

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 11 NOVEMBER 2017





2 Ranch Record - November 2017

Copyright © 2017 Peel, Inc.

### **COMMUNITY INFO**

#### STEINER RANCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS OFFICE

12550 Country Trails Lane Austin, Texas 78732 512-266-7553 – Telephone 512-266-9312 – Facsimile www.steinerranchhoa.org

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Thursday	1:00pm - 5:00pm
Friday	10:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday & Sunday	CLOSED
STAFF	

#### Executive Director,

Randy Schmaltz, CMCA, AMS, PCAMrandy@steinerranchhoa.org
Community Manager
Mackal "Mack" Taylormack@steinerranchhoa.org
Controller
Andrew Smullenandrew@steinerranchhoa.org
Staff Accountant
Nick Kapanick@steinerranchhoa.org
Joanna Morganjoanna@steinerranchhoa.org
Amenity Coordinator
Patricia Campbell patricia@steinerranchhoa.org
Architectural/Compliance Coordinator
Robin Kasperrobin@steinerranchhoa.org
Front Office Coordinator
Cassie Burgesscassie@steinerranchhoa.org
Communications Coordinator
Meredith Hamrick meredith@steinerranchhoa.org
Lifestyle Coordinator
Desirre Ghebremicaeldesirre@steinerranchhoa.org
SRMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Email the SRMA BOD board@steinerranchhoa.org



### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

#### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	
Fire	
Ambulance	
Sheriff – Non-Emergency	512-974-0845
Travis County ESD No.6/Lake Travis Fire Rescue	
Administration Office	512-266-2533
Travis County Animal Control	512-974-2000

#### **STEINER RANCH CONTACTS**

Steiner Ranch Community Association Office.....512-266-7553

#### SCHOOLS

Leander ISD	
Vandegrift High School	
Canyon Ridge Middle School	
Laura Welch Bush Elementary	
Steiner Ranch Elementary	
River Ridge Elementary	

#### UTILITIES

Travis County WCID # 17	
City of Austin Electric	
Texas Gas Service	
Custom Service	1-800-700-2443
Emergencies	512-370-8609
Call Before You Dig	
AT&T	
New Service	1-800-464-7928
Repair	1-800-246-8464
Billing	
Time Warner Cable	
Customer Service	
Repairs	
TDS (Trash & Recycle)	
Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste	512-974-4343

#### **OTHER NUMBERS**

Lake Travis Postal Office	512-263-2458
Coyote Sightings	
Five Star Commercial Community Managemen	t
Scott Selman	@firestarcm.com
Balcones Canyonlands Preserve	
https://www.traviscountytx.gov/tnr/bccp	

#### **NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER**

Peel, Inc	
Advertising	advertising@peelinc.com

#### **GO GREEN! GO PAPERLESS!** Sign up to receive the Ranch Record directly to

Sign up to receive the Ranch Record directly to your inbox. Visit PEELinc.com for details.

Copyright © 2017 Peel, Inc.

# From the Association Office

# UPCOMING STEINER RANCH EVENTS

- 11/4 Holiday Shopping Event
- 11/23 Steiner Ranch Turkey Trot
- 12/9 Breakfast With Santa
- 1/18 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
- 1/20 Mother & Son Event
- 2/10 Father Daughter Dance
- 3/3 Run The Ranch
- 3/10 Camping on the Ranch
- 3/23 Scrap A Thon
- 3/31 Easter Egg Hunt
- 4/5 New Homeowner Social
- 4/7 Keep Steiner Beautiful Clean Up Event
- 4/7 Summer Camp Open House
- 4/14 Spring Community Garage Sale
- 5/19 Shred Day
- 6/15 Children's Concert
- 7/4 Decorate Your Ride & Independence Day Celebration
- 7/20 Children's Concert
- 8/17 Children's Concert
- 8/18 Concert In The Park
- 9/15 Fall Community Garage Sale
- 10/4 New Homeowner Social
- 10/5 Scrap A Thon
- 10/14 Pumpkin Patch
- 10/20 Steiner Clean Sweep Clean Up Event
- 10/28 Trunk-Or-Treat
- 11/3 Holiday Shopping Event
- 11/22 Steiner Ranch Turkey Trot
- 12/8 Breakfast With Santa

Want to get involved? Join the Event Planning Committee! The Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 9:00am at Cups & Cones.

Events are tentative & subject to change or cancel at any time. Events are planned by the Steiner Ranch Event Planning Committee, and are for Steiner Ranch residents in good standing with the association, and their guests only. Final approval to participate in any Steiner Ranch program or event is dependent upon HOA approval. For more information, please contact Desirre Ghebremicael at: desirre@steinerranchhoa.org

For the most up to date information, follow us at: Facebook. com/SteinerRanchHOAevents or visit the Steiner Ranch HOA website at:

#### www.steinerranchhoa.org

#### FROM THE ASSOCIATION OFFICE

- 6 Key Community Meeting Dates
- 6 HOA Communications
- 7 Mailbox Update Status
- 8 Prune Trees Before February
- 9 Community Trail Work Days
- 9 Holiday Decoration Rule
- 9 Holiday Garbage Schedule Pick-Up
- 10 Event Planning CMTE Meeting Change
- 10 Community Commercial Contact
- 10 Green Waste Pick Up In December

#### **STEINER ACTIVITIES & EVENTS**

- 12 Events Announced For 2018
- 13 Holiday Shopping Event
- 14 Turkey Trot
- 15 Breakfast With Santa
- 17 Holiday House Decorating Contest
- 17 Holiday Camps for Kids
- 17 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
- 21 Trunk Or Treat
- 22 CPR Class
- 22 Free Resident Activities
- 23 Fall Programs Guide
- 23 Upcoming Presentations & Meet-Ups
- 24 Steiner Ranch Cycling
- 25 Tai Chi
- 25 Young At Heart

#### **SWIMMING NEWS**

- 26 Year Round Swim Program
- 26 Adult Swimming Progam
- 26 Propped Pool Gates
- 26 Towne Square Pool Resurfacing

#### **NEWS YOU CAN USE**

- 28 Winter-Irrigation
- 28 Freeze Protection
- 28 Thanksgiving Trivia
- 29 Monarch Butterfly Habitat
- 31 Ways To Prevent Flu
- 31 Tips When Traveling with Your Pet

#### **IN EVERY ISSUE**

- 5 Cover Photo
- 16-17 Calendar
- 28 Business Classifieds29 Teenage Job Seekers

## **COVER PHOTO**



This month's cover photo was taken by Steiner Ranch resident Mark Bode, and features one of the many beautiful trails residents are able to enjoy here in Steiner

Ranch. Thank you, Mark, for sharing this wonderful photo! It's a great reminder to get out and enjoy neighborhood trails this fall.

Have a photo you would like to see published in the next Ranch Record? For consideration, send pictures to communications@steinerranchhoa.org no later than the 8th of the month prior to publication. Your photo might just be next month's cover!

By submitting your photo you agree to allow your photo to be published in future issues of the Ranch Record and/ or other Steiner Ranch communications.

There are multiple ways to teach a child how to solve a math problem.



BALANCED LEARNING® WAY: We love the ones that factor in a love for learning.

#### SEE BALANCED LEARNING IN ACTION. CALL FOR A TOUR TODAY! Infants - Private Kindergarten & After School

Primrose School of Four Points 6606 Sitio del Rio Blvd | Austin, TX 78730 512.795.9101 | PrimroseFourPoints.com

# Opening the Doors that Sell Homes!



**Angie Noeth** 

Selling Steiner Ranch for Over 15 Years!





512.695.7025 www.Agent-Angie.com

# From the Association Office

### **HOA Communications: Your Source For HOA Information**

The HOA utilizes several communication tools to keep residents informed. Want to know about upcoming community events? Need information about facility availability or pool schedules? Unsure about Association rules? This information and more is available to residents via the HOA website at steinerranchhoa.org. The HOA also publishes a monthly community newsletter and communicates HOA event information on the only Facebook page affiliated with the Steiner Ranch HOA @ SteinerRanchHOAevents.

#### How to stay informed:

Steiner Ranch HOA Website: www.steinerranchhoa.org The HOA website provides a wealth of useful information, including:

- Homeowner documents such as community rules and regulations, by-laws, financial documents, architectural guidelines, and more

- Architectural modification request, variance request, pool addendum and greenbelt addendum forms

- Community boards & committee information
- Board meeting agendas
- Recent community announcements
- Facility availability and reservation request link
- Pool schedules
- Upcoming community events, programs and meetings
- Neighborhood organizations
- Report a problem link

- Contact information for HOA staff & SRMA and SRROA Board of Directors

#### The Ranch Record:

The official newsletter of the Steiner Ranch HOA, The Ranch Record is mailed or emailed to homeowners monthly. It contains information from association management, Board of Directors, as well as detailed information about community events. If you are not receiving the newsletter and would like to, visit peelinc.com and follow the prompts to sign up for delivery via mail or email.

*Facebook:* Follow the Steiner Ranch HOA Events Facebook page, the only Facebook page affiliated with the HOA, for the most up-to-date information about HOA community events. The HOA offers a host of events tailored to meet the interests of our homeowners and our Facebook page is an excellent resource to find out what we have planned. Search Steiner Ranch HOA Events to find and follow us.

*Email Alerts:* Sign up to receive HOA email alerts. To sign up, visit the HOA website www.steinerranchhoa.org and login. If you've never requested a login, click the login request form link. Once logged in, follow these steps:

1. Click on the menu item "My Profile".

- 2. Then click "Subscriptions".
- 3. Click email alerts you'd like to receive.

4. Update your "user profile" information with your current email and mailing address.

#### Mailbox Kiosks & Community Marquee

Monthly board meeting dates and times are posted at the community marquee at the entrance of the community on Quinlan Park Road. Various community information is posted at mailbox kiosks.



### Monthly HOA Community Meetings

#### STEINER RANCH MASTER ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meets on the last Tuesday of each month at Towne Square Community Center at 6:00pm

#### STEINER RANCH RESIDENTIAL OWNERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meets on the last Thursday of each month at Towne Square Community Center at 6:00pm

#### STEINER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Towne Square Community Center at 7:00pm

#### **EVENT PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Cups & Cones at 9:30am

#### LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Bella Mar Community Center at 6:00pm

#### TRAIL COMMITTEE

Meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Bella Mar Community Center at 6:30pm. The committee also holds monthly trail work days on the fourth Sunday of each month. Meet-up location and time varies monthly. If you are interested in lending a hand, visit the Steiner Ranch Trail Committee Facebook page for the most up to date information. You may also join their newsletter by subscribing at: https://groups. google.com/forum/#!forum/steinertrails.

#### UT GOLF COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the UT Golf Club at 5:30pm

## **Community Mailbox Improvement Update**



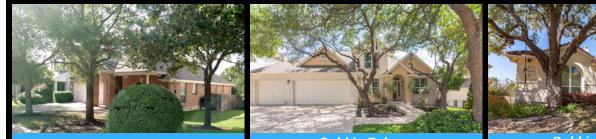
Pictured: Mailbox kiosk boxes that were broken into during the summer.

Due to mailbox break-ins that took place last summer, the SRMA Board of Directors voted to replace outgoing mailbox doors with solid doors in attempt to minimize future break-ins. According to law enforcement and officials from the U.S. Post Office, thieves are using openings to outgoing mail slots to force open the front facing kiosk doors, thereby gaining access to personal mail. Replacing doors with solid panels should alleviate this issue.

This project will require collaboration with the Lakeway Post Office, who must communicate their availability to HOA staff for project coordination. Some mailbox doors were replaced last month. Remaining doors will be replaced based on scheduling via the Lakeway Post Office. Once schedules are determined, HOA staff will notify residents via email prior to replacing mailbox doors. HOA staff has been informed that the process should take approximately 3 days to complete.

Thank you for your patience as we work through this process to make mailboxes in Steiner Ranch more secure. In the meantime, law enforcement and representatives from the post office have told HOA management that the best way to avoid having your mail stolen is to pick it up every day, or request the post office hold it if you will be out of town.

## Sell with Todd Hower Realty and only pay a \$5497 Listing Fee



Sold in 0 days \$4,945 Saved

Sold in 7 days \$6,773 Saved Sold in 19 days \$12,353 Saved



92.3% of homes listed with Todd Hower Realty sell in 49 days or less.

Learn More Visit **ToddHower.com** 

# From the Association Office **Prune Trees Before February**

Residents are reminded to trim trees in need of attention before February, as the risk of oak wilt infection is greatest from February through June. For those who don't know, oak wilt is a destructive fungus affecting oak trees which causes tree mortality. Unfortunately, the fungus has been identified in Steiner Ranch.

Because the risk for oak wilt is low between July and January, now is a good time to trim trees to allow for visibility of pedestrians, traffic and traffic signs. Limbs which extend over sidewalks and roadways pose a potential hazard and should be addressed, too.

Regardless of seasonality, residents are encouraged to follow proper pruning techniques. TexasOakWilt.org recommends the following:

• Always paint fresh wounds on oaks, including pruning cuts and stumps, with wound dressing or latex paint immediately after pruning or live tree removal at all times of the year.

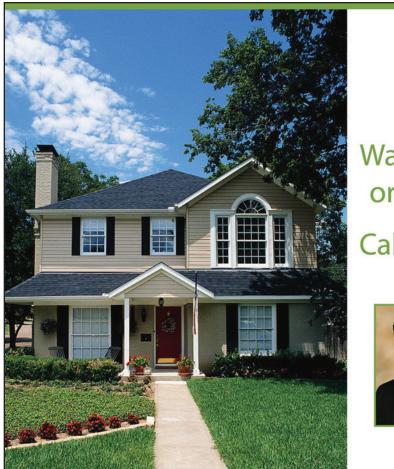
• Clean all pruning tools with 10% bleach solution or Lysol™ between sites and/or trees.

• Debris from diseased red oaks should be immediately chipped, burned or buried.

• Pruning should be completed before February 1 or after June 30. If uncertain about trimming, consult with a Texas oak wilt certified arborist, an oak wilt specialist from a city, county or state government agency such as the Texas Forest Service or Texas AgriLife Extension Service, or visit texasoakwilt.org.

The Steiner Ranch Master Association and Steiner Ranch Residential Association each have Oak Wilt Policies in effect. To view each policy in its entirety, visit the HOA website and click the 'Oak Wilt Policy' tab located under the 'FAQ' drop down menu.





# Looking to buy or sell your home?

Want to invest in residential or commercial real estate?

Call an expert you can trust.



Hem Ramachandran Local expertise, professional results Certified negotiation expert

#### 512.970.6336 hem@indusrealty.com Broker, Real Estate Lic #513913, NMLS # 296907

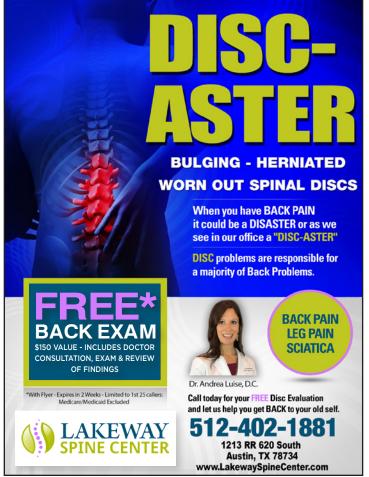
8 Ranch Record - November 2017

### **Community Trail Work Days**

The Steiner Ranch Trail Committee holds monthly trail work days on the fourth Sunday of each month. Meet-up location and time varies monthly. If you're interested in lending a hand, please visit the Steiner Ranch Trail Committee Facebook page for upcoming work day information. You may also join their newsletter by subscribing at: https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/steinertrails.



Pictured above are some of the volunteers who participated in September's trail work day. Thank you for your dedication and service!



### **Holiday Decorations**

As you plan your outside decor for the upcoming holidays, please observe the following Steiner Ranch rule regarding holiday decorations on the exterior of your property:

Holiday decorations (excluding Christmas) may be put out up to fourteen (14) days in advance of the holiday in question. Decorations must be removed no later than seven (7) days after the holiday. Christmas decorations may be put out beginning November 1st and must be removed by January 15th.

Have a wonderful holiday season!

### **Thanksgiving Trash Pick-Up Schedule**

Trash & recycling pick-up during the week of Thanksgiving will be as follows:

If your regular trash pick-up day is Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, then your service will remain unchanged. If your regular trash pick-up day is on Thursday, then your pick-up day during the week of Thanksgiving will be on Friday, November 24th. If your regular trash pick-up day is on Friday, then your trash service will be on Saturday, November 25th.



### Green Waste Pick-Up Happening In December

#### Green Waste Pick-Up:

Texas Disposal Systems (TDS) will provide Steiner Ranch residents with a seasonal green waste collection pick-up (bagged leaves, brush, limbs and other yard waste) during the week of December 11th.

To participate, residents may place up to 20 thirty gallon paper bags of green waste at their curb on their designated trash pick-up day during the week of green waste pick-up.

*NOTE:* Green Waste materials are composted and therefore must be bagged in paper bags. Plastic bags will not be picked up.

#### Bulky Waste & Bundle Pick-Ups:

Residents may schedule free bulky waste and/or bundle pick-ups twice per year by calling TDS. Bundle pick-ups may include tree, shrub, and brush trimmings; newspapers or magazines securely tied together, not exceeding 4 feet in length or 40 pounds. Bulky waste pick-ups consist of large pick-up items such as sofas, refrigerators, water tanks, etc. Call TDS at 512-329-1752 to schedule individual pick-ups.

**Reminder:** Aside from scheduled green waste pick-ups and individually scheduled bulky waste/bundle pick-ups, TDS will not pick up items/bags left outside of trash containers, unless bags are tagged with TDS trash tags. Tags are available for purchase, by check, at the HOA office for \$2.50 per bag. Additional trash/recycle carts may also be ordered directly from TDS.

### Event Planning Committee Meeting Change

Starting in November, the Event Planning Committee will begin meeting on the second Wednesday of each month starting at 9:30am at Cups & Cones. The committee previously met on the second Tuesday of each month at 9:00am. Residents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

### Steiner Ranch Commercial Community Contact

The Steiner Ranch Commercial Community (SRCC) handles all community commercial property questions and complaints. To report commercial concerns, please contact Scott Selman, SRCC Manager with Five Star Community Management at 512-337-6535 or sselman@firestarcm.com. Steiner Ranch HOA management does not handle commercial issues.



# Allstate。 EXPERT AGENT IN THE KNOW

What does it mean to be IN good hands?<sup>SM</sup> It means that I know the risks in the area. I'll use my local expertise to help you choose the right amount of protection. And I'll be there to help you over the years. Call or stop in for a free, no-obligation Personalized

Insurance Proposal today.

GOOD TO BE

Steiner Ranch Resident. 24 hour customer service.



Ed Mena, LUTCF 512-459-5363 5509 Balcones Dr. Austin www.allstateagencies.com/edmena

Subject to terms, conditions and availability. Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Co., Allstate Fire and Casualty Insurance Co., Allstate Insurance Co., Allstate Texas Lloyd's, Allstate Indemnity Co., Allstate Vehicle and Property Insurance Co. © 2016 Allstate Insurance Co.

### Steiner Activities & Events Mark Your Calendars & Hold The Date For Your Favorite HOA Events



Pictured above: Most members of the Steiner Ranch HOA Event Planning Committee



The Event Planning Committee works hard to plan and organize community events that appeal to our homeowners. Made up of a small group of volunteers, and under the direction of HOA Lifestyle Coordinator Desirre Ghebremicael, these ladiess help build a sense of community and offer family-friendly events to Steiner Ranch residents. The committee is pleased to announce the following events for 2018:

- 1/18 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
- 1/20 Mother & Son Event
- 2/10 Father Daughter Dance
- 3/3 Run The Ranch Proud Sponsor
- 3/10 Camping on the Ranch
- 3/23 Scrap A Thon
- 3/31 Easter Egg Hunt
- 4/5 New Homeowner Social
- 4/7 Keep Steiner Beautiful Spring Clean Up Event
- 4/7 Summer Camp Open House
- 4/14 Spring Community Garage Sale
- 5/19 Shred Day
- 6/15 Children's Concert
- 7/4 Decorate Your Ride & Independence Day Celebration
- 7/20 Children's Concert
- 8/17 Children's Concert
- 8/18 Concert In The Park
- 9/15 Fall Community Garage Sale
- 10/4 New Homeowner Social
- 10/5 Scrap A Thon
- 10/14 Pumpkin Patch Proud Sponsor
- 10/20 Keep Steiner Beautiful Fall Clean Up Event
- 10/28 Trunk-Or-Treat
- 11/3 Holiday Shopping Event
- 11/22 Steiner Ranch Turkey Trot
- 12/8 Breakfast With Sant

### Holiday Shopping Event November 4th

Get in the holiday spirit at the annual Steiner Ranch Holiday Shopping event, taking place on November 4th at Towne Square from 10:00am – 2:00pm. Local artists, business owners, and craftsmen will be in attendance with unique items for everyone on your shopping list. No need to leave the neighborhood! Following are some of the merchants who will be at this year's event:

Annabelle Beads Handmade choker necklaces

**Applelonia's House** Jewelry, beads, key chains & trinkets

**Arbonne International** Plant based products for health, wellness & nutrition

Austin Curios African handmade accessories, handbags, clutches, necklaces, bracelets, earrings & skirts

Bath Expo Free quotes for bathroom & window remodeling

**Bidibit's Beauties** Handwoven baskets, hand knitted, woven and crocheted items, vintage postage stamp items, hand sewn ditty bags

**Clara J. Hollis** Handcrafted rustic wooden canes & walking sticks

Divine Luxury Bath & Body Luxurious natural & organic bath and body products

Four Points Family Chiropractic Chiropractic Services

Grace & Heart Jewelry .925 Sterling Silver & nickel-free jewelry

Hawkins Bucklew Handcrafted Jewelry Design As featured in Tribeza Magazine, The Austin Chronicle, Community Impact: handcrafted women's jewelry

India Hicks Crafted handbags & fragrances

**Lularoe** Women's Clothing

Mary Kay Cosmetics Skin Care, cosmetics, body care, gifts

**Our Little Messes** Handmade gifts, including children's toys, journals, book covers and basket liners

#### **ReBirth Designs**

Handcrafted accessories from new and upcycled or post-consumer materials. Redeemed, Repurposed and Reimagined.

Copyright © 2017 Peel, Inc.

#### Rodan+Fields

Skin Care Line

#### SeneGence International

LipSense & Sengence make-up & skin care

#### Shavanthe

Custom designed clothes for men, women & kids. Accessories & home products made of prints from around the world.

**Simply Soy** Organic soy candles, sugar scrubs, bath salts

**Suga Babes** All natural bath & body products, t-shirts

**Touchstone Crystal by Swarovski** Jewelry by Swarovski

**Three Trials Productions** Music gear, audio equipment, studio time & drum lessons

Young Living Essential Oils Public and private events, classes, and essential oil products



## Steiner Ranch Friends & Family Turkey Trot A Great Way To Start Thanksgiving!

The Steiner Ranch HOA Event Planning Committee invites residents, their friends, and family to Steiner's 2017 Turkey Trot! The event will begin at 8:00am on Thanksgiving at Towne Square, and will feature a 5k and Kids Fun Run. Register by visiting the HOA Events Facebook page and support a great cause – a portion of registration fees will be donated to the American Red Cross to support those affected by Hurricane Harvey. Adult registration is \$10, children 12 and under are free.

Much thanks to Austin Christian Fellowship for graciously sponsoring this neighborhood event!

We hope you'll join your neighbors, bring your family, and your friends, to what is sure to be a great start to Thanksgiving Day.



# WE'RE YOUR AUSTIN RETIREMENT LIFESTYLE.

When Austin's the home you've wanted to get back to, say hello to Longhorn Village. Offering the Texas Hill Country lifestyle, life-long learning via UT, smart and lively residents, and big, beautiful villas – we're the Life Plan senior living community you've been looking for. Come home.

## 512.634.8502

12501 Longhorn Parkway Austin, TX 78732 LonghornVillage.com



**H H H H** 

The Longhorn Village lifestyle is open to everyone, regardless of collegiate affiliation.

A unique brand of retirement living.

# SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!

Mr. and Mrs. Claus and their elves will visit Steiner's Towne Square Community Center on December 9th for a morning of holiday cheer, breakfast, treats, crafts, story time, and visits with Santa. Three seating options will be offered starting at 8:00am. Registration is required. Get your tickets by visiting the Steiner Ranch HOA Events Facebook page. The Event Planning Committee looks forward to hosting this cheerful event next month!



### W W W . L I L A S E L L S A U S T I N . C O M

## Let's find the home of your dreams together



I will take the time to understand your unique needs and help guide you through the process of buying or selling your home.

**Lila Hardegree** REALTOR® 512.409.0903 • lila@reillyrealtors.com

Copyright © 2017 Peel, Inc.



Screen Printing, Embroidery, Monogramming, and Bling

This Year, Don't Give Dad Another Tie.

Personalize Gifts for Your Entire List.

> 1901 Ranch Road 620N, Bldg 2 Austin, TX 78734 512-222-1120 VillaPrints.com



Copyright © 2017 Peel, Inc.

### Ready To Spread Some Holiday Cheer?

Enter The Steiner Ranch HOA Holiday House Decorating Contest



Have you driven through the story of Twas The Night Before Christmas at the Summit at Eastridge? Or seen Santa in the window at a home in Rio Mesa? Remember the Aloha themed light display complete with volcano in Hancock Hills last December?

Many Steiner Ranch residents share the spirit of the season by decorating their homes with lights, Santa's, snowflakes, and more. To help residents find these fabulous decked out homes, send us pictures of your favorite holiday themed Steiner Ranch home, and we'll post it to the HOA Events Facebook page. If you are the home owner, send us your address and we will share it on our page.

Send photos & address information no later than December 13th to: communications@steinerranchhoa.org

The HOA Event Planning Committee will judge submitted homes and will award 3 winners with yard displays for their efforts!

Winners will be announced on our FB page before Christmas. Good luck!

Contest categories: Most lights, Most cheerful, Most unique

### Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

The Event Planning Committee will host the annual HOA Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on January 18th to recognize volunteers who support the Steiner Ranch HOA. Invitations will be sent via email at the end of November. Many thanks to community volunteers for their time, service and support!



### **Holiday Camps**

The Steiner Ranch HOA has partnered with Idea Lab and Sportball to offer several camp options during the Thanksgiving and December holiday breaks. Camps will take place at Towne Square Community Center and are designed to give kids the opportunity to have fun and make the most of their holiday break!



#### IDEA LAB CAMPS ROCK YOUR GREY MATTER

Idea Lab provides camps ranging from Cooking School, Robotics, 3D Art, Engineering, and Science. Campers learn through inquisitive hands-on activities utilizing Science, Math, Critical thinking skills and a great deal of IMAGINATION! Reach out to Adam Gockley at austin@idealabkids.com to find out more or visit austinidealabkids. com to register.



#### SPORTBALL CAMPS COACHING WITH A PURPOSE

Sportball was one of the first programs of its kind to focus on building developmentally appropriate skills through non-competitive sports, games and activities – and the company keeps evolving to make sure it delivers the best in sports programming for kids under 12. For holiday camp opportunities, visit sportball.us/Austin.



# NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC) 7:00pm – Community Yoga (BMCC)	2 8:15am -Tai Chi (TSCC ) 6:00pm - Mountain Bike Ride. See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for location.	<b>3</b> 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC)	4 7:30am - SRC Ride (Cups & Cones) 10am-2pm Holiday Shopping Event (Towne Square Community Center)
5 Daylight Savings 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones) 9:00am -Mountain Bike Ride. See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for location.	6 8:15am - Tai Chi (TSCC ) 6:30pm - Adult Yoga (TSCC)	<b>7</b> 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC)	8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC) 9:30am – Event Planning CMTE Mtg (Cups & Cones) 7:00pm – Community Yoga (BMCC)	<b>9</b> 8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:00pm – Long Range Planning CMTE Mtg (BMCC) 6:00pm - Mountain Bike Ride. See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for location.	lo 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC)	Veterans Day 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
12 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones) 9:00am - Mountain Bike Ride. See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for location.	l 3 8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC ) 6:30pm –Adult Yoga (TSCC)	8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC) 5:30pm – UT Golf CMTE Mtg (UT Golf Club) 7:00pm - SRNA Mtg (TSCC) 7:00pm – Community Yoga (BMCC)	8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Trails CMTE Mtg. (BMCC) 7:00pm – Health Workshop (TSCC)	E 6 8:15am – Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:00pm - Mountain Bike Ride. See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for location 6:00pm - Casitas Annual Mtg (UT Golf Club).	I7 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC)	18 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones) CPR Certification Training Class. Details on Page 22 Registration required
2:30am - SRC Ride (Cups & Cones) 9:00am - Mountain Bike Ride. See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for location.	20 8:15am -Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm -Adult Yoga (TSCC)	ARE POOL CL 21 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC)	8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC)	Happy Thanksgiving! 23 HOA Office Closed 8:00am – Turkey Trot (Starts at Towne Square) 6:00pm – Mountain Bike Ride. See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for location.	24 HOA Office Closed	25 7:30am - SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
7:30am-SRC Ride 26 (Cups & Cones) 9:00am - Mountain Bike Ride. See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for location. Trail Work Day. See Steiner Ranch Trails CMTE Facebook page for time & location	27 8:15am -Tai Chi (TSCC ) 6:30pm -Adult Yoga (TSCC)	28 8:15am -Tai Chi (TSCC ) 6:00pm - SRMA Board Mtg (TSCC)	29 8:15am -Tai Chi (TSCC ) 6:30pm - Real Estate Investing Group (BMCC)	SEE PG 9 FOR         8:15am -Tai Chi (TSCC)         6:00pm - SRROA Board Mtg (TSCC)         6:00pm - Mountain Bike Ride.         See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for location.	HOLIDAY TRAS	SHEDULE





Nichole Taylor ntaylor@peelinc.com • 512.263.9181 Sales Representative

# DECEMBER-

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			0/0		8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC)	2 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
<ul> <li>A</li> <li>7:30am - SRC Ride (Cups &amp; Cones)</li> <li>9:00am -Mountain Bike Ride. See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for location.</li> </ul>	<b>4</b> 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC)	S 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC)	6 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:00pm – Community Yoga (BMCC)	<b>7</b> 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:00pm - Mountain Bike Ride. See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for Location	8 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC)	<b>9</b> 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones) Breakfast With Santa – Registration required. See page 15 for details (TSCC)
LO 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones) 9:00am -Mountain Bike Ride. See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for Location.	8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Adult Yoga (TSCC) SEAS	I2 8:15am -Tai Chi (TSCC) 5:30pm - UT Golf CMTE Mtg (UT Golf Club) 7:00pm - SRNA Mtg (TSCC) ONALGF	8:15am -Tai Chi <b>3</b> (TSCC) 9:30am - Event Planning CMTE Mtg (Cups & Cones) 6:00pm - Community Yoga (BMCC) R E E N W A	8:15am -Tai Chi (TSCC) <b>14</b> 6:00pm - Long Range Planning CMTE Mtg (BMCC) 6:00pm - Mountain Bike Ride. See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for location. 6:30 - Real Estate Investing Group (TSCC) <b>S T E P I C</b>	IS 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC)	<b>16</b> 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
2:30am - SRC Ride (Cups & Cones) 9:00am -Mountain Bike Ride: See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for location.	<b>18</b> 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm –Adult Yoga (TSCC)	<b>19</b> 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC) 7:00pm – Community Yoga (BM Pavilion)	20 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:30pm – Trails CMTE Mtg. (BMCC)	21 6:00pm - Mountain Bike Ride. See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for location.	22 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC)	23 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)
24 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones) 9:00am -Mountain Bike Ride. See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for Location.	25 Christmas Day HOA Office Closed	26 HOA Office Closed 8:15am –Tai Chi (TSCC )	27 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC)	28 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC) 6:00pm - Mountain Bike Ride. See Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook for location	29 8:15am Tai Chi (TSCC)	<b>30</b> 7:30am – SRC Ride (Cups & Cones)

**Cold is on the Right Plumbing** is a service based plumbing provider that is committed to you and your home or business. Whether the job is big or small, residential or commercial, simple or complex; we're here to help!







# The AAO recommends that EVERY child visit an **Orthodontist** no later than age 7

Dr. RJ is one of the few Orthodontists in Austin that is BOARD CERTIFIED.

Our emphasis is on Prevention!



**Offers FREE Orthodontic Evaluations for Steiner Ranch** 





Located Behind the Walgreens at the Intersection of 620/2222

\* invisalign invisalign teen

# Thank You Trunk-Or-Treat Sponsors!

Hundreds of Steiner Ranch kiddos participated in last month's Trunk-Or-Treat event, organized by the HOA Event Planning Committee. Kids sported princess, super hero, pumpkin and zombie costumes, to name a few. Much thanks to the more than 30 businesses and organizations who supplied treats out of their trunks, and to the following businesses for sponsoring this delightful and spook-takular event!



## Steiner Activities & Events

### **CPR Certification & First Aid Training Class**

The association has partnered with Steiner Ranch resident and registered nurse, Tracie Zinda, RN, BSN, to offer CPR and First Aid training to residents. Tracie is certified by the American Heart Association and has taught CPR and First Aid for over 10 years. In addition, Tracie has worked in Family Practice Medicine for 5 years, Women's Health for 9 years, and began her career as a Labor and Delivery Nurse at Seton Medical Center.

Upon completion of this class and passing a skills performance test, attendees will become certified in CPR. This is an excellent opportunity to learn how to prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies.

What: CPR Certification & First Aid Training

Who: Offered to Steiner Ranch residents ages 10 & up

Where: Town Square Community Center

When: November 18th from 8:00am - 3:00pm

Class size is limited. Visit the HOA events Facebook page or

website for registration link and payment information or log on to : https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cpr-first-aid-training-class-tickets-36968216932

### **Free Activities For Residents**

Take advantage of these free activities - one of the many perks of living in Steiner Ranch!

**Community Yoga** - Provided by Steiner Ranch resident. Meets most Wednesdays at Bella Mar Community Center at 7:00pm. See the HOA online calendar for classes.

**Cycling Group** - Meets at Cups & Cones Saturday & Sunday Mornings at 7:30am.

**Mountain Biking** - Meets Thursdays & Sundays for group rides at various locations. Beginner & intermediate riders. For information visit Steiner Ranch Riders on Facebook.

**Tai Chi** - Meets at Towne Square Community Center Monday through Friday at 8:15am. and most weekday

**Yoga By Lake Austin Spa** - Provided by Lake Austin Spa instructor. Meets at Towne Square Mondays at 6:30pm.

\*Offered activities are for adults only. Supply fees may apply.



## Fall Program Guide

It's not too late to sign up for fall programs! Stop by the HOA office for a hard copy or visit the Steiner Ranch HOA website to view the guide online: www.steinerranchhoa.org

#### FEATURED PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

#### **Children's Programs:**

Idea Lab • Lonestar Soccer • Lost Creek Aquatics Swim Neighborhood Sports • Soccer • Swimming • Sportball Tap~N~Toe Dance • Tennis • Towne & Country Soccer Zumba Kids

#### **Adult Programs:**

Camp Gladiator • Fit4Mom • GymGuyz • Hula Lost Creek Aquatics Swim • Master's Swimming Tai Chi • Tennis • Yoga • Zumba

### Upcoming Presentations & Meet-Ups

The following are available to Steiner Ranch residents at no cost: **November 15th** – A discussion on diabetes will be presented by Dr. Benjamin Rosin starting at 7:00pm, at Towne Square Community Center.

**November 29th** – The Steiner Ranch Real Estate Investing Group is a local meet-up organized to foster community, learning and opportunity in all things related to real estate investing. Beginners and industry veterans welcome. Group will meet at Bella Mar Community Center at 6:30pm.







SHANNON ENSOR Broker | REALTOR\* | Co-Founder shannon@steinerlife.com



JOE ENSOR REALTOR<sup>\*</sup> | Co-Founder joe@steinerlife.com



SARAH GEORGE sarah@steinerlife.com

#### In Steiner Ranch, you'll find more than a home, YOU'LL FIND A LIFESTYLE.

From the breathtaking views and beautiful lakes to a long list of sports and hobbies, there's something for everyone. Together, we celebrate the happy milestones while also supporting neighbors in challenging times, nurturing a spirit of service.

**THE STEINER LIFE TEAM** is honored to support you in your home search, and, if you must leave, we're here to make that transition a smooth one.

512.640.9277 info@steinerlife.com



# Steiner Activities & Events STEINER RANCH CYCLING NEWS

The Steiner Ranch Cycling (SRC) is a group of fun loving cyclist that enjoy the outdoors, burning calories, and meeting new people. Cycling is easy on your body, good for your health and a great way to build community. There is no cost to ride, and we welcome new riders. You probably see us riding around the neighborhood in our Steiner Ranch-themed red white and blue kits. Give us a wave but please don't honk!

#### SATURDAY RIDES

On Saturdays we host an open group ride, currently starting at Cups & Cones at 7:30 AM. Our Saturday rides include advanced and intermediate groups. The advanced group will have average speeds from 18 - 20 mph and the intermediate group will average between 15 - 17 mph. While each group will be travelling at different speeds, each group will be tackling the same course with a typical distance ranging from 50 up to 70+ miles. The turnout is typically between 10 - 20 riders depending on weather. There is no designated sweeper for these rides. Come on out and have some fun, everyone is welcome. Ride details are posted each week to our website at http://www.steinerranchcycling.com, on our Facebook page http:// facebook.com/SteinerRanchCycling, and to our email list (sign up on our website).

Steiner Ranch Cycling is powered by Lakeside's awesome burgers (such as their Bacon Avocado Burger) and refreshed by their beer.

Join us there after the ride on Saturdays to refuel and recover!

SUNDAY COFFEE SHOP RIDE

On Sundays we host a mostly mellow ride to a local coffee shop outside Steiner.

The group will leave Cups & Cones at 7:30 AM and will target some not-too-far coffee shop for some espresso, pastries, and socializing. The ride will average around 17 mph and should be perfect for those looking for an easier and more relaxed alternative to our Saturday rides. Our destination is typically Red Horn Coffee House and Brewing Company at 1431 and Parmer which is 20 miles from Cups & Cones. Although this is technically a 'drop ride', we will make great efforts to keep the group together. Note that you should be able to ride the 38-50 miles at a 17 mph average pace for the whole ride.

Please visit our website at http://www.steinerranchcycling.com to check out what is going on in the Steiner Ranch cycling community.

SPONSORS Austin City Living, Patten Law Firm, Dream Smiles Dental, Cyclist Law, Lakeside Pizza & Grill

RIDE DISCLAIMER: Each rider is responsible for his or her own safety on our rides. Please join us at your own risk. Our weekly rides are open to public participation but ride leaders do NOT assume any liability for your participation. We require that all participants follow traffic laws and wear a helmet while on our rides.



### Free Tai Chi Group Practice

**Monday - Friday 8:15 am - 9:00 am** Towne Square Community Center 12400 Country Trails Ln, Austin, TX 78732

#### Benefits of Tai Chi:

- Relieve Stress on the body and mind
- Improve Health and Physical Fitness - Enhance Self Defense capability

Questions : contact 512-470-6978 or rosaliachiu@gmail.com



# YOUNG 🕪 HEART

#### youngatheartaustin@gmail.com

Young at Heart is an active social group open to Steiner Ranch residents ages 50+. We are purely a social organization wanting to share fun times. Joining us is a great way to make new friends, and get to know people your own age in the neighborhood. If you live in Steiner Ranch, you are invited to join us. To become a member, send your name(s), address, phone number and e-mail address to youngatheartaustin@ gmail.com.

Our most popular activities include evening Canasta as well as ladies Canasta at the UT Golf Club. In addition, we offer numerous activities to meet varied interests such as: Book Club, Euchre, Mah Jongg, Mexican Train, Bunco, Walking, Hiking, Biking, Spanish Conversation, Painting, Card Making, Ladies CLEO Luncheons (Classy Ladies Eating Out), and our popular ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out). We also get together for happy hours, wine socials and dinner groups. We would love to have you join us!



# Swimming News

### Towne Square Pool To Be Resurfaced

Towne Square Pool will be closed Monday, November 13th through Thursday November 16th for pool decking resurfacing. Thank you for your patience as we work to maintain the facility.

## **Don't Prop Pool Gates**

Although the weather is cooler and many residents are not using community pools, please remember that propping a gate open to one of the community pools is a serious safety issue. It only takes a second for a child to wander into an unattended pool area and drown. Do not prop pool gates open for any reason.



### Year-Round Swimming in Steiner Ranch

Submitted by Jessica Evans, Lost Creek Aquatics



Lost Creek Aquatics, a USA Swimming Bronze medal club, started its fifth year at the Bella Mar pool in Steiner Ranch in August. LCA swimmers just finished their first competitive meet of the season, the LCA Fall Races, where many kids swam new

events and established their first times for the fall season. LCA will be competing at two meets at the University of Texas in October. LCA is accepting new swimmers on a wait list, to be added to the team in case they have drops. If you would like to add your swimmer to LCA's wait list, please send your child's name, date of birth, grade, and previous swim team experience to teamadmin@lostcreekaquatics. com. To learn more about year-round swimming in Steiner Ranch, please visit the LCA website at www.lostcreekaquatics.com and then click the LCA Steiner tab for practice times, group descriptions, and fees. If you have any questions about year-round swim team in Steiner Ranch, please call LCA at 512-917-2274.



### **Adult Swimming Program**



Come join the Masters Swim Program! The workouts are adjusted for everyone from beginners all the way to advanced -- no swim experience needed!! No intimidation allowed!! If you can swim one length of the pool, then you are ready to join in on the fun. Currently, we have "newbies" who haven't ever participated in organized adult swim classes, new and experienced triathletes who want to improve the swim part of their triathlons, and experienced master's swimmers looking to enjoy an organized swim workout. Regardless of your skill level, you will find a lane with swimmers who match your ability and enthusiasm.

#### Our swim schedule is as follows:

- Wednesdays and Fridays at 5:30 a.m. until 6:45 a.m.
- Sundays at 6:30 a.m. until 7:45 a.m.
- \$50 per month for residents

#### Come on and give it a try! It's easy to sign up:

1. You must be 18 yrs. and older.

2. Join U. S. Masters Swimming! To be eligible to compete in masters' meets, to get a great magazine, and for HOA insurance purposes, go to the United States Masters swimming website, www.usms.org/reg and join our team Red Giants Masters swimming. Print your card and email a copy to program lead, Hollie Kenney.

3. Contact Hollie Kenney at holliekenney@austin.rr.com to register.

As this is a Year Round Program, it's a great way to meet new friends and be a part of a fun community of swimmers and neighbors!



Dentistry for infants, children, teens and patients with special needs.

# 512.266.7200

- Friendly Pediatric Trained Staff
- Parents Allowed Back During Treatment
- Board Certified Specialists
- Insurances Accepted
- On Time Appointments
- Before and After School Appointments
- Advanced Soft-tissue Laser Procedures
- Wifi, Games and Movies

#### **Two Convenient Locations**

Steiner Ranch 4308 N. Quinlan Park #201 Austi<u>n, TX 78732 \_\_\_\_</u> Lakeline 14005 N. HWY 183 #800 Austin, TX 78<u>717</u>

### SmileLikeAStar.com

**FREE** Child's Sonicare

with New Patient Exam and Cleaning

\$56.00 Value

oupon must be presented at time of exam. For patient's age 3 and older Coupon cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 1/31/18

### Time to Reset Your Irrigation Controller & Cut Back on Water Use

Submitted by WCID 17

Does your lawn need watering over the winter? Yes, some, but not nearly as much as in the summer months. Evaporation rates are much lower in winter and grass is dormant, so you can set your irrigation system to water only twice a month OR LESS. If you know rain is coming, shut your system off completely or make sure your rain sensor prevents the system from operating. Save cash now and save on sewer service cost by using less water during the winter months.

Water use in November, January and February is used to compute sewer bills - Remember to be aware of your household water consumption during the months of November thru February. WCID 17 averages household water usage during this time to calculate the residential wastewater bill amount for the following year. These months are used because these are the months which historically have the lowest usage because residents are not watering outside or watering very little. Wastewater rates are evaluated and adjusted annually each October.

### No One Likes a Broken Water Pipe!!!

#### Submitted by WCID 17

Every winter, many homeowners face the expense and inconvenience of frozen water pipes. Take a walk through your home and yard so you can cross that off your list of winter worries by taking a few simple precautions:

- Drain and insulate irrigation backflow valves (RPZ);
- Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses;
- Insulate pipes or faucets in unheated areas;
- Seal off access doors, vents and cracks;

• In severe cold weather, open the cabinet doors that have plumbing pipes inside to allow heat to help protect them;

• Consider allowing a faucet to drip a small continuous stream or shut your water off at the master shutoff; and

• Make sure you can locate your master water shutoff.

What if it's too late? What if you wake up one morning and find the pipes have frozen anyway? Have the plumber's phone number handy. If you think you know where the freeze up occurred, and want to try thawing it yourself, the easiest tool is probably the hair dryer with a high heat setting. Wave the warm air back and forth over the pipe, not on one spot. Be careful, because the pipe may already be broken. It's not leaking because the water is frozen. When you thaw it out, the water could come gushing out. Be ready to turn off the water if necessary, or better yet, shut the valve off before thawing the pipe. • Americans eat approximately 46 million turkeys each Thanksgiving.

• The heaviest turkey on record, according to the Guinness Book of Records, weighs 86 pounds.

• The average turkey served for Thanksgiving weighs 16 pounds.

• Campbell's Soup created green bean casserole for an annual cookbook over 50 years ago. Now, Campbell's sells about \$20 million worth of cream of mushroom soup, most likely purchased by folks making what has become a thanksgiving tradition- green bean casserole.

• Historians say turkey was not served at the first Thanksgiving dinner, a three-day meal shared between the pilgrims and Wampanoag tribe in 1621. Instead, venison and seafood are most likely what was eaten.

• The first Thanksgiving dinner was eaten with spoons and knives — but no forks! Forks weren't a popular utensil until the 18th century.

• President Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a national holiday in 1863, to be celebrated each year on the last Thursday of November.

• Benjamin Franklin said in a letter to his daughter in 1784 that he believed a turkey would be "a much more respectable Bird" for the young United States than the bald eagle. He said the turkey is "a true original native of America" and "a bird of courage." Franklin's take on the national bird was not popular enough to displace the bald eagle.

• In 1953, Swanson had so much extra turkey (260 tons) that a salesman told them they should package it onto aluminum trays with other sides like sweet potatoes — and thus the first TV dinner was born.

• Each year, the president of the United States pardons a turkey and spares it from being eaten for Thanksgiving dinner. The first turkey pardon ceremony started with President Truman in 1947.

• The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade began in 1924 with 400 employees marching from Convent Ave to 145th street in New York City. During this time the parade was accompanied not with oversized balloons of our favorite cartoon characters, but with live animals borrowed from the Central Park Zoo.



### **Providing Habitat for the Monarch Butterfly**

Submitted by LaJuan Tucker, City of Austin and Johanna Arendt, Travis County



Over the past few years, Texas has boasted some of the highest growth rates in the country. Central Texas has seen increased development, urbanization, and economic growth. Natural landscapes are quickly being converted to roadways, housing, and retail.

These dramatic shifts in

the landscape are having a significant impact on wildlife. Water sources are being paved over or polluted with runoff. Agricultural lands and native grasslands that provide nesting and foraging sites for birds are increasingly replaced with houses and gas stations. Wildlife now must cross roadways and travel longer distances to find food, shelter, and mates.

There are, however, many ways that residents can help wildlife in urban and suburban landscapes. Balconies, parks, greenbelts, school yards, and backyards are just a few of the places that can provide important resources for wildlife.

One species that especially needs our help is the monarch butterfly (Danaus plexippus). This iconic butterfly is most famous for its long migrations and its beautiful orange and black markings. Unfortunately, research shows that overall monarch numbers are on the decline. Here in Central Texas, we encounter the monarch butterfly during both its northern and southern migrations, which puts us in a unique position to assist with conservation efforts.

Learn more on November 8, when LaJuan Tucker will be giving a presentation about backyard wildlife at Concordia University. Join us at 6:30pm in Room C270 for a fun, informative program.

#### HOWYOU CAN HELP

Provide monarch habitat essentials: food, water, shelter, and a place to raise their young in parks, yards and open spaces.

Provide native milkweed, the "host plant" for the monarch larvae:

Antelope horn (Asclepias asperula)

Green milkweed (Asclepias viridis)

Texas milkweed (Asclepias texana)

Find more at https://www.wildflower.org/collections/collection.php?collection=centex\_milkweed

Plant native, butterfly-friendly flowers that provide nectar sources for adult butterflies: http://xerces.org/monarch-nectar-plant-guide-southern-plains/

Supervise pets and children when outdoors to ensure they do not harm wildlife visitors.

Control imported fire ant populations in your yard. Fire ants are predators of monarch eggs and caterpillars.

Use pesticides sparingly or avoid using them altogether. These harmful chemicals are thought to have a negative effect on both milkweed and the butterflies themselves.

#### THE MONARCH'S LIFE CYCLE

The monarch butterfly's journey is well documented in NOVA's Journey of the Butterflies. This petite insect, weighing no more than 0.75 grams, starts off as a tiny egg on a milkweed plant. Milkweed is the monarch's "host" plant -- they lay eggs only on that type of plant. Once the eggs hatch, monarch caterpillars begin to eat the milkweed and sequester the cardenolides found there. Cardenolides are poisonous to most vertebrates, making the monarch repugnant to predators. The bright orange and black coloration the butterfly has after metamorphosis advertises to predators their poisonous nature.

While the adult monarch is brightly colored, the caterpillar blends in by taking on the colors of its host plant, with beautiful bands of green, yellow, white, and black. In this larval stage, monarchs molt several times as they grow. After its final growth phase, the caterpillar begins its preparation for pupation. Most monarchs will stay in pupation from 9 to 15 days, depending on ambient temperatures. Once the wing muscles have developed, the chrysalis turns clear, exposing the coloration for which the butterfly is famed.

After emerging from the chrysalis, the monarch fuses its proboscis, which it will use to suck nectar from flowers, and waits for its wings to dry. If the monarch is located in North America, it will soon begin a journey of around 3,000 miles to overwintering locations in California, Mexico and other southwestern states. How the monarch butterfly makes such a tremendous journey is still a mystery. Some believe that earth's magnetic fields assist the monarch in navigation. Others believe that the angle of the sun during different seasons gives them clues. Once they arrive at their overwintering grounds, the monarchs wait for the weather to warm up again before the next generation makes the journey back north.

Although a single generation will make the 3,000-mile flight south, the journey back northward is made by four successive generations. Central Texas in the bottle neck of the monarch's flight path. Both northbound and southbound monarchs fly through Texas on their way in and out of Mexico. Because of our location in the monarch's flight path, local residents have a unique opportunity to help the monarch on their spectacular journey.

As the Central Texas population continues to grow, so can our responsibility to make sure urban and suburban places serve not only as economic growth centers, but also as havens for wildlife such as the monarch butterfly.

References: Oberhauser Karen S. and Michelle J Solensky ed.

The Monarch Butterfly: Biology and Conservation. New

York: Cornell University Press. 2004. Print

About the author: LaJuan Tucker is the Program Coordinator for the City of Austin's Wildlife Austin Program. This program advocates for the creation and conservation of public spaces as critical sources of wildlife habitat and opportunities to connect the community back to nature. LaJuan also administers the Mayor's Monarch Pledge for the City of Austin, is a Habitat Steward Host<sup>™</sup> and a Landscape for Life Trainer<sup>™</sup>.



# The panch 512.466.4947 www.TheRanchOrthodontics.com the composition of the entire family for over 17 years.

## Ranch Record

### Preventing The Flu: Good Health Habits Can Help Stop Germs

#### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The single best way to prevent seasonal flu is to get vaccinated each year, but good health habits like covering your cough and washing your hands often can help stop the spread of germs and prevent respiratory illnesses like the flu. There also are flu antiviral drugs that can be used to treat and prevent flu.

1. Avoid close contact.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.

2. Stay home when you are sick.

If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. This will help prevent spreading your illness to others.

3. Cover your mouth and nose.

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.

4. Clean your hands.

Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.

5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.

6. Practice other good health habits.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

### Twelve Top Travel Tips When Traveling with Your Pet

Traveling with your pet can be fun and rewarding – especially when you're prepared. In addition to the pet travel "basics" (safely restraining your pet, allowing adequate time for potty breaks, bringing comforting items from home, and so on), several additional simple practices can help make every trip easier and more pleasant for both you and your pet.

1. Schedule a veterinarian visit to insure overall health and current vaccinations. Ask for a health certificate and vaccination records, especially if you're traveling out of state.

2. Make sure your pet's identification tags are up-to-date and legible. Also, be sure his rabies tag and vaccinations are current.

3. Include your destination address and/or phone number on your pet's tags and cage/crate (if applicable).

4. Remember to pack water to prevent dehydration. To help insure convenient feedings bring along a collapsible food bowl.

5. Pack all medications and supplements to avoid missed doses.

6. Pack a first aid kit to insure readiness in the event of an injury or medical emergency.

7. Exercise your pet prior to departure. A tired pet is typically much more amenable to travel. Also, bring a lead or harness to allow exercise during pit stops.

8. Feed your pet at least four hours prior to departure to prevent car sickness. If the trip is long, feed a smaller amount that normal at least two hours before you leave.

9. Use a travel remedy, if necessary. If your pet is extremely anxious about travel, try a soothing non-prescription calming product.

10. Trim toenails to prevent snags and injury, especially if your pet will travel in a cage or crate.

11. Cover your car seats to keep them clean and free of hair shed on your trip.

12. Know your travel rules and restrictions, especially if you will travel on an airplane.





Copyright © 2017 Peel, Inc.

## **NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE**



32 Ranch Record - November 2017

Copyright © 2017 Peel, Inc.

Rids?	
Attention KIDS: Send Us	
Color the drawing below and mail Peel, Inc Kids Club, 308 Meadowla We will select the top few and post their artwork on a DUE: Novemb	ırk St, Lakeway, TX 78734-4717 Dur Facebook Page - Facebook.com/Peellnc.
	Be sure to include the following so we can let you know! Name:
	(first name, last initial)
$m = m + \frac{1}{2}$	Age:
Ely un ni	Marve As
	Vereiser Ver
	SR

 $\wedge$ 

-

# Steiner Activities & Events

### **BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS**

**LEARN GUITAR:** In-Home Guitar Lessons. Great teacher, fun environment. B.A. in Music, Berklee College of Music. Steiner resident. Over 20 years of teaching experience. All ages, styles and skill levels welcome. Proudly serving Steiner Ranch for years. For more info call Charles Couch at 646.704.3092 or visit www. charlescouch.com.

**CONNOR CLEANING SERVICES**: Are you paying more than \$100 to have your house cleaned? 4200 sq. feet or less- you are paying too much! Call Connor Cleaning. Reliable. Dependable Service. Quality Work. Supplies furnished. Over 12 years in business. Affordably priced. Call 512-209-1141. Bonded.

**PIANO LESSONS** given in your home year-round. Experienced, creative, patient, mature teacher tailors lesson's curriculum to the student's interests. University educated teacher with classical background accepts students ages 5 to 105 of any experience level. Homeschoolers and adults welcome. Contact James Heuser 512-969-8529. www.fourpointspianoteacher.com ACCOUNTING & TAX SERVICES: Local CPA & Quickbooks ProAdvisor offering all inclusive small business accounting and tax services for businesses & individuals. Affordable rates & quality work. 10% off if you mention this ad! Kelley Arnold (512) 466-9319. Email: kelley@steinerranchcpa.com. Web: www. steinerranchcpa.com.

**THE HANDYMAN CAN**: Multi-yr. Steiner resident available for honey-dos, inspection punch lists, hang pictures, fans & lights. Assemble most anything; furniture, Ikea, etc. You name it I can probably do it. No job too small, no minimum. Many 100% satisfied Steiner clients. Richard 970-9616.

**ALLSTATE INSURANCE- ED MENA AGENCY INC**: If you recently purchased a new home or replaced the roof on your current one, call me today to save money. Save even more by bundling your policies. Steiner Ranch Resident. edmena@allstate.com or call 512-459-5363.



Call 512.263.4144 or Visit our website to learn more: www.hillcountryindoor.com

# SANOVA DERMATOLOGY STEINER RANCH

# you can't miss this exclusive evening GIRLS NIGHT OUT 11. 16. 17 6:30 - 9PM

ONE - NIGHT - ONLY DISCOUNTS

RAFFLE PRIZES COSMETIC VENDERS

DRINKS & APPETIZERS

TO RSVP: Call 512.266.0007 or visit the events page on sanovadermatology.com

4300 N Quinlan Park Rd #225, Austin, TX 78732



PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID PEEL, INC.

SR



#### UNITED, REALTORS

Certified Residential Specialist Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist Certified Negotiation Expert Corporate Relocation Specialist ABR, e-Pro and AHWD www.SteinerRanchInfo.com Direct: (512) 657-7510 Elicia@SteinerRanchInfo.com





# What is your Steiner Ranch home truly worth?

### Request your FREE, NO OBLIGATION home valuation today!

Free Pre-Sale Consultation Learn what needs to be done (and what doesn't) in order to get your home ready to sell for Top \$\$\$

#### **Quick & East Desktop Valuation Tool**

Use our quick Property Valuation Estimator to get an instant ballpark figure of your property's current value based on the most recent area sales data.



 $\bigcirc$ 

#### **Tested and Proven Home Marketing Strategies**

Let us drive as much traffic to your property as possible and find your perfect buyer

#### **Detailed, Property Specific Valuation**

Want to take it a step further? After you get your quick desktop value, we'll set up your Pre-Sale Consultation where we'll walk through your property and determine the Best List Price and what might need to get done in order to obtain it!

## www.SteinerRanchMarketInfo.com

#### and LIKE us on facebook.com/steinerranchinfo

36 Ranch Record - November 2017

(~)

 $\bigcirc$ 

Copyright © 2017 Peel, Inc.