

# LONG CANYON *Gazette*

JUNE 2017

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE LONG CANYON

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 6



## Curb Side Library

Long Canyon families with children will be able to take advantage of a Curb Side Library this summer at 9408 Bell Mountain Drive, the residence of Stewart and Brandy Finnessey. The Finnessey's encourage everyone to stop by and participate, grab a book, add a book and enjoy. The initial round of books will be targeted at 3 years of age to pre-teen. The rules are simple. If you take a book, leave a book. With this exchange, the curb side library's inventory is likely to continuously change.

Last year about this time the Finnessey's along with their two boys moved into Long Canyon. Stewart, a 20 year veteran with the Austin Fire Department and Brandy a Real Estate Broker with Kuper Sotheby's International Real Estate are proud to call Long Canyon home. Wanting to become more involved in their new neighborhood and the onset to summer quickly approaching, the Finnessey's look forward to providing an activity for the kids of Long Canyon including their own.

The Finnessey children Ethan age 9 and Benjamin age 4, have discovered a love for reading and "want to share this passion with other children or friends in the community".

"If we are working in the yard when you stop by to check out a book from the library, don't be afraid to say hi and/or stay awhile" said Brandy Finnessey.

## INTRODUCING "GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS"

We are all very fortunate to call Long Canyon home. But, Long Canyon is more than just a place to live; it is a vibrant community brimming with family-friendly neighborhoods, chock-full of fascinating, talented people. Our variety is what makes us so both unique and extraordinary. However, sometimes, we get so busy, we lose sight of how interesting and diverse we've become.

We believe that getting to know the people who live nearby will

help us create a sense of belonging and shared identity. We have created a column entitled, "Get to Know Your Neighbors" which we hope will strengthen connections, build trust in our wider community, and contribute to a happier neighborhood for everyone.

If you know of a person or a family that you believe is making Long Canyon a better place to live, please let us know. We would like to introduce them to your neighbors.



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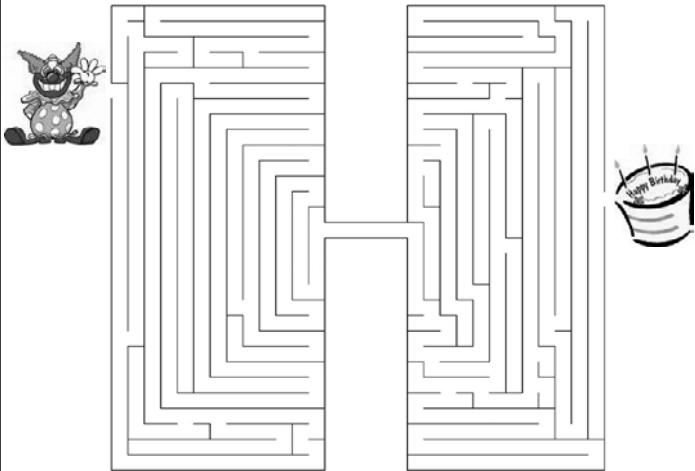
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## Kidz Maze Mania

Help the clown find the birthday cake that is on the other side of the maze. Hurry! He needs to find the cake before the party starts.



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*Brad Borman will be attending the University of Alabama in the Business Honors Program. Brad will be studying marketing and sales management. A BIG thank you to the Vandegrift teachers! Roll Tide!!*

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# NATURE WATCH

## VINE TIME

by Jim and Lynne Weber

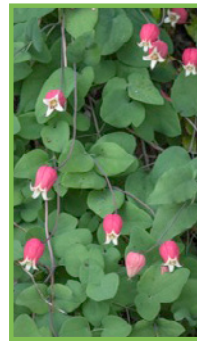
Native vines for landscaping are not only drought-resistant and ornamental, but they can also provide food and shelter for wildlife. In our area, these vines include certain species of passionvine, clematis, and honeysuckle.



*Yellow Passionvine*

One of the most common native passionvines is Maypop or Purple Passion Flower (*Passiflora incarnata*), a herbaceous vine up to 25 feet long that climbs via tendrils, has three-lobed dark green leaves, and intricate, showy purple flowers that turn into hollow yellow fruits. Corona de Cristo (*Passiflora foetida*) is a fast-growing, climbing or creeping vine with three to five lobed leaves that give off a pungent odor when crushed, and complex white to pale pink or purple-tinged

flowers that give way to reddish fruits surrounded by thorn-like bracts. A more delicate species is Yellow Passionvine (*Passiflora lutea*), a trailing vine with more modest three-lobed leaves and small but elaborate yellow-green flowers that turn into dark blue berries. All of these passionvines are host plants for the caterpillars of Gulf Fritillary, Variegated Fritillary, Julia Heliconian, and Zebra Heliconian butterflies.



*Scarlet Clematis*

While there are many cultivated varieties of clematis available, the native ones include Scarlet Clematis (*Clematis texensis*) and Purple Leatherflower (*Clematis pitcheri*). A slightly woody vine growing to about 9 feet, Scarlet Clematis has thick, leather-like, red, bell-shaped flowers followed by a feathery ball of plumed seeds. It is very drought tolerant and is native only to the southeastern Edwards Plateau region. Purple Leatherflower is a climbing vine growing to

*(Continued on Page 5)*

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(Continued from Page 4)

10 feet, with opposite leaves divided into 3 to 5 pairs of leaflets, and nodding, urn-shaped, long-lasting purple flowers. Both of these native clematis species offer cover and food for seed-eating birds and small mammals.



*White Bush Honeysuckle*

Honeysuckle is another widely cultivated plant with numerous

garden varieties, but two native species that thrive in our area include Coral Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*) and White Bush Honeysuckle (*Lonicera albiflora*). With its trumpet-like red-orange blooms, twining habit, and paired green leaves, Coral Honeysuckle is a high-climbing vine, and is the host plant for caterpillars of the Spring Azure butterfly and Snowberry Clearwing moth. White Bush Honeysuckle is a trailing vine, with rounded to oval olive-green leaves and white to yellowish-white flowers, that prefers hot, rocky places like our limestone outcrops and cliffs. Both of these honeysuckle species provide nectar for hummingbirds, bees, butterflies, and other beneficial insects.

With such wonderful choices, isn't it time you add these native vines to your wildscape? They provide exceptional beauty for humans, act as adornments for your garden structures, and provide important sources of food and shelter for many different types of native wildlife!

Send your nature-related questions to: [naturewatch@austin.rr.com](mailto:naturewatch@austin.rr.com) and we'll do our best to answer them. If you enjoy reading these articles, check out our two books, *Nature Watch Austin* & *Nature Watch Big Bend*, both published by Texas A&M University Press, and our blog at: [naturewatchaustin.blogspot.com](http://naturewatchaustin.blogspot.com).

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## NEWSLETTER INFO

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## Sign up now for Peace Lutheran Church's Vacation Bible School,

June 12-16

You are invited to VBS at Peace Lutheran for Reformation 500, celebrating 500 years since the start of the Reformation. The Reformation is not just a "Lutheran thing" but it was the start of Protestantism and influential historical event for our society. This year, children participating in Vacation Bible school will experience Germany during the start of the Reformation. There will be costumes, music, crafts, activities, lessons snacks and of course, lots of fun. We hope to see you!

When: June 12 -16, 9:00 AM - Noon

Where: Peace Lutheran Church, 10625 RR 620

Ages: 4 - 12 Cost: \$35

For registration and more information:

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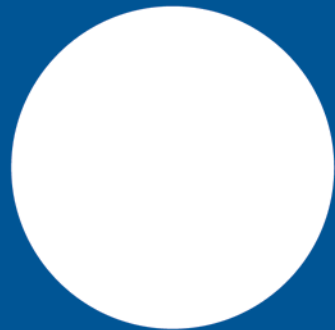
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