

# THE RIVER REVIEW

December 2019 Volume 13, Issue 12

*Photo by Mia Sanchez*



NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF RIVER PLACE



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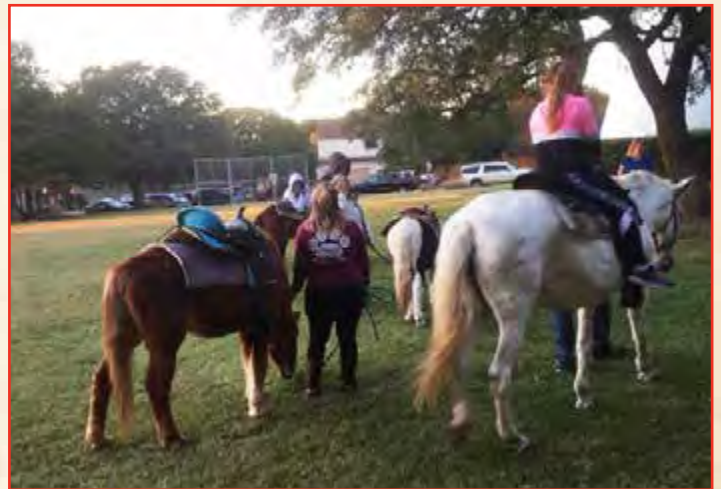
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## The 2019 Annual Hoedown Was a Blast!

While it was a bit chilly it was also sunny and calm for the 2019 annual Hoedown, making it good weather for the event. The turnout was great and there were many activities for the youngsters and great barbecue and other tasty food dishes for all. The hoedown took place Saturday, November 9 from 4 to 6 pm.

There were many types of entertainment for the kiddos including an obstacle course, pony and horse rides, train rides and a variety of baseball, basketball, bouncy and slide inflatables that you see in the photos. And as you also see, a good time was being had by all! Thanks go to Terry Blacks for the barbecue and our HOA for sponsoring such a thoughtful fun event!





# IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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Ambulance .....	911
Sheriff – Non-Emergency .....	512-974-0845
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Information .....	512-266-2533

## SCHOOLS

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Cedar Park High School .....	512-570-1200
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Four Points Middle School .....	512-570-3700
River Place Elementary .....	512-570-6900

## UTILITIES

River Place MUD .....	512-246-0498
City of Austin Electric .....	512-494-9400
Texas Gas Service	
Custom Service .....	1-800-700-2443
Emergencies .....	512-370-8609
Call Before You Dig .....	512-472-2822

## AT&T

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## Time Warner Cable

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## OTHER NUMBERS

River Place Postal Office .....	512-345-9739
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### Questions about articles?

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# ARTICLE INFO

The River Review is mailed monthly to all River Place residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to include 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.

To submit an article for the River Review please email it to [riverreview@peelinc.com](mailto:riverreview@peelinc.com). The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the issue.

# Riverplace (Maybe Not So) Clever Quips of the Month

My wife thinks I'm crazy but I'm not the one who married me.

I ordered a chicken and an egg from Amazon. I'll let you know.

Heard about the Honeymoon Salad? It's called Lettuce Alone.

One of the hardest pills to swallow is being a biological parent trying to discipline the YOU out of your child.

My goal was to lose 15 pounds this year. Only 20 to go.

Chocolate comes from Cocoa, which is a tree. That makes it a plant... So chocolate is a salad.

Next time your wife gets angry, drape a towel over her shoulders (like a cape) and say, "Now you're SUPER angry." Maybe she'll laugh. Maybe you'll die.

It's funny how many times I think, "This is why I don't go out"... while I'm out.

Before marrying someone, have them work on a computer with slow internet, just to see what they're really like.

I think girls just don't realize how handsome my mom thinks I am.

The first five days after the weekend are the hardest.

Do you ever think about what name your pet has for you?

I hate it when I see a familiar old person and then realize we went to school together.

You can't always control who walks into your life...But you can control which window you throw them out of.

If men could get pregnant, abortions would be available at Jiffy Lube. (Betty White.)

Your mobile phone may bring you closer to those far away; but it will also take you away from those sitting next to you.

The staff and administration of The River Review are pleased to wish all River Place residents a

Happy Holidays

And all the best in the coming year!

# Heads Up...From Around the City

## Social Media Administrator, Travis County, TX Travis Co. AGENCY

### Coyote Activity in Area: Pet Safety and Hazing

During this time of the year, coyotes may be more active as pups get pushed out of the den and look for new food sources and territory. Denning season last from April-November. Coyotes are typically most active at dawn and dusk, though they may be seen hunting or traveling during daytime hours. We want to share space with coyotes, but not time.

Hazing is a process that helps shape coyote behavior and encourages them to avoid contact with people and pets. It reinforces coyotes' natural wariness without harming them. You can haze by making loud noises and throwing things if needed. It is very important to haze, practice the best pet safety actions, and limit attractants that might draw coyotes and other wildlife in. The best ways to practice pet safety actions is keep your pets on a leash at all times, be present with small pets while outside, and bring your small cats and dogs inside at night.

Please report any concerning activity to 311 so the Wildlife Officer can monitor behavior. With recent coyote activity in the neighborhood, please visit <https://austintexas.gov/department/coyotes-central-texas> for considerations regarding pet safety, hazing, and attractants.

## Austin Water Public Information Office City of Austin AGENCY Lower Water Bills, Wastewater Averaging, Mid-November Through March

Wastewater averaging runs from mid-November through March. This charge is based on the average of the water you use each month, for three

consecutive months, and determines your wastewater bill for the next year. Using less water now by turning off irrigation systems and fixing leaks can lower charges for the next year.

Find your wastewater averaging period, water-saving tips and more at <http://www.austintexas.gov/wastewateraveraging>

## Emergency Management, City of Austin AGENCY

### Are You Registered for Warn Central Texas?

It may be absolutely perfect weather today in Austin, which means it is a perfect time to sign up for Warn Central Texas! Warn Central Texas provides alerts that are different from the ones that currently appear your phone for flash floods or tornadoes. This makes sure you are in the know and receive alerts for ANY emergency situation that may happen in YOUR specific neighborhood. It takes just seconds to register and ensures you will never be caught off guard again. Sign up here: <http://bit.ly/356tQJP>



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## Health and Wellness

### 8 Warning Signs of a Heart Attack Occurring One Month Before



According to the Center for Disease Control, 735,000 Americans suffer a heart attack every year. Some will recover, but many attacks will be fatal. Even of those who recover, the CDC says that 210,000 of them will suffer a second heart attack. Information is power. Knowing the early warning signs and what to do can keep you from suffering from the first one.

The eight symptoms below may be telling you that your heart is having trouble a month before a heart attack takes place. Please be aware that men's and women's symptoms are very different.

**1. Dizziness.** Men who are having heart trouble will often suffer from dizziness, says Dr. Sinatra.

**2. Fainting.** Both men and women suffer from fainting spells about a month before a heart attack, according to Science Daily.

**3. Cold sweats.** About a month before a heart attack, men may experience cold sweats, notes Dr. Sinatra.

**4. Chest Pain.** Another shared symptom between men and women is chest pain, says Science Daily.

**5. Muscle change.** Dr. Sinatra points out that men may experience muscle weakness whereas women may have a heaviness or weakness in their arms.

**6. Unusual fatigue.** According to Science Daily, women may suffer from unusual fatigue, insomnia or unusual disturbances in their sleep patterns.

**7. Stomach trouble.** Dr. Sinatra shares that different stomach problems come into play. Women may suffer from indigestion or a loss of appetite. Men, on the other hand, may have problems with nausea.

**8. Shortness of breath.** Science Daily points out that shortness of breath is shared by both men and women as an early warning sign.

Ignorance is not always bliss; sometimes it's dangerous. Knowing the early warning signs of a heart attack may save your life or the life of someone you love.



## Homeowners Corner

### IS STAINLESS STEEL'S REIGN FINALLY OVER?

Many homeowners have a love-hate relationship with stainless steel appliances as they are prone to showing fingerprints, making them difficult to clean. Yet stainless steel remains the clear choice of most homeowners who seek a more "modern" look.

That hasn't stopped appliance manufacturers from continuing to debut new offerings in the search for the next trend. The latest entry? It's Champagne. Warmer than silver but cooler than gold, it adds a fresh, warm appeal to any kitchen design. It looks best when paired with neutral earthy tones that enhance the cozy atmosphere that this finish produces.

Black cabinetry allows the color to really stand out, providing a contrast between the dark and light colors. Now offered by both Samsung and Whirlpool (under the name of Sunset Bronze,) Champagne compliments everything from natural wood textures, in cabinetry, thick-grained marble or granite countertops, and bolder tile patterns on walls. Check it out if you're looking for an exciting change.

### NEW FHA RULES EASE CONDO OWNERSHIP

For a long time, FHA has had different rules for the sale of condominium versus a single family home. These rules go back

to a long held but mistaken belief that condominiums are a more risky investment than single family structures. These rules have hampered the ability of some home buyers to purchase a condo, and, as a result, often made it more difficult to sell condominiums.

These rules included (1) limits on the number of units that can be rented in one building; (2) limits on the number of units that can be delinquent in dues, regardless of the financial standing of the property as a whole; and (3) limits on commercial space.

Condominiums are often the most affordable homeownership options for first time buyers, small families, single people and older folks. On August 4, 2019 the U.S. Department of Housing Development (HUD) released its long-awaited final ruling. It essentially relaxed all three of the previous requirements mentioned above. The revised rules, previously proposed by the National Association of Realtors over the last decade, finally went into effect in mid-October. This will certainly ease of process and pain of buying and selling condos, making them more attractive and broadening homeowner choices significantly. *(from Hometown Trends, Karen Ollier, Irongate Agent, Dayton, Ohio)*

## The Great Outdoors Have Backyard Bare Spots? Artificial Grass May be a Solution

Many of us have those too sunny, too shady, rocky, and worn out areas in our backyards that, no matter what we do, grass just won't grow there. It can be so frustrating to have beautiful flower beds, a nice patio or deck and yet, right there in plain view, is an eyesore. What can we do?

Artificial grass may be the simple solution. Artificial grass is actually an umbrella term that includes short-bladed turf and the long-bladed product of the same name. The long-bladed variety can look more like natural grass, especially when it incorporates some brown thatch to look like most of the natural grasses growing in our yards here in River Place. There are many varieties of turf to choose from.

It can be installed to cover an entire backyard, create a walkway or even a putting green, as you see in this article. Who wouldn't enjoy putting around while you enjoy a drink or sandwich in the privacy of your back yard? Kids and even grandkids can have a great time and it's also something to attract them outdoors and off their phones.

Putting greens of course feature a shorter, tighter nap to be realistic and, given their many locations and shapes in the real world of golf, they can strategically be installed in practically in spot in your backyard where you can stand up and walk around. And they are great fun as anyone can take part, especially when you incorporate a few holes that allow for a good variety of putts.

And let's certainly not overlook the appearance and efficiency of artificial grass. It saves you from having to water that area of your yard; it always looks nice and lasts many years. It can be hosed off for cleaning, especially if you have pets or, if there are sticks and leaves, they can easily be removed with a blower. All things considered, artificial grass can be the ticket to making a backyard more useful and also look great! (The putting green shown in this article was expertly installed in River Place by Turfscapes Pro LLC. Contact Michael McCaskell at 512-299-2330.)



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