

INSIDE AUSTIN GARDEN TOUR

The Travis County Master Gardeners Association has set Saturday, May 6, 2017, 9:00am-4:00pm, for their popular Inside Austin Gardens Tour (IAGT). The tour provides a rare look

inside five private gardens and one public experimental garden that demonstrate realistic, sustainable gardening practices for Central Texas that will inform and inspire. The tour's theme remains: "For Gardeners. By Gardeners", focusing on the vast variety and practical beauty of native and well-adapted plants in the garden. In turn, each garden has a theme that highlights a particular set of characteristics Central Texas gardeners are likely to encounter in their own gardens. Those themes are:

Earth-Kind Landscaping – environmentally friendly principles and a secret garden

Wildlife Restoration, Preservation – 23 acres of fruits, veggies, beehives and miniature horses

Birds, Butterflies, and Zen – natives, natural attractors along with meditation space

Sun & Shade – sunny daylilies to die for; shady umbrellas and gingers to soothe the soul

A Journey Through Fairyland – whimsical design, a plethora of plants and a garden piano

AgriLife Testing Ground – rainwater collection, new varieties and proven winners

Wendy Buck, the 2017 IAGT Chair, described the unique nature of the tour this way: "This really is a garden tour for gardeners, by

gardeners. These distinctive private gardens have never been open to the general public before. Our aim is to educate and enthuse. Interested gardeners can experience a wide array of ideas, learn the details from



the Master Gardeners that created the gardens, and know how to execute those ideas successfully in their own gardens." Native and welladapted plants require less water and less maintenance. They survive the Central Texas environment which includes erratic swings in temperatures, high summer heat both day and night, drought, flood, clay soil, and rocky soil. And, they are remarkably varied in style and structure. Natives provide food for animals and insects while establishing a beautiful, unique sense of place. They are the foundation of all the sites on the Inside Austin Gardens Tour.

About Inside Austin Gardens Tour

Originating in 2005, the IAGT is held every 18 months by the Travis County Master Gardeners Association and Travis County AgriLife Extension Service. The one-day event features behind-thescenes looks at gardens of Travis County Master Gardeners. As many as 2,500 people typically attend. A pass to all six gardens is \$20 in advance or \$25 on the day of the tour. Individual gardens are \$5. The event is held rain or shine from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Only service dogs are allowed. Complete information and tickets at www. InsideAustinGardens.org.

INSIDE AUSTIN GARDENS TOUR SET FOR MAY 6, 2017 BYTRAVIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

RANCH REPORT

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	
Fire	
Ambulance	
Sheriff – Non-Emergency	

SCHOOLS

ROUND ROCK ISD

Patsy Sommer Elementary	
	. 16200 Avery Ranch Blvd.
Elsa England Elementary Schoo	1704-1200
	8801 Pearson Ranch Road
Cedar Valley Middle School	
- -	
McNeil High School	

LEANDER ISD

Rutledge Elementary	
	11501 Staked Plains Dr.
Stiles Middle School	
	3250 Barley Rd.
Vista Ridge High School	
	200 S. Vista Ridge Dr.

UTILITIES

City of Austin Water	512-494-9400
Perdernales Electric	
TEXAS GAS SERVICE	
Custom Service	1-800-700-2443
Emergencies	512-370-8609
Call Before You Dig	
AT&T	
New Service	1-800-464-7928
Repair	1-800-246-8464
Billing	
TIME WARNER CABLE	
Customer Service	512-485-5555
Repairs	512-485-5080
Solid Waste Servies	

NEWSLETTER INFO

EDITOR

ArticlesAveryRanch@peelinc.com

PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc.	
Advertising	. advertising@peelinc.com

NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE

How to Brighten Your Home

by Rita Droege Lopez

Spring is here! It is time to start thinking about opening your basic design items such as lighting, pillows, throws & artwork. windows and brightening your home. Not sure where to start?

Follow these 3 easy steps from Rita Droege Lopez, the Creative Designer at Tarragona Designs:

1. Update your walls

Color trends change every year. From light and bright colors to dark and daring, colors don't go out of style, it's just the pairings of different colors that come and go. New color combinations may be just what your walls need for a fresh new look, especially if you've had the same color palette in your home for a long time. My top 5 colors that I recommend are:

- 1. Agreeable Gray-Sherwin Williams 7029
- Intellectual Gray-Sherwin Williams 7045 2.
- 3. White Flour-Sherwin Williams 7102
- 4. Ancient Marble-Sherwin Williams 6162
- 5. Sea Serpent-Sherwin Williams 7615

2. Accessorize

Have your throws & pillows seen better days? It might be time to bring in some new pieces for a fresh & updated feel to your home. You can transform the entire look of a room by changing out some



3. Spring clean your home-lots of work but you will be so glad you did when the weather draws you outside. Pull out your screens and wash the winter grime off your windows, then work on cleaning things like the ceiling fans and fireplaces. Once your cleaning is complete, gather mason jars from your cabinet and pick up fresh flowers on your next visit to the grocery store. Arrange together in groupings throughout your home for a finished and fresh look. Spring is here.



Copyright © 2017 Peel, Inc.

Ranch Report - May 2017 3

We Foster Here

Every child needs a champion to encourage their dreams.



Be a Champion

Thousands of Texas children need a safe, loving home. These children have incredible potential, but they need a champion to encourage their dreams and prepare them for life's many successes.

Upbring will Stand with You

Becoming a foster parent isn't the easiest thing you'll ever do. But it will deliver a lifetime of rewards, and you won't be alone. Upbring, the largest provider of children's services in Texas, offers all the support you need to create a brighter future for a child. Visit **WeFosterHere.org** today to learn more.



WeFosterHere.org

May is for Mothers

In honor of Mother's Day a time when we say thank you and show love to the special woman (or women) who gave the gift of life, to us. Taught us, saved us, guided us, molded us. In some way shape or form we as mothers have a birthing story. We all do. Weather yours took place at a hospital (like this one) or at home, or in a court room. Whenever and however you became a mother you remember your birthing story. Whether you physically pushed, emotionally pushed or mentally pushed. We all have that one thing in common. We Pushed. Here's to you! I salute you mama! HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY.

The world changes once you have a child. In the blink of an eye. Everything that used to matter no longer matters. I wrote this 6 weeks after my son was a born. It touched my heart then so I wanted to share and take you down memory lane with me. Come and take a walk with me. For more feel, good and humor filled stories like this, check out my Blog at www.crieshighfivesandlittlwhitelies.com or Social Media.

A New Mother's Memoir

by Sharonna Banks

I can remember I read somewhere that being a mother is like having your heart walk around on the outside of your body. I remember thinking I understood this statement. This was before I became a mother. I mean even though I wasn't a mother I figured it made sense. There would be nothing more important than your child I could comprehend that. Now when I ran across this statement again, much later in life I was pregnant with my son. It was a strong different feeling. I felt within my whole being that I totally knew what that person was saying. Boy, was I wrong! Even at that time while a baby boy grew inside me I thought I knew so much. There wasn't anything on earth I loved more than that melon sized life source. I would give my all to protect it and nothing came close to being as important. Little did I know I didn't understand or even come close to feeling what that brilliant person was trying to convey until March 22, 2013 at 5:04am. Within the first minutes after my son was born in it all became clear. Crystal Clear. Here was this not-so-tiny person that took my breath away the minute they laid him on my chest. My son was 8lbs 12oz when he was born. He came into this world fast and quiet at the same time. With all the chaos going on around me and my husband, we were enraptured by this perfect little being who we are blessed to call our own. In that minute, the statement then became true in my heart and in my mind, as I noticed my baby wasn't crying yet.

As I looked down upon him it became transparent and I was beginning to get scared. I immediately began to rub this back and talk to him. I kept repeating; Are you going to cry? You've got to breathe little one!" my eyes were open and I was fixed on him. I could see he was gray and blue. My heart started to beat faster. My world was spinning. In my head, I'm Praying. I keep repeating" take a breath, take a breath". All time stops the room of people disappear. It was so still, so quiet. I vigorously rubbed my son's back. It felt like it had been an hour instead of merely seconds. Just then he opened his mouth and let out the smallest little sigh I have ever heard. Not even a cry. It was as if the breath of life was pushed back into me and him all at the same time. He opens his eyes and looks at me. Finally, I was able to see. I got it, and I would never be the same. I had never been so nervous, helpless and fearful at the same time. Just then as I was staring down at the most important thing in my world, watching him; my son; my heart stare right back at me. I began to truly see. To see that being a mother will be just as rewarding as it will be challenging. I do know that I could never have total control over what happens to him. It felt just like an out of body experience. Now knowing that I will feel that same way when he takes his first steps. Learns to swim, or drive a car. The exhilaration of delight that covers you and warms your skin. Followed by the shock of fear that instantly cool you. Looking back just 6 weeks ago I can truly say I knew nothing! Now I know this is going to be a wild ride. I know I'm going to have many of these feelings. I'm excited about how quick he's learning. How fast he is growing and how cute he is. I look at him and I can't believe that God, my husband and I made him. I still can't grasp that he is ours. I keep waiting for the real mother to come home and thank me for taking such good care of her baby. Then I look in the mirror and realize again that she is me. There are bags under my eyes, my hair is a mess, and I can't remember if I brushed my teeth. Showers are a new luxury that I took for granted before. Eating is obsolete, but the strong beautiful woman standing before me is complete. She's always been a great friend, a dedicated hard working employee, and loving wife, but now she is a mom and it's the best title of all (Sorry honey!) Being a new mommy is great. I make mistakes and I learn from them. I listen to the wise mothers who have gone before me. I'm enjoying every day of my new life and embracing the feeling of walking around and watching my heart on the outside of my body, and I know fully that every day is precious.



Copyright © 2017 Peel, Inc.

Ranch Report - May 2017 5

ACTEXAS A&M BARNELIFE EXTENSION HOSQUITO REPELLENTS



As mosquito season is ramping up, everyone is (hopefully) aware of possible disease transmission by mosquitoes. It is important that you protect yourself when spending time outside.

Activity times for mosquitoes can vary. Most people are familiar with the four D's-DRAIN (standing water),

DEET (wear some repellent), DUSK & DAWN (stay indoors during dusk and dawn to avoid peak populations) and DRESS (wear long sleeves and long pants). While this is still good advice, it may be a good idea to spread the dress and repellent advice for anytime you spend time outdoors.

When outside, wear long pants and a long sleeved shirt in light colors to reduce the number of mosquitoes that can reach your skin. Repellent should only be applied to clothing and exposed skin. Do not apply repellent underneath clothing! If you want to apply repellent to your face, spray your hands with repellent and rub it onto your face. Do not spray repellent directly into your face or near eyes or mouth. Make sure to apply repellent outdoors. Do not allow children to handle repellents. Wash hands before eating, smoking or using the restroom.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends using a product registered with the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) containing one of the following active ingredients: DEET, picaridin, IR3535 and some of the products containing oil of lemon eucalyptus.

DEET, also known N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide or N,Ndiemethylbenzamide, was developed by the U.S. Army in 1946 to protect soldiers in insect-infested areas. Pesticides containing DEET have been used by the general public since 1957. Products containing DEET should not be used on children younger than 2 months of age (read the label and check with your pediatrician if you have questions). DEET has a slight odor and may have a greasy feel to some people. It may damage plastic, rubber, vinyl or synthetic fabrics. DEET may be irritating to the eyes and skin for some people. DEET comes in a wide variety of concentrations, so choose the one that will work best for your situation.

Picaridin was first made in the 1980's and resembles a natural compound called piperine (which is found in plants used to produce black pepper). Picardin has been used in Europe and Australia for many years, but has only been in the U.S. since 2005. Picaridin is non-greasy and is odorless.

IR-3535, or 3-[N-Butyl-N- acetyl]-aminopropionic acid, ethyl ester,

was developed in the mid- 1970's and became registered for use in the U.S. in 1999. It is registered as a biopesticide by the EPA because it is functionally identical to a naturally occurring substance (an amino-acid). It may dissolve or damage plastics and may be irritating to the eyes.

Oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE) or PMD (para-menthane-3,8-diol) are essentially the same thing; PMD is the synthesized (lab created) version of oil of lemon eucalyptus. "Pure" or "essential" oil of lemon eucalyptus is not labeled as a repellent and has not undergone testing and should not be used as a repellent product. OLE/PMD has been on the market in the U.S. since 2002. OLE/PMD should not be used on children younger than 3 years of age. The natural product (OLE) has known allergens within it while the synthetic version (PMD) has less of a risk to allergens. This product is classified as a biopesticide. OLE/PMD has a varying range of residual, some offering about 20 minutes of protection while other products may last up to two hours.

Many factors play into how long a repellent will last for a person. **Some of these are:**

• The concentration (or percent of active ingredient) of the product. You can find the percentage on the product label.

- Person's attractiveness. Some people are more attractive to
- mosquitoes than others (and no scientific research has proven that it is because of eating garlic, taking vitamin B, using tobacco products, etc.). A person's genetic code plays a large part on what makes a person so attractive to mosquitoes.
- Frequency and uniformity of application. In other words, how often is the repellent applied and how good of coverage did you get?
- Activity level of the person. The more active the person is, the more sweat they produce which can cause the repellent to wash off the surface of the skin.

As a word of caution, there are products that combine sunscreen and insect repellent. The CDC recommends that if you need sunscreen and repellent, that you choose two separate products. Sunscreen should be applied more often than repellents.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

The information given herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service or the Texas A&M AgriLife Research is implied.

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service provides equal access in its programs, activities, education and employment, without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information,

veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity.

HUMANS **REAVERY** DEAL TO US Dell Children's is now offering Emergency Care at Seton Northwest Hospital. 5) ASCENSION dell children's

DellChildrens.net/EmergencyCare

Spina Bifida of Texas

6th Annual Event to Support



SUMMER YOUTH SPORTS Registration ends May 14

Attention Cyclists - Check out the 6th annual SB-250 2-day group fundraiser ride. The SB-250 is a 2 day fully supported group ride from McAllen to San Antonio to raise awareness and funds for Spina Bifida of Texas. Go to http://sb-250.org/ to learn more and register for the 6th annual event to support Spina Bifida of Texas!

Great Plants to Grow in May

May is here and now is a great time to start gardening. Yes, Gardening. It's the time of year where the soil outside it's finally starting to warm up. Lucky for us that's not really a big problem here in Austin. This is prime time for planting. Here is a list of vegetable seeds you can plant this May.

- Endive
- Chicory
- Beans
- Cauliflower
- Cabbages
- Sprouts
- Broccoli
- Cucumbers
- Herbs
- Lettuce
- Melons
- Sweet Corn
- Peas
- Summer Squash



This is a perfect time to get all of these yummy veggies in the ground so they can take root, sprout up and bring in a beautiful harvest to your table. Yum Yum Happy Gardening.



TAKE A PLUNGE IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE



Aquatics, Fitness, Child Care, Sports, Camp & so much more. Join a community dedicated to building strong families, character values and youth leadership.

Join today at AustinYMCA.org



NORTHWEST FAMILY YMCA 5807 McNeil Dr • 512.335.9622

RANCH REPORT May is Strawberry Pie Month!

I love strawberries! I really do and I was excited to find out that may is national strawberry pie month. Not only are strawberry's delicious but they help your body too. Strawberries are a superfood, they rich in antioxidants, Vitamin C which helps to boost your immune system, and potassium. Here is a quick and easy recipe to help you enjoy your strawberry pie. For more delicious recipes like this one visit. Bettycroker.com

Ingredients:

Crust

1 box Pillsbury refrigerated pie crusts, softened as directed on box.

Filling

3 pints (6 cups) fresh strawberries 1 cup sugar

3 tablespoons cornstarch

1/2 cup water

4 to 5 drops red food color, if desired

Topping

1 cup sweetened whipped cream

Directions:

- Heat oven to 450°F. Bake pie crust as directed on box for One-Crust Baked Shell, using 9-inch glass pie plate. Cool completely on cooling rack, about 15 minutes.
- 2. Meanwhile, in small bowl, crush enough strawberries to make 1 cup. In 2-quart saucepan, mix sugar and cornstarch; stir in crushed strawberries and water. Cook, stirring constantly, until mixture boils and thickens. If desired, stir in food color. Cool completely, about 30 minutes.
- 3. Place remaining strawberries, whole or sliced, in cooled baked shell. Pour cooked strawberry mixture evenly over berries. Refrigerate until set, about 3 hours, before serving.
- 4. Just before serving, top pie with sweetened whipped cream. Cover and refrigerate any remaining pie.







Copyright © 2017 Peel, Inc.

Ranch Report - May 2017 9

RANCH REPORT

The Ranch Report 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 Ranch Report 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.



Please remember to pick up after your pets and "scoop the poop"







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

AR

SCOTT FELDER HOMES

Abrantes Inventory



2004 Colina Cove | \$595,990

- The 'Watson' plan | 3,290 square feet
- One & a half story home featuring 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, a 1st floor Flex Room, a 2nd floor Bonus Room & an oversized 3.5 car garage
- Huge open Great Room family room, dining room, & kitchen all together
- Extended covered back porch with fireplace
- Master Bedroom with vaulted ceiling & bay window + Master Spa Bathroom package, featuring dual-opening walk-in shower and walk-in closet with built-in's
- Peaceful 90-ft wide lot no neighbor behind!
- Private & safe gated community
- Exclusive and intimate community only 90 lots in all!
- Estate-size home sites (around 1/3 2/3 acre)
- Numerous greenbelt and creek front home sites
- Community greenbelt, with walking trails along the peaceful Spanish Oak Creek
- Less than a mile from all 3 highly regarded schools Reagan Elementary, Henry Middle, & Vista Ridge High School (walk, bike, or drive)
- Within a short bike ride to the Brushy Creek Trail
 System
- Convenient to everything less than 2 miles from 1890 Ranch Shopping Center (shopping, restaurants, movie theatre, health club), Costco, and the 183A Toll Road



2016 Colina Cove | \$628,990

The 'Kennedy III' plan | 3,880 square feet

- Two story home featuring 5 bedrooms (including Master & guest bedrooms on 1st floor), 4 baths, game room, media room & an oversized 3-car garage
- Expanded kitchen, open to family room w/ corner fireplace
- Luxurious wood floors throughout most of the 1st floor
- Private covered back porch
- Large cul-de-sac lot (around .4 acre), with HUGE back yard!
- Backs to city greenbelt, filled with trees
- Private & safe gated community
- Exclusive and intimate community only 90 lots in all!
- Estate-size home sites (around 1/3 2/3 acre)
- Numerous greenbelt and creek front home sites
- Community greenbelt, with walking trails along the peaceful Spanish Oak Creek
- Less than a mile from all 3 highly regarded schools Reagan Elementary, Henry Middle, & Vista Ridge High School (walk, bike, or drive)
- Within a short bike ride to the Brushy Creek Trail System
- Convenient to everything less than 2 miles from 1890 Ranch Shopping Center (shopping, restaurants, movie theatre, health club), Costco, and the 183A Toll Road

Contact Dan Eagan

Abrantes | c: (512) 820-5087 | <u>deagan@SFHTX.com</u> Model: 713 Glacial Stream Lane, Cedar Park, TX, 78613

SCOTTFELDER HOMES.COM

MODELS OPEN: Mon-Sat 10-6 & Sun 12-6

mit venerani në pakateni i banë që nëvi i manang. Përo, donëna, ngafërina për përgë ve jakë e jakënë par shter par kritjet u gjimënti në ng 1 i Dë donën dha kritjet në milanë dhet të mana dhet që donën në ngarë të ndë në dhetëri në ndë nga kritjet në d