

## Austin ISD Announces 28 Schools Are Frozen to Transfers in 2018-19

In recent years the school district has limited the number of transfers. Each year, Austin ISD determines which schools should be frozen to transfers because they have, or are expected to have, enrollments that exceed their capacities. Also, some schools are frozen to maintain stability in tracking patterns.

Priority transfer requests, including sibling, majority-to-minority and tracking transfers, will not be accepted at the following schools, which will be frozen to transfers for the 2018-19 school year.

Of these, 6 campuses are in Southwest Austin.

High schools — Akins, Bowie and McCallum

Middle schools — Lamar and Murchison

Elementaries — Baldwin, Baranoff, Becker (except for dual language applicants and third through fifth grades), Blazier, Brentwood, Bryker Woods, Casis, Cowan, Davis, Doss, Gullett, Hill, Kiker, Lee (except for sixth grade), Maplewood, Mathews, Menchaca, Oak Hill, Reilly (except for dual language applicants and third through fifth grades), Ridgetop, Summitt, Sunset Valley (except for dual language applicants and third through fifth grades), and Zilker

For other schools, requests for transfers will be accepted between Jan. 2 and Jan. 31 and will be given equal consideration, according to the district. For more information, go to www.austinisd.org/transfer or call (512) 414-1726.

# TEXAS A&M GRILIFE EXTENSION

## RECLUSE SPIDERS



Recluse spiders are shy and, as their name suggests, do not like being out in the open. They are about the size of a quarter, with a body that is 1/2 inch long. They can be light brown, dark brown or greyish in color. They have no spines on their legs and usually have a uniform body color. Recluse

spiders are known for their characteristic violin or fiddle-shaped marking on the "back" (a.k.a. cephalothorax...the front part of the spider). The real distinguishing feature is an eye pattern of three pairs of eyes arranged in a semicircle on the front of the cephalothorax.

Outside homes, recluse spiders can be found in garages or sheds, firewood piles, or piles of stored materials such as lumber, bricks, or rocks. Inside the home, these spiders are found in bedrooms, closets, bathrooms, under furniture, behind baseboards, in attics, or in cracks and crevices. They are most active at night when hunting for food.

People are typically bitten by accidentally rolling over onto a spider while sleeping or trapping a spider next to skin when putting on clothing where the spider is hiding. Recluse spiders have a cytotoxin that breaks down tissue in the bite area. Several hours after being bitten a blister forms at the bite site that may grow in size as tissue breaks down from injected venom. Infected tissue eventually sloughs off, leaving an open wound that takes a while to heal. More serious symptoms may also occur such as chills, fever, fatigue, joint pain, or nausea. If you experience problems after being bitten by a spider, then seek medical attention immediately.

To avoid spider bites, try some (or all) of the following:

- Use sticky taps to capture spiders
- Remove bed skirts from beds (these make it easy for spiders to crawl into the bed)

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#### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

EMERGENCY NUMBERS	
EMERGENCY	911
Fire	911
Ambulance	911
Sheriff – Non-Emergency	512-974-0845
SCHOOLS	
Elementary	
Clayton	512-841-9200
Kiker	512-414-2584
Mills	512-841-2400
Patton	
Middle	
Bailey	512-414-4990
Small	
Gorzycki	512-841-8600
High School	
Austin	512-414-2505
Bowie	
UTILITIES	
Water/Wastewater	
City of Austin	512-972-0101
City of Austin (billing)	
Emergency	
Texas State Gas	,12
Customer Service1	-800-700-2443
Gas related emergency1	
Pedernales Electric Cooperative	
New service, billing	512-219-2602
Problems	
ATT/SBC Telephone	
New Service1	-800-288-2020
Repair1	
Billing1	
Allied Waste	
Time Warner Cable	
OTHER NUMBERS	
Oak Hill Postal Station1	-800-275-8777
City of Austin	2 000 27 9 07 77
Dead Animal Collection	512-494-9400
Abandoned/Disabled Vehicles	
Stop Sign Missing/Damaged	
Street Light Outage (report pole#)	
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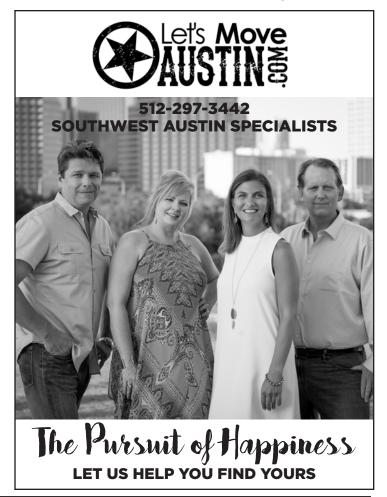
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- Don't leave clothes or blankets on the floor; shake out blankets and clothing before using
- When storing items, either use sealed plastic containers/ bags or tape boxes on all seams to keep spiders out
- Wear leather gloves when cleaning in undisturbed closets, attics, garages, or the yard
- Keep stacked, stored items away from the home. Do not store firewood against the house and only bring in firewood to immediately place on a fire.

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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# WHY YOU SHOULD HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT - YES, YOU!

"International exchanges are not a great tide to sweep away all differences, but they will slowly wear away at the obstacles to peace as surely as water wears away a hard stone."

- Former President George H.W. Bush

This time of year, the 100 or so high school exchange student programs in the U.S. are beginning to seek host families for the coming academic year for both one semester and full academic year students.

About 28,000 students come to the U.S. each year for youth exchange programs of varying lengths. Not surprisingly, their motivations vary. They want to improve their English-speaking skills. They want to establish their independence from their parents. They want to see the America of Hollywood and the streets of New York. If they don't have siblings, they would like one. They want to share the beauty and complexity of Japanese or Italian cooking. They want to play American football and be on the cheerleading team. They want to travel and see new places.

They want to live life as an American teenager.

Families who welcome these exchange students into their homes and hearts not only enrich the life of an exceptional young person, they help build people-to-people connections that span the globe and last of a lifetime.

- Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Summer 2010

I think cultural exchanges, including hosting high school exchange students, offer benefits far beyond being "a good citizen." Beyond actually learning about another culture and how things might be done differently on a daily basis, it challenges one's assumptions about other cultures, teaches communication skills, and helps develop patience and flexibility.

Few experiences can teach you – and your children — the small but critical differences between cultures as living with someone from another country.

The benefits to America children – both our own children and others who are attending school with exchange students – are significant in ways that are difficult (if not impossible) to quantify. It's not something adults often think about. Even school administrators don't always think through how exposure to other cultures can benefit students in their districts. Think about communication for just a moment. Although your children will, of course, speak English to their exchange student, the potential for miscommunication is huge when you are talking to non-native English speakers. The processes of learning how to re-shape your thoughts, speak more clearly, and make sure what you intend to say is what is heard are important skills. Think about your assumptions about other cultures – your assumptions,

and those of your children and their friends, about another country's foods, habits, or attitudes. Think about relationships, and learning how to adapt, become more cooperative, and developing an ability to be flexible.

You \*do\* have something to offer.

Many families tell me they can't host because "we aren't a good host family." People assume they must be outgoing, that they need to be a family that travels a lot, or that they must be a family that goes to museums, events, and activities all the time. People assume that it is critical for a host family to live in a big city so it will be "fun" for a teen, that it is important to provide a student with his or her own bedroom, or that they must live near the high school. Many people assume you must have a high school student in your home in order to host a high school exchange student. The list of "why we're not a good family" goes on, but most of these pre-conceptions simply aren't accurate. Is it nice to travel with your student? Of course, because it's fun to share your city, your state, or your country's beautiful places. But not everyone travels much. Is it nice to live next to the high school? Of course. But let's face it, most people don't. Is it "fun" for a teen to live in the city? Sure. But nice people who have the desire, capability, and emotional intelligence to be a host family live everywhere.

The truth is, there is no typical American host family, because there is no single "typical" American family. American host families have teens and don't have teens. They have young children and toddlers. They have children who are now grown and living elsewhere, or no children at all. They have dogs or not, large homes or small ones. Single parents are families, as are grandparents. American families live in large cities, suburban areas, and in small communities. The students are not here to travel, have a tour guide, just have "fun," or to have an easy life with a five-minute school commute. They're here to go to school, learn about our country, live with a family, and to learn what life is like for an American teen. They can play on the soccer team or have a role in the school play no matter where they live and no matter what the composition of their host family.

The key to hosting a student is not in who is in your family, but who you are as people. Good host families are people who want to share their own culture and community, and learn about someone else's. Good host parents look to give their families a glimpse of the world and introduce them to new customs and cultures.

STS Foundation is currently looking for host families in our area. If you are interested in hosting a student and enjoying this enriching experience, please contact Vicki Odom at 832-455-7881 or email me at vicki.stsfoundation@gmail.com for more information.

# SETON SOUTHWEST OFFERS DELL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY CARE

#### KID-FRIENDLY ER. CONVENIENT CARE NOW CLOSER TO HOME

The world-class pediatric emergency care of Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas is now available in Southwest Austin.

What does this mean for patients and their families? When infants, children and teens visit the ER at Seton Southwest Hospital, they receive the same high-quality care as patients at Dell Children's in Austin, closer to home.

Dell Children's pediatric emergency experts helped develop the care guidelines for kids seen at Seton Southwest. When advanced care is needed, doctors at Seton Southwest can use virtual care technology to link directly to specialists at Dell Children's Medical Center.

Dell Children's and Seton are part of Ascension, the largest nonprofit health system in the U.S. and the world's largest Catholic health system.

#### THE DELL CHILDREN'S DIFFERENCE

Mousumi Chanda-Kim, MD, medical director of Seton Southwest,

said nearby residents can now receive more advanced pediatric care without the hassle of travel.

"We're proud to offer Southwest Austin residents advanced level of pediatric emergency services," Chandra-Kim said. "Expanding our emergency services for kids provides a deeper level of comprehensive care to our patients."

As Dell Children's draws upon a decade of service in Central Texas, it has earned a reputation as the region's pediatric leader, providing children and their families a superb healing experience, a Level I Trauma Center and outcomes that lead to a better future.

#### AT SETON SOUTHWEST'S ER, PATIENTS CAN EXPECT:

- Same great care: Staff follows same pediatric protocols as Dell Children's
- Access to Dell Children's Specialists: Emergency staff connects to Dell Children's specialists through telemedicine technology

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#### The most advanced minimally invasive vein treatments to end your pain and suffering!

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- Kid-friendly environment: Dell Children's emergency care patients have a dedicated waiting room and treatment area designed for kids.
- Kid-friendly staff: Seton Southwest emergency staff members are trained in techniques that can help reduce stress and anxiety in kids and families during illness, injury or while in the hospital.

#### MORE CONVENIENT CARE OPTIONS

For a quicker, more convenient ER visit, parents can schedule online at DellChildrensER.com. This feature, intended for minor emergencies, allows patients to be seen within 15 minutes of their selected arrival time.

#### PARENTS CAN MAKE APPOINTMENTS ONLINE FOR THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- Dell Children's Medical Center
- Seton Medical Center Hays
- Seton Northwest Hospital
- Seton Medical Center Williamson

- Seton Southwest
- Providence Healthcare Network

Learn more about Pediatric Emergency Care at Dell Children's.

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**Business classifieds** (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office @ 512-263-9181 or advertising@PEELinc.com.

#### **PERSONAL CLASSIFIEDS**

**Personal classifieds** (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Villages of Western Oaks residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail villagegazette@PEELinc.com.





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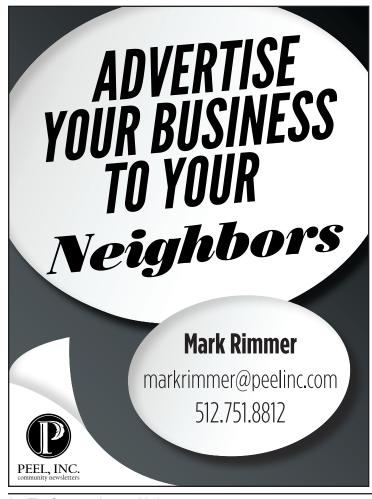
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## Cosmopolitan Cocktail



1/2 oz. Triple Sec 1 oz. Vodka Juice of 1/2 lime 3/4 oz. Cranberry Juice

Pour all ingredients in shaker half filled with ice, shake and strain into Martini glass. (I always put a little ice in the glass with a tiny twist of lime)





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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

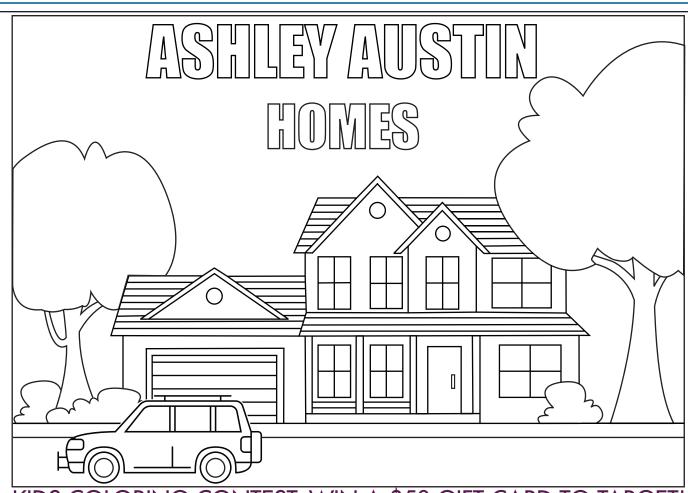
We will select the top few and post their artwork on our Facebook Page - Facebook.com/Peellnc.

DUE: January 31st Be sure to include the following so we can let you know! Name: (first name, last initial) Age:

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### KIDS COLORING CONTEST, WIN A \$50 GIFT CARD TO TARGET!



- 1. Have your child submit their best artwork by 2/1/18!
- 2. Fill out the information to the right.
- 3. Mail your artwork to Ashley Austin Homes 925 S Capital of Texas Hwy B-250 Austin, TX 78746.
- **4**. Winner will be anounced on our Facebook page on 2/9/18!

PARENTS NAME

CHILDS NAME

**CHILDS AGE** 

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