

West Lake Hills ECHO

Volume 6, Issue 5

May 2017

Attention Parents of Graduating Seniors!

We would like to recognize our graduating seniors by including a small picture and a few lines about where your child will be attending college.

Please send your information to articles@peelinc.com (include the newsletter you would like to recognize them in, photo, name, etc).



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Barton Creek Elementary.....	512-732-9100

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Austin Energy	512-322-9100
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Custom Service.....	1-800-700-2443
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Customer Service.....	512-485-5555
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Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste	512-974-4343

OTHER NUMBERS

City Administration	512-327-3628
Municipal Court	512-327-1863
Property Tax.....	512-854-9473
Appraisal District	512-834-9317
Chamber of Commerce.....	512-306-0023
City of West Lake Hills	www.westlakehills.org

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ARTICLE INFO

The West Lake Hills Echo is mailed monthly to all West Lake Hills residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to include 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 the West Lake Hills Echo please email it to westlakehills@peelinc.com. The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the issue.

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Dell Children's child safety seat program expanding to rural communities

TXDOT GRANT FOR 'KIDS IN CARS' PROGRAM HELPS REACH BEYOND AUSTIN

The Pediatric Level I Trauma Center at Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas is expanding its child safety seat inspection program beyond Travis County.

Thanks to a \$320,000 grant from the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) monthly child safety seat inspections will now be available to families in Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Hays and Williamson counties. The grant funds the Kids in Cars program, a partnership between TXDOT and Dell Children's, which is part of Ascension, the largest nonprofit health system in the U.S. and the world's largest Catholic health system.

"It's rewarding to be able to help families get their car seats inspected and make sure they're using them correctly," said Stewart Williams, manager of the injury prevention program at Dell Children's.

Williams says expanding the program is one way Dell Children's working to provide convenient, person-centered care at the right place and the right time.

"There's a huge need for families in rural areas to get this type of instruction and we look forward to helping," Williams said.

Child safety seat inspection stations are set locations where

families can get help from certified child passenger safety technicians and learn how to use their car seat safely. Technicians can assist families with:

- Installing car seats and booster seats
- Answering any related questions caregivers may have
- Ensuring children are riding as safely as possible in the family's vehicle
- Receiving safety seats for families who qualify for assistance based on need

Kids in Cars partners with community organizations to host ongoing inspection stations. The following locations were recently added:

- Elgin Fire Department
- Lockhart Police Department
- First United Methodist Church of Johnson City
- Kyle Fire Department
- Georgetown Fire Department

Walk-in times vary, therefore appointments are strongly recommended. To schedule a child safety seat inspection, call (512) 324-TOTS.



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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,N-dimethylbenzamide, 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). Picaridin 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

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Andrew's Choice

What is the #1 Cause of death for teens?

You would think that your kid would be safe during the school day but on May 2, 2014 that was not the case for my son Andrew Quinn Newton. On that day Andrew was all dressed up in a suit and was excited about Dedication Day at Austin High School. Andrew left school during the day with his best friend and his friend's friend. They were going to go pick up a paper that Andrew had left at his grandparent's house in Barton Hills and then go get some lunch. When they got into the neighborhood the driver started speeding (reports say between 80 – 100 mph). She lost control, hit a tree, and the car split in half. The driver was ejected and died at the scene and Andrew died on the way to the hospital. The third passenger Andrew's best friend survived.

What went wrong that day?

- Andrew got into the car with someone he did not know well.
- A 17 year old had 2 passengers in the car that were under the age of 21 and non-family members.
- The driver was a junior and AISD policy states only seniors can leave campus. Austin High had no monitoring in place on who was coming and going from campus.

How can we make these wrongs right?

- Make sure parents talk to their teen and tell them to know and trust the driver or stay out of the car. Can you trust the driver enough to slow down if you ask them to slow down? (My intention is not to be hurtful to the driver. We have all made mistakes.)
- Teens need to follow the laws: teens under 18 can only have 1 passenger that is a non-family member in the car with them that is under 21. Schools and police need to monitor this at lunch time. The more passengers in a teen's car, the greater the chance of distracted driving and a deadly accident.
- AISD needs to close campuses at lunch or have a working plan in place that ensures only seniors are leaving campus. When I went to Austin High to look for my son on May 2nd the office had no idea the location of Andrew.

The number one cause of death for teens is distracted driving. The chance of a distracted driving wreck/death goes up when there are multiple teens in a car. Andrew had a bright future and kind heart. In the end the main wrong for me can't be made right but it is my wish to educate parents, teens, teachers and administrators on best practices to keep this from happening to others.

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<https://www.facebook.com/andrewschoice>

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