

# THE RIVER REVIEW

July 2017

Volume 11, Issue 7

*Photo by Mia Sanchez*



NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF RIVER PLACE





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# Editor's Comment



In this edition we again strive to provide information that River Place residents might, in conversation, ask one another about. One concern we're aware of is that the hard copy of The River Review is received in the mail sometime during or just after the first week of the month but there might be community events happening close to the first of the month. So how can we find out about these early events if we don't receive our newsletter in time? We have the answer and regret that we haven't suggested it much sooner:

By the end of the preceding month we normally have the new issue available in an on line version. The website to view the new issue is: [www.peelinc.com/RV](http://www.peelinc.com/RV)

In addition, you can sign up to receive notification of the new on line issue. The link to sign up to receive it via email is: [www.peelinc.com/residentsNewsletterSubscriptions.php](http://www.peelinc.com/residentsNewsletterSubscriptions.php)

We also offer an iPhone and iPad app where the newsletter can be viewed. To download the app, search "Peel Inc" in the AppStore and then subscribe to The River Review on the app.

Hopefully the above information will help you stay better informed about upcoming events. And we are well aware of the various area circulars and newsletters that River Place residents now receive each month. However, we hope that our more narrow focus on River Place related concerns will preserve us a special place in your busy reading schedule. Just remember, we're the newsletter with the River Place fountains on the cover!

Feel free to let us know what you would like to see offered in future editions of The River Review. We value your input. And we always welcome articles from residents. If you need help with an article or have questions, feel free to contact (email or phone) me. Please send articles to either me at [mrobertallen@aol.com](mailto:mrobertallen@aol.com) or [riverreview@peelinc.com](mailto:riverreview@peelinc.com).

Hope you enjoy this one as well as your future editions!

Robert Martin, Editor (512-517-3619)

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY .....	911
Fire .....	911
Ambulance .....	911
Sheriff – Non-Emergency .....	512-974-0845
Hudson Bend Fire and EMS	
Emergencies .....	512-266-1775
Information .....	512-266-2533

### SCHOOLS

Leander ISD.....	512-570-0000
Cedar Park High School.....	512-570-1200
Vandegrift High School.....	512-570-2300
Four Points Middle School.....	512-570-3700
River Place Elementary.....	512-570-6900

### UTILITIES

River Place MUD.....	512-246-0498
City of Austin Electric .....	512-494-9400
Texas Gas Service	
Custom Service .....	1-800-700-2443
Emergencies .....	512-370-8609
Call Before You Dig .....	512-472-2822
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
IESI (Trash).....	512-282-3508

### OTHER NUMBERS

River Place Postal Office .....	512-345-9739
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## ARTICLE INFO

The River Review is mailed monthly to all River Place 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 River Review please email it to [riverreview@peelinc.com](mailto:riverreview@peelinc.com). The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the issue.

## IN AND AROUND RIVER PLACE

### **Shortcut Through 3M to Vandegrift HS:**

This long-considered back road from River Place Blvd. through 3M is still in the works. The safety and convenience benefits are numerous and keep this project in the forefront of area concerns. Obviously, River Place high school students who drive would have an easy route to school as would parents who might drop off or pick up their children at Four Points Middle School. Essentially, the new road/shortcut is conceived as a continuation of Four Points Drive, the first intersecting roadway you come to once you cross 2222 after leaving River Place. You would simply turn right to drive over to the schools.

In addition to using a back stretch of the 3M Campus, the new road would border a short section of privately owned preserve land and cut through a larger portion of Travis County preserve land. Requiring a road approximately a mile long, the project is estimated to cost 15 to 17 million. The Leander ISD is working to obtain the permissions and the partners to help fund the project. These things are difficult since preserve land protects various wildlife species and the area in question contains utility lines for the city and Lower Colorado River Authority.

The LISD has contacted several Texas representatives in Washington for valuable support from lawmakers. They are also working to get public support through social media like Tweeting. Everyone we know says, "Build the road!" so it's hard to believe this worthwhile project would not be successful!

### **West Austin Chamber of Commerce Relocates:**

Formerly the Four Points Chamber of Commerce, the West Austin Chamber has relocated from RR 620 to 13776 Research Blvd. Providing resources for the community and area businesses, this chamber evolved in 2016 to its present, more comprehensive responsibilities and programs. Contact information: 512-551-0390; [www.westaustinchamber.org](http://www.westaustinchamber.org)

### **Special Session to Decide River Place Annexation Issues:**

Governor Abbott has set the special session, an achievement in itself, to begin July 18. The issue at hand is whether residents of an area to be annexed by the city can be allowed to vote for or against annexation. In 2009, River Place entered into a strategic partnership with the city which, under established rules, allowed annexation to be delayed until this upcoming December. Of particular importance for us in this special session would be whether a community already in a strategic

partnership could possibly back out of its agreement and be allowed to vote on annexation.

Earlier this year, a bill that simplified the process and would allow residents to vote on annexation was sponsored by Senator Donna Campbell of New Braunfels but it was subsequently defeated during a filibuster on the Texas Senate floor. Presumably, this bill is to be revisited during the upcoming special session. Locally, River Place HOA Board Member Tim Mattox has led the charge in these de-annexation efforts and kept River Place residents aware of proceedings via Nextdoor, our community web site.

### **Free SAT/ACT Practice Exams:**

Numerous dates are set throughout July and into August. Contact Krysta below for the best time for you. The location is 3908 Far West Blvd. in Austin, TX. For High school juniors: Free practice ACT/SAT tests will be given all year long at the Northwest Hills College Tutors Learning Center! The exam mimics the setting and timing of the actual tests, and families will have a chance to meet with one of our experts to go over the scores in detail. Reserve your spot now:

When offered: July 6, 12th, 20th, 26th and upcoming dates in August

Online: <http://goo.gl/forms/3e2cmzOkAF>

Call: 512-372-8385 (Information provided by Krysta Aguilar, River Place.

Email: [austintx@collegetutors.com](mailto:austintx@collegetutors.com)

### **River Place 4th of July Events:**

HOA Board member Scott Crosby makes us aware on Nextdoor of two events this 4th of July: Show off your patriotism in the annual Fourth of July Parade. Decorate your bike, wagon, stroller, golf cart, dog, and/or yourself, and join us for a morning of fun with all of our neighbors. Prizes will be awarded in a number of "Best Decorated" categories! We'll kick off the morning at 9:30 am with patriotic giveaways, and line up to parade around the park at 9:45 am. Participate in the parade, or simply come watch. There will be cold treats and fun times for all.

And secondly, celebrate Independence Day with The RP MUD & RPCC!

When: Tuesday, July 4th, 11am-2pm. Enjoy a Complimentary Afternoon at the Club for our Annual July 4th Celebration! This event features an All American BBQ Buffet, Pool Games, a Poolside DJ, Water Slide, Face Painting, Balloon Twisting and Cotton Candy & Snow Cones! Sounds like two great events!



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# RIVER REVIEW

## Let's Meet Giselle and Bruce!



work for a semiconductor company. They are blessed with two beautiful and friendly Golden Doodles, Bella and Kirby. As you can see in the photo, this family has fun in their pool and enjoys being in the water during these hot summer days! Notice also the beautiful view from the back of their home where the landscape gently slopes away toward the trees and hills in the distance.

Their home on Big View Drive is beautiful and spacious, exactly what they were looking for having lived in smaller rental properties prior to settling here three years ago. The house has an open floor plan, an upstairs game room large enough for a pool table and a

separate workout room.

Other reasons they enjoy living here include the home's proximity to their workplaces, the large yard where the dogs can run and play and, of course, their friendly River Place neighbors. They just consider the views from their home and around the community to be a huge bonus!

Giselle and Bruce both received a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering, making their college education backgrounds quite similar. Hers though is from Virginia Tech while his is from Arizona State.

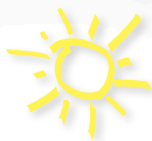
When it comes to activities, they both play pool in a league, making that home pool table a great convenience for practicing their shots. And anyone who plays pool knows it takes a lot of practice to consistently put forth your best game.

Bruce is responsible for the fun animatronics at Halloween, putting his electrical engineering knowledge to good use in a fun and entertaining way. Giselle teaches Zumba® and Indoor Cycle, both of which we hear are excellent ways to exercise.

And finally, they both love hiking with their dogs and chasing them around at Emma Long or any other park that allows dogs to be off leash. We know that has to be a great way to get some exercise!



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Of Austin



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512.795.8300

**CCOA-WESTLAKE**  
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Austin, TX 78746  
512.329.6633



## Heads Up...Around the City

### When and If your 911 Dial Up Doesn't Work

*Kristen Dark, Travis County Sheriff's Office AGENCY*

We have been notified by AT&T that customers whose phone numbers start with (512) 266- cannot connect with 911 via land lines. Our emergency number is 512-482-5860.

Please take a moment to add our 10-digit emergency number to your contacts just in case you ever encounter a problem when dialing 911 in Travis County.

Update: While the above issue with that particular prefix has been resolved, knowing the emergency number can only provide more safety.

### City Manager Search – We Need Your Feedback!

*Communication and Public Information from City of Austin*

The selection of the next City Manager is the most important decision the Austin City Council will make. The process that leads up to the final decision should start with you, flow through your community, travel throughout Austin, and broadly across the country.

In April 2017, the City Council passed a resolution which appointed the City Manager Search Advisory Task Force to work with Russell Reynolds Associates to provide recommendations including selection criteria to Council. The Task Force is responsible for the first stage of a three-phase process that will be utilized by the City Council to select a new City Manager. In this first phase, the Task Force will independently collect public input and, based on the input, develop and submit recommendations to the City Council. In the second phase, Russell Reynolds Associates, the City's selected recruitment firm, will develop the recruitment brochure using the feedback from the Task Force to recruit qualified candidates for consideration.

In the final phase, the Austin City Council will deliberate and select a new City Manager. To ensure the Task Force fulfills our commitment to the community, we need your feedback by July 5th. Please take a few minutes to visit

[austintexas.gov/page/city-manager-search](http://austintexas.gov/page/city-manager-search) to answer three critical questions that the recruiter will use to develop the profile for our next City Manager.

You are welcome to attend the Task Force public meetings (some held in June) to provide input on the profile for the next City Manager:

- Saturday, July 8, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chambers
- You may also call 3-1-1 to provide your feedback in any language.

For more information regarding the City Manager Search Advisory Task Force, visit the City Manager Search Advisory Task Force at [austintexas.gov/page/city-manager-search-advisory-task-force](http://austintexas.gov/page/city-manager-search-advisory-task-force).

Individuals that have questions about the recruitment process or want to apply for consideration may reach out to:

Stephen Newton | Russell Reynolds Associates | Email: [citymanager@russellreynolds.com](mailto:citymanager@russellreynolds.com) | 346-320-5949

Please forward this information to friends, family, colleagues, and constituents.

### Guadalupe Street Repairs in Progress

*Public Works Department, City of Austin AGENCY*

We're working to make driving and biking down "The Drag" less of a drag! Today (6/20) Public Works crews began spot repairs to bus lanes on Guadalupe St. Work hours are Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. Expect lane reductions for north and southbound traffic until 4:00 pm. Motorists are asked to slow down and pay attention when traveling through the work zone. Project phasing and updates can be found at [facebook.com/publicworks](https://facebook.com/publicworks) and <http://bit.ly/2rzt6ca>.

### Mopac Construction Continues On, Not Surprisingly

The Mopac toll lanes project between Parmer Lane and Cesar Chavez Street continues on and overruns on original estimates still occur routinely. The northbound auxiliary/merge lane between 35th and 45th streets is expected to open this summer, hopefully in the next few weeks, according to the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority.

Rough paving southbound between 183 and 2222 was expected to possibly be completed in June but the agency contractor now is estimating it finished later this summer. All in all, anyone who travels Mopac knows things can be difficult in certain areas and at certain times of the day. While we know the intent is to alleviate congestion, most expect it will not be enough given Austin's traffic problems throughout the city. Be careful when you take Mopac!



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

## TENNIS TIP OF THE MONTH: REDUCING UNFORCED ERRORS

When playing tennis, we all have our good and bad days. It's easy to win matches when we are playing our best. Winning when our best game isn't there is the true challenge. The most common cause of losing matches at any level is unforced errors. Here are some tips to reduce unforced errors.

### Tennis Tips:

1. Hit your groundstrokes with more topspin. Hit more spin and aim higher over the net. Most errors happen when we try to hit flat balls that barely clear the net.
2. Pick safe targets. Don't aim just inside the lines. Pick a target with a 3 to 4 foot margin. Give your opponent a chance to miss rather than just going for the winner.
3. Be selective when you do go for winners. If your opponent hits you a deep ball or forces you on the run; don't try to hit the flashy winner. Hit a safety shot. Roll the ball deep and reset the point, allowing you time to recover back to the middle.
4. Put more spin on your serve. It's easy to fall in love with the flat 100 mph serve. Players often try and hit the first serve

too hard which results in a low serve percentage. This can provide your opponent with opportunities for aggressive returns. Take some pace off your serve and add spin. Go for placement instead of power. Use your serve as a set up shot instead of going for the ace. Then hit an aggressive shot off the weak return.

5. Hit safer returns. If someone has a big first serve; use their power against them. If you chip your return using their power, the return will often land deep in their court.
6. Take your time between points. When playing poorly, a common mistake is to rush the next point which often causes more errors because you're not relaxed. Take a deep breath, fix your strings, or go to your towel. This gives you time to reset mentally.

Following these tips will help you win matches on those off days. Email me if you have any questions. Ed, River Place Tennis, edny20@yahoo.com

*"Love is nothing in tennis, but in life it's everything" ~Author Unknown*

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## Wired Orthodontics, Dr. Chris Stansbury Promises \$100 to VNEF for Every Four Points First Start

By Courtney Johnson, VNEF Executive Director



Dr. Chris Stansbury, or Dr. Chris, as most kids who frequent Wired Orthodontics (formerly Four

Points Orthodontics) call him, just announced that he will donate \$100 to Viper Nation Education Foundation in honor of each new patient who agrees to participate in the VNEF "Friends of the Foundation" program. Dr. Chris is a nearly 10-year practicing orthodontist who teamed with Dr.

David Nelson last year, at the Sitio del Rio office, a stone's throw from River Place Elementary.

"As an orthodontist, I get to help bring a kid's beautiful smile outside. But the resulting smile

from inside is what will produce that awesome person of the future," said Stansbury.

"These years are very important years for my clients. I wanted to do something more and giving back to their schools through Viper Nation Education Foundation is the best way I can think to support my kids."

Regular gifts of any level make a significant difference in the foundation's ability to plan for the future. For more information on becoming a Viper Nation Education Foundation Friend of the Foundation, please contact Courtney Johnson at (512) 750-9185 or CJohnson@ViperNationEF.org.

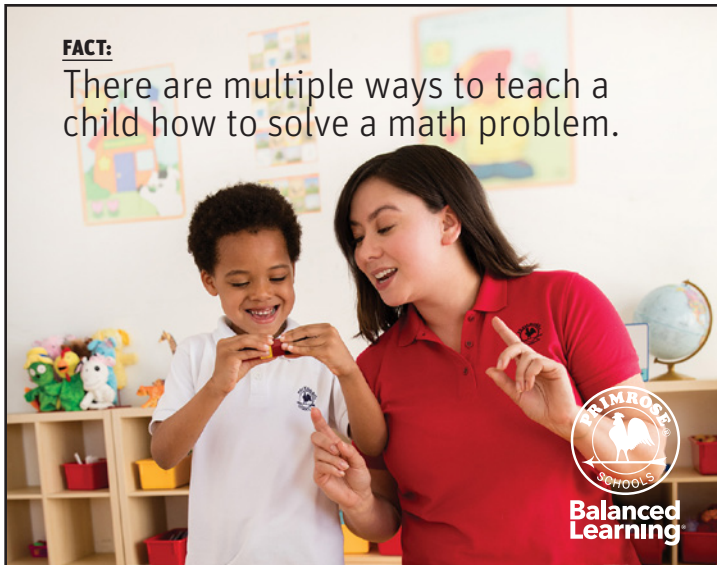
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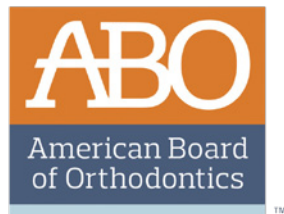
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