

The Jester Warbler



Official Publication of Jester Homeowners Association, Inc.

October 2018

Volume 13, Issue 10

JESTER HALLOWEEN PARADE & ACTIVITIES

Saturday, October 27th

9:30 am

Jester Club

(You do not need to be a member to participate)

Parade route is up Jester, around Basil, and back.
Come out and cheer on our Jester kiddos
they love an audience!



JESTER RESIDENTS BE SURE TO DO YOUR PART!

Austin Water is under Stage 1
Restrictions

by Dale Bulla

Under Stage 1 restrictions:

- You may water only on your assigned day and times.
- You can water with drip irrigation, a hand-held hose or a refillable container
- Use hose-end sprinklers two days a week, from midnight to 10 a.m. and/or 7 p.m. to midnight
- Use automatic irrigation one day a week, midnight to 8 a.m. and/or 7 p.m. to midnight
- Charity car washes may only be held at a commercial car wash
- Restaurants may not serve water unless requested by a customer



For further information: <https://www.statesman.com/news/local/breaking-austin-tightens-water-restrictions-region-enters-moderate-drought/jt6G4Z1im6JbGLrqr3v0HM/>

DRIVING ON SUNSHINE

by Paul Johnston

We had a 9 KWH solar installation completed by Freedom Solar in December 2014. Since then, we have generated 1.35 MWh (megawatt hours) back into the grid, which has saved us \$6200 on electricity costs. Our net spending on electricity costs over that time is just \$1200. We will have approximately a 9 year payback unless the price of electricity goes up, which it will, then it would be less than that.

Solar panel installation was \$31,800 total. Rebate from Austin energy was \$10,083. Tax credit for 30% of the difference worked out at \$6,500 for total out of pocket cost of Approx \$15K. All of that was financed through Freedom Solar loan partner, Enerbank USA.

(Continued on Page 2)

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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.*

(Continued from Cover Page)

\$4.5K same as cash loan for 6 months, \$10.5K financed at 1.99% fixed over 10 years (monthly payment about \$118/month, \$60 less a month than the system generates monthly). Installation was 1-day job. No maintenance costs or any problem of any sort since install. Have had to simply "reboot" the solar monitoring capability 3 times (turn the array off and back on again at the inverter switch). Check it all out at <http://egauge15756.egaug.es/59404/> ;-)

I don't know what the cost would be today because the price of solar panels has dropped by about 75% since 2010. If you contact any of the solar providers in Austin, they will take a satellite picture of your roof and give you an estimate.

We also became proud Tesla Model S owners in November 2016, and charged at home during the week and at Tesla superchargers for road trips for most of 2017. In January 2018, taking advantage of Austin Energy's \$25 for 6 months of unlimited charging anywhere in Austin, we've been charging a couple of times a week at a ChargePoint charger at work which (installed in Four Points parking garage in late December 2017) and continue to use Tesla Superchargers exclusively for road trips. That adds up to a total estimated expenditure of just \$50 for all of 2018 for EV charging! We're on course to have driven 12K miles this year. Assuming 30 mpg at \$2.50 per gallon in an ICE car, internal combustion engine car, 12K miles, could have cost \$1000 in gas unless gas prices go up, which they will. Since all Austin Energy charging stations use only renewable energy as well as all of the super charging network, it looks like we will continue to "drive on sunshine."



6801 Tree Fern

Welcome Committee News

It's been an active few months for the Welcome Committee. Since our last article, we've delivered 10 bags to new residents! There are still a lot of renovations going on by new buyers, but a lot of people with children moved in August and early September.

We talked to Nick, who moved into his new home on the 8100 block of Vailview Cove. He was actually at work when we went to the house, so didn't have a chance to find out more about his household.

A family of 6 – 3 humans and 3 fur babies – moved to the 7900 block of Goldenrod Cove. Charlie and Lori and daughter Rebecca moved to Jester from Cedar Park to shorten Charlie's commute. Their fur babies are 2 cats, Bella and Georgie, and dog Curly.

From the LA area to the 7800 block of Moonflower Drive came Tad and Maria with their 2 children, Nicolas and Rachel, and their dog Buster. Tad is from Manhattan Beach.

Also from Manhattan Beach are Devon and Olivia, with their son Luca and dog Ella. They bought a home on the 7300 block of Halbert Drive after renting a year in Great Hills.

Jim and Heather moved to the 7200 block of Rusty Fig from Tarrytown in order to shorten their commute to work near Steiner Ranch. They have 2 children, Jaxon and Crosby, and a dog, Elwood.

We met Erika, who moved to the 6800 block of Beauford Drive. She recently lived in McKinley, TX and is joined by her cats, Muta and Gris.

Michele and Mike moved from the College Station/Bryan area to Guava Cove. Their 3 years old son is Michael and their dog is named Hugo. They were originally from the Long Island area.

We met Trae, Cyndi and their 3 girls who just moved to Amelia Cove from the Domain area. With the girls getting older, they needed more space. We met them less than a week after they moved in.

Jeff and Melissa moved to the 6900 block of Jester Boulevard from South Austin. They have a blended family of 6 children, and live full time with Levi and Seth (4 ½ years old and 10 years old) and their dog. They had already met some of their neighbors and commented that it's a very friendly neighborhood. This house was owned by a Jester neighbor who's now moved to High Hollow Drive.

Last but not least, we left a bag at a house on the 8300 block of Jancy because we knew the new residents had moved in, but we couldn't catch them at home.

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.

(Continued on Page 4)



Jeff and Melissa on the 6900 block of Jester Blvd



Tad and Maria, with children Nicolas and Rachel and Dog Buster on the 7800 block of Moonflower



Lori and Charlie with daughter Rebecca on the 7900 block of Goldenrod Cove

Jester Estates

(Continued from Page 3)

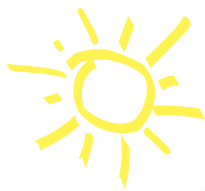


Olivia and Devon with son Luca on the 7300 block of Halbert Drive



Cyndi, Trae, and their 3 girls on Amelia Cove

The Children's Center Of Austin



The Children's Center of Austin is hosting their Fall Festival

October 12th from 6:30 - 8:30 PM

COME JOIN US FOR LIVE MUSIC,
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www.childrenscenterofaustin.com

Attention Jester Wine Lovers!

The next JESTER WINE TASTING party is in NOVEMBER.

TEXAS WINES versus CALIFORNIA WINES.

Join us for food, wine and fun and enjoy a sampling of wonderful wines. Bring your palate and your appetite.

The Longhorns are playing and we'll have the TV on for those that want to watch.

THE NOVEMBER HOSTS ARE:

Name: Cheryl & Jeff Fulton

Address: 7906 Jester Blvd.

Phone: 512-574-3858

WHEN:

Saturday, November 3, 2018

7:00pm – 10:00pm

BRING:

- \$15.00 per person (to cover the wine)
- A dish to share (such as an appetizer, salad, side dish, or dessert...PLEASE NO Pork/Ham or shellfish)



The Fulton's will supply the entrée and the wine. They will also provide wine glasses.

RSVP:

cheryl@cherylfulton.com

Regrets not necessary

WE NEED HOSTS!

It's fun and easy to host. Debra will give you outlines for communications and other information to use and personalize.

If you would like to host a wine party, please email: debra@debraellsworthphotography.com

LAURA MORRISON

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Pol. adv. Laura Morrison Campaign, Steve Bercu, Treasurer. This campaign has not agreed to comply with the contribution and expenditure limits of the Austin Fair Campaign Chapter.



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NATURE WATCH

LOVELY LONGWINGS

by Jim and Lynne Weber



Zebra Heliconian

Longwing butterflies, also known as Heliconians, are brightly colored, tropical butterflies with long forewings that are now regarded as close relatives of the fritillaries. Their caterpillars feed on species of passionvine, which contain poisonous chemicals that render the adult butterflies noxious to predators. As such, the bold patterns on many of these butterflies are aposematic, defined as a 'warning coloration' designed to ward off predators. The result is a butterfly that can live for several months, far longer than most other butterflies.

The most common longwings in our area are the Zebra Heliconian (*Heliconius charithonia*), Julia Heliconian (*Dryas julia*), and Gulf Fritillary (*Agraulis vanillae*). The bold black and pale yellow stripes on the wings of the Zebra Heliconian, vibrant above but paler below, are unmistakable. Its flight is slow with shallow, almost shaky wingbeats, through open woodlands. Adults gather in late afternoon to roost communally as additional protection against predators. Its wingspan can reach up to 4 inches, and they are commonly seen in the fall.

With fast, direct flight and shallow wingbeats, Julia males are mostly bright orange above, with the female a more subdued orange with a black forewing band. Wingspan reaches just over 3.5 inches, and they are brown to dull orange below with no spots. Its distinctive shape and lack of markings make it easily recognizable, especially during its peak flight season in the fall. Curiously, these butterflies have been observed to land on the eyes of turtles and caimans, irritating them enough to sip on the tears they produce.

While the Gulf Fritillary is also an orange-colored longwing butterfly, it tends to be deeper in color, and has dark streaks and spots on the forewing, some white ringed in black and others solid black. Its underside is brown, but covered in many elongated, iridescent silver spots. With a wingspan up to 3.75 inches, this longwing can

fly year round, and adults often overwinter. Both male and female Gulf Fritillaries possess certain defensive glands located on their abdomens. When these butterflies sense a predator is close or they suddenly get disturbed, these glands emit a distinct and distasteful odor, typically causing the predator to leave them alone.

In spite of their unpalatable characteristics as prey, these longwings are some of the most beautiful and desirable butterflies to be observed in our area. Here's hoping your garden is graced by them!

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*, *Nature Watch Big Bend*, and *Native Host Plants for Texas Butterflies* (all published by Texas A&M University Press), and our blog at naturewatchaustin.blogspot.com.



Julia Heliconian



Gulf Fritillary




WHY AGE 7?

**Why are so many elementary kids in braces these days?
We get this question all the time! Here's the scoop.**



Contrary to popular belief, the increase of children in early braces is NOT due to parents overly-concerned with aesthetics, or practitioners "pushing" treatment. Orthodontists have been doing early treatment for decades. However, when you and I were young, they used more appliances (think big removable chunks of plastic and metal). Today, we tend to choose braces over appliances. In addition, the pediatric dental profession has grown tremendously. With their specialized training, fewer children that need early orthodontic intervention are missed.

The American Association of Orthodontics and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentists recommend that all children be evaluated for orthodontic needs at age 7. This does not mean that all children need early treatment. Since some orthodontic problems can cause irreversible damage and some can only be treated before the skeletal structure is mature, it is important to identify which children may need treatment:

- | | |
|---|--|
|  Early or late loss of baby teeth |  Asymmetric face |
|  Underbite |  Severe crowding |
|  Overbite, or protruding upper teeth |  Crossbite in the front or back |
|  Prolonged finger sucking habit |  Irregularly erupting permanent teeth |

In many instances, Dr. Arnold and Dr. DeSantis will recommend postponing orthodontics until all the permanent teeth are in, usually around middle school. We will monitor your child's growth and development over the following years until orthodontic treatment timing is right. These visits are always complimentary. If we do recommend an early round of treatment, it is often for one or more of the following reasons:

- Lower the risk of trauma to teeth and gums
- Reduce the chance for permanent tooth extraction
- Correct oral habits that alter the shape of the jaw bones
- Reduce the need for jaw surgery
- Simplify adolescent orthodontic treatment
- Improve appearance

Bottom line - you have nothing to lose by having your child evaluated for orthodontics. At a minimum you can rest assured that either no early treatment is needed, or if it is, that we didn't miss the window to intervene.

OUR ORTHODONTIC EVALUATIONS ARE ALWAYS COMPLIMENTARY. WE WOULD LOVE THE CHANCE TO GET TO KNOW YOUR CHILD'S GROWING SMILE AND BITE!

CONTACT OUR OFFICE
512.485.4410 OR ADBRACES.COM
3916 Far West Blvd. Austin, TX 78731



Dr. Gerard DeSantis & Dr. Erin Arnold



8305 Asmara Drive

Wildlife Habitat

FACT:

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



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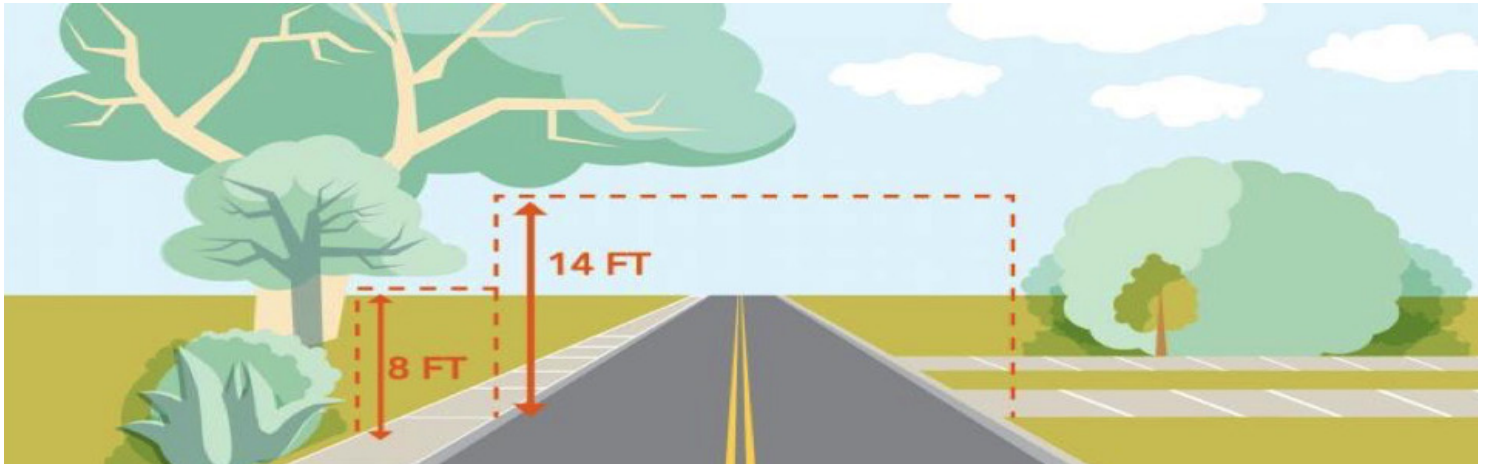
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FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

Improve the safety, accessibility, and comfort of your neighborhood today

by Erin Ray



The Big Picture: When you go on walks in the neighborhood, have you ever had to step off the sidewalk because of low hanging branches? Or tripped on vegetation growing over the sidewalk or curb? Or when you're driving in the neighborhood, have you ever had to pull into the cross street to look for oncoming traffic because of an overgrown hedge? Or accidentally ran a stop sign because it was hidden from view by some overgrowth?

These encounters could force someone to go into oncoming traffic when they wouldn't have otherwise or even not be able to make full use of the sidewalk in the case of those who need wheelchairs or other mobility aids. These compound into a high potential for causing accidents, causing people to stay indoors, and causing an overall sense of discontent.

What You Can Do to Help: The problem of overgrowth into the right of way is one that is easily overlooked until after such an accident occurs, so I would like your help in acting preemptively. You can easily get involved by doing a few simple things:

1. Take a walk around your property and noting the plants, bushes, and trees extending into the sidewalks and/or beyond the curb (especially with these dimensions in mind: vegetation should be 8 feet above the sidewalk and 14 feet above the street).
2. Simply prune back the areas that interfere with accessibility and/or visibility (a quick google search on pruning or asking the employees at The Natural Gardener can help immensely).
3. If you have a good rapport with your neighbors and notice an issue, please let them know what they can do to help as well.

Why You Should Help: This past year, 2018, I surveyed 70 streets and almost 1900 homes in my neighborhood of Allandale. At the start of the year, 50% had issues with vegetation blocking

the right of way. Now, a year later, that number has been reduced to 35% that still have issues with overgrowth into the right of way. With these results, Allandale has become a safer, more accessible, and comfortable neighborhood!

This benefited the residents and visitors to our neighborhood by making it easier for people to get out and be active by reducing vegetation that blocks the right-of-way. This, in turn, will improve physical and mental well being, increase neighbor interactions and safety, and improve the quality of our neighborhood.

By maintaining the care and health of the vegetation on your property, you can double the amount of usable sidewalks, increase safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles, as well as provide shade, improve air quality, and keep your neighborhood comfortable.

I wanted to share the results of Allandales success to motivate more people and communities to take the initiative to improve their grounds for the benefit of all.

If you have any questions, please contact: allandale.clear.ROW@gmail.com

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TIPS FOR PACKING A HEALTHY SCHOOL LUNCH

Packing lunches for your back-to-schoolers is no easy task. Plus, every parent knows that just because you pack it, doesn't guarantee your kids will actually eat it. However, this doesn't mean you have to fill your kids' lunchboxes with pizza and cookies everyday. Below we offer 5 tips for how to pack a nutritious lunch that your kids will look forward to eating and you'll feel good about giving them.

Tip #1: Get Your Kids Involved

- Give your kids healthy food options from each food group and let them make the final decisions on what goes in their lunch.
- Take your child grocery shopping with you and let them have a say (to a certain extent) in what goes into the cart. This promotes feelings of responsibility and empowerment.
- Designate a part of your kitchen as the "lunch packing station" and spend some time there with your kids the night before to get lunch ready for the next day.

Tip #2: Turn Healthy Foods into Fun Foods

- Use cookie cutters to make shapes out of bread, deli meat, cheese, or a melon-baller for fruit.
- Use kid-friendly skewers to make colorful food kebabs.
- Create a theme for the day and have all of the foods in their lunch relate to the theme

Tip #3: Make Your Own Snacks – and limit processed ones

Kids rely on snacks to keep their energy up, but the type of snack is important to consider. Packaged snacks tend to lack important nutrients and can be high in sugar, sodium and saturated fats. Take control of what is in your kids' snacks by making them yourself!

Tip #4: Incorporate All Food Groups

A balanced diet includes all of the food groups. Luckily, there are so many different ways to enjoy each food group:

- Fruits: fresh, frozen, dried, canned, baked (think apple chips!) or pureed.
- Vegetables: fresh, frozen, or baked (think kale chips!)
- Lean protein: baked chicken, deli meats, hard boiled eggs, beans or nuts (be aware of nut allergy regulations at your child's school).
- Low-fat dairy: milk, cheese or yogurt
- Whole Grains: pita, sandwich bread, tortillas, wraps, and pastas

Tip#5: Encourage Hydration

It's recommended that school-aged kids drink between 6-8 cups of water a day (even more in hot weather or if their activity level is high).

- Let your child pick out their favorite water bottle and encourage them to drink the whole thing at least twice at school. They'll be more inclined to do it if they feel like they are completing a challenge!
- If the "flavor" of water is too boring for them, throw in a few pieces of frozen fruit to sweeten it up – and keep it cooler.

With these tips in mind, you and your child are ready to start out the school year on the right foot. Good luck – and happy packing!

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October Events



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Thurs., Fri., & Sat.	Austin Ghost Tours <i>90-minute walking tours downtown</i>	austinghosttours.com
Oct. 5 - 7 & 12 - 14	Austin City Limits Music Festival	Zilker Park aclfestival.com
Fri. & Sat.	Boo at the Zoo: Oct. 5 - 6, 12 - 13, 19 - 20, & 26 - 27 <i>Go on the haunted train ride or trek through the haunted house</i>	Austin Zoo austinzoo.org
Oct. 12 - 13	Fall Native Plant Sale	wildflower.org
Oct. 19 - Nov. 4	Parade of Homes <i>Tour 4 beautifully crafted homes at Mirabella at Travisso</i>	paradeofhomesaustin.com
Oct. 19 - 21	Formula 1 United States Grand Prix <i>Experience the power of motorsport's premiere series</i>	Circuit of the Americas circuitoftheamericas.com
Oct. 20 & 27	Magical Murder Mystery <i>Calling all Witches and Wizards</i>	austinsteamintrain.org
Oct. 20	Bruno Mars	circuitoftheamericas.com
Oct. 21	Britney Spears	circuitoftheamericas.com
Oct. 25	The World of Dance Live Tour <i>Featuring the best dancers from across all genres</i>	HEB Center hebcenter.com
Oct. 25 - Nov. 1	Austin Film Festival <i>Eight days of films & parties celebrating the art of film</i>	Various venues austinfilmfestival.com
Oct. 27	Oz with Orchestra	austinsymphony.org
Oct. 28	Halloween Children's Concert <i>Frightfully fun music for the entire family</i>	AISD Performing Arts Center austinsymphony.org
Oct. 27 - 28	AIA Austin Homes Tour	aiaaustin.org
Oct. 27 - 28	Texas Book Festival	texasbookfestival.org

serving JESTER ... Just a Little Closer to Heaven!