

SEPTEMBER FESTIVAL FUN

Back to school time is upon us yet there is still some time to enjoy this great Austin weather and family fun activities. Summers not over yet, my friends.

Did you know that Austin host The **Fantastic Fest. September 18th-25th.** It is their 10th edition this year. It's the largest horror, sci-fi, and fantasy film festival in the US. They hold it throughout the Alamo Draft House, and in various venues in Austin. This is where they showcase all the new and classic scary movies, sci-f, and fantasy. To find out more about the festival go to www.fantasticfest.com

Another great opportunity in September to have fun here in Austin is **Austin Museum Day** which this year falls on **September 17th.** You get free access to the exhibits and activities held inside some of the best museums right here in Austin. There are over 40 museums and cultural institutions that give you free admission on this day. To find out more information about what museums are participating you can go to www.Austinmuseums.org.

It's almost time for the **Texas Craft Brewers Festival on September 30th.** It showcases some of the greatest Texas craft beers. This event is perfect for the die heart beer fans. The food and drink seen here in Austin is constantly growing and evolving but you MUST be 21 to enjoy this event. For more information, you can go to www.Texascraftbrewersfestival.com

Now I myself am looking forward to the **Pecan Street Festival**, **September 27th and 28th** on six street. This awesome festival happens here in Austin twice a year. Once in May and again in September. There are 60 local bands and musicians who will be in attendance. As well as vendors, crafts and of course pecans! For more information on the event head over to www.oldpecanstreetfestival.com

I am also excited to check out the **Austoberfest. Fest on September 30th** It's the German culinary tour. It's their second annual celebration this year here in Austin. With your admittance, you receive unlimited German sausages from many different meat vendors. There are many different German beers to try as well. There will be live music and tons of fun. For more information you can head to www.saengerrunde.org.



WHAT DO YOU THINK AVERY RANCH?

Howdy friends and neighbors I was thinking about starting and section of our beloved Avery Ranch report where we could offer advice. We would take letter sent in via email and post them in the newsletter and give time for people to respond with their advice that we would then print the responses. Of course, we would weed out inappropriate letters and responses because this is a family newsletter. Remember the days of dear Abby. I know I used to enjoy reading the column and coming up with my own advice that sometimes would mirror what Abby said or sometime be totally different. So, tell me is this something that you all would enjoy?? Talk to me Avery Ranch. I'm thinking we could call it Talk to me Avery Ranch, or Dear Editor, maybe Help me Avery Ranch? So, let me know. What do you guys think? Would you enjoy this? Email me your answers at averyranch@peelinc.com



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Sheriff – Non-Emergency	

SCHOOLS

ROUND ROCK ISD

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	16200 Avery Ranch Blvd.
Elsa England Elementary School	
	.8801 Pearson Ranch Road
Cedar Valley Middle School	
- 	8139 Racine Trail
McNeil High School	
-	5720 McNeil Dr.

LEANDER ISD

Rutledge Elementary	
Stiles Middle School	
	3250 Barley Rd.
Vista Ridge High School	
	200 S. Vista Ridge Dr.

UTILITIES

City of Austin Water Perdernales Electric	
TEXAS GAS SERVICE Custom Service Emergencies Call Before You Dig	
AT&T New Service Repair Billing	1-800-246-8464
TIME WARNER CABLE Customer Service Repairs Solid Waste Servies	

NEWSLETTER INFO

EDITOR

PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc.	
Advertising	. advertising@peelinc.com

NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE

RANCH REPORT MONARCHS & OE



The protozoan parasite Ophryocystis elektroscirrha (OE) infects monarch and queen butterflies. It is an obligate **EXTENSION** parasite and requires a host to live

within and to grow and multiply. It was first discovered in the 1960's infecting monarchs in Florida. Since then, it's been found in monarch populations across the world. It is thought that the parasite has co-evolved with monarchs.

There are three major populations of monarchs in the United States- one east of the Rocky Mountains that winters in Central

Mexico and migrate north into the US and Canada; another west of the Rocky mountains that overwinters on the coast of California; the third population are non-migratory and can breed year round in areas such as Florida, Texas and Hawaii. All three populations are infected with OE.



Monarchs infected with OE will have spores wedged between the scales on their body, with the greatest concentration usually occurring on the abdomen. The spores are very small and require a microscope to see.

Female monarchs pass OE spores onto their offspring when they lay eggs. When caterpillars emerge from the egg, they eat the egg shell ingesting the spores. When spores reach the midgut of the insect, they break open and release protozoan parasites. The protozoans move through the gut lining to the epidermis where they reproduce asexually (divides multiple times increasing the number of protozoans). In the butterfly chrysalis stage, the protozoans go through sexual reproduction (again increasing the number of protozoans). Spores form so the emerging butterfly is covered in spores. Spores can also be scattered onto milkweed from butterflies laying eggs or feeding on nectar. Spores on the milkweed can be consumed by caterpillars as they eat foliage.

Once butterflies are infected, they do not recover. OE does not grow or reproduce on the adults; spores remain dormant until they are ingested by a caterpillar.

Infected pupae have dark blotches 2-3 days before emergence. Adults that are heavily infected often have problems emerging from the chrysalis and some may die before emerging. Others that do emerge may fall to the ground before their wings are expanded leading to them dying quickly. Many infected monarchs look healthy, so the only way to determine infection is by looking for spores.

What can you do? Check monarchs for spores and destroy any you find that are infected. I know this seems harsh, but infected (Continued on Page 5)



(Continued from Page 4)

monarchs further spread the protozoa and kill more butterflies in later generations. Cut down milkweed several times per year to get rid of any possible spores that may be on the plants and to encourage new, healthy growth.

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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Talk to Me Avery Ranch!

So, I have been the editor for a little over six months and I am interested to know what are some things you want to see in our Newsletter? What are every day residents wanting to know? Is there somethings that we could include? News that were not already sharing with you. What great things going on in the community would you like to hear more about? What community events would you like to showcase? I'm here to serve. drop me a line, come on talk to me a ranch. Feel free email me at averyranch@peelinc.com looking forward to chatting soon.



School by Winifred C. Marshall

School bells are ringing, loud and clear; Vacation's over, school is here. We hunt our pencils and our books, And say goodbye to fields and brooks, To carefree days of sunny hours, To birds and butterflies and flowers. But we are glad school has begun. For work is always mixed with fun. When autumn comes and the weather is cool, Nothing can take the place of school.



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Ranch Report - September 2017 5

RANCH REPORT

HEY MOMS AND DADS ITS CRAFT TIME. APPLE STAINED GLASS WINDOW DECORATION.

I stumbled upon the Maria Manore Gavin's super cute Stain glass Apple decoration (thank God for Pinterest Right) l was looking for a cute craft to do with my son. This is a super quick and easy craft to do with your Littles. Here are the things you will need.

Two sheets of clear contact paper one sheet of red construction paper for the Apple frame one sheet of green construction paper for the leaf one sheet of black construction paper for the stem tissue paper preferably red, yellow, and green but you can use any colors you have.

(How about you recycle some old gift tissue paper. cut it up into small squares)

Set up: First you lay down the contact paper. Then cut out your stem and leaf from your corresponding colored construction sheets.

Next: Cut up your Apple frame and place it on the contact paper. Sticky side up please.

Then: Now cut out your stem, leaf and attach them to your Apple frame cut out.

Now here comes the fun part let your child take the tissue squares and fill up the Apple. Let them cover up the contact paper. They can overlap them, but do not stack to many on top of each other. Take Just enough to fill the Apples open space then add a second sheet of



tissue paper to hold it all in place and cover it with the second piece of contact paper sticky side down.

Next: Trim the extra contact paper from around the edges and mount your apples with the clean edge facing out on the nearest window. If you want more information on this wonderful craft head over to Maria's blog where she has frame by frame pictures and even an apple frame template for you to use at www. kindercraze.com Happy crafting!!

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Who doesn't love a quick and easy dessert that is kid friendly and delicious. I love to try and cook with the seasons it's a new thing that I'm trying for my family to help keep us healthy and exploring new fruits and vegetables. I couldn't pass up this recipe I found by James Martin on BBC goodfood.com. Prep time takes 10 minutes and the cook time only takes 35 minutes. Here is a list of ingredients you will need.

700g (or 4 large) ripe pear peeled and cubed 100g golden granulated sugar 250g blackberry 200g plain flour 100g unsalted butter, cold, cut into small pieces 85g shelled pistachio, roughly chopped 100g demerara sugar ice cream, to serve (optional)

Heat oven to 190C/fan 170C/gas 5. Place the pears in a medium-size pan, add the granulated sugar and cook on a medium heat until the fruit starts to soften and releases its juices, about 10 mins. Add the blackberries and bring back to the boil, then remove from the heat. Spoon the fruity mixture into 4 individual ovenproof ramekins, or 1 large baking dish.

Place the flour, butter and a pinch of salt in a large bowl and rub together with your fingers until the mixture resembles coarse breadcrumbs. Add the pistachios and demerara sugar, then stir to combine.

Sprinkle crumble evenly over the cooked fruit. This can be done up to 1 day ahead, or frozen for up to 1 month. Bake for 20-25 mins if small, 40 mins if large, until golden. If baking from frozen, add 15 mins cooking time. Remove from the oven, cool slightly, then serve with ice cream, if you like.

Follow these simple directions, oh don't forget to do your conversions since this beautiful recipe was found across the pond. A simple tap to Siri or a Google search will get you all set with the correct weights and degrees to make the sweet treat.



6 Ranch Report - September 2017



Here is your list of great things to plant in September. You want to pick frost tolerant vegetables such as:

Beets	Cauliflower	Kale
Broccoli	Chards	Lettuce
Brussels	Mustard	Onion
Sprouts	Collards	Parsley
Cabbage	Garlic	Spinach
Carrots		Turnips

Happy Planting!

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Ranch Report - September 2017 7



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