

Volume 3, Number 2

February 2006

www.circlecranch.info

President's Letter

Dear neighbors,

We recently hired William Hamilton as our aquatics director for Circle C HOA. William comes to us with 12 years of pool-related experience, including several years in managing water parks. He has a degree in Recreation Administration and is a Certified Pool Operator. We are looking forward to working with William as he manages our existing swim center and helps us design, build and operate the new swim center.

As I write this (in the middle of January) the board is continuing negotiations with UT/Longhorn Aquatics for their use of the Circle C Swim Center. We intend to complete negotiations by 1 February.

The pool renovation has taken more time than we anticipated. It should be complete by the time you read this. The renovations include additional short-course lane markings, new plaster pool surface and repairs to the in-pool lighting system. The next step in pool renovation will be the removal of the large light towers and associated pulley system. The Board voted in December to replace this with more attractive lighting poles for evening and morning swimming and functions. We intend to complete this in early 2006.

The Ad Hoc E-Voting Committee completed their work recently and proposed an electronic voting system for CCHOA. We intend to use this system for the 2006 election of directors for CCHOA. We hope this system will increase participation in CCHOA elections. The new system will offer the option of voting electronically or voting via paper ballot. Thanks to VP Steve Urban, Ernie Schroeder and Richard Relph for completing this project. The vendor we selected is Collaborare, using their product called BallotBox. You can read about it at http://www.collaboraresoft.com.

Please see Marian Wallace's article inside on school construction expansion and boundary changes.

We had a great holiday party on 17 December at the Wildflower Center. Over 250 neighbors attended for a night of dining, dancing and casino gambling. Thanks to the hard workers on the Special Events Committee for organizing and running this event. Thanks to the gamblers at my table who were patient with my not-ready-for-Vegas blackjack dealing skill.

Wal-Mart is hosting a neighborhood meeting on 13 February, 6pm at Kiker Elementary School. This meeting is for all SW Austin neighbors. Wal-Mart staff will present their plans for expansion of the existing store at Mopac and 290. I have been told that Wal-Mart will also purchase a portion of the Monaghan tract at Mopac and Davis Lane. The Wal-Mart plan will leave this land undeveloped in perpetuity, and they will use the development rights for their store expansion. This will be a good place to go to learn about Wal-Mart's plans for our part of Austin.

The newsletter has recently included news from the Park West Homeowners Association. A friend of mine asked me Park West has their own HOA? The reason is simple – Park West at Circle C is both part of Circle C Ranch and a gated community. All gated communities in Circle C Ranch are required to have a homeowners association for the purpose of dealing with private street maintenance, street light maintenance and security gates. The Park West HOA is the organization that takes care of this work. Muirfield at Circle C is the second gated community in our neighborhood. Homeowners in each gated community will be members of two HOAs – CCHOA and the sub-association.

Our annual meeting will be held on Wednesday, 22 March at 6:30pm at Kiker. Two directors positions are up for re-election – the seats held by Steve Urban and by me. I have served on the CCHOA board for two years, and I will not run for re-election. I'd like to take a few minutes of your time to urge you to consider volunteering for the Association, and perhaps to run for election as a director.

If you happen to read the newsletter every month you will see that there are always interesting things going on at Circle C Ranch. I sometimes think that we are a lightning rod for *interesting things*. I'll list a few facts about Circle C and CCHOA – to give you a feel for the scope of our operation. We have approximately 3,700 homes in the association, and approximately 12,000 neighbors within Circle C Ranch. We are the size of a small town within the City of Austin.

We have relationships and licensing agreements with the City of Austin, and the local commercial developer (Stratus), and the local residential developers. We have a relatively high voting rate within this area – which means that politicians notice us. We have relationships with AISD, and a contract with our solid waste collection vendor (Allied Waste, formerly BFI). We receive calls from movie companies and TV networks. We get calls from the local news stations and the local newspapers. We are occasionally the subject of articles in the media – sometimes positive, and sometimes not. We have plans to build a new swim center, and to improve our existing amenities. We

(Continued on Page 2)

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

HOA Mgmt Officeinfo@circlecranch.info or 288-8663
Financial Office
Newsletter Publisher
Peel, Inc. Sales Office
Adv./Kelly Peel advertising@PEELinc.com, 512-989-8905
Circle C Amenities
Circle C Café
Circle C Swim Center
Circle C Tennis ClubCircle_CTennis@msn.com, 301-8685
Golf Course at Circle C Ranch

2005 Board of Directors

Quentin Fennessy	President
Steve Urban	
AE Martin	
Mike Price	Treasurer
Ed Scruggs	Development Officer
Matt Cano	Director
Carolyn Merritt	Director
Contact Information	Email: directors@circlecranch.info



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President's Letter - (Continued from Page 1)

have an annual budget close to \$2M. We have a monthly newsletter with a larger circulation than the Oak Hill Gazette.

I volunteered to run because I saw problems within Circle C that bothered me. I've lived here since November of 1993, and I had grown fond of this neighborhood. (Yes, I am still fond of it! :-)) I ran for a seat on the board, and no one was more surprised than I was when I learned that I had won. My time since then on the CCHOA Board has never been boring. Because of this job I have had the privilege to meet, speak or email many of you. I've also had the privilege to work with many neighbors who also volunteer their time for the neighborhood. This job has been an enriching experience for me.

If you care about Circle C Ranch, please consider working as a volunteer to maintain and improve our neighborhood. If you have questions about serving on the board, feel free to contact me at qfennessy@yahoo.com and I'll be glad to tell you more about the position.

Sincerely, your neighbor, Quentin Fennessy

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CCHOA Announcements

CCHOA Management Announcements

Paper Recycling Available

The CCHOA now has a recycling dumpster which is located in the back of the swim center plaza parking lot. This recycling dumpster is for "anything that tears" including cardboard. However, you MUST break down your cardboard boxes so that they fit through the slot of the dumpster. We have had several residents place cardboard boxes around the dumpster and this has created extra work. Please DO NOT leave anything on the ground next to the dumpster.

Lost Keys

If you have lost a set of keys and have not contacted the CCHOA office you may want to do so. We have about 4-5 sets of keys that have been turned in to our office.

Directory

The CCHOA will be outsourcing the next directory to Peel Inc., the company that currently publishes our newsletter. If you would like to be included in this next directory, and have not already filled out a Circle C Homeowners Information Form, please contact the HOA office at 288-8663 or via email at <u>info@circlecranch.info</u>. We much have this information by February 28, 2006.

Nominating Committee Announcement

Submitted by Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is made up of resident volunteers and one board member and their charge is to facilitate the election of directors to the board. The 2006 Committee members are A.E. Martin (Board Secretary) and residents Grady Bible and Carol de Solla.

Board Election Process

The Nominating Committee is taking nominations for two open board positions that will be up for election at the March 22 Annual Meeting of the CCHOA. You can submit names by one of the following ways:

- Phone: 288-8663
- Email: info@circlecranch.info
- Fax: 288-6488

The deadline for submitting nominations is February 20, 2006.

Please let the Committee know if you have any questions regarding this process at <u>info@circlecranch.com</u>



CCHOA Announcements Continued

Update from New Pool Manager

Submitted by William Hamilton

Greetings from the Circle C Swim Center. As you may or may not know, the pool is currently having some maintenance work done including: a new application of plaster, crack repairs, lighting repairs, new pool grating around the coping, new lane lines, and some code updates. We are proceeding forward with the goal to have all repairs finished and the pool full of water by January 20th, if all goes well and there are no unforeseen set-backs. At that point we will have the pool inspected by the City of Austin and begin the heating and curing process for the new plaster. We will open the pool as soon as possible.

In preparation for a late January opening, we are preparing to hire a crew of lifeguards to watch over the pool guests and assure their safety. Lifeguard candidates will start at \$6.50 per hour or higher based on experience. There will be a variety of shifts including early morning and evening lap swimming for the next few months, increasing to day time hours for Spring and Summer months. Circle C Swim Center strives for the objective to obtain cost effective value-added labor to staff swim center to ensure user safety, deliver excellent customer service, and maintain a clean and aesthetically pleasing facility. Applicants must meet the following minimum requirements to be considered for employment:

- 1. Applicant must be at least 16 years of age. (15 year old employee may be considered.)
- 2. Applicant must be certified with at least one of the following training agencies and supply an instructor signed copy of their current license for records (photocopy will be made and kept on file):
 - American Red Cross
 - YMCA
- 3. Applicant must be certified in the following minimum components:
 - Lifeguard training
 - First Aid
 - Adult, Child and Infant CPR for the Professional Rescuer
- 4. Applicant is responsible for any recertification's and expenses on or before the appropriate date on license.
- 5. Circle C Swim Center will supply paid in-service trainings to meet any and all city, county and state requirements.
- 6. Circle C Swim Center will provide one full uniform (hat, whistle and lanyard, t-shirt and swimsuit) to applicant upon acceptance of employment and completion of employee orientation.

We will begin interviewing lifeguard candidates in the weeks to come. If you have any questions related to the Circle C Swim Center or you are interested in employment, please feel free to contact me via the information below. William Hamilton

William Hamilton
Pool Manager / Aquatics Director
5919 La Crosse Ave., Suite 100
Austin, TX 78739
W (512) 288-8663 • F (512) 288-6488
whhamilton@hotmail.com

HOA Assessments Mailed

You should have received your 1st half of the year assessments in the mail by now – they are due March 1, 2006. All assessments should be mailed to:

CCHOA PO BOX 163541 Austin, Texas 78716

*Please **DO NOT** drop off your assessments at the CCHOA office on La Crosse Avenue, they should be mailed directly to the Accounting Office. For questions about your assessment, contact the Accounting Office at 451-9901.

Deed Restriction Reminder

As per the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for Circle C Ranch Subdivision Article V, Section 5 <u>Exterior Lighting</u> Christmas lights shall be permitted without prior approval during the month of December each year, and provided further that such lights must be removed by January 15 of each year.

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CCHOA Announcements Continued

Education Update

Submitted by Marian Wallace, Education Committee Chair

Well, winter has been warmer than normal this year - bad news for anyone wanting to wear sweaters, but good news for construction schedules! Construction on the new elementary school in Circle C West is well underway, and AISD is fully prepared to open the school this fall. The boundary task force for AISD has also been working throughout the fall and winter to change the current boundary lines to prepare the student body for the new school, and provide relief for Kiker and Mills Elementary Schools. A formal recommendation on these boundary changes for Southwest Austin will be made to AISD Superintendent Pat Forgione and the school board early this month.

Last month, Dr. Forgione and the boundary committee presented the proposed changes to the CACs at both Kiker and Mills Elementary Schools in January, and then at a public forum at Mills last month as well. Proposed changes in boundary will primarily affect the Wildflower Park and Circle C West neighborhoods, as well as the section of Circle C homes located just west of Escarpment.

See the map for details on how the proposed change in zones would divide the zone between Kiker Elementary and the new elementary school. The boundary line would run north of SH 45 past LaCrosse, cutting through Aden, Way, Back Bay, and Walebridge streets. The task force is also recommending that Wildflower Park be rezoned to attend Kiker Elementary; and Vintage Place, Park Place and Circle C North remain at Mills Elementary.

For a full map on all proposed boundary changes for Southwest Austin, visit www.theappleatwork.com.

Dr. Forgione has assured me that the district will consider transfers, particularly for those with students entering 5th grade who wish to remain at their current schools. For complete instructions on applying for a transfer and the deadlines, go to the AISD website, <u>www.austinisd.org</u>.

The proposed changes will provide a great relief to Kiker Elementary, which has had to work with severe overcrowding for several years now. It will bring its population down to around 715 students in 2006-07, with a projected growth of around 750 students in 2010. Mills Elementary will also receive some initial relief, but it is expected to continue to grow. The district has indicated that the boundary committee may need to review the growth at Mills annually to provide additional relief.

For information on work being done at all of the schools in our area, visit <u>www.</u> theappleatwork.com or call 414-BOND if you have questions concerning bond work being done.

Kiker Elementary is scheduled for an 8classroom addition to be constructed this spring. However, at press time, the building permit for the addition has not been approved by the city council or by the AISD school board. Discussions regarding the permit's approval have been ongoing because of a concern that the site at Kiker does not meet environmental regulations regarding impervious cover. AISD had scheduled this addition to be completed by fall 2006, but without a building permit, completion may be delayed until after the fall semester has begun.

The Austin City Council is scheduled to take up the matter on February 16, and upon approval, the school board will review it and sign off on the permit on February 13. Please contact our city council and school board to let them know that this permit needs to be approved immediately. The site at Kiker Elementary meets all of the environmental regulations agreed upon by AISD and the city of Austin – and our children should not have to bear the consequences of political tactics.

For additional updates on educational issues, visit our education committee page on the Circle C website – and I hope to see you in the hallways soon!





CCHOA Clubs & Announcements

Park West HOA News

Submitted by Kathy Jedrzejeqicz

Annual Homeowners Association Meeting: Tuesday February 7th, 7PM, at Kiker Elementary. Sign-in starts at 6:30 PM. Plan to attend this very important meeting to vote for three open Board positions. Homeowners who are up-do-date on their HOA dues are eligible to vote. We will review expenses for 2005, the 2006 budget and accomplishments we've made over the past year. Some of the topics for discussion include,



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Maria Tedder - ABR (512)-413-4343 Direct rmtedder@austin.rr.com

Dan Nowicki - ABR. GRI (512)-633-1780 Direct dnowicki@austin.rr.com





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fees. Nominating Committee recommendations for Board of Directors. After talking with a number of strong candidates, the Park West Nominating Committee recommends three residents for consideration. Additional nominations from the floor will be accepted at the annual meeting.

Keith Bolsen: Retired professor from Kansas State, now

running an active consulting business. Member of the Landscape committee. Keith is interested in maintaining property values and

keeping Park West a safe place to live. Keith and Ruthie have lived

Joe Burwell: A patent attorney, Joe has an excellent understanding of the Association, serving as a key member of the Bylaws & Covenants, Landscape, and Roads & Gates committees. His

knowledge of the law, and his interest in trees have been invaluable.

Kathy Jedrzejewicz: A diagnostic medical sonographer, Kathy

J. was elected to a one-year term in Feb 2005, and has served

as Secretary of the Board and advisor to the Communications Committee for the past year. She has been responsible for

newsletters, bulletin boards, and distribution of minutes of all Board

and committee meetings. If re-elected, she would like to work to

establish a Park West web site and develop written processes for

board and committee actions so the HOA can move forward with

We thank Bernadette Tasher, Don Brashear and Dave Maril for their

Committees: If you would like to be an active participant in planning

Entry Gates. Have you noticed the new lighting above the key pads

Joe has lived at 6633 Tasajillo Trail for four years.

at 6106 Tasajillo Trail for two years.

continuity.

street parking, speeding, yard art, animals, landscaping, and monthly

efforts as this year's Nominating Committee. Park West's future, sign-up sheets for the various committees will be available at the annual meeting. New contact information for the Board of Directors will be posted on the bulletin boards after our annual meeting, and updated committee contact information will be posted as soon as the committees have met and elected officers for the year. at both entry gates? Several residents told the Board of their difficulty Interested in Buying or Selling a Home in Circle C?

(Continued on Page 9)

CCHOA Clubs & Announcements Continued

Park West HOA - (Continued from Page 8)

punching in the gate codes after dark. Thanks to the work of our Roads & Gates committee, the numbers are now visible at night!

Vandalism. Local news stations reported that windows of over 300 vehicles were shot out by vandals in southwest Austin last month. Average repair cost: \$500. The vandals operate after midnight, and a \$1000 reward is offered. Aren't you glad that you live in a gated community? Even though this is reassuring, we still need to be proactive about protecting ourselves and our neighbors by making our environment unwelcoming to intruders and vandals. Some things you can do are: install motion sensing lights, install and use a home alarm system, keep garage doors closed, keep doors closed and locked, keep window shades drawn and blinds closed at night, and keep your un-garaged car locked. Keep an eye out for your neighbors since you might have better visibility to some parts of their homes than they do. Get to know your neighbors and neighborhood so you'll be familiar with who should be here and what normal activity looks like. Be on the alert for suspicious behavior. Call 911 if you suspect or see something unusual.

New Gated Community. The Enclave is a gated community under construction a mile west of Park West on La Crosse. We are told they will build 90 homes about the size of ours, in the \$300K range, and with conventional roofing. Monthly HOA fees at The Enclave are \$145.

Street Party. Did you notice the crowd of people near the east

entrance in the early evening hours on January 3rd? Some of our residents had pulled their BBQ grills, tables and chairs out to the street and started cooking! Everyone who walked or drove through was invited to bring something to eat and join the party. Neighbors from all over Park West ended up enjoying the beautiful warm evening together. We're told to be on the lookout for more semi-impromptu cook-outs in the future. So keep your eyes peeled. If you see a BBQ grill in the street, run home, grab whatever you have on hand to eat, and come join the fun! We are well on the way to becoming the best—at least the friendliest—HOA in Texas!

Back By Popular Demand - The Park West Wine Fest! Our first Wine Fest at the Wildflower Center's Wildflower Café was such a rousing success that we're doing it again! Mark your calendars for Sunday, February 26, 2006 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. The cost is \$25.00 per person. You'll enjoy six gournet hors de oeuvres, domestic and international cheeses, assorted fruit, three red wines, three white wines, and non-alcoholic sparkling wine—in addition to the great company of great neighbors! Space is limited to the first 50 people who reserve and make payment. Please make payments to Mike Hahn (301-5213) or Nancy Oliphant (301-7227) by February 10th.

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CCHOA Clubs & Announcements Continued

Circle C Area Professionals

Business Referral Group

Submitted by Bob McKenna, Circle C Resident

BNI, Business Network International, is a business and professional networking organization that offers its members the opportunity to share ideas, contacts and most importantly referrals. There are more than 20 active chapters in Central Texas and 3,600 worldwide. Last year alone, BNI generated **3.6 Million referrals** resulting in over **\$1.5 Billion** dollars worth of business for its members.

The Circle C area BNI chapter (The Live Oak Network) is a non-competitive referral organization that admits one member per professional category – therefore, once you've joined a chapter you've essentially eliminated your competition!

The Circle C area chapter is growing again! We are looking for one enthusiastic, hard working and honest individual from every profession to join our "lively" group!

Do you know a reputable and trust worthy Physical Therapist, Dentist, Hair Stylist, HVAC Tech, Real Estate Appraiser, Electrician, Public Relations specialist, Print Shop owner, Production Home Builder, Stockbroker, Personal Banker, Florist, Event Planner, or Event Equipment Rental Supplier? If so, send them our way.

Interested in learning more about building business by referral? Check us out – there is no obligation to join.

> The Live Oak Network Every Wednesday - 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM The Golf Club at Circle C Ranch 7401 Highway 45, Austin, Texas 78739.

The \$10.00 meeting fee is tax deductible and includes a healthy breakfast.

Bring at least 30 business cards to hand out to our members. For more information email <u>Bob@AustinReps.com</u>, or call 288-8088.

Classified Ads

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Circle C Ranch residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail to info@circlecranch.info.

Business classifieds (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$45, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office @ 512-989-8905 or advertising@PEELinc.com.



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Animal Control Issues

Submitted by Michelle Woodruff, Circle C Resident

In response to several incidents within the past few months involving the pets and other animals in Circle C Ranch and in the City of Austin, I believe that all Circle C Residents would benefit from the following information about what to do when faced with various animal control issues. The following information was copied from the Town Lake Animal Center website at <u>http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/tlac/control.htm</u>

ANIMAL ORDINANCES

Animal Protection & Control officers are there to enforce the Animal Control Ordinances (laws) of Austin and Travis County and work to protect both pets and people when animal problems arise. Call 3-1-1 to report an animal problem or emergency to Animal Protection & Control. Please keep in mind that our officers must cover a large geographical area and must battle the same traffic we all face. They will respond as quickly as possible to your request, based on the number of calls already received. Please also be aware that not all animal problems can be solved by a simple visit from an officer.

STRAY PETS

Dogs and livestock in the City of Austin and Travis County are required by law to be safely leashed or confined on the owners' property at all times, except when a dog is in a designated leash-free area. Cats are not required to be confined or leashed, so our officers do not pick up roaming cats.

If a pet or livestock is wandering, unsupervised and unleashed, in your area, please call 3-1-1 to make a report. If possible, but without putting yourself at risk, please try to confine a stray animal in a fenced yard or other enclosure to keep the animal safe while an officer makes his/her way to the area.

CRUELTY INVESTIGATION

Animal cruelty is a serious crime and should be reported to law enforcement. **Animal cruelty can be prosecuted and requires a full police investigation.** For more information on Texas animal cruelty laws, visit http://www.animallaw.info/topics/spustexascruelty.htm. If you live in Austin and witness an act of animal cruelty or suspect that an animal has been a victim of cruel or inhumane treatment, Call 3-1-1 to file a report with the Austin Police Department. Call 9-1-1 in case of an animal cruelty emergency.

INJURED ANIMALS

If the injured animal is a stray, call 311 to make a report to Animal Protection & Control.

If the injured animal belongs to you, Town Lake Animal Center cannot provide veterinary care. Take your pet to your own veterinarian, or, if it is after hours, take your injured pet to an Emergency Clinic. The North Emergency Clinic is located at 12034 Research Boulevard in Austin (331-6121) and the South Emergency Clinic is located at *(Continued on Page 12)*



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CCHOA Clubs & Announcements Continued

Animal Control - (Continued from Page 10)

4434 Frontier Trail in Austin (899-0955).

Be aware that failing to provide needed veterinary care to your pet can be considered Animal Cruelty.

Injured deer should be reported to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Game Warden at 389-4848.

To report other injured wild animals, call Wildlife Rescue at 472-WILD.

ANIMAL BITES

All animal bites to humans MUST be reported to Animal Protection & Control! Rabies continues to be a serious threat to animals and people in our area, so any possible exposure to rabies must be reported. If the animal that bit someone is not currently vaccinated against rabies, or if the rabies vaccination status is unknown, the animal will have to be placed under quarantine for a set period of time and observed for signs of rabies.

If a person has been attacked, bitten or scratched by a pet or wild animal and they need emergency care, call 911 immediately.

If a person has been attacked, bitten or scratched by a pet or wild animal but emergency care is NOT required, call 311 to report the incident.

WILDLIFE

Skunks, opossums, raccoons, squirrels, etc

Wild animals should be left alone. Please do not trap healthy raccoons, skunks, opossum or other wild animals. If you are concerned about wildlife that are active on or near your property, be sure all garbage containers are securely sealed, do not feed pets outdoors, remove bird and squirrel feeders, and seal up any holes that might allow a wild animal to access your garage, shed, attic, or under your porch for shelter. You can also trim back or remove shrubs and trees from your fence lines and any that touch your home or other structures.

Animal Protection & Control Officers will NOT pick up healthy wild animals that have been trapped in private traps. If you bring a trapped, healthy wild animal to the shelter, it will not be relocated, but, in accordance with State Law, simply returned to the area where it was trapped. Relocating a healthy wild animal only ensures that it will be an unhealthy wild animal wherever it is released, because it will not be familiar with sources of food, water or shelter.

For more information on preventing problems with wildlife, call Animal Damage Control at 854-9613.

If you see a raccoon, skunk or opossum during daylight hours, especially if it appears to be sick, disoriented, or injured, or if such

(Continued on Page 13)



CCHOA Clubs & Announcements Continued

Animal Control - (Continued from Page 12)

an animal has been touched or handled by a person or a pet, call 3-1-1.

If you have a wild animal in a living area of your home, call 3-1-1 to reach Animal Protection & Control.

COYOTES

For problems with coyotes, call Animal Damage Control at 854-9613. Follow this link for the February 2005 progress report on coyote management in the 78731 and 78759 zip code areas of Travis County.

Click on Coyote Management Report - 03/31/05 for an update. Here is the list report of coyote sighting calls for the period of time between May 1, 2005 through September 30, 2005 - PDF And this is the map showing sightings - PDF for the same period of time.

DEER

For problems with deer, call the Texas Parks & Wildlife Game Warden at 389-4848.

WILD BIRDS

If you have found a dead blue jay, crow, or hawk, call 3-1-1 to be connected to Animal Protection and Control. For more information

Kitty Fowler





about West Nile Virus, contact the Health Department at 1-888-883-9997.

BATS

If you have found a single bat— whether live, injured, sick, or dead— do not touch it, and do not allow other people or pets to touch it. Call 3-1-1 to reach Animal Protection & Control.

If you have discovered a colony of bats roosting on your property or in or near your living quarters, call Bat Conservation International at 327-9721.

Let's all look out for each other's families, including their pets and other wildlife in Circle C!



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Circle C Amenities

Circle C Cafe & Catering

Submitted by Julie Arevalo <u>www.circleccatering.com</u> 288-6058 Pool Cafe Hours: Monday - Saturday 3pm-8:30pm Closed Sunday Serving salads, pizzas, hamburgers, and nightly gourmet specials NEW MENU We are now serving gourmet pizzas, check out our new menu featuring Margarita Pizza, BBQ Chicken Pizza, Spinach & Artichoke Pizza & More! 292-4716 Wildflower Cafe Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10am-4pm Sunday 12pm-4pm Serving salads, sandwiches, soups, and desserts

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The Circle C Tennis Club

Submitted by Fernando Velasco

The Circle C Tennis Club is a Private Club. The dues paid to the Circle C Home Owners Association do not give automatic usage of the courts. Residents and non-residents of Circle C Ranch are welcome to join. There is no Initation Fees nor contracts for a period of time. Types of Membership available are: Family, Single Adult, Senior Family, Senior Single and Junior. Monthly dues paid allow Members to use the Tennis Courts on an unlimited basis, plus be able participate in all the programs that the Tennis Club offers. For membership information, please contact us at 301-8685 or visit us at the tennis facility located across the Golf Club at Circle C.

Beginners Tennis Lessons

The Circle C Tennis Club is offering lessons for adults who either have played tennis at one time and/or are interested in learning to play tennis. The co-ed groups meet on Mondays from 6 to 7 pm and Saturdays from 11:30am to 12:30 pm. The ladies' groups meet on Thursdays from 8:30 to 9:30am and Fridays from 10 am to 11 am. Child Care if provided for the morning and weekend sessions at \$5.00 per hour per child. This is a great way to get back into playing tennis again. Cost of the program is \$60.00 for six one hour sessions.

Junior Tennis Lessons

The third session of Junior lessons will begin the week of February 13. Lessons are offered for children 3-5 years old (Pee Wee); Grand Prix for ages 6-8, 9-11, 12-15 and the Pre-Advanced Tournament Program (PATP) for juniors who are interested in competing in Tennis Tournaments or play for their school's tennis teams. Lessons are open for members and non-members. If you want us to send you a brochure with all the schedules and fees, please call Kathi.



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Age

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Texas Events - February

2—ROUND ROCK: Main Street Artisan Stroll Talented artists, musicians and performers display wares and entertain strollers from 5 to 9 p.m. Historic Downtown. www.mainstreetstroll.com 512/341-8788

2-3—AUSTIN: George Winston Begins at 7 p.m. One World Theatre, 7701 Bee Caves Road. 512/329-6753

3-4—AUSTIN: The Austin Symphony Includes Janina Fialkowska, pianist, and Peter Bay, conductor. Begins at 8 p.m. Bass Concert Hall. www.austinsymphony.org 888/462-3787 or 512/476-6064

3-5, 10-12—WIMBERLEY: Jazz Festival Features famous and soon-to-be-famous jazz musicians from surrounding areas. Cypress Creek Cafe. E-mail: bcwimbo@aol.com 512/847-2515

4—AUSTIN: Carnival Brasiliero Flamboyant costumes, Brazilian samba music and the uninhibited atmosphere make this one of the biggest such festivals outside of Brazil. Palmer Events Center. www. sambaparty.com 512/452-6832

4—FREDERICKSBURG: Chorale Mid-Winter Concert Features original and newly composed choral music by Mark Hierholzer. St. Joseph's Hall, 212 W. San Antonio St. www.fredericksburgchorale. com 830/997-0212

4—FREDERICKSBURG: Fredericksburg Peach Opry This is Branson-style opry show with music, comedy entertainment and fun for the whole family. www.texaspianoman@aol.com 210/831-3272 4-5—NEW BRAUNFELS: Antique Show Features 60 selected dealers from the Shelby, Round Top, Warrenton and Marburger Farms Antique Show. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Civic Center, 380 S. Seguin Ave. 281/373-9977

7-12—AUSTIN: *Peter Pan* In her farewell performance, Cathy Rigby takes flight in the 100th anniversary of this immortal tale. Bass Concert Hall. www.broadwayacrossamerica.com 512/478-4265, 512/471-1444 or 800/687-6010

9-12, 16-19, 23-26—BULVERDE: *Feather of the Eagle* Napoleon called him the Bravest of the Brave. He called himself Pinion de L'Aiglon ... only a feather of the eagle's wing. S.T.A.G.E, 1300 Bulverde Road. 830/438-2339

9-26—MARBLE FALLS: *1940s Radio Hour* Takes place in a small 5000-watt New York City radio station. Focuses on a group of performers and their attempts to make it "big" in show biz. Hill Country Community Theatre. 830/798-8944

10—AUSTIN: Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder — An Evening of Bluegrass Begins at 7 and 9:30 p.m. One World Theatre, 7701 Bee Caves Road. 512/329-6753

10—AUSTIN: Strings Attached with Monte Montgomery Montgomery is recognized by critics and musicians for his stunning six-string work and his abilities as a singer and a writer of original songs with a deep roots sensibility. Begins at 8 p.m. St. David's Episcopal Church. www.stringsattached.org 512/775-2371

10—ROUND ROCK: Valentine Dance Features live music and spaghetti dinner. Hours are 6 to 9 p.m. Senior Center. 512/218-5499

10-12—AUSTIN: Needle Arts Show & Boutique Eileen Bennett is the featured guest teacher and lecturer. A special exhibit is Michelangelo's Ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, a 40-inch by 80-inch depiction in cross stitch. Includes merchants, exhibits, boutique, tea room and classes. Northwest Recreation Center. www.austinstitchers. org 512/858-1506

10-12, 17-19—FREDERICKSBURG: Wine Lover's Trail Travel through the Hill Country and taste new vintage wines and enjoy different kinds of activities in celebration of the season. Wineries feature dinners, pairing of wines/foods and entertainment. www. texaswinetrail.com 888/997-2300, 830/997-6523 or 866/621-9463

11—AUSTIN: Dave Douglas Quintet A master composer, innovative arranger and powerhouse trumpeter, Douglas carves new and inventive terrain from the inspirational glory of jazz legends. Begins at 8 p.m. Hogg Auditorium. www.utpac.org 512/471-1444 or 800/687-6010

11—BANDERA: Sweetheart Dance Enjoy dinner and dance in a fabulous country setting. Hours are 6:30 to 11 p.m. Farm Country Club. www.banderacowboycapital.com 830/796-4969

11—KERRVILLE: Centenary College Choir This group has been dubbed "America's Singing Ambassadors" from their numerous tours around the world. Begins at 7:30 p.m. Kathleen C. Cailloux Theater, 910 Main St. www.kpas.org 830/896-5727

11—NEW BRAUNFELS: 14th Annual Hill Country Doll Show & Sale Includes antique and modern collectible dolls, bears, miniatures, accessories, supplies, books and restoration. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. New Braunfels Civic Center. www.dolldr.com 830/606-5868

11—NEW BRAUNFELS: American Legion's Third Annual '50s and '60s Sockhop Begins at 7 p.m. American Legion Hall, 410 W. Coll. 830/625-0719

11-12, 18-19—STONEWALL: Merlot & Chocolates Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Becker Vineyards, 11 miles east of Fredericksburg and 3 miles west of Stonewall off Hwy. 290 on Jenschke Lane. www.beckervineyards.com 830/644-2681

12—AUSTIN: Lily Tomlin Tomlin is a cultural icon whose performances on life, love and pop culture keep the audience laughing. Paramount Theatre. www.austintheatrealliance.org 512/472-2901

14—AUSTIN: Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater This groups' daunting breadth of stylistic and technical feats take audiences to unexplored territory, making each encounter fresh and exhilarating. Begins at 8 p.m. Bass Concert Hall. www.utpac.org 512/471-1444 or 800/687-6010

14—AUSTIN: Bobby Caldwell — Valentine's Day Shows are 7 and 9:30 p.m. One World Theatre. 512/329-6753

14—KINGSLAND: Winter Texan Dinners Kingsland Community Center. 325/388-6211

16-17—AUSTIN: Cowboy Junkies Begins at 7 and 9:30 p.m. One World Theatre, 7701 Bee Caves Road. 512/329-6753

16-19—AUSTIN: Ballet Austin's New American Talent The work of the three finalists from Ballet Austin's emerging choreographers competition is performed. Paramount Theatre. www.balletaustin.org 512/476-2163

17—AUSTIN: Ojos de Brujo This collective of Spanish musicians use the tools of traditional flamenco as a foundation for cross-genre experimentation. Begins at 8 p.m. Hogg Auditorium. www.utpac.org 512/471-1444 or 800/687-6010

17-19—FREDERICKSBURG: Trade Days Includes more than 300 vendors, five barns, acres of antiques and more, biergarten and *(Continued on Page 17)*

CIRCLE C RANCH

Texas Events - (Continued from Page 21)

music. Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Hwy. 290 E. across from Wildseed Farms. www. fbgtradedays.com 830/990-4900 or 210/846-4094

18—AUSTIN: February Pops Includes the Spinners and conductor Peter Bay. Begins at 8 p.m. Riverbend Centre. www.austinsymphony. org 888/462-3787 or 512/476-6064

18—BANDERA: Cowboy Mardi Gras Celebrate Mardi Gras in a true country fashion with authentic Cajun food and music, plus a Mardi Gras parade. Main Street Bandera. E-mail: bandera@hctc.net • www.banderacowboycapital.com 800/364-3833

18-20—AUSTIN: *Pop Go the Texans!* Features music inspired by Texas and the West and the rich heritage of music composed by Texans. www.austinchambermusic.org 512/454-0026

19—AUSTIN: Freescale Marathon This is the 15th largest marathon in the country and draws nearly 10,000 runners to Austin. Northwest Austin to Auditorium Shores. www.freescaleaustinmarathon.com 512/478-4265

23—FREDERICKSBURG: Van der Stucken Music Festival Series of songs, skits of comedy and pathos tell the stories of historical characters presented by the Fredericksburg Chorale, Hermann Sons Mixed Chorus and the Arion Men's Choir of Fredericksburg. St. Joseph's Halle, 212 W. San Antonio St. E-mail: kenknopp@ktc.com 830/997-3273

23—KERRVILLE: Symphony Orchestra Concert — Symphony

of the Hills Classical music concert features musicians from the Hill Country. Kathleen C. Cailloux Theater. www.symphonyofthehills. com 830/792-7469

24—AUSTIN: Maynard Ferguson & his Big Bop Nouveau Band Begins at 7 and 9:30 p.m. One World Theatre, 7701 Bee Caves Road. 512/329-6753

24-25—SAN SABA: Archeological Society Artifacts Show Civic Center. 325/372-5141

24-25—UVALDE: Sahawe Indian Dancers Winter Ceremonials Presents a colorful, fast-moving and educational program of dances of Indians of the Southwest Pueblos. First United Methodist Church. E-mail: sahawe@rionet.cc • www.visituvalde.com 830/278-2016

25-26—ROUND ROCK: A Sami Show This is an arts & crafts show. Dell Diamond. www.samishow.com 512/441-7133

28—AUSTIN: *Diverse Diversions* Welcome Quinton Morris, Young Eight violinist, back to the stage for the fourth annual concert displaying rich, varied and rarely heard works by African-American composers. Huston-Tillotson University.

www.austinchambermusic.org 512/454-0026

28—KERRVILLE: Mardi Gras on Main Includes fine art, fine wine and fine cuisine. Kathleen C. Cailloux Theater. 830/792-8395

Texas Events has been published with the permission of the Texas Department of Transportation. All events are taken in part from the Texas Events Calendar. All dates for events were correct at the time of publication and are subject to change.



Recipe of the Month

Strudel

2 cups flour 1 can Apple Pie Filling 1 cup margarine 1 cup powdered sugar ½ pt. sour cream or half & half slivered almonds (optional)

Cut margarine into flour, stir in sour cream. Refrigerate overnight. Cut in half; roll each half out to a 16x10" rectangle. Fill center with canned pie filling. Fold over sides & ends. Bake in 350° oven 50 minutes. About 15 minutes before taking out of oven, sprinkle with almonds if desired. Combine powdered sugar & 3 tablespoons water to make icing. When cool, drizzle with icing. Any flavor pie filling may be used.



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CIRCLE C RANCH



Prevention Is The Key To Decreasing Oak Wilt Spread TFS Urges Caution When Selecting and Transporting Oak Firewood

December 5, 2005

AUSTIN, Texas – Texas Forest Service is encouraging Texans to be careful when collecting and purchasing firewood at this time of year. Transporting and storing diseased wood is a known means of spreading the devastating oak wilt fungus to previously uninfected neighborhoods. Utilizing these prevention steps is the key to safeguarding against spreading the disease through the selection and use of firewood:

- Select well-seasoned firewood. Well-seasoned wood is cut before the summer and is typically dry with loose bark and cracked ends. Avoid oak wood that appears unseasoned, that may have tight bark and cut ends which show no cracks or signs of aging. The extreme heat and drying of a full Texas summer effectively destroys the fungus in cut firewood.
- Safely store unknown sources of firewood. If the oak wood comes from an unknown source and it is not well seasoned, cover the woodpile with a clear piece of plastic. Burying the edges

of the plastic will prevent the entry or exit of insects that might have been attracted to diseased wood and fungal mats.

- **Destroy diseased red oaks.** A knowledgeable arborist or forester should diagnose red oaks (i.e., Spanish, Texas red, blackjack or shumard oak) that die rapidly (2-3 weeks) or in groups (2 or more trees over several years) for oak wilt. Trees suspected to have died recently from oak wilt should be destroyed by burning, burying or chipping. The heat of a fire destroys the fungus and the smoke emitted poses no threat to healthy trees. When planning to do any outdoor burning, be sure you check with local officials to see if an outdoor burning ban is in place for your county and take care **<u>not</u>** to burn on windy days with low humidity.
- Avoid wounding oaks during vulnerable seasons. The general recommendation is to avoid injuries to oaks from February through June. The best times for pruning of oaks are during the heat of summer (minimal spore production) or the cold of *(Continued on Page 21)*



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Prevention - (Continued from Page 20) winter (minimal insect activity).

• **Paint all oak wounds including pruning cuts.** Throughout the year, immediately apply a thin coat of latex or pruning paint to all fresh wounds and other injuries that expose the inner bark or sapwood of oaks. This prevents contaminated sap beetles from infecting the wound with oak wilt spores.

Oak firewood is an important commodity to Texans, whether it's used for firing up the barbecue pit or for warming up the home on a cold winter's day. By selecting well-seasoned, disease-free firewood and by following other disease prevention guidelines, homeowners are taking the correct steps to prevent a new oak wilt disease outbreak in their neighborhood. Visit http://texasforestservice.tamu.edu/forest/oakwilt/default.asp or www.texasoakwilt.org for more information, or call the TFS/Lower Colorado River Authority's Oak Wilt Hotline-512-473-3517.



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Establishing a Web Site 101 -- for Business or Fun

By Kaylee Kolditz, Kaylee@kayleeskoaching.com

As we've likely all figured out by now, the Internet is here to stay. Many of us use it daily and the rest use it at least occasionally. From weather and news to shopping and chatting with family and friends, the Web has become as much a part of our lives as the telephone and the automobile.

The good news for businesses and individuals looking to establish themselves as an entity on the Web is that building a basic Web site has become easy and affordable. Getting started is just a matter of knowing what you need to do. So, here are six steps for launching a basic site that can be uniquely you:

1. Select a domain name.

The domain name is the address for your site -- also called the URL (for example www.companyname.com). Come up with a list of several names you can choose from; each of which should indicate to Web visitors something about your site or your business (i.e. SmithFamilyPhotos, BusinessName, WhatIKnowAboutXYZ, etc.). You can be creative, but make sure that the name is easy to spell and easy to remember.

2. Register your domain name.

Now it is time to see if the name you want is available and get it registered. You can accomplish both tasks by visiting a domain name registrar (a Googleä search will give you many to choose from). You will have the option to choose from a variety of extensions (that is the part after the "dot"; i.e. com, net, biz, org). The registrar should provide guidance on the appropriate use for each extension. Dot com tends to be the most frequently used extension, so if you really like the domain name you've selected and it is already registered using ".com", consider using .net or one of the other alternatives.

3. Find a Web host/design service.

There are numerous services that can provide both the design and the hosting of your site. Again, an online search will reveal many services you can choose from. Shop around -- review prices as well as offerings. (Keep in mind that if you want a lot of bells and whistles on your site or are developing an eCommerce site, you'll need to do a bit more research and should consider using a Web developer and/or designer for your site build.)

4. Select a template.

Perhaps the easiest way to build a site is to use the templates provided by the online design and hosting company you choose. The selection is getting broader and some services even allow limited customization, such as choice of color or addition of your own graphics. Make sure you review the selection of templates and find several options you're willing to use before you purchase your service.

(Continued on Page 23)



To Match Your Dreams

Web Site - (Continued from Page 22)

5. Develop your content.

Content is basically the words of your site. What will your site say to your visitors? Keeping your content short and to the point will increase your chances of having it read. Additionally, adding some personality to your words -- showing a bit of who you are or what your company culture is -- can help make your site more inviting.

6. Share with the world!

The adage "If you build it, they will come" does not apply to Web sites. If no one knows your site exists, no one will visit. So, start spreading the news. Send an email to friends, family, colleagues — everyone. If yours is a business site, look into search engine marketing and other online advertising opportunities. Know who you want to visit your site and find a way to let them know the site is now live and waiting for them!





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have you met life today?"

CIRCLE C RANCH



Eat Well to Stay Motivated and Energized

Do you have trouble exercising at noon or after work even though you're truly committed to exercise and it's the only time you have to work out?

Do you feel so exhausted that you just can't face the gym?

Your diet - rather than simple sloth - may be the problem.

If you tend to skip meals in an attempt to save calories, you may be robbing yourself of important fuel for your workout. While skipping meals may temporarily make your stomach feel flatter, doing so can also leave you feeling tired, irritable and unfocused.

Then you'll be tempted to forego your noontime workout, or go home, eat and stretch out on the couch in front of the TV after work.

If, however, you follow some simple, sensible dietary practices throughout your day, you'll get that workout done. And rather than feeling lightheaded and exhausted afterward, you'll be energized and refreshed.

Stay with feel-good foods

One key to staying motivated to exercise is to keep the amount of sugar in your blood - and thus, your energy level - stable. You can best do that by eating a series of small meals throughout the day - as many as five or six that are composed of complex carbohydrates such as whole grain breads, beans and other vegetables, whole grain crackers and fruit.

If you plan ahead and make time for grocery shopping, you can easily pack some simple meals and snacks to take to work with you.

Eating complex carbohydrates helps keep your blood sugar stable because they are digested and absorbed slowly into the blood and don't require your pancreas to produce much insulin.

Refined carbohydrates, such as potato chips, doughnuts and cookies, are absorbed very quickly and trigger the pancreas to produce large amounts of insulin. So, while they may give you an initial boost, your energy will drop off quickly, and your mood will follow.

The amount of sugar in your blood is also related to the amount of serotonin in your brain. Serotonin is an important chemical called a neurotransmitter that helps to regulate mood.

If your level of serotonin is where it should be, you'll have a sense of well-being and confidence - and feel ready to tackle the treadmill. Should it drop, you may feel tired and depressed.

I fyou often experience a craving for carbs, this may be your brain's way of telling you it needs more serotonin.

You'll keep your motivation to exercise if you:

- Have a glass of juice to boost your energy before a morning workout.
- Eat a breakfast that includes whole grains and fruit or fruit juice.
- Eat small, frequent small meals and snacks during the day to maintain your blood sugar.
- Make sure to have a light, healthy snack an hour before your noon or after-work workout.
- Stay hydrated, keeping a water bottle at your desk at work.
- Limit or eliminate the amount of caffeine in your diet.

Cut the caffeine

What about caffeine? Good question. Many athletes rely on caffeine for the initial kick it can provide.

Remember, though, that caffeine can also affect the amount of insulin, and thus, sugar, in your blood. Further, it can cause dehydration, which can also sap your energy. While drinking a caffeinated beverage may help get you to the gym, within an hour you may feel tired and too lightheaded to complete your workout, or to do it well.

If you plan to engage in running or other highly vigorous activity, remember that some forms of caffeine, coffee in particular, can lead to mild gastronomical distress, as can some bulky foods.

So, you'd be wise to limit the amount of coffee, tea and soda that you drink for a number of reasons.

Suppose you're an early bird, and your best time to work out is in the morning before you go to work. For quick energy, drink some juice upon rising and avoid coffee.

Once you've completed your workout, have a more solid breakfast of whole-wheat cereal or toast and fruit to fuel your concentration for the morning's work. If you work out and eat too lightly, chances are you'll get ''the drowsies'' by 2 p.m., if not sooner.

Keep in mind that finding the right combination of food and drink to energize your workout - whatever time of day you choose - may take some experimenting. It all depends upon your individual tastes and your metabolism.

With a little patience, an open mind and a little creativity, you'll determine which foods suit you best.



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m a	1 0	Circle C)		ear Trend by Neighborhood Year						
The Circle C Child	1			2001	2002	2003	2004	2005		
Development Center is	Circl	e C Central	Homes Sold Avg Price / SF	126 \$93	93 \$89	94 \$86	104 \$85	114 \$92		
actually a non-profit?	Circl	e C North	Homes Sold Avg Price / SF	63 \$100	53 \$101	41 \$99	63 \$100	64 \$101		
Donations given to	Wild	flower	Homes Sold Avg Price / SF	21 \$106	31 \$99	36 \$97	33 \$100	44 \$102		
the school is actually	On Th	he Park	Homes Sold Avg Price / SF	23 \$97	22 \$99	12 \$102	19 \$97	19 \$99		
a tax write off.	Vinta	ge	Homes Sold Avg Price / SF	8 \$96	4 \$104	5 \$93	12	10 \$93		
a tali 11110 (jj.	Hiels.	cher	Homes Sold Avg Price / SF	8 \$99	25 \$99	62 \$92	66 \$93	62 \$100		
Did you also know?	Park	West	Homes Sold Aug Price / SF	15 \$118	20 \$123	17 \$114	13 \$120	18 \$122		
Austin Real Estate	Circl	e C West	Homes Sold Avg Price / SF	*110	4125	3	18 \$104	15 \$104		
Partners is proud		Place	Homes Sold Avg Price / SF			1110	17 \$92	25 \$102		
to support the Circle C	11 Muir	field	Homes Sold Avg Price / SF				478	8 \$120		
hild Development Center	Encla	we	Homes Sold Avg Price / SF					9 \$111		
with a donation each	Total		Homes Sold Avg Price / SF	264 \$98	248 \$98	270 \$94	345 \$94	388		
time we close on a house		Correspon	iding Neighb							
in Circle C Ranch.	II Maket	Peport data was obta	ined from the Austin-Mul	tiple Listing Ber	vice (MLS) on (1910/2006. In sc	me cases new	construction		
m Circle C Ranch.	prop	erties are not included	Sin the MLS data and then	elore are not re	presented Duty	is deemed acc	urate but not g	aarankeed.		

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