



FOUR POINTS NEWS

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

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Upcoming Articles

- Girls Scouts in action
- Hunting update in Balcones

Lake Travis Level

Full at.....681.5 ft.
Current level.....631.54 ft.
Percentage full..... 40%

Source: LCRA Updated: Jan. 29, 2013

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Spring Break LISD Holiday
Spring Break: March 11-15

City helping with congestion

SRNA's prompting changes

By RICH KEITH
Four Points News

Changes start this week on alleviating some of the Four Points traffic congestion by helping traffic flow and cutting down on excessive wait times.

Last week Texas Department of Transportation and City of Austin officials responded to traffic concerns put forth by the Steiner Ranch Neighborhood Association earlier this month.

On Friday, City of Austin signal engineers agreed to adjust the traffic signal timing at several Four Points intersections, while TxDOT will explore increasing the length of additional turning lanes further than previously reported.

Signal adjustments will begin at River Place and RM 2222 this week by the City.

Adjusting signals along RM 2222



Rich Keith

Northbound RM 620 and RM 2222 backs up each morning, often two miles back to Quinlan Park Rd.

Data shows that cars back up at morning peak times along RM 620 approaching RM 2222 and as soon as they turn onto east-bound RM 2222.

On Friday, City of Austin signal engineers agreed to have the signal timing adjusted at both RM 620/RM 2222, and at RM 2222 and River Place Boulevard.

Incremental adjustments are scheduled to begin this week and will be monitored by the City starting with the RM 2222 and River Place Boulevard intersection.

If the City still deems it necessary, then they will adjust the signal at RM 620/

RM 2222.

This will re-balance the waiting time for all motorists at these two intersections.

It will provide additional right turn time for traffic coming north and more through traffic time for traffic headed south on RM 620.

"We have to trade that off against the southbound traffic in the morning coming from Four Points Drive," said Brian Thompson, SRNA Chairman. "The goal is to not adversely affect people coming out of

TxDOT, 5

Racial slur disturbs Steiner family

By LYNETTE HAALAND
Four Points News

Tony and Thelma Sanders woke up on Sunday morning to a racial slur written in purple chalk on their walkway.

"It might have been kids since it was in purple chalk. It was huge and in all caps," Thelma said.

A variation of the "N-word" was written two or three feet from the front door of the black family.

"It is upsetting. We've not had any racial issue out here before, no problems," she said. The Sanders have lived in Steiner nearly three years and have two grown sons

who are college-age. Everyone has been so friendly so this has been a shocker, she said.

A week before this incident their landscape lights were pulled up from the ground. Then their son's package disappeared from their doorstep. They did not report those but this they did to the Travis County Sheriff's Office and the HOA.

"This was not an accident, not a mistake," she said.

"We want to raise awareness and for this not to go unnoticed," Thelma said.

SLUR, 4

La Fuente's burglarized

Alcohol taken

By LYNETTE HAALAND
Four Points News

La Fuente's Mexican Restaurant in Steiner Ranch was burglarized over the weekend.

A large rock was thrown at one window but it led to a wall. So the suspects likely threw a large rock

through a second window into the dining room of the restaurant.

"They left a computer, iPad, cash. No electronics were taken. They took alcohol, full bottles of alcohol," said Shiloh Newman, owner. He estimates around \$1,000 worth of alcohol was taken.

The Travis County

LA FUENTES, 5

Grandview's Breakfast with Dads

WatchDOGS benefitted

By LESLEE BASSMAN
Four Points News

Grandview Hills Elementary School children packed their cafeteria for the WatchDOGS' annual Breakfast with Dads & Father Figures recently.

The January 18 event was sponsored by the school's Booster Club and included the option for the fathers to join their children in the classroom for 45 minutes following the meal.

John Hathaway, dad to fifth-grader Connor Hathaway, was toward the front of the food line and "curious to see how his (Connor's) class works."

For six-year-old Ava Wood's father, Brandon, the morning represented an opportunity to "be involved in (Ava's) day." Correspondingly, the favorite part to Ava's Friday was "being with (her) daddy."

The fourth annual event brought to light the importance of the dis-

WATCHDOGS, 8



Left: Grandview Hills Elementary students Brady, 9, and Blaine, 7, join dad Jerry Becker for the school's annual Breakfast with Dads & Father Figures on Friday.

Right: Grandview Hills dad Jacobe George spends classroom time with his son, Christopher.



Leslee Bassman

Landers flooring recognized over thousands

By LYNETTE HAALAND
Four Points News

John and Stephanie Landers and their Landers Premier Flooring company was awarded the Floorscapes Retailer of the Year for the third year in a row. The Landers received this honor from Mohawk Industries, beating out nearly 3,000 flooring retailers in Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Colorado, New Mexico and Arkansas.

"We were pleasantly surprised to win this distinguished award for the third year in a row," said John Landers.

The Landers moved to Texas from California in January of 2005 to open Landers Premier

LANDERS, 5



Steiner Ranch's John and Stephanie Landers and their company Landers Premier Flooring was named the Flooring Retailer of the Year for the South Central Region for the third consecutive year. Mohawk Industries Chairman and CEO, Jeffrey Lorberbaum (right) gave the Landers this award out of thousands of flooring retailers.



A rock was thrown through a window at La Fuente's over the weekend and alcohol was taken.

Local husband, father will be missed

By LYNETTE HAALAND
Four Points News

Local business owner and family man, Russell Crawford IV, passed away last week. The husband of 20 years and father of a Steiner Ranch Elementary 5th-grader leaves many memories.

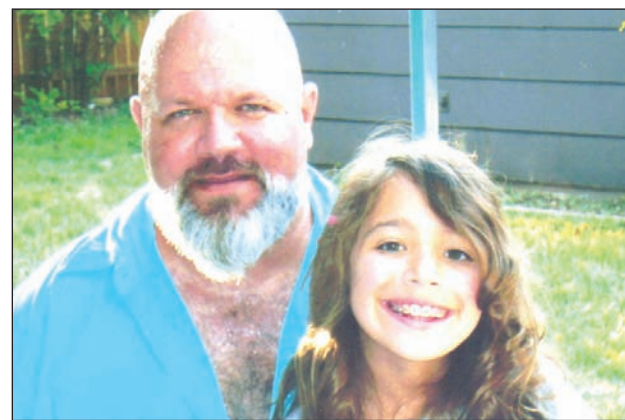
"He was a family man, a loving father, hard working, humorous, larger than life. Everyone knew him," said Cheryl, of her late husband.

"He was genuinely a good person."

Russell passed away on Jan. 22 at the age of 42. He had some health problems the past couple months surrounding his heart. He had an arrhythmia that could not be kept under control with medication. He was scheduled to undergo ablation surgery in February to further attempt to correct the problem.

"It didn't seem like it

CRAWFORD, 5



Russell Crawford IV, shown here with his daughter Lauren in June, passed away last week leaving behind many memories.

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Claudia Legere, MD



Li-Tai Chuo, MD

LISD ALL "A" HONOR ROLL - 3RD 6 WEEKS

Canyon Ridge Middle School

Sixth Grade: Margaret Aeschliman, Justin Ahrens, Hamza Ali, Carlos Alvarez-Roth, Jordan Apra, Matthew Askari, Sophie Avenel, Elena Aventa, Pranav Batra, Davis Beal, Sarah Beamer, Madeline Beck, Patrick Begnaud, Ezana Belete, Gauri Bellur, William Bendorf, Matthew Benedict, Alexander Bergey, Aidan Bernstein, Ryan Bickel, Brett Bischooping, Akshita Boddapu, Stefano Bonilla, Anna Borer, Victoria Botello, Lauren Branard, Benjamin Brod, Madison Brondel, Bryson Brown, Caleb Browne, Riley Bryars, Colby Buchanan, Macy Burch, Drew Burky, Cameron Caldwell, Callaghan Charland, Casey Charland, Ava Chiarelli, Zachary Chmura, Dara Christensen, Dominic Cinfio, Lyndie Coffman, Morgan Cohn, Izabela Coto, Kyndall Cragg, Joshua Cranston, Gabriella Cusano, Madison Daniel, Melanie Davis, Joshua Dawe, Hayden Delius, Parker Delius, Chase Demming, Boyang Deng, Abigail Dennis, Noah Dennis, Camille Digiaimo, Sarah Donnellan, Marshall Dossey, Ella Drablos, Ava Ellegard, Olivia Elwood, Julia Farghaly, Devin Fink, Mia Finley, Liam Floyd, Logan Foust, Alexa Garcia, Isabelle George, Zoe Gilbert, Maria Gleason, Anjali Gondi, Trinity Gonzales, Megan Gordon, Claudia Goss, John Grace, Olivia Grassel, Connor Gray, Samantha Greenlaw, Calista Greenway, William Gunawan, Abby Gunn, Camille Gutierrez, Lena Hadjimani, Andrea Hahn, Grete Hamic, Lauren Hamic, Riley Hamrick, Christian Haney, Kennedy Harmon, Amanda Nicole Hartman, Chloe Heitmeier, Christopher Heldebrandt, Jackson Hiduke, Chase Hilderbrand, Michael Hildner, Abigail Hinojosa, Arshaan Hisamuddin, Tayler Hofmeister, Meghan Holbrook, Ryan Hollaway, Mark Holstrom, Raymond Hong, Halle Huang, Jacob Hunter, Mohammed Imam, Jensen Jalufka, Navya Janga, Gabriel Jeudy, Michael Johnson, Avery Jones, Connor Jones, Spencer Jones, Johnathan Kaaua, Varun Kalyanapuram, Reagan Kelly, Linnea Kennedy, Lillian Kerr, Brandi Killingsworth, Kale Kitlowski, Skylar Knitowski, Vaishali Kodra, John Kohloff, Siddharth Kondubhatla, Cristina Kovacs, Nicholas Kunkel, Sean Kunkel, Jacob Labay, Kyle Labay, Jordan Lamb, Jack Land, Kennedy Larson, Matias Latorre Duque, Adam Ledger, Leah Lee, Sam Leonard, Sarah Levy, Caroline Li, Evan Lin, Audrey Lopez, Candace Luong, Zumanah Mahmud, Sarah Manley, Thomas Marks, Kyle Maysonave, Kayla McAfee, Brooke McArthur, Jared McArthur, Lauryn McCosky, Tristan McKeefery, Michael Meador, Haley Meier, Jake Miller, Erin Mitchell, Arsh Momin, Ashiqqa Momin, Ryan Morreale, Allison Morris, Anna Morton, Scott Morton, Lauren Mulligan, Kendall Mullins, Connor Murray, Rohit Namala, Trinh Nguyen, Allison Nielsen, Imhotep Nixon, Cain Nocera, Ashley Novit, Connor O'Keeffe, Grace Oriti, Landon Palmer, Avery Panoff, Ananya Paripally, Zoe Parkinson, Chad Parks, Rebekah Parsley, William Pasquarette, Mahi Patel, Madelyn Paul, Kyla Peoples, Katherine Pegany, Camden Perez, Angela Phan, Madison Pickin, Aidan Pittsenbarger, Saige Prucha, Haley Pyle, Audrin Rahmani, Nicole Ramirez, Aditi Rao, Suzannah Rasch, Anjali Rayasa, Karli Redwine, Judith Roberts, Meredith Robertson, Walker Rose, Clarisse Rosenthal, Nicklaus Sabbavarapu, Kyle Sabuda, Zachariah Sagebiel, Alexa Sanchez, Matthew Sanders, Megan Sanders, Orianna Santucci, Jaedyn Sapinoro, Garrett Schmuellen, Colton Schnell, Nicholas Schorn, Cameron Segura, Grant Shaffer, Neha Shah, Nakayla Shakespeare, Joshua Sharp, Kyle Sharp, Zander Sheffield, Brandon Sheneman, Noah Shidlofsky, Kaylee Siver, Zachary Skelton, Jonah Skidmore, Olivia Smedes, Madeline Smyser, Grant Spring, Nandini Sreenath, Sanjay Srikanth, Alexander Starzmann, Sofia Suerkan, Piper Swearengin, Luke Taggart, Alexander Tan, Jakob Tan, Andrew Tang, Dawson Taylor, Alyson Tekippe, Priya Thomas, Mark Thompson, Annika Throne, Renee Torres, Marina Turchetta, Joshua Upp, Jocelyn Urena, Allison Valgita, Taylor Vasek, Robert Vezzetti, Aiden Wachnin, Jennifer Walker, Shannon Wallace, Kate Walsh, Donniss Watson, John Waugh, Robert Wein, Zachary Weiss, Mason Wong, Kyle Wright, Sydney Wunsch, Lucy Xu, Addie Yeats, John Young, Isabella Zapata, Anna Zeigler

Seventh Grade: Sabah Ali, Carlee Allen, Evan Andre, Grace Andres, Hannah Aune, Suhav Avirneni, Xander Bachick, Hannah Barnard, Travis Beck, Ava Bell, Abigail Bergey, Blake Birdwell, William Bryan, Rachel Campbell, Lydia Carriere, Adeline Carter, Michael Carvalho, Sophia Choat, Madison Conner, Grace Conroy, Alexandra Cook, Adriana Cordova, Erica Corinaldi, Haley Crossman, Kendall Cuddy, Alexandra Cuellar, Winston Djonli, Natalie Duffield, Haley Dulak, Riley Durbin, Audrey Elliott, Nicholas Evans, Sabina Federlin, Ysela Fernandez, William Fisher, Anna Fletcher, Sophie Forster, Carlin Fox, Avie Fuqua, Jonathan Gamble, Madison Gaynor, Caroline Gehring, Vyshali Gondi, Meredith Goodman, Darby Greear, Anup Guggari, George Gullett, Trisha Guptasarma, Torie Hagin, Rachel Han, Cassandra Harmon, Kaitlyn Harmon, Brandon Hoff, Jacqueline Holliday, Rachel Honts, Madison Hoopes, Jenna Hoover, Oseorachukwu Ifesinachukwu, Rusama Islam, Renee Jones, Rayhan Jhanji, Anna Johnson, Emma Jones, Reagan Jones, Anjali Kaeley, Natalie Kelliher, Gillian Kerr, Dakota Kleffner, Victor Lai, Alaina Laplace, Victor Le, Ryan Leonard, Connor Logeman, Francesca Loiodice, Autumn Lucas-Marinelli, Alex Maatz, Katelin Mastrodicasa, Madison McCauley, Citlalli Mendoza, Cameron Moerbe, Isabel Moring, Claudia Morris, John Morris, Kaylee Morris, Leeann Morris, Samiksha Mulpuri, Adam Newman, Khoa Nguyen, Kristen Novit, Lauren Nuessner, Bryn Olsen, Sophia Palmer, Nicole Parmelee, Michelle Patanella, Ami Patel, Sonesh Patel, Andrew Pickard, Matthew Poole, Simone Priebe, Hannah Proffitt, Megan Raftelis, Audrey Ramsey, Jenna

Recker, Kaili Rice, Emma Richardson, Grant Riddle, Caroline Rinn, Samantha Rondini, Nick Rosas, Nicholas Rose, Madison Royer, Alexis Sabel, Daniel Sacasa, Brooke Sanders, Daniel Sarman, Paige Schneider, Emily Shay, Sean Sloan, Rylan Smith, Brooklynn Stone, Carson Taylor, Addison Threet, Megan Varghese, Cindy Wang, Evan Welliver, Ashlyn Whiteside, Alexander Williams, Katie Wokoek, Zachary Wong, Morgan Wright, Emily Youngblood, Ryan Zermeno

Eighth Grade: Tatum Apel, Mari Bigheart, Benjamin Borer, Alexander Borges, Lauren Busker, Sara Campbell, Matthew Cao, Brynne Carter, Ashley Chase, Carol Cinclair, Hannah Clafin, Lindsey Cohn, Sarah Cronin, Jordan Daniels, Rachel Dean, Emma Denney, Claire Duffield, Simone Feroce, Madison Finfrock, Dmitriy Gabrieliants, Ryan Gallagher, Shelby Hansen, Delaney Hardt, Laura Huang, Hunter Husband, Riley Jacops, Madison Jaeger, Anupriya Jose, Spoorthi Kamepalli, Kaylan Knitowski, Abigail Leafblad, Amy Lee, Logan Lee, Sarah Mahosky, Carissa Mallory, Daniel Martinez, Preston Mayo, Jack McGee, Emily McCollum, Ethan McCosky, Skylar Montgomery, Katelyn Morse, Erica Munoz, Ericka Myers, Morgan Nanez, Ann Nguyen, Madison Nuessner, Ellen Pasquarette, Yilong Peng, Dillon Piegat, Rhiannon Pomerantz, Teresa Rago, Ashneen Rahman, Zoey Rasch, Kate Robbins, Riya Saxena, Savannah Schmidt, Spencer Sharp, Greta Shields, Joshua Stelling, Bailey Stone, Kellie Walker

Four Points Middle School

Sixth Grade: Miguel Blanco, Emily Bostic, Lauren Brideau, Darlyssa Castro, Paul Clukey, Joshua Codrescu, Avery Colgin, Dahrlin Deang, Charli Delmonico, Adam Dollar, Elaina Eichorn, Parker Fannin, Eva Froehlich, Cheyenne Fryar, Nico Gabbi, Varun Gorti, Kunal Gupta, Kyle Heath, Estelle Hoang, Anna Hunter, Lilyana Ibanez, Adelaide Johnson, Blaine Kanak, Francis Kim, Shreya Kolli, Samantha Kosumsuppamala, Kyle Legg, Bonnie Lowrie, Lauren Maunder, Amelia Milam, Joshua Nelson, Sarah O'Donnell, Katherine Osborne, Mikhayla Osborne, Andrew Osorio, Samantha Overhauser, Ryan Radloff, Beckham Richmond, Dylan Ryan, Maicol Salazar, Shay Schaffner, Cole Smith, Kathryn Stephens, Sarah Tersigni, Timothy Tersigni, Michael Tsoi, Katelyn Tullos, Megan Tung, Isabella Verratti, Kady West, Patricia Williard, Matthew Wisniewski, Preston Wright

Seventh Grade: Alexa Adrian, Reem Ahmad, Sarah Barstow, Ashley Black, Carson Broe, Ashley Burton, Taylor Byrne, Jewel Carpenter, Connor Cole, Sachin Desai, Nicole Dow, Erik Engles, Erin Frye, Trent Gamel, Matthew Graff, Mye Guarnero-Barnett, Ashton Gurrola, Andrew Harris, Regan Hightower, James Hofstadler, Georgia Holmes, Katherine Holsinger, Zoe Kim, Sophia Krasoff, Kendall Likosar, Christopher Lucido, Caitlin McKeand, Joseph McShane, Austin Meiteen, Chase Miranda, Dominique Mobley, Ryan Ong, Ryan Palmieri, Mckinley Parker, Madison Poljan, Gemma Richmond, Elizabeth Roach, Cole Roberts, Natalie Root, Jonathan Roth, Philip Sarkis, Keaton Scott, Kristin Scott, Griffin Shimkus, Liberty Stewart, Rivers Stewart, Jordyn Torres, Savanna Ullmann, Nidhi Vedire, Madeline Wallace, Madeline Ward, Katherine Williams, Evan Williard, Cierra Yudel

Eighth Grade: Caden Banta, Sadie Benkovic, Annabel Benoit, Sarah Bostic, Sarah Carpenter, Cameron Clarke, Emma Claypool, Robertson Cook, Zachary Corder, Raj Desai, Natalie Eichorn, Grace Erdman, Sophia Froehlich, Grace Gilbert, Loren Goddard, Natalie Goddard, Natiel Gomez, Taylor Grikis, Daniel Kulick, Jocelyn Lackey, Reid Lindemann, Steven Lo, Camryn Manson, Tucker Mathis, Jennifer Maunder, Christopher McKenzie, Trey Miranda, Christian Novelo, Bailey Ohlson, Nidhi Pandya, Elizabeth Patterson, Carmella Quintos, Jesse Riedel, Michael Riley, Kathryn Scott, Holly Streber, Kayla Streber, Sara Tabash, Carly Vallone, Rachel Williams, Jessica Woche, Jonathan Zachem

Vandegrift High School

Ninth Grade: Ciara Agrella, Phillip Ahern, Luke Amundson, Savannah Andres, Spencer Apel, Max Askari, Justin Balarbar, Emily Banks, Miles Bentley, Rachel Berke, Jules Bettler, Nicholas Blauvelt, Alexander Boley, Jessica Bowman, Travis Brannan, Peyton Brewster, Julianne Broe, Logan Bruner, Victor Bull, Zachary Burky, Katherine Buschang, Dillon Busker, Mariana Caldas, Jonathan Carruthers, Cassidy Cavanaugh, Elliot Charland, Tristan Cho, Marisa Collmann, Tomas Colorado, Antonio Cordova, Michaela Coughlin, Jeremy Cummings, Temple Davies, Joseph Dean, Ashley Dehne, Juliana Desouza, Grace Dixon, Tiffany Do, Ruby Doolittle, Cooper Dossy, Samuel Drablos, Charles Dugas, Alex Dulak, Simon Egerton, Trevor Egerton, Miles Eldred, Jack Elliott, Sarah Engen, Ariana Engles, Korynn Fink, Victor Floyd, Hannah Forbes, Keely Freund, Kaitlin Fuqua, Alaina Galasso, Ashley Gallagher, Nicholas Gallarda, Emily Garza, Reagan Gibson, Natalie Gilbert, Hagen Goeters, Grayson Goolsby, Ethan Gordon, Emily Gruner, Sandeep Guggari, Rohan Gupta, Gavin Gurrola, Lauren Haley, Elise Harais, Richard Harold, Kelsey Hewett, Alli Hindman, Holly Hilde, Britney Hofemann, Christina Hofemann, Brendan Hollaway, Lauren Holtzclaw, Maile Hooten, Areeb Hossain, Alessandro Houshmand, Lauren Howland, Maxwell Hunter, Alexander Jiang, Austin Jiang, Amanda Jones, Garrett Jones, Peyton Jones, Amanda Keck, Lauren Kelliher, Curran Kelly, Jacqueline Kotlarz, Michael Lambeth, Alec Laplace, Thomas Lea, Tanner Lee, James Legg, Lindsey Liu, Alexandra Lopez, Kasmira Medina, Torin Ma-

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Tenth Grade: Jennifer Abbarno, Madeline Andre, Allison Baldwin, Mark Banta, Callaway Barr, Adrian Barraza, Ariel Barraza, Nikita Batra, Madison Benkovic, Maxwell Bernhardt, Nicolas Birk, Taylor Boles, Dana Brannon, Abby Brossette, Jonathon Broughton, Hanna Brown, Jessica Brown, Victoria Brown, Amanda Burton, Matthew Carpenter, Prahan Chetlur, Matthew Choate, Madison Clafin, Taara Clarke, Marcus Codrescu, Lauren Conroy, Rachel Cook, Andreea Craus, Carley Crossman, Alexandra Dake, Corinne Delius, Kyndell Doggett, Meghan Duemler, Manasa Dutta, Ann-Kathrin Ermisch, Landry Everett, Erin Fahey, Siobhan Fahy, Gabriella Fatke, Emily Finfrock, Sean Flaherty, Davis Florence, Eric Floyd, Julia Franklin, Evelyn Frederic, Madison Frye, Mariana Gama, Allison Gamble, Christopher Gardner, Diamonte Garrett, Taylor Gaskins, Hope Gilbert, Andrew Graff, Austin Gray, Adley Greear, Kennedy Grimes, Cole Groom, Vishal Gupta, Nicoll Gutierrez, Greta Handing, Jonathan Hanna, Hunter Hinze, Kelly Honts, Kyndal Howard, Richard Howe, Caitlyn Hyde, Madison Ibrahim, Iqra Imam, McKenna Jasek, Andrei Jaume, Nicole Jaynes, Emily Jensen, Catherine Kellogg, Nicolette Keys, Eman Khan, Abigail Knowles, Emily Krause, Maria Krychniak, Sean Kupec, Jonathan Lackey, Colin Lineberger, Abby Locascio, Alexander Lutz, Katelin Maatz, Prathyusha Mahasamudram, Matthew Mastrodicasa, Ryan McGee, David Meeks, Sahil Mehta, Ruchika Mitbander, Kylie Morse, Lauren Murphy, Alexandra Myers, Jacob Nanez, Caroline Naples, Kristina Nguyen, Matthew Nixon, Sarah Norell, Kameron Orrick, Anna Oscarson, Seena Ounsinegad, Madison Peacock, Kimberly Pena, Rose Peterman, Bao-Tran Phan, Lauren Poole, Shwetha Prabakar, Maria Priebe, Nicole Principe, Sondra Rahmeh, Sarah Rashed, Brynna Recker, Bhargava Reddy, Kelse Redwine, Bret Reinking, Jacob Riedel, Marshall Rigney, Mackenzie Roach, Kelly Rosenblatt, Sydney Sabel, Kayla Saragusa, Sydney Sanders, Farhan Sannouri, Delaney Saragusa, Olivia Schmitz, Robert Scott, Cody Shelton, Mikalai Shlapkou, Hannah Smith, Madison Smith, Jordan Sproull, Nathan Steichen, Austin Stelling, Margaret Talbot, Nicholas Tallman, Blane Tamez, Saraaga Tamirisa, Kayla Tate, Dallas Taylor, Haley Teague, Austin Thompson, Lindsey Thompson, Morgan Threadgill, Keith Tran, Zameer Vaswani, Brian Weeks, Paige Welch, Megan Welliver, Lucas Williams, Madison

Williams, Kate Wong, Matthew Woolf, Madison Yoder, James Young, Steven Zuraski

Eleventh Grade: Rhea Adhikary, Hisham Ali, Cameron Allen, Kirstin Allison, Amulya Angajala, Maurya Avirneni, Hannah Bell, Katherine Brannon, Nicholas Breining, Ryan Brewster, Cody Brigham, Madeline Buschang, Caley Butler, Makenna Callen, Colter Castleman, Devon Castoe, Savannah Cavanaugh, Sabrina Cheshire, Mia Chiarelli, Zachary Chipman, Damian Cho, Taylor Christensen, Sydney Cohen, Zachary Collmann, Haley Conroy, Shane Costello, Wayne Dickerson, Christopher Fernandes, Harrison Field, Nicholas Fionda, Jordan Freeze, Kaitlin Frierson, Michael Galvin, Calvin Geng, Stephen Gerken, Jeffrey Gillespie, Brooke Golden, Jonathan Gonzalez, Rachel Graham, Carson Harais, Roslyn Harold, Zachary Hartman, Yannick Heard, Michelle Hoang, Addison Holmes, Dylan Hoover, Allyson Hunter, Austin Isburgh, Cray Jaeger, Chandler Jaynes, Amber Johnson, Grace Jones, Lauren Keith, Rachael Landry, Ashleigh Lusher, Megan Marks, Paige McCollum, Elisa McMeen, Merritt McCall, Mariah McLelan, Michael Mendez, Naomi Miller, Joshua Minor, Christian Monts, Sri Moturu, Neha Mulpuri, Nnenna Ndukwue, Lienne Ng, Keyana Noorbakhsh, Sarah Nouri, Emma Oldham, Niraj Patel, Megan Pharr, Bailey Phillips, Chase Phillips, Tristan Prukop, Pamela Quintanilla, Kayleigh Rago, Deepti Rao, Luke Richard, Bryn Robertson, Nicole Rossi, Katelyn Santerre, Patrick Sarman, Katherine Schaal, Jacob Schmidt, Jakob Schnell, Megan Sekiya, Matthew Sherman, Emaline Shields, Hailey Shuster, McKenna Shuster, Caroline Slater, Brenna Smith, Katherine Snyder, Nishith Sripathi, Addison Stahl, Matthew Stipek, Roy Stubbs, Joseph Sutoros, Drew Vestri, Olivia Von Oldenburg, Jeffrey Willoughby, Justin Yu, Jill Zambito, Marguerite Zamora, Caroline Zanot, Kelsey Zaroff, Jonathan Zhang

Twelfth Grade: Taylor Allen, Zachary Amundson, Hayden Anz, Emily Arterbury, Brooke Asher, Daniel Aydelotte, Mollie Bailey, Caitlin Balman, Karina Batek, Piyushi Bishnoi, Blake Brannan, Sarah Bristow, Denise Bui, Allison Carruthers, Katie Chesnutt, Mercedes Choice, Joseph Cinclair, Matthew Conte, Kyle Daugherty, Catherine Dehne, Natasha Desai, Nathan Do, Sophia Duffield, John Elder, Marshall Eldred, Danielle Esteban, Luke Fassetta, Christopher Flynn, Conor Flynn, Ethan Frederic, Laura Gama, Leo Garza, Devon Gerstenhaber, Mark Giles, Kaanti Gowru, Lindsey Graff, Sara Gravelly, Kent Grimes, James Hallonquist, Emily Hanna, Mason Hargreaves, Sarah Hassall, Dustin Hoang, Dylan Hosek, Chad Howland, Mattie Isturiz, Kevin Kaut, Kendall King, Rachael Klein, Kathryn Kupec, Clayton Lancashire, Amey Langford, Lindsey Langford, Dillon Launius, Brittany Le, Leticia Lee, Reid Lichtenberger, Christopher Lick, Brandon Maas, Revanth Madina, Priyunka Maheshwari, Haley Martin, Nicole Martinez, Alec Masterson, Rebecca Menajovsky, Conor Mitchell, Kendall Mitchell, Lan Nguyen, Victoria Oberdick, Nathan Palmer, Megha Pandya, John Park, Elise Patterson, Antoinette Perez, Grant Phifer, Keegan Pitts, Maria Popov, Nicole Quick, Alexander Quintos, Jonathan Ramlow, Erica Reichman, Jake Reynolds, Mary Rovenstine, Madeline Sabel, Emily Schmitz, Kelly Schriener, Jordan Sekiya, Brandon Smith, Jasmine Smith, Sarah Smith, Hadley Sorsby-Jones, Melanie Stamps, Megan Steichen, Madeline Stich, Kassidie Strange, Conor Stuart, Shiyu Teo, Travis Terry, Chandler Thomas, Forrest Threadgill, Kole Thurston, Isabella Voelkl, Hannah Von Oldenburg, Sarah Von Oldenburg, Li Wan, Caitlin Weaver, Sydney Wilson, Craig Wolf, Ashley Zaroff

Financial Aid application assistance for students and parents



BRET CHAMPION
Leander ISD Superintendent

The college application process can be daunting for families. As if preparing to transition from high school to a college or university isn't enough, families must also grapple with the hurdle of finding ways to afford higher education. An important step in making college dreams become a reality is securing financial aid.

With the spring semester in full swing, Leander ISD seniors are being peppered with reminders to apply for financial aid as soon as they can because funds are limited, and financial aid awards are given on a first-come, first-serve basis. The sooner a student completes his or her Free Application

for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form, the better his or her chances are for getting financial aid.

The FAFSA qualifies students for grants and student loans, as well as Federal Work-Study Program opportunities and most scholarships. Applying is free, so every student who plans to seek post-secondary education should complete a FAFSA form, even if they think they won't qualify for financial aid. Many families mistakenly believe that they don't qualify and miss out on financial services simply because they don't take that first step. My advice: apply for financial aid. You won't know if you qualify unless you apply.

States routinely use FAFSA information when distributing their financial aid cash, such as grants, a common form of financial aid. Grants do not have to be repaid and are often awarded based on need. Some grants are federal and some come from the state, and many

colleges offer grants that come from the state government. But if students don't apply for financial aid, they will likely not be considered for any of these grants.

Student loans are also sources of aid. Some loans are available to students regardless of family income, while others are based on need. Parents can even take out a loan to help their child pay for schooling. Regardless, completing the FAFSA is key. Although loans must be paid back, many students seeking higher education opportunities find that these financial sources help them manage expenses including, tuition, books and housing.

Unlike grants and loans, work-study is a source of financial aid that comes as part-time jobs for college students. Students who qualify for work study can earn money to help pay their education expenses. This type of financial aid is based on need. Students

who qualify for work-study should check with the financial aid office at the school they plan to attend in the fall and learn about the opportunities that are available through this program.

Parents often do not realize that even scholarships can be dependent on completing the FAFSA. Some colleges won't consider a student for any of their academic scholarships — including academic scholarships — until he or she has submitted FAFSA.

There are many other reasons why it's worthwhile to apply for financial aid. In the unfortunate event that a family's income level changes, an appeal is possible if a FAFSA form is already on file for that child. Even if you've been denied before, if you plan to have two children in college next year, I encourage you to apply for financial aid again this year. We often hear of families who didn't qualify for aid with one child in

college, who later qualify when they're supporting two college students.

And now it's easier than ever to complete a FAFSA form. Simply go to www.fafsa.ed.gov and click on PIN Site, then select "Apply for a PIN." Every student and one of his or her parents will need to do this and get FAFSA PINs. There are several helpful free web tools to make the whole process easier. But remember, you will need to have your tax information handy to fill in all of the necessary information on the FAFSA, specifically your adjusted gross income.

But, parents should note that they do not have to navigate the FAFSA waters alone. LISD students are fortunate to have several opportunities to get free one-on-one assistance. Plan to attend one upcoming Financial Aid Saturday: Feb. 2 from 8:30 a.m. - noon at Leander High School; Feb. 16 from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Concordia University; Feb.

23 from 8:30 a.m. - noon at Vista Ridge High School; and March 2 from 8:30 a.m. - noon at Cedar Park High School; or attend a week-night FAFSA event: Tuesday, Feb. 19 from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. at Round Rock High School and Wednesday, Feb. 20 from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. at Lake Travis High School. Students may attend any event. To register to attend, go to www.financialaidsaturdays.org.

All of this information and more is available through your child's school counselor, Naviance - Family Connection and the district's college- and career-readiness website.

If you are the parent of a senior, don't delay - complete the FAFSA as soon as you can. Take that important step together, and make your child's college dreams come true!

River Ridge's winning Bee word: apotheosis

River Ridge Elementary recently held its Spelling Bee and Michelle Liang, 3rd-grader in Mrs. McGuire's class, won after 31 rounds of competition. Her winning word was apotheosis, which means the raising of a person or thing to divine status. Liang will represent River Ridge at the Scripps Regional Bee in February.

Nihal Kyasa, 4th-grader in Mr. Smith's class, was

the runner up for this year's Bee.

Classes had winners who competed in the school-wide Spelling Bee.

3rd Grade:

Reece Beauchamp
Colton Dwyer
Kim Tan
Danielle Hughes
Rachel Jensen
Michelle Liang
Ryan Begnaud
4th Grade:

Bianca Calmorin
Asha Karmakar
Anish Pandya
Nihal Kyasa
Lola Rangel
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5th Grade:
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Anna Schmeil
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PUBLISHER'S POINT OF VIEW



LYNETTE HAALAND

Racial slur, smashed windows show another side of Steiner

As a Steiner Ranch resident, our headlines this week are disturbing. The break in at La Fuente's Restaurant was awful.

I happened to walk in after the police had just left and the owner, Shiloh Newman, and a few staffers were cleaning things up.

They had to close on one of their busiest nights to deal with this crime.

Newman was in disbelief and shaking his head over this incident.

Whoever did it wanted to get in so badly, they smashed not one but two large windows.

The broken windows cost hundreds to repair and the stolen bottles of alcohol added up too, but all total the amount will probably end up just under the deductible to collect insurance, Newman thought at the time.

On top of that is the loss of revenue from a Saturday night crowd.

The crime was thoughtless.

On the next night, just a few miles away, another thoughtless act. A racial slur was written on the sidewalk of the home of a black family.

Tony and Thelma Sanders said they have had a great experience living in Steiner Ranch with friendly neighbors in their beautiful, gated golf course neighborhood.

Weeks prior they had seen the evidence of mean-spiritedness with landscaping lights torn up from their yard and a package taken from their front porch. The act a few days ago cuts deeper than the rest.

This was intentional and upsetting, Thelma told me.

She is sharing their story to draw awareness and to help put a stop to this kind of senseless act.

"It may be children who are completely out of control," Thelma said. They don't realize the effect on other people. It affects us and our neighborhood."

Several weeks ago, the Sanders noticed what looked like young kids in the middle of the night riding on the UT Golf Club course. They were riding through backyards at their home and others near the 13th hole.

Newman too said he has been warning the Vista Ridge Shopping Center manager about reports of youths being on their playscape and hanging around in the woods behind their restaurant at night.

The Sanders and Newman both think these pranks are being done by local kids, probably young teens. In the Sanders' case, their neighborhood is guarded and gated so not just anyone can get in.

There have been other reports about vandalism in Steiner throughout the last year or so.

If this is true, what is happening in our neighborhood?

Do parents know what their kids are doing at night?

We need to have more parental chaperoning if this is what kids are up to. We need to track them by their cell phones if that is what it takes.

These are heartless, inconsiderate acts that need to stop.

FOUR POINTS OF VIEW

What are your Winter Break plans?



Evan Durrill Steiner Ranch

We're staying around town. We'll probably go downtown and shopping, and to Barton Springs to hike around and maybe paddle boat.



Renee Torres Steiner Ranch

Skiing in Utah.



Rylan Smith Steiner Ranch

We are staying here. I have dance.



Rachel Honts Steiner Ranch

I'm hanging out with friends.

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GARDENING GAB

Micro irrigation



MAGGIE TATE

Master Gardener

In the continuing drought we must do what we can to conserve the water available to us.

Low volume irrigation is a great way to minimize water run off and target the roots of selected plants, thereby reducing the water loss due to evaporation or overspray.

Micro irrigation consists of a variety of drip tubes, soaker hoses, bubblers and micro sprays. This kind of low volume irrigation is most effective for flower beds, vegetable gardens, shrubs, trees and container plants, though it can also be used for turf.

Areas like flowerbeds are best served using soaker hoses. Drip tubes or soaker hoses are great for vegetable gardens.

Micro sprays work in small areas like containers and bubblers are best for trees, shrubs and ground covers.

Amazingly, drip tubing can be placed on the soil prior to laying down new turf and I am seeing an increasing number of homeowners and businesses use this technique for lawns.

Another benefit of drip irrigation is targeted watering of plants which uptake the water quickly leaving little water left for surrounding weeds. Because of the growing need for and interest in conservation, it's easier than ever to install drip systems yourself.

Many garden centers now carrying drip irrigation kits that include all the necessary parts to convert existing sprinkler heads to drip.

Drip irrigation saves water, money and can even limit weed growth. Additionally, stage 2 drought restrictions allow for drip irrigation to be used on all days of the week but not between the hours of 10 am to 7 pm.

For more information check out Creating a Drought Resistant Garden in Central Texas by the Travis County Master Gardeners Association.

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.



Love is in the air

Share your Sweetheart Story with Four Points News and it may appear in our Valentine's edition.

We want to know why the love of your life is so special to you. A gift card will be given to our random winner.

Please submit a photo and a brief write up or poem. Please keep it in the 350 word range.

Email to: Lynette.FourPoints@gmail.com.



Property tax payments due Jan. 31

Thursday is the payment deadline for 2012 property taxes. Anyone who has not received a property tax bill may call (512) 854-9473 or download a bill at www.traviscountytx.org. Payments mailed need a U.S. Postal Service postmark of Jan. 31 or earlier.

Payments can be made by cash in person, check, money order, cashier's check, electronic check and credit card. On Feb. 1 all unpaid 2012 taxes incur 7 percent penalty and interest charges automatically as a matter of state law.

SLUR, FROM 1

"We just want it to stop."

"It may be children who are completely out of control. Maybe they were discussing this and then decided this would be funny. And it's not. They don't realize the effect on other people," Thelma said. "It affects us and our neighborhood."

The Sanders thinks young kids in

Steiner Ranch are to blame because they live in the gated and guarded UT Golf Club community near the 13th hole of the course.

A few weeks ago, young kids were riding up and down the golf course on a four wheeler and going through their backyard and others.

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LANDERS, FROM 1

Flooring. They offer hardwood, carpet, tile, natural stone and laminate sales and installation from their 6,000 square foot showroom.

Recently they helped another local business, School in the Hills, with a unique flooring challenge. The Montessori school in Steiner had stained concrete which was wearing poorly and a base grade

commercial carpet. Given their young clientele, many different types of liquid were ending up on the carpet and they were unable to clean the carpet thoroughly, said Stephanie Landers.

She consulted with the school owners, Daniel and Alicia Marker, to find the right product. They decided on a floating vinyl plank on a cork backing that was 100 percent waterproof as well as commercial carpet with a special waterproof back-

ing too.

"The perfect solution," Stephanie said.

"Because of the amount of installations we do and the combined expertise of our sales staff, there is rarely anything out there that we haven't seen before or can't figure out," she added.

Landers Premier Flooring works with schools, custom builders, residential and interior designers.

John is from Dalton, Georgia, the flooring capi-

tal of the US and most of his family is in the flooring business. He worked as a flooring district manager for Mohawk, a leading supplier of flooring, in California. He called on the mom and pop stores and dreamed of opening his own store.

They looked at several areas to locate in but Austin had so many things going for it. They liked the competitive environment, the cost of living, the projected

business growth and the friendly people.

Stephanie's background is in marketing brand management in the food packaged-goods industry. She worked on such brands as Honey Nut Cheerios, Pop Secret, Yoplait yogurt, Coppertone, and Clairrol for companies such as General Mills, Bristol Myers Squibb and Shering Plough.

They opened their Austin store in October 2005. Stephanie handles the mar-

keting and finances for the company while John handles the installation crews, procurement and personnel.

The Landers, who have two young boys, moved to Steiner Ranch in January 2006. They picked the community because they love being by both Lake Travis and Lake Austin, the neighborhood amenities, great school district and the neighborhood feel.

LA FUENTES, FROM 1

Sheriff's Office investigated the scene on Saturday afternoon after an employee arrived to prepare for opening.

The case was assigned

to a detective on Monday morning.

"There is nothing to say at this time except that someone broke into the business and took property. We may have more infor-

mation once the detective has a chance to look into the case," said Roger Wade, Senior Public Information Officer TCSO.

"There is no doubt in my mind it was Steiner Ranch

kids. They've smashed the fence behind us and Cho's," Newman said.

He said people tell them that kids, probably young teens, are playing on the playscape at La Fuente's

in the middle of the night. That these kids hang out in the woods and in the trails behind the Vista Ridge Shopping Center.

"Since the first week we got here we've had issues

with kids in the middle of the night. We've told the property manager," Newman said. "Not in a million years would I have guessed there would be safety issues in Steiner Ranch."

TXDOT, FROM 1

River Place."

"Adjusting timing will be examined as a short term fix - especially during peak rush hour times," Thompto said. "The longer term fix for signaling is to equip these two intersections with the equipment necessary to provide real-time monitoring for human intervention to regulate traffic when needed."

The City of Austin operates the signals, while TxDOT owns 620 and Travis County owns 2222. Given this complexity the SRNA was pleased to learn TxDOT would discuss the signal retimings and longer term strategy with Austin Traffic as the monitoring would be done by them.

Planned improvements in Q1:

As reported previously, TxDOT roadway improvements have been approved. Northbound RM 620 will receive an extended double right turn lane at RM 2222.

TxDOT is reviewing a proposal for westbound RM 2222 to be re-striped to extend the double left turn lanes approaching RM 620 to allow earlier entry into the inner turn lane. This will increase the queuing capacity of the approach.

SRNA argued the extension should go back as far as possible subject to critical business access requirements. The SRNA suggested at least to Wells Fargo, which is on the Target side. TxDOT agreed to look at this more closely.

Auxiliary lane along RM 620:

The SRNA developed the concept of creating an additional "auxiliary lane" from Steiner Ranch Blvd to RM 2222, connecting directly to the new second right turn lane was discussed. As presented to TxDOT, it would be a "right only" lane, increasing the turning queue and approach capacity for the intersection to allow more optimal/independent flow of traffic.

"It would also provide a protected right turn out of Steiner Ranch," Thompto said. Space for the new lane might be achieved by restriping, eliminating the center turn lane between Steiner Ranch Blvd. and the BBQ Outfitters, and us-

ing some or all of the current shoulder space. TxDOT agreed to take a look at this option.

Pilot technology program possible

A new traffic-based communications program could come to Four Points within a year. Using Bluetooth radio-frequency receivers at two points along a roadway, the system detects the average speed of vehicles along that segment. This data can be used to automatically adjust traffic signals. Already deployed on Texas 360 and Lamar Boulevard, it may come to Four Points within a year, Thompto says. According to the City, the pilot programs are used in learning how to deploy them effectively before widespread

adoption.

Future planning of 620 corridor

Four Points News learned that TxDOT will shortly be in receipt of a 620 corridor study which covers from TX 71 to US 183. TxDOT will first review the study looking for any quick fixes to troublesome areas. Following that a more detailed examination will take place.

Building on this momentum, the SRNA asked that TxDOT take on some planning projects to look at several problematic intersections for possible overpass construction. The SRNA recognizes that no money currently exists for those projects such as RM 620/RM 2222, or RM 620 and Anderson Mill. This action

would at least get plans on the shelf and possibly environmental studies done in anticipation of funds. TxDOT points out that once an environmental study was done, it was only good for three years, which is a difficulty in and of itself.

TxDOT indicates that in addition to overpasses, they can also explore other creative options for addressing problematic intersections. Examples include "continuous flow intersections" such as planned for the "Y" at Oak Hill. One idea discussed was the possibility of expanding RM 2222 in the congested area near RM 620 to provide a fully protected right turn form RM 620 northbound onto RM 2222.

CRAWFORD, FROM 1

an emergency. We all thought he was going to be around," Cheryl said.

Russell was born June 25, 1970 in Memphis and moved to Round Rock in 1986. He was a 1988 graduate of Round Rock High School and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps upon graduation. Russell served in Desert Storm, Gulf War I and served for four years.

Cheryl was raised in Hawaii and the two met when Russell was stationed there. They married in 1992. He was a huge rock and roll fan and loved Metallica. "I had to listen to it for 21 years," Cheryl said with a laugh.

They moved to Steiner Ranch just over 12 years ago. Russell owned Crawford's Tree Service and enjoyed customer service. He

was loved by his customers and employees alike, Cheryl said.

Russell was a talented artist and his work won awards and was on display in the State Capital, according to his family. He was interested in fantasy drawings and depictions of military actions.

Russell enjoyed spending time with their daughter, Lauren, 10.

Losing Russell has been hard. "We have our good days and bad days," said Cheryl, who worked nights to be with Lauren and Russell during key family times.

Their medical costs and his inability to work much the last couple months have taken a financial toll on the family.

Friends of the family, Rick and Kristi Nordin,

owners of Cups and Cones in Steiner Ranch are collecting gift cards for Cheryl and Lauren.

The Russell Crawford Memorial Fund has been set up through Wells Fargo Bank. Any branch can take donations or checks can be sent to:

Wells Fargo Lakeway Office
900 D Ranch Road 620 South Lakeway, TX 78734
attn: Shariq

"It has been overwhelming and comforting to see the outpouring of support," Cheryl said.

A private memorial service was held on Saturday at First United Methodist Church of Round Rock. His final resting place will be in a military cemetery in Killeen.

Russell Crawford IV

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January 22, 2013



Russell Crawford enlisted in the United States Marine Corps upon graduation and served in Desert Storm, Gulf War I.

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BASKETBALL



Sam Gonzales - Junior #32 (Guard)

What is your favorite part of being involved with Viper Basketball? I love being a part of such a great team. I spend so much time with these girls. They're like a second family to me.

BASKETBALL



Mitchell McShane- Senior #24 (Forward)

What is your favorite part of being involved with Viper Basketball? My favorite part is getting to compete everyday and being around my teammates.

SOCCER



Ali Jones - Senior #12 (Left Outside Mid)

What is your favorite part in being involved with Vandegrift Soccer? My favorite part of the Viper soccer program is that we are all one big family. We all get along so well, and that shows on the field when we play!

SOCCER



JT Lackey - Sophomore #6

What is your favorite part in being involved with Vandegrift Soccer? My favorite part is the brother-ship and bonding time spent with one another throughout the season.

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Viper Girls Basketball update

Vandegrift High School Varsity Girls Basketball wraps up its regular season with Leander at home on Tues. night, at Marble Falls on Friday night, and Cedar Park at home next Tuesday.

"In order for us to make the playoffs we will need to win all three of our final games. Our district has been extremely competitive this year with a number of teams still vying for the final two playoff slots," said Julie Wilke, Head Girls Basketball Coach.

Evidence of how evenly matched LISD is, the Vipers lost to Rouse the first time by six and the second time in double overtime. They lost to Marble Falls by one point at home in the first round of district play.

"Our girls are excited at the challenge of winning the remaining games down



Eric Morton

the stretch and have worked extremely hard in practices and games lately. I'm hopeful that we are peaking at the right time and will take

our opponents by surprise and win our remaining games," Wilke said.

Vista Ridge 66 Vandegrift 45

Dripping Springs 37 Vandegrift 49

Recent games:

Viper Boys Soccer recap

The Vandegrift High School Boys soccer team is closing down their preseason schedule. With some players injured and new players stepping up into larger roles, they defeated Westlake 5-2 at home and went on the road to defeat the Manor Mustangs 3-0.

"The score doesn't always tell the entire story of the matches, but the Vipers are learning how to develop and connect with one another as each match comes along," said Chad Aldrich, Head Soccer Coach.

The eight combined goals came from Jeff Willoughby having a hat trick in the Westlake match along with Pablo Aranda and JT Lackey capitalizing a goal each. Ryan Porch, Matt Woolf, and Jake Nowak each had a goal in the Manor match helping the attacking side of the ball.

Defense still has been key for the Vipers as they have been developing seven different defenders that can take over any necessary position when ready. With only one starting defender back from last year's playoff run, it has been essential to rebuild their back line and what a job they have done so far.

Chandler Marr has stepped up as a solid goalie on the squad and hasn't looked back since he came aboard in August allowing the previous keeper to give us a hand on the field.

"We will be ready to battle it out in district play and fight for a playoff spot against tough district opponents," Aldrich said.

The Vipers will finish their preseason schedule against Pflugerville at home this Friday night.



Debe McKeand

Jeff Willoughby splits two Manor defenders



Defender Sam Drablos making an upfield run against Westlake

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2012 Vandegrift Girls Soccer Roster

Player	#	Position	Year
Delany Wallace	2	OM	fr
Cassidy Cavanaugh	3	fw	fr
Kylie Morse	4	cm	so
Alexis Russell	5	cm	jr
Elise Harias	6	cm	fr
Quinn Zulkowski	7	cm	jr
Rachel Landry	8	df	jr
Savannah Cavanaugh	9	fw	jr
Bailey Phillips	10	om	jr
Taylor Allen	11	df	sr
Ali Jones	12	om	sr
Paige Welch	13	cm	so
Karina Batek	14	df	sr
Emily Mcshaane	15	fw	so
Lauren Brigham	16	cm	jr
Keyana Noorbakhsh	17	fw	jr
Nicole Massimillo	18	df	so
Landry Everett	19	df	so
Kyndal Howard	20	df	so
"Mj" Tatupu	99	kp	jr
Carley Thornhill	60	kp	fr

Q & A

Head Girls Soccer
Coach Jen Hardy

1. What has to happen for the Viper Soccer to be successful this season?

For Viper Soccer to be successful this year we will continue to learn each other's strengths and weakness as teammates so that we can become an even more integrated unit. What I believe will help make this an easy goal is how much these girls care about each other on and off the field. There is such a tight knit relationship between them, it's already translating into their cohesiveness on the field.

2. What is your biggest challenge this season?

Our new system of play. I have decided to change things up after we've all been playing a different system for the past three years. I truly feel this new system will be the most beneficial for the style of players we have as well as where I feel our strengths lie. The girls are picking it up very quickly and we are all seeing the positive changes develop.

3. Who is Vandegrift's biggest rival?

Cedar Park. No matter what sport it is when VHS and CPHS play each other "it's on" and crowds of fans for both schools fill the stadium/stands in support.

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

It is the incredible work ethic my entire team continues to display. They've always worked hard and had quite an appetite for competition, even against each other,

but something's different this year. They all seem to be on the same page as far as what they expect from this season and each other. They are pushing each other even harder than normal and they are definitely closer with each other as a team/family. It's very exciting to watch.

5. What motivates you as a coach?

I get asked often if I have kids because I tell stories and refer to my players as "my girls." I always reply, "Yes 40 of them." I feel so privileged to get to work with such talented, bright and driven young female athletes on a daily basis. They are and always will be what drives me to be better at what I do.

Record last season: 19-1-4

Returning Leaders:

Senior Captains: #11 Taylor Allen, #12 Ali Jones and #14 Karina Batek
Junior: #7 Quinn Zulkowski
Sophomore: #13 Paige Welch

Top Newcomers:

- #4 Kylie Morse (So.)
- #15 Emily Mc Shane (So.)
- #3 Cassidy Cavanaugh (Fr.)

2012 Vandegrift Varsity Girls Schedule

Type	Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Scrimmage	4-Jan	Hendrickson 5A	Home	7:30
Scrimmage	7-Jan	Off -Tourney ahead		
Woodlands	1/10-1/12	Woodland 5A Teams	Houston	5pm
Pre-season	15-Jan	No game-Post tourney		
Pre-season	21-Jan	Cedar Ridge 5A	Home	7:30pm
Governors Cup	1/24-1/26	Georgetown 4A	Away	2pm/8pm/2pm
Pre-season	29-Jan	New Braunfels Canyon 4A	Away	7:15
Pre-season	1-Feb	Dripping Springs 4A	Away	7pm
District	8-Feb	Marble Falls	Away	7pm
District	12-Feb	Vista	Home	7pm
District	15-Feb	Cedar Park	Away	7pm
District	19-Feb	Rouse	Home	7pm
District	22-Feb	Leander (ECNL gone)	Away	7pm
District	26-Feb	Marble Falls	Home	7pm
District	1-Mar	Vista	Away	7pm
District	7-Mar	Cedar Park	Home	7pm
District	19-Mar	Rouse	Away	7pm
District	22-Mar	Leander	Home	7pm
Play Offs	30-Mar	TBD-Bi District		
Play Offs	3-Apr	TBD- Area		

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Vipers top podium at District 17-4A championship

Vandegrift High School Swim and Dive claimed its first district title on Saturday following the two-day competition in Killeen. The Vipers won all six of their relays, garnered wins for both men's and women's

teams, and boasted five individual district champions: Sammi Bassman, women's 100 breaststroke; Hanna Brown, women's 100 backstroke; Everett Fitzpatrick, men's 50 freestyle; Chris Flynn, men's 100 back-

stroke; and Kayleigh Rago, women's 200 freestyle. The squad, led by Head Coach Holly Raffaelli and Assistant Coach Eric Cunningham, will advance to the Region 5-4A championship on Feb. 8-9 in Magnolia.





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WATCHDOGS, FROM 1

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WatchDOGS dad Cameron McDonald enjoyed breakfast with his son Jarret during the Jan. 18 Grandview Hills Elementary School program. "Having the presence of WatchDOGS here helps the faculty and kids feel more safe," said Cameron.

The best way to discover the Montessori Way is to experience it yourself!

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trict's WatchDOGS program in which fathers volunteer to spend one day a year in their child's school, helping in the classroom, playground and wherever needed. According to Grandview Hills Elementary WatchDOGS coordinator Chuck Zon, WatchDOGS began nationally as a result of a school shooting in Jonesboro, Ark., in the 1990's "to bring a sense of security to the schools and to get dads involved." Currently, the Grandview Hills school's group has 70 dads registered.

"The trick is getting dads signed up and committing to the first day," said Zon. "After they come once, they're hooked. It's a blast."

WatchDOGS sponsored a night out with the Texas Stars on Jan. 26. For more information about Grandview Hills Elementary School's WatchDOGS program, contact GVHE-Watchdogs@gmail.com.

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