

Volume 7, Issue 8

August 2017

## 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.

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## **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

### **EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

EMERGENCY	
Fire	
Ambulance	
Williamson Co. Sheriff's Dept	
Select option 1 twice to get	directly to dispatch
Round Rock Police (Non Emergency)	
Georgetown Police (Non Emergency)	
Travis County Animal Control	
Round Rock Animal Control	
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	
Georgetown ISD	512-943-5000
Carver Elementary School	512-943-5070
Pickett Elementary School	
Tippit Middle School	512-943-5040
Georgetown High School	512-943-5100

### UTILITIES

Atmos Energy	1-888-286-6700
TXU Energy	1-800-818-6132
AT&T	
New Service	1-800-464-7928
Repair	1-800-246-8464
Billing	1-800-858-7928
Time Warner Cable	
Customer Service	
Repairs	

### **OTHER NUMBERS**

City of Round Rock	512-218-5400
Round Rock Community Library	
Round Rock Parks and Recreation	512-218-5540
City of Georgetown	
Georgetown Public Library	512-930-3551
Georgetown Municipal Airport	
Georgetown Parks and Recreation	
Teravista Golf and Ranch House	
Teravista Residents Club	512-310-7421

### **NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER**

Peel, Inc.	
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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 Percy512-810-3214



## CHINCH BUGS NO EASY FIX

Author: Nathan Riggs

The heat and high temps of July and August aren't the only culprits that take a toll on your landscape and lawn. If your St. Augustine grass is looking sad and jaundiced, it may be under attack.

Summertime means a lot of different things to people — grillin', fun in the sun, barefoot walks in the lawn and other outdoor activities.

Unfortunately, the hot temperatures in July and August also have a daunting impact on local lawns and landscapes by creating water stress. When St. Augustine lawns in full sun become water stressed in July and August, they

fall victim to attack by the Southern Chinch Bug (Blissus insularis).

Chinch bugs suck the sap from the grass at the point where the blade emerges from the runner, or rhizome. As they feed on the sap, chinch bugs release saliva into the wound, causing the grass to turn yellow and die.

This yellowing usually begins at a central point and radiates in a circular pattern outward as the chinch bugs expand their feeding area. St. Augustine grass is a chinch bug's favorite meal, but Bermuda and Zoysia grasses may be attacked as well.

Here are a couple of ways to test for chinch bugs in the affected area.

• **Drench method**: flood an area on the edge of the sick grass with a soapy solution (2 tablespoons of liquid soap to 1 gallon water). If chinch bugs are present, they will emerge from the grass to get away from the soapy water.

• Flotation method: take a metal can with both ends removed and push one end into the ground at the border of the sick grass. Slowly fill with water and see if chinch bugs float up. Repeat for several different areas.

Once you've determined chinch bugs are present, you must target

the infestation. To reduce chinch bug populations, treat a 15-foot radius around the damaged area with a liquid insecticide approved for turf grasses. It is **NOT NECESSARY** to treat the entire yard because a) non-target beneficial insects will be adversely impacted by the treatment, and b) chinch bugs won't be present in the entire yard.

After treatment, you must **PATIENTLY** rehab the affected turf areas. Do not overwater your grass in an effort to get it back to health because the root system is still recovering from the chinch bug onslaught. Instead, water thoroughly, but infrequently to encourage a deeper, more drought-tolerant root system.



Secondly, avoid over-fertilizing your grass. Too much nutrients in the soil will encourage weed growth as well as place stress on the damaged root system. Aerate the affected turf areas to allow nutrients, water and oxygen to reach the root zone and get those roots back on the road to recovery.

Author: Nathan Riggs www.gardenstylesanantonio.com



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



## GRILIFE 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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## How Would You Tell Your Child That You Have Cancer? Or Explain Why Dad Can't Give Piggyback Rides Anymore?

Three Texas organizations partner to open San Antonio's first Wonders & Worries a therapeutic space where children ages 2-18 whose parent is suffering a serious illness, can receive support to help them cope

San Antonio physician Jeff Hallett knows a thing or two about talking to patients about illness. But when his wife, Robin, was diagnosed with breast cancer, they felt at a loss for how to tell their daughter, Rachel, aged 10.

"It doesn't matter your background or experience," Jeff Hallett, MD, said. "When you have to tell your child this kind of news, you want to do it the right way. And we didn't know how. So we called Wonders & Worries."

Wonders & Worries is an Austin-based nonprofit that teaches parents how to parent and kids how to cope during a parent's serious illness. It's the only program of its kind in the US, and first in San Antonio. It is the fifth office for the organization.

For the Halletts, they now have specialized support in their own backyard. "We have found Wonders & Worries to be a tremendous resource for us at a time when help is sorely needed," said Jeff Hallett, MD. "Robin and I can see that it has helped

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206A Laurel Drive, 78664 512-248-8700 Rachel to cope with her mother's illness."

Since its inception in 2001, Wonders & Worries has served more than 6,500 family members in central Texas, and expects to reach about 100 San Antonio families in its first year. Services are offered free of charge and available in English and Spanish.

"The partnership between the START Center for Cancer Care, the Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas, and Wonders & Worries meets a growing need," said Pam Sparks, director of physician integration at the START Center. "Nearly 3 million children in the US are living with a parent who is battling or has survived cancer."

Executive director of Wonders & Worries, Alex Gabbi, agreed. "Austin doesn't have a monopoly on sick parents." Gabbi is not only the executive director, but also received services from Wonders & Worries when his late wife, Heather, was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. "I look at my three kids and know that our program works. My children are well-adjusted and thriving because of what they learned from Wonders & Worries."

Rounding out this innovative venture is the Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas. "We are honored to partner with two premier organizations that have a vision of healing and understand the impact that it has on children," said Marian Sokol, PhD, executive director for the Center.

Wonders & Worries co-founder, Meredith Cooper, praised the initiative for executing the vision she's had for the organization from the beginning. "This is another step towards all children and teenagers being able to reach their full potential despite a parent's illness," Cooper said.

Counseling and support groups are offered at the START Cancer Center location in the San Antonio Medical Center area. Referrals are welcome from physicians and families facing cancer, ALS, Parkinson's disease, MS and other serious diagnoses. For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit www. wondersandworries.org or call 210-736-4847, ext. 247.



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## Attention KIDS: Send Us Your Masterpiece!

Color the drawing below and mail the finished artwork to us at: Peel, Inc. - Kids Club, 308 Meadowlark St, Lakeway, TX 78734-4717 We will select the top few and post their artwork on our Facebook Page - Facebook.com/PeelInc.

	DUE: August 31st
	Be sure to include the following so we can let you know!
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