of the ABO.*

*Our Community. Your Family Orthodontist.*

Steiner Ranch at Vista Ridge  
4302 N. Quinlan Park  
Austin, TX 78732

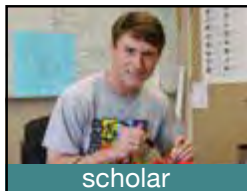


Central Austin on 35<sup>th</sup>  
1814 W. 35<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, TX 78703

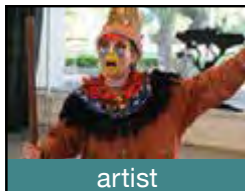
## Excellence. Right Here.

# JANUARY

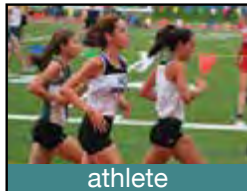
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1  Happy New Year!!!! 8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	2  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	3  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 6:30pm – Trails CMTE Mtg (BMCC) 8:30pm –Aikido (BMCC)	4  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 1:30pm - Writer's Group (Cups & Cones) 6:00pm – Facilities CMTE Mtg (TSCC)	5  8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC )	6  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 9:30am - Run Lab (JS Park)	7  8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
TDS CURBSIDE CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP. SEE PAGE 8 FOR DETAILS.						
8  8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	9  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 10:00am - Writer's Group (Cups & Cones) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	10  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 9:00am – Event Planning CMTE Mtg (Cups & Cones) 7:00pm – SRNA Mtg (TSCC) 8:30pm –Aikido (BMCC)	11  8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC ) 6:00pm – Fairways Board Mtg (TSCC) 7:00pm – Steiner Camera Club (BMCC)	12  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 5:00pm – Long Range Planning CMTE Mtg (BMCC)	13  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 9:30am - Run Lab (JS Park)	14  8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones) 6:30pm – Mother & Son Event Tickets required.
TDS CURBSIDE CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP						
15  8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	16  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	17  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 8:30pm –Aikido (BMCC)	18  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 1:30pm - Writer's Group (Cups & Cones)	19  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC )	20  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 9:30am - Run Lab (JS Park)	21  8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
22  8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	23  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 10:00am - Writer's Group (Cups & Cones) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	24  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 8:30pm –Aikido (BMCC)	25  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC )	26  8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC ) 6:00pm – SRROA Board Mtg (TSCC)	27  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 9:30am - Run Lab (JS Park)	28  8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
29  8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	30  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	31  8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 6:00pm – SRMA Board Mtg (TSCC) 8:30pm –Aikido (BMCC)				



scholar



artist



athlete



servant

## Join us for open house and small group tours!

For more information visit [www.sasaustin.org](http://www.sasaustin.org) or call  
512.299.9802 for grades K–8 or 512.299.9720 for grades 9–12.

Lower/Middle School: 1112 W. 31st St.

Upper School: 5901 Southwest Pkwy.

 Follow us! [facebook/sasaustin.org](https://www.facebook.com/sasaustin.org)



**ST. ANDREW'S**  
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL K-12



# FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:00pm – Facilities CMTE Mtg (TSCC)	2 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	3 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 9:30am – Run Lab (JS Park)	4 8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
 5 8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	6 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	7 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Trails CMTE Mtg (BMCC) 8:30pm – Aikido (BMCC)	8 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:00pm – Fairways Board Mtg (TSCC) 7:00pm – Steiner Camera Club (BMCC)	9 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 5:00pm – Long Range Planning CMTE Mtg (BMCC)	10 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 9:30am – Run Lab (JS Park)	11 8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
12 8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	13 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	14 Valentine's Day 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 9:00am – Event Planning CMTE Mtg (Cups & Cones) 7:00pm – SRNA Mtg (TSCC) 8:30pm – Aikido (BMCC)	15 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 7:00pm – Free Health Workshop (TSCC)	16 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	17 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 9:30am – Run Lab (JS Park)	18 8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones) Family Sweetheart Tea Tickets Required See Pg 12 for details
 19 8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	20 Presidents' Day 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	21 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 8:30pm – Aikido (BMCC)	22 8:15am – Tai Chi	23 8:15am – Tai Chi 6:00pm – SRROA Board Mtg (TSCC)	24 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 9:30am – Run Lab (JS Park)	25 8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
26 8:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	27 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	28 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:00pm – SRMA Board Mtg (TSCC) 8:30pm – Aikido (BMCC)				

**Cold is on the Right Plumbing** is a service based plumbing provider that is committed to you and your home or business. Whether the job is big or small, residential or commercial, simple or complex; we're here to help!

**GIVE US A  
CALL TODAY!**

**512.762.8243**  
**coldisontheright.com**



*High Fives are Free!*  
**LN: M39724**



**10% Off**  
for Steiner Ranch Residents (up to \$100)

# Did you know that every child should see an Orthodontist by the age of 7?

Dr. RJ is one of the few Orthodontists in Austin that is **BOARD CERTIFIED**.

Our emphasis is on Prevention!



**Offers FREE Orthodontic Evaluations for Steiner Ranch**



**Dr. RJ Jackson**



**RJ ORTHODONTICS**  
*Making Austin Smile*

**512-363-5792 | [www.rjorthodontics.com](http://www.rjorthodontics.com)**

Located Behind the Walgreens at the Intersection of 620/2222



**invisalign®**

**invisalign | teen**



## **STEINER RANCH** **CYCLING NEWS**

The Steiner Ranch Cycling (SRC) is a group of fun loving cyclist that enjoy the outdoors, burning calories, and meeting new people. Cycling is easy on your body, good for your health and a great way to build community. There is no cost to ride, and we welcome new riders. You probably see us riding around the neighborhood in our Steiner Ranch-themed red white and blue kits. Give us a wave but please don't honk!

### **SATURDAY RIDES**

On Saturdays we host an open group ride, currently starting at Cups & Cones at 8:30 AM, but we will soon change to a later start as the weather gets cooler. Our Saturday rides include advanced and intermediate groups.

The advanced group will have average speeds from 18 – 20 mph and the intermediate group will average between 15 - 17 mph. While each group will be travelling at different speeds, each group will be tackling the same course with a typical distance ranging from 50 up to 70+ miles. The turnout is typically between 10 – 20 riders depending on weather. Come on out and have some fun, everyone is welcome. Ride details are posted each week to our website at <http://www.steinerranchcycling.com>, on our Facebook page <http://facebook.com/SteinerRanchCycling>, and to our email list (sign up on our website).

The advanced and intermediate groups require a higher level of fitness and experience and there is no designated sweeper.

Steiner Ranch Cycling is powered by Lakeside's awesome burgers (such as their Bacon Avocado Burger) and refreshed by their beer (we prefer Austin's own Pinthouse Electric Jellyfish IPA which is on tap now). Join us there after the ride on Saturdays to refuel and recover!

### **SUNDAY COFFEE SHOP RIDE**

On Sundays we host a mostly mellow ride to a local coffee shop outside Steiner.

The group will leave Cups & Cones at 8:30 AM (again, this will change when its gets cooler), and will target some not-too-far coffee shop for some espresso, pastries, and socializing. The ride will average around 17 mph and should be perfect for those looking for an easier and more relaxed alternative to our Saturday rides. Our destination is typically Red Horn Coffee House and Brewing Company at 1431 and Parmer which is 20 miles from Cups & Cones. Although this is technically a 'drop ride', we will make great efforts to keep the group together. Note that you should be able to ride the 38-50 miles at a 17 mph average pace for the whole ride.

Please visit our website at <http://www.steinerranchcycling.com> to check out what is going on in the Steiner Ranch cycling community.

**SPONSORS:** Austin City Living, Patten Law Firm, Dream Smiles Dental, Cyclist Law, Lakeside Pizza & Grill

**RIDE DISCLAIMER:** Each rider is responsible for his or her own safety on our rides. Please join us at your own risk. Our weekly rides are open to public participation but ride leaders do NOT assume any liability for your participation. We require that all participants follow traffic laws and wear a helmet while on our rides.



# **FREE TAI CHI**

**Monday - Friday 8:15 am - 9 am**  
**Towne Square Community Center**  
**12400 Country Trails Ln,**  
**Austin, TX 78732**

**Come learn and practice basic forms of  
Chen 83 and Yang 24 Tai Chi  
(10 min. warmup, 15-20 min. Chen style,  
10 min Yang style)**

**Benefits of Tai Chi :**

- Relieve Stress on the body and mind
- Improve Health and Physical Fitness
- Enhance Self Defense capability

**Questions : contact 512-470-6978  
or [rosaliachiu@gmail.com](mailto:rosaliachiu@gmail.com)**



# EASIER

[DellChildrensER.com](http://DellChildrensER.com)

At DellChildrensER.com, you can now hold your place in line. Meaning, you'll be seen within 15 minutes of your scheduled time. Remember, DellChildrensER.com is for mini emergencies only. If your child is experiencing a major emergency, get to the ER ASAP or dial 9-1-1.





# YOUNG HEART

*youngatheartaustin@gmail.com*

Young at Heart gives Steiner Ranch residents- mostly in the 50+ age group- opportunities to meet other people with similar interests. Our organized activities are planned to give everyone a chance to get to know each other in casual social settings. Many friendships have been formed while playing cards and games, walking, hiking and participating in more than a dozen other interest groups. If you live in Steiner Ranch full time or part time, you are welcome to join us. To become a member, just send your contact information including name(s), address, phone number and e-mail address to [youngatheartaustin@gmail.com](mailto:youngatheartaustin@gmail.com).

Among our many activities are Book Club, Canasta, Euchre, Mah Jongg, Mexican Train (Dominoes), Bunco, Walking, Hiking, Biking, Spanish Conversation, Technology, Painting, Card Making (creating unique greeting cards), and Ladies CLEO Luncheons (Classy Ladies Eating Out). We also get together for happy hours, wine socials, International Dining, dinner groups, and our very popular ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out). New groups are added when there is interest.

Looking for that dream vacation?  
I specialize in:

- Individual cruise planning
- Land resort vacations
- Guided vacation tours
- Group cruises (reunions, club trips, church groups, etc)

Whether it's taking a cruise to Alaska, cruising the Caribbean, taking a European riverboat cruise or choosing all inclusive land resort, I can help you plan. You would be keeping your business local.

*"I live in the Steiner Ranch area. I'd love to help you plan your next dream vacation."*

**Tip of the Month**

Shake off the winter blues with a warm Caribbean cruise.  
Please contact me to discuss land or cruise vacations.

**DreamVacations**   
*Start Here*

**Paula Kaisner - Kaisner Travel**  
**Independent Vacation Specialist**  
512-607-6635 • [pkaisner@dreamvacations.com](mailto:pkaisner@dreamvacations.com)  
[www.KaisnerTravel.com](http://www.KaisnerTravel.com)

YEAR  
ROUND

## Swimming Program for Adults

Come join the Masters Swim Program! The workouts are adjusted for everyone from beginners all the way to advanced -- no swim experience needed!! No intimidation allowed!! If you can swim one length of the pool, then you are ready to join in on the fun. Currently, we have "newbies" who haven't ever participated in organized adult swim classes, new and experienced triathletes who want to improve the swim part of their triathlons, and experienced master's swimmers looking to enjoy an organized swim workout. Regardless of your skill level, you will find a lane with swimmers who match your ability and enthusiasm.

### Our swim schedule is as follows:

- Wednesdays and Fridays at 5:30 a.m. until 6:45 a.m.
- Sundays at 6:30 a.m. until 7:45 a.m.
- \$55 per month for Residents

### Come on and give it a try! It's easy to sign up:

1. You must be 18 yrs. and older.
2. Join U. S. Masters Swimming! To be eligible to compete in masters' meets, to get a great magazine, and for HOA insurance purposes, go to the United States Masters swimming website, [www.usms.org/reg](http://www.usms.org/reg) and join our team Red Giants Masters swimming. You can print your card immediately and take a copy to the HOA office.
3. Fill out the Program Registration form at the HOA office, provide a copy your USMS card and submit payment!

As this is a Year Round Program, it's a great way to meet new friends and be a part of a fun community of swimmers and neighbors!

# Wild Basin Fitness

Full-service Gym, 100+ Fitness Classes & GRIT Intense Interval Training.

All in Steiner Ranch, All for \$110.

**Get started for just \$30!**

[www.WildBasinFitx.com](http://www.WildBasinFitx.com)





# REDUCING WILDFIRE RISK ON THE PRESERVE

*Submitted by Travis County  
Transportation & Natural Resources*

Work crews have been busy this fall in the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve. Travis County is working with Lake Travis Fire and Rescue to reduce wildfire risk on preserve lands adjacent to Steiner Ranch. They have established shaded fuel breaks on approximately 10 acres of preserve land near Steiner Ranch homes and are planning to treat 10 more acres this winter. By spring, the treated areas will cover more than 3 miles of the interface between Steiner residential areas and the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve.

To create shaded fuel breaks, crews remove the more flammable understory vegetation, including immature trees, shrubs and dead branches. The branches of large trees are pruned to at least four feet above the ground. Understory vegetation, often called “ladder fuel”, is removed because it can carry wildfire into the canopy of the forest where it is more difficult to contain. The tree canopy is left in place to provide shade, which slows the regrowth of ladder fuels. According to the Texas Forest Service, “By decreasing the amount of vegetation the fire has to travel through, you are significantly reducing the risk of extreme fire behavior.”

Shaded fuel breaks are most effective in areas where the forest meets urbanized areas, roads, or grasslands. They also work best when combined with other wildfire risk reduction strategies such as defensible space around structures. Through the collaborative efforts of homeowners and land managers, both private property and preserve land can be protected from the devastation of wildfire.

Now is a good time to engage in wildfire mitigation on your property. The risk of spreading oak wilt by pruning is reduced during the cooler weather—the high-risk season for oak wilt is February 1st through June 30th. Regardless of the time of year, however, fresh wounds on oaks should be painted with wound dressing or latex paint immediately after cutting. Learn more from Steiner Ranch Firewise about the best ways to reduce wildfire risk on your property. On the preserve, Travis County conducts fuel mitigation from September through February to avoid disturbing endangered golden-cheeked warblers, which migrate to Central America for the winter.



## Time to Reset Your Irrigation Controller & Cut Back on Water Use

*Submitted by WCID 17*

Does your lawn need watering over the winter? Yes, some, but not nearly as much as in the summer months. Evaporation rates are much lower in winter and grass is dormant, so you can set your irrigation system to water only twice a month OR LESS. If you know rain is coming, shut your system off completely or make sure your rain sensor prevents the system from operating. Save cash now and save on sewer service cost by using less water during the winter months.

### **Water Use During November, January and February is Used to Compute Sewer Bills -**

Remember to be aware of your household water consumption during the months of November thru February. WCID 17 averages household water usage during this time to calculate the residential wastewater bill amount for the following year. These months are used because these are the months which historically have the lowest usage because residents are not watering outside or watering very little. Wastewater rates are evaluated and adjusted annually each October.

## No One Likes a Broken Water Pipe!

*Submitted by WCID 17*

Every winter, many homeowners face the expense and inconvenience of frozen water pipes. Take a walk through your home and yard so you can cross that off your list of winter worries by taking a few simple precautions:

- Drain and insulate irrigation backflow valves (RPZ);
- Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses;
- Insulate pipes or faucets in unheated areas;
- Seal off access doors, vents and cracks;
- In severe cold weather, open the cabinet doors that have plumbing pipes inside to allow heat to them;
- Consider allowing a faucet to drip a small continuous stream or shut your water off at the master shutoff; and
- Make sure you can locate your master water shutoff.

What if it's too late? What if you wake up one morning and find the pipes have frozen anyway? Have the plumber's phone number handy. If you think you know where the freeze up occurred, and want to try thawing it yourself, the easiest tool is probably the hair dryer with a high heat setting. Wave the warm air back and forth over the pipe, not on one spot. Be careful, because the pipe may already be broken. It's not leaking because the water is frozen. When you thaw it out, the water could come gushing out. Be ready to turn off the water if necessary, or better yet, shut the valve off before thawing the pipe.

## Sister Brother Problems

*Submitted by Shelley Coleman M.A., L.P.C. -S*

Sibling rivalry is defined as the jealousy, competition and fighting between brothers and sisters. It is a concern for almost all parents of two or more kids. Sibling rivalry can be very frustrating and stressful to parents.

Yes. Frustrating indeed. As the mother of two children, I am well versed in the daily flow of transactions between sisters. In low tide, there may be the sharing of clothes or engaging in cooperative games. In high tide, I feel like the captain of a ship trying to navigate through rough waters while maintaining morale of my crew. There are the waves of "You always take her side!", or, "It's all her fault!" that rock the boat and threaten the peace.

To be sure, there are multiple factors that create this competitive dynamic. Of course, differing personalities and temperaments do not help. It is not uncommon for one child to be introverted while her sibling is an extrovert. In addition, gender and birth order contribute to conflict. When children are at different ages and stages of development, their needs are not the same. Likewise, children are awarded different privileges and responsibilities depending on age and maturity. Given these facts, it's no wonder that that my children frequently compare themselves to each other and conclude that my parenting is not fair.

As a parent, I know that it is not realistic to think that each child can receive the same amount of attention and resources at the same rate. In fact, it would be senseless for me to attempt to meet my children's needs in the same way and to the same degree. So how can parents maintain the peace in the face of sibling rivalry?

Avoid comparisons between children. Siblings are constantly evaluating themselves against each other. For parents to weigh in on this only contributes to the issue.

Enforce fair fighting rules. Enforcing rules like "no name calling" and no "destroying other's belongings" can encourage civil negotiations.

Let siblings work out their differences. By taking a step back and allowing children to negotiate their own solutions, we can empower our children to successfully solve their problems.

Separate when necessary. Sibling conflicts can be emotionally charged at times. Teaching children when it is best to have a "cooling off period" or "time out" from a discussion prepares them for future disagreements among peers.

Intervene when necessary. When conflict becomes physical or the issue at hand requires parental understanding, parents should intervene to help siblings reach a compromise.

Sibling rivalry is a normal dynamic for homes with more than one child. When a child is fortunate enough to have a brother or sister, they have countless opportunities to learn how to negotiate, share, and communicate in many different situations. Siblings teach us patience and give us a sense of shared responsibility. And, in some cases, someone to blame when something breaks.



# Quinoa and Wild Mushroom-Stuffed Swiss Chard Rolls with Madeira Mushroom Broth

*Submitted by Lake Austin Spa Resort*



## INGREDIENTS:

2 pounds wild mushrooms (you can use one variety or a combination of your favorites such as porcini, Matsutake, oyster, or shiitake)

- 1 cup tri-color quinoa (available at Whole Foods)
  - 5 cups vegetable broth, divided
  - 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt, plus more for cooking water
  - 2 bunches Swiss chard (preferably red or rainbow)
  - 1 tablespoon butter or Earth Balance Buttery Spread
  - 2 tablespoons olive oil, plus more for brushing
  - 2 shallots, minced
  - 2 large carrots, cut into 1/8-inch dice
  - 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
  - 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground pepper
  - 2 teaspoons coarsely chopped oregano leaves, divided
  - 2 tablespoons Madeira wine
- (Serves 6)

Trim the wild mushrooms, brush to clean, and then cut them into quarters and set aside.

Rinse the quinoa under cold water to remove the bitter saponins flavor and Heat the quinoa with 2 1/4 cups of the vegetable broth in a

medium saucepan over medium-high heat until the mixture comes to a boil. Cover the pan, reduce heat to low and simmer until the stock is absorbed, about 20 minutes. Set aside.

Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. While the water is heating, make an ice bath by filling a large bowl with ice water. Carefully place the chard leaves in the boiling water (in batches if necessary so you don't overcrowd the pot, you want the leaves to remain intact) and blanch until tender and brightly colored, about 2 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the leaves to the ice bath to shock and chill for two minutes. Transfer the leaves to a colander or dishcloth to drain, and then pat them dry with paper towels (taking care not to tear the leaves). Trim the stems from the large leaf and set aside.

Heat the butter (or Earth Balance Buttery Spread) and olive oil in a large skillet; add the shallots and carrots, and cook, stirring, about 5 minutes, until softened. Add the mushrooms, salt and pepper and cook, stirring occasionally, until tender, about 8 minutes.

Use a fork to stir 1 1/2 cups of the mushroom mixture and 1 teaspoon of oregano into the cooked quinoa (set the remaining mushroom mixture aside).

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Divide the chard leaves into 6 equal portions. Form one of portions into a 6- by 10-inch rectangle (with narrow end directly in front of you), roughly overlapping the leaves so that there are no holes. Place 1/2 cup of the quinoa mixture at the end nearest you, and then roll up the leaves, folding in the sides as you go until you've formed a tight bundle. Place the stuffed roll on a 9 x 13-inch baking dish, seam-side down, and repeat, making 5 more rolls. Brush the rolls lightly with olive oil.

Transfer to the oven and cook the rolls until they are heated through, about 10 – 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, place the remaining mushroom mixture over medium-high heat. Add the Madeira wine and cook, stirring, until most of the liquid is absorbed. Pour in the remaining 2 3/4 cups broth, bring the mixture to a lively simmer and then reduce heat to medium-low and cook until slightly thickened, about 10 minutes. Stir in the remaining tablespoon of oregano.

For each serving place a warm stuffed chard roll in a shallow dish, spoon the Madeira Mushroom Broth around the roll, and serve immediately.

# Make a colorful impact.

Call today to reserve this space.



PEEL, INC.  
community newsletters

## 512-263-9181



## How to Keep Your New Year's Resolutions

The New Year has arrived, and you have already made your resolutions. Now, how to stick to your plan?

Steps:

1. Put it all on paper. Write your resolutions down, and keep them in an accessible place as reminders - tape them to your mirror, write them in a journal or put them on your refrigerator door.
2. Mark your calendar. Set deadlines for yourself to tackle each step toward reaching your goal, one at a time.
3. Start as soon as possible. Purchase the necessary equipment or literature; call now and set up an appointment with your dentist, your doctor, your trainer, your accountant....
4. Find a role model. Is there anyone who has succeeded in fulfilling an ambition like yours? Look to this person as a reminder that it is possible to achieve your goal.
5. Check your progress regularly, and give yourself an occasional reward for your efforts. Make sure the reward isn't contrary to your resolution.

6. Inform friends and family of your goals, and recruit them to regularly remind and support you in your endeavors.

Tip:

- Don't sweat the setbacks; persistence is the key.

A group of approximately 15 diverse children of various ages and ethnicities are smiling and holding a large white banner. The banner has the text "NOW ENROLLING" in large, purple, hand-drawn style letters, and "childrenscenterofaustin.com" in smaller, blue, sans-serif letters below it.

**Now Enrolling**  
[childrenscenterofaustin.com](http://childrenscenterofaustin.com)

**The Children's Center Of Austin** 

<b>CCOA-STEINER RANCH</b> 4308 N. Quinlan Park Rd. Suite 100 Austin, TX 78732 512.266.6130	<b>CCOA NORTHWEST AUSTIN</b> 6507 Jester Boulevard Building 2 Austin, TX 78750 512.795.8300	<b>CCOA-WESTLAKE</b> 8100 Bee Caves Rd Austin, TX 78746 512.329.6633
--	---	---



QUALITY. CARING. CONVENIENCE.



Steiner's only  
 **invisalign**  
**ORTHODONTIST**

The  
**R**anch  
**Orthodontics**  
DR. GERARD DESANTIS

*Creating smiles for the entire family for over 17 years.*

**512.466.4947**

[www.TheRanchOrthodontics.com](http://www.TheRanchOrthodontics.com)

# NEW YEAR TRIVIA

“Happy New Year!” That greeting will be said and heard for at least the first couple of weeks as a new year gets under way. But the day celebrated as New Year’s Day in modern America was not always January 1.

**ANCIENT NEW YEARS:** The celebration of the new year is the oldest of all holidays. It was first observed in ancient Babylon about 4000 years ago. In the years around 2000 BC, the Babylonian New Year began with the first New Moon (actually the first visible crescent) after the Vernal Equinox (first day of spring). The beginning of spring is a logical time to start a new year. After all, it is the season of rebirth, of planting new crops, and of blossoming. January 1, on the other hand, has no astronomical nor agricultural significance. It is purely arbitrary. The Babylonian New Year celebration lasted for eleven days. Each day had its own particular mode of celebration, but it is safe to say that modern New Year’s Eve festivities pale in comparison. The Romans continued to observe the new year in late March, but their calendar was continually tampered with by various emperors so that the calendar soon became out of synchronization with the sun. In order to set the calendar right, the Roman senate, in 153 BC, declared January 1 to be the beginning of the new year.

But changes continued until Julius Caesar, in 46 BC, established what has come to be known as the Julian Calendar. It again established January 1 as the New Year.

**NEW YEAR TRADITIONS:** Traditions of the season include the making of New Year’s resolutions. That tradition also dates back to the early Babylonians. Popular modern resolutions might include the promise to lose weight or quit smoking. The early Babylonian’s most popular resolution was to return borrowed farm equipment. The tradition of using a baby to signify the new year was begun in Greece around 600 BC. It was their tradition at that time to celebrate their God of Wine, Dionysus, by parading a baby in a basket, representing the annual rebirth of that God as the spirit of fertility. Early Egyptians also used a baby as a symbol of rebirth.

**AULD LANG SYNE:** The song, “Auld Lang Syne,” is sung at the stroke of midnight in almost every English-speaking country in the world to bring in the New Year. At least partially written by Robert Burns in the 1700’s, it was first published in 1796 after Burns’ death. Early variations of the song were sung prior to 1700 and inspired Burns to produce the modern rendition. An old Scotch tune, “Auld Lang Syne” literally means “old long ago,” or simply, “the good old days.”

## Little League Spring Baseball

Courage, Loyalty & Character



Register Today: [www.NWLL-Austin.org](http://www.NWLL-Austin.org)

[www.facebook.com/NWLLAustinTX](https://www.facebook.com/NWLLAustinTX)



# { SEND US YOUR EVENT PICTURES }

Do you have a picture of an event that you would like to run in this newsletter? Send it to us and we may publish it in the next issue.

Email to:  
**communications@steinerranchhoa.org**

*Be sure to include the text that you would like to have as the caption.*

Pictures will appear in color online at  
**www.PEELinc.com.**



# Presto

Landscape & Irrigation, Inc

**LAWN CARE**  
Residential and Commercial

**LANDSCAPING**  
Design and Installation

**SPRINKLER**  
Installation and Repair

**Tree and Shrub Trimming**

**Power Washing - Stone Work - Fencing**

**FREE ESTIMATES**

**info@PrestoLandscapeAustin.com**

**(512) 294-8967**

**www.PrestoLandscapeAustin.com**

Irrigation License Number - U 169169

THE HEALTH CARE CENTER AT

## LONGHORN

VILLAGE

Continue your journey, discover new strengths.

Your health is at the heart of everything we do. From everyday assistance to rehabilitation, skilled nursing, and memory care, our team of health experts is focused on you so that you can focus on getting the most out of life.

12001 Longhorn Parkway | Austin, TX 78732

512.382.4664 | LONGHORNVILLAGE.COM

The Longhorn Village lifestyle is open to everyone, regardless of collegiate affiliation. Direct admission to our healthcare service specializations is available without entrance fee requirements.

TEXAS EXES

## BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

**LEARN GUITAR:** In-Home Guitar Lessons. Great teacher, fun environment. B.A. in Music, Berklee College of Music. Steiner resident. Over 19 years of teaching experience. All ages, styles and skill levels welcome. Proudly serving Steiner Ranch for years. For more info call Charles Couch at 646.704.3092 or visit [www.charlescouch.com](http://www.charlescouch.com).

**CONNOR CLEANING SERVICES:** Are you paying more than \$100 to have your house cleaned? 4200 sq. feet or less- you are paying too much! Call Connor Cleaning. Reliable. Dependable Service. Quality Work. Supplies furnished. Over 12 years in business. Affordably priced. Call 512-209-1141. Bonded.

**PIANO LESSONS** given in student's home in Steiner Ranch. Experienced, patient, mature teacher tailors lessons to student's interests. University educated teacher, beginner through advanced students, ages 5 to 95. Learn to play piano the way YOU want. Contact James Heuser at (512) 969-8529, website: [www.fourpointspianoteacher.com](http://www.fourpointspianoteacher.com).

**ACCOUNTING & TAX SERVICES:** Local CPA & Quickbooks ProAdvisor offering all inclusive small business accounting and tax services for businesses & individuals. Affordable rates & quality work. 10% off if you mention this ad! Kelley Arnold (512) 466-9319. Email: [kelly@steinerranchcpa.com](mailto:kelly@steinerranchcpa.com). Web: [www.steinerranchcpa.com](http://www.steinerranchcpa.com).

**THE HANDYMAN CAN:** Multi-yr. Steiner resident available for honey-dos, inspection punch lists, hang pictures, fans & lights. Assemble most anything; furniture, Ikea, etc. You name it I can probably do it. No job too small, no minimum. Many 100% satisfied Steiner clients. Richard 970-9616.

**PERSONAL TRAINER:** – I will come to you! I love what I do and will help you achieve your fitness goals! I offer Personal Training for Weight Loss, USA Triathlon Certified Coach, TRX Trainer. Sherri Fox, Fit Fox Training, LLC, (512)750-6390, [fox.sherri@gmail.com](mailto:fox.sherri@gmail.com), [www.fitfoxtraining.com](http://www.fitfoxtraining.com), [www.facebook.com/fitfoxtraining](http://www.facebook.com/fitfoxtraining)

**WE BUY USED GOLF BALLS:** – If you have three hundred or more call 512 470-7252 or email us at [golfballhouse@gmail.com](mailto:golfballhouse@gmail.com)

**YOGA INSTRUCTION AT HOME:** – Practice yoga at HOME individually or with family and friends. Increase flexibility and strength while reducing stress. Help rehab injuries. Certified yoga instructor (ERYT-500) with 20 years experience. References available. Contact Paula at [paulasyoga@gmail.com](mailto:paulasyoga@gmail.com) or (512) 947-9530

*Business classifieds* (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$75, limit 40 words, please Peel, Inc. Sales Office at 512-263-9181 or [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com).



# 250

## BUSINESS CARDS FOR \$16.50

**FOUR COLOR  
ONE SIDED**  
Printed on 12pt C1S

Price Does Not include tax and shipping  
Some Restrictions Apply

**512.263.9181** [QualityPrintingOfAustin.com](http://QualityPrintingOfAustin.com)





  
**RISING STARS**  
*Pediatric Dentistry*

DR. MICHELLE FREEZE

LIZ CHUNG, DDS

RACHEL TRUEBLOOD, DDS

Dentistry for infants, children, teens and patients with special needs.

**512.266.7200**

- Friendly Pediatric Trained Staff
- Parents Allowed Back During Treatment
- Board Certified Specialists
- Insurances Accepted
- On Time Appointments
- Before and After School Appointments
- Advanced Soft-tissue Laser Procedures
- Wifi, Games and Movies

#### Two Convenient Locations

**Steiner Ranch**  
 4308 N. Quinlan Park #201  
 Austin, TX 78732

**Lakeline**  
 14005 N. HWY 183 #800  
 Austin, TX 78717

**SmileLikeAStar.com**

**FREE**  
 Child's Sonicare

with New Patient  
 Exam and Cleaning

**\$56.00 Value**

Coupon must be presented at time of exam. For patient's age 3 and older.  
 Coupon cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 1/31/17

**NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE**



**River Place Vision Center**

**Dr. Dennis Smith**

*Steiner Ranch Resident*

Adult & Pediatric Eyecare

Laser Vision Correction

**FACTS:**

- 1 in 4 school-aged children have an undiagnosed vision problem
- Only 5% of vision problems are identified in a school screening
- Undetected vision problems are significantly associated with learning and behavioral difficulties

**512-343-2020**

**riverplacevision.com**



JANUARY 2017

## NEW YEAR NEW COLLAGEN

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE SPECIAL PACKAGES TO HELP GROW COLLAGEN, SMOOTH OUT WRINKLES, AND MAKE YOUR APPEARANCE NATURALLY YOUNGER.

### **GOOD \$913 (REG. \$1093)**

Purchase Full Face Micro Needling Package of 3 & Tensage® Intensive Serum 40 & Receive Tensage® Stem Cell Cream **FREE**. \$180 VALUE.

### **BETTER \$900 (REG. \$1680)**

Purchase 3 Micro Laser Lite Peels for \$900 & Receive 1 Full Face BBL™ PhotoFacial **FREE**.

### **BEST \$1250 (REG. \$2495)**

Purchase 1 Micro Laser Medium Peel & 1 ProFractional™ Laser Skin Resurfacing Treatment for **\$1250** & Receive a 2nd ProFractional™ Laser Skin Resurfacing Treatment **FREE**.

 dr. ted lain  
dermatology

4300 North Quinlan Park Road  
Suite 225  
Austin, Texas 78732  
(512) 266-0007  
[store.atxderm.com](http://store.atxderm.com)





**PEEL, INC.**

308 Meadowlark St.  
Lakeway, TX 78734-4717

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PEEL, INC.

SR



Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

CLHMS, Million Dollar Guild  
Certified Negotiation Expert  
Corporate Relocation Specialist  
[www.SteinerRanchInfo.com](http://www.SteinerRanchInfo.com)  
Direct: (512) 657-7510  
[Elicia@SteinerRanchInfo.com](mailto:Elicia@SteinerRanchInfo.com)



*Elicia Gower Michaud*

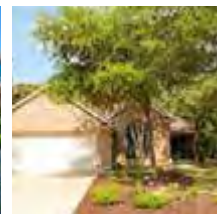
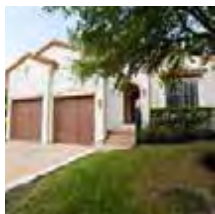
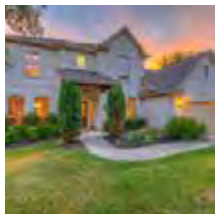
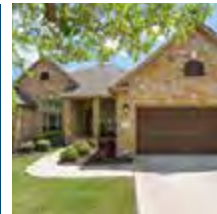
*SteinerRanchInfo.com*

*Your key to the land between the lakes*



**Elicia *personally* sold  
or leased all of these  
Steiner homes in 2016**

**Thinking of Selling in 2017?  
Call the Steiner Expert with  
Proven Results!**



AND LIKE US ON [FACEBOOK.COM/STEINERRANCHINFO](https://www.facebook.com/STEINERRANCHINFO)