



FOUR POINTS NEWS

SERVING STEINER RANCH, RIVER PLACE, GRANDVIEW HILLS, WESTMINSTER GLEN AND COMANCHE TRAIL

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Oasis Texas faces foreclosure but Theriot is hopeful to work things out

By LYNETTE HAALAND
Four Points News

Oasis Texas - the retail shops, restaurants and office space next to but excluding the Oasis Restaurant - is going through foreclosure.

"We were hoping we could have worked it out before foreclosure. We are still in hopes (to work something out) before that nastiness happens. It is no

fun," said Beau Theriot, who owns half of the Oasis Texas development.

Theriot is not the managing partner but is working relentlessly on solutions for other options or for another group to take over Oasis Texas prior to the March 5 auction date.

"The (Oasis Texas) shop owners are wonderful. We feel bad it hasn't panned out as we hoped it would," said

Virginia Ramsey, Human Resources Director and retail GM at Oasis Restaurant.

Shops open at Oasis Texas are Zoltan David, Texas Treasures, Lakeview Winery, Longhorn Balls Candy and Chocolate Store, Phil Crawshaw Gallery and Taste Texas.

Theriot worked with a partnership to build the

FORECLOSURE, 6

Officials question safety of 2222 after death of River place mom, reporter

By LYNETTE HAALAND
Four Points News

Funeral services were Monday for KLBJ AM radio reporter and River Place mother of two Barbara McCarley, who died last week from injuries she suffered in a rollover crash on RM 2222.

Because of this tragedy, a River Place neighbor, John Harris, is taking action to make RM 2222 a safer road for everyone. He has got-

ten the attention of Texas Department of Transportation.

TxDOT is scheduled to start a feasibility study this week on the possibility of installing a cable barrier on RM 2222 between Balcones Drive to the County Line Barbeque Restaurant near Lakewood Drive.

"No other child should have to lose another parent this way again," Harris said. McCarley was the mother of a best friend of his daughter.

On Feb. 12 McCarley was in one of the radio station's news vehicles when the head-on collision happened just before noon on RM 2222 near Mesa Drive.

Austin Police Department's investigation showed that a green 1995 Saab was traveling westbound when the driver of the Saab changed lanes and began to swerve into the eastbound lanes of RM 2222.

The Saab struck McCa-

MCCARLEY, 5



Documents filed on Feb. 12 with the Travis County Clerk list 6550 and 6548 Comanche Trail are going through foreclosure. This includes restaurant, retail and office space built in 2010.



The McCarley family Christmas 2012.

Take a peek at what's Inside

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Upcoming Articles

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- HCEF Giddy Up Gala recap
- Texas Economic Outlook from Fed Reserve Economist

Lake Travis Level

Full at 681.5 ft.
Current level 631.38 ft.
Percentage full 40%

Source: LCRA Updated: Feb. 19, 2013

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LISD Holiday Spring Break: March 11-15

Recent lockdowns prompts discussion on school safety

By SCOTT W. COLEMAN
Four Points News

With memories of December's deadly shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Conn. fresh in the nation's conscience, several area residents have expressed concern over how the district

handles lockdowns. Some are asking just what exactly is a lockdown, anyway?

Last week in Four Points, all four schools in Steiner Ranch had lockdowns over two days. The reasons cited behind these lockdowns were domestic issues.

According to LISD spokeswoman Ve-

LOCKDOWN, 3

All four schools in Steiner Ranch had lockdowns last week due to domestic issues in nearby neighborhoods. In lockdowns, police barricade school entrances similar to this when officers investigated a bomb threat at Henry Middle School last year.



Photos courtesy: Hill Country News

Oasis Restaurant gears for best year yet

By LYNETTE HAALAND
Four Points News

The Oasis Restaurant is shaping up to have its best year in its 31 year history as it unveils a new GM, executive chef, menu, offsite catering, arcade and bar area.

"We are having our best year ever," said Beau Theriot, owner of the Oasis Restaurant, which he built in 1982 on Lake Travis.

Valentine's evening, the restaurant served more than 600 people.

General Manager Jon Silva attributes the growth at Oasis to better staff training, opening another kitchen, and the ideas of the new Executive Chef Gerald Joshua.

The Oasis, located at

6550 Comanche Trail, has a staff of nearly 400 during peak season and 150 staffers during nonpeak.

Silva and Joshua have worked together at the Oasis for years and were each promoted recently.

"We are establishing more fresh ingredients and using more local purveyors like Amy's Ice Cream. We are supporting our neighbors in Austin," Joshua said.

The new menu is being tweaked this week. It includes braised pork fajitas, BBQ brisket bites and vegetarian enchiladas. Salsas are made fresh daily.

"Now we have great food," said Virginia Ramsey, Human Resources Director and retail GM. Perception

OASIS, 6

Grandview's Yung gets \$1M from ABC's "Shark"

How Do You Roll? plans to reach 100

By LYNETTE HAALAND
Four Points News

Yuen Yung and his brother Peter received a \$1 million investment to expand their How Do You Roll? sushi restaurant chain when they appeared on ABC's hit reality show "Shark Tank" earlier this month.

"It was the biggest deal on 'Shark Tank' ever. Before our deal, \$750,000 was the highest investment made," said Yuen Yung, the older of the two and How Do You Roll? CEO.

The episode aired on Friday night Feb. 15 where the Yungs

pitched their idea for expansion to five wealthy investors. The brothers gave the investors sushi samples and asked for \$1 million for 18 percent equity in their build-your-own-sushi roll eatery franchise business.

"We hope to have 100 location open in five years from now. We want to finish this year with a total of 20 stores and open 20 per year over the next five years," said Yuen Yung, who lives in Grandview Hills. His wife is the GHE PTA president and they have two sons, 9 and 5.

One of the five "Shark Tank" investors struck a deal with the Yungs. Kevin O'Leary, who sold his educational software company in 1999 to Mattel Toy Co. for \$3.7 billion dollars, agreed to invest \$1 million but

ROLL, 6



Grandview Hills' Yuen Yung at the "Shark Tank" watch part on Friday. Yung and his brother Peter co-founded How Do You Roll? and found a hungry investor after pitching their idea to expand in front of the "sharks."



Lynette Haaland

Oasis Restaurant General Manager Jon Silva (right) attributes the growth at the Oasis to better staff training, opening another kitchen, and the ideas of the new Executive Chef Gerald Joshua (left.)

"We are having our best year ever," said Beau Theriot, owner of the Oasis Restaurant.

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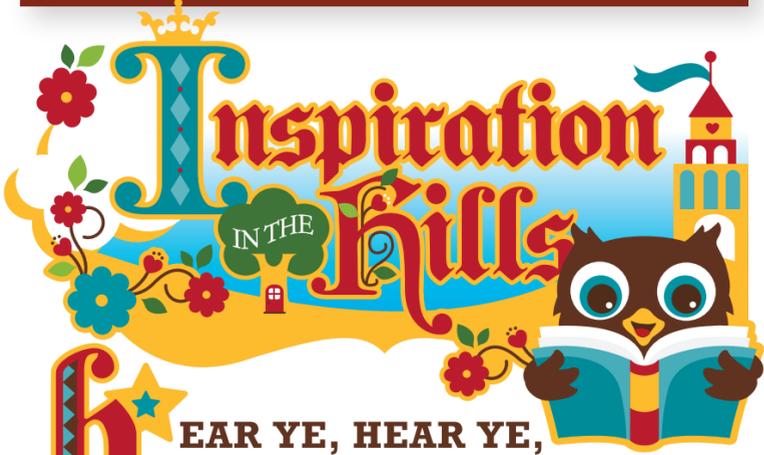
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Hyde Park art student - Grand Champ at Rodeo

Work to be
auctioned March 22

Hyde Park Freshman Max Haager won First Place/Grand Champion in the Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo Youth Western Art Competition.

"Hundreds of High School students from across Texas entered this year, the biggest number of entries to date. The judges said that this was the strongest showing of student art ever, which makes Max's achievement all the more impressive," said V. Vaughan, Hyde Park Art Teacher and Nationally-known artist.

Contest judging took place at the Long Center on Jan. 26.

"The Youth Western Art Show is an exciting competition that enables students to express their creativity in the form of Western Art, while earning scholarships,



Hyde Park student Max Haager brings home Grand Champion ribbon from Youth Western Art Competition.

prizes and more," according to the Rodeo Austin website.

The event caps off with an art auction of the top 24 entries at the Bob Bullock Museum on March 22 during Rodeo Week. The full auction price of each work

is paid directly to the student artists to be used for their future college years.

Students will also have the opportunity to gain additional funds from donors who are contributing this year to the art competition at a record pace.

It's cookie time!

Girl Scouts Sydney Suthar and Riley Galligher will be selling Girl Scout cookies until Feb. 24.

Beau Theriot, owner of Oasis Restau-

rant, let them set up their cookie stand in front of the Oasis over the weekend.

Moms Suzanne Galligher and Hilpa Suthar helped in "Operation Cookie."



Lynette Haaland

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Sharing a culture of kindness



BRET CHAMPION
Leander ISD Superintendent

If you were on a Leander ISD campus on Valentine's Day last Thursday, chances are good that you saw students and staff members greeting each other with positive messages inscribed on brightly-colored signs as they made their way to school. The signs said things like "Make the most of today," "Be happy," "Honk if you love someone" and, of course, "Happy Valentine's

Day." On a day when many people expressed appreciation to their loved ones, last week LISD students wanted to share encouraging messages with our community and further spread our culture of caring.

And it's through actions like this that our culture of kindness is growing. Maybe you've seen the distinctive yellow smiley-face shirts around town and wondered what they were all about — it's another way we are spreading the word that everyone in LISD is valued. Large-scale student programs such as C2 (Coalition of Clubs, an organization dedicated to promoting kindness) and Prejudice Awareness Clubs are doing their part, too. These pro-

grams are celebrating diversity, while calling attention to important issues in order to equip students with the skills to constructively address destructive behavior such as bullying. Events like the recent No Place for Hate flash mob at Vista Ridge High School, the Love is Louder campaign at Running Brushy Middle School, the Make-a-Friend lunch activities at Pleasant Hill Elementary, and the upcoming district-wide C2 Forum at Leander High School, encourage students to support and respect one another. Our schools are committed to offering a variety of opportunities for students to develop deeper appreciation for individual similarities and differences

and challenging students to stand against bias, discrimination and the mistreatment of others. I am continually inspired by the passion and the dedication students are pouring into these activities.

A true culture of caring extends beyond students and includes teachers and staff. That's why the ongoing education of our staff is an important piece of our bullying prevention efforts. This focus has ensured that students are taking ownership in bullying prevention initiatives and are having more meaningful experiences. It has also helped staff have a clearer understanding of what bullying is, how to process reports of bullying and how to address

the individuals involved.

And as our culture of caring expands, LISD's bullying prevention initiatives are coming together and making a tangible difference on our campuses. Recent data shows that LISD students are gaining more confidence to speak up for themselves and for others. This year our district has seen an increase in the number of students reporting issues and a decrease in the number of actual bullying cases. We are encouraged that our students are feeling more compelled to speak up, a central message in our culture of caring and bullying prevention efforts.

Bullying is a nationwide concern, and LISD takes it seriously. As one of our

four areas of improvement, our district is committed to continuing to provide a safe and secure learning environment for all students. The steps we take to spread our culture of caring are helping to ensure that bullying and discrimination don't impede our children's learning experiences.

For more information about this important topic, visit www.leanderisd.org, and select bullying prevention under the Parents and Students tab. Follow me on Twitter at @Bret_LISD to see pictures of some of these great student activities; you will be proud to be a part of LISD.

Have a great week!

LOCKDOWN, FROM 1

ronica Sopher, a lockdown can occur for a variety of reasons. For example, if a police chase may come near the school, law enforcement will contact the school and that situation will typically result in a lockdown being enforced.

On several occasions, lockdowns have been implemented because of domestic violence situations being handled by police not far from a school campus, Sopher said.

"We had an issue about a year-and-a-half ago (involving) a domestic dispute. The incident spilled out into the front yard, and we were concerned that it was at drop-off time," she said. "We needed to get parents into the building. The police advised us to bring everyone into the building — students or not. So we just let people in."

Sopher said lockdowns caused by fire alarms have to be cleared by a fire department, but they trigger a different kind of lockdown response in terms of how students and staff respond and react.

In general terms, a lockdown usually means that no one can enter or leave the school until administration or law enforcement determines that there is no imminent danger to the students, employees or visitors on campus.

However, Sopher said, there are different kinds of lockdowns, but only a small percentage are full and complete lockdowns, which prevent anyone from coming or going. More often than not, lockdowns are of a modified variety.

Sopher declined to comment on specific details of lockdown procedure or how the district handles various individual emergency situations, due to the district's security policy.

But four times last week, Leander ISD elementary and middle schools were placed on lockdown as a part of the school district's efforts to keep schools safe. Four separate instances prompted school officials to lock down the campuses at River Ridge, Steiner Ranch and Laura Bush elementary schools, as well as Canyon Ridge Middle School.

Sopher declined to provide any specifics about the incidents last week, but she did say that in the event of a major incident on campus the district would use several forms of communication to keep both parents and the general public apprised of the situation.

In most instances students may not even know that their school experienced a modified lockdown. Some lockdowns are lifted within mere minutes and completed without any

significant disruption to the usual school routine.

LISD uses both an e-mail system and robocalling system to notify parents of certain situations at school, including when a campus is placed on lockdown.

However, the nature of communication with parents on school security incidents is a sore point with at least one local resident.

Shawn Rutherford said that he feels Leander ISD can improve the quality and frequency of communication in such situations.

"On several occasions, police activity near our schools has in some cases shut down streets. Not only did the Cedar Park Police Department block the entrance to our neighborhood, but a bomb squad truck from the Austin Police Department was brought in," Rutherford said. "While such intense protection of our students is appreciated, the problem came from those of us who called the school to find out what was going on. Our phone calls regarding the situation at Knowles were addressed with 'nothing is going on' and repeated calls gave us no information."

And while Rutherford admitted that the answer to his concerns was not a simple one, he also pointed out that in the digital age, a lack of timely, official updates

can easily result in misinformation that spreads like wildfire on social media outlets.

"Regular updates are key. Even if nothing is happening, and specifically if the threat is over," Rutherford said.

At LISD, Sopher said, school administrators take an abundance of caution, but they also consider the specifics of what's going on and take direction from law enforcement if there is an outside threat.

That policy is in line with Texas Attorney General Greg Abbot's advice to school districts. Abbot's office began the process of again looking into school safety following the Sandy Hook tragedy in which 20 children and six adults were shot and killed on campus before the alleged shooter took his own life.

Immediately following the events of Dec. 14 in Connecticut, Texas Gov. Rick Perry called on Texas schools to review their emergency operations plans and referred districts to the Texas School Safety Center as a resource in developing or improving existing plans.

Separate deadly incidents at Columbine High School in 1999 and at Virginia Tech in 2007 helped prompt Texas lawmakers to adopt new guidelines

directing school districts to upgrade security and establish safety and evacuation plans. Following the incident in Columbine, the Texas School Safety Center was established. Housed on the campus of Texas State University, the center provides training, research and technical assistance to the state's school districts in the area.

Following Perry's speech in December, Abbot publicly reprimanded 78 Texas school districts, which he said were out of compliance with those recently adopted state mandates. Leander ISD was not one of those named by Abbot, though two of the state's largest districts — Beaumont ISD and

Houston's North Forest ISD were.

So far, Texas has avoided any of the mass school shootings or other on-campus tragedies. At least three school safety bills have been filed so far this legislative session, and given the political climate and Perry's recent statements on school safety, Texas lawmakers will continue to pursue legislation aimed at curbing the risk of school shootings.

Here locally, Sopher said LISD is, "constantly looking at ways we can improve."

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PUBLISHER'S POINT OF VIEW



LYNETTE HAALAND

Big commerce to move to Four Points



This week the Austin Business Journal posted great news for Four Points.

Austin-based software maker Bigcommerce is moving its 120 local employees to Four Points this spring.

Calls were not returned from Bigcommerce by press time to get more details this week but ABJ reports it will be near Lake Travis and in Four Points.

The company develops software designed to automate the creation of online stores.

ABJ reports their plans are to move in April and that Bigcommerce expects to double its headcount in the next 18 months.

Colin Pope, ABJ Editor, posted the article and gave us permission to share the update with our readers. It states:

The Austin office is the North American headquarters for an Australia company started as Interspire Pty. Ltd. in 2004. It opened in Austin with a handful of employees in May 2009, according to

a company announcement.

The Austin office is home to Bigcommerce's sales, marketing and client support teams. They provide retailers with Internet services such as website design, marketing and fulfillment.

The 33,000-square-foot office they'll soon work at in the Four Points neighborhood is designed by architecture firm Lauckgroup, which did local office build-outs for Facebook, Google and Razorfish. Balfour Beatty, who did work for HomeAway, Livestrong, NetSpend and GSDM, is leading construction.

More Bigcommerce research reveals that last December they completed a \$20 million Series B round of funding one year after a \$15 million Series A financing.

Stay tuned for more details about Bigcommerce's move to Four Points.

It is great news for our community.

FOUR POINTS OF VIEW

What is your favorite part about Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts?



Austin Mutter Steiner Ranch

My favorite thing about scouting has got to be camping in the wilderness or fishing or hunting.



Austin Heberling Steiner Ranch

I like camping and doing archery and practicing with BB guns.



Sydney Suthar Steiner Ranch

Spending time with friends and camping.



Riley Galligher Steiner Ranch

Spending time at camps, it's really fun, and selling cookies.

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GARDENING GAB

Time to prune



MAGGIE TATE
Master Gardener

I've been waiting for a good killing freeze to "take care" of some of the more vigorous plants in my garden, like my Turk's Cap, because it's overgrown and is blooming again!

A few weeks ago, I decided I couldn't wait any longer. I felt a little guilty because several of the neighbors were out enjoying the warm day and asked if it was time to start trimming.

Well... what can I say? The plant was in my way, time or not, it had to go. However, with spring right around the corner, it's now time to get pruning.

Pruning a tree or shrub may be neces-

sary to maintain vigor, shape or to keep its growth in check.

Most trees should be pruned when dormant however, there are some exceptions.

Spring flowering trees and shrubs like Mountain Laurels should be pruned after flowering.

Evergreen shrubs and summer or fall blooming shrubs can be pruned in late winter/now.

Fruit trees should be pruned in late fall or early winter.

Due to Oak Wilt problems, Red Oaks and Live Oaks should be pruned between July 1 and August 15, in the heat of summer.

For most trees, pruning paint isn't necessary as it interferes with the trees natural healing, however, when pruning oaks, paint within 30 minutes of a cut and clean the tools with Ly-

sol between each cut.

Roses are to be pruned now in mid February and again around Labor Day.

Trim up to 1/3 of the rose bush, mainly focusing on removing deadwood and branches that cross each other or grow into the center of the bush.

Roses that only bloom in the spring should be pruned after they bloom. Knock Out roses can be shaped as needed to keep the growth in check.

Pruning helps usher in springtime and keeps our plants thriving.

Happy Gardening!

Maggie Tate is a Master Gardener with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Travis County. More horticulture and gardening info can be found at: <http://travis.tx.tamu.edu/> or by calling the gardening hotline at 854-9600.



FAMILY BUDGETS REQUIRE LARGE-SCALE PLANNING...

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Rail and roads - urgent need

Dear Editor,
New to Austin and cannot believe the traffic and lack of a rail system.

Need a rail system ASAP. There is plenty room to put a raised rail alongside the freeways/tollways now before it's too late.

RM 620 is a mess. Housing is being built with-

out first considering how all those residents will travel each day. We need to limit construction of homes until road improvements and PLANNING are made first.

Steiner Ranch is an example. The planners did not think ahead as there are only two small exits to RM 620. There needs to be other EXITS

somehow to the west, south or east to other roads URGENTLY to help the traffic flow.

When the fires happened last year, no one could get to their homes.

Travis County planners - are you reading this?

C.C.
Steiner Ranch

Mama drama: Excellence without balance



LYNETTE GILLIS
Concordia professor,
River Place mom

I am a working mom of four amazing children ages 8, 6, 3 and 3. Yes, twins. I struggle with the seemingly impossible task of achieving excellence in both of my vocations as a university professor and as a mom.

At Concordia University

Texas we often talk about vocation; the idea that each person is uniquely called in their lives to work. (God created work and called it good.)

So, we strive to honor God through our work, be it in education, customer service, high-tech, parenthood, volunteerism, etc. We honor God by doing our working excellently.

But this is what I so often tell my students, and so often where I feel I fail.

When people meet me and hear that I am a university professor, they easily relate and understand what

I do. It is a career that seems real, relevant and rewarding, and it is.

Others meet me, hear that I have four kids and say, "Wow, you must be busy" or "Your hands are really full," and they are.

So often I am known as either a working professional or a professional mom, yet not both.

The truth is I constantly run between the two, feeling like I am just getting by. I run to get my kids out the door to school, run to campus a few minutes before class, run to pick up my little ones from preschool,

run to after school sports and activities, run to attempt to prepare a healthy meal for my family, run to help my kids with homework and to get everyone to bed at a decent time, and then run to prepare my next class. Then oops it will hit me that I forgot something. Like today I was supposed to volunteer in the school library and missed it.

Yes, I failed again, and excellence alludes me.

I often tell my friends that I feel mediocre at everything when I compare myself to others. I am the mom who can't eat lunch on

a weekly basis with her kids at school and forgets about a volunteer commitment. I am the wife who works in the evenings grading papers rather than spending

time with my husband. I am the professor who is late returning papers because I decided to have a date night with my husband.

DRAMA, 5



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FOUR POINTS NEWS

Run, jog or walk the ranch



SUSAN ARANT
Arant Real Estate Team

Run the Ranch March 2

Easier said than done? I too have a list of reasons to avoid regular workouts – not enough hours in the day, too chilly outside, babysitter bailed, cedar fever, too much work to do... the list goes on and on. However, it is never too late to get fit.

According to the Mayo Clinic, physical activity boosts your energy, promotes better sleep, reduces weight, combats disease, improves your mood and can be fun.

The key to fitness is to have a plan. Start slowly, both with your goals and your activity. Going too fast or too hard can result in physical injuries; your muscles have memory but it takes a few weeks to get back into the swing of things. Even a good stretching session may cause a bit of soreness the next day.

When setting your goals be realistic. It is important mentally that you feel good about yourself after working out, not disappointed that you didn't meet an unobtainable goal. Remember, any activity is better than no activity at all!

Make your goals measurable. Don't commit to a level of activity that is impossible.

Start by walking thirty minutes three times a week. After a couple of weeks, increase your workout time, increase your speed or add strength training to your regimen.

Be sure to change up your workouts before you get bored. Tired of walking/running, take a spin class or try Pilates. Ask a friend to workout with you - a workout partner helps keep you accountable, motivates you and makes the time pass more quickly.

Celebrate! When you achieve your goals, even the smallest of goals, take time to acknowledge your achievement. You should feel proud of yourself. You should feel energized and satisfied. This will help you set new fitness goals and soon you will be on your way to a more active lifestyle.

Are you motivated yet? Are you ready to jump off the sofa and go for a walk or jog?

If so, might I suggest enrolling in the 2013 Run the Ranch.

It is a 5k that you, your family and friends can walk, jog or run. There is even a Kids K. And since children watch everything we do, what a great way to instill healthy habits at a young age.

This is an ideal opportunity to start your new routine and it is not too late to sign up. The race isn't until Saturday, March 2; which gives you a couple of weeks to ease back into a workout routine.

Come on out and join me – I'd love to see you at the finish line!

Susan Arant is CFO of the Gene Arant Real Estate Team Keller Williams Realty. Susan and Gene have three children and live in Steiner Ranch.

MCCARLEY, FROM 1

rley's red and white 2008 Toyota on its right side. A third vehicle, a white 2012 Toyota SUV, was also involved in the accident.

McCarley died on Feb. 13 as a result of the injuries she sustained in the crash. The drivers and passengers of the other cars survived and were transported to University Medical Center at Brackenridge with "non-life threatening injuries," APD states.

McCarley had worked at KLBJ-AM since 1998 and was assigned to cover City Hall, but also covered many breaking news stories. She was instrumental in covering the Steiner Ranch wildfires.

Posted on KLBJ's website: "Words cannot describe the loss we feel in our hearts and in our newsroom."

Barb, as everyone called her, and Robert were married 18 years with a son, 13, and daughter, 11.

"She lived her life to the fullest. She was filled with a lot of joy," Harris said.

He recalls a couple of months ago when he picked up his daughter from the McCarley's house after a playdate. The girls were playing a Hunger Games game in the woods. Barb made it even more fun with Hunger Games music playing in the backyard as she dropped a parachute from the upper balcony, parachutes deliver messages or gifts in the game.

"We are all devastated by her death," Harris said.



TxDOT is scheduled to start a feasibility study on the possibility of installing a cable barrier like in the photo on RM 2222 between Balcones Drive to Lakewood Drive, said John Harris, River Place resident.

He started organizing a petition last week to get barriers put down the middle of RM 2222. His proposal was accelerated by finding a sympathetic ear at TxDOT.

Harris would not disclose who he is working with but said: "He is very interested in this proposal and said that he would assign a couple of his engineers to start a feasibility study this week."

The targeted section of RM 2222 contains a lot of curves, uneven grade and has the most potential for cars to lose control, Harris said.

A cable barrier is preferred over a concrete barrier due to its lower cost, smaller footprint in the median of the road, and its better ability to deflect a car back into its own side of the



Robert and Barb McCarley

road. Harris was told that there may be some issues with that section of RM 2222 which might prevent this from being approved. The feasibility study will help determine whether the project is possible or not.

OBITUARY

Barbara McCarley

June 1, 1964 -
February 13, 2013

Barb McCarley was always the life of the party with her boisterous laugh, inviting blue eyes and ready smile. She was always quick to find the humor in situations and lifted the spirits of everyone around her. Barbara was a friend to all she touched. She was always positive and brought out the best in everyone.

She was a devoted mother and active in her children's school and extracurricular events, even organizing a Haunted House that is now a yearly fundraiser.

In her neighborhood, she was known as the "cool" mom and many, many children considered her their "other" mom. She was a loving wife, who created the most welcoming house in Austin. She was devoted to saving and protecting all strays, whether four legged or two.

All who knew Barb were touched and blessed by her presence. She was one of the most genuine and giving people in our lives. She made us laugh, smile and focus on the moment.

May we honor her by emulating her ability to bring perspective, hope and optimism through life's trials and celebrations.

Barbara Koehl McCarley was born June 1st, 1964 to an air force family. As a young girl, she lived in many places around the country with a stint in Germany before her family moved to Austin where she graduated from Westwood High School. She is a graduate of Southwest Texas State University, now Texas State University in San Marcos.

Barbara began her ra-



dio news reporting career in Austin in 1998. She started off as a part time news anchor, and began covering City Hall and Austin City politics. She also covered many breaking news stories and was instrumental in covering the Steiner Ranch wildfires.

Barbara was also an entrepreneur, with her own freelance photography business. She photographed many families and special events in whimsical and artistic ways.

Barbara loved politics from the local to national level. Barbara served as a delegate for the Republican Party in Texas several times, and was happy to volunteer her time for causes she believed in.

Barbara made it a point to involve her children in her charity work, providing food to the homeless, even making deliveries for Blue Santa. Barbara was also active in the Texas Advocacy Project that provides legal support for victims of abuse. She recruited as many friends as she could to come to their events to help raise money for those organizations.

Barbara is survived by her husband, Robert of 18 years, two children, ages 13 and 11, three sisters and several nieces and nephews. We all miss Barb, rest in peace.

A friend lost

Barb McCarley's friends will never forget her

Our community lost a friend. When I say our community, I mean the entire River Place community as well as others across the world.

Barb McCarley was our friend. She was our jokester, our story-teller, our tennis partner and our Ladies Night Out gal.

One friend described her as... her crazy sister.

Another friend described her as "effervescent." When I looked up the definition of "effervescence" this is what I found:

1. To emit small bubbles of gas, as a carbonated or fermenting liquid.

Barb was always emitting little bubbles of happiness! She spread them around with a smile everywhere she went.

2. To escape from a liquid as bubbles; bubble up.

Barb had a bubbly personality. Personally, I never saw her without a smile on her face.

3. To show high spirits or animation.

Now this one describes Barb perfectly! Everything about her screamed: "I'm a happy person and I love sharing that with everyone I know!"

Highly animated, she never told a story without arms, hands and ridiculous facial expressions! It was what made Barb Barb.

Barb's loving family lost a wife, a mother, a sister, an aunt and a cousin.

She was a dog lover, a haunted house engineer, a co-worker and a "crazy sister."

We will mourn with the McCarley family for a long time, but Barb's "effervescence" will be with all of us forever.

Thanks, Barb, for giving us all many great memories, great times and many, many smiles.

From your friend, Rose

DRAMA, FROM 4

In life, it is so easy to feel overwhelmed, out of balance, and... mediocre, perhaps because we try so hard to achieve "balance."

As an academic and professor of management, I have studied work-life balance theories as if "work" and "life" are on two ends of a balance scale. Aren't they on the same scale? Can we really bifurcate work and life?

I have come to think that excellence is bringing our whole self to every situation put before us, be it work, volunteering, family or friends.

For me that means my vocation is the unique blend of roles and responsibilities that I have been given. My "blend" is my own; I must do it excellently without comparison to others whose "blend" is different.

Isn't that what I tell my kids? To boldly be themselves; to give their best. Somehow, I think it relieves pressure and makes it easier to strive for excellent tomorrow, even if I failed today.

Dr. Lynette Rylander Gil-

lis is an Assistant Professor of Management at Concoridia University Texas. Gillis is also active in her church and community, volunteering at various non-profits including CampLIFE!, which she started with her husband John.



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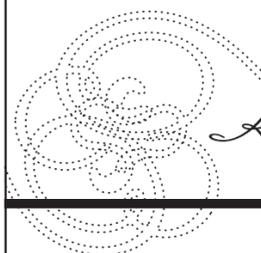
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Fuel Reduction Workday

Feb. 23
8 am - noon

917 Golden Palomino Ct - Savannah Section of Steiner Ranch



The Steiner Ranch Firewise Committee is organizing a fuel reduction workday in the preserve lands under the supervision of Travis County Natural Resources to remove debris.

- Work clothes
- Long pants and long sleeves (there IS poison ivy in the greenbelt)
- Gloves, Eye Protection, and Hats
- Sunscreen
- Bug Repellent

The area to be treated is small but the terrain is steep and smaller limbs from some felled trees will need to be cut for removal. Volunteers are asked to bring handsaws if they have one. The bulk of the work will be carrying debris from the preserve to the street.

The following are highly recommended for volunteers:

There will be spare gloves to lend out and sunscreen/bug repellent at the volunteer check-in table. Please reply to SRFirewise@gmail.com

FORECLOSURE, FROM 1

shop retail, restaurant and office site in 2010. The partnership indicated they would build the shops and lease the space and "it hasn't worked out at all," he said.

Other Oasis Texas owners Robert Schultz, President of Comanche Canyon West Commercial Partners LP, and Robert Axelson, President of Isis Investments L.P. said "no comment" about the foreclosure listings.

Austin Java and Austin Chill closed and then Uncle Billy's Brew and Que, a major tenant of Oasis Texas, closed shortly after in November.

"That was suddenly a shock to all of us," Ramsey said.

Documents filed on Feb. 12 with the Travis County Clerk list 6550 Comanche Trail and its 57,408 square feet of restaurant and retail space.

The Oasis Restaurant, which has the same 6550 Comanche Trail address as Oasis Texas, is not going through foreclosure.

"This does not have anything to do with the Oasis Restaurant," Theriot confirmed. He is sole owner of the restaurant which he built in 1982.

Theriot and a group of investors also owns Soleil, located next to the Oasis Restaurant. Soleil is not involved in the foreclosure filings.

The other address listed for foreclosure is 6548 Comanche Trail, which is described as 17,520 square feet of office space.

The commercial property, Oasis Texas, was built by Comanche Canyon West Commercial Partners LP. It surrounds the Oasis Restaurant. The documents say the original loan to Comanche Canyon West was \$18,885,408 taken out in September 2009 for Oasis Texas.

If something cannot be worked out before March 5, the Oasis Texas properties are scheduled to be sold at public auction at the Travis County Courthouse.

Craig Smyser, Steiner Ranch resident and broker associate RE/MAX Capital City, weighed in on the foreclosure status. Smyser said Oasis Texas had "too many restaurants to handle the number of consumers willing to venture out for the view. On top of that... shops were completely unable to bring in revenue because the place is crowded on weekend nights only."

But Theriot is hopeful to be able to save Oasis Texas.

"Beau feels confident that he has a solution," Ramsey said. "We want the best for the shop owners. Our best interest is that the shops at Oasis thrive. We hope that happens."

ROLL, FROM 1

billion dollars, agreed to invest \$1 million but for 20 percent ownership of their company, instead of 18. He also asked for monthly distributions to be given to the owners.

Other investors on the show raised questions about how much in "monthly distributions" O'Leary was going to negotiate for since it was left open-ended. But the Yungs didn't see it as a deal-breaker.

"We felt comfortable and knew we could work out the details on what that would look like," Yung said.

They have had many meetings with O'Leary since September and appreciate his savvy business expertise and advice. "He is a lot nicer than they make him portrayed on the show. He is a nice, easy going person," Yung said.

Since the filming of the episode, the \$1 million in-

Steiner author pens Longhorn Football tribute

By LESLEE BASSMAN

To hear Steiner Ranch resident Michael Pearle speak about his beloved Longhorns, even after their past season, you'd swear that he bleeds burnt orange. A few years ago, the co-publisher of Inside Texas teamed up with his lead writer, Bill Frisbie, to impart their University of Texas football stories to future generations of fans. In August, Pearle and Frisbie published their first work, "Texas Longhorns, Memorable Stories of Longhorns Football" in the established non-fiction series, The Game of My Life.

Frisbie and Pearle, who is also a practicing attorney, tracked down former University of Texas football players "who had great careers in Texas" and who they "thought people would want to read about" including Earl Campbell, Ricky Williams and Vince Young. However, even among the gridiron stars featured in the 224-page book, there was one interview which made Pearle's heart 'skip a beat'.

When he was a youngster growing up in Dallas, Pearl's idol was football Hall of Famer Steve Worster. Worster gained notoriety as a fullback at the University of Texas in the late 1960's and was ranked fourth in the 1970 Heisman Trophy competition. Although his football career ended in 1971, only a year post-college, he was a "superhero" to Pearle. While writing the manuscript for The Game of My Life, Pearle met Wor-

ster on the telephone.

"It was so exciting for me," said Pearle of his talk with Worster. "He was a great guy."

Pearle's book also highlights his childhood friend, Robert Brewer, father of Lake Travis High School legend Michael Brewer who now tosses a football on the Red Raiders' turf. Pearle stated that even Robert's dad, Charlie, was a stand-out figure in the sport.

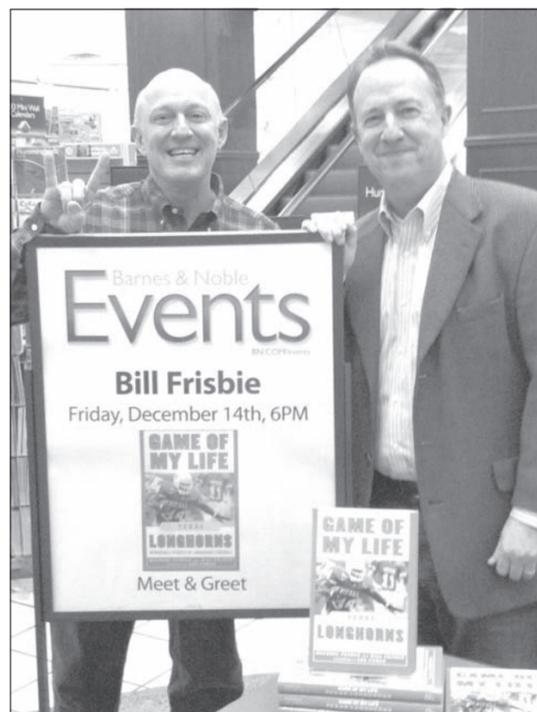
"I grew up watching 16mm movies of (Robert's) dad on (their) living room wall," Pearle said of Charlie, a former Longhorn quarterback. "It was always a dream of Robert's and, in his junior year at U.T., he (Robert) took over as quarterback. When he was MVP of the 1982 Cotton Bowl, my brother and I raced down to the field and gave him a hug - right after we had beaten Bear Bryant. It was so cool for me to write this story."

Frisbie added his 2007 interview with famed Longhorns head coach Darrell K. Royal to the book as well.

Although The Game of My Life, Texas Longhorns highlights Jordan Shipley's era with the Austin squad, Colt McCoy's memoir is conspicuously missing.

"That was the one player we just couldn't get," Pearle said of his inability to nab a spot on McCoy's interview schedule. "But there have been so many great players in Texas, we could do five of these books."

For Pearle and Frisbie, the route to final publication of their inaugural book wasn't easy. Their first pub-



Leslee Bassman

Steiner Ranch's Michael Pearle (right) teamed up with writer Bill Frisbie (left) to publish the "Game of My Life Texas Longhorns: Memorable Stories of Longhorns Football". The local authors were featured at a Barnes and Noble Booksellers signing event in December.

lisher went bankrupt and, after spending a couple of years in court fighting for the manuscript's release, the Longhorns book was finally picked up by Skyhorse Publishing. Two years later, the two authors found themselves in a bookstore in the Arboretum signing copies for holiday gifts.

"It's a neat collection of stories of Texas football from some of the most memorable players," said Pearle of the memoir. "We

hit on some things that had not come out before.

"As a kid growing up loving Texas football - to just be able to meet these guys and talk to them and relive some of these times - that's what was so exciting and special for me."

The "Game of My Life Texas Longhorns: Memorable Stories of Longhorns Football" can be found at www.BarnesandNoble.com and www.amazon.com.

OASIS, FROM 1

of the food at the Oasis has not always been good, she added.

But the Oasis management has addressed that with menu changes and opening another kitchen to deliver better, more timely service.

"We opened up another kitchen and will open a third if business dictates," Silva said. "Our plan is to keep improving."

Silva visited the Oasis a decade ago when on vacation from Alaska. He was so inspired he picked up a business card and vowed to return to work at the restaurant one day. Now nine years later, he has moved up the ranks to General Manager.

Another new feature at the restaurant is the Oasis Sunset Catering, which is another revenue source.

The Oasis will host 90 to 100 weddings this year too, more than any prior year.

The Backyard Overlook is a new bar area for lighter fare, cocktails and washer board games, weather permitting.

The new arcade will also entertain guests while they are waiting to be seated.

The busy season starts around Daylight Saving Time, even though the Oa-

sis has Lake Travis views from the inside seats all year. The Oasis typically hosts some 50,000 guests over Memorial Day weekend.

"I've been all over the world and have never found a place like this. It is the neatest hilltop it could be," Theriot said.

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Fourth Grade:

Ryan Anderson, Joshua Bailey, Amelia Barnard, Madison Barnes, Scott Bator, Janina Beck, Lauren Bickel, Grace Borer, Kylie Bryan, Katrina Cao, Akansha Chawla, Rohit Chawla, Jack Cheng, Ethan Culloty, Riley D'Andrade, Miles Davies, Giulia Derocco, Patrick Devaney, Sarah Devaney, Kai Doan, Ella Dove, Luke Draeken, Cameron Ferweda, Davis Fisher, Ethan Fiske, Alys Flatt, David Foral, Elise Foral, Camille Forster, Evan French, Shigeru Gallagher, Riley Gallagher, Michael Gleason, Noah Gochberg, Audrey Green, Taylor Green, Celine Harbach, Megan Hildner, Emily Huang, Madison Hyde, Ishaan Jhanji, Aimee Jones, Ty Jordan, Skylar Joseph, Dillon Kirby, Grant Kitlowski, Julia Krupp, Monica Lackey, Ryan Leary, Mia Leboeuf, Emilie Lee, Catherine Logeman, Daphne Longmire, Lily Longmire, Ivy Manna, Michael Mastrodicasa, Joshua Maysonave, Victoria Morris, Ryan Mulcahy, Austin Mutter, Abigail O'Branovich, Zoe Odulinski, Christian Okerholm, Addison Orris, Andrea Patriarca, Iris Perez, Ellison Petrucelli, Alexander Pickard, Cody Plate, Sophie Polidoro, Ellise Putnam, Shreya Ramanathan, Claire Rapier, Daniel Rayas, Melissa Richardson, Ashlyn Rounkle, Chase Runyan, Abigail Sanders, Caleb Sanders, Yazmine Sandoval, Carmen Schoonmaker, April Schorn, Arina Shah, Ananya Srinivas, Lekha Sripathi, Skyline Stewart, Jack Strauss, Samuel Sutorus, Rickey Sweeney, Paige Tekippe, Wescot Threet, Robert Tovar, Jaden Villanueva, Tavia Waldo, Anacorina Wares, Brian Wong, Erin Xu

Fifth Grade:

Abby Allen, Carson Beck, Hannah Broadhead, Jackson Broadhead, Jasmine Bui, William Carvalho, Victoria Chavez, Joseph Clark, Cade Cuddy, Violet Doolittle, Summer Ely, Megan Fletcher, Gabrielle Foyt, Jordan Freeman, Beza Galatis, Samuel Garcia, Madison Geller, Avery Goeters, Grace Gossard, Celia Handing, Maya Hillman, Faryal Jabbar, Hannah Jackson, Isabelle Johnson, Georgia Kelly, Luca Labardini, Jonathan Lor, Charlene Maniwang, Anthony Monte, Jackson Morris, Patrick O'Connor, Isabella O'Ballo, Olivia Perez, Chloe Povedano, Ishika Puri, Victoria Sacasa, Samantha Sandal, Louis Schoonmaker, Jonathan Scott, Nithyasree Senthil, Neha Senthilnathan, Akhila Srinivas, Sydney Suthar, Katherine Troyer, Sherry Wang, Lily Whitehurst, Kurt Wokoek

Grandview Hill Elementary

Third Grade:

Rohit Alamgari, Aditya Angajala, Emily Black, Cayden Bourque, Ian Boyle, Aidan Burke, Alexia Dewald, Julian Dholakia, Nathan Dow, Daniel Epega, David Epega, Greta Erdman, Zane Farone, Lily Ana Flores, Jamin Gonzalez, William Jackson, Daniel Kazour, Christian Lawrence, Valerie Ledesma, Kendall Ligon, Kenneth Long, Abigail Lyons, Anissa McCoy, Ethan McDonell, Luke Murphy, Samantha Patterson, Sophia Porter, Laramie Powell, Elle Quintos, Sofia Ramirez, Carson Ratcliff, Kasra Saiddi, Gabriel Staalenburg, Kali Thomas, Lee Torres, Ahna Vaidya, Walker Wardrop, Kaitlyn Welch, Noah Wellborn, Madison Wilson, Kaylor Wood, Julian Yung

Fourth Grade:

Ryan Banda, Mei Li Bonfils-Rasmussen, Peter Bouldin, Ella Brown, Grace Cardwell, Cailey Chilek, Robert Clukey, Olivia Coleman, Tessa Collinson, Piper Davidson, Evan Deeny, Brianna Fleurimond, Andrew Fontana, Trystan Forson, Dylan Frazzell, Emily Frost, Holten Garrison, Spencer Haug,

Erin Houchins, Grace Hundley, Zain Jabbar, Nataliya Jenkins, Cody Jording, Daniel Kasabov-Nouvion, Clara Lewandowski, Adam Martinez, Rory Maxwell, Melissa McKelvy, Marissa Mills, Gabriela Moreno, Demetre Muto, Devan Patel, Zacharias Pratt, Avery Priddy, Ryan Rhea, Michael Rinkevich, Egadi Santos, Alexander Sargent, Alexa Wattner, Tracer Williams, Seung Hee Yu

Fifth Grade:

Ela Albiston, Duncan Alvarez, Fiona Brown, Madison Burke, Shawn Burkhardt, Michelle Chen, Riley Corder, Owen Daugherty, Devan Dholakia, Gabriel Diaz, Declan Duggan, Justin Duggan, Anna Edwards, Kale Farone, Avanti Gonzales-Fuentes, John Hathaway, Matthew Kind, Dane Kveton, Katelyn Murphy, Kevin Murphy, Madison O'Neil, Caleb Powell, Ayden Rails, Israel Ramirez, Greyson Ratcliff, Madeleine Rawlings, Ruess Rolloff, Megan Williams, Alexander Wilson, Vanessa Zon

River Place Elementary

Third Grade:

Jasmine Ache, Reagan Anderson, Emma Bischoff, Ford Boenig, Blaise Braverman-Foster, Forrest Broe, Caden Burnett, Blake Burton, Audrey Bury, Hailee Cantu, Christina Carter, Ethan Chee, Andrew Cloran, Cole Doss, Jacob Epele, Emma Eslick, Troy Falgout, Maya Gabbi, Ainsley Gilbert, John Gillis, Daniel Griffiths, Brenna Healy, Jack Hoffmann, Ryan Hogarth, Colin Hunter, Zachary Iacobucci, Nicole Imming, Cooper Likosar, Anika Luehrmann, Emerson Mader, Kathryn Mattox, Aiden McGaugh, Ana McIntyre, Brigance Miller, Asher Mueller, Joseph Painter, Grace Park, Manasvi Perisetty, Amy Pickus, Emily Pilla, Benjamin Poljan, Alison Rios, Jackson Sanders, Cade Scully, Joseph Sekel, Ethan Semelsberger, Ariya Shah, Jack Sigler, Sydney Smith, Lauren Stephens, Izel Talu, Andrew Tan, Max Uhl, Nadia Vasquez, Masyn Wernecke, Erin Weston, Anna Zavelson, Estella Zhao,

Fourth Grade:

Sofia Aguirre, Alec Alden, Chloe Alivio, Easton Banta, Cavan Bennigson, Jack Brideau, Christian Cole, Aspen Crowl, Ava Dorris, Jack Emmerich, Carson Fitzgerald, William Gilbert, Gemma Goddard, Ryan Grikis, Nikhil Gupta, Kara Harrison, Katherine Hogarth, Conor Hughes, Catalina Johnson, Amanda Krasoff, Bowen Lewis, Kaleb Lewis, Emily Luppino, Tayne Lux, Corrain Marneweck, Laura McClintock, Aine McDaid, Isabella Milam, Forrest Norrod, Roslynn Norrod, Ella Phillips, Skylar Rehling, Anne Rios, Nicola Salo, Isabella Schmitz, Benjamin Scott, Lily Spencer, Andrew Stewart, August Stone, Samuel Tian, Sarah Tung, Mukta Valluru, Sophie Wills, Avery Wisdom

Fifth Grade:

Ava Arends, Grant Bischof, Rachael Bischof, Claire Burrow, Kennedy Byrne, Brooklyn Chase, Taylor Childs, Samuel Dauskurdas, Andrew Erdman, Zachary Fashenpour, Keeton Field, Riley Francis, Sophia Gaunt, Leah Gilbert, Marissa Gilbert, Harrison Givens, Arianna Grandi, Maria Gutierrez, Ainsley Harris, Sierra Held, Hailey Hoffmann, Christopher Hurst, Cole Ibanez, Myles Lesh, Bridget Li, Erik Luehrmann, Samuel Lukas, Audrey Lundy, Arqaa Manashia, Katherine McCarley, Isabella McIntyre, Anika Murthy, Druv Murthy, Amber Nguyen, Howard Nolan, Jacob O'Donnell, Casandra O'Rourke, James Oliver, Julia Roberto, Quinn Schwartz, Reagan Scott, Pearson Segina, Samantha Sorsby-Jones, Madison Stock, Claire Swanson, Joshua Valenzuela-Kirkpatrick, Mason Wilderom, Ethan Williams

River Ridge Elementary

Third Grade:

Diego Abele, Spencer Aronica, Jaxon Baker, Hailey Barnett, Aidan Bauman, Reece Beauchamp, Regan Bernard, Zachary Booth, Andrew Brooks, Maci Brouillette, Carter Brown, Angelica Burtcher, Zoe Bush, Justin Busker, Lauren Clark, Raine Collier, Josiah Cuttill, John Demmings, Asher Do, Samuel Dossey, Colton Dwyer, Beck Ebbert, Aidan Elwood, Aidan Foster, Jackson Fries, Isabella Gonzales, Anya Gowda, Presley Griffin, Graham Gunlock, Charles Haedge, Jett Harrison, Cole Hobby, Lacie Horton, Danielle Hughes, Rachel Jensen, Jenna Karleskint, Talbot Kenney, Ayaan Khan, Grace Kimball, Joseph Lang, Sophie Langlade, Connor Le, Michelle Liang, Iliana Linahan, Sloan Lindemann, Caitlyn Lipton, Joshua Martinez, John McCarty, Aayush Merchant, Rebekah Miller, Joseph Morreale, John Nelson, Cole Norman, Maxwell Olivias, Colby Papadakis, Eric Parmelee, Ethan Peck, Manu Perinchery, Jackson Peterson, Mitchell Pierce, Jack Pitstick, Taylor Rice, Cameron Romero, Liam Schmiedehaus, Callye Self, Julian Sheffield, Emma Sheneman, Ireland Simme, Ryleigh

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Spaulding, Kyla Stephens, Kim Tan, Maya Vogdes, Emily Wagner, Riley Weigelt, Brock Westbrook, Samantha Wunsch, Hillary Xu, Taylor Yuan, Jacob Zatopek

Fourth Grade:

Anisha Apte, Karina Asar, Ryan Back, Shannon Bagnal, Ethan Bernstein, Trey Bischooping, Enzo Moreira Caldas, Bianca Calmorin, Srinivaas Chetlur, Mallory Child, Dominic Chmura, Jacob Conville, Finnegan Cooley, Siena Coughlin, Jessica Cummings, Payton Dougan, Kylie Driver, Ashira Edelmheit-Rice, Simileoluwa Faluyi, Grant Gorman, Carolyn Greenway, Alexis Grossman, Ruby Hawkins, Fareena Hisamuddin, Hannah Howell, Ethan Iburguen, Kate Jameson, Asha Karmakar, Nidhi Katta, Cooper Kelly, Kade Kielian, Nihal Kyasa, Cameron Lapittus, Alice Ledger, Matthew Lee, Tyler Mcarty, Ashlyn McClendon, Jacob Metzger, Caden Michaels, Joseph Mikhail, Trevor Millard, Jacob Miller, William Moening, Kuvam Mohan, Anthony Munoz, Alannah Nau, Alexandra Nelson, Makenzie Niblett, Kevin Odom, Justin Orlando, Evan Ormond, Prayaag Oruganti, Elyssa Padovani, Anish Pandya, Maya Pegany, Ana Perez, Matthew Peterka, Jayden Pickin, Karun Puri, Jagger Putnam, Jacquelyn Quiroga, Lola Rangel, Emily Reeder, Chloe Reeve, Jack Riccardi, Madeline Rice, Amelia Riddell, Jae-Son Rivera, Hunter Ross, Tailyn Schaufelberger, Thompson Schmeil, Olivia Schwent, Megha Shah, Azim Siddiqui, Elle Sizemore, Cristina Spellings, Kate Stapleton, Lance Tobey, Sofia Tovar, Aidan Tran, Abigail Wilson, Jackson Woche, Julia Wright

Fifth Grade:

Sophia Arant, Harshita Avirneni, Rebecca Bates, Kennadi Bernard, Wyatt Breckenridge, Alyssa Burtcher, Brendon Busker, Sophia Casolari, Peyton Chandler, Ross Cooley, Shelby Cummings, Roshan Desai, Victoria Hanagriff, Wyatt Hawkins, Joseph Hersh, Conor Hoff, Gillian Holtzclaw, Logan Hoover, Logan Howard, Rachel Jacops, Elizabeth Jensen, Samantha Kellogg, Makayla Kleffner, Priya Kumar, Pierce Lai, Brock Latuff, Macy Livingston, Mia Mathe, Madison Maxey, Austin McClendon, Dylan Monahan, Daniel Munoz Montero, Madalynne Myrick, Tam Nguyen, Alexis Papadakis, Katherine Parli, Shaan Patel, Campbell Pierce, Krishna Reddy, Audrey Riddell, Lauren Rinn, Michael Roberts, Madison Russell, Anna Schmeil, Breonna Snead, Cassidy Stevenson, Rishub Tamirisa, Mindy Van, Sidharth Venkatraman, Katherine Vesely, Alina Vo, Isabella Vogdes, Jacob Wadsley, Fischer Wunsch,

Steiner Ranch Elementary

Third Grade:

Gita Akkihal, Maisy Alabastro, Connor Bealle, Katherine Benner, Carina Brownfield, Hailey Buckhalt, Mason Castaneda, Maria Ceron, Catherine Cuellar, Dylan Deuillet, Suhani Dewagan, Victoria Duncan, Avery Esquivel, Casey Gilbert, Lloyd Griffin, Peyton Haynes, Gwenyth Heintz, Ellise Hoopes, Cheyenne Huffman, Sophia Kay, Colin Kennedy, Kacie Killgore, Anwen King,

Joy King, Adam Kristoff, Kwanwoo Lee, Jack Little, Jerry Luo, Ross McElmurry, Alexandra Mendoza, Shane Moe, Tam-My Nguyen, Sara Pacheco, Rachel Panoff, Claire Parrish, Francesca Pavel, Luke Pronga, Carolyn Richmond, Spencer Salazar, Amanda Saunders, Katherine Schneider, Christian Siguaw, Mia Speece, Sadie Stevens, Gavin Weinheimer, Avery Wong, Mia Wustrau, Ashley York, Rachel Zook

Fourth Grade:

Noel Abitzen, Mac Acevedo, Joseph Aeschliman, Landry Arnold, Alyssa Aventa, Natalia Bacarreza Turner, Grace Ballengee, Jack Ballengee, Claudia Balque, Chloe Barborak, Jake Bowman, Taylor Bowman, Jackson Brogan, Lauren Campbell, Nathan Choat, Quin Collins, Kalli Conner, McKenzie Couch, Catherine Crawford, Jazmine Defranco, Dylan Demming, Jacob Denny, Tramanh Duong, Ainsleigh Erwin, Taylor Fambrough, Ella Fischer, Emily Frierson, Paulo Furtado, Johnathan Garcia-Amis, Kara Gilbert, Amelie Gilmour, Priya Gregerson, John Gullett, Lillian Guthrie, Jessica Holliday, Emma Hurley, Yerim Hwang, Derek Johnson, Preston Jones, Pranav Jose, Aurora Karnay, Luke Kemmerer, Jordan Kempema, Maya Kothari, Brandon Landry, Priscilla Leafblad, Laurel Lormand, Kaelan Lucas-Marinelli, Emily Martin, Cole Mayfield, Mardi McCollum, Isabella Miller, Daisy Mills, Alyssa Mojica, Maya Murphy, Mackenzie Murray, Micah Nanninga, Jillian Nickens, Emma Palmer, Caroline Pita, Vamshikrishna Pothireddy, Ellie Ramsey, Reese Reeder, Emilie Reh, Megan Schmitt, Noah Schreiner, Ellie Seitzler, Francesca Shuler, Ayesha Siddiqui, Alexander Silvertooth, Scott Sloan, Sarah Smeltzer, Kaili Stephenson, Claire Thessen, Charles Thompson, Joseph Turchetta, Yana Volozin, Sarah Wares, Theodore Waugh, Mary Wein, Samuel Weiss, Natalie Wong, Maile Youmans

Fifth Grade:

Joel Abitzen, Ashtyn Alanis, Wali Ali, Reagan Arnold, Deven Bapat, Emma Bealle, Rachel Bode, Nina Castaneda, Gabrielle Cohen, Amanda Cook, Lauren Cook, Lauren Crawford, Suzanna Dees, Erin Donohue, Isabella Duncan, Anastasia Forshee, Samuel Galyen, Tucker George, Raquel Guerrero, Caitlyn Harmon, Jackson Hoopes, Spandana Kamepalli, Kathryn Kemmerer, Isabelle King, Martine Kristiansen, Lacey Labaj, Truman Labaj, Zachary Landrum, Rena Liang, Jessica Luo, Kaylee Marquez, Jacob Masuno, Jordan Mathis, Connor Mayo, Margaret McElmurry, Matthew Mills, Eric Morris, Gabrielle O'Connor, Laura Parrish, Isabelle Petersen, Jonna Poursepanj, Ryan Rathbun, Sarah Rhea, Jessica Riddle, Jenna Rigney, Gatiene Rodriguez, Meghan Rose, Hannah Schinzling, Jocelyn Schneider, Jaden Spiller, Grant Strickler, Lillian Thompson, Sarah Tierney, Alfonso Velasco, Connor Verna, Elizabeth Volozin, Colin Wares, Gianina Wasser, Jackson Welsh, Harrison Witt, Brady Wootton, Julia York



Isabella Veolkl - Senior - Captain

What is your favorite part about being involved in Viper Swim and Dive? My favorite thing about the Viper Swim Team is all the people on the team and how well we all get along and support each other. Voelklswims the 50 and 100 freestyle and will swim two relays at the state meet.

Photo Texas Photography



Jack Hanna - Sophomore

What is your favorite part about being involved in Viper Swim and Dive? My favorite part about being on the Viper Swim Team this year would definitely be how close the team is. We all have our laughs, our triumphs, and moments when we need a friend. We build each other up. Also, we all give each other good chances for some friendly competition to aid our success.

Hanna swims the 50 and 100 freestyle and will swim two relays at the state meet.

Photo Texas Photography



Cooper Dossey - Freshman

What is your favorite part about being involved in Viper Golf?

I enjoy being part of the Viper Golf Team because I get to represent Vandegrift and compete with some of the best junior golfers in the state.

Photo Texas Photography



Emily Garbutt - Junior

What is your favorite part about being involved in Viper Golf? My favorite part about being in Viper Golf is being with the team and working hard every day.

Photo Texas Photography



Jakob Schnell - Junior #9

What is your favorite part about being involved in Viper Soccer?

My favorite part is playing as a team.

Photo Texas Photography



Bailey Phillips - Junior #10 (Outside Mid)

What is your favorite part about being involved in Viper Soccer? I love that we are all so close and we work hard, play well and have fun together.

Photo Texas Photography

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Viper Girls soccer update



Above: Emily off corner kick
Right: Quinn

Vandegrift High School Girls Soccer is 1-1-1 in district play so far this season. "I am very happy with the level of play the girls are showing on the field but we do have a few kinks we're trying work out," said Jen Hardy, Head Coach Varsity Girls Soccer.

"With that said these are girls are more than dedicated to figuring it out as a team, even if that means staying after practice to work together on their own time," Hardy said.

The team understands what it is going to take to get past the second round and onward, she added.

Photos by: Norma Harias



Pictured above: Kylie



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Action photos courtesy of
VHS Athletic Booster Club



Photo Texas Photography



Eric Morton



2012 Vandegrift Girls and Boys Swim and Dive Roster

NAME	GRADE	NAME	GRADE
JUSTIN BALARBAR	9	RACHAEL PIOTROWSKI	9
KIANI BELL	9	RACHEL TOVAR	9
ZACHARY BEZELLA	9	RACHEL BEZELLA	10
BRIAN DONOHUE	9	HANNA BROWN	10
TANNER LEE	9	AMANDA BURTON	10
JACOB SCHULLER	9	MARIAH HOLLERAN	10
ZACHARY WOLK	9	MADISON IBRAHIM	10
COLE ADAMS	10	KELSE REDWINE	10
JONATHON BROUGHTON	10	JORDAN REYES	10
JACK HANNA	10	SYDNEY SANDERS	10
STEPHEN GERKEN	11	LINDSEY THOMPSON	10
LIAM NEWTON	11	SAMANTHA BASSMAN	11
PATRICK SARMAN	11	MARINA BENDELE	11
CONNOR COX	12	JORDAN LEITAO	11
MATTHEW DEHNE	12	KAYLA OSBORN	11
EVERETT FITZPATRICK	12	KAYLEIGH RAGO	11
CHRISTOPHER FLYNN	12	HALEY DRISKILL	12
BRANDON MAAS	12	DEVON GERSTENHABER	12
ELLIOT CHARLAND	9	ELISE PATTERSON	12
CIERRA CLARK-JACOBSEN	9	ISABELLA VOELKL	12
KARLA CONNELL	9	Team Manager	
JADE FEDERLIN	9	KATHERINE SCHAAL	11
ELIZABETH NELSON	9	CALLUM POOLE	12

Q & A

Head Swim and Dive
Coach Holly Raffaelli

1. Tell us about Viper Swim & Dive this season?

This year's Viper Swim and Dive season has been very successful. The swimmers and diver all came into the season with high goals and knew that it was going to take hard work. Practice was attended by very motivated swimmers who encouraged one another to do their best. Our initial goal was District champs and top three at Region. We surpass this with a Boys and Girls Region Championship!

2. What has been your biggest challenge this season?

3. What has surprised you most so far in this season?

The biggest challenge this season was going into a very fast new Region, but the team did not let this scare them. They went into Region with positive attitudes and the determination to swim best times. This determination is what led them to victory!

4. What is most motivating as a coach is to watch these athletes work so hard for their goals and then when they succeed at them just watching their faces light up at their accomplishments.

I am always so happy to see how supportive our swim and dive team is. The swimmers and diver are always there for one another, cheering each other on, and lending help with not only swimming but academics. To see young adults act so maturely is always a nice surprise. These young men and women will have many successes in the water but also out of the water because of their character.

5. What motivates you as a coach?

Milestones 2013

Boys and Girls District and Region Champs

4A State Meet

Feb. 22-23
VHS will be entering five relays and eight individual swims at the Lee and Joe Jamail Swim Center, University of Texas-Austin.

Returning Leaders:

Chris Flynn, Brandon Maas, Everett Fitzpatrick, Isabella Voelkl, Kayleigh Rago, Sammi Bassman

Top Newcomers:

Jack Hanna, Sydney Sanders, Maddie Ibrahim, Hanna Brown, Lindsey Thompson, Rachael Piotrowski, Jade Federlin

[a transmission from the year 2052]
Dear Great, Great Grandpa,
You haven't met me, but if you're reading this in 2012 via time travel, your granddaughter is now six years old. She will grow up happy and healthy and have a son - That's me. I'm 18, and I bear a striking resemblance to you, from the pictures I have seen.
Anyway, just wanted to say thanks for hookin' me up with that sweet college fund. That was cool of you!
With love,
Your great, great grandson, Joseph

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2012 Vandegrift Swim and Dive Schedule

Date	Meet	Location
09/15/12	Black vs. Silver	Bella Mar Pool
09/22/12	Leander High School	Apache Blockhouse
10/11/12	Round Rock Invitational	RR HS
11/09/12	AISD Invitational	UT Austin
11/29-12/01	TISCA South Zone Invitational	San Antonio
12/08/12	Killeen Invitational	Killeen
01/11/13	Tex Robertson Invitational	Burnet
01/24-01/26	Districts 17-4A	Killeen
02/08-02/09	Region 5-4A	Magnolia/Houston
02/22-02/23	State 4A	UT Austin

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Boys and Girls Viper basketball season recap

By SCOTT W. COLEMAN
Four Points News

After both the boys and girls varsity basketball teams earned their first-ever postseason berths last year, hopes were high coming into this season. Unfortunately, neither team could repeat the performance.

However, boys hoops coach Cliff Ellis says his team made solid progress this season despite the challenge of replacing nine seniors including the top three scorers from last year's playoff team.

"We knew going in that we had a big task ahead of us. We had a new starting five and a new bench," said

Ellis. "We had to grow and learn as a team, form an identity, and try to win basketball games at the same time. But, the kids still did well. We fought hard and competed in every game," he added.

Opening the season at with back-to-back wins over Crockett and Reagan, the Vipers were 5-5 three weeks into the season. But, once district play was underway, the Vipers found themselves in deep hole, going just 2-4 in the first half of the district schedule. Those two wins were against two other teams that would wind up missing the playoffs this year: Dripping Springs and Marble Falls. The team's final district win was an impressive 73-56 showing against the Mustangs on Feb. 1.

Finishing 16-21 overall and 3-9 in a highly competitive District 25-4A, Ellis' squad managed to show development in several key categories over last season. Notably, the team averaged

56.3 points per game — six more than last year. And, the Vipers' 15.8 assists per game is a substantial improvement from last year's 11.4 assists.

And, the Vipers are young. This year's roster included seven juniors, two sophomores and only two seniors.

Davis Florence, just a sophomore this year, led the team in scoring, averaging 13.1 points per game. Florence was also second in both assists and steals.

Florence's season total 445 points is just four shy of the school's single season scoring record.

"We have a lot to look forward to as he continues to grow and develop," Ellis said.

The Lady Vipers, who finished at 14-18 overall and 3-9 in District 25-4A this season, faced similar challenges. In her first year coaching the Lady Vipers, Julie Wilke had to replace three of the top five scorers from last year's playoff team, which finished 23-15



Scott W. Coleman



Eric Morton

(6-6) under former coach Jody Hormann last year.

Opening with a big win over former in-district rival Lake Travis, the Lady Vipers went on to win six of their first ten games. But, the team opened district play with five straight losses.

A win over Cedar Park on Jan. 11 halted the skid temporarily, but the Lady Vipers would only pick up two more wins in the second half of the district slate.

Still, scoring was up and the team's rebounding effort improved substantially — up from 24.8 per game to more than 30 rebounds a contest.

With the team's leading scorers, Natasha Desai and Megha Pandya, both graduating, Wilke will meet the offseason with the goal of improving defensive performance while also replacing several of this season's top players.

Girl Scouts tour Ronald McDonald House

Girl Scout Junior Troop #156 recently toured the Ronald McDonald House and then made dinner and dessert for the families staying there.

"The girls loved it. It was such a heartwarming experience. The girls

even had fun cleaning up the kitchen afterwards," said Julie Ballengee, troop volunteer. "You could see the joy they got out of giving to others."

Cathy Pita, Field Trip coordinator, planned the service project.

Troop #156 consists of girls from Steiner Ranch Elementary and one from Abercorn International School in Lakeway.



Photos by: Julie Ballengee



Back row: Claire, Grace, Kalli
Front row: Megan, Emily, Laurel, Caroline, and Taylor

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Viper BASKETBALL Tryouts

TRYOUT DETAILS

Sunday, February 24th

Grade	Time	Location
4th grade boys	1:15 - 3:30	Cedar Park Middle School
5th grade boys	1:15 - 3:30	Cedar Park Middle School
6th grade boys	3:15 - 5:30	Cedar Park Middle School
7th grade boys	3:15 - 5:30	Cedar Park Middle School
8th grade boys	5:15 - 7:30	Cedar Park Middle School

4 Points Basketball Association is holding tryouts for Select basketball teams for the upcoming 2013 Spring/Summer season. This is for Boys – 4th thru 8th grades!

Our teams are coached by professional coaches including coaches with experience in Division I college and European leagues.

Be part of the Viper tradition! This is our 3rd year and 7th season of entering "Viper" and "Venom" teams in competitive leagues and tournaments. Our Spring season begins in mid March and runs through the end of May. The Summer season will start shortly thereafter.

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For more information, and to register for tryouts, visit:
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March 1st (Friday)

6:00-9:00 pm

Four Points Middle School

March 5th (Tuesday)

6:00-9:00 pm

Cedar Park Middle School

Coached by: Rod Anderson former UT star point guard with NBA and European league experience; along with other former collegiate athletes.



Register for tryouts online:

WWW.UBT620.COM

For additional information email uballtc@yahoo.com