



VOLUME 14 ISSUE 4  
APRIL 2020

# RANCH RECORD

*Official Newsletter of The Steiner Ranch HOA*



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# COMMUNITY INFO

## STEINER RANCH

### COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS OFFICE

12550 Country Trails Lane

Austin, Texas 78732

512-266-7553 – Telephone

512-266-9312 – Facsimile

[www.steinerranchhoa.org](http://www.steinerranchhoa.org)

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday (Closed from 12–1:00pm) 9:00am – 5:00pm

Saturday & Sunday ..... **CLOSED**

### STAFF

#### **General Manager**

Melinda Schoch..... [steiner@ciramail.com](mailto:steiner@ciramail.com)

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### COMPLIANCE, ARCHITECTURAL

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### SRMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Email the SRMA BOD..... [board@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:board@steinerranchhoa.org)

# IMPORTANT NUMBERS

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY.....911  
Fire.....911  
Ambulance.....911  
Sheriff – Non-Emergency.....512-974-0845  
Travis County ESD No.6/Lake Travis Fire Rescue  
Administration Office.....512-266-2533  
Travis County Animal Control.....512-974-2000

## STEINER RANCH CONTACTS

Steiner Ranch Community Association  
Office.....512-266-7553

## SCHOOLS

Leander ISD.....512-570-0000  
Vandegrift High School.....512-570-2300  
Canyon Ridge Middle School.....512-570-3500  
Laura Welch Bush Elementary.....512-570-6100  
Steiner Ranch Elementary.....512-570-5700  
River Ridge Elementary.....512-570-7300

## UTILITIES

Travis County WCID # 17.....512-266-1111  
City of Austin Electric.....512-494-9400  
Texas Gas Service  
Custom Service.....1-800-700-2443  
Emergencies.....512-370-8609  
Call Before You Dig.....1-800-344-8377

## AT&T

New Service.....1-800-464-7928  
Repair.....1-800-246-8464  
Billing.....1-800-858-7928

## Time Warner Cable

Customer Service.....512-485-5555  
Repairs.....512-485-5080  
TDS (Trash & Recycle).....512-329-1752  
Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste  
.....512-974-4343

## OTHER NUMBERS

Lake Travis Postal Office.....512-263-2458  
Coyote Sightings.....311  
Five Star Commercial Community Management  
Balcones Canyonlands Preserve.....  
.....<https://www.traviscountytx.gov/tnr/nr/bcp>

## NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc.....512-263-9181  
Advertising.....[advertising@peelinc.com](mailto:advertising@peelinc.com)

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## UPCOMING STEINER RANCH HOA EVENTS

5/16 Shred Day

7/04 Decorate Your Ride / Independence  
Day Celebration

8/15 Concert in The Park

9/12 Fall Community Garage Sale

9/25 Spring Scrap A Thon

10/25 Trunk or Treat & Pumpkin Patch

11/14 Holiday Shopping Event

11/26 Steiner Ranch Turkey Trot

12/05 Breakfast with Santa

Events are tentative & subject to change or cancel at any time. Events are planned by the Steiner Ranch Event Planning Committee, and are for Steiner Ranch residents in good standing with the association, and their guests only. Final approval to participate in any Steiner Ranch program or event is dependent upon HOA approval. For more information, please contact Desirre Ghebremicael at: [steiner@ciramail.com](mailto:steiner@ciramail.com)

For the most up to date information, follow us at: [Facebook.com/SteinerRanchHOAevents](https://www.facebook.com/SteinerRanchHOAevents) or visit the Steiner Ranch HOA website at:

**[www.steinerranchhoa.org](http://www.steinerranchhoa.org)**



## MONTHLY HOA COMMUNITY MEETINGS

### STEINER RANCH MASTER

#### ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meets on the third Tuesday of each month at  
Towne Square Community Center at 6:00pm.

#### STEINER RANCH RESIDENTIAL OWNERS

##### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meets on the last Thursday of each month at  
Towne Square Community Center at 6:00pm.

#### STEINER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Bella  
Mar Community Center at 7:00pm.

#### TRAIL COMMITTEE

Meets on the third Wednesday of each month  
at Bella Mar Community Center at 6:30pm. The  
committee also holds monthly trail work days on  
the fourth Sunday of each month. Meet-up location  
and time varies monthly. If you are interested  
in lending a hand, visit the Steiner Ranch Trail  
Committee Facebook page for the most up to date  
information. You may also join their newsletter  
by subscribing at: [https://groups.google.com/  
forum/#!forum/steinertails](https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/steinertails)

#### LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

Meets on the third Tuesday of each month at  
Towne Square HOA office Conference Room.

#### EVENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

Meets on the second Tuesday of each month at  
Cups and Cones at 9:30am.

## COVER PHOTO

Have a photo you would like to see published in the next Ranch Record? For consideration, send pictures to [desirre.ghebremicael@grandmanors.com](mailto:desirre.ghebremicael@grandmanors.com) no later than the 8th of the month prior to publication. Your photo might just be next month's cover!

By submitting your photo you agree to allow your photo to be published in future issues of the Ranch Record and/or other Steiner Ranch communications.

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR HOA CONCERNING COVID-19

**March 17th, 2020**

Dear Steiner Ranch Members

Given the recent rise in cases and concerns surrounding the coronavirus (COVID-19), we wanted to alert you to the precautionary measures we are instituting.

As you know, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") indicates that one of the most effective ways to minimize risk of COVID-19 transmission is social distancing. As the virus continues to spread, we're taking additional precautionary measures.

Effective Tuesday March 17, 2020 the HOA office will be closed to all walk-ins but will continue to serve you Monday - Friday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM (closed from Noon until 1:00 PM for lunch) via email (Steiner@Ciramail.com) or telephone (1-855-947-2636) or (512-266-7553). In case of a maintenance emergency, you will be connected to our after hours call center.

- Most of your information can be viewed on the CiraNet Portal 24/7.

- If you need to drop off paperwork or a payment, please utilize the drop box next to the HOA office doors.

Some of the amenities, such as the playscapes, basketball courts, and tennis courts. Sand volleyball court are not capable of being closed. All members are requested not to use them; members who use them do so at their own risk. We recommend complying with all CDC, Travis County and City of Austin guidance.

The following HOA Amenity Centers, pools and sports fields are closed until further notice.

- Towne Square Community Center, pools, tennis courts, and sports fields.

- Bella Mar Community Center, pools, tennis courts, and sports fields.

- Lake Club Pavilion

- Westridge Sports Field

- John Simpson pool and pavilion, and tennis court.

All Programs, Activities and Private Reservation are canceled until further notice. Please check with your program coaches, instructors or chairman for information as to alternative options for the programs.

We understand that events like this can cause feelings of uncertainty and anxiety. Our goal is to keep you informed of any changes that may impact the service you've come to expect from us. We appreciate your understanding.

Steiner Ranch Associations and Staff

## SRROA 2020 ELECTIONS AND ANNUAL MEETINGS

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the guidelines issued by CDC, Travis County and City of Austin guidance, the SRROA Annual Meeting and Elections has been rescheduled to take place on May 28th, 2020 at 6:30 pm instead of April 23rd, 2020. Registration will begin at 6:00 pm at Towne Square Community Center. The SRROA Board consists of five board members. Then elected members will serve two-year terms.

The SRROA will elect two members during this election.

SRROA neighborhoods include: Chaparral, The Summit at Eastridge, The Valley at Eastridge, Hancock Hill, Mesa North, Plateau, Rocky Ridge.

Candidate bios and head shots will be posted on the Steiner Ranch HOA website as well as the GrandManors Portal for review. Only candidate bios and photos which pertain to a homeowner's voting District will be visible on the online voting website. Specific online voting information is included in the homeowner Annual Meeting and Election packets.

Elections results will be announced at the SRROA annual meeting. Homeowners are encouraged to vote.

### How to Vote

- Attend the SRROA Annual Meeting & Election and cast your ballot.

- Vote online by visiting your specific voting District website which will be emailed to you on the email on file. SRROA district specific website information is also included in homeowner annual meeting packets, which should have been delivered via regular mail in March. Given the recent rise in cases and concerns surrounding the coronavirus (COVID-19), we encourage everyone to vote online as it is the safest and most efficient option.

- Vote by proxy. Proxies are included in the Annual Meeting packets which should have been delivered via regular mail in March.

# From the Association Office

## Committee Volunteers Needed

The Steiner Ranch Master Association is currently seeking volunteers to form a new Solid Waste and Recycling committee to provide input and recommendations regarding Solid Waste and Recycling services needed by the Community as well as selecting potential service providers. As the Board budgets for future expenditures and contracts renewals as well as current and forecasted needs of the community, they will need the help and support of the Committee to successfully assess the needs and wants of the community, provide additional feedback and a broader voice from all residents and help select the best service provider.

The Committee will consist of five (5) volunteers and it will extend from May to July 2020 only meeting once a month. We are working on creating a committee charter with details on the specific responsibilities, terms, and meeting times, but wanted to begin the process of compiling a list of interested homeowners. If this is something in which you would like to participate, please contact the General Manager, Melinda Schoch, at [Melinda.schoch@grandmanors.com](mailto:Melinda.schoch@grandmanors.com). We will follow-up with interested homeowners as we finalize the committee charter and as more information becomes available.

We are also seeking volunteers to become involved with the Architectural Compliance Committee. Currently the SRMA is seeking one (1) volunteer and the SRROA is seeking to start a new Architectural Compliance Committee and needs three (3) volunteers. The purpose of the Committee is to assist the Board of Directors to review homeowner architectural submittals. Responsibilities for the Architectural Committee includes:

- Reading and understanding the Steiner Ranch Residential Design Guideline Manual and Supplemental Guidelines for individual neighborhoods.
- The ability to grant or not grant a submittal using the guidelines as reference.
- No decision is to be made in regard to personal preference.

If you are interested in serving the community on a committee, please contact our General Manager, Melinda Schoch, at [Melinda.schoch@grandmanors.com](mailto:Melinda.schoch@grandmanors.com).

## Second Spring Green Waste has been scheduled

The HOA heard your concerns on the timing of the Green Waste pickup. We worked with TDS to schedule a later date in April to ensure that the red oak leaves have fallen from their limbs. Texas Disposal Systems (TDS) will provide Steiner Ranch residents with a second seasonal green waste collection pick-up (bagged leaves, brush, limbs and other yard waste) during the week of April 27th, 2020.

Each resident may place up to 20 thirty-gallon paper bags of green waste at their curbside on their designated trash pick-up day on April 27 to May 1, 2020.

**\*\*Please note:** Residents may schedule bulky waste, and bundle pick-ups twice per year by calling TDS. Bundle pick-ups include tree, shrub, and brush trimmings securely tied together, not exceeding 4 feet in length or 40 pounds. Call TDS at 512-329-1752 to schedule individual pick-ups.

**Reminder:** Aside from scheduled green waste pick-ups and individually scheduled bundle pick-ups, TDS will **NOT** pick up items/bags left outside of trash containers, unless bags are tagged with TDS trash tags. Tags are available for purchase, by check, at the HOA office for \$2.50 per bag. Additional trash/recycle carts may be ordered directly from TDS.

### Waste Wizard App

Manage your trash and recycling collection services on the go! To download a customized trash and recycling service calendar by address, as well as service alerts and reminders, visit the Waste Wizard widget on the Texas Disposal Systems website: [www.texasdisposal.com](http://www.texasdisposal.com).

Dumping in the HOA common area, greenbelts, the Preserve and commercial business dumpsters is **PROHIBITED**.

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# HOA Oak Wilt Policy Prohibits Pruning Oaks February 1 – June 30

The Steiner Ranch Master Association (SRMA) and Steiner Ranch Residential Owners' Association (SRROA) each have oak wilt policies which residents are responsible for following. The policies specifically state that oak tree pruning is prohibited from February 1 – June 30, as this is the period in which oaks are most at risk of infection. To view the policy in its entirety, visit the Steiner Ranch HOA website and click 'FAQS' from the top menu, then 'Oak Wilt Policy'.

## Reduce The Chance For Spreading Oak Wilt

**Know When NOT to Prune** - No pruning/trimming oaks from February 1st through June 30th.

**Paint** – Always paint fresh oak wounds immediately after pruning with wound dressing or latex paint regardless of season.

**Sterilize Pruning Tools** – Clean all pruning tools with 10% bleach solution or Lysol between sites and trees.

**Properly Dispose of Red Oak Debris** – Debris from diseased red oaks should be immediately chipped or burned.

If uncertain about trimming, consult a Texas oak wilt certified arborist, an oak wilt specialist from a city, county or state government agency such as the Texas Forest Service or Texas AgriLife Extension Service, or visit [texasoakwilt.org](http://texasoakwilt.org).



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# From the Association Office

## Reducing Wildfire Risk on the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve

*Submitted by Johanna Arendt, Community Liaison, Travis County Transportation & Natural Resources*

Balcones Canyonlands Preserve (BCP) managers take wildfire very seriously, and each year they complete fuel mitigation projects to minimize risk. After the 2011 Labor Day fires, Travis County worked with the City of Austin and other partners to study fire behavior in Central Texas and identify the best fuel mitigation techniques for the region. The main tool used for reducing the spread of wildfire in juniper-oak woodlands is the “shaded fuel break” -- a narrow strip of land, up to 100 feet wide, where select understory vegetation has been removed. Removing these “ladder fuels” reduces the risk of surface fires reaching tree canopies, lowering the risk to homes and businesses. Unlike a traditional firebreak, shaded fuel breaks leave the tree canopy intact to shade out grasses and other fine fuels, which are more likely to ignite than live trees.

Travis County and the City of Austin conduct fuel mitigation projects every year on the BCP from September through February, focusing on areas where the preserve borders development. Steiner Ranch has been a top priority for these risk-reduction projects. The County has created more shaded fuel breaks in Steiner Ranch than on any other part of the BCP, with 17 individual projects ranging from 0.2 acres to 7.2 acres in size. The accompanying map shows where shaded fuel breaks have been completed on the BCP at Steiner Ranch. The County maintains these areas periodically to remove new understory growth and dead vegetation.

Shaded fuel breaks are most effective when they are created along the forest edge within 150 feet of development. In some cases where the BCP borders privately-managed greenspace, the County has collaborated with entities including the SRMA to create shaded fuel breaks where the forest meets development. Some sections of the Steiner Ranch-BCP boundary have not been treated because the steep slopes found there pose a safety hazard for work crews. Removing vegetation from slopes can also cause extensive erosion.

Steiner homeowners adjacent to SRMA-managed wildlands may be able conduct fuel mitigation on those wildlands after receiving permission from the SRMA Architectural Committee, though this is not allowed on the BCP. If you're not sure whether your home is next to the BCP, you can visit the interactive map at <https://www.traviscountytexas.gov/bcpmap>.

### Texas vs. California

Central Texas wildfires aren't the same as California wildfires – the unique vegetation, topography, and climate means that fire acts differently here, so it's important to follow guides tailored to Central Texas, like Ready, Set, Go! (<https://www.traviscountytexas.gov/fire-marshall/prevention/wildfire-preparedness>)

Juniper-oak woodlands have not historically been susceptible to frequent fires and under most conditions do not burn readily. However, fire is possible under extreme circumstances and the BCP is actively managed to lower the risk to neighboring communities and to maintain the rare habitat found on the preserve.

Periods of extreme drought, like we saw in 2011, are when the wildfire risk is highest because the fuel moisture is lower, even in live trees. Drought in combination with weather, topography, and certain fuel types result in the potential for wildland fire that can impact communities and natural areas.

### What Homeowners Can Do

When fires do occur, the greatest risk to homes is from embers, which can travel more than a mile from the fire. The best way to protect your home from embers is to create defensible space on your property, including “hardening” your home by sealing openings, screening vents, and cleaning gutters. Learn more about creating defensible space from the Central Texas-specific Ready, Set, Go!: <https://www.traviscountytexas.gov/fire-marshall/prevention/wildfire-preparedness>

The Travis County Fire Marshal's site will also tell you if a burn ban is in effect and provide tips for safe outdoor cooking and work such as welding, cutting, and grinding. More than 95% of wildfires are started by people or man-made infrastructure like power lines, so practicing fire-safe behavior can go a long way towards preventing wildfire.

Also, please be aware that some common “fuel reduction” strategies can actually increase fire risk. For example, clear-cut woodlands often become grasslands, which are more likely to ignite than live trees. When removing vegetation, also consider proper disposal – piles of dead branches and dry leaves can themselves become fuel. When trimming, please also respect property boundaries. It's illegal to cut vegetation on someone else's property without permission, or to dump yard trimmings over the fence.



Fortunately, there are a lot of resources to help; consider requesting a free Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Evaluation by emailing your request to [SRfirewise@gmail.com](mailto:SRfirewise@gmail.com). Through the collaborative efforts of homeowners, wildland managers, and local fire departments, both private property and the region's remaining wildlands can be protected from the devastation of wildfire.

For more information about the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve, visit <https://www.traviscountytexas.gov/tnr/nr/bcp> or email [BCCP@traviscountytexas.gov](mailto:BCCP@traviscountytexas.gov).



## Greenbelt Reminders

Please remember and share with all family members the following:

- Greenbelts in Steiner Ranch are private property of the HOA. Cutting trees, constructing forts or fire pits, and any other activity which damages greenbelts is prohibited and may result in fines and penalties.
- Fires are absolutely prohibited in Steiner Ranch greenbelts.
- Motorized vehicles are not allowed in greenbelts or trails as they pose a potential safety hazard to walkers and bikers. They also damage the trails, which the Trails Committee and other volunteers graciously maintain.
- Should you observe someone vandalizing the greenbelt, please contact the Travis County Sheriff's Department.
- Several of Steiner Ranch's trails go through the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve: J-Canyon Trail, Eastridge Trail, and Powerline Hill Trail. Due to the sensitive nature of the preserve, no biking or picnicking are allowed, and access is permitted only at approved trailheads. No access is allowed from the back of residential lots.

## Community Compliance Reminders

The HOA office would like to remind residents of the following Steiner Ranch rules:

- Trash containers are to be stored out of sight and should not be visible from the street.
- Parking on the street overnight is not allowed.
- Items should not be left in driveways. This includes mulch bags, garden hoses, and sports equipment.
- Any alterations to the exterior of your property (front, back and sides) must be submitted to the HOA office for review and approval.

Thank you for abiding by these rules, which are part of Steiner Ranch governing documents.

## Mulch Delivery

The annual Vandegrift High School band mulch fundraiser is a fantastic way for homeowners to support the VHS band while sprucing up their landscaping. Mulch will be delivered by band members on April 3rd and 4th, 2020. Please spread mulch as soon as possible. The HOA will send compliance notices to homeowners' who have mulch bags visible from the street after April 26th, 2020. Thank you for your support!

## Making Exterior Changes? Don't Forget to Obtain Architectural Approval First

Thinking about modifying your deck, adding a pool, or changing the color of your exterior trim? Steiner Ranch governing documents require the submission of plans and specifications for review and approval by the Architectural Committee (AC) *before* construction or installation begins. Improvements requiring approval include, but are not limited to, playscapes, pools, decks, patios, ponds, new siding or trim colors, planter boxes, arbors, walkways and sheds. Before making exterior changes to your home, please submit a Modification Application, which can be found on the HOA website under the 'Architectural' tab.



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## Events Cancellation Announcement

Given the recent rise in cases and concerns surrounding the coronavirus (COVID-19) and social distancing being the most effective way to minimize risk, the HOA on March 17th, 2020 took the precautionary measure to cancel some of the upcoming Community events.

**Events that have been canceled are:**

- Spring Scrap a Thon
- Easter Egg Hunt

At this time, the Community Garage Sale scheduled for April 4th, 2020 is postponed until further notice.

At this time of uncertainty and anxiety the HOA and the Steiner Ranch Event Planning Committee appreciate your understanding and pledge to keep you informed of any more cancellations and changes that may impact the events and programs that the Community has come to love and enjoy. Please follow the Steiner Ranch HOA Events Facebook page for events cancellation and updates.

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2305 Golden Gate Park - Low \$400's  
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# Steiner Activities & Events

## Wildlife & Safety Fair Well-Attended



On February 26th, 2020, over 60 residents attended the Wildlife & Safety Fair at Towne Square. The event was the first of its kind hosted by the Steiner Ranch Events Committee.



There were nine displays and informational presentations at the event: Paula Johnson, Certified Arborist & Oak Wilt specialist, City of Austin Wildlife & Animal Protection, the Steiner Ranch Trails Committee, Balcones Canyonlands Preserve (BCP), the Steiner Ranch Firewise Committee, Lake Travis Fire & Rescue (LTFR), Travis County Constables (Precinct 2), the Steiner Mountain Biking Club, and Tyler Buchner, a local Boy Scout who is completing his Eagle Scout Project, a tribute to firefighters who fought the 2011 Steiner Ranch Fire.



In addition to speaker presentations, informational booths gave residents the opportunity to meet and ask questions of all the specialists who attended. Nearly every speaker shared the same message: that Steiner Ranch is a connected Community with shared Wildlands and a shared risk of Wildfire. Only when everyone takes appropriate safety and preservation measures we all are safer and wildlands better protected.



Residents can learn more about these topics and more in every monthly issue of the Ranch Record and via informational emails from the Steiner Ranch HOA. If your household is not receiving either and would like to subscribe, please call the HOA at (512) 266-7553.



# Movie and Camping on the Ranch 2020

About 150 Steiner Ranch residents came out for the 2020 Movie and Camping on the ranch event on March 7th at the Towne Square Park.

This year the event was scheduled the week before the SXSW to ensure that all families could attend the event. Early in the week, rain was in the forecast for the weekend, however, the afternoon turned out to be a beautiful Spring afternoon with blue skies and warm temperatures, kids were playing soccer on the field or on the playscapes while parents were putting up tents. At 7pm the movie started, and parents helped their kids make s'mores with the supervision of Kidventure staff. Even though temperatures dropped overnight many participants stayed and camped overnight and had a great time.

The event was made even better by activities hosted by various local business sponsors:

- Kidventure showed the movie 'James and the Giant Peach' and helped everyone to make s'mores.
- Tiff's Treats offered free warm chocolate and snickerdoodle cookies.
- H-E-B Four Points provided free donuts for breakfast the next morning
- Coffee Beans and Tea Leaf of Steiner warmed up everyone with free hot chocolate and coffee.

It was a great event and we thank the Events Planning Committee and our in-kind sponsors for such a fun and successful event.

**Thank you to the Sponsors that made Camping on the Ranch 2020 a SUCCESS!**



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# Steiner Activities & Events

## Free Health Workshop: Presented by: Dr. Benjamin Rosin



This free workshop will be held on: Wednesday, May 20th, 2020 at Towne Square Community Center starting at 7:00pm. Topic will be Strength Training to prevent falls as we age. Co-presenters: P.T. Zoe Crawford and P.T. Cassie Chonko.

## Get Ready to Shred!



The annual Steiner Ranch Shred Day event is scheduled for Saturday, May 16th and will take place in the John Simpson parking lot from 10am – 12pm. The Steiner Ranch HOA offers this free opportunity to safely dispose of old personal documents to Steiner Ranch residents. Nonresidents attempting to take advantage of this opportunity will be turned away as this is an HOA funded event. Shredding is limited to two boxes per household.



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## Spring and Summer Programs

### Children Programs:

Lonestar Soccer - Neighborhood Sports - Nitro Swimming - Gold Star Swimming - Sportball - Tap-N-Toe - Tennis - Towne & Country Soccer - Zumba - Music Forever Music Together.

### Adult Programs:

Camp Gladiator - Master's Swim - Tai Chi - Yoga - Zumba - Barre - Carrie Fit Fitness - Water Aerobics - Bollywood Fitness.

For more info, contact Desirre Ghebremicael at [desirre.ghebremicael@grandmanors.com](mailto:desirre.ghebremicael@grandmanors.com)

### Summer Camps

Multiple camps with full day and half day options are available starting June 1st, 2020 for the entire Summer season.

Kidventure - Mad Science - Lonestar - Sportball - Neighborhood Sports - Steiner Stars - Gold Stars Swimming.

### KIDVENTURE SUMMER CAMP 2020 IS COMING

Registration for Kidventure's Camp Steiner is taking place right now. Reserve your child's space today for all the fun, friendships, learning, and memories. Learn more and register at <https://kidventure.com/austin-summer-camp/> #kvcamplife #kv2020

## News from the Trails Committee

*Submitted by Eric Morton*



As Spring kicks up in Austin, there are two highlights to share. The first highlight is that there usually are some decent bluebonnets at the intersection of Summer Vista Trail and Bright Sky Overlook. We all know you guys like to take just a few photos of various children and pets in these lovely wildflowers, so why not try a slightly more excluded area this

time? Not sure where those trails are? There are about 20 green signs around with large maps at our trail entrances. Over the years, these have become degraded and faded. Thanks to the funding from the HOA, we are in the process of replacing all of them with new maps. This will make our trails much more accessible and has been a long term project for us (I recall talking about this project at meetings starting around 3 years ago).

The other point to highlight is our work sessions. While we do use funds from the HOA for supplies and equipment, all of our maintenance is done by hard working volunteers. In the past we have built bridges, picked up garbage, rerouted sections of the trails that are constant maintenance issues, built a drainage tunnel under Coyote, installed 183 brown signs (requiring major pick axing into the stone that we are all familiar with around here), and pruned out the branches to make the trails more comfortable. These trail workdays are usually the fourth Sunday of the month - look on our Facebook page for precise details of meeting, etc. If you picked up this Ranch Record early, look for us building a bridge on Bear Creek to finally replace one of the two that washed out many years ago. And for all those in various honor and athletic/service programs at our schools, the workdays count for your volunteer hours. The picture here is a contestant in the Texas State science fair learning that the world needs ditch diggers too.

How do I know how many brown signs we have? Because we recently had a Scout program GPS and itemize each and every one. The plan is to geolocate these with a unique sticker number to help in any emergencies. The tags will be shared with our local emergency responders.

There has been a little rogue trail cutting going on. Many of you may not notice, but our trails go very close to each other in several sections. It may be tempting to cut a shortcut, but it also detracts from the scenery and leads to people getting lost.

Enjoy the lovely spring weather before it starts to get hot.

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[a.love@dreamvacations.com](mailto:a.love@dreamvacations.com)



**Tip of the Month**

Don't forget to plan ahead for next year's Spring Break.  
The best vacation options sell out far in advance.  
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# Steiner Cycling News

## SATURDAY & SUNDAY RIDES

Saturdays we have open group rides, starting at Cups & Cones leaving between 7:30-8:00 AM. On Sundays, we start at 7:30 AM for a mostly mellow ride to local coffee shops outside Steiner. (rotating locations). The ride will average around 17 mph and should be perfect for those looking for an easier and more relaxed alternative to our Saturday rides.

Ride route details and updates are posted each week to our website at <http://www.steineranchcycling.com>, Facebook page <http://facebook.com/SteinerRanchCycling> and to our email distribution list (sign up on our website).

### Big Thanks to our SPONSORS for 2020!

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**RIDE DISCLAIMER:** Each rider is responsible for his or her own safety on our rides. Please join us at your own risk. Our weekly rides are open to public participation but ride leaders do NOT assume any liability for your participation. We require that all participants complete a waiver, follow traffic laws and wear a helmet while on our rides.



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# Swimming News

## Water Aerobics Classes to start soon!

Want to exercise, but can't get motivated? Perhaps the pavement plays havoc on your knees, legs or hips. Or maybe you just don't want to exercise by yourself. Try water aer-obics! Classes go through September at the Towne Square Pool.

WHEN: Monday/Wednesday, 6:45 pm

Tuesday/Thursday, 9:00 am

COST: 8 classes per month: \$56 or \$7 per lesson

REGISTRATION: Call Ann @ 512-266-4780 or email askennedy@austin.rr.com.

Sign up will take place prior to the first class of every month.

Classes are 50 minutes long, will incorporate a full body workout in the water and are led by a certified water aerobics instructor. Some of the benefits of water aerobics fitness are:

- \*strengthens & improves muscle tone
- \*enhances muscular flexibility
- \*increases range of motion
- \*improves posture & physical appearance
- \*relieves tension & stress
- \*increases energy levels & stamina
- \*burns calories
- \*strengthens the cardiorespiratory system

Join us for lots of fun and great workouts to music. It's an opportunity to meet your neighbors and make new friends, while getting/staying in shape. Adult men and women welcome.



## Gold Stars Developmental Swim Team (formally the Shooting Stars Program)



Gold Stars Developmental Swim Team will take place a John Simpson Pool July 7th - August 1st, 2020. This is a non-competitive swim team for swimmers ages 5 to 14. We focus on the development of swimming skills in freestyle and backstroke with group swimming and small group station work. At the end of the 4-week session, swimmers will be able to measure their improvement at a mock trial swim meet.

Prior swim experience is necessary to enroll - Kids will need to be able to tread water for 10 seconds on their own and put their faces under water for at least 3 seconds.

Swimmers will need a competitive style swim suit (one piece for girls and jammers for boys). Goggles that fit as well as properly fitting rubber fins (non-ackle strap fins).

### Dates:

July 6th-August 6th, 2020

### When:

T/W/Th 8:30-9:30 am 5-7 year olds

T/W/Th 9:30-10:30 am 8-14 year olds

More information can be found at: <https://www.goldstarsswimming.com/developmental-swim>. Please contact Hollie at Gold Stars Swimming [goldstarsswimming@gmail.com](mailto:goldstarsswimming@gmail.com)

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# Swimming News



Are you looking for a year-round swim program in the Steiner Ranch neighborhood? Nitro Swimming is a USA year-round competitive swim team offering high-quality professional coaching and technique instruction to all of our groups. The goal of our team is to provide every member an opportunity to improve swimming skills and achieve success at his or her level of ability. Swimming is a lifelong skill that our athletes come to cherish. We offer 6 different groups at the beautiful Bella Mar Community pool including Intro to Nitro (our beginner group at Nitro), Bronze, Silver, Advanced Silver, Gold, and Technique and Fitness. Practice schedules vary by day, so please refer to our schedule online at: <https://www.nitroswim.com/nitro-swim-team/resources/> If you are interested in learning more about Nitro Swimming and/or would like your swimmer evaluated please contact the lead coach Claire Rozick at [claire.rozick@nitroswim.com](mailto:claire.rozick@nitroswim.com).

Evaluations for the new 2020-2021 season will occur on July 9th and 10th from 9:00-11:30A. We will also hold evaluations throughout the summer and school year at our Bee Cave location on Saturdays at 12:15p. So come see for yourself why Nitro is the #1 choice for swimming in the Austin area. We look forward to meeting you!

The Steiner Ranch Nitro Coaches

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# TEENAGE JOB SEEKERS

## ATTENTION TEENAGE JOB SEEKERS

Please submit your information to [communications@steinerranchhoa.org](mailto:communications@steinerranchhoa.org) if you would like to be added to the list.

*Not Available Online*

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It's time to consider what life after this life might actually look like. We invite you to enjoy this intriguing message and a family-friendly celebration, complete with powerful music, family photo booth, and meaningful connection with others in the community.

APRIL 11 - 6pm

APRIL 12 - 9, 10:45am & 12:30pm



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# VENOMOUS SNAKE SAFETY

Texas is home to over 105 different species and subspecies of snakes. Fortunately only 15 of those are potentially dangerous to humans. Despite this, Texas Parks & Wildlife reports that each year there are more deaths in Texas attributed to lightning strikes than to venomous snakebites. The most common venomous snakes in Texas are: Cottonmouths, Copperheads, Rattlesnakes (of which there are 9 various types) and Coral snakes. Following is information from Texas Parks & Wildlife regarding precautions and responses to snakes:

Learn to recognize the snake species that are likely to be in the area. Understanding what snakes look for in a suitable habitat can help you know when to be wary. Understanding their behavior will help you know what to do if you encounter one. Snakes like tall grass.

- Keep lawn around your home trimmed low.
- Remove any brush, wood, rock or debris piles from around the residence - they make great hiding places for snakes and their prey - rodents.
- Always wear shoes while outside and never put your hands where you cannot see them.
- Be careful when stepping over fallen logs and rock outcroppings.
- Take care along creek banks and underbrush.

Snakes do not prey on humans and they will not chase you, in fact they usually retreat or escape if given the opportunity. The danger comes when they are either surprised or cornered.

## **What to do if bitten:**

- Assume envenomation has occurred, especially if initial symptoms are present. Initial symptoms of pit viper bites include fang puncture marks; in addition, they almost always include immediate burning pain at the bite site, immediate and usually progressive local swelling within five minutes, as well as local discoloration of the skin. Initial symptoms of coral snake bites include tremors, slurred speech, blurred or double vision, drowsiness or euphoria and a marked increase in salivation within four hours; however, life-threatening effects from coral snake envenomation may not be evident for 24 hours or longer.
- Identify the species of venomous snake that inflicted the bite, if possible. Identification is not necessary, but may be helpful.
- Keep the victim as calm as possible. This helps reduce the spread of venom and the onset of shock.
- Keep yourself and other members of the group calm as well. This will help reassure the victim and ensure that the appropriate first-aid measures are followed, as well as preventing anyone else from becoming injured.
- Know and be alert for the symptoms of shock, and institute the proper treatment should it ensue. Difficulty in breathing and/or kidney failure are frequent symptoms of envenomation.
- Wash the bite area with a disinfectant if available.

- Remove jewelry such as rings and watches, as well as tight-fitting clothes, before the onset of swelling.

- Reduce/prevent movement of a bitten extremity, using a splint if possible; this helps decrease the spread of venom. For the reason, position the extremity below the heart.

- Get the victim to a medical facility as soon as possible and begin treatment with intravenous antivenom, crystalloid solutions and antibiotics. Antivenom treatment is generally most effective within the first four hours of envenomation, and is ineffective after 8-10 hours.

## **What NOT to do if bitten:**

- Do not make incisions over the bite marks. This can result in significant damage to already traumatized tissue, and can damage intact structures such as nerves and blood vessels, enhance bleeding caused by anticoagulant components of venom and increase the rapid spread of venom throughout the body if the circulatory system is compromised. A suction device, such as the Sawyer Extractor™, may be used without making any incisions. This device may remove significant quantities of venom, although its efficacy has yet to be conclusively determined.

- Do not use a tourniquet or other constricting band except in extreme cases of envenomation, and then only if properly trained in the technique. Such devices are of no value if applied more than thirty minutes after the bite, and if improperly used they can restrict blood vital blood flow to the traumatized tissue and possibly result in the amputation of an extremity. Unbearable pain can also result, and the improper loosening of such devices can allow sudden systemic absorption of venom.

- Do not use cryotherapy (including cold compresses, ice, dry ice, chemical ice packs, spray refrigerants, and freezing) for the same reasons that the tourniquets should be avoided, and also because it can increase the area necrosis.

- Do not use aspirin or related medications to relieve pain, because they increase bleeding. A pain reliever not containing aspirin, however, may be used.

- Do not use the pressure/immobilization technique, which consists of firmly wrapping the entire limb with an elastic bandage and then splinting, especially for pit viper bites. The theory behind this treatment is to confine the venom to the area of the bite until reaching a medical facility, but studies have shown the technique to be ineffective or worse with venoms which produce local swelling and tissue damage.

For more information on Texas snakes visit:

<http://tpwd.texas.gov/education/resources/texas-junior-naturalists/snakes-alive/venomous-texas-snakes>

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## FEBRUARY MARKET STATS

78732	FEB 2019	FEB 2020	CHANGE
NEW LISTINGS.....	28	33.....	↑18%
PENDING.....	20	25.....	↑25%
SOLD.....	13	18.....	↑38%
AVG LIST PRICE.....	\$498,796	\$777,769.....	↑56%
AVG LIST \$/SF.....	\$182	\$214.....	↑18%
AVG SOLD PRICE.....	\$489,277	\$500,069.....	↑2%
AVG SOLD \$/SF.....	\$178	\$175.....	↓2%
AVG SOLD PRICE/ORIG LP.....	97%	97%.....	EVEN
AVG DAYS ON MARKET.....	48	56.....	↑2%

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## CLIENT TESTIMONIAL

"Elicia Michaud is a top notch realtor! She did an amazing job for us in helping us sell our home in Steiner Ranch. She has her finger on the pulse of the Austin market and is extremely professional. We could not have been happier with how she captured and created a sleek online presence that truly captured the look and feel of our home. She understands how to really highlight the positive aspects of your home in online listings. Elicia is current on all the real estate trends to capture the most online views and to get buyers in the doors to close on our home. If you are selling or buying you are in good hands. She knows her business well and knows how to deliver results."

— Kristin Haber

