The Jester Warbler

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Small to medium-sized

slender lizards, whiptails

and racerunners can

be distinguished from other lizard species by

their generally granular

dorsal (topside) scales,

larger rectangular ventral

President's Corner

1) Champion Tract 3 (southeast corner of 2222 and City Park Road) – 45 acres was rezoned to Multifamily + awarded huge waivers that are certain to contribute to traffic and safety issues. Just days prior to the final Council vote in February, local entrepreneur Jonathan Coon purchased an option to purchase this property and has committed to building a significantly smaller senior living center if the amendment to his Camelback PUD is approved before September 1, 2018.

2) Camelback PUD (Pennybacker Bridge to City Park Road) – Jonathan Coon owns 145 acres of property zoned as a Planned Unit Development (PUD). On April 23, he amended the PUD plan. It will cluster the development and allow for a more vibrant mix of uses. Jonathan wants to develop single family and townhomes/ condominiums, offices, an upscale and quiet restaurant, and private amenities such as a marina and clubhouse for use by future Camelback residents. He is also committed to dedicating 13 acres along the cliff west of the bridge as publicly accessible parkland to preserve the iconic and popular overlook. And in a most recent revision, Coon said, he would leave 58 acres — 40 percent — as open space, preserve the cliff side and protect water quality, heritage trees and his neighbors' views, among other attributes.

The Jester Board met with Jonathan Coon on Monday, June 11th and discussed his proposal more at length during our Board meeting June 13th. We believe that his development would be the best alternative and voted to endorse Mr. Coon's proposal. Feel free to contact us if you have any thoughts you would like to share.

As always, Jester is a great place to live!!! Diana Miller / President / Jester HOA

NATURE WATCH

WHIPTAILS & RACERUNNERS

by Jim and Lynne Weber



Common Spotted Whiptail (underside) scales arranged in transverse rows, long tails, and forked, snakelike tongues. Additionally, these species belong to the genus Aspidoscelis, from the Greek aspido or 'shield' and skelos or 'leg', relating to their welldeveloped limbs that enable them to sprint at rapid speeds. Terrestrial and diurnal, these lizards are primarily carnivorous or insectivorous, actively foraging for food while temperatures are warm, and quickly skirting between objects for cover. Of the 22 species occurring in the southwest, Central Texas is home to the Common Spotted Whiptail (Aspidoscelis gularis) and Six-lined Racerunner (Aspidoscelis sexlineata).

The Common Spotted Whiptail has a brownish-green body with 7 to 8 longitudinal yellowish-white stripes and similarly colored spots in the margins. Its tail is up to twice the length of its body, reaching a total length of just about 12 inches. It is found in prairies, grasslands, rocky hillsides, dense thickets, and canyon bottoms, often near water. Males are larger than females, having a red, orange, or pinkish throat and sometimes a *(Continued on Page 2)*



PARADE & ACTIVITIES Tuesday, July 4 - 9:30 am

Paint your wagons, decorate your bikes, your pets, and yourself, and join this festive parade! Gather at Jester Club at 9:30 am (you don't need to be a member of the club to participate). Parade route will be up Jester, around Basil, and back. Games and activities to follow! Please contact Teresa at 512-751-8000 or tgouldie@gmail.com if you would like to help at this event!

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<u>Jester Estates</u>

(Continued from Cover)

blue or light blue belly. Females have a white or cream-colored underside, and lay 1 to 8 eggs in July, typically in a separate chamber of their underground burrow, sometimes as deep as 11 inches. These lizards scare easily and often retreat in a straight line, but can best be viewed from April through August when their insect prey are most abundant.



Six-lined Racerunner

Just over 10 inches long, the Six-lined Racerunner has seven light dorsal stripes with a greenish wash on the head and upper body that fades to brown posteriorly. Males may also have a blue throat and belly, and juveniles often have more distinct stripes, lack the green wash, but have a bright blue tail. Females lay clutches of 1 to 6 eggs from May to August. Associated more with sandy soils, this lizard can occupy a wide variety of habitats, including grasslands, riverbanks, floodplains, and juniper woodlands. Spiders and grasshoppers are their chief prey, and adults actively forage during the day, but as summer temperatures rise by July, their activity becomes bimodal, peaking in the morning and late afternoon to avoid the hottest parts of the day.

Like many lizards, whiptails and racerunners have developed the ability to allow the tail to break free of the body when grasped by a predator. Called tail autonomy, this process involves wriggling the detached tail to distract the predator while the lizard itself is able to escape. Complex adaptations have evolved to enable the tail to be released along a series of fracture planes, which usually occur through weakened vertebrae, and not between them. Most amazingly, these species also have the ability to regenerate the tail, albeit slowly, so it can be lost again if necessary.

Send your nature-related questions to naturewatch@austin.rr.com and we'll do our best to answer them. If you enjoy reading these articles, check out our books, Nature Watch Austin and Nature Watch Big Bend (published by Texas A&M University Press), and our blog at naturewatchaustin.blogspot.com.



WELCOME COMMITTEE NEWS

Once again we were able to make fewer deliveries than the month's new sales! Renovations are definitely ongoing for many of our new residents. We did however deliver 2 Welcome Bags. The first was to Natalie, Robbie and their son Jeremiah on the 8200 block of Asmara. We caught them in the first stages of unpacking since they had only moved the day before. They moved from the Bouldin neighborhood of central Austin, but previously lived in Seattle. The second delivery was to Joel and Jenny on the 8000 block of Bottlebrush Drive. They have 2 children, Samantha (Sam) and Jacob. Joel is native to Austin but the family lived in Boston for 3 years. He's already seen copperheads in his yard. What a welcome to Austin!

If you live near any new residents, please stop by and introduce yourself! Also, please contact JoAnn Welles at (512) 484-7588 or jawelles1@gmail.com if you've moved to Jester lately and we haven't welcomed you officially. We may have tried to deliver a bag to you but not found you home.



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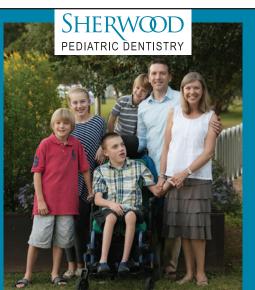
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JESTER TOY SWAP

A big thank you to everyone that came out and made the 3rd Toy Swap a great success!! Luckily this year we missed the rain! I love how kids spend time selecting toys they don't play with anymore to give to another kid and then they get a new treasure to enjoy! Thanks for participating!





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ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

Interested in submitting an article? You can do so by emailing diana0777@att.net or by going to: www.peelinc.com/articleSubmit.php.

All news must be received by the 12th of the month prior to the issue.

<u>Jester Estates</u>

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9
10	+	+		11	+				+
12				13			+		+
14			15		+		16	+	
17					18	19			
			20	21		22	23	24	25
26	27	28		29	30				
31		\top	32				33		
34							35	+	
36	+	+	+	+	-		37	-	

ACROSS

- 1. Food and Agriculture Organization (abbr.)
- 4. Scales
- 10. Hovercraft
- 11. Type of phone
- 12. Regret
- 13. State capital
- 14. Indian weapons
- 16. Part of a min.
- 17. Information
- 18. Hey!
- 20. Fire department (abbr.)
- 22. Captain (abbr.)
- 26. Pouch
- 29. Woman in the Old Testament
- 31. Absence of values
- 33. Time period
- 34. National capital
- 35. Official canine registry (abbr.)
- 36. Pseudonym
- 37. Change hue

- DOWN
- 1. Unit of electric capacitance
- 2. Sporty car brand
- 3. Unconcealed
- 4. Animal stomach
 - 5. Crummy
 - 6. Possessive pronoun
 - 7. Welcome rugs
 - 8. Cheese
 - 9. In __ (together)
 - 15. Clod
 - 19. Fall mo.
 - 21. Divinity
 - 23. Leading
 - 24. Jaunty
 - 25. Draw over 26. Baby's "ball"
 - 27. After awhile

 - 28. ____ girl
 - 30. Sew together 32. First day of wk.

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View answers online at www.peelinc.com





GO ON A STAYCATION THIS SUMMER

New Creations completed an amazing remodel of our kitchen and family room. We wanted to **create a home that felt like we were on a vacation** and that's what we got. The entire process and the finished product far exceeded our expectations. Roy is a joy to work with, and his designer Erin gave us fabulous ideas. Roy really means it when he says "how can we serve you?" He kept in touch with us almost daily through email, phone or text, and was never too busy to discuss our needs. Any anxiety we had starting the project dissolved as we realized New Creations' main concern was making sure we loved our new spaces – and we do!!

- Jester Estate Residents Nancy & Andy Mastronardi

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