



# The VOICE

A Newsletter for the  
Residents of Teravista

Volume 7, Issue 6

June 2017

## KEEP YOUR PET ANXIETY FREE THIS JULY 4TH

*By Dr. Stacy Mozisek, Firehouse Animal Health Center*

The 4th of July is a day to celebrate with barbecues, baseball games and, of course, fireworks. It's also one of the busiest days of the year for veterinarians and animal shelters because of fireworks.

Loud noises can trigger dogs' nervous systems causing a flight

response, which is why lots of dogs run away on the 4th of July. Also, because dogs have sensitive hearing, loud bangs and pops can cause stress and anxiety attacks, which can lead to destructive actions in otherwise well-behaved dogs.

To help alleviate the stress of fireworks on dogs, here are eight tips to keep your pets safe while celebrating Independence Day.

- Prepare ahead of time. If you think your pet will have an issue, don't wait until the last minute to call your vet to discuss anxiety medications or sedatives. Starting a new medication on the same day as an event is never a safe idea because occasionally, some medications can cause the reverse effect or have no effect at all for some animals. In addition, stocks of these specialized medications can run low or be on backorder around holidays.

- Do not keep your dog outside, and if possible, keep your dog in a kennel. It creates a safe space for them as dogs have been known to jump through windows and glass doors as a response to fireworks.

*(Continued on Page 3)*



## Introducing "Get To Know Your Neighbors"

We are all very fortunate to call Teravista home. But, Teravista 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 Teravista a better place to live, please let us know. We would like to introduce them to your neighbors.

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| EMERGENCY .....  | 911          |
| Fire.....  | 911          |
| Ambulance.....   | 911          |
| Williamson Co. Sheriff's Dept.....                     | 512-864-8282 |
| .....Select option 1 twice to get directly to dispatch |              |
| Round Rock Police (Non Emergency) .....                | 512-218-5515 |
| Georgetown Police (Non Emergency).....                 | 512-390-3510 |
| Travis County Animal Control .....                     | 512-972-6060 |
| Round Rock Animal Control .....                        | 512-218-5500 |
| Georgetown Animal Control.....                         | 512-930-3592 |

### SCHOOLS

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Round Rock ISD .....             | 512-464-5000 |
| Teravista Elementary School..... | 512-704-0500 |
| Hopewell Middle School.....      | 512-464-5200 |
| Stony Point High School.....     | 512-428-7000 |
| Georgetown ISD .....             | 512-943-5000 |
| Carver Elementary School.....    | 512-943-5070 |
| Pickett Elementary School.....   | 512-943-5050 |
| Tippit Middle School .....       | 512-943-5040 |
| Georgetown High School.....      | 512-943-5100 |

### UTILITIES

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| Repairs.....          | 512-485-5080   |

### OTHER NUMBERS

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| City of Round Rock.....               | 512-218-5400 |
| Round Rock Community Library .....    | 512-218-7000 |
| Round Rock Parks and Recreation ..... | 512-218-5540 |
| City of Georgetown.....               | 512-930-3652 |
| Georgetown Public Library .....       | 512-930-3551 |
| Georgetown Municipal Airport .....    | 512-930-3666 |
| Georgetown Parks and Recreation ..... | 512-930-3595 |
| Teravista Golf and Ranch House .....  | 512-651-9850 |
| Teravista Residents Club .....        | 512-310-7421 |

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## Round Rock New Neighbors

Round Rock New Neighbors is a non-profit social club for women with over 180 members from Round Rock and surrounding communities. Since 1978, RRNN has been active in providing women the opportunities to come together and meet new friends and neighbors. The name may fool you, but you do not have to be new to the area to join the fun. We have new members who have lived in Round Rock for many years. All women are welcome!

Our general meetings are held on the second Wednesdays of each month September through May. We meet at the Williamson Conference Center located behind the Wingate Hotel on the frontage road of I-35, north of Hwy 79, starting at 10:30. Come join us for a great catered lunch and program. Reservations must be made by the Friday before the meeting. Cost is \$17.00 payable at the door for first time visitors.

For more information, please call Jan Percy 512-810-3214

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(Continued from Cover)

- Consider boarding your pet if you will be out at a party. Sometimes being at home alone with the loud noises can turn a well-behaved dog into a destructive one or cause long-term behavioral issues.
- Turn on a white noise machine or the television to drown out the sound of fireworks and noisemakers.
- Purchase a ThunderShirt, which are designed to “swaddle” your dog, making them feel more secure.
- If you’re having a party, make sure your pet is well-secured, not afraid of the fireworks, and comfortable with the sounds of crowds. If your pet suffers from anxiety due to loud noises, consider boarding or ask a friend to pet sit.
- If pets are present while you’re setting off fireworks, make sure they stay a safe distance away. Dogs’ and cats’ hearing is extremely sensitive and can be damaged by the loud bangs. Also, dogs have been known to “fetch” lit fireworks which can cause serious burns and even death.
- Make sure your pet’s microchip or collar tags are up-to-date so it’s easy to track you down if he or she runs away scared during a fireworks display.

Fireworks don’t have to be a source of anxiety for pet owners. By following these simple tips, you can ensure that both you and your fur-babies will experience a fun and relaxing 4th of July celebration.

For more information about Firehouse Animal Health Center, please visit [www.firehouseaustin.com](http://www.firehouseaustin.com) or call 512.765.9009.

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## HOUSE FLIES TEXAS A&M **AGRI LIFE** EXTENSION



Moving into summer, we should prepare for the inevitable...house flies. While many see house flies as a nuisance, they are capable of spreading diseases such as dysentery or food poisoning. Due to the locations house flies

frequent- garbage, manure, and carrion- they can pick up bacteria and other disease organisms which can transfer to other areas where they may land such as dishes, food, or countertops. House flies regurgitate onto food to liquefy it before eating and they can further contaminate items by defecating upon surfaces.

The common house fly has two wings and is dull gray with black stripes on the thorax (the section where the wings are attached). Adult flies can only eat liquid foods and have sponging mouthparts specialized to help them feed.

Eggs are usually laid on decaying matter such as animal fecal material, grass clippings, or garbage. Around 100-150 eggs are laid by the female. Depending upon temperature (warmer temperatures speed things up); eggs may hatch within 8 hours to 2 days.

Maggots, the immature stage of a fly, are small, white, carrot-shaped, and legless. There are 3 larval molts then mature larvae seek a dry location for pupation. Pupae are reddish brown and somewhat oval in shape.

During the summer, house flies may live up to 2.5 weeks while during cooler times of the year they may live up to 3 months.

The key to fly management is sanitation, or cleaning. Eliminate breeding sites by picking up animal waste one to two times per week; empty garbage cans regularly; clean garbage cans at least once a month with soapy water. Keep garbage cans located away from doors that lead into the home and make sure they have tight fitting lids.

Other items that can help reduce fly problems include keeping window screens in good repair; making sure doors and windows have a tight seal and weather stripping is in good condition; and using fly swatters or sticky fly paper to get rid of adult flies.



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](http://www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com)

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The goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each digit may appear only once in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box.

## 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](mailto:articles@peelinc.com) (include the newsletter you would like to recognize them in, photo, name, etc).

## Water Conservation Tips of the Month:

- Install an instant water heater near your kitchen sink so you don't have to run the water while it heats up. This also reduces energy costs.
- Setting cooling systems and water softeners for a minimum number of refills saves both water and chemicals, plus more on utility bills.

## SEND US YOUR

*Event*

*Pictures!!*

Do you have a picture of an event that you would like to run in this newsletter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue.

Email the picture to [toteravista@peelinc.com](mailto:toteravista@peelinc.com). Be sure to include the text that you would like to have as the caption.

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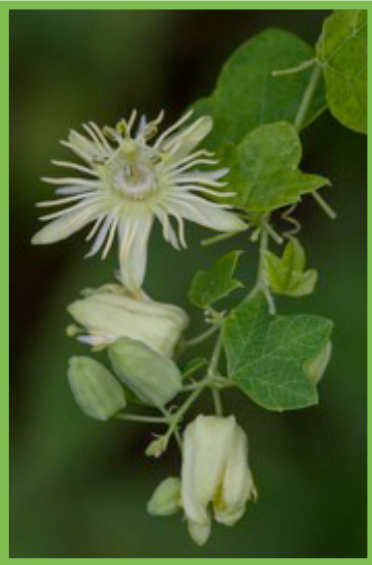


## NATURE WATCH

### VINE TIME

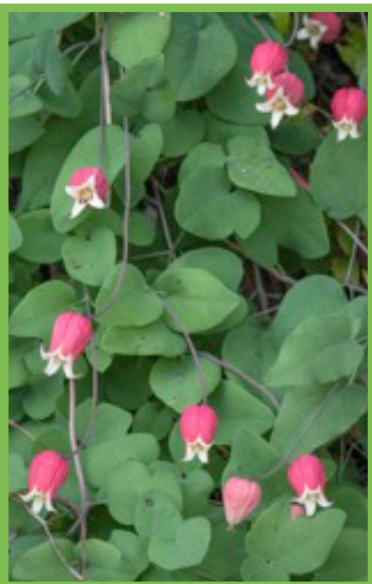
by Jim and Lynne Weber

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**

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**

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

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 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



**White Bush Honeysuckle**

food for seed-eating birds and small mammals.

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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## Indoor Plants

Unless you have a sunroom or greenhouse, the biggest dilemma of having plants indoors is providing them with enough light. Even if you have windows, they may be less than ideal if they're facing in a direction that gets little sun, or if they're shaded by a tree or porch overhang. Plants suffering from light deprivation are often lanky, with pale or yellowed leaves. Luckily, you can lend a helping hand with artificial lighting. The best type of artificial light is fluorescent. Incandescent light doesn't provide the right kind of light for optimal growth, and it also produces lots of heat, which can burn your plants. Fluorescent light comes in several varieties: the standard ones, which you can find at any hardware store or home improvement center, are fine for growing small plants such as African violets, but for larger plants, go for higher-output fluorescents, which emit much more light and can be found at most well-equipped garden centers or through mail-order gardening supply catalogs. Bear in mind, too:

\* When growing plants under artificial light, choose those that prefer low to medium sunlight.

\* Keep your plants very close to the light source - no more than 6 to 12 inches away. The intensity of light diminishes drastically the farther away you move from it. To increase intensity, add more fluorescent tubes, grouped together.

\* Rearrange your plants regularly around their light source to ensure that they all receive equal exposure. The greatest amount of light is emitted from the center of a fluorescent tube.

\* Leave the lights on 14 to 16 hours each day. A couple of hours daily won't suffice. But don't leave the lights on all the time; plants need periods of darkness for rest.



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