



**Steiner Ranch Orthodontics**  
Treatment for Children, Teens & Adults  
Call for your Complimentary Exam  
**512-266-8585** [www.BracesAustin.com](http://www.BracesAustin.com)  
Central Austin Steiner Ranch Bastrop All Insurances

**FOUR POINTS** 478-3376 (4PT-DERM) | [www.FourPointsDermatology.com](http://www.FourPointsDermatology.com)



**FALL SPECIALS**  
Visit our website for our Botox and filler specials - up to \$150 off...  
Schedule your appointment now!



**DERMATOLOGY** Medical • Surgical • Cosmetic • Adult • Pediatric  
Roopal Bhatt, MD  
Board Certified Dermatologist

# FOUR POINTS NEWS

Volume 7, Issue 41 • 8 pages

Serving Steiner Ranch, River Place, Volente, Grandview Hills, Westminster Glen and Lake Travis

Thursday, October 13, 2011 • 50 cents

## Four Points real estate 3Q sales and days on market down

### 4th quarter looks promising

By LYNETTE HAALAND  
[Lynette.FourPoints@gmail.com](mailto:Lynette.FourPoints@gmail.com)

Third quarter, Four Points real estate had fewer listings and sales than a year ago but days on market were down showing demand for area homes. Four Points is known as River North on the Multiple Listing Service and includes River Place, Steiner Ranch, Grandview Hills, Westminster Glen, Glen Lake and parts of Long Canyon. Year over year, home sales in River North were down 8 percent from 166 in the third quarter of 2010 compared to 123 in the third quarter of 2011. New listings over that time were down 16 percent. "Market activity is still moving in a positive direction," said Gene Fruge, agent with HomeCity Real Estate. Historically the second quarter, April through June, is stronger from a listing and sales perspective than the third quarter, July through September. Fruge said it was to be expected, the third quarter this year saw 123 homes sold compared to 201 sold in the second quarter. This year homes sold 81 days more quickly on

average in the third quarter than the homes sold in the second quarter. Homes sold 41 days more quickly compared to the same period a year prior, Fruge said. "We have seen no slowing in the market or major public concern surrounding Steiner since the fires because it was so minimal and although changed the landscape of those few streets, did not change the look feel and landscape of Steiner Ranch as a whole. We are sincerely very lucky," said Brandy Finnessey, agent with HomeCity Real Estate and who lives in Steiner. Looking ahead, the fourth quarter of 2011 looks promising. "With all of the media attention being placed on Austin, one can only project that Q4 2011 and Q1 2012 will be nothing but encouraging," Fruge said. "Our forecast is hopeful, we basically won the beauty contest in articles from all over the nation." Kiplinger's Personal Finance ranked Austin the #1 Best City to Live In For The Next 10 Years. According to Ajilon Professional Staffing, Austin is the 2nd Best City to Find a Job. Milken Institute deemed Austin the 2nd Strongest Job Market in the Country. Shape Magazine called Austin One of Americas Top Healthiest Cities, Business Review USA ranked Austin One of the 8 Best Places to Live



Gene Fruge and Brandy Finnessey are agents with HomeCity Real Estate. "We have seen no slowing in the (real estate) market or major public concern surrounding Steiner since the fires," Finnessey said. SEE SALES, 4

## Investigation continues on the cause of Steiner fires

The investigation continues as to what caused the Labor Day Weekend fires that burned 23 homes, damaged others, and burned 162 acres in Steiner Ranch. The official cause has yet to be determined but Austin Energy electric power lines are still being investigated. The Travis County Fire Marshal's office continues to seek help from the community for more details. The Fire Marshal's Office hopes to hear from anyone who saw flames early on, around 4 p.m. on Sept. 4. They are asked to call the Travis County Fire Marshal office #854-4621. "We received several calls and a video after your news article on the Steiner Ranch fire (two weeks ago). We are still assessing the information we have received," said Hershel Lee, Fire Marshal Travis County Fire Marshal's Office. Electricity is being investigated as the possible cause of fire in Steiner. County investigators found damage on the overhead electrical wires directly above the likely point of origin, Lee said. "We will need to review engineering and lab reports after those are completed," he said. The fires cost an estimated \$10 million, fire officials reported.

## Elementary class sizes affected by budget cuts

By LYNETTE HAALAND  
[Lynette.FourPoints@gmail.com](mailto:Lynette.FourPoints@gmail.com)

This year because of the budget cuts, there are fewer teachers in each Leander ISD building. The district is maximizing its class sizes to accommodate more students and fewer teachers. The LISD board approved the class size waiver compliance plan at its Sept. meeting. It applied to the Texas Education Agency for class size waivers at 19 elementary campuses including Laura Bush, Grandview Hills, River Ridge, River Place and Steiner Ranch. "It is not uncommon for us to ask for waivers because we are a fast growth district," said Veronica Sopher, executive director of school/community relations. SEE CLASS, 4

## Firefighter's wife helps wildfire victims with photos

By LESLEE BASSMAN  
[LBassman@austin.rr.com](mailto:LBassman@austin.rr.com)



Jennifer Stoehr, shown here with Henderson firefighter husband James Stoehr, wanted to help recent wildfire victims begin making new memories. Stoehr, a photographer in East Texas, joined forces with a friend to form the Recapturing Memories Project. The program is available to victims of the Steiner Ranch fires. Photo contributed by Jennifer Stoehr

When the call for evacuation came to Steiner Ranch, residents grabbed what they could, with many reaching for photo albums and keepsake books. However, not every wildfire victim was so lucky. The Central Texas community is learning that many individuals escaped with only the clothes on their back and very little else. An East Texas photographer, who is also the wife of a career firefighter, is working to change that. Jennifer Stoehr, owner of Jennifer Marie Photography, somehow manages to find time to pursue her artistic passion between making school lunches and driving carpools for her four children. The wife of a firefighter in Henderson, Texas, Stoehr was touched by the stories emerging from recent East Texas wildfires and wanted to help. Stoehr contacted friend Heather Evans and the two photographers formed the Recapturing Memories Project, amassing a network of photographers across the state who have volunteered to create new memory books for wildfire victims. Stoehr and Evans coordinate complimentary photo shoots of evacuees by photographers local to their

SEE PHOTO, 4

## LISD Board learned of the district's debt management

By LYNETTE HAALAND  
[Lynette.FourPoints@gmail.com](mailto:Lynette.FourPoints@gmail.com)

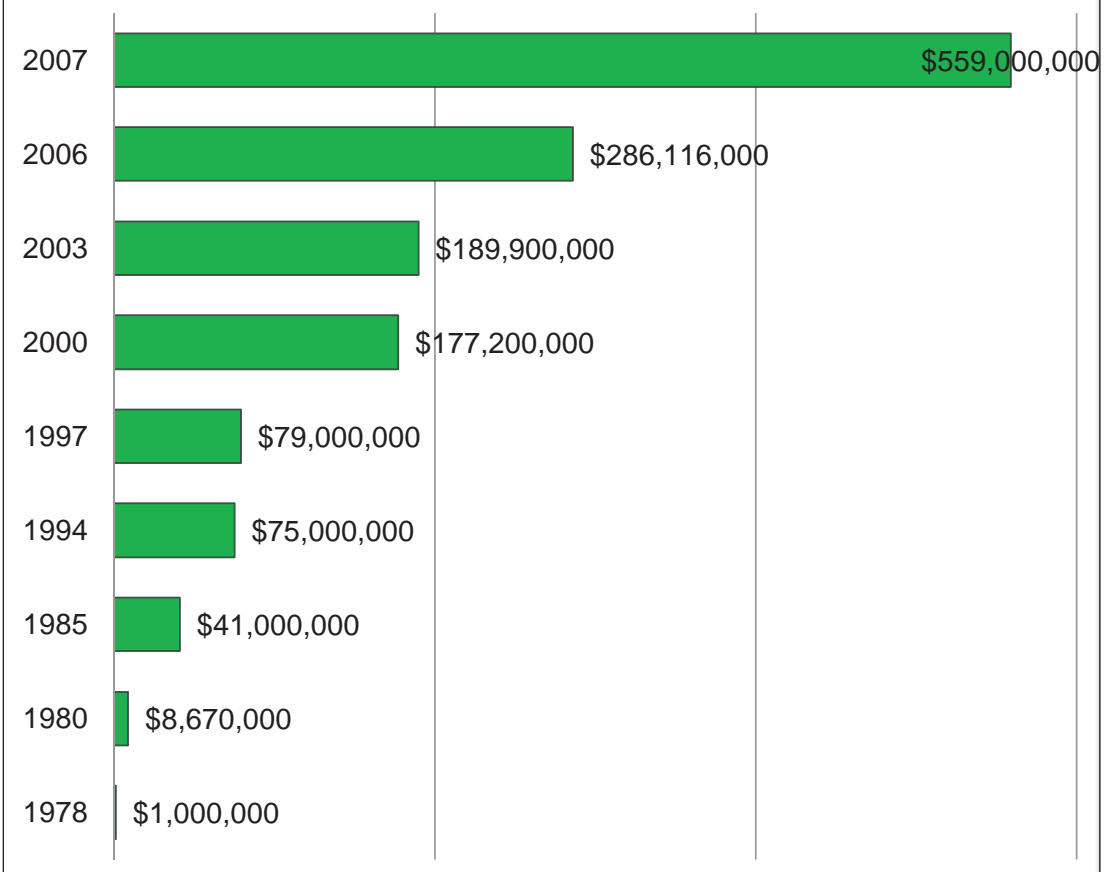
At the Oct. 6 Leander ISD Board meeting, district administrators made a presentation to the School Board regarding debt management and long range enrollment growth planning. The total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness for LISD is \$1.28 billion. The district has issued a number of bonds through the years to pay for land, new schools, furnishings and equipment. To give some idea of the growth the school district has experienced, there were 10,669 students in the 1997-98 school year. The student population nearly tripled by 2009-10 to 30,321. By 2016-17, LISD is projected to have 41,135 students. The LISD Property Taxable Value History chart presented at the meeting shows the district went from less than \$2 billion in 1989 to \$13 billion in 2011. Currently administrators are looking at three growth strategy options: Business as Usual, Maximize Current Capacity, and Add Capacity to Existing Campuses. If the district decides to Maximize Current Capacity, some of the options would be to rezone, float teachers, reconfigure

grade levels, offer AM/PM sessions, and/or year round education.

If the district chooses to add capacity to existing campuses, it will take into consideration core sizes of its schools: elementary - 800 students, middle school - 1,200 students and high school - 2,400 students. It will look at portables and the long-term cost effectiveness and learning environment with them. Some of the questions LISD is trying to get answers for to make their decisions include: Is there a financial argument for building now versus building later, what is the current inflation rate, and what is the supply versus demand for construction services? The district is also trying to answer questions based on demographic projections: How many children is LISD expecting to serve in the next few years, where will those children live, and is there available land for future growth?

Additional discussions will follow after LISD receives its annual demographic report and enrollment projections update later this month.

### Amount of Bonds Authorized



**Inside**

- School.....3
- Opinion.....4
- Community.....5
- Classifieds.....5
- Sports.....7
- Health & Fitness.....8

Find us on Facebook  
Thank a Veteran and Serviceman Every Day.



**Hill Country Pediatrics, P.A.**

*Urgent Care ~ Now Open!*

We are now open Sunday afternoons for sick visits by appointment only. You can call our office directly at 512-241-1370 between the hours of 1PM and 5PM to schedule an appointment with our nurse practitioner, Pat Budd, RN, CPNP. The phones turn on at 1PM.

6618 Sitio Del Rio #A101 | Austin, TX 78730 512-241-1370 | [www.hillcountrypediatrics.com](http://www.hillcountrypediatrics.com)



# FEMA's center in Steiner open this week

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's Disaster Recovery Center in Steiner Ranch will be open several more days to help those affected by the Labor Day Weekend fires.

The FEMA center at the Lake Travis Fire Rescue Station at 3048 Steiner Ranch Blvd will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Oct. 13 and 14. Dates are subject to change.

Anyone affected by the fires is eligible to apply for disaster assistance, even if they have settled with their insurance company. To apply call 1-800-621-3362 (FEMA) Or apply online at [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov) or [m.fema.gov](http://m.fema.gov) using a smart phone.

- Please have the following information available when you call.
- A phone number where you can be reached
  - Social Security Number
  - Current mailing address
  - Address of the affected property
  - Brief description of the damages
  - Insurance information including policy number

# Texas Forest Service hosting evacuation workshops

Texas Forest Service is offering Four Points residents two Ready-Set-Go workshops in October to help prepare people for evacuation-style events.

- Ready - By creating defensible space around your home, creating a family disaster plan, creating a plan for your pets, etc.
- Set - Packing your vehicle

and backing into your driveway, turning off pilot lights and propane tanks, shutting off AC units, computer, etc.

- Go - Evacuation procedures

Ready-Set-Go will be Oct. 17th at Canyon Ridge Middle School from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and again on Oct. 25th.

*Home of the Week*



**\$319,000**  
2908 Briona Wood Ln.



**BARTLETT**  
REAL ESTATE GROUP

(512) 418-1435  
[www.TopKWGroup.com](http://www.TopKWGroup.com)



**TEXAS Tree TAMERS**

For Healthy Beautiful Trees

**Services:**  
Tree & Shrub Pruning • Roof & Structure Clearing  
Tree Removal & Stump Grinding  
Raise Canopy, Street Clearance  
Arborist Services - Lic # TX 3623A

Save **\$50**  
On Tree Pruning services  
(Valid with ad only. Expires 10/15/11)

**512-322-0662**  
Email: [tree@texastreetamers.com](mailto:tree@texastreetamers.com)

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE TODAY



**Lakeshore Home Gallery**  
A COMPLETE HOME RESOURCE CENTER



Custom Cabinetry  
Premium Appliances  
A/V Home Automation  
Home Theater Solutions  
Interior Design Solutions

Call Resource Consultant LANA ELLIOTT at 512.228.8632  
Visit our showroom at 107 RR 620, Lakeway TX  
Or find us on [www.Facebook.com/LakeshoreHomeGallery](http://www.Facebook.com/LakeshoreHomeGallery)

**AZALEAS HAIR STUDIO**  
*Best of Four Points News*  
Voted 2011 Best Salon  
**266-3019**



Dear Neighbor,  
I would like to invite you to visit my studio off of 620 in Hudson Bend. I have been a salon owner for many years and now work by myself in a quiet, private studio, overlooking the lake. Having been in the beauty industry for over 20 years working in 5-star salons and spas, I know the high prices that come with upkeep for women and men. I have built a reputation through repeated quality and consistency with my clients. I offer the same products, service, and results at a fraction of the price.

To schedule an appointment or consultation call 266-3019  
Mention this ad and receive complementary facial wax included on your first visit.



**SPECIALTY MARKET & DELICATESSEN**  
LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED

TRY OUR MANSFIELD DAM GOOD BURGER!  
Made to order with all the fixings.  
**\$5.99**



**THE MARKET**  
Steiner Ranch

4300 QUINLAN PARK RD. 512-266-8808



"TASTE THE DIFFERENCE"

**BUSINESS BUILT ON HONESTY & INTEGRITY**  
WE ARE YOUR LOCAL PLUMBING CONTRACTOR



**FREE ESTIMATES**  
ON SITE  
WEEKENDS NO EXTRA CHARGE

**10% OFF**  
On any job over \$89.00.

**5% Discounts**  
For military, police, firefighters and seniors.

- DRAIN & SEWER PROBLEMS
- FAUCETS & GARBAGE DISPOSALS
- TOILETS
- WATER HEATERS
- MOBILE HOME SPECIALISTS
- COPPER REPIPING
- SEWER LINE VIDEO INSPECTION
- LEAKS AT YOUR WATER METER
- SLAB LEAKS
- LEAK DETECTION
- TRENCHLESS WATER
- SEWER LINE REPLACEMENT

RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL



INSURANCE APPROVED  
LIC # MPL40036



**512.318.1600**

**Congratulations 2011 Contest Winners**

	<b>Lauren McCarthy</b> (iPod) Lauren donated her iPod to Steiner fire victim.		<b>Noah McHugh</b> (Blue Ray DVD Player)
	<b>Grace Borer</b> (Funpack)		<b>Corey Fain</b> (\$25 Target GC)
	<b>Grace Erdman</b> (iPod)		<b>Olivia Schwent</b> (Back Pack)
	<b>Jake Bormann</b> (\$25 Target GC)		<b>Alison Miller</b> (Digital video recorder)



**Stacy E. Miller, DDS, MS**  
Certified, American Board of Orthodontics  
Specialist in Orthodontics for Children and Adults

One Lakeway Centre Court, Suite A ~ Austin, TX 78734  
Phone: (512) 263-1661 FAX: (512) 263-8883  
[www.drmlerorthodontist.com](http://www.drmlerorthodontist.com)



## Overview of the new state assessment, STAAR

This year, students across the state will take the STAAR (State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness) exams, the state's new, more rigorous and complex testing program. LISD has been preparing for the STAAR for many months, and through innovative learning tools such as our Learning Model, Graduate Profile and Seven Student Learning Behaviors, we are working to ensure that our students are prepared for these difficult tests. Even though students won't take these exams until the spring, I want to give you an overview of some of the most important components of the STAAR assessments.

This year, students in third – ninth grades will take the STAAR exams, although it will eventually be administered to students in third – eleventh grades. The state-mandated

curriculum, the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), will be the sole source for the STAAR assessments. Questions will require students to apply ideas, and thus, the STAAR exams will give students a deeper understanding of core subject areas — reading, writing, mathematics, science and social studies. Each year, the content of the STAAR exams will build upon knowledge and skills gained in previous years.

The STAAR exams are designed to determine if a student is prepared for the current grade level and the next grade level. These tests will also focus on college- and career-readiness, a new measure in our state assessments and one that we are excited to use in LISD. Under the STAAR tests' more complex structure, even students in elementary grades will be measured for col-

lege and career readiness standards. The exams will measure critical "readiness standards" and "supporting standards" necessary for building a solid foundation for college and life-long success.

As part of the state's focus to see that all students are on track to be college- and career-ready, the STAAR will be more rigorous and will require a higher level of student performance in order to meet certain benchmarks. At the same time, students will be assessed on more questions while demonstrating critical thinking and analysis.

Perhaps the most dramatic differences to the STAAR com-

pared to other testing systems are the End of Course Exams (EOCs). At the high school level, a total of 12 EOC assessments will replace grade-specific tests. Students will be required to take and meet the performance standard developed by the state on each EOC assessment to meet their graduation requirements, an important difference between the STAAR and the previous TAKS exams. The EOC exams will be required for graduation and will count towards 15 percent of the course grade. Additionally, the EOC exams will have an impact on the awarding of credits for the courses tested. Even though the STAAR is

just a few months away, we still face many unknowns at this point. For example, the district is currently reviewing how to best implement the rule that EOCs must count as 15 percent of a student's grade in the course. School districts are also waiting on clarification from the state about the special education accommodations policy. And we don't yet know how STAAR will impact state and federal accountability ratings in coming years.

Regardless of these challenges, as part of our continuous improvement culture, we are eager to begin this new testing system because we believe it will ultimately assist our district's efforts to close the achievement gap and reinforce our college- and career-readiness culture. LISD has been doing everything we can to ensure that our staff will be ready

for the STAAR. LISD curriculum specialists and teachers have thoroughly reviewed curriculum to ensure that standards assessed on STAAR will be taught prior to testing dates. And as more information is made available by the state, additional learning opportunities for teachers, students and parents will be planned.

While there are many details about the STAAR system that are still being finalized, we are confident that this new system will help improve the learning in classrooms, schools, districts and, ultimately, throughout the entire state. LISD will continue to communicate with families to help keep parents fully informed and aware of how the STAAR will impact our students.

To learn more about STAAR, visit [www.leanderisd.org](http://www.leanderisd.org) or [www.tea.state.tx.us/index.aspx](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index.aspx).



BRET CHAMPION

## 82nd Legislative recap, VHS traffic update on Oct. 18

On Oct. 18 at 6:30 p.m. at Vandegrift High School, Texas Tribune Education Reporter Morgan Smith will deconstruct the 82nd Legislative Session as it pertains to education, explaining what was passed and what to expect down the road.

Smith, has published several articles on local public education issues will discuss the recently convened 82nd Legislative Session and what you can expect from the implementation of laws affecting Texas children's education.

The Texas Tribune, established in 2009, is a local digital news alternative. Their articles posted during the legislative session provided introspection into the education debates among members of the legislature and state government officials.

At the Oct. 18 meeting, Pam Waggoner, LISD Board of Trustee, will present the latest information and next steps regarding traffic issues on 2222 near VHS. Waggoner hosted the July neighborhood meeting with TxDOT which generated a large vocal audience of concerned school staff and parents.

Dr. Bret Champion and district staff will also be on hand to answer questions. You'll not want to miss this informational opportunity sponsored by the Vandegrift PTA Ladder.

## US military service applications due Oct. 22

Applications are due by Oct. 22 for high school students interested in attending United States Air Force Academy, Naval Academy, Military Academy, or the Merchant Marine Academy.

All application materials for the entering class of 2012 must be post-marked by Oct. 22.

"I encourage all interested students to apply for the opportunity to attend one of our nation's distinguished military service academies," said Congressman Lamar Smith.

"Serving in our armed forces is one of the greatest aspirations a young American can have and it is a great privilege of my job to nominate the exceptional young people who are eager to serve their nation," Smith said.

### Contemporary Orthodontics

**JAMES WATERS**  
ORTHODONTIST

**James R. Waters, DDS, MSD, PA**  
Board Certified Orthodontist  
Complete Orthodontic Care From 6 years to 66 years  
*Specializing in Early Interceptive Treatments*

Pre-treatment - Age 8

Post-treatment - Age 11

Call today for your complimentary new patient exam  
**266-8585**

**Located in Steiner Ranch!**  
4302 Quinlan Park Road • [www.bracesaustin.com](http://www.bracesaustin.com)

**WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!**  
Call us, email us, send a photo or share a story. All submissions are welcome.

# OPEN DECEMBER 2011

Located at the entrance to River Place Neighborhood



**United Heritage**  
Credit Union

Be Smart. Bank Smart.

512.435.4545  
800.531.2328  
WWW.UHCU.ORG

**River Place**  
10815 Ranch Rd 2222  
Austin, TX 78730

**Lobby**  
M-F 9AM - 6PM  
Sat 9AM - 2PM

**Drive-Thru**  
M-F 7AM - 7PM  
Sat 9AM - 2PM



## Just a thought

### Mum's the word on Quinlan Crossing for now

I'm dying to know what will go into Quinlan Crossing but have not gotten too far with digging up information.

The groundbreaking was in March and that was about the last time we heard an update.

I've tried every few weeks to get a progress report on construction or to find out what new shops are going in but mum's the word.

Here is what Spokesperson Connie Yates, Safeway Inc, which is Randalls' parent, said last week:

We are most excited about serving Steiner Ranch and construction is moving forward.

As you know, there is much activity with the site work to hopefully be finished in November. There is also much activity with the retail/restaurants and getting final contracts signed, but no information to release as yet. I most certainly will release the information to you as soon as it is available as I know the Steiner Ranch residents are so anxious to know what is coming to the neighborhood. We are anxious as well to know who our Quinlan Crossing neighbors will be.



LYNETTE HAALAND

Those are nice words but we want to know more. There were even some rumblings on Facebook last week, wondering if Randalls was still coming. Yates reassured me that Randalls is going forward with its plans.

Those plans were highlighted months ago at the Quinlan Crossing and Randalls groundbreaking. The word was then that the site will open Spring of 2012.

The new 60,000-square-foot Randalls will be part of the 137,681-square-foot, mixed-use Quinlan Crossing shopping center at the entrance of Steiner Ranch.

The supermarket will feature a Starbucks and there will be several stand along eateries in the center.

Quinlan Crossing then was in the process of signing leases with restaurants, a bank and other amenities, said Jim Reuter, Property Development Centers Vice President of Development. PDC is developing the project and is a subsidiary of Safeway.

I will keep digging and hopefully we will know something soon who our new neighbors will be.

## FOUR POINTS OF VIEW

Who are you rooting for in postseason baseball?



Dan Andrade Steiner Ranch

Texas Rangers. It's my favorite team!



Charlie Dugas Steiner Ranch

The Rangers have been dominant throughout the series.



Michael Shay Steiner Ranch

I was rooting for the Phillies, I have family there and my dad was born there. But now the Phillies are out.



Aaron Andrade Steiner Ranch

I was rooting for the Yankees but they lost so now I'm rooting for the Rangers.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Four Points News welcomes all Letters to the Editor. All letters must be signed and include phone number for verification. Deadline is Friday before publication. Four Points News reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, length and for libelous or objectionable statements. Letters containing more than 400 words will be edited for length.

Four Points News • 3129 Rippling Creek Ct. Austin, Texas 78732  
Email: lynette.fourpoints@gmail.com



## More Steiner development seeking approval

Commercial developers applied to the Austin City Council for a subdivision variance at 4807 North Quinlan Park Rd.

Crocker Consultants/Taylor Woodrow Communities/Steiner Ranch LLC applied on Sept. 21 for a subdivision variance to allow construction in a Critical Water Quality Zone for the construction of a private roadway to provide primary access to two lots close to RM 620, N. Quinlan Park Rd. and Steiner Ranch Blvd.

The proposed use/uses are: Commercial, Multi-Family Apartments and there is a contract pending

on a Climate Controlled Storage Unit.

The City of Austin Environmental Board is reviewing the measure.

A public hearing is scheduled for next week, Oct. 18 at City Hall Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. Interested parties may "deliver a written statement to the board or commission before or during the public hearing that generally identifies the issues of concern" along with contact information.

For more information click on Item 5B: <http://austintx.swagit.com/play/10052011-1306>

## FOUR POINTS NEWS

Your Community Newspaper

3129 RIPPLING CREEK CT. AUSTIN, TEXAS 78732  
TELEPHONE: 512-483-1708 FAX: 512-355-1774  
E-MAIL: FOURPOINTSNEWS.EDIT@GMAIL.COM

### PERSONNEL

Editor & Publisher.....LYNETTE HAALAND  
Advertising Sales Representative.....HOLLIE KENNEY  
Advertising Sales Representative - Sports.....JOHN DOPSON  
Circulation.....FRED FRANCO  
Reporter.....LESLEE BASSMAN  
Creative Services.....JENNIFER ROBERTS

Published weekly in Four Points, Texas by Four Points News LLC. For subscription information, email inquiries to [fourpointsnews.bookkeeping@gmail.com](mailto:fourpointsnews.bookkeeping@gmail.com)

### CLASS FROM, 1

LISD is a highly desirable district to be in and more people move into the district each year. LISD administrators look at demographic trends to project which schools will get more students.

"In the past we would start off the classrooms with fewer students knowing within months those class sizes would increase... and then ask for waivers around January," Sopher said.

This year LISD is asking TEA sooner rather than later for waivers to exceed the 22-students-to-one-teacher ratio.

This does not mean we are overcrowded, Sopher said. There is a cap at LISD where K and 1st cannot exceed 22 students, 2nd cannot exceed 23

students, and 3rd - 4th cannot exceed 24 students.

At the beginning of each school year, Texas school districts are required to review class size enrollment to determine whether its class sizes for K-4th meet TEA requirements.

According to the review, LISD exceeds the 22-students-to-one-teacher ratio at:

- Laura Bush Elementary, 7 of 34 classes
- Grandview Hills Elementary, 3 of 21 classes
- River Place Elementary, 5 of 31 classes
- River Ridge Elementary, 7 of 31 classes
- Steiner Ranch Elementary, 8 of 28 classes

Some grade levels and some campuses do not have strong enough academic standings where more students in the classroom would not be conducive. This is not the case in Four Points.

"If a campus has seen academic success, we consider a waiver," Sopher said.

Four Points schools show academic success: LWB, River Place, River Ridge and Steiner Ranch all have exemplary ratings while Grandview has a recognized rating.

While 95 classes are over the TEA preferred ratio, 530 LISD kindergarten through 4th grade classes are under the 22-to-1 ratio.

### PHOTO FROM, 1

area. These families then receive free prints and/or a high resolution disc of 10-20 portraits.

The program is open to all who were affected by wildfires in Steiner, Bastrop, Spicewood and more.

"Within 24 hours of starting the program, we had 50 photographers offering to help," said Stoehr of the overwhelming response to her social media posts for volunteers.

Austin photographer Deanna Roy received word of a displaced family's wish to remember what was left of their homesite as well as to start a new album from this point forward. Roy met the couple and their two daughters at the slab of what was once their Tahitian Village home before they relocate to California.

"It was one hundred times harder than I imagined it would be," Roy

said of the photo shoot. "The family had to drive through the fire to get out."

"Their mother wanted the girls to remember what it [Piney Woods site] looked like. I wanted to provide the context of why they moved suddenly when they were very young."

Photographers throughout the Lone Star State, have been willing to donate their time and talent for the Recapturing Memories Project. Stoehr and Evans require participating photographers to agree not to use the event to promote their own business.

"It's been crazy," said Stoehr. "I'm glad I've been able to get other photographers on board. It shows we can all pull together to help out."

For more information, go to [www.recapturingmemoriesproject.org](http://www.recapturingmemoriesproject.org).

### SALES FROM, 1

and Work, and Relocate America rated Austin the 3rd Best City to Move to in the US.

The Four Points data supports an optimistic outlook as well. In the first week of Q4 2011, there are currently 241 actives in RN with 60 home sales pending or sold, which is already nearly 50 percent of what RN had all of last quarter, Fruge said.

"We have the opportunity to work with many relocation homebuyers from all over the nation. What we have learned is that it is all about families, conveniences and overall stable communities, and no other place embodies all of these attributes better than Four Points," Finnessey said.



## A Head Above The Rest

Rhonda Durrill, Realtor

512-994-8400

[rhonda@avalaraustin.com](mailto:rhonda@avalaraustin.com) • [www.rhondadurrill.com](http://www.rhondadurrill.com)



Ask me about my program that donates to your favorite charity.

God, Family, Business.

Avalar Steiner Ranch  
4300 N. Quinlan Park Road



## Our Tutors Make the Difference.

Math  
Reading  
Sciences  
Homework Help  
Study Skills  
Foreign Languages  
ACT/SAT/PSAT Prep

College Tutors help students reach academic goals as well as build self-esteem, confidence and pride in a job well done. We provide a wide range of services for students Pre-K through 12th grade.

College Nannies & Tutors®

Building Stronger Families®

Four Points Placement & Learning Center

We're right in your neighborhood!  
2222@Riverplace (next to bakery)

512-372-8385

[collegetutors.com/westaustintx](http://collegetutors.com/westaustintx) • [collegenannies.com/westaustintx](http://collegenannies.com/westaustintx)

## How about hosting a tapas dessert party?



- Private dinners
- Hor d'oeuvre parties
- Private/Group cooking classes
- Meal delivery packages
- Company & Corporate events

Call now to plan your party!

Carlos Crusco - Personal Chef

512.970.2200

[carloscrusco@hotmail.com](mailto:carloscrusco@hotmail.com)

## VHS Theatre presents the Odd Couple this week

The Vandegrift High School Theatre Department presents their fall show The Odd Couple starting this Thursday and running through Saturday at VHS.

The Odd Couple by Neil Simon is a hilarious story about two odd ball friends, one a slob and the other a neat freak, trying to make the best of a bad situation as roommates. Find out how much tension their friendship can handle.

VHS Theatre will be performing two versions of Simon's well-known comedy. The female cast will perform Thursday and Friday. The male cast on Saturday.

If using a movie rating, this show would probably be PG-13 and is not recommended for younger children.

Performances are Oct. 13 through Oct. 15 at 7 p.m. with a matinee on Saturday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$8 at the door on the VHS campus at 9500 McNeil Dr.

## Neil Simon's The Odd Couple



October 13, 14 & 15

## 4Points Basketball to hold try-outs in Oct. for winter season

4Points Basketball Association will hold try-outs on Oct. 22 and 30 for winter season boys teams. The current fall session is full.

4Points Basketball is in its second year and is an organization put together by area dads with a mission to provide Four Points boys with more opportunity to play basketball and improve their skills, said Scott Stevens, volunteer dad and board member.

The program consists of two components: the 4Points Basketball Academy and Competitive In-Season Team Play.

The Basketball Academy provides a skills development training session and competi-

tive and instructional scrimmaging for boys 4th-8th grade. Academy sessions are open to all boys that are interested in improving their skills and having fun on the court, Stevens said.

Instruction and coaching is provided by a team of professional coaches led by Roderick Anderson, a former University of Texas basketball player.

The Competitive In-Season Team participates in a local competitive league and enters teams into city-wide tournaments where the level of competition is extremely high. These teams will be coached by the professional coaching staff and will practice locally two

times per week.

Teams will be formed based a series of try-outs based on skills, hustle, attitude and basketball IQ, Stevens said.

For Oct. 22 try-outs, check the website for time and location. The Oct. 30 try-outs will be from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Canyon Ridge Middle School. Register for 4Points Basketball try-outs at: 4pointsbasketball.org

**Coach Roderick Anderson leads local boys through drills at the 4Points Basketball Academy. Approximately 60 4th through 8th grade boys attend the Academy each Sunday. Pictured from left to right: Jared Hirschhorn, Alex Fernandes, Sam Brod, Dale Kuykendall and Ryan Boles.**



### "Balancing the scales of justice in your favor"



**MARIE E. McGRATH, JD, MBA**  
Attorney and Counselor at Law

Personal Injury • Divorce • Fertility • Immigration



Phone: 512-696-6575

106 East 6th St., Suite 640 • Austin, TX 78701

THE LAW OFFICE OF  
Marie E. McGrath, PLLC

mariemcgrath@mmcgr-law.com • www.mcgrathastinlawyer.com

Follow us on  
FOUR POINTS NEWS



### Community Events

Oct. 16 - 2nd Annual Pumpkin Patch at Steiner's John Simpson Park, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Oct. 18 - VHS and RM 2222 Traffic Meeting and Update 6:30 p.m. at Vandegrift High School

Oct. 20 - Four Points Chamber of Commerce Business Expo River Place Country Club 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Oct. 22 - Digs & Dunks Clinic Fundraiser for K - 8th Lady Vipers teach volleyball and basketball skills 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. @ Vandegrift High School

Oct. 21-23 - Concordia University Texas Homecoming & Family Weekend

Nov. 5 - Camping on the Ranch 6:00 p.m. at Towne Square in Steiner Ranch

# Four Points Women In Business

### Annie Fojtik

Home Mortgage Consultant

11625 N FM  
Austin, TX 78750

Office: 512-344-7887  
Cell: 512-633-2883

WELLS FARGO HOME MORTGAGE

NMLS ID 408833

### STEINER DENTAL

COSMETIC, FAMILY DENTISTRY & ORTHODONTICS

"My purpose is to not only fulfill my patients' needs, but exceed their expectations while rejuvenating their smile"

Julia C. Hawthorne, DDS  
Cosmetics and Family Dentistry

512-266-9585  
2900 N. Quinlan Park Rd. #160  
Austin, TX. 78732

### Robin R. Smith

Seamstress & Textile Artist

- Alterations & Tailoring
- Home Decor
- Pillows & Bedding
- Custom Window Treatments
- T-shirt & Memory Quilts & Pillows

512.638.2803

robinstitches@gmail.com

## DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR, NOBODY PROTECTS YOU LIKE ALLSTATE.



Chuck Saxon Jr  
(512) 339-8494

2300 Lohmans Spur, Ste 121  
Lakeway  
chucksaxon@allstate.com



Savings based on national customer-reported data for new policies in 2009. Actual savings vary. Allstate Fire And Casualty Insurance Company, Northbrook, IL. © 2010 Allstate Insurance Company

## SERVICES • SERVICES • SERVICES

### ARHS ABSOLUTE REMODELING & HANDYMAN SERVICES

"ABSOLUTE QUALITY" INSURED

KITCHEN BATHROOM PAINTING SHEETROCK WINDOWS FLOORING DOORS TILE

LEE STARK 512-422-5262 EMAIL: ARHS@AUSTIN.RR.COM

Follow us on



FOUR POINTS NEWS

### HELP WANTED

Drivers & Owner Operators Wanted! Class A CDL, End Dump/Pneumatic Tanker. Paid Weekly, Home Daily. 830-560-1032

### GEOSCAPES OF TEXAS, INC.

Landscape Services



Services:

- Sprinkler System Installation
- Total Landscape Maintenance
- Landscape Design/Installation
- Sod and Tree Installation
- Tree Care and Removal

Phone: 512-259-5296

Fax: 512-259-0380

P.O. Box 1922

Leander, TX 78646

LI-0007203

### 777-2774 CEDAR PARK HANDYMAN

No Job Too Small or Too Big

- Rotten Board Replacement - Decks - Fences
- Doors Installed - Windows - Painting - Staining
- Pressure Washing - Pergollas - Trellis
- Electrical Repairs - Plumbing Repairs
- Drywall Repairs - Tile Flooring - Siding

CALL TODAY - FREE ESTIMATES LICENSED & INSURED

www.CedarParkHandyman.com

### SPICER MECHANICAL

TACL#022509E

Rick Spicer, MM, USNR(Ret.)

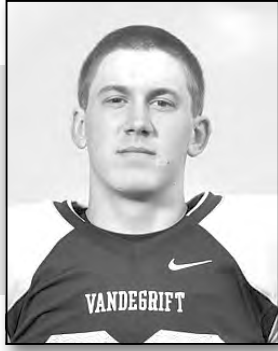
- Air Conditioning • Heating
- Refrigeration • Appliance Repair
- Other Minor Home Repairs

(512) 913-4907

ADVERTISE!



FOOTBALL



**Jayson Long**  
Senior

**Favorite part about being involved in Viper Football:**  
It's cool to be part of the Viper family. It's also nice to be part of a good program that will go very far this season.

CHEER



**Carolyn Andrade**  
Sophomore

**Favorite part of being involved in Viper Cheer:**  
My favorite part of being involved in the cheer organization is the fact that our team is just an extended family. I couldn't put into words how amazing our team, captains, parents and coaches are. We all work together to build the best and most improving organization we can. I'm so proud to be a Vandegrift Cheerleader!

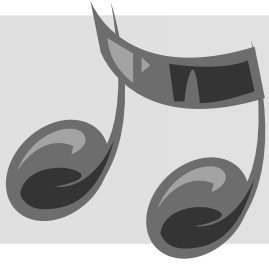
DANCE



**Nicole Quick**  
Junior

**Favorite part about being involved in Viper Legacies:**  
I enjoy the physical challenges and discipline of dance. It makes me proud to be part of a team where every girl strives to be her best, but puts the team goals first!

BAND



**Ashley Saathoff**  
Junior

**Favorite part about being in the Viper Band:**  
My favorite part about band is its order and simplicity that relieves me of stress from hectic days.

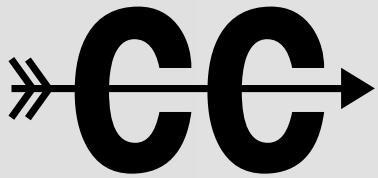
VOLLEYBALL



**Loryn Johnson**  
Sophomore

**Favorite part of being involved in Viper Volleyball:**  
My favorite part about being involved in Viper Volleyball is that it gives me the opportunity to play a sport I really enjoy. The coaches are great, I love everyone on the team and we all get along really well. Go Vipers!

CROSS COUNTRY



**Jonathan Fisher**  
Freshman

**Favorite part about being involved in Viper Cross Country:**  
I enjoy cross country because it gives me a chance to contribute to the team with my individual efforts. Also, it encourages me to continually push and improve myself with a discipline that crosses over into other areas of my life.

## SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR THESE VIPERS BY SPONSORING THIS PAGE

**GO VIPERS!**

*El Señor*  
*Mexican Cuisine*

Open until Midnight on Home Game Nights.

512.372.9700  
Located in the Shops at Riverplace

**GO VIPERS!**



"TASTE THE DIFFERENCE"

4300 QUINLAN PARK ROAD  
AUSTIN, TX 78732  
512-266-8808

## Viper Band wins class AA award in Regional

The Vandegrift High School Band won the Class AA award and swept all captions - Music, Visual, and General Effect at the BOA Conroe Regional.

"It was one of the most competitive events I have taken a band to in many years. Eight out of the ten bands in finals were UIL 5A State Finalists and BOA Grand National Finalists. This is unheard of for a "Regional" type event," said Jeremy Spicer, Director of Bands at VHS.

The Viper Band placed 12th overall and only

missed the night show by 0.15 points.

Spicer likes to use motivational quotes like this one from Aristotle: Excellence is not an act, but a habit.

"We must continue to be excellent in all that we do. Now is the time to dig in and not only work harder, but smarter and support each other like never before," he said. "Mr. Howard, Mr. Pape, Ms. Spradlin and I are truly honored to lead such a fantastic group of young people."



Left: Nikki Jaynes, Vandegrift High School freshman, entertains the half time crowd at the Vandegrift vs. Lake Travis football game on Friday night.



*Hola*

**SPANISH TUTOR**

Spanish levels I, II, III  
PRE-AP III and AP IV

**Why learn Spanish?**

Spanish is one of the world's most spoken language, after Mandarin Chinese and English!

At the end of the 19th century, 60 million people spoke Spanish. Today, almost 500 million people worldwide speak Spanish!

Spanish, Spanish everywhere!

Learning it is fun!

Native Spanish speaker from Venezuela w/a Bachelor degree in Communications. I apply different methods of teaching according to the different needs of the student. I am fluent and knowledgeable in grammar, vocabulary, writing, and conversation. Flexible hours.

*Gracias*

**Lylia Estrella**

**spanish\_ahora@rocketmail.com**



The Vandegrift Marching Band entertains the hometown crowd during Friday night's halftime performance.

**We bring the showroom to you!**



**Hundreds of Flooring Choices**

and everything in between

We carry hundreds of different styles of...

Wood • Tile • Laminate • Carpet • Vinyl • Vinyl Custom Tile • Vinyl Plank  
Shutters • Blinds • Honeycomb Shades

Services include....

Backsplash • Bathroom wall tile • Fireplaces • Grout sealing  
Refinish wood floors • Carpet cleaning • Tile floor cleaning • Sealing natural stone



512-336-0900

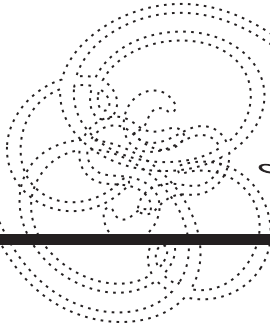
www.AustinFloorsandWindows.com

*Beautiful Smiles*

restorative, cosmetic & implant dentistry

**Complimentary Exam and X-Rays  
with New Patient Cleaning**

Expires 12-31-11



*Karen Naples*  
D.D.S., P.A.

(512) 249-8488

200 S. Bell Blvd., Suite E2 • Cedar Park  
**www.karenaples.com**

**Viper Football Head Coach Drew Sanders weekly comments**

Vs. Lake Travis, 42 - 10 loss

I thought our team played hard and did some good things, but we are a step behind LT currently.

They did some things to us offensively and defensively that no one has been able to do this season. They are currently the #1 program in the state for a reason.

We are building to get there. I am very proud of our performance in the second half against their starters. Defensively we caused several turnovers and offense was able to sustain drives.

I have no doubt we are making progress as a program.

**Bye Week, Next Game Oct. 21 Vs. Vista Ridge at Gupton Stadium**

We are currently off this week and will use this week to mend, work on fundamentals, and regain our focus for the final three regular season games.

We must win one at a time if we are going to reach our goal of qualifying for the AAAA playoffs for the first time ever.

We will also use this week to go scout our next three opponents.

**Montessori**

An "education for life" ... starts at School in the Hills

Call 512.266.6160 to schedule a tour of the school to see our amazing children in action. Let us demonstrate why Montessori and School in the Hills is the right choice for your child.

Discover why Montessori education has amazed parents and inspired children for over 100 years. Enroll and watch your child grow to love learning while developing life skills such as:  
Self Confidence, Independence, Curiosity and Creativity.

Are you on the waitlist?  
Call today!



2900 N. Quinlan Park  
Austin, TX 78732

Phone 512.266.6160  
schoolinthehills.com



**Do you spend more time planning your summer vacation than your investment strategy?**

A financial plan can help you feel more confident that you won't outlive your savings in retirement.

Call me today at (512)691-7032



Jon Fletcher, CRPC®  
Financial Advisor  
Ameriprise Financial  
Arboretum Plaza One, Ste 800  
9442 N. Capital of Texas Hwy  
Austin, TX 78759  
(512)691-7032  
jon.m.fletcher@ampf.com  
ameripriseadvisors.com/jon.m.fletcher

Ameriprise Financial cannot guarantee future financial results. Brokerage, investment and financial advisory services are made available through Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA and SIPC. Some products and services may not be available in all jurisdictions or to all clients.



Viper Cheerleader Courtney Kaczmarek stops to talk to a few fans, including Alys Flatt from Laura Bush Elementary, at Friday night's game against Lake Travis.

**walls**

**IT'S TIME TO TEAR THEM DOWN**

**SATURDAY 5:30PM & SUNDAY 9:30 & 11:00AM**

6401 River Place Blvd., Austin, TX 78730 PH/381-5700  
www.AustinChristianFellowship.org



**Let me Help!**

The Four Points News reaches nearly every single family home in Steiner Ranch, River Place, and Grandview Hills. Austin's most affluent neighborhoods! I can show you how to reach these potential customers.

Call  
**Hollie Kenney**  
410.258.1412

fourpointsnews@austin.rr.com

**FOUR POINTS NEWS**



## Lake Travis United Methodist Church

**"The Table"**  
8:30 am  
Traditional  
Worship  
Holy Communion  
{Sanctuary}

**"The Vine"**  
11:00 am  
Traditional  
Worship  
{Sanctuary}

**"The Way"**  
11:00 am  
Contemporary  
Worship  
{Ministry Activities  
Center, MAC Hall}

9:45 am  
Sunday School  
for  
All Ages

1502 RR 620 N Austin, TX 266-9877 Itumc.org

### Running or Sports Related Injury? Injury of the Foot & Ankle?

Then stop by and see  
Jose A. Rivera, DPM, FACLES  
Steiner Ranch Resident



To learn more about our Podiatric Practice  
Visit our website: [www.MyAustinFoot.com](http://www.MyAustinFoot.com)  
Or call our office: 512-477-8853

## Local yoga classes benefit body, mind and health



Research says that yoga increases strength and flexibility, improves balance and posture, increases cognition, increases heart function and improves relaxation. Practicing yoga is known to decrease stress, blood pressure, anxiety and insomnia. Steiner Ranch Yoga is one place offering classes where practitioners work out at their own level and "listen to their bodies", said Melinda Jennings, primary instructor.

There are beginner classes and restorative classes focusing on restoring the body and mind. There are also Hatha classes for stronger practitioners which offer mindful movement in a traditional format, while focusing on breath and body awareness.

Scientific evidence supports various mindful exercise modalities as significant means of improving a variety of health outcomes, Jennings said.

Mind-body fitness or mindful exercise has been associated with improved muscular strength, flexibility, balance and coordination, but also increased mental development and self-efficacy.

Jennings says Hatha yoga is perhaps the most practiced form of mindful exercise in the West today and it is helpful for arthritis, postural problems and reducing anxiety.

Meditation alone can help quiet hunger cravings, and increase the area of your brain responsible for decision-making.

Steiner Ranch Yoga classes are held at Villari's Studios located at 4308 N. Quinlan Park Rd. Suite 202 in Steiner Ranch directly behind the Welcome Center.

### Mobile Bike Repair & Service

#### What all do you do?

Tune-ups, overhauls, assembly, suspension, brakes, derailleurs, and more. You name it, we fix it.

#### Our Pricing

Check us out online for specials and additional services.

Basic Tune-Up.....\$40  
Professional Tune-Up.....\$75

Mobile fee waived for residents of Four Points area, including Steiner Ranch and River Place.

\*Service price only - does not include parts.

#### Why us?

No more juggling your schedule to drop off and pick up your bike. Have a Dragon's Den Certified Master Bike Tech come to you.

Our repair and maintenance fees are extremely competitive (we have low overhead after all). In fact, if you find a better price, we'll match it.

Mention this ad and receive

**\$10 OFF**

(your next service of \$50 or more, new customers only)

## DRAGON'S DEN CYCLING

Phone: 512.401.3593 | [www.DragonsDenCycling.com](http://www.DragonsDenCycling.com)

Location: Wherever you want us. Twitter: DragonsDenATX

## New Salon in Steiner



hue  
SALON

**10% OFF**  
With this ad.

#### Hours:

Monday - Friday  
10am - 7pm  
Saturday  
10am - 5pm

266-9225

2900 N. Quinlan Park Suite 230  
[www.salonhueaustin.com](http://www.salonhueaustin.com)

## Free Boot Camp!

Lose 10-15 lbs. of fat BEFORE the holidays at Wild Basin Fitness.

Join now and get up to 12 Weeks of Boot Camp free.

### Save up to \$240!

Boot camps weekly Nov. - Jan.  
Initiation fees and monthly dues apply.  
No contract required.



**WILD  
BASIN  
FITNESS**

[www.WildBasinFitness.com](http://www.WildBasinFitness.com)



### CURRENT FITNESS SCHEDULE



MON./THURS. - 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
WED. - 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM  
SAT. - 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM



### PILATES STICK & MAT

ONLY 10 SPOTS AVAILABLE FOR PILATESSTICK SO RESERVE YOURS NOW  
TUES. PILATES MAT 10:15 AM - 11:15 AM  
WEDS. PILATES STICK 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM  
SAT. PILATESSTICK 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

### DANCE FIT

SAT. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM DANCE FIT



### BALLROOM & LATIN

JOIN U.S. AMATUER 10 DANCE CHAMPION DENIS GENERALOV

MONDAYS: LATIN (INT.) 6:45 - 8:00 PM  
BALLROOM (INT.) 8:00 - 9:15 PM  
TUESDAYS: BALLROOM/LATIN (BEGINNER) 7:30 - 8:30 PM

CALL NOW FOR YOUR FREE 20 MIN. PILATES SESSION FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO [DANCEINSTITUTE.COM](http://DANCEINSTITUTE.COM)

6612 SITIO DEL RIO BLVD AUSTIN, TX 78730 512.346.6612 [DANCEINSTITUTE.COM](http://DANCEINSTITUTE.COM)