

# Out & About

PLACES TO GO AND THINGS TO SEE, NEAR AND FAR



## PICKLEBALL IN STYLE

Many Texans have recently turned to outdoor sports for much-needed fun and recreation. Pickleball (a paddle sport that combines elements of tennis and table tennis) saw a 20% bump in participation nationwide from 2019 to 2020, according to the Sports & Fitness Industry Association. That popularity spurred Austin-based entrepreneurs Maggie Brown and Grace Moore to create **Recess Pickleball**, a company that sells elegant paddles, kits, and accessories. The lightweight paddles are decorated with playful and contemporary designs, and named for beloved Austin hangouts like Lady Bird, Clarksville, and Barton Springs. “It’s multigenerational and extremely approachable,” Brown says of pickleball. “It’s very easy to pick up. We like to say it takes about 2 minutes to learn how to play and 15 minutes to fall in love.” Across the country, many tennis courts are being converted to pickleball courts to cater to the growing demand. “There’s this huge communal aspect to the game, and especially after the past couple of years, I think people are wanting and needing that,” Moore says. Visit the website for a guide on how to play.

Adult paddles, \$52–\$74. [recesspickleball.com](http://recesspickleball.com). ➤ **CYNTHIA J. DRAKE**