

# The Gazette

SEPTEMBER 2019  
VOLUME 12 ISSUE 9



## SWING NETWORKING GROUP

Promote your business with local independent business owners. SWING (South west Austin Inclusive Networking Group) has been meeting every Thursday morning from 8AM to 9:30AM at the Waterloo Ice House on Escarpment for 14 years.

We have no dues, no initiation fees, we don't take attendance. Just pay for your own breakfast. The more often you show up the better we get to know

you. We are an inclusive group, we will enjoy competition. So, bring your business cards and a good attitude and let's get to know you.

If you want more information, contact Liz Jensen at 512-301-6966 or [lizleej@gmail.com](mailto:lizleej@gmail.com) or Peter Berardino (The King of SWING) at 512-695-2334 or [peterberardino@gmail.com](mailto:peterberardino@gmail.com).

## 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 .....	512-414-1780
Middle	
Bailey.....	512-414-4990
Small.....	512-841-6700
Gorzycki .....	512-841-8600
High School	
Austin .....	512-414-2505
Bowie.....	512-414-5247

### UTILITIES

Water/Wastewater	
City of Austin.....	512-972-0101
City of Austin (billing) .....	512-494-9400
Emergency .....	512-972-1000
Texas State Gas	
Customer Service .....	1-800-700-2443
Gas related emergency .....	1-800-959-5325
Pedernales Electric Cooperative	
New service, billing .....	512-219-2602
Problems .....	512-219-2628
ATT/SBC Telephone	
New Service .....	1-800-288-2020
Repair .....	1-800-246-8464
Billing .....	1-800-288-2020
Allied Waste .....	512-247-5647
Time Warner Cable.....	512-485-5555

### OTHER NUMBERS

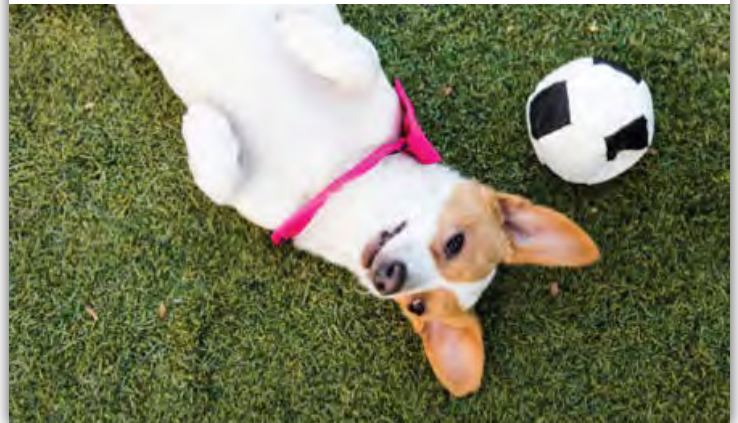
Oak Hill Postal Station.....	1-800-275-8777
City of Austin	
Dead Animal Collection.....	512-494-9400
Abandoned/Disabled Vehicles .....	512-974-8119
Stop Sign Missing/Damaged .....	512-974-2000
Street Light Outage (report pole#).....	512-505-7617

### NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. ....	512-263-9181
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## NATURE WATCH

by Jim and Lynne Weber

### A DIFFERENT KIND OF LONGHORN



'Cottonwood Borer'

The Cerambycidae are a family of longhorn beetles, typically characterized by extremely long antennae, often as long as or longer than the beetle's body. Also called longicorns, over 400 species have been described in Texas alone. The scientific name of this beetle family is named after the shepherd Cerambus, a mythical Greek figure who was transformed into a large beetle with horns after an argument with nymphs. Most of these beetles can fly well and are be found on tree trunks, logs, flowers, or at lights at night. Some even squeak when held, making a rocking motion with their head which rubs tiny ridges against the inside surface of their thorax.

Two of our more common longhorn beetles are the Cottonwood Borer (*Plectrodera scalator*) and the Long-jawed or Horse-bean Longhorn Beetle (*Trachyderes mandibularis*). The Cottonwood Borer is one of the largest insects in North America, reaching 1.6 inches in length and 0.5 inches in width. It has a bold black and white pattern on its body with long black antennae. The white portions of the pattern are actually microscopic masses of hair. Adults are active by day, feeding on leaf stems and shoots of cottonwood trees. The female bores small holes in the base of the tree to lay her eggs. The larvae take up to 2 years to mature, then they pupate for about 3 weeks in a root below ground, and once metamorphosis is completed, they chew their way out of the root and dig their way to the surface.

Long-jawed Longhorn Beetle has a glossy black or dark brown body with 4 generally large but sometimes reduced yellow to yellow-orange markings, and segments of its antennae and legs alternating between black and yellow-orange. It can grow to a length of 1.3 inches and is generally common from March to November. Its species name comes from the fact that the males have much expanded jaws or mandibles. Active during the day, adults are mostly found near wounded trees as they feed on oozing sap, and

its larvae feed on native hackberries as well as non-native ficus and tamarisk species.

This large family of longhorns includes beetles called sawyers, pruners, and girdlers in addition to borers. Most are found in dead or dying wood, and some mine live plants. While many of these beetles are considered to be occasional pests, it should be noted that they literally help shape the forest canopy and assist in recycling dead wood into precious soil. All the more reason to appreciate this different kind of longhorn!

Send your nature-related questions to [naturewatch@austin.rr.com](mailto: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](http://naturewatchaustin.blogspot.com).



'Long-jawed Longhorn'

## SAVE MONEY ON SUMMER ROAD TRIPS



*Photo courtesy of Getty (family picnic)*

If financial constraints are keeping you from exploring the world, it may be time to reassess your approach to travel. From road trips across the country to jaunts across your state, there are plenty of ways to curb costs, so your biggest challenge is finding more days away from the office, not replenishing your bank account.

**Make reservations in advance.** Shopping early for lodging is one way to save. Give yourself plenty of time to watch deals so you can grab the best one, and if it's

possible, be flexible with the travel dates. Shifting your trip by even a day can sometimes make a difference in the rates.

**Utilize rewards programs.** Shopper loyalty programs make it easy to save money on essential purchases. Not only can you access exclusive card-holder discounts, but you can accumulate rewards points or even earn cash back. For example, with the Shell | Fuel Rewards® credit cards, you can save 10 cents per gallon (up to 20 gallons) every time you fill up at Shell, in addition to earning rebates on other qualifying purchases. See store for details or learn more at [shell.us/roadtrip](http://shell.us/roadtrip).

**Share the journey.** If your travel party consists of multiple families,

consolidate into as few vehicles as you can. This helps minimize costs on everything from gas to per-vehicle admission fees at destinations like national parks.

**Pack snacks.** Next to lodging, food is the biggest expense you're likely to encounter on a road trip. Consider packing snacks for the road so you can save money while managing your hunger. Alternatively, an option like the Shell | Fuel Rewards Mastercard lets you earn rebates on qualifying purchases made with the card.

**Be conscious of your gas mileage.** You may not have much of a choice when it comes to which vehicle you'll drive, but paying more attention to your driving habits can stretch your gas tank a little further. Be sure your tires are inflated to the correct pressure. If your vehicle is a gas guzzler, consider renting a more efficient vehicle for the trip. Weigh the additional cost of the rental versus what you may spend in fuel for your personal car before making a decision.

**Research attractions.** Admission fees to various attractions can really add up, but a little pre-planning can help you capitalize on discount days and other special deals. If your plans are flexible, you can schedule your trip around those offers to capture the same experiences at a significantly lower price tag.

**Travel doesn't have to drain your wallet.** Managing your trips with practical tips like these may even free up enough funds so you can fit in an extra adventure or two.

*Content courtesy of Shell*

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## WILDFLOWER NOTES

Here's what's likely to be blooming, fruiting or setting seed in Central Texas this time of year. Look for these native plants around town, at the Wildflower Center and perhaps in your own backyard!

### INDIANGRASS (SORGHASTRUM NUTANS)

Talk about a gold rush! Indiangrass positively shimmers in tallgrass prairies thanks to its beautiful, metallic blooms. And those golden tops are all the more stunning on their blue-green stems — which are a favorite snack of livestock. Birds and small mammals eat the seeds, as well, and the plant is a larval host to pepper-and-salt skipper butterflies. Who knew grass could do so much? Well, lots of people, including our own ecologists. Like many native grasses, this drought-hardy perennial lives harmoniously with wildflowers, resists weeds and prevents erosion. And it can handle various soil types, sun exposure and moisture levels. This is not a fickle plant. Its fall color ranges from deep amber to purple and paints landscapes across Texas and well beyond. A wide-ranging native, *Sorghastrum nutans* goes for the gold in nearly every contiguous state.

### PRAIRIE GOLDENROD (SOLIDAGO NEMORALIS)

Detect a theme here? Our September picks are basking in a favorite fall color: gold. It's fitting that low-angle sun and plants beginning to go dormant are accompanied by grasses and wildflowers blooming in burnished tones. And prairie goldenrod is most definitely a symbol of fall at the Wildflower Center. Its yellow plumes attract butterflies, bees and birds (the big three b's!) and complement purple Texas gayfeather and crimson-colored autumn sage in our gardens — a look you should definitely consider replicating. Perennial *Solidago nemoralis* is an underappreciated, slightly shorter species of goldenrod that is less aggressive than common tall goldenrod — and its blooms keep on giving. Because individual plants bloom at various times, a stand of prairie goldenrod can have an extended flowering season. Plant some in a sunny place and let the golden days begin.

*Find these plants at the Wildflower Center and learn more about them at: [wildflower.org/plants-main](http://wildflower.org/plants-main)*



## FREE PIZZA FOR TEENS

Do your teens need volunteer hours for school? Would they like to earn them close by at the Wildflower Center? Would they consider joining us for our first-ever teen gathering? We are building a Teen Council involvement and advisory program and would like to hear ideas from local teens about how we can better engage with them. Opportunities may include shared after-school study space and the chance to help educate youth. Join us Thursday, Sept. 12, from 5 - 6 p.m., for free pizza and to share ideas. Please RSVP to [cmcdonald@wildflower.com](mailto:cmcdonald@wildflower.com) if interested.

*Submitted by Amy McCullough, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center  
Photography by Sally and Andy Wasowski (Indiangrass) and Ray Mathews (prairie goldenrod)*



# The Gazette

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The YMCA of Austin has something for the whole family—from youth programming like sports, dance, gymnastics and martial arts to state-of-the-art exercise equipment, gym facilities and pools. Time spent together at the Y will help build your family's connections, health, confidence and well-being. If you're looking to strengthen your family, the Y is the perfect place to start.

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## Sudoku!

Visit: <https://www.memory-improvement-tips.com/printable-sudoku-puzzles-medium-1b-solutions.html>  
and check your answers!

1		8			6	4		
		6		9		8		7
5								
2	6	9	5				8	
			4		9			
	8				2	7	9	1
								5
6		4		7		2		
		1	2			9		3



A black and white photograph of a chef in a kitchen, wearing a dark apron and using a knife to cut meat. The chef is in the background, slightly out of focus. In the foreground, there is a large piece of meat, possibly a brisket, with the "Rudy's" logo overlaid on it. The logo is in a stylized, cursive font. To the right of the meat, there is a circular call to action.

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Based on ABOR data





# SquiresTeam.com



**8301 Siringo Pass** is John's listing is **"JUST LISTED!"** Gorgeous Scott Felder custom home with soaring ceilings and beautiful architectural designs throughout. Cul-de-sac that is **PERFECT** in every way for a young family. 4 beds and **3 FULL** baths! Call John to see this home first! Listed properly at **\$425,000. HURRY!**

**8507 Lewis Mountain Drive** John's new listing. 4,000+ sq.ft. home with in-ground pool and hot tub on 1.5 acres on secluded land. Low taxes! **\$619,000! "CONTRACT PENDING!"** in 2 days with 3 offers!



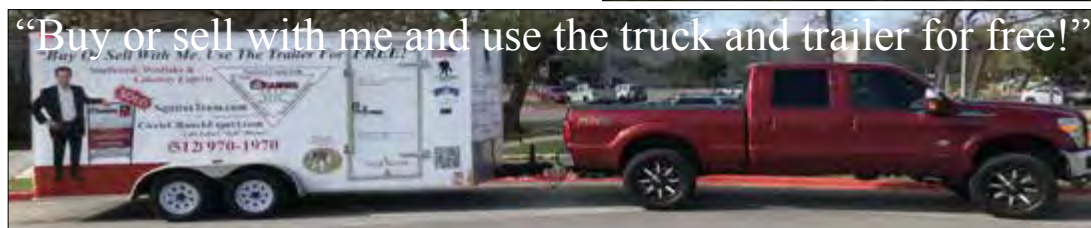
**10621 Pinkney Lane**— John's new listing is a **STUNNING** 1-story completely renovated! Granite, stainless, LED lighting, bamboo floors, new roof, new A/C, HUGE lot, etc. Call John! **\$479,000.**

**6803 Breezy Pass** John just listed this gorgeous Wilshire home, sitting high up on a hill with views. Property is like living in a tree-house with a very private lot. Quiet back yard is great for kids, screened in patio, 4 beds, 2.5 baths with loft exercise room. Perfect at **\$374,500.**



Call John Squires' direct 'sell' phone at **(512) 970-1970** at any time. **#1** realtor in Southwest Austin real estate with approximately **700~** homes sold to date. Over **1090~** homes sold in the entire Austin area. **#1 agent in all of Southwest Austin according to Austin Board of Realtors statistics over the last 23 years.**

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**UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS**

Aug 31 Louisiana Tech  
 Sept 7 LSU  
 Sept 14 @ Rice  
 Sept 21 Oklahoma State  
 Oct 5 @ West Virginia  
 Oct 12 Oklahoma (*Cotton Bowl*)  
 Oct 19 Kansas  
 Oct 26 @ TCU  
 Nov 9 Kansas State  
 Nov 16 @ Iowa State  
 Nov 23 @ Baylor  
 Nov 29 Texas Tech

**TEXAS TECH**

Aug 31 Montana State  
 Sept 7 UTEP  
 Sept 14 @ Arizona  
 Sept 28 @ Oklahoma  
 Oct 5 Oklahoma State  
 Oct 12 @ Baylor  
 Oct 19 Iowa State  
 Oct 26 @ Kansas  
 Nov 9 @ West Virginia  
 Nov 16 TCU  
 Nov 23 Kansas State  
 Nov 29 @ Texas

**BAYLOR**

Aug 31 Stephen F. Austin  
 Sept 7 UTSA  
 Sept 21 @ Rice  
 Sept 28 Iowa State  
 Oct 5 @ Kansas State  
 Oct 12 Texas Tech  
 Oct 19 @ Oklahoma State  
 Oct 31 West Virginia  
 Nov 9 @ TCU  
 Nov 16 Oklahoma  
 Nov 23 Texas  
 Nov 30 @ Kansas

**IOWA STATE**

Aug 31 UNI  
 Sept 14 Iowa  
 Sept 21 Louisiana-Monroe  
 Sept 28 @ Baylor  
 Oct 5 TCU  
 Oct 12 @ West Virginia  
 Oct 19 @ Texas Tech  
 Oct 26 Oklahoma State  
 Nov 9 @ Oklahoma  
 Nov 16 Texas  
 Nov 23 Kansas  
 Nov 30 @ Kansas State

**KANSAS**

Aug 31 Indiana State  
 Sept 7 Coastal Carolina  
 Sept 13 @ Boston College  
 Sept 21 West Virginia  
 Sept 28 @ TCU  
 Oct 5 Oklahoma  
 Oct 19 @ Texas  
 Oct 26 Texas Tech  
 Nov 2 Kansas State  
 Nov 16 @ Oklahoma State  
 Nov 23 @ Iowa State  
 Nov 30 Baylor

**KANSAS STATE**

Aug 31 Nicholls  
 Sept 7 Bowling Green  
 Sept 14 @ Mississippi State  
 Sept 28 @ Oklahoma State  
 Oct 5 Baylor  
 Oct 19 TCU  
 Oct 26 Oklahoma  
 Nov 2 @ Kansas  
 Nov 9 @ Texas  
 Nov 16 West Virginia  
 Nov 23 @ Texas Tech  
 Nov 30 Iowa State

**OKLAHOMA**

Aug 31 Houston  
 Sept 7 South Dakota  
 Sept 14 @ UCLA  
 Sept 28 Texas Tech  
 Oct 5 @ Kansas  
 Oct 12 Texas (*Cotton Bowl*)  
 Oct 19 West Virginia  
 Oct 26 @ Kansas State  
 Nov 9 Iowa State  
 Nov 16 @ Baylor  
 Nov 23 TCU  
 Nov 30 @ Oklahoma State

**OKLAHOMA STATE**

Aug 30 @ Oregon State  
 Sept 7 McNeese State  
 Sept 14 @ Tulsa  
 Sept 28 @ Texas  
 Oct 5 Kansas State  
 Oct 12 @ Texas Tech  
 Oct 19 Baylor  
 Oct 26 @ Iowa State  
 Nov 2 TCU  
 Nov 16 Kansas  
 Nov 23 @ West Virginia  
 Nov 30 Oklahoma

**TCU**

Aug 31 Arkansas  
 Sept 14 @ Purdue  
 Sept 21 SMU  
 Sept 28 Kansas  
 Oct 5 @ Iowa State  
 Oct 19 @ Kansas State  
 Oct 26 Texas  
 Nov 2 @ Oklahoma State  
 Nov 9 Baylor  
 Nov 16 @ Texas Tech  
 Nov 23 @ Oklahoma  
 Nov 29 West Virginia

**WEST VIRGINIA**

Aug 31 James Madison  
 Sept 7 @ Missouri  
 Sept 14 NC State  
 Sept 21 @ Kansas  
 Oct 5 Texas  
 Oct 12 Iowa State  
 Oct 19 @ Oklahoma  
 Oct 31 @ Baylor  
 Nov 9 Texas Tech  
 Nov 16 @ Kansas State  
 Nov 23 Oklahoma State  
 Nov 29 @ TCU

**TEXAS A&M**

Aug 29 Texas State  
 Sept 7 @ Clemson  
 Sept 14 Lamar  
 Sept 21 Auburn  
 Sept 28 Arkansas (AT&T Stadium)  
 Oct 12 Alabama  
 Oct 19 @ Ole Miss  
 Oct 26 Mississippi State  
 Nov 2 UTSA  
 Nov 16 South Carolina  
 Nov 23 @ Georgia  
 Nov 30 @ LSU

**BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL**

Aug 29 Pflugerville  
 Sept 6 @ Madison  
 Sept 13 @ Lake Travis  
 Sept 19 Del Valle  
 Oct 4 @ Hays  
 Oct 18 Anderson  
 Oct 25 @ Akins  
 Nov 1 Austin  
 Nov 8 Westlake

**HOUSTON TEXANS**

Sept 9 @ Saints  
 Sept 15 Jaguars  
 Sept 22 @ Chargers  
 Sept 29 Panthers  
 Oct 6 Falcons  
 Oct 13 @ Chiefs  
 Oct 20 @ Colts  
 Oct 27 Raiders  
 Nov 3 @ Jaguars  
 Nov 10 BYE Week  
 Nov 17 @ Ravens  
 Nov 21 Colts  
 Dec 1 Patriots  
 Dec 8 Broncos  
 Dec 15 @ Titans  
 TBD @ Buccaneers  
 Dec 29 Titans

**DALLAS COWBOYS**

Sept 8 NY Giants  
 Sept 15 @ Redskins  
 Sept 22 Dolphins  
 Sept 29 @ Saints  
 Oct 6 Packers  
 Oct 13 @ Jets  
 Oct 20 Eagles  
 Oct 28 BYE Week  
 Nov 4 @ NY Giants  
 Nov 10 Vikings  
 Nov 17 @ Lions  
 Nov 24 @ Patriots  
 Nov 28 Bills  
 Dec 5 @ Bears  
 Dec 15 Rams  
 Dec 22 @ Eagles  
 Dec 29 Redskins

**MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL**

Sept 9 Texans @ Saints  
 Sept 16 Broncos @ Raiders  
 Sept 23 Browns @ Jets  
 Sept 30 Bears @ Redskins  
 Oct 7 Bengals @ Steelers  
 Oct 14 Browns @ 49ers  
 Oct 14 Lions @ Packers  
 Oct 21 Patriots @ Jets  
 Oct 28 Dolphins @ Steelers  
 Nov 4 Cowboys @ Giants  
 Nov 11 Seahawks @ 49ers  
 Nov 18 Chiefs @ Chargers  
 Nov 25 Ravens @ Rams  
 Dec 2 Vikings @ Seahawks  
 Dec 9 Giants @ Eagles  
 Dec 16 Colts @ Saints  
 Dec 23 Packers @ Vikings



**Please call me for all of your Austin Real Estate needs!**