



TC NOTES

www.traviscountry.com



INCREASED ACCESS TO HILLTOP POOL

At their August meeting, the Board approved, in principle, the concept of allowing residents to swim at their own risk during hours when no lifeguards are on duty pending approval of rules and regulations. Many residents attended the meeting and expressed divergent views on the issue of swim-at-your-own-risk.

This increased access does not mean there would be no lifeguards during swim season; but it does mean that parents may be able to sign appropriate forms, acquire an access key, and use Hilltop pool when there are no lifeguards, as lap swimmers do. But much work remains to be done to draft adequate rules that can be reviewed by appropriate legal and professional people as well as TC residents. You can visit the message board on the TC website to keep up with community discussion. The Board plans to discuss these details at their Wednesday, September 15 meeting.

Have *YOU* Visited the New TC Website Yet?

Join the 750+ TC residents who have signed onto the new website! It has a different look and feel and we hope it is easier for you to use. We are still working out some of the kinks and there are features we think need improving, but this will take a little time. Only a few of the features require you to login. When you select one of them, Message Board, for instance, you will see



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instructions for obtaining your login information. Follow these instructions and you will receive your userid and password within 24 hours from a site administrator. Most of the feedback from residents has been positive and we have received some valuable suggestions for improvement. If you haven't checked it out, log on and enjoy your new neighborhood website! Let us hear from you with questions and comments. Contact us (Communications Committee) at communications@traviscountry.com.

News from the TCCSA Board of Directors Meeting

By Bonnie Grobar

This report does not represent the official minutes of the meeting. Once approved, the minutes are posted on the web site and at the office on Blue Valley Drive. At the **August 19, 2004** meeting these directors were present: Terry Horton, Al Janelle, Alan Lish, Chris Lynch, Anthony Peterman, Russell Pinkston, and Jules Weldon. The Board took the following action or accepted the following reports:

- Al Janelle volunteered to act as liaison to the Architecture Committee
- Mary Cook is new chair of Land Use Committee
- A Board member from Legend Oaks HOA spoke about their 2 years of experience with swim-at-your-own-risk pool seasons
- Voted to support designation of SW Pkwy as Scenic Byway; President will write letters or take other action as needed
- Sanctioned a TC Dance Club
- Accepted Dobbs bid to resurface 4 tennis courts at BV
- Instructed manager to get bids on replacing fences for tennis courts and fencing the basketball court at BV
- Accepted USGS proposal to install an Edwards aquifer test monitor well in one of the water retention structures in the community
- Approved, in principle, the concept of allowing residents to swim at their own risk during hours when no lifeguards are on duty, pending approval of rules and regulations
- Approved \$250 for wildflower seeds
- Changed date of Board meeting from Thursday, Sept. 16 to Wednesday, Sept. 15 so members might participate in a public meeting to be held by TCEQ regarding Stratus Properties application for a wastewater treatment facility west of Foster Ranch Road

HOMEOWNERS' COMMENTS

- Support community efforts to save oak trees and protect property values
- Support resurfacing tennis courts at BV that

need it

- Against allowing residents with children to swim without lifeguards; safety should be first
- Can we extend use of lifeguards? Raise money to pay for them?
- If lap swimmers swim without lifeguards, why not others?
- Liability risk not necessarily reduced with lifeguards
- Many complaints about lifeguards
- Need statistics on value of lifeguards
- Urge Board to study issue completely
- Liability can be dealt with with waivers
- Teens need a place to play; perhaps fence in the basketball court at BV
- Use the lower tennis courts at BV as a sports court

Travis Country Home Owner's Association

Travis Country Office
9am-6pm.....892-2256
After hours.....289-1616
Fax.....891-9554

Travis Country Board of Directors
board@traviscountry.com

Travis Country General Email
tcoffice@traviscountry.com



TRAVIS COUNTRY

The TC Board of Directors meets at 6 pm the 3rd Thursday of every month, except December, at the Blue Valley Office. All residents are invited to attend. Homeowner comments occur at 7pm. The Directors and management need your input to do the best job of spending your monthly dues.

TC Notes Volunteer Production Team



Editor: Tricia Born
Reporter/Article Coordinator: Bonnie Grobar
Contributing Writer: Vanessa Chiapetta
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Distribution: 60 wonderful TC Residents

Questions or comments about the TC Notes? Email us at
tcnotes@traviscountry.com

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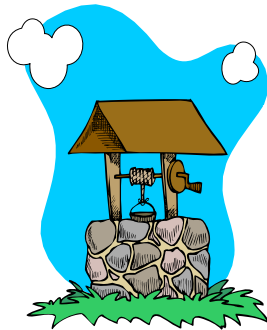
USGS TEST WELL in Travis Country

By Lynne Fahlquist and Bonnie Grobar

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is studying the quality of major water resources around the country as part of a national program called the National Water-Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Program. This program is studying water quality of the nationally important Edwards Aquifer in the San Antonio and Austin regions.

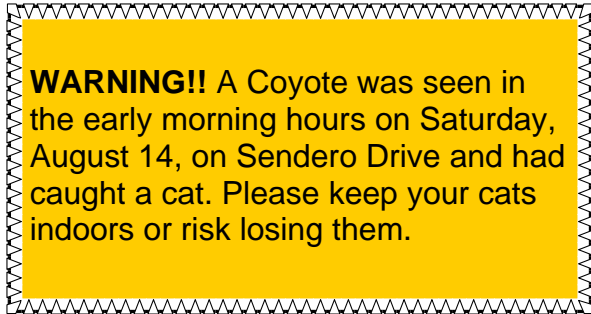


As part of this scientific program, the USGS will be studying the effects of urbanization on recently recharged ground water of the Edwards aquifer in the greater Austin metropolitan area. To implement this study, the USGS asked TCCSA to allow a test monitor well to be drilled in Travis Country which was randomly selected as a site. The well may be



placed near the drainage retention structure off Republic of Texas Boulevard or Foster Ranch Road. It will be on public property, and will be accessed only about once a year. More details are on the web-site.

A comprehensive (and expensive) water analysis will be performed on water samples collected from the monitor wells. Compounds to be tested include: major ions (mineral analysis), nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus compounds), trace elements (mostly metals), dissolved organic carbon, pesticides, volatile organic compounds (hydrocarbons), and compounds that age-date the water. Depending on local interest, additional compounds might be studied as well. Analytical results and subsequent scientific reports from the study can be shared with us upon request.



WARNING!! A Coyote was seen in the early morning hours on Saturday, August 14, on Sendero Drive and had caught a cat. Please keep your cats indoors or risk losing them.

PUBLIC MEETING ON SOUTHWEST PARKWAY DEVELOPMENT

You can join Board members and your neighbors at the public meeting called by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to ask questions and make comments on the Stratus Properties' wastewater permit application. The meeting will be Thursday, September 16, St. Gabriel's Catholic School, 2500 Wimberly Lane, Austin. Contact Terry Horton for additional information and see the April and May, 2004 *TC Notes* for background information. The TCCSA Board moved its regular meeting to Wednesday, September 15 so members could attend this important hearing.



Travis Country needs a volunteer to coordinate the **annual Halloween pumpkin carving contest and kids party.**

DON'T LET A TC TRADITION DIE! This job is a lot of fun. Cody Remsing can help with details. Contact her at 892-2246 or call the office at 892-2256.

neighborhood Notices



Congratulations!

To Cathy and James Barnes
4704 Travis Country Circle
For Yard of the Month. Be sure
to go by this lovely yard!

FLU SEASON IS COMING !! Influenza season in Austin begins in October and runs through March. All people 6 months and older may receive the flu vaccine. People with chronic lung problems, heart problems, the very young and the elderly are especially at risk. Call your medical provider and schedule your flu vaccine today.

KEEPING OUR KIDS AND NEIGHBORHOOD SAFE

REMEMBER: School has started. Please pay attention to kids walking to and from bus stops and crossing roads. **DO** stop for **SCHOOL BUSES** and watch for children.

Sale!

Bi-Annual TC Garage
Sale
October 23rd and 24th
8am-5pm

Prevent a **break in of your automobile.** Park it in the garage, rather than the street. If you must park cars in the driveway, remove your valuables and lock the car. Break ins are becoming more common in the neighborhood.

club news

New Club Forms

TC Dance Club

Learn to dance, get some exercise and have fun! Once a week (day not set, but probably on Thursday evenings). No partner and no experience necessary. All ages welcome!!! We will start slow with just the basics and work toward learning Salsa, Cha Cha, Merengue, Tango, etc. Even if you have two left feet you are welcome! Sound exciting? Fun? Intriguing? For more information, call 899-1018 or email marion@austinsalsa.com.



Garden Club Come join us for a presentation by Dr. Carl Oppenheimer, a microbiologist and Professor Emeritus at UT. He will be speaking on how to combat Oak Wilt as well as advise us on improving trees, plantings and lawns. Tues. Sept. 14, 7pm at the TC Office. For further info., call Bonnie at 899-0945. Everyone welcome!

For fun, food and frivolity, give **Bunco** a try! We play the first Monday of every month at 7:30 at the TC Office. Treat yourself to a fun game with your neighbors. Questions? leelindy@sbcglobal.net.

Scrapbook Club Meets at the TC Office on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at 7pm. Help preserve those memories while making new friends! Contact klworman@aol.com.

PREVENTING OAK WILT

While the Grounds Committee and Board of TCCSA gather information for the community, what can YOU do to protect your oak trees and preserve your property values while helping maintain the beauty of Travis County? Taking precautions to prevent oak wilt is much more cost effective than waiting until treatment is necessary.

Live oaks and red oaks show distinctive symptoms when they are infected with oak wilt. In live oaks, the veins on the leaf wilt turn yellow or brown, while the rest of the leaf remains green. The tips of some leaves may also turn brown, or the leaves may turn yellow with only the veins remaining green. Once live oaks are infected, most gradually drop leaves and die over a period of three months to a year. But some trees survive for many years in various states of decline.

In red oaks, watch for leaves quickly turning pale green to brown, usually remaining attached to the tree for some time. Red oaks die more quickly than live oaks once they are infected, but usually within two weeks to several months.

Special structures covered with spores (called fungal mats) may form beneath the bark on certain infected red oaks. These fungal mats make the tree especially contagious, because they are the source of fungal spores, which can be carried by insects to infect new trees. Fungal mats are not known to occur on live oaks.

In addition to visible signs of oak wilt, laboratory tests can be performed on the wood of both live oaks and red oaks to determine the presence of the fungus.

To reduce the risk of oak wilt infection, hire a professional arborist (preferably an International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist) who is familiar with oak wilt to prune your trees ONLY during the summer or winter months. Be sure to check references.

What You Can Do to Prevent the Spread of Oak Wilt

1. **Watch for Symptoms of Oak Wilt**
2. **Hire a Professional Arborist to prune your oaks**
3. **If you decide to prune yourself, prune oaks only in summer and winter**
4. **Use pruning paint**
5. **Plant white oak species which are more resistant to oak wilt.**



Making proper pruning cuts and immediately painting the wounds significantly lowers the risk of long distance oak wilt spread. It is important for homeowners to know that pruning paint is not recommended for general tree pruning, only for oaks in counties with oak wilt problems.

Currently the spread of oak wilt to surrounding healthy trees can only be stopped by severing the roots with heavy machinery to isolate

the diseased trees. A fungicide can be used to save individual trees, but it does not stop the underground spread of the disease.

For additional information, go to the Texas Forest Service vendor oak wilt website, www.texasoakwilt.org; the Travis Heights oak wilt effort website, www.saveaustinoaks.org; and the National Forest Service site, www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/fidls/oakwilt. You can also contact Jim Rooni of the Texas Forest Service, who is working closely with us, 407-9728.

Group Tennis Lessons @ Blue Valley Park

Fall Session I: September 12 to October 3

Fall Session II: October 10 to October 31

All group sessions are 4 weeks.

Adult Groups:

Beginner: 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Sundays \$50

Will learn 4 basic shots: forehand, backhand, serve, and volley.

Scoring system will be covered. Along with work up drills, this class will play games with fun in mind.



Intermediate/Advanced: 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Thursdays \$60

For more developed players. Advanced stroke production is covered thoroughly and net fundamentals are stressed. Match play strategies are also covered. 3.0 + preferred.

Junior Groups:

Stars: Time/dates TBA \$40 includes T-Shirt (while supplies last)

Ages 4 and 5

Class will be introduced to the ready position, proper grip placement, and controlled movements of the racket. Students will do ball control drills focused on having fun with tennis.

Beginner: 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Sundays \$50 includes T-Shirt (while supplies last)

Ages 6 and up

Class will learn 4 basic shots: forehand, backhand, serve, and volley. Scoring system will be covered. Along with work up drills, class will play games with fun in mind.

Intermediate: 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Sundays & 4:30 to 6:00 Thursdays \$120

Ages 8 and up

Class will continue to learn fundamental stroke production. Singles and doubles tactics will be covered. Students will start to play points. Starts Thursday Sept. 9th

Advanced: 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Sundays & 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Thursdays \$160

Ages 11 and up

This class is for more developed players. Advanced stroke production is covered thoroughly and net fundamentals are stressed. Match play strategies are also covered. Starts Thursday Sept. 9th. (Team Tennis is now a requirement for this level; time is integrated into normal class times and cost. Students will be given schedule and billed separately for any additional team activities, fees, etc including a 1.5 hr team practice on Friday when schedule is known. Coaches' meeting is on 9/2.)

Complete the form below to register. Include check payable to Brian Smithart. Deliver/mail to:

Group Tennis Lessons @ Blue Valley Park
Attn: Brian Smithart, USPTA
4622 Trail West Drive (in Travis Country)



Group Tennis Lessons @ Blue Valley Park 2004

Name _____ Birthday ____/____/____

School (if minor) _____

Home Phone _____ Work or cell# _____

Parents Name (if minor) _____

Address _____ City/Zip _____

E-mail or Fax _____

Session# _____ Class _____ Days _____ Time _____ Date _____

USTA # _____



committee news



Grounds Committee We are working on a Master Landscape Plan to be presented to the Board. Additional wildflower seeds will be planted this fall. We need volunteers to help


with this project. Contact us at grounds@traviscountry.com to help make Travis Country even more beautiful!

Pool Committee Pool Rule Reminder of the Month:

Please be considerate of your neighbors when you are using the pool for large gatherings. We have received complaints that large parties have come to the pool and taken over many tables without notifying management. Some groups appeared to not be all TC residents. During regular swim hours, you can enjoy the pool with several invited guests, but please be considerate! Unauthorized large parties may be asked to leave. Mondays at BV and Tuesdays at HT are set aside for parties. If you need clarification on the pool party policy, contact the TC Office 892-2256. **THANK YOU!**

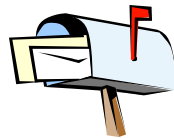
TCCSA BUDGET

Here is a condensed version of the financial figures prepared by Goodwin Management for Travis Country as of July 30, 2004. More detailed information can be found on the web site under Documents. Select TC Budget from the list. For comments or questions, contact board@traviscountry.com or call 892-2256.



Item	Amount	Year to Date	Annual Budget
Income	\$45,361	\$337,251	\$553,352
Expense	\$35,598	\$301,427	\$509,638
Difference	\$ 9,763	\$ 35,824	\$ 43,714
Capital Reserve	\$ 574	\$ 2,039	\$ 35,000

Mailbox



Dear TC Notes Editor:

It is with deep appreciation and gratitude that I write this letter. Our twenty-five years in Travis Country have been filled with happy memories. You know when you get into the neighborhood that you are bound to meet smiling faces and interesting folks. Watching children grow from little ones into adults, parents and even grandparents has been a joy. We try not to think about how old that makes us!

During John's very long illness we experienced the love, support and kindness of TC residents. That demonstrative concern has not wavered at his passing on July 3rd.

I was brought to tears of joy and gratitude one morning when I opened my front door to a sea of red, white and blue lining the sidewalk to our door. Residents had brought their real estate 4th of July flags "in memory of John". They flew proudly for several weeks.

I am sure John keeps an eye on us and joins me in thanking you all for being you.

God bless and keep you and yours,

Shirley Stavast

*Email us at tnotes@traviscountry.com
Please note that the TC Notes staff reserves the right to edit letters for brevity, grammar, style and clarity.*

TC Notes Classifieds Policy

Services are advertised only for people 18 and under in this newsletter. You must let us know each month if you want your service advertised. We reserve the right to edit ads for space. Services provided by adults can be placed on the website under Classifieds, or you may ask the TC Office to add you to the list they maintain at the Office. Contact us at tcnotes@traviscountry.com

Lost/Found

Our black, male cat has been missing since late July. He has yellow eyes and was wearing a lime-green collar. He is very affectionate and we miss him terribly. If you see him, please call 899-0604.

Wanted

Working mother wants to start a playgroup for nannies/babysitters. Let's connect our care-givers together and give our children a chance to be with each other. My 13 month old boy's nanny is about 24, does not speak Spanish and is looking to get together with other nannies once or twice a week at Hilltop Park. She also goes to the Children's Museum on Mondays. Please call Jennifer at 358-8498 if interested.

Volunteers for the Halloween pumpkin carving contest and kids party, if applicable. Call Cody Remsing at 892-2246.

For Sale

Dwarf Siberian Hamsters. Young, weaned, cute, clean, hand-tame. Make great pets. Only six available. \$6.00 each. Contact Steve Portnoy, sportnoy@austin.rr.com or 892-2949.

Town and Country Fiberglass Canoe with motor, \$350 OBO. Box of Poly Pocket toys, \$30. Box of Doll Items (dolls, clothes, furniture), \$50. Nintendo 64 with ~8 games, \$50. REI Baby/sm. child backpack, \$50. Cat Carrier, \$30. Assorted boys

clothes 9 months to 3T. Contact 892-0951.

Fully lined, full-length, peach damask draperies. Recently dry cleaned. Two sets: single panel 57"W x 85"L for \$30 and two panels each 26"W x 85"L for \$30. \$50 for all. Call Carole at 892-0223 or email at cjccortez@msn.com.

Women's 21-speed Specialized Hardrock Ultra Mountainbike, 14.5" frame, 26" wheels, violet and fuchsia, like new, \$100. Women's FUJI 21-speed bicycle, 19" frame, jade green, excellent condition, \$60. Two unique southwest landscape scene table lamps in pastel colors, no shades, excellent condition, \$40 each. Call 892-2247.

White Simmons crib and mattress, very good condition, \$100. Bumper pad, blanket, pillow, 2 sheets, dust ruffle, all matching, \$25. Star lamp, \$10. Call 358-7774.

Paintball gun, mask, CO2 tank and hopper, \$230. Call 358-7774.

Child Craft oak crib with mattress, \$125. Graco Duo-Glider stroller with infant car seat, \$150. Two-Child bike trailer w/ windscreen, \$75. O'Sullivan pine executive desk with built in file drawers, \$150. Call 892-1455.

Baby Jogger II with 16" wheels, \$50 OBO. Contact Su at 892-3265 or skosub@io.com.

Body Smith bench with adjustable height, \$150 OBO. Total Gym Whole Body Workout (Chuck Norris promotes), \$150 OBO. Collectible-remote control Honda 3-Wheeler "Dust Runner" ATC 250R/Radio control wheelie action in mint condition, \$60 OBO. Call 892-3832 or 322-6264 (day).

1.22 CT diamond marquise wedding/engagement ring set in white gold, baguettes on both rings, all paperwork included, clarity SI2, color I, fluorescence none, gorgeous, still has warranty @ Zales, original cost \$9,500, asking \$3,500 OBO. Call 892-3832 or 322-6264 or 797-4311.

Steinway upright piano. Overall condition is excellent but the cabinet has minor veneer damage. Appraised at \$8,350 asking \$7,000. Call 891-6006 or e-mail helainecrockett@yahoo.com for photos.

3 month old dark leather 2 piece sectional sofa, \$1,800 (New \$2200). Call 892-5347.

Solid oak 7 drawer dresser and night stand, all in good condition and very nice, \$225. Solid oak desk with four drawers, \$150. Call 891-8477 to come by and see the furniture or with questions.

High chair, baby excersaucer, exercise bike, rocking chair, papasan chair, queen bed with matching dresser, leather sofa, chair, ottoman. Call 892-3226.

2002 Mazda MPV 35K, sage green, V6, factory warranty, \$15,000. Call 892-7135.

Pair of bookcases, lightly stained pine, H72" x W30" x D12," solid, attractive, excellent condition, \$50 each, \$85 for both, OBO. Call 899-3647.

Blue L.L. Bean "Mountain Trek" backpack, used only once, suitable for day or overnight camping trips, size women's medium, bought for \$100, will sell for \$75 OBO. Call 899-0986 or 826-1852 (cell).

Incredible home gym setup! Olympic bench with leg, arm curl and dip attachments. Two olympic weight sets with weight tree. Standard curl bar with weights and olympic curl bar. Parabody Prosystem free weight machine plus attachments (squat rack, pec deck, rows, lat pulls, etc). Dumbbells 5-80lbs with rack. Rubber mats. Sacrificing for \$1,250. Call 914-4083 or email thetxman2000@yahoo.com for pictures.

Gracco infant swing (open top), \$40. Gracco Pack n Play with changing station, \$30. Fisher Price travel bassinet, \$20. Johnny Jump Up (doorway jumper), \$15. High chair (older model), \$20. Snugly front carrier, \$10. All in excellent condition and gently used. Cammi 892-3651.

Glider rocker, white with blue cushion, ottoman included, \$80 OBO. Children's big rocking horse, \$30 OBO. Call Susan at 892-3856.

White Kenmore washer and electric dryer. Washer- good condition \$35. Dryer-excellent condition \$35. Both for \$50. 892-7720.

LittleTykes outdoor playground, excellent condition, \$50. 892-7220.

Babysitting

Eric Espinoza, 13, would love to entertain your child/children, ages 3 and up. 892-1817.

Jessica Cox, 11, reliable and experienced. 892-1443.

Prabha Donaldson, 16, experienced baby sitter who loves kids. 358-7798.

Mallory Motal, 16 experienced, First Aid and CPR certified. 892-4029.



Lawn/Pet/Plant Care

Jessica Cox, 11, experienced pet & plant care. 892-1443.

Mark Knippa, 15, available for lawn and pet care, experienced and responsible. 892-0952.

Eric Espinoza, 13, experienced, well trained, reasonable prices for lawn care. One-time or regular service available. 892-1817.

Garni kids (ages 15,13,10,7) earning money to help raise a service dog, will take care of home and pets while you are away, parental supervision. 899-2740.

David Knippa, 17, available for lawn care, experienced and responsible. 892-0952 or 923-5107.

John, 11, and David, 12, Walter. Let us "doo" your dirty work! Pick-Up-Poo. Prices: One time, one dog \$8 (\$2 each additional dog). Weekly, one dog \$5 (\$2 for additional dogs). Call us for pet sitting as well. 892-5531.

Is your lawn in need of a winter trim or fertilizer? Call Aaron Joseph, 16, for estimates and to schedule services. Responsible and courteous, references available, uses only organic products. 891-9464.

Christopher Benard will mow and edge your yard, water your plants and trim your bushes. We take away all lawn clippings. Adult supervised. 892-2926

Going on a trip? Need Help? Nicole Benard will take care of your pets. She's experienced with cats, dogs, hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs, snakes, fish, birds and farm animals. Adult supervised. 892-2926



Matt Motal, 15, experienced, lawn, pet and plant care, 892-4029.

Kaylyn Remsing, 13, pet, plant and home care, very reliable, 7

years neighborhood experience, parental supervision. 892-2246.

Zach Vercher, 15, call for all your mowing and edging needs. Also will do pet and plant care. 892-4934

Other

Henna Designs (temporary tattoos) for parties or individuals done by Prabha Donaldson, 16. 358-7798.

Travis Country family willing to share wonderful nanny for child care or house cleaning. Call Gina at 892-8749.

September Events Calendar

Grounds Committee	Wed. 9/1	7 pm	TCCSA Office
Bunco Club	Mon. 9/6	7:30 pm	TCCSA Office
Fiscal Committee	Tues. 9/7	7 pm	TCCSA Office
Architecture Committee	Wed. 9/8	7 pm	TCCSA Office
Scrapbook Club	Thurs. 9/9 & 9/23	7 pm	TCCSA Office
Pool Committee	Mon. 9/13	7 pm	TCCSA Office
Garden Club	Tues. 9/14	7 pm	TCCSA Office
Board of Dir. Meeting	Wed. 9/15	6 pm	TCCSA Office
TCEQ Public Meeting	Thurs. 9/16	7 pm	See article, page 3
TC Notes Deadline	Fri. 9/17	5 pm	Email tcnotes@traviscountry.com
Notes Delivered to Block Captains	Sat. 9/25	Noon	