

The Art of Choosing a Summer Camp

By Mike McDonell President, Kidventure

Parents, let's face it. Our kids are growing up in a world much different than the ones we rode our Big Wheels in. Back then, we roamed the neighborhood in search of an adventure. Left to our own devices, we would transform empty lots into playgrounds, create fantastic forts with blankets held fast by encyclopedias, and find endless utility out of something as simple as a stick.

The world is now lightyears away from what we knew then. Driven by an endless flow of information and novelty, the bar to keep kids engaged is as high as it has ever been. That is why camp is so important and has never been more essential than right now.

Choosing the right camp can allow your child the opportunity to discover themselves, to interact with others, to feel inspired, or part of something great. Yet with all the camp options out there, choosing an appropriate program can be challenging.

The following are some of the most important questions you can ask of any camp program. These will aid you when looking to make the most of your child's camp experience.

General Camp Questions

1. Is the camp right for your child? Too many times, parents will enroll their kids in a camp they see themselves in and not their kids. You know your child best, so take into account their strengths, natural inclinations, and preferences.

2. What is the camp's mission statement? Every camp should have

a goal or a mission. That mission should ultimately be to make kids feel great about themselves and feel successful.

3. Does the camp program have a track record of quality programming and service? Read reviews, ask for a couple of references, and talk with other parents who have been to that camp.

4. Is this camp licensed by the State of Texas Youth Camps Division? This licensing ensures that every camp is held to certain standards in terms of safety, quality of staff, and quality of programming. If a camp is unlicensed, then it can be shut down by the state of Texas at any time.

5. What is the camp's policy on how they reward good behavior and regulate poor behavior?

Staff Questions

A camp can have the most beautiful facilities, state-of-the-art camp equipment, and the best website, but the quality of any camp program begins and ends with the quality of the staff.

1. What is the ratio of counselors to campers?

2. What is the age of the staff, and what are the camp staff minimum qualification standards?

3. What medical qualifications and procedures are set in place for campers and their staff?

4. What is the background check process on your staff?

5. Will the staff simply be supervising kids, or will they be active participants?

Programming Questions

Good camps have an active and well thought out curriculum. That curriculum should take into account factors like multiple ages, the weather, and the number of children attending. The following are a set of questions that should give you a good feel for the programming.

1. Does the camp provide an age appropriate curriculum suited for my child and his/her abilities? Camps tend to be open to a wide range of kids, so make sure that their activities are developmentally appropriate. Make it a point to ask about the appropriateness of the program with regards to your child's age and individual needs.

2. What percentages of those activities are outdoors vs. indoors? How does the camp program plan for the hot temperatures during the summer?

(Continued on Page 2)



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
Fire.....	911
Ambulance.....	911
Police Department	512-975-5000
Sheriff – Non-Emergency.....	512-974-0845
Animal Services Office.....	311

SCHOOLS

Austin ISD	512-533-6000
Casis Elementary School	512-414-2062
O. Henry Middle School.....	512-414-3229
Austin High School.....	512-414-2505

UTILITIES

City of Austin.....	512-494-9400
Texas Gas Service	
Custom Service	1-800-700-2443
Emergencies.....	512-370-8609
Call Before You Dig	512-472-2822
Grande Communications.....	512-220-4600
AT&T	
New Service	1-800-464-7928
Repair	1-800-246-8464
Billing.....	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

Ausitn City Hall.....	512-974-7849
Ausitn City Manager.....	512-974-2200
Austin Police Dept (Non Emergency).....	512-974-5000
Austin Fire Dept (Non Emergency).....	512-974-0130
Austin Parks and Recreation Dept.....	512-974-6700
Austin Resources Recoovry	512-494-9400
Austin Transportation Dept.....	512-974-1150
Municipal Court	512-974-4800
Post Office.....	512-2478-7043
City of Austin.....	www.AustinTexas.gov

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc.	512-263-9181
Editor.....	tarrytown@peelinc.com
Advertising.....	advertising@peelinc.com

(Continued from Cover)

3. How are multi-age campers grouped in camp?
4. Are there field trips? If so, how are campers transported? Who drives and is there air-conditioning on that transportation?

Overnight Camp Specific Questions

When it comes to overnight camp options, many of the previous questions are perfectly applicable. However, because your kids will be going away for camp, a few more specific questions will help you make a better and informed decision.

1. What are the sleeping arrangements like? Not every camp has air conditioning. If that's a deal breaker for you or your camper, then ask. Additionally, the number of campers within a lodging varies greatly from camp to camp.
2. What is the waterfront safety procedure? Are there lifeguards stationed at all water activities?
3. What is the camp policy on use of technology at camp?
4. What are the food options like? Can they accommodate any allergies or dietary needs?

In Conclusion

Though this is not a comprehensive list, these questions will help you learn more about a camp program and give you the opportunity to select your child's camp experience more wisely. At the end of the day, the camp you choose for your child must be safe, it must place the

(Continued on Page 3)

WHERE KIDS BECOME A COMMUNITY

YMCA of Austin Camps offer children & teens safe, exciting, and memory-making experiences. At the Y, campers gain a sense of accomplishment, build relationships, and find their sense of belonging.

Summer Camp Registration Now Open

- For ages 4-14
- Sites in Travis, Hays and Bastrop counties
- 5 days a week
- Financial assistance is available



Spaces Are Limited!
Register at AustinYMCA.org/camp
or call Program Services at 512.236.9622

(Continued from Page 2)

camper first in all matters, and it must provide both you and your child with an environment that is both comfortable and rewarding.

Camp has the power to transform the lives of our kids. It can teach courage, teamwork, empathy, grit, independence, and confidence. That transformative spirit has never been more alive than today. Seek out great camp programs, ask the right questions, and make solid camp choices with your child. The results will provide them with an immensely rewarding experience, one that they will carry with them for the rest of their lives. Happy camping!



PEEL, INC.
community newsletters

ADVERTISE
YOUR BUSINESS
TO YOUR
NEIGHBORS

support your community newsletter

Dee Woods

dwoods@peelinc.com • 512.502.4261
Sales Representative



HEALTHY SMILES ARE OUR SPECIALTY

WHY OUR PATIENTS LOVE US:

Empowering you to play an active role in your child's dental health.

Compassionate, individual patient care for your child's needs.

Enjoy a dental team focused on creating a positive dental experience for you and your child.

Utilization of the most recent technology.

You are invited to stay with your child through the entire appointment.

Monthly payment options
available, including no
interest financing.

**\$50
OFF**

Mention this and receive
\$50 off New Patient
cleaning, fluoride and exam.
(New patients only, this offer cannot be
combined with other offers. Restrictions apply.)



STEPHEN SHERWOOD, DDS

CALL TODAY!
(512) 454-6936



Visit www.DrSherwood.net



Give on Earth Day

Give 5% to Mother Earth is an annual Earth Day campaign that raises funds and awareness for local environmental nonprofits working to protect and preserve our natural resources in Central Texas.

Give 5 partners with more than 100 local businesses who pledge to donate 5% of sales on Friday, April 21st – in honor of Earth Day - to Give 5's 9 nonprofit beneficiaries, each of which is working to keep Austin clean, green, and healthy. This year's benefiting nonprofits include: Hill Country Conservancy, Shoal Creek Conservancy, Austin Parks Foundation, Sustainable Food Center, Waller Creek Conservancy, Pease Park Conservancy, Treefolks, Friends of Barton Springs Pool, and Texas Campaign for the Environment Fund.

By patronizing Give 5's generous business partners on Earth Day, Austinites are helping to support these amazing causes! For a full list of participating businesses, please visit www.austingive5.org.

BREAKTHROUGH 2017 30 BOARDS IN 30 SECONDS

Celebrate 30 years in Martial Arts with Austin Kula Karate. Master Wayne Key will attempt to break 30 boards in 30 seconds, smashing last year's record of 29 boards in 129 seconds. The lesson in Breakthrough 2017 is that when we put in the necessary time and effort the seemingly impossible can be achieved. This kid friendly event is open to ALL and is FREE. We will be accepting donations for Austin SafePlace.

Saturday, April 29th, 3pm

2414 Exposition Blvd #B110, Austin (inside MOVE Fitness)

For more information call 512-589-7709

or visit: www.AustinKulaKarate.com

Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease

Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders announces new program to increase dementia services and supports, as part of the state-funded Darrell K Royal Texas Alzheimer's Initiative

Austin, Texas (February 13, 2017). The Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders (Council) is pleased to announce a new program, "Texas Cares," a model for memory capable communities and support for family caregivers, developed and administered through Baylor Scott and White Health and Texas A&M School of Public Health. The program is set to launch in April 2017 to the employees of universities participating in the Texas Alzheimer's Research and Care Consortium with hopes of expanding the program to all Texans in the coming years.

Texas Cares will establish the minimum level of memory support and caregiving services that each Texan should expect to be available at the state level and in their local community. Additionally, Texas Cares will leverage technology to develop systems to address caregiver health literacy and deliver evidence-based education and skills more widely to caregivers across the State. Pilot testing will initially be targeted at working caregivers for whom traditional sources of information and support are significantly less accessible. Texas Cares will complement the research work at the Texas Alzheimer's Research and Care Consortium, a collaborative Alzheimer's disease research effort, directed and funded by the Council as part of the state-funded Darrell K Royal Texas Alzheimer's Initiative.

"All Texans should have access to educational information on Alzheimer's disease and dementia, including specific information on how to locate local services and supports. While printed literature is widely available, new efforts are needed to provide online information and access to individualized support due to the growing demographic of internet-literate family caregivers", said Dr. Alan Stevens, Director of the Center for Applied Health Research and holder of the Vernon D. Holleman-Lewis M. Rumpy Centennial Chair in Gerontology at Baylor Scott & White Health.

"This is indeed a unique partnership involving Texas A&M, Baylor Scott and White Health and the Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders, all working together to make a difference in Alzheimer's care. Our ultimate goal is to reduce the burdens of care which are only anticipated to increase with the rapid aging of the Texas population. But the impact of this effort can be much larger with Texas Cares serving as a model for the Nation" said Regents and Distinguished Professor Marcia Ory, PhD

(Continued on Page 7)



Free Estimates on New A/C Systems
Fast 7-Day A/C Repairs
Energy Audits • Weatherization
Duct Repair & Replacement

Home & Handyman Repairs
Remodels & Additions
Senior Accessibility Upgrades
Painting / Staining
Drywall & Popcorn Removal
Decks & Fences / Install & Repairs

"We have been keeping Austin comfortable
for over 35 years." – The Yamin Family

TACL #B5235C



A-PLUS ENERGY MANAGEMENT
AIR CONDITIONING & HOME SOLUTIONS

512.450.1980 • www.AplusAC.com

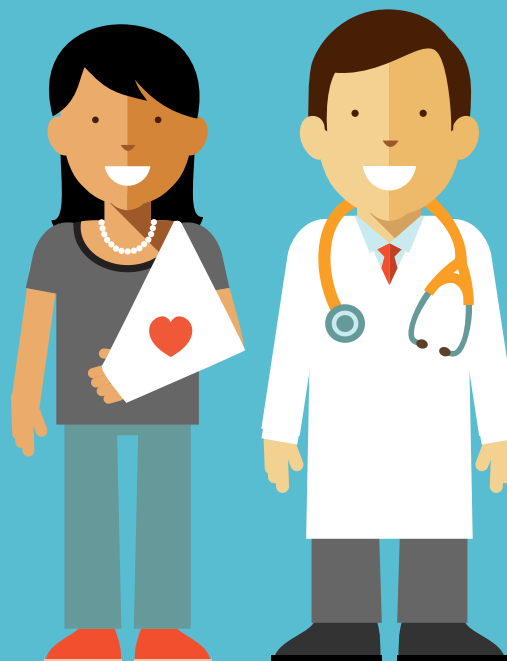
\$20 off
ANY A/C Repair or
Handyman Service!

Cannot be combined with other offers.
Check our website for additional coupons & discounts.



High-Quality Walk-in Care Without the Urgent Care Price.

VISIT SETON EXPRESS CARE.



Convenient care for minor illness or injury without a higher price tag. Seton Express Care offers many of the same services as urgent care, but at doctor's office co-pay prices in most cases.

In the Village at Westlake
701 S. Capital of Texas Hwy,
Austin, TX 78746
512-324-6970

M-F 7 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Sa. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Su. 1-7 p.m.



**Care for Minor Illness and Injury
with Onsite X-ray and Lab.**

 **Seton EXPRESS CARE**

Seton.net/ExpressCare

TARRYTOWN REAL ESTATE MARKET REPORT UPDATE

April
2017

by **Trey McWhorter**

This month I updated an analysis I did a couple of years ago that compared home prices for 4 general categories of homes:

- New Homes – Less than 5 years old in the year they sold
- Recent Homes – Built between 1990 – 2004
- Old Homes / Updated – Homes older than 1990, which had extensive remodeling work
- Old Homes / Not Updated – Homes older than 1990, typically marketed as tear downs (key words like “as-is” or “lot value”)

I have not personally been in all of these homes, so am relying on the information in MLS to create this analysis. The below table provides a summary of performance over the last five years for sold prices as well as price / sq ft.

Median Sold \$ / Sq Ft	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
New Homes (less than 5 yrs old)	\$290.13	\$321.12	\$394.46	\$445.16	\$452.78
Recent Homes (1990-2004)	\$279.99	\$336.11	\$362.67	\$358.34	\$376.44
Old Home/Updated	\$292.57	\$317.05	\$356.37	\$398.44	\$394.32
Old Home/Not Updated	\$269.00	\$313.52	\$352.02	\$344.53	\$421.32
Median Sold Price					
New Homes (less than 5 yrs old)	\$825,000	\$882,500	\$1,125,000	\$1,372,270	\$1,591,200
Recent Homes (1990-2004)	\$942,500	\$1,253,750	\$1,233,250	\$1,200,000	\$1,085,000
Old Home/Updated	\$700,000	\$732,500	\$767,500	\$896,500	\$825,000
Old Home/Not Updated	\$470,000	\$555,000	\$570,000	\$613,000	\$812,500

A few additional comments:

- New home sizes in 2010 and 2011 (not shown in the table) were just under 4,000 sq ft (median), but then dropped to around 3,000 sq ft from 2012-2015, and then jumped back up in 2016 to a little over 3,700 sq ft
- Tear-down homes saw their biggest year-on-year appreciation in 2013 (18% over 2012) and 2016 (33% over 2015)
- There were, on average, 35 transactions / year for tear-down homes from 2010-2014, and only 18 in 2015 and 2016
- Older homes that have been remodeled have accounted for roughly 50% of transactions each year

Note: All data comes from the Austin Board of Realtors' MLS report, reflecting activity through March 15, 2017.

(Continued from Page 4)

of the Texas A&M School of Public Health, Director of the Texas A&M Program on Healthy Aging and one of the study co-principal investigators.

"The efforts of our Council over the past twelve years have focused on bringing Alzheimer's disease research and care to the forefront in Texas by directing over \$36,000,000 in funding to major medical schools and universities in Texas," said Council Chair Debbie Hanna. "We are delighted to have the expertise and guidance of Dr. Alan Stevens and the partnership of Texas A&M University and Baylor Scott and White Health in our efforts to implement Texas Cares for the citizens of Texas. We know Coach Royal would be very proud of this initiative to support and inform all affected by this disease."

About the Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders

Established in 1987, the Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders was created by the Texas Legislature to serve as the state's advocate for persons with AD, their caregivers, and related professionals. The Council is charged with providing vision and leadership to Texas by encouraging statewide coordinated Alzheimer's disease research, statewide strategic planning, and recommending needed action for persons with Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers.

For further information, contact:

Debbie Hanna, Chair

Texas Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders

dhanna@txalz.org; 512-461-8185

The Tarrytown Newsletter 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 Tarrytown Newsletter's 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.

DISCLAIMER: Articles and ads in this newsletter express the opinions of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Peel, Inc. or its employees. Peel, Inc. is not responsible for the accuracy of any facts stated in articles submitted by others. The publisher also assumes no responsibility for the advertising content with this publication. All warranties and representations made in the advertising content are solely that of the advertiser and any such claims regarding its content should be taken up with the advertiser.

* The publisher assumes no liability with regard to its advertisers for misprints or failure to place advertising in this publication except for the actual cost of such advertising.

* Although every effort is taken to avoid mistakes and/or misprints, the publisher assumes no responsibility for any errors of information or typographical mistakes, except as limited to the cost of advertising as stated above or in the case of misinformation, a printed retraction/correction.

* Under no circumstances shall the publisher be held liable for incidental or consequential damages, inconvenience, loss of business or services, or any other liabilities from failure to publish, or from failure to publish in a timely manner, except as limited to liabilities stated above.

This Summer,
Dream Big!

KIDVENTURE
SUMMER BLOCKBUSTER
★ SUMMER CAMP 2017 ★

REGISTER TODAY
Kidventure.com/austin-summer-camp



PEEL, INC.

308 Meadowlark St. South
Lakeway, TX 78734

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

TRY

LET ME PLANT SOMETHING
GREEN IN YOUR YARD THIS
SPRING.



thinking about SELLING?

For a personal, no-obligation consultation on your home's
market value, give me a call.



Trey McWhorter
REALTOR®

512-480-0848 x 116 ofc
512-808-7129 cell
trey.mcwhorter@moreland.com
www.moreland.com

**Read my market
update inside.**

Our intimate knowledge of
Austin's best properties has
helped thousands of people
make Austin their home for
over 30 years.

We get it.



CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

LUXURY PORTFOLIO
INTERNATIONAL



Leading REAL ESTATE
COMPANIES
IN THE WORLD®