

SPRING BREAK FOR LTISD

Spring break for LTISD is March 7-21. Many more kiddos will be out and about, so be on the lookout for them as you drive through the neighborhood!

Aeration Now Can Help Your Spring and Summer Irrigation

In order to prepare your lawn for a healthy spring growing season, you should employ basic lawn care practices at this time of year, which includes aerating your yard. It is important that nutrients reach the soil beneath your grass, and aeration can help you get that done.

Aeration involves making small holes in the soil to allow air, water and nutrients to get to the grass roots.

This helps the roots grow deeper and produce a stronger, more vibrant lawn.

Aerating helps alleviate soil compaction. Compacted soils have too many solid particles in a space, which prevents proper circulation of air, water and nutrients within the soil. Excess lawn thatch or heavy organic debris buried under the grass surface can also starve the roots from these essential elements.

So when is the right time to get this aeration done? These next six to eight weeks leading up to the spring season, when grass begins to grow again, is a good time to aerate.

The two main aeration tools are the spike aerator and a plug aerator. The spike aerator poke holes in the ground with a solid piece of metal. Plug aerators remove a core or plug of grass and soil from the lawn. Most landscaping companies and horticulturists recommend the use of the plug aerator. The machines can be rented or you can have a lawn care service aerate for you. After aerating, it's always a good idea to apply about a half-inch of compost over the aerated yard. The compost fills in the holes left by the plug aerator and brings organic materials into the root zone.

If you have noticed that your turfgrass isn't looking its best or that water has difficulty penetrating through the soil surface, it may

be time to aerate your lawn. Lawns with clay soils that get a lot of foot traffic typically require aeration more often as they become compacted over time. Here's a great tip to check to see if your yard needs to be aerated.

Using a shovel, dig a square-foot section of grass about six inches deep and take a look at it. If the grass roots don't extend further than two inches deep into the soil, your lawn would benefit from aeration.

If you plan to aerate your own yard, here are a few helpful tips to get the job done.

- Before you get started, make sure the soil is moist enough. There's nothing more frustrating than trying to aerate soil that is bone dry. Aerating the day after a rain shower or watering your lawn the day before is advised.
- Most aeration machines cover only a small percentage of soil surface per pass, so make multiple passes over the most compacted areas. Save resources (and your energy) by leaving unaffected areas alone.
- The soil plugs can be left on the ground after aeration and allowed to decompose. Or, you can rake them into piles to throw in the compost bin. However, this isn't necessary as it should take about two to four weeks for the soil cores to break down naturally. Sprinkle compost (sand or peat moss can be used instead of compost) over the lawn to fill in the holes. An aeration myth is that if you apply a pre-emergent herbicide on your lawn in the spring, aerating your lawn will destroy the herbicide "barrier." This is not true — research shows that aeration will not affect crabgrass control or weed prevention.

(Continued on Page 3)

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
Fire.....	911
Ambulance.....	911
Police Department	512-314-7590
Sheriff – Non-Emergency.....	512-974-0845
Travis County ESD No.6/Lake Travis Fire Rescue	
Administration Office.....	512-266-2533
Travis County Animal Control.....	512-972-6060

SCHOOLS

Lake Travis ISD.....	512-533-6000
Lake Travis High School.....	512-533-6100
Lake Travis Middle School.....	512-533-6200
Bee Cave Elementary.....	512-533-6250

UTILITIES

West Travis County PUA (Water).....	512-246-0498
Pedernales Electric.....	512-219-2602
Alliant Gas (Propane)	866-764-0283
AT&T	
New Service.....	1-800-464-7928
Repair.....	1-800-246-8464
Billing.....	1-800-858-7928
IESI (Garbage & Recycling).....	512-282-3508
Travis County Hazardous Waste.....	512-974-4343

OTHER NUMBERS

Bee Cave City Hall.....	512-767-6600
Bee Cave Library.....	512-767-6620
Municipal Court	512-767-6630
Lake Travis Postal Office.....	512-263-2458
City of Bee Cave	www.beecavetexas.com

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ARTICLE INFO

The Rocky Creek Connection is mailed monthly to all Rocky Creek residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to submit information about their organizations in the newsletter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, recipes, special celebrations, and birthday announcements are also welcome.

If you have an article of interest to the community please submit to rockycreek@peelinc.com by the 15th of the month. The newsletter can also be viewed online at www.PEELinc.com.

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Rocky Creek Connection

(Continued from Cover)



A f t e r aerating, it's important to continue appropriate lawn care practices.

Aerating will help you save water over

the spring and summer seasons. Instead of running off or only penetrating a few inches, water will be better absorbed in an aerated yard. That makes your entire landscape and your water bill happier.

Did you know...

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, outdoor water use varies greatly depending upon geographic location. In dry climates such as that in the Trinity Glen Rose District, a household's outdoor water use can be as high as 60 percent. Some experts estimate that as much as 50% of that irrigation water is wasted due to inefficient watering techniques, wind and evaporation.

LT Lov

2017 was a busy and meaningful year for LTlov, which celebrated 10 years of operation in October and passed the \$1,000,000 mark in goods, services and financial contributions provided to struggling residents in the Lake Travis community. LTlov has been honored and challenged over the past 10 years to be a channel and a witness to the power of ordinary people coming together to do extraordinary things for those struggling in our midst. The membership of LTlov would like to thank our generous community as we look forward to the upcoming year and continuing the work of helping our neighbors overcome limiting circumstances. Pictured, Members toast the completion of the LTlov's first Annual Grants Funding in 2009.



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Rocky Creek Connection

Change Austin's Future on April 19

You have the power to break generational cycles of poverty, trauma and neglect. You can shape the future of a child and our community. That future starts now.

The annual "Learning Starts Here" luncheon, benefiting Mainspring Schools, brings people together to help disadvantaged, full-of-potential kids and their families in Austin.

Join us on Thursday, April 19 to learn about the issues facing Austin's families and children in poverty, celebrate the achievements of the last year and consider how we can help these children in the future.

What: Mainspring Schools "Learning Starts Here" Luncheon

When: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 19 (lunch is served at 11:30)

Where: Renaissance Austin Hotel

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Seth Pollak

Dr. Seth Pollak, professor and researcher at the University

of Wisconsin, will discuss the role that early experiences in children's lives have on development of brain structure and function, which is a crucial topic for so many children at Mainspring and across Austin.

Backed by years of fascinating research, Dr. Pollak's particular area of interest is how the quantity and quality of early experiences in children's lives influences how they think about and process information. The goal is to understand how developmental change occurs to develop effective prevention and intervention strategies for children most at risk for emotional, learning and behavior problems.

To purchase tickets, visit www.mainspringschools.org/learning-starts-here-luncheon/

On behalf of these kids, families and staff, thank you for caring about this important issue.

www.mainspringschools.org



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Heart Gallery of Central Texas

Meet Chasity, 11, she is waiting for a forever family. Chasity is a sweet and kind young girl. She is somewhat shy but likes being around others. She is very comfortable around those who are caring and affectionate toward her. She is very polite and will use 'please', 'thank you', and 'sorry'. Chasity greatly enjoys being outdoors, and she especially likes going to the water park. She loves coloring and showing off her work. Chasity has development, emotional, and learning disabilities and receives special education services. She loves praise and likes to let everyone around know when she is able to accomplish a task. She is working on becoming more independent and pushes towards doing things on her own.

The Heart Gallery of Central Texas, a program of Partnerships for Children, features portraits of Central Texas children in the foster care system who are available for adoption. Working together, our community raises awareness around adoption, foster care and permanency.

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Rocky Creek HOA

TRASH BIN PLACEMENT

There are new garbage trucks being used in the neighborhood that pick up both recycling and garbage bins at the same time. Progressive has confirmed that they prefer the recycling bin and the garbage bin be placed right next to each other. There has been no specification on what side either bin needs to be on.

There is nothing more beautiful than someone who goes out of their way to make life beautiful for others.



Partners in Hope connects one person's gifts and talents with another person's needs and equips the Lake Travis community to serve through the lens of ministry. Contact Matt Peacock at mattbp61@gmail.com to get involved.

www.partnersinhopelaketraavis.org

“ EDITOR WANTED

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to your newsletter!

512.263.9181

”

Exhibit Displays Winning Entry, Honorable Mentions in Lions Club Student Poster Contest



The artwork of Lake Travis Middle School eighth grade student Bella Hatch was prominently displayed at a recent exhibit at Baylor Scott & White Medical Center Lakeway. Her winning entry in the Austin Lake Travis Lions Club Peace Poster Contest was shown alongside Hudson Bend Middle School students Vivian Heitkoetter, 7th grade and Victoria Rebber, 6th grade—each of whom received Honorable Mention.

For the past 30 years, Lions clubs around the world have sponsored the Lions International Peace Poster Contest in local schools and youth groups. The art contest for kids encourages young people worldwide to express their visions of peace.

For 2017-2018, each poster was judged on originality, artistic merit and portrayal of the contest theme, “The Future of Peace.” In all, more than 120 posters will be displayed at the exhibit.

Lake Travis Lions Club member Linda Davis said she was impressed by the expression and creativity of the participating students from both Hudson Bend and Lake Travis middle schools.

“It is obvious that these young people have strong ideas about what peace means to them,” said Davis. “I’m so proud that we were able to provide them with the opportunity to share their vision.”

Lions Clubs International is the world’s largest service club organization with more than 1.36 million members in more than 46,000 clubs in 210 countries and geographical areas around the world. In addition to its efforts toward conquering blindness, the organization has made a strong commitment to community service and helping youth throughout the world.

Lake Travis art teachers who served as contest coordinators for students included Lynne Johnson, Lake Travis Middle School; and Kristen Blauvelt and Robin Garcia, Hudson Bend Middle School.

Pictured (L-R) - Bella Hatch, First Place; pediatric physician Shubha Adeni, MD, of Baylor Scott & White Health; and Vivian Heitkoetter, Honorable Mention at the Lake Travis Lions Club Peace Poster display held February 5 at Baylor Scott & White Medical Center Lakeway; not pictured is Victoria Rebber, Honorable Mention.

Rocky Creek Connection Lake Travis Retired Physicians Host Authors of Rotary 3-D Limbs Project

Donna Gunn and Barker Keith of the Lakeway/Lake Travis Rotary Club will speak at a monthly luncheon meeting of the Lake Travis Retired Physicians on Wednesday, March 7, 11:15 a.m., Cafe Blue, Hill Country Galleria.

The pair co-authored a 3-D artificial limb project which they hope will help children worldwide.

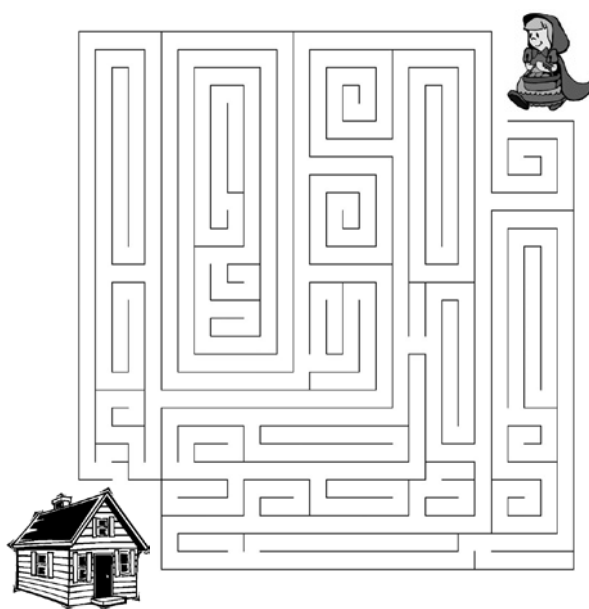
“Many countries face a dire shortage of qualified prostheses for amputees. The 3-D Limbs Project helps to meet this need by providing 3-D printing technology, training and educational materials. Our goal is to enable amputees the opportunity to regain self-sufficiency,” Gunn says.

In 2016, the first international trial of this project was in rural Tanzania, in cooperation with Baylor College of Medicine, Houston.

The meeting is open to area retired physicians and their guests. Luncheon reservations are required. Contact Dr. Bill Evans, 512-261-3536, or club organizer Pat Evans, patevans39@gmail.com. Inquiries from potential speakers are welcome.

Kidz Maze Mania

Little Red Riding Hood has lost her way to Grandma's house. Please hurry and help her get safely to Grandma's House before it gets too dark.



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