

MERIDIAN *Community Monitor*

NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF MERIDIAN

Little Free Library is Here!

by Jacquelyn Waldrop

Meridian's official Little Free Library is here and has been installed in the front yard of the pavilion and is already being put to good use. Children's books all the way through advanced reads for adults! There's already quite a selection. Take a book, share a book! Thanks to the Meridian neighbors who banded together to get this resource provided for our community.

Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization that inspires a love of reading, builds community, and sparks creativity by fostering neighborhood book exchanges around the world. Through Little Free Libraries, millions of books are exchanged each year, profoundly increasing access to books for readers of all ages and backgrounds. Learn more: www.littlefreelibrary.org



Meridian Neighborhood Garage Sale

Saturday, October 13th 8am-1pm

Clean out those cabinets and closets and upcycle those items you've tucked away that are just taking up space! Meridian hosts two neighborhood garage sales per year. The first in April and the second in October. Updates posted on "NextDoor" and the Meridian Social Buzz Facebook page.

Baldwin Watch D.O.G.S. Mentor Pizza Party

by Jacquelyn Waldrop, Baldwin PTA Board

The Baldwin Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) leadership team held their first recruiting event for the 2018-2019 school year on Tuesday, Sept 18th in the Baldwin cafeteria, a Father/Student pizza party. During the evening, Top D.O.G, David Mass, described the goals and priorities of the organization which is geared to get more adult male role models into schools, to further encourage student success. Baldwin adopted the national Watch D.O.G. program last year, and the community's adoption and support was outstanding! The organization's goal for the 2017-2018 year was to have a one Watch D.O.G. sign-up for a day of service at least one day each week, but our Baldwin Dads stepped up in full force, and we had a Watch D.O.G. on campus almost every day last year!

During the September Pizza Party kick-off, Top D.O.G. David, asked the Dads in attendance for their participation and their continued commitment to the success of the program. Based on last year's success, the goal this year is to have a Watch D.O.G.

(Continued on Page 2)

THE MONITOR

WELCOME

A Newsletter for Meridian residents

The Monitor is a monthly newsletter mailed to all Meridian residents. Each newsletter is filled with valuable information about the community, local area activities, school information and more. If you are involved with a school group, play group, scouts, sports activity, social group, etc. and would like to submit an article for the newsletter you can do so online at www.PEELinc.com or you can email it meridian@peelinc.com. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, special celebrations, birthday announcements and military service are also welcome. Our goal is to keep you informed!

ADVERTISING INFO

Please support the advertisers that make The Monitor possible. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 512-263-9181 or advertising@PEELinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 9th of the month prior to the issue.

NEWSLETTER INFO

PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. www.PEELinc.com, 512-263-9181

Advertising advertising@PEELinc.com, 512-263-9181



**Find Meridian on
Facebook**

@MeridianSocialBuzz
@MeridianMamas

**NOT AVAILABLE
ONLINE**

(Continued from Cover)

on campus each day of this school year. The sign-up calendar is posted in the Baldwin office. Stop in to check open dates and secure your Watch D.O.G day, and gain your "Rock Star" status! For more information on the program visit www.fathers.com/watchdogs/allaboutwatchdogs/ or contact Top D.O.G. David Mass @ dmassimo10@gmail.com to get involved in Baldwin's program.



(Continued on Page 3)

(Continued from Page 2)



FOR MORE THAN A WORKOUT

At the YMCA of Austin, we're more than just a gym. The Y is a nonprofit committed to helping everyone thrive at each stage of life. Our community brings together people of all abilities, ages, ethnicities, financial circumstances, genders, races, religions and sexual orientations.

For more than a workout. For a better us.™

8 locations across
Travis, Hays & Bastrop counties

Learn more at
AustinYMCA.org

MOVE ON WITH MORE MONEY



Our Listings sell 3x faster at nearly
\$10,000 more per sale.



Jacquelyn Waldrop

P: 512.923.3099 | E: J.Waldrop@AustinRealEstate.com

LEARN MORE AT
www.WestTeam.info

[f](https://www.facebook.com/TheWestTeamRealEstate) TheWestTeamRealEstate

3103 Bee Caves Road, Suite 102, Austin TX 78746

Residential Real Estate Sales Statistics for 78739

Submitted by Jacquelyn Waldrop, Realtor

Zip Code 78739



Residential Statistics

Listings	This Month			Year-to-Date		
	Aug 2018	Aug 2017	Change	2018	2017	Change
Single Family Sales	37	31	+19.4%	285	278	+2.5%
Condo/TH Sales	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total Sales	37	31	+19.4%	285	278	+2.5%
New Homes Only	3	1	+200.0%	26	23	+13.0%
Resale Only	34	30	+13.3%	259	255	+1.6%
Sales Volume	\$19,047,383	\$16,022,035	+18.9%	\$151,010,528	\$142,640,056	+5.9%
New Listings	32	26	+23.1%	348	397	-12.3%
Pending	33	26	+26.9%	303	290	+4.5%
Withdrawn	6	4	+50.0%	23	33	-30.3%
Expired	2	2	--	5	3	+66.7%
Months of Inventory	1.6	2.4	-34.3%	N/A	N/A	--

Based on information from the Austin Board of REALTORS® (alternatively, from ACTRIS). Neither the Board nor ACTRIS guarantees or is in any way responsible for its accuracy. The Austin Board of REALTORS®, ACTRIS and their affiliates provide the MLS and all content therein "AS IS" and without any warranty, express or implied. Data maintained by the Board or ACTRIS may not reflect all real estate activity in the market.



Baldwin Elementary School Carnival Update

by Jacquelyn Waldrop, Baldwin PTA Board

Thank you, Meridian neighbors for the best carnival ever!!! We hope you had a blast and we'll see you next year. We are so thankful for all those attended and would like to give an extra shout out to our Business Booster sponsors that made this event possible: Torchy's Tacos, Jacquelyn Waldrop~Realtor @ AustinRealEstate.com, Brodie Lane Pharmacy, Baldwin Beauty Schools, Austin Community Wellness, Cedar Valley Dental & A+ Federal Credit Union. We would also like to thank all of our Family Benefactor and Carnival Sponsors. Your support helped us meet our fundraising goals to fund Baldwin PTA Programs. Funds raised will be used to purchase technology hardware and software, reading enrichment programs, math manipulatives, physical education equipment, administration of the PTA's Watch DOGS program, Family and Community Fun Nights and other special events, teacher appreciation care and support programs and so much more!

Join Baldwin PTA Today!

by Jacquelyn Waldrop, Baldwin PTA Board

The Baldwin Elementary Parent Teacher Association (PTA) needs YOU! Join our mission of making every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for our children. Together, we create a forum where educators and families unify to raise socially and academically strong students. You don't have to have a child at Baldwin to be a part of the PTA to share your voice and show your support.

Visit baldwinpta.org/pta-sign-up to join now! Single memberships are \$8.50 and Family memberships are \$15. Help us reach our goal of 400 members strong in supporting our kids and school! Membership@BaldwinPTA.org / Emily Mirkin/ Baldwin PTA ~ VP Membership

attention

Welcome back to a new school year, students! Your neighbors want to hear about all the neat things going on at your campus. Submit your good news to Jacquelyn Waldrop @ J.Waldrop@AustinRealEstate.com and see it printed in this publication.

The Flu Vaccine: Insurance Policy for the Whole Family

Submitted by: Aaron Williams, PharmD

AN ANNUAL FLU VACCINE IS THE BEST WAY TO ENSURE AGAINST THE FLU. Is it foolproof? Nothing is. But, a flu shot will dramatically increase your symptoms if you catch the flu. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends everyone 6 months and older get a flu vaccine each year, which is designed to protect against the flu viruses most likely to cause illness during the upcoming flu season. The best policy? Get vaccinated as soon as the vaccine becomes available, ideally in October or sooner.

FOR YOUNG KIDS: Even healthy children are at risk of flu complications that are serious enough to land them in the hospital. Because of this, the CDC recommends a flu shot for anyone 6 months or older. In some cases, the flu mist may be appropriate for children over 2 years old. Check with your doctor or pharmacist to find out whether the flu mist is the right administration for your child.

IF YOU'RE PREGNANT: Several studies have shown that the flu vaccine is safe and effective, no matter your stage of pregnancy. In fact, it is much more dangerous not to be vaccinated. The flu shot protects both you and your baby. In addition to pneumonia, the flu can lead to premature labor and other complications.

IF YOU'RE OVER 65: A high-dose flu shot is more effective in people age 65 or older than the standard dose. Immune defenses become weaker with age, which places older people at greater risk of severe illness from influenza. Also, aging decreases the body's ability to have a good immune response after getting the influenza vaccine. A higher dose of antigen in the vaccine gives seniors a better immune response, and therefore, better protection against flu.

WHERE TO GET A FLU VACCINE: You can always see your doctor or go to a health clinic. But did you know you can also visit your local pharmacy? We make it easy for you to use your medical insurance for a free immunization. Drop by or schedule an appointment with us.

OTHER WAYS TO STAY HEALTHY: Wash your hands regularly. This is a no-brainer, but still one of the best ways to protect yourself from the flu. Avoid close contact with those that have been affected. If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. This will help prevent spreading your illness to others. Practice good health habits like getting plenty of rest, eating nutritious foods and getting regular exercise to protect your immune system from the flu.

Nothing herein constitutes medical advice, diagnosis or treatment, or is a substitute for professional advice. You should always seek the advice of your physician or other medical professional if you have questions or concerns about a medical condition.

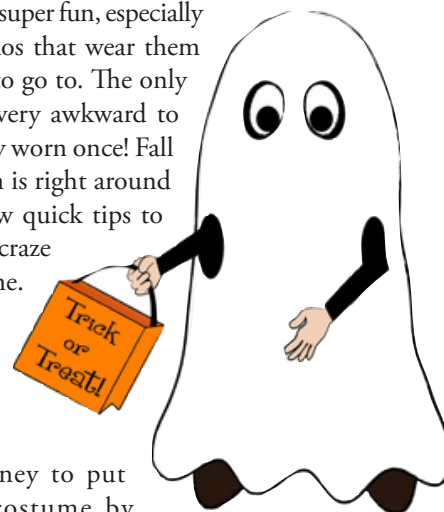
**Get the
FLU SHOT
not the flu!**

7 Tips to Recycle and Organize Halloween Costumes

Submitted by: Melynda Weiland

Halloween costumes are super fun, especially when you have cute kiddos that wear them or a great costume party to go to. The only problem is, they can be very awkward to store and are typically only worn once! Fall is upon us and Halloween is right around the corner. Here are a few quick tips to prepare for the costume craze that will be here in no time.

Recycle - There are plenty of littles and adults that need costumes. Share the love!



- Make a little money to put towards a new costume by selling your old one on a Facebook Group, Ebay or Swap.com
- Donate costumes to charities that can use them such as children's hospitals, Costume Connections or Goodwill
- Have a costume swap party with friends. You can do this virtually by creating a Facebook group or invite all your friends to bring their costumes for a 'Costumes and Cocktails' exchange party.
- Costumes make great dress up clothing for kids, boys and girls, alike. Instead of putting them away until next year or getting rid of them, make a dress up basket.

Organize - It's not necessary to keep lots of Halloween costumes, but if you're going to use them again or want to keep some options handy, organize them!

- Every year, look through your Halloween gear and weed out anything that doesn't fit or isn't of interest anymore. Then recycle them!
- When storing your costumes, be sure to have bins that are large enough to house everything you have. Use spaces such as under the bed or a high shelf in a closet to keep them out of the way.
- If you're tight on storage space but still want to keep costumes, create a designated storage space and only keep what fits in that space. If you get a new costume next year and it doesn't fit, something will need to go for the new one to stay.

Happy Costuming!

THE MONITOR

The Monitor is a private publication published by Peel, Inc. It is not sanctioned by any homeowners association or organization, nor is it subject to the approval of any homeowners association or organization, nor is it intended, nor implied to replace any publication that may be published by or on behalf of any homeowners association or organization. At no time will any source be allowed to use The Monitor's contents, or loan said contents, to others in anyway, shape or form, nor in any media, website, print, film, e-mail, electrostatic copy, fax, or etc. for the purpose of solicitation, commercial use, or any use for profit, political campaigns, or other self amplification, under penalty of law without written or expressed permission from Peel, Inc. The information in the newsletter is exclusively for the private use of Peel, Inc.

Articles and ads in this newsletter express the opinions of their authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Peel, Inc. or its employees. Peel, Inc. is not responsible for the accuracy of any facts stated in articles submitted by others. The publisher also assumes no responsibility for the advertising content with this publication. All warranties and representations made in the advertising content are solely that of the advertiser and any such claims regarding its content should be taken up with the advertiser.

* The publisher assumes no liability with regard to its advertisers for misprints or failure to place advertising in this publication except for the actual cost of such advertising.

* Although every effort is taken to avoid mistakes and/or misprints, the publisher assumes no responsibility for any errors of information or typographical mistakes, except as limited to the cost of advertising as stated above or in the case of misinformation, a printed retraction/correction.

* Under no circumstances shall the publisher be held liable for incidental or consequential damages, inconvenience, loss of business or services, or any other liabilities from failure to publish, or from failure to publish in a timely manner, except as limited to liabilities stated above.

GO GREEN



Receive your newsletter in your inbox

For details go to
www.PEELinc.com
and click the RESIDENTS tab



FOR MERIDIAN HOA SOCIAL EVENTS*

Sat, Oct 13: Neighborhood Garage Sale, 8am-1pm

Tues, Dec 18: Holiday Cookies, Caroling & Cocoa @ the Pavilion + Holiday Lights Contest Judging

***Dates and Activities Subject to Change**

What the Pumpkin is Accountability?

Submitted by Kimberly Paulson



Meet Pumpkin, my puppy. From the day I met her, nearly two years ago, I was reminded what ACCOUNTABILITY is all about. Have you ever seen the look in your dog's eyes when you tell her you aren't going to take her for a walk? I don't use guilt or shame as a way of having my clients be accountable, but my dog surely does!! The look she gives me is enough to get me outside, leash in hand and dog in tow.

What is ACCOUNTABILITY? Merriam-Webster's definition of accountability the quality or state of being accountable; especially : an obligation or willingness to accept responsibility or to account for one's actions.

The kind of accountability that I talk about is a positive, not punitive form of SELF AWARENESS.

I have found in my own walk with a coach, that the simple act of discussing my goals brings them to the forefront of my mind, therefore, I am always thinking about them. If I didn't need to "report" back to my coach or keep a chart of my progress, those goals would likely just fade away.

Kinda like this cute puppy of mine who constantly reminds me of my daily walking goals, keep your goals handy so you can visualize what it is you want to do as a way of holding yourself accountable in between sessions. Heck, get gold stars or stickers if it helps... or get a cute puppy like this one.

Love, Kim

Four Tips to Beat the Homesick Bug

Author: Dale Price, MBA



It's official! You're now the proud parent of a college freshman and all of the hard work has finally paid off. Time to relax, right? Think again. First year college students

will go through a total life transformation overnight. Nothing will be the same and nothing can fully prepare them for the transition from high school to college. Leaving everything they have ever known behind; college freshman will feel so many mixed emotions. It will be scary, exciting, lonely and fun (all at the same time). According to a recent UCLA study, 66% of first year students report feeling lonely or homesick. It's a feeling that so many of us have also felt before but may have forgotten all about. Knowing how to help our children adjust will be the key to their success in the first year. Here's Access College America's Four Tips to Beat the Homesick Bug:

1. Get into a Routine

Time management will be their guiding light for the first year of college. It is one of the many reasons why we work with so many of our clients on learning the benefits of it in high school. Encourage your child to create a system that is conducive for their success from Monday to Sunday. We recommend incorporating daily activities like exercise, writing and reading, find out when clubs and organization will meet, join a dinner club or participate in a service activity. Creating a routine will provide an element of comfort, do not leave them wondering, 'what to do next' so early in the relocation.

2. Snapchat, Instagram and Facebook are Unreal

Looking at so many filters, exhilarating moments of joy and check-ins at exciting locations can be misleading and your college freshman should know they are worth more than the total sum of their 'likes'. Sometimes taking a break from social media is just what the doctor ordered and connecting with real people is the best medicine to cure loneliness. The first year in college is the best time to make friends because everyone is new on campus. It is very socially acceptable to talk with strangers. Encourage your child to start up conversations with people they do not know. Get out of the dorm and start talking to others. Friendship is only a conversation away.

3. Gain Familiarity

It can be daunting walking on a college campus and feeling lost. Always have your child take a college tour and multiple times if necessary. Help your child identify where the best places are for social activities, locate the library, where are the science labs and is there a student center or gymnasium? Don't forget to consider the city too. Discover the local performing arts theater, find out where

the best places are for outdoor activities and help them find the most popular student spots.

4. Care Packages with a Twist

Showering your college freshman with attention is comforting and will go along way with helping them get adjusted. Plan ahead with pre-packing care boxes. The first six weeks is when they are the most vulnerable to catching the homesick bug. Consider including their favorite sweets, movie tickets or gift cards for restaurants and include photos of the family too. If you want to create the ultimate care package, plan for a surprise trip and signal the visit in one of the first care packages. Not only will they be surprised to see the package but even more so thrilled to know when mom and dad are visiting, good luck!

Baldwin PTA Family Benefactor & Business Booster Sponsorships

Submitted by: Jacquelyn Waldrop & Katie Sisk, Baldwin PTA VP Fundraising Team

We are pleased to announce our new fundraising program for our Baldwin families: Bobcat Benefactors and a new program designed with business partners in mind, the Bobcat Business Boosters. Both programs are a no-hassle, tiered program designed to fit every budget, offering loads of benefits and marketing opportunities. As a Baldwin Family Benefactor or Business Sponsor, you'll be taking part in supporting our PTA's vision and mission and building a foundation for our future leaders. Funds raised will be used to support the following efforts:

- Technology: hardware devices & tech support
- Learning-based software subscriptions for reading, math & science
- Great Leaps reading acceleration program & Blast Off to Reading dyslexia support curriculum
- Math manipulatives & other educational classroom games and supplies
- Physical Education equipment
- Watch D.O.G.S. program: "Dad" volunteers in school daily, enhancing security & reducing bullying
- Family Fun Community Nights: Bingo Night, Santa Night, Valentine's Family Dance, Art Open House
- Teacher Appreciation and Support
- Much, much more!

Learn more: <https://www.baldwinpta.org/sponsorship-programs>
Fundraising@BaldwinPTA.org



PEEL, INC.

308 Meadowlark St.
Lakeway, TX 78734-4717

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

MER



ASHLEY AUSTIN
HOMES

*Based on 2010 - 2017 ASHCH Data

Growing wish list? Or, simply outgrowing your home?

- Gain pre-MLS access to homes with the highest volume producing agent in Southwest Austin
- Make informed decisions supported by data and experience.
- Fierce and focused negotiations and problem-solving skills to promote your best interest.

Don't keep a growing wish list, let's get you settled into a new home, with strong profits from your home sale!

ASHLEY STUCKI

BROKER, REALTOR, CHLMS, CIPS, CRS
ashley@ashleyaustinhomes.com - 512.217.6103

