

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 5
MAY 2017

RANCH RECORD

Official Newsletter of The Steiner Ranch HOA



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happy
mother's day

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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

OFFICE HOURS

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

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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
Balcones Canyonlands Preserve
<https://www.traviscountytx.gov/tnr/bccp>

NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

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UPCOMING STEINER RANCH EVENTS

5/20 Shred Day

5/29 Run The Ranch

7/3 Decorate Your Ride

7/4 Independence Day Celebration

8/19 Concert In The Park

9/16 Fall Community Garage Sale

10/5 New Homeowner Social

10/6 Scrap A Thon

10/15 Pumpkin Patch

10/29 Trunk Or Treat

11/23 Steiner Ranch Turkey Trot

12/2 Holiday Shopping Event

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.

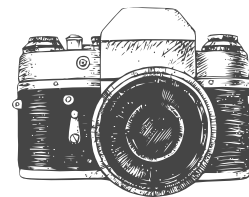
Events are tentative & subject to change or cancel at any time. Events are planned by the Steiner Ranch Events Planning Committee, and are for Steiner Ranch residents in good standing with the association, and their guests only. Final approval to participate in any Steiner Ranch program or event is dependent upon HOA approval. For more information, please contact Desirre Ghebremicael at: desirre@steinerranchhoa.org

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

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. The deadline is the 8th of the month prior to the issue.



COVER PHOTO

This month's cover photograph was taken by Steiner Ranch Camera Club member, and resident, Tim Babiak. The photo captures runners in last year's Run the Ranch event, sharing a morning of community. This year's Run the Ranch event, organized by Hill Country Special Needs Alliance, will take place on May 29th. See page 15 for details.

Have a photo you would like to see published in the next Ranch Record? Send pictures to 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**



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THE RANCH REPORT

What is the responsibility of a Home Owner's Association?



There have been isolated misleading and negative public communications regarding various HOA rules, practices and apparent steps taken, or not taken, by the Steiner Ranch Master Association (SRMA) Board and association. Unfortunately, what has

not been shared in these communications is that association staff and board members are required to manage and govern, as stated in the declaratory documents.

There are individual Development Areas Declarations (DADS) for each community in Steiner Ranch. These documents, while similar in terms, are different. However, all state the intention to create a residential community and carry out a uniform plan for the improvement and development of the property.

Steiner Ranch DADS state that all of the covenants, conditions and restrictions of each property shall be binding upon all parties and shall insure the benefit of each owner. Each declaration can only be amended or terminated by a vote of the homeowners in a specific neighborhood, voting to amend or terminate a provision/rule. For example, if homeowners in the Savannah neighborhood were to request signs of any sort be allowed in homeowner yards, the SRMA Board would have to vote to place a measure on a ballot to change the provision in the Savannah DADS. The board would then have to provide it to homeowners for a vote, in which 70% would have to agree in order for a change to take place. Board members cannot independently change provisions within declaratory documents and association management can not violate declaratory documents.

I urge homeowners to get involved with the association, which is governed by homeowners. Attend board meetings, join a committee – participate. Elected board members and homeowners will determine what happens to Steiner Ranch in the future. There is no longer the developer to fault.

SRMA & SRROA Board Election Results

Board elections for the Steiner Ranch Master Association (SRMA) and the Steiner Ranch Residential Association (SRROA) took place last month. Congratulations to the following candidates who were elected by homeowners to serve the Steiner Ranch community:

Newly Elected SRMA Board Members

Amy Colton – District 1 – Term expires April 2019
Craig Smyser – District 4 – Term expires April 2019
Rekha Garapati – District 5 – Term expires April 2019
Erika Fletcher – At Large – Term expires April 2019

SRMA Board Members with Continuing Terms

Naren Chilukuri – Term expires April 2018
David Doman – Term expires April 2018
Robby Roberts – Term expires April 2018

Newly Elected SRROA Board Members

Rob Carruthers – Term expires April 2019
Derrick Jones – Term expires April 2019
Justin Sloan – Term expires April 2019

SRROA Board Members with Continuing Terms

David McAfee – Term expires April 2018
Karl McArthur – Term expires April 2018

Board members met at the end of April for the first time post election to determine and vote on board position assignments. Those results were not available at time of press however that information will be posted on HOA website under the 'Boards & Committees' menu tab.

SRMA Approves Oak Wilt Policy

The Steiner Ranch Master Association (SRMA) recently passed an oak wilt policy which in part states the following:

Pruning: Oak tree pruning is prohibited February 1st through June 30th as this is the period of time in which trees are most at risk for infection. Pruning of trees may be performed when possible between July 1st and January 31st. Pruned trees and or wounds must be immediately protected with tree paint. Additionally, it is recommended that pruning tools and blades be sanitized prior to and in between any oak tree pruning as a precaution.

Firewood: Firewood originating from oak trees must be stored away from healthy trees to prevent the spread of the disease. It is recommended the firewood be covered and sealed by clear plastic to prevent disease bearing insects from escaping.

Enforcement: In the event of any dispute regarding the effect or application of this Policy, the interpretation of the Board of the Association will be final.

Fines: The Association may impose fines for violation of provisions of this Policy pursuant to the Association's Fine and Enforcement Policy.

To view the approved oak wilt policy in its entirety, visit the HOA website and click the 'Oak Wilt Policy' tab located under the 'FAQ' menu drop down.

SRMA Board Meeting Summary - March 2017

The monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the STEINER RANCH MASTER ASSOCIATION, INC., a Texas Nonprofit Corporation, was held on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 6:00 pm at the Towne Square Community Center.

Directors present: Bill Menzies, President, Naren Chilukuri, Vice President, Ron Levin, Secretary, Robby Roberts, Treasurer, Dave Doman, Aden Allen, Sarah Doolittle.

Staff present: Randy Schmaltz, Executive Director, Luke Spoons, Facilities Manager, Andrew Smullen, Contoller, Meredith Hamrick, Communication Coordinator.

This month's meeting was the final meeting of the 2016-2017 SRMA Board. All Directors were present and a number of issues affecting the community were discussed.

- Meredith Hamrick presented the newly-upgraded Steiner Ranch website, which includes easier access to documents and an overall improved look and feel. Members of the community are encouraged to visit the website and explore at www.SteinerRanchHOA.org. Residents needing a login & password to the residents-only portions of the site can click Request Login on the homepage.

- After further discussion and consideration, the board voted six-to-one to approve a \$20K contract with OLM to oversee our landscaping services bidding process, to begin this summer. The board anticipates that OLM can help the community to realize equivalent savings through their experienced bidding process. Furthermore, Executive Director Randy Schmaltz agreed to find \$20K in savings elsewhere in the budget.

- The board reviewed and approved a new Oak Wilt policy for Steiner Ranch, which is now in effect.

- The board was updated on the installation of the new pool heater at Bella Mar. Money had previously been set aside in anticipation of the need to replace the old heater. The process of bringing the new heater online was longer than expected due to required inspections by the county, but was fully operational and the water within its normal temperature range as of March 27.

- The board also approved new procedures by which the SRMA's data is stored and backed up on- and off-site as a precaution in the event of a system failure.

- At the end of the meeting, all the Directors expressed their pleasure at having had the opportunity to serve together on the first-ever resident-controlled board for the SRMA.

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Community Trail Signage Being Updated & Replaced

Perhaps you've noticed new trail signs as you've enjoyed Steiner's trail system recently. Thanks to the Trails Committee, made up of Steiner Ranch homeowner volunteers, outdated, damaged and old trail signage is being updated and replaced. There are two types of signage you'll see on Steiner Ranch trails:

1. Trail Head Signage, which are the large green signs with printed maps.

2. On-Trail Sign Posts, which are the brown posts with trail names.

Trails Committee Chair, Erik Enge, says most trail head signage needs to be replaced since the placards are faded, missing, and/or outdated and posts are in poor condition. New signs will have easy to read maps and will specify links to online resources where users can access information about the trail and exact trail layout. The committee is working with the association to develop new placard designs and is seeking a graphic designer willing to donate their time. If you're interested in this opportunity to serve the community,

contact Erik Enge at erik.enge@gmail.com or Luke Spoonts, HOA Facilities Manager, at luke@steinerranchhoa.org. The trail head signage replacement project will begin this year.

On-trail signage post replacement has begun. The committee has replaced all posts on the Outback and Serrulata trails, and will continue replacing trail posts over the course of the next year. Unfortunately, one recently replaced post has been uprooted and stolen, therefore the committee is experimenting with installation solutions to deter and limit vandalism. Replacing posts is a laborious job and involves digging deep holes in ground that is mostly rock. Should you ever witness vandalism on the trails, please contact the Travis County Sheriff's Department immediately.

The Trails Committee is always seeking volunteers and members to help. If you are interested in learning more about the committee, visit the Steiner Ranch HOA website and click the 'Boards & Committees' menu tab.

Thank you to the Trails Committee for all of your hard work!





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Trails Committee Seeking Trail Stewards

The purpose of the Trails Committee is to maintain and enhance neighborhood trail systems, signage, and trailheads. The committee is currently seeking Trail Stewards. If interested in volunteering, please contact Erik Enge, Trails Committee Chair, at erik.enge@gmail.com.

The Steiner Ranch trail system is made up of many smaller trails, each with their own specific start and finish and dedicated name. A Trail Steward is someone who volunteers to maintain one or more of these smaller trails.

The Trail Steward will:

- Hike/bike the trail at least once a month and update the Steiner Ranch Trail Status for that trail and you must timestamp an entry once a month.
- Handle regular maintenance tasks such as trimming back branches, removing saplings, picking up trash, etc. (for a well-maintained trail, estimate this to be 1 hour per month per mile of trail).
- Report on unauthorized use or illegal trails being cut.
- If a bigger project is required, bring to the attention of Trail Committee (eg bridge/armoring) so a work day can be organized with a larger number of volunteers.
- If monies are needed to be spent on the trail (such as lumber or other supplies), submit an estimate to the committee so we can request budget for it in the upcoming year (budget cycle starts in June)
- Trail Steward must commit for at least one year.

Making Exterior Changes? Don't Forget To Obtain Architectural Approval First

Thinking about modifying your deck, adding a pool, or changing the color of your exterior trim? Steiner Ranch governing documents require the submission of plans and specifications for review and approval by the Architectural Committee (AC) before construction or installation begins. Improvements requiring approval include, but are not limited to, playscapes, pools, decks, patios, ponds, new siding or trim colors, planter boxes, arbors, walkways and sheds. Before making exterior changes to your home, please submit a Modification Application, which can be found on the HOA website under the 'Architectural' tab.

Overnight Parking, Boats & Watercraft Storage Reminders

Per Steiner Ranch governing documents, no automobile or other vehicle may be parked overnight on any roadway within the community. Boats and watercraft must be stored in an enclosed space at all times. Storing watercraft in driveways or on the street is not allowed.

To report overnight street parking or watercraft violations, visit www.steinerranchhoa.org and click "report a problem".

Thank you for helping the association uphold Steiner Ranch rules which serve to protect and maintain the appearance and safety of the neighborhood.

Steiner Ranch Pool Rules

Swim season is upon us! Please remember the below pool rules when visiting the community pools. To ensure Steiner Ranch pools remain fun, safe and sanitary for all residents, keep the below rules in mind. Complete pool rules and regulations are posted on the HOA website, under Documents at www.steinerranchhoa.org.

1. Pools are for residents of the Steiner Ranch Master Association and the Steiner Ranch Residential Owners Associations and up to 4 guest per household without a reservation.

2. Non-potty trained Children are prohibited in the Bella Mar Lap Pool at any time.

3. The Association may deny access to the pools at any time due to occupancy limits, weather, pool conditions, or if maintenance is required.

4. At the discretion of the Association, and as approved by the Board of Directors of the SRROA and/or SRMA, certain periods of the normal open swim hours may be set aside for specialized activities.

5. Use of the pool facilities is at the resident and/or guest's own risk.

6. Lifeguards, when present, have full authority and are responsible for the interpretation and enforcement of all rules.

7. Only lifeguards are permitted on the lifeguard stand.

8. An adult must accompany children 12 years old and under at all times.

9. Proper swim wear is required.

10. No diving. Dive blocks are for use by Swim Teams and/or private lessons approved by the Association.

11. No Smoking.

12. No glass containers of any type are allowed in the pool facility.

13. No pets in pool area.

14. Residents are responsible for any damage they, their guests, or their children cause and for cleaning up any mess or trash created by them prior to leaving the pool facility.

15. Violation of these rules may result in suspension of pool privileges, fines or other charges, and/or legal action.

From the Association Office

HOA Website: Updated & Redesigned

The HOA website was recently redesigned and updated for a better homeowner experience. If you haven't visited the site in a while, take a look by visiting www.steinerranchhoa.org. The site's background photograph was taken by Steiner Ranch Camera Club organizer and member Jeffery Wagner. Many thanks to Jeffery and members of the Camera Club for contributing photos to the association.

The following HOA website elements have been improved: navigation, look and feel, access to many documents and features without required login, a new facilities reservation request form, improved accessibility to documents and forms, improved detail regarding neighborhood boards & committees, a dedicated section devoted to architectural modifications and necessary forms, new content, and more. Remember to update your login profile to sign up for various announcements, including weekly activities announcements, safety alerts, lost & found pets and more. To register go to www.steinerranchhoa.org. To sign up for alerts, click the 'Home' menu option, 'My Profile,' then 'My Subscriptions' to choose alerts you are interested in receiving.



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.

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Steiner Activities & Events



Hippity Hoppity Fun On The Ranch!

*Photos By Emily
Michelle Photography*

Organized by HOA Lifestyle Coordinator Desirre Ghebremicael and the Events Planning Committee, this year's Easter Egg Hunt & Event was chock-full of Easter treats and fun! Steiner Ranch families gathered at John Simpson park on Saturday, March 15th so that their little ones could hunt for Easter Eggs, visit the petting zoo, take a pony ride, partake in face painting, and enjoy the morning with friends and neighbors. Much thanks to all who volunteered, including student "egg wranglers" who hid over 14,000 stuffed eggs!



Thank you to the following businesses for sponsoring the 2017 Steiner Ranch Easter Egg Hunt & Event!

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Happy Mother's Day

Steiner Ranch Moms!



MOM

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Start Memorial Day at Run The Ranch!

**MAY 29TH STARTING AT 8:30AM AT TOWNE SQUARE
EARLY REGISTRATION ENDS MAY 7TH**

Runners and walkers of all ages are invited to join the 2017 Run the Ranch 5K & Kids Fun Run. Start your Memorial Day with a fun-filled morning of racing, kids' entertainment & vendors at the Steiner Ranch Towne Square Community Center. This year's event is presented by Hill Country Special Needs Alliance, a local nonprofit committed to helping families and caregivers in the Four Points Area of Austin offset the unique financial challenges affecting those with special needs. Inflatables will be provided by the Steiner Ranch HOA, and a light breakfast will be served as well! Come out for a morning of fun and fitness! Visit runtheranch.org for more information and to register!

GET READY TO SHRED!

The annual Steiner Ranch Shred Day event is scheduled for Saturday, May 20th and will take place in the John Simpson parking lot from 10am – 12pm. The Steiner Ranch HOA offers this free opportunity to safely dispose of old personal documents to Steiner Ranch residents.



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Steiner Activities & Events

MAKE PLANS FOR SUMMER!

SUMMER PROGRAM GUIDE AVAILABLE



The association's Summer Program Guide puts all HOA activity and program offerings in one place. Activities are available for adults and children! Stop by the HOA office for a hard copy or visit the HOA website to view online: www.steinerranchhoa.org. Featured programs and camps include:

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

- Idea Lab • Kidventure • Lonestar Soccer • Little Medical School
- Little Veterinarian School • Mad Science • Neighborhood Sports
- Soccer • Swimming • Sportball • Tennis

ADULT PROGRAMS

- Akido • Camp Gladiator • Tai Chi • Tennis
- Master's Swimming • Water Aerobics • Yoga

Free Summer Concert Series Coming to Steiner Ranch This Summer

Front Door Concerts is a team of Austin's most popular children's entertainers, with a mission to connect the city's vibrant music scene with surrounding communities. They bring family-friendly performances directly to neighborhoods and they will be offering a summer concert series to Steiner Ranch residents this summer!

Developed by legendary Austin children's musician Joe McDermott, and community music event promoter Kat Brotherton, Front Door Concerts' main goal is to eliminate the "Three P's:" Packing, Parking, and Panicking by bringing music to you! Stay tuned for dates by following us on Facebook (search Steiner Ranch HOA Events) or by visiting the HOA website. Welcome summer!



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2717 Steiner Ranch Concert in the Park
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Flagship Sponsor: The Steiner Ranch HOA

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For more information, contact Desirre Ghebremicael at desirre@steinerranchhoa.org

MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 9:30am – Writer's Group (Cups & Cones) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	2 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 7:00pm – Free Workshop: How To Protest Property Taxes (TSCC) 8:30pm – Aikido (BMCC)	3 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	4 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	5 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	6 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
7 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	8 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	9 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 9:00am – Event Planning CMTE Mtg (Cups & Cones) 5:30pm – UT Golf CMTE Mtg (UT Golf Club) 7:00pm – SRNA Mtg (TSCC) 8:30pm – Aikido (BMCC)	10 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC) 1:30pm – Writer's Group (Cups & Cones) 6:00pm – Fairways Board Mtg (TSCC)	11 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:00pm – Long Range Planning CMTE Mtg (BMCC)	12 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	13 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
 14 Mother's Day 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	15 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 9:30am – Writer's Group (Cups & Cones) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	16 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 8:30pm – Aikido (BMCC)	17 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Trails CMTE Mtg. (TSCC)	18 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	19 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	20 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones) Shred Day (JS Park) See page 19 for details
21 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	22 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	23 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 8:30pm – Aikido (BMCC) 7:00pm – Health Workshop (TSCC)	24 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 1:30pm – Writer's Group (Cups & Cones)	25 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:00pm – SRROA Board Mtg (TSCC)	26 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	27 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
 28 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	29 Memorial Day 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 8:30am – 11:00am Run The Ranch (Town Square) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	30 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:00pm – SRMA Board Mtg (TSCC) 8:30pm – Aikido (BMCC)	31 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)			

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JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	2 LISD - Last Day Of School 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	3 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
4 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	5 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	6 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 8:30pm – Aikido (BMCC)	7 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC)	8 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:00pm – Long Range Planning CMTE Mtg (BMCC)	9 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	10 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
11  7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	12 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	13 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 9:00am – Event Planning CMTE Mtg (Cups & Cones) 5:30pm – UT Golf CMTE Mtg (UT Golf Club) 7:00pm – SRNA Mtg (TSCC) 8:30pm – Aikido (BMCC)	14 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:00pm – Fairways Board Mtg (TSCC)	15 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	16 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	17 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
18 Father's Day 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	19 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	20 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 8:30pm – Aikido (BMCC)	21 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Trails CMTE Mtg. (TSCC)	22 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	23 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	24 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
25  7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)	26 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	27 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:00pm – SRMA Board Mtg (TSCC) 8:30pm – Aikido (BMCC)	28 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC)	29 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:00pm – SRROA Board Mtg (TSCC)	30 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC)	

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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 7:30am

Tai Chi

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

Writers Group

Meets most weeks at Cups & Cones, times vary. See calendar for schedule

Yoga

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

*Offered activities are for adults only



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Steiner Activities & Events



Upcoming Workshops

The following workshops are available to Steiner Ranch residents at no cost:

May 2nd - How to Protest Your Property Tax Appraisal by Craig Smyser. If you think your 2017 property tax appraisal is too high, this is the workshop for you. Presenter will discuss the protesting process, deadline, and expectations for success. All attendees will receive sales information for their specific neighborhood that can be used to assist with the protest. 7:00pm Towne Square Community Center. RSVP helpful, but not required. 512-650-7300 or Craig@RealEstateInAustin.com.

May 23rd – A discussion on “The Optimal Diet” presented by Dr. Benjamin Rosin at 7:00pm, Towne Square Community Center. Is the “Optimal Diet” for you? Take advantage of this free workshop to learn more.

Steiner Ranch Writer's Group

Please bring your laptop or notebook to CUPS & CONES for any one or all upcoming sessions:

Monday, May 1

9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 10

1:30 p.m.

Monday, May 15

9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 24

1:30 p.m.

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Gold Stars Developmental Swim Team will take place a John Simpson Pool July 12th - August 4th, 2017. This is a non-competitive swim team for swimmers ages 5 to 12. We focus on the development of swimming skills in freestyle and backstroke. At the end of the 4-week session, swimmers will be able to measure their improvement at an mock trial swim meet.

Prior swim experience is necessary to enroll - Kids will need to be able to tread water for 10 seconds on their own and put their faces under water for 3 seconds.

Swimmers will need a competitive style swim suit (one piece for girls and jammers for boys). Goggles that fit as well as properly fitting rubber fins (non-ankle strap fins).

Dates:

July 12th-August 4th

When:

T/W/Th 8:00-9:00 am 5-6 year olds

T/W/Th 9:00-10:00 am 7-8 year olds

T/W/Th 10:00-11:00 am 9-12 year olds

Information and registration Forms can be found at: <https://www.goldstarsswimming.com/developmental-swim>.

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 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!

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 7:30 AM. 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. There is no designated sweeper for these rides. 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).

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 7:30 AM 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.

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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.

Steiner Activities & Events

Water Aerobics Classes At Towne Square Pool

Want to exercise, but can't get motivated? Perhaps the pavement plays havoc on your knees, legs or hips. Or maybe you just don't want to exercise by yourself. Try water aerobics! Classes go through September at the Towne Square Pool.

WHEN: Monday/Wednesday, 6:45 pm

Tuesday/Thursday, 9:00 am

COST: 8 classes per month: \$48 or 16 classes per month: \$96

REGISTRATION: Call Ann @ 512-266-4780 or email askennedy@austin.rr.com. Sign up will take place prior to the first class of every month.

Classes are 50 minutes long, will incorporate a full body workout in the water and are led by a certified water aerobics instructor. Some of the benefits of water aerobics fitness are:

- *strengthens & improves muscle tone
- *enhances muscular flexibility
- *increases range of motion
- *improves posture & physical appearance
- *relieves tension & stress
- *increases energy levels & stamina
- *burns calories
- *strengthens the cardiorespiratory system

Join us for lots of fun and great workouts to music. It's an opportunity to meet your neighbors and make new friends, while getting/staying in shape. Adult men and women welcome. This program is available to Steiner Ranch residents only.



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*See Website for details.

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- **Relieve Stress on the body and mind**
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Questions : contact 512-470-6978
or rosaliachiu@gmail.com

YOUNG @ HEART

youngatheartaustin@gmail.com

Young at Heart is an active social group open to Steiner Ranch residents ages 50+. We are purely a social organization wanting to share fun times. Joining us is a great way to make new friends, and get to know people your own age in the neighborhood. If you live in Steiner Ranch, you are invited to join us. To become a member, send your name(s), address, phone number and e-mail address to youngatheartaustin@gmail.com.

Our most popular activities include evening Canasta as well as ladies Canasta at the UT Golf Club. In addition, we offer numerous activities to meet varied interests such as: Book Club, Euchre, Mah Jongg, Mexican Train, Bunco, Walking, Hiking, Biking, Spanish Conversation, Painting, Card Making, Ladies CLEO Luncheons (Classy Ladies Eating Out), and our popular ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out). We also get together for happy hours, wine socials and dinner groups. We would love to have you join us!



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Tip of the Month

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Agave Plant's

FASCINATING FAREWELL

There is a spectacular agave plant with a tall stalk-like bloom at the intersection of Quinlan Park Road and Steiner Ranch Boulevard. Hopefully you've had the opportunity to watch it flower. What is fascinating about this extraordinarily tough succulent, is that it will bloom just once during its lifetime and will die immediately after the bloom is spent in order to reproduce by seed and offshoots. The average lifespan is variable with some species flowering at 10 years and others not until they've matured to 20 to 30 years. So, enjoy this flowering agave, which has taken many years and all of its energy to produce one sole bloom for the sake of reproduction. The bloom truly does represent the flower's last hurrah and final farewell.

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**Blooming agave at the intersection of Quinlan Park
Road & Steiner Ranch Boulevard**

Mandatory Water Restrictions Begin May 1st

Submitted by WCID 17

Lake Travis looks full. Doesn't that mean we have plenty of water and don't need to conserve?

The answer is no, because all of that water doesn't belong to us. What many people don't realize is that essentially all of the water we see in lakes is already appropriated to river authorities, municipalities, and farm irrigation. The state appropriates water to applicants through a system of water rights. The applicants are responsible for making productive use of the water; otherwise the state can reappropriate the water to other users through a process called adjudication. While all water carried in rivers and lakes is appropriated, all appropriated water is not sold. The Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) which holds the rights to much of the water stored in Lake Travis may also sell it to entities in the Brazos, Guadalupe and San Antonio River basins.

The water in Lake Travis is believed by many to be over appropriated. In a year of average rainfall, all water carried by rivers is fully committed for use. It is the storage volume of reservoirs that permits us to have water in years with less than average rainfall. When the state experiences another prolonged drought such as the one that just ended, there will not be enough water available to support all current uses.

In following the districts conservation policy mandated by the state,



annual mandatory watering restrictions will begin May 1 – September 31 for all District 17 residents while commercial and multi-housing customers are mandated annually. Thank you for helping conserve water for today and tomorrow! Visit www.wcid17.org to review the Stage 1 Outdoor Watering Schedule and for further conservation tips.

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A Beginners Guide To Mountain Biking Steiner Ranch

Interested in mountain biking in Steiner Ranch but not sure which trails are suitable for beginners? Erik Enge, Steiner Ranch resident and founder of the Steiner Ranch Interscholastic Mountain Bike team, has created a guide that helps give residents direction on what they need to know in order to get out and enjoy our beautiful trail system. To view the guide visit the Steiner Ranch HOA website and click the 'Activities & Groups' menu tab, then 'Neighborhood Organizations' or go to <https://goo.gl/k6uscy>.



CCOA-STEINER RANCH
4308 N. Quinlan Park Rd.
Suite 100
Austin, TX 78732
512.266.6130

CCOA NORTHWEST AUSTIN
6507 Jester Boulevard
Building 2
Austin, TX 78750
512.795.8300

CCOA-WESTLAKE
8100 Bee Caves Rd
Austin, TX 78746
512.329.6633

News You Can Use

Come Dance With The VHS Legacies This June!



Once again, the award-winning Vandegrift Legacies Dance Team will be holding their annual summer camp for 1st-6th graders, and their “fine-tuned” summer dance workshop for incoming 7th-9th graders. Both the camp and workshop run June 5- 8, with 1/2 day options available for 1st-3rd graders. (Full day times are 8- 5 pm, dancers bring a sack lunch.) The final day, June 8th, concludes at 12:00 pm with a “Show-Off Dance Show” for families.

The younger campers will enjoy daily snacks, crafts and dance instruction by the Legacies Dance Team. No dance experience is required. Your registration also includes a camp t-shirt and photo (in official Legacy field apparel).

The workshop, for older dancers, will offer breakout classes in a variety of styles, including hip hop, jazz, contemporary and drill team, for example. A t-shirt, daily snacks and crafts, as well as Legacy Lessons (think performance make-up tips and behind the scenes tours of the high school) are included.

For more information on both events and to register, please visit vhslegacies.org. The Legacies invite you to come dance this June!

LWBE Spring Carnival

Thank You!

The LWBE PTA and Spring Carnival Committee would like to extend a very heartfelt thank you to our wonderful community and event sponsors. Because of your support, the 2017 Spring Carnival was an earth-shattering success!

Please help us thank our sponsors by supporting them in return!

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How to Raise a Confident Child

Submitted by Neena Hamamcy, MA, LPC, LMFT

A child's self-worth is the gateway to social success and sound mental health. Developing healthy self-esteem is the building blocks of child development and affects us at every age of our lives, determining how we act, not just in childhood, but also as adults. Having low self-esteem drives behavior problems, troubles in relationships and school performance, to name a few. As parents, we are greatly influential in how our children perceive themselves, thus ensuring that we raise our children to grow to have confidence and positive self-worth is essential for their success as adults. Here are some ways to help improve your child's self-esteem:

Help Your Child Express and Embrace their Feelings

When your child looks in the mirror and sees themselves, you want to make sure that they like who they see. One way to ensure this is to cultivate a relationship where you encourage your children to express their feelings openly. When you take the time to listen and accept their feelings, you are sending a message that they matter and how they feel is important. A child's feelings are part of who they are as individuals, thus embracing their feelings is in effect embracing them. When a parent listens and validates their child's feelings, it makes a child feel valued and worthy. If a parent repeatedly responds to their child's feelings with hurt, anger, shame or judgment, the child receives a message from a parent that their feelings are wrong and that their parents are not emotionally available. This can lead a child to shut off their emotions, which in turn can lead to behavior problems down the road. The way a child feels about themselves reflects in their behaviors. By listening and accepting your child's emotions, your child will feel loved, valued and reassured that you are capable of meeting their needs emotionally.

Teach Ownership

It is important to distinguish between a child's feelings and their actions. You want ensure that your child feels loved, but you also want to hold your child accountable for undesirable actions. Setting clear expectations and having consequences is essential for teaching accountability and promoting self-esteem. Helping your child take ownership for their actions helps them learn that their actions have consequences and that they can control the outcome based on their choices. "If I make good choices, then good things follow, if I make bad choices, then bad things follow." Just as kids learn to be accountable for their mistakes, they also learn to own their achievements and success. Without this accountability, children miss the opportunity to experience the joy and satisfaction that comes from mastering their efforts. It is important to allow children to learn from their missteps and develop the resiliency to deal with their failures and the difficult feelings that accompany. We have morphed into a society that struggles with negative emotions and what we often see are parents trying to protect their children from

unpleasant feelings. Where everyone is a winner and there are no losers; where in an effort to preserve self-esteem, we try to protect our children from feeling bad about themselves. This approach actually produces the opposite outcome; it creates children that are spoiled, entitled and view themselves as victims. A parent who intervenes and tries to protect their children from difficult feelings and situations, inadvertently interferes in learning lessons that build self-esteem and resiliency that set the path for success in adulthood. Parenting with accountability allows children to own their failures as well as their achievements and empowers kids to see they have control over the outcome of their lives.

Create Experiences to Help Your Child Feel Successful

Help your child find their strengths and acquire skills, whether it be academically, socially or in extracurricular activities. One way children measure their self-worth is by how others perceive them, and in our society that is full of measuring and comparing, children can be vulnerable to heightened criticism and comparison. Emphasize to your child that you accept and love them regardless of their performance. Create opportunities for them at home and outside the home, where they can accomplish goals and feel the satisfaction of completing a task. Experiences of success create confidence and foster self-esteem. Experiences that can foster self-esteem include having chores and responsibilities at home, participating in athletics, or other areas of social or extracurricular interest. Encouraging their independence and helping your children be responsible will encourage positive self-worth.

Try to Understand and Heal your own Self-Worth Issues

Parenting can be emotionally intoxicating as well as draining. Becoming a parent tends to bring out the best and worst of ourselves. As we navigate through such an intensely emotional relationship with our children, we are often confronted with our own insecurities and fears. Becoming a parent has a way of bringing to the surface our own unresolved emotional issues stemming from our relationships with our own family or origin. Our children's self-worth is not genetic, but rather learned and especially in early childhood, is a reflection of the parent's sense of self, particularly the mother. A parent's unhappiness is passed down to a child, and children view your unhappiness as unhappiness with them. It is important to address your own insecurities and fears because no matter how many parenting books you read, if you don't address your own self-worth issues, you are bound to pass them to your kids. Looking at your own wounds from your early childhood and trying to understand the positive and negative ways your parents influenced your self-esteem can help you identify ways to break the cycle in your own relationships with your children and help promote your own self-worth as well as your children's.

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