

MERIDIAN *Community Monitor*

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF MERIDIAN

MIDDLE SCHOOL POOL PARTY

Thursday, August 17th
7:30-9:30pm

Submitted by: Jacquelyn Waldrop

Meridian HOA invites all incoming Meridian 6th, 7th, and 8th graders to the Back to School Middle School Pool Party. Mix, mingle and meet new friends. Join the fun, music and crowd. We'll have a DJ, glow sticks and beach balls.

For more details, check out NextDoor and the Meridian Social Buzz Facebook group, @MeridianSocialBuzz



Incoming Kindergarten/Fall 2017 Summer Programs

Welcome to
Kindergarten!

Submitted by: Jacquelyn Waldrop, Kinder Kick-off Chair

Meet and mingle with future Bobcat cubs and parents at our summer playdates.

Wednesday, August 9th from 10:30am-12pm

Bobcats in the Building

- Story Time in the Baldwin Library from 10:30-11am
 - Cafeteria Picnic from 11am-12pm
- (no food will be served, BYOL ~ Bring Your Own Lunch)

This is a special day when our building will be open to Kinder Baby Bobcats and their parents to help get our Baby Bobcats acclimated with the building.

Saturday, August 19 from 9:30-11am

Kindergarten Kick-Off Celebration

This is a special playdate where your Bobcat cub will have the opportunity to meet children in his/her class on Baldwin's large playground. Snacks will be provided. Don't miss the celebration and the opportunity to meet new friends and classmates!

Need more info: Jacquelyn Waldrop / J.Waldrop@AustinRealEstate.com / 512-923-3099 Get up-to-date playdate info, class reminders and more at Facebook page for Kinder Families only: facebook.com/groups/BabyBobcatsKinder2017/



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Does your daughter want to join Girl Scouts?



girl scouts
of central texas

Are you interested in being a Troop Leader?

Submitted by: Jacquelyn Waldrop, Girl Scouts of America Volunteer Troop Leader

The Oak Hill Service Unit of Girl Scouts of Central Texas will hold Recruitment Rallies on **Saturday August 26th from 9:30 – 11:00am**. At Rally, you will learn more about our mission to build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. In addition, you will have an opportunity to join via our online membership site! We hope you will join us!

Girl Scouts Recruitment Rally

Saturday, August 26, 2016 @ 9:30 – 11:00 am

Oakhill United Methodist Church

7815 Highway 290 W, Austin, TX 78736

All ages -- kindergarten through high school

Clayton, Kiker, Baldwin Elementary Schools

Questions? Janessa Glenn (Oak Hill Service Unit Director)
oakhillgirlscouts@gmail.com

FREE FUNDS FOR BALDWIN PTA PROGRAMS

Submitted by: Jacquelyn Waldrop

Doing some shopping online? The AmazonSmiles program is a simple and automatic way for you to support Baldwin every time you shop, at no cost to you. Just enter the Amazon site through www.smile.amazon.com and select "Texas PTA Congress Ross Baldwin Elementary" as your charitable organization. Baldwin PTA receives .5% on every qualified purchase. Adding a bookmark makes it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile. You can use your existing Amazon Prime account with the AmazonSmile program.

WELCOME

A Newsletter for Meridian residents

The Monitor is a monthly newsletter mailed to all Meridian residents. Each newsletter is filled with valuable information about the community, local area activities, school information and more. If you are involved with a school group, play group, scouts, sports activity, social group, etc. and would like to submit an article for the newsletter you can do so online at www.PEELinc.com or you can email it meridian@peelinc.com. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, special celebrations, birthday announcements and military service are also welcome. Our goal is to keep you informed!

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NEWSLETTER INFO

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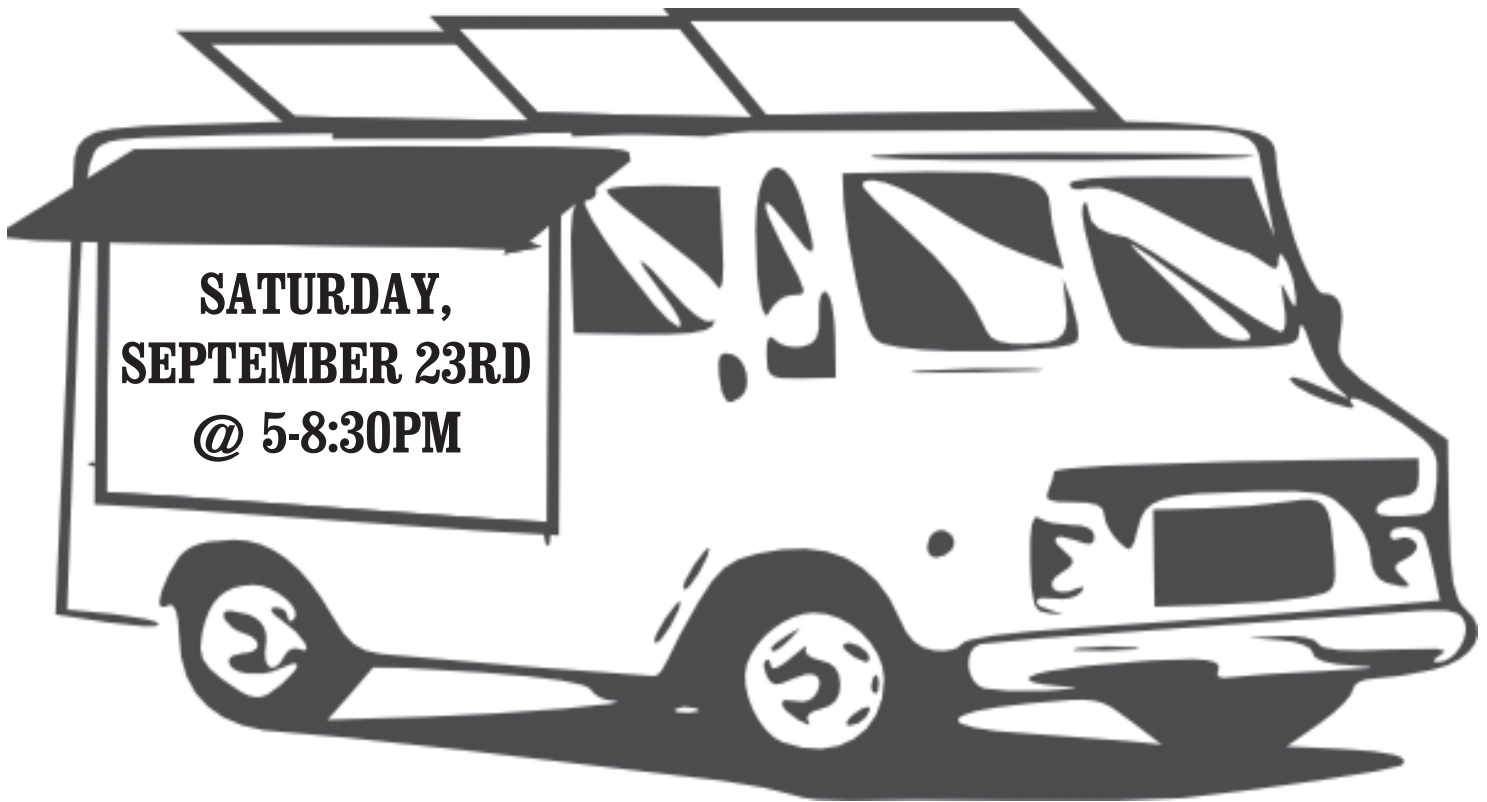
**NOT AVAILABLE
ONLINE**

THE MONITOR

The Meridian Social Committee and Hello Nabr invites you to enjoy

MERIDIAN FOOD TRUCK NIGHT

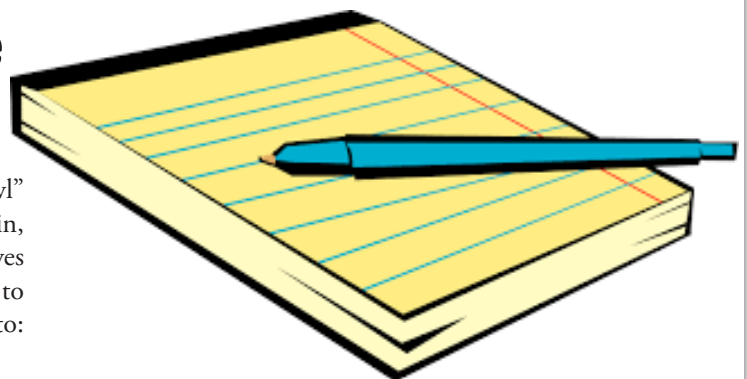
Submitted by: Jacquelyn Waldrop



Bring your family and meet your Meridian neighbors at the Pavilion & Pool for a fun-filled evening of live music, outdoor movie (TBD) and selections from local food trailers, with something yummy for everyone!

Does Your Child Like to Write?

Does your student love to write? The "Whoo Whoo Saw an Owl" article featured in our May 2017 edition was written by Clara Mirkin, a 3rd grader who lives right here in Meridian. If your student loves to write and would like to submit an article, poem or short story to share, we'd love to have it and share it here! Send submissions to: J.Waldrop@AustinRealEstate.com



SAVE THE DATE: MERIDIAN SOCIAL EVENTS FOR 2017

Middle Schoolers End of Summer Pool Party:

Thursday, August 17 @ 7:30-9:30pm

Meridian HOA invites all Middle School kids, incoming 6th-8th grades, to the DJ MIDDLE SCHOOL POOL PARTY. Mix, mingle and meet new friends. Enjoy the evening with DJ, Glow Sticks and beach balls.

Last Food Truck Night of the Year:

Saturday, September 23 @ 5-8:30pm

Enjoy Food Truck Night with your neighbors at the Pavilion. We'll have live music and an outdoor movie, too!

Fall Community Wide Garage Sale:

Saturday, October 14 @ 8am-1pm

Clean out those closets and host a garage sale at your home, this will be advertised on Craigslist and in the newspaper. If it rains there will be an alternate make-up date.

Holiday Cookies and Caroling at the Pavilion:

Tuesday, December 19 @ 6-7:30pm

Come and join your neighbors for cookies and music at the pavilion before you go out and view the Christmas lights in the neighborhood. Awards will be given to the top decorated house in each section.

See NextDoor and the Meridian Marquee for more details!

Calling Meridian Mamas to Join Circle C Mom's Club

Submitted by: Jacquelyn Waldrop



Circle C Mom's is a group of neighborhood moms that coordinate events for children, moms and families. Children's events include weekly age-specific playdates, holiday parties and field trips. Weekly moms' events are usually hosted at members' homes or nearby restaurants and include activities such as bunko nights, book club, craft night, movie nights, recipe/supper club, ladies-only lunches and much, much more! These activities are a great opportunity for moms to get out and enjoy a little "adult" time and meet new friends.

If you're interested in joining the fun, please contact Kimberly De LaGarza @ delagarzakim@yahoo.com.

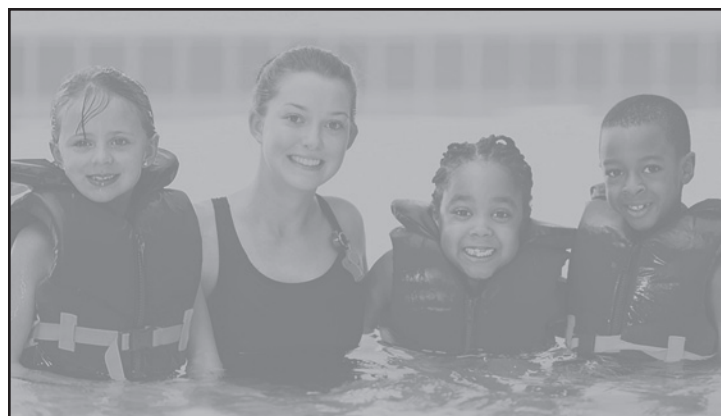
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SUMMER'S STILL HERE... AND SO ARE SWIM LESSONS AT THE Y

Summer may be winding down, but families are still hitting the water to cool off. That's why it's never too late to learn how to swim. And the YMCA is here with classes available year-round to keep kids safe.

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FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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6219 Oakclaire Dr & Hwy 290

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TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION

Chiggers

Chiggers are the immature stage of a mite. They climb onto people walking through infested areas, crawl upwards, and wander around the body seeking a good site to settle down and feed. Feeding preference for these mites is in areas where skin is thinnest or where clothing fits tightly, such as the ankles, waist, behind the knees, and the groin area.

Chiggers do not burrow into skin as many people believe, so "smothering" them with nail polish is useless. When chiggers feed, they inject a digestive enzyme that breaks down skin cells which are then eaten. Itching and redness is caused by our body reacting to the enzymes injected into our skin. Itching typically begins 3-6 hours after being bitten, peaks at 24 hours, and can last up to two weeks.

The best way to avoid getting chiggers is to avoid infested areas. Since this is not always possible, here are some other things to try:

- Wear protective clothing- tightly woven items that fit loosely; including long sleeves & pants; shoes or boots
- Tuck pant legs into boots
- Avoid sitting on the ground
- Remove & launder clothing ASAP after being in infested areas
- Shower/ bathe after being in an infested area; scrub vigorously with a washcloth
- Use an insect repellent with DEET or picaridin

To treat chigger infestations around the home try the following:

- Keeping lawn trimmed
- Maintain vegetation; do not allow weeds to grow up & keep brush cleared
- Targeted residual pesticide sprays, usually pyrethroids

For chigger bites:

- Do not scratch pustules; opening pustule might lead to infection
- Oral antihistamines or topical anti-itch creams to relieve itching sensation

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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community newsletters



Austin Independent School District 2017-2018 School Calendar



Grade Reporting Periods

August 2017

7-10 New Teacher Orientation
14-16 Staff Development
17-18 Planning & Prep
21 First Day of Classes

September 2017

4 Student & Staff Holiday - Labor Day

October 2017

9 Student Holiday - Elem. Parent Conference;
Secondary Staff Development

November 2017

20-24 Thanksgiving Holiday

December 2017

20 Winter Break Begins

January 2018

2 Student Holiday - Staff Development
3 Classes Resume
15 Student & Staff Holiday
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February 2018

19 Student Holiday - Elem. Parent Conference;
Secondary Staff Development
1st Bad Weather Makeup Day

March 2018

12-16 Spring Break
30 Student Holiday - Staff Development
2nd Bad Weather Makeup Day

May 2018

28 Student & Staff Holiday - Memorial Day
30 Last Day of Classes
31 Planning & Prep

Legend

	Student/Staff Holiday		Planning & Prep/ Student Holiday
	Staff Development/ Student Holiday		First / Last Day of Classes
	Student Holiday - Elem. Parent Conference Secondary Staff Development	+	Bad Weather Make-up Day
	New Teacher Orientation	}	Secondary Grading Period
	District Closed	}	Elementary Grading Period

Austin Independent School District
1111 W. Sixth St., Austin, TX 78703
512-414-1700 www.austinisd.org

Approved by the AISD Board of Trustees 01/22/2017
District of Innovation Plan approved 03/27/2017

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
July 2017							January 2018						
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30	31												
August 2017							February 2018						
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September 2017							March 2018						
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October 2017							April 2018						
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November 2017							May 2018						
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December 2017							June 2018						
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31													

For more information about important District dates and events, and religious holidays which may affect student attendance, please check our website www.austinisd.org



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THE WEST
— TEAM —

I Didn't Sell My House & Summer Selling Season is Over! Now What?

We get this question often this time of year.

In our experience, this question comes from two types of sellers. The first type is the seller who has had their home on the market all summer did not successfully sell it. The second type is the seller that for whatever reason needs to list their home this time of year and will be new to the market. Let us squash one myth: you can successfully sell your home anytime of the year. We have received contracts on homes the day before Christmas, so don't let that theory prevent you from moving forward.

Let's dive into what you do if your property has been on the market all summer and hasn't sold. We always say these listings come down to the two "P's" in real estate: Price & Presentation. If your home hasn't sold you are missing the mark on one or both of these points. It is possible to dig yourself out of this hole, but most of the time you will need to tweak both Price and Presentation to make this happen. We recently took over a listing from another brokerage that sat on the market for over 300 days without a single offer. The seller worked with us to present the property in a different way to the market. The first weekend we had it listed, we received three offers and were under contract at \$10k above their list price. So, if you are a seller in this type of situation, don't lose hope!! Make sure you are partnered with the right Realtor and they have a new action plan in place to get your home sold.

What if you are needing to list your home now as we approach the holiday season? The good news is that you get to benefit from the summer appreciation. However, this is not the time of year to try to push beyond those summer numbers. You need to also keep in mind the current market conditions. For the first time since 2012, our inventory in Circle C and Meridian has increased significantly. It has not been uncommon over the last few years to have only 15 to 20 available resales in our area at any given time. At the time this article is being written-just before the publication deadline, we have over 50 available homes in Circle C and Meridian. The market is still extremely strong, but gone are the days that a seller can stick a sign in the yard and get multiple offers. Make sure you are partnering with a Realtor who's plan for the Presentation of your home will get you that high Price you are wanting. Your Realtor should know the homes you will be competing against and come up with a plan so that your home will beat the competition. If you can't compete with the competition, then you should price the home accordingly. We can't give away all our secrets on how to accomplish this. However, it's really important to partner with the right Realtor who has the right plan for your home. If you do this, you will have a successful sale regardless of which type of seller you are!!

~Tara, Jacquelyn, Jenn and Terri
The West Team



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*2016 ABOR MLS Data



Terri Savage

Buyer's Realtor®-CNE, GRI
512.844.7665

Jacquelyn Waldrop

Full-Service Realtor®-CNE
512.923.3099

Tara West

Full-Service Realtor®-CNE
512.632.3110

Jenn Cortez

Full-Service Realtor®
512.393.8743

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