



CIRCLE C RANCH

The Official Publication of the
Circle C Homeowner's Association

Newsletter

Volume 6, Number 6

June 2009

www.circlecranch.info

Another Cycle Over, A New One Just Begun

Submitted by Steve Urban

While mulling over whether I would include an article in this month's newsletter, my inbox was overflowing with gratitude and good tidings from both the winners and losers in this month's municipal elections, as well as their friends and supporters. Mayor-Elect Lee Leffingwell has been a longtime friend and supporter of the neighborhood and we are lucky to have him as our mayor. Unfortunately, we are also losing a great friend with the departure of Mayor Pro Tem Brewster McCracken. He has always been willing to lend an ear and his support whenever we needed an ally on city council. We showed our appreciation for Councilmembers Sheryl Cole and Mike Martinez for their efforts over the last few years by returning them to office. We also made new friends in Chris Riley and Bill Spelman by giving them our support. The more things change, the more they stay the same.

Our slice of Southwest Austin has gone through similar changes. Our former President and Vice-President, Rob Johnson, elected not to seek another term as president this year due to what can only be described as a grueling litigation schedule. We were sad to see him go. On the other hand, Rob remains a dedicated director committed to leading by example and helping the remainder of us who have committed to an officer position to weather the storm. At our last board meeting, without exception or objection, we elected myself, Mary Goehring, Jason Bram and Russ Hodes as your respective President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer for the coming year. We also appointed directors Jason Bram and Joel Pace as Development Officers to shepherd our amenities goals to fruition. All of the directors are hoping this will be a proactive and productive year for the neighborhood. The more things change, the more they stay the same.

The Board of Directors is currently preparing for a formal retreat to determine our long and short term goals as a working group and what we are to expect of one another over the next year. (No business suites and expense accounts here. Think hard, plastic chairs and bottled water at the CDC! J). As we are put on this board to represent you, please feel free to contact us with any of your concerns or suggestions on how we can make the neighborhood a better place.

Swim Center Summer Pool Hours

Begin June 4, 2009

Closed Mondays

Lap Swim Only

Tue - Fri 6:00am to 9:00pm

Saturday 7:00am to 9:00pm

Sunday 10:00am to 8:00pm

Recreational Swim

Tue - Fri 10:00am to 9:00pm

Saturday 10:00am to 9:00pm

Sunday 10:00am to 8:00pm

*The Swim Center will open at 1pm on the following
Saturdays due to Seals swim meets: June 6, 13 and 20*



Mark Your Calendars!

Upcoming HOA Events

- Movie Night at the Pool – Sat, June 13th, "Tale of Despereaux"
- 4th of July Parade – Sat, July 4 at 8:30am, Swim Ctr Plaza
- Movie Night at the Pool – Sat, Jul 11th, "Kung Fu Panda"

CIRCLE C RANCH

CCHOA Numbers

HOA Mgmt Office info@circlecranch.info or 288-8663
Financial Office 451-9901
Aquatics Director 288-4239
Newsletter Publisher
Peel, Inc. Sales Office. 512-263-9181
Adv./Kelly Peel...advertising@PEELinc.com, 512-263-9181

Circle C Amenities

Circle C Café 288-6058
Circle C CDC..... 288-9792
Circle C Swim Center 288-6057
Circle C Tennis Club General@CircleCTennis.com, 301-8685
Sub Association Info:
KB Enclave and Fairway Estates HOA
Kim Bigley, CMCA, Manager..... 347-2888
Parkwest HOA
Goodwin Management 502-7509
Streetman Enclave HOA
K.O. Orsak 646-6739
Muirfield HOA
Sara Huff 219-1927

2009 Board of Directors

Steve Urban..... President
Mary Goehring Vice President
Jason Bram..... Secretary/Development Officer
Russ Hodes Treasurer
Joel Pace..... Development Officer
Rob Johnson Board Member
Cindy Groves Board Member
Contact Information Email: directors@circlecranch.info

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

City of Austin Solid Waste 974.1945
Dead Animal Collection..... 974.2000
Abandoned Vehicle..... 974.8119
Pothole Complaints..... 974.8750
Stop Signs 457.4885
Street Light Outage 505.7617
Schools
Clayton Elementary 841.9200
Kiker Elementary 414.2584
Mills Elementary..... 841.2400
Bailey Middle School 414.4990
Small Middle School 841.6700
Bowie High School 414.5247
SAYSA..... 899.1049

Circle C Open House

Circle C Open House is a neighborhood-wide tour of open houses. Any realtor or FSBO may register their home within Circle C. Tours are held every other Sunday from 1pm to 4pm in Circle C. Submit your listings by 3pm on Friday to have your property on the next tour. Questions? info@circlecopenhouse.com
www.circlecopenhouse.com

Remember NO Dumping at the Swim Center's Dumpsters

THIS DUMPSTER IS FOR SWIM CENTER,
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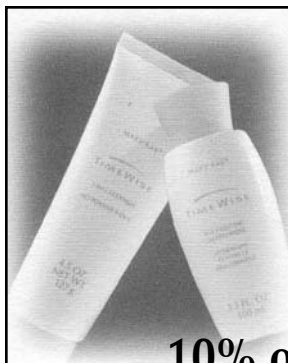
Circle C Newsletter

The Circle C Newsletter is a monthly publication mailed to all Circle C residents. If you have an article of interest to the community please submit to info@circlecranch.info by the 10th of the month. The newsletter can also be viewed online at www.circlecranch.info



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CCHOA News

4th of July Parade & Celebration



Please join us for the annual 4th of July Parade on Saturday, July 4th in the Swim Center Plaza. We will meet at 8:30am so everyone can decorate their bikes, scooters, strollers and wagons. The parade will begin promptly at 9:00am and will be led by our own Fire Station # 43 and the Bowie ROTC. The route will be short to accommodate our young riders. We'll end up back at the Swim Center Plaza for a "Best Decorated" contest and popsicles.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer for the event, please email info@circlecranch.info

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CCHOA News Continued

Termination of Recycling Dumpster Service

The CCHOA contracted with Balcones Recycling Services several years ago to provide two dumpsters in the Swim Center parking lot for "anything that tears". Unfortunately we have seen a lot of abuse during that time, boxes that are not broken down, miscellaneous items that are not accepted dumped in the dumpster or beside the dumpster, etc. This causes delay in pick-ups, extra clean-ups, etc. Due to this and to the fact that the City of Austin now provides recycling services for empty boxes and paper, we will no longer have the dumpsters available starting June 30, 2009. We would encourage everyone to use their personal container for recycling "anything that tears".

Deed Restriction Update

As noted in every newsletter, we are driving 2 to 3 sections of the neighborhood per month. We are looking for violations that can be seen from the street view of the home. You can find a full copy of the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions online at www.circlecranch.info. This time of year we are seeing a lot of overgrown yards that have spotty weeds, has not been trimmed and have overgrown shrubbery. We are also looking at the upkeep on the maintenance of the home (paint, siding, roofs, etc.). If you receive a letter from the HOA regarding a violation on your property, Please give us a call at 288-8663 or send us an email at info@circlecranch.info. We can work with you on a plan for bringing your home into compliance.

For items that cannot be seen from the street view, such as backyard maintenance, our recommendation is to report to the City of Austin at code enforcement (dial 311). For items that are under the jurisdiction of the City, such as vehicles parked on the street, we also recommend that you report to the City (dial 311). You can find a listing of city restrictions online at www.ci.austin.tx.us under the Solid Waste link (the City's code enforcement is a branch of the Solid Waste department). If you're unsure what constitutes a valid complaint or where you should lodge your complaint, call us and we will clarify.

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CCHOA News Continued

Circle C Landscape

Submitted by Susan Hoover



It is hard to believe that Spring came and went so fast this year!! So, as we move toward what is sure to be a long hot summer, our June landscape activities will include some of the measures that we take to ensure that our vegetation survives the extreme Texas summers.

In June we will be pruning the perennial beds, checking and replacing mulch where needed, and making sure that our irrigation system is running as efficiently as possible.

This year, as part of the capital budget improvements, we are installing a centralized irrigation control system for Escarpment and parts of Slaughter Lane. This will allow us to meet the City of Austin water conservation ordinance standards more efficiently while making sure that the vegetation has enough water to survive the Texas summer. We have a water plan filed with the City of Austin that allows us to water 2x per week maximum, however, we have some flexibility on what

days we water because our system is so large. The computer system will also allow us to turn the water off and on easily in the case of rain as a back up to the rain sensors that we have installed on the controllers. Most large properties have centralized control, and we are looking forward to it.

Wildflower Park recently underwent an “extreme makeover” as part of the long term improvement plans. New plants were installed at the Sundrop Valley entry, along with rockwork and an irrigation tune up for this area. The plant palette includes plants that are included in the Circle C Green Community model. We will be implementing a similar makeover in Circle C North in the coming weeks.

Bartlett Tree Service also provided some excellent pruning for the CCHOA on Escarpment, just north of La Crosse. These trees were in need of a health prune, and they have all had the dead wood removed

and look a lot better. Pruning trees in this fashion not only helps the trees, but will provide some light to the grass underneath. The CCHOA Board of Directors approved a budget line for tree pruning that will hopefully continue throughout the coming years. In the commons areas of Circle C, there are over 2200 shade trees, so tree maintenance will continue to be an issue. You will also notice a few trees have died out along Slaughter and Escarpment. None of this is oak wilt, but the drought has taken a toll on the trees over the past year and a half. Ones that were not doing so good in the first place are the most susceptible to decline during extreme weather conditions.

We are also mowing at the highest level this year on the turf. This helps during low water and drought conditions by shading the roots of the grass a little. You may want to employ this technique in your own lawn over the hot summer months.

CCHOA News Continued



Bring Your Tabs

Don't forget to bring us your aluminum can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.

Some of you are now in the habit of collecting the aluminum can tabs and we appreciate you taking the time to bring them to the HOA office. We will continue to collect aluminum soda can tabs in the management office so please DO NOT throw your cans away without taking off the tabs. The tabs will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin and Central Texas. To read more about the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Austin and Central Texas, you can visit <http://www.rmhc-austin.org/>

Capital Budget Projects 2009

A complete listing of all Capital Budget projects approved by the Board of Directors for 2009 can be found on the website, www.circlecranch.info (you must first create an account to log in). Below is a summary of what projects are underway or already completed:

- Landscape Bed Upgrades – Wildflower Park is complete and Circle C North is next on the schedule
- Bollard Lights (the tall pole like lights that line Escarpment Blvd) – 16 new lights were installed
- Slaughter Landscape Lighting – about ½ of the electrical work repair has been completed in this area
- Swim Center – volleyball net has been upgraded
- Swim Center – new bench style seats have been ordered
- Swim Center – the drains in the main pool and toddler pool have been upgraded to meet new code requirements
- Swim Center – the bathhouse roof project is underway and should be complete by the 2nd week of June
- Playscapes – phase II of the playscape projects in Wildflower Park and Vintage Place are underway



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CCHOA News Continued

Here Comes the Shade!

Submitted by the Amenities Committee

The Circle C Amenities Committee has been researching Phase II of the playscapes installed in December of 2007 at Wildflower Park and Vintage Place. The board of directors allocated funds as a capital budget project for phase II for 2009.

Just in time for the hot, sunny weather, the Board of Directors have approved it! Austin Custom Shades will install custom shade structures over the playscapes at both Vintage Place and Wildflower Park. A second phase of improvement will include landscaping around the structures. Look for the shade by the end of June!

Please let us know if you have any questions by email at info@circlecranch.info

Lawn Clippings

Now that we are entering the growing season most of you are mowing your grass once a week or once every other week which results in a lot of grass clippings. The best thing you can do with your grass clippings is to blow or sweep them back onto your lawn so that they are recycled. DO NOT blow your grass clippings in the street as they end up in our storm water drains.

You may also bag your lawn clippings in brown paper refuse bags available at Home Depot or Lowes and the City will pick these up for free on your scheduled garbage day (Monday). Please do not set these out any earlier than Sunday evening.



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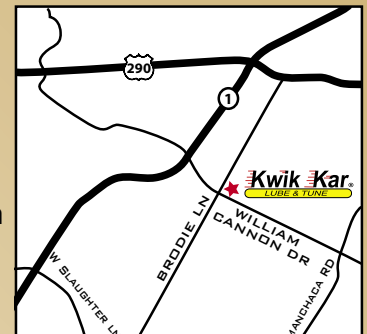
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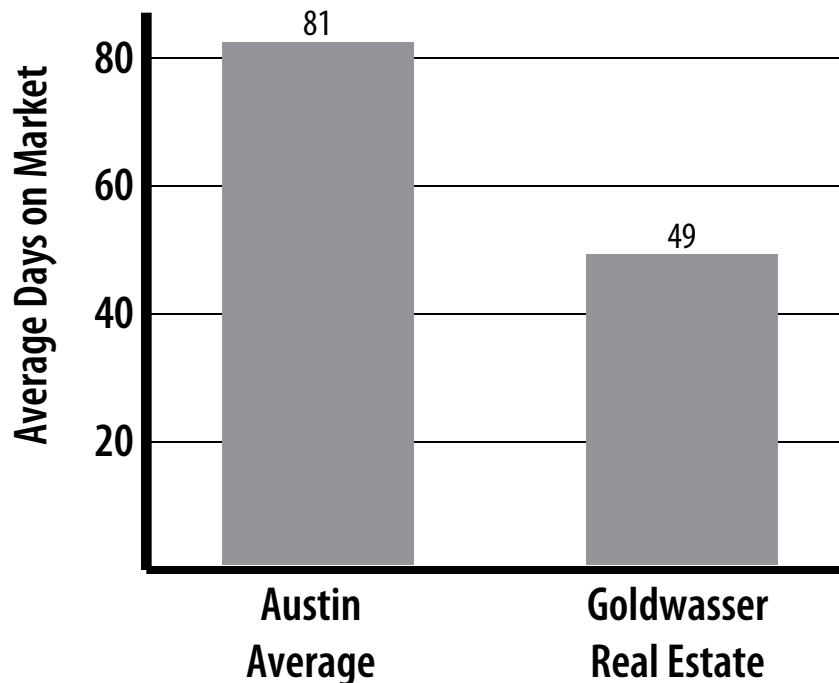
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CCHOA Clubs & Announcements

June Events at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Submitted by Saralee Tiede



Paintings by Chrissie Forbes

June 6 through 28 - Wildflowers and wildlife in colorful oils and acrylics at the McDermott Learning Center

National Trail Days

Saturday, June 6 - Scott B. Fleenor will sign the new Plants of Central Texas Wetlands and Invertebrates of Texas, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the store.

First Day of Summer Sale

Saturday and Sunday, June 13 and 14 - Discounts on door mats, bird feeders and patio furniture for outdoor living at the store

Summer Sales & Clearances

Saturday and Sunday, June 27 and 28 - Drastic reductions—up to 75 percent--on gifts, apparel, seasonal items in the store

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CCHOA Clubs & Announce. *Continued*



Pink Hibiscus Mealybug

Pink hibiscus mealybugs (PHM) are soft-bodied insects closely related to scale insects. PHM adult females are wingless with oval bodies and a white, waxy coating covering the body. The females have a couple of waxy filaments coming off the edge of the body and two buttons of wax on the abdomen. Male PHM have wings and two long waxy tails. Both have a pinkish to reddish body that exudes a reddish-brown fluid when pierced.

Damage occurs to plants in the form of "bunchy top" where new growth curls and the stems stop growing and become thicker. There is usually white, waxy accumulations on the plant.

Currently, biological control is the best method to manage PHM populations. The Texas Department of Agriculture is working on releasing beneficial insects in areas where PHM has been confirmed, so if you suspect that you have a pink hibiscus mealybug infestation, please contact me. Heavily infested plants can have infested areas pruned off. Pruned areas should be double bagged and disposed of.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Also check out www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

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Spring Specials:

- **Aerate your lawn only \$99!** Last chance to aerate your lawn this spring and save even more money. Ask about our "2-for-1 Neighbor Special" and get your lawn aerated for only **\$49**, and your neighbors for only **\$50!** Special ends June 30, 2009.
- **Spring sprinkler inspection and reprogramming for only \$29** (with advice on how to decrease your water bill).



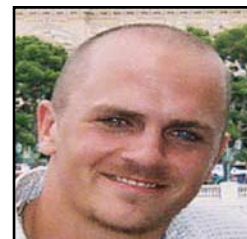
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David Hunsaker,
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CCHOA Clubs & Announcements *Continued*

Park West HOA News

(Specifically for Park West Residents) - Submitted by Jackie Rollins

Bylaws and Rules Committee

Scheduled to meet on the second Monday of the month, or as needed, the committee has recently convened to revise and rewrite the PWHOA Rules as impacted by the recent Covenant amendment; write standards for changes regarding the irrigation systems, trees with over 8 feet clearance and driveways; and review the Bylaws for compatibility to the new amendment. The committee members are Bernadette Tasher, who serves as Chair, Fran Greve, Tom Jedrzejewicz, Keith Bolsen and Joe Burwell. Suzanne Lowe and Jackie Rollins serve as representatives from the Board. Of particular importance, the committee is being asked to clearly define "yard art" in the revised Rules, giving specific examples, such as bird baths, statuary and oversize pottery. Currently vague and generally unenforceable, the removal of defined yard art is expected to give a more uniform look to the neighborhood's Front Yard Area and especially to the front garden beds.

Landscaper News and Sprinkler Checks

Sprinkler check requests are still coming in. Have you requested yours? It only takes a few minutes, so e-mail scott@pearsonlandscape.com or call Jackie Rollins at 940-5745 to schedule yours. Spring mulching of front yard beds was scheduled to begin the week of May 11.

City of Austin Watering Rules

From May 1- September 30:

- Odd-numbered houses water only on Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- Even-numbered houses water only on Thursdays and Sundays.
- No watering between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.
- Set your automatic sprinkler accordingly.
- Hand-held hose watering okay at any time.
- City of Austin penalty for violations.

Message from the PWHOA Board of Directors

Although there is an ongoing reminder in the Broken Record Department of this column, we still see garbage and recycle carts placed at the curb *waaaay* too early on Sunday - like in the morning or early-to-mid afternoon. Both the Park West Rules and Circle C Covenants are quite clear on this subject: the carts may be placed curbside only in the **evening** before pickup and should be returned to storage within a total of twelve hours from the time they are placed at the curb until the time of pickup. If you plan to be gone and cannot adhere to these rules, please ask a neighbor for assistance or contact Board member Jackie Rollins who will be happy to help. Sundays are for relaxing strolls to experience the beauty of our neighborhood, as well as for friends, relatives and house hunters to visit. Placement of garbage and recycle carts curbside before their allotted time does nothing to enhance this experience. Thank you for your cooperation.

Lot 103 Update

The City of Austin recently placed several large No Trespassing signs in strategic spots (i.e., where the newest fencing was recently vandalized) and also replaced older, smaller signs with the new, improved ones. The message is that NO ONE, not even Park West residents, should be using lot 103 as a recreational pathway or gateway to the park. This is ALL watershed protected land and the Park West HOA, although owner and custodian of lot 103, must adhere to the City of Austin watershed rules and ensure that it is maintained in accordance to those rules.

Been There, Done That

Suzanne and John Lowe report on their delightful two week vacation in the Netherlands. The tulips were at their peak as they spent a full day at Keukenhof Gardens. The Dutch Resistance Museum in Amsterdam provided a sobering reminder of the Nazi occupation

(Continued on Page 15)



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CCHOA Clubs & Announcements Continued

Park West HOA- (Continued from Page 14)

during World War II. Realism and Expressionism came to life in the Kroller-Muller Museum. Outside the museum was a 25-acre Sculpture Garden. The natural surroundings added to the artistic enjoyment. They say that almost everyone, it seems, shops, rides to school and goes to work by bicycle. Their overall impression was that the Dutch are well educated, work efficiently and keep a far more relaxed lifestyle than we Americans.



Pictures from Suzanne and John Lowe's trip to the Netherlands.

Broken Record Department

- Overnight parking in the street is strongly discouraged, other than for an occasional guest.
- Place your garbage and recycling containers out of view from the street,

(Continued on Page 16)




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CCHOA Clubs & Announcements *Continued*

Park West HOA- (Continued from Page 15)

either in the garage or behind the fence. Do not leave them curbside longer than a total of 12 hours from before and after pickup. If you are gone on pickup day, arrange for a neighbor or friend to place them at the curb and return them to their resting place within the 12 hour time frame. Never put them out a day (or earlier) in advance or leave them out for a day or longer after pickup.

- Carry a plastic bag for the scooped poop when walking your dog.
- Regularly check your Street Yard Area, especially the curb grass, for dog poop and debris, and clean up promptly as part of Street Yard Area maintenance.
- Never, ever walk your dog off-leash. This includes, in addition to our neighborhood streets, all of Circle C proper, including the park. Walking an unleashed pet is in violation of City of Austin ordinances, Circle C Covenants and Park West HOA rules.
- The speed limit on all Park West streets is 20 mph. Please heed the posted signs and slow down.
- Remove those unsightly oil stains on your driveway as part of routine driveway/Street Yard Area maintenance.

Good Neighbor of the Month

The PWHOA Board extends its thanks and appreciation to Frank Gilbreath - in addition to all he does in keeping our gates maintained and in working order - for his perseverance in getting electricity up and running at the east mail center. Not only has Frank been coordinating the necessary work between PEC and the electrician, he has spent countless hours of his own time waiting for appointments to be kept (he's been stood up more than a few times) and kept the Board informed of the progress. Let there be light!

If you know someone who should be given credit for being a good neighbor, please e-mail their name(s) and a brief description of what good deed they've done to JackieRollins02@aol.com for inclusion in next month's column. Until then, your suggestions and ideas for topics are appreciated. And please consider submitting a "trip report" for Been There, Done That and an item for the Helping Hands section.



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CCHOA Clubs & Announcements Continued**Girl Scouts Earn Bronze Award**

Girl Scout Troop 1715 is a group of 5th graders in southwest Austin. The troop has completed the requirements for the Bronze Award, the highest honor a Junior Girl Scout can earn. The troop is led by Christie Casteel and includes Andrea, Deborah, Emily, Jenny, Kate, Kelly, Kendall, Maddie, Madeline, Megan, Sarah, and Sydney. The Bronze Award is given to girls who have shown they can help others, improve their community and world, and become the best they can be.

The Scouts of Troop 1715 realized that the generosity of the Kiker community resulted in the need for a permanent donation box. For their Bronze Award Project, the troop planned, designed and built a large wooden box with hinged lid to hold donations of clothes, books and household items. Most of these donations go directly to Allison



Elementary, Kiker's sister school, which is located in southeast Austin. The top of the box is decorated with words and symbols that the girls' chose to represent what philanthropy means to them. The girls learned shop safety, wood-burning and carpentry skills from Bruce Szalwinski, a Kiker and Girl Scout parent.

Throughout 4th and 5th grade, the girls participated in drives so that the box would remain full. During the coat drives, the girls made posters and announcements at school assemblies. They collected, cleaned, and delivered over 300 coats for the children at Allison Elementary. Other donations that the girls sorted and delivered included over 1000 books and multiple car loads of clothing and household items. The donation box will remain as a permanent fixture at Kiker Elementary to encourage the continuation of donations, which will greatly help other students in Austin.

Next month, as the girls graduate from elementary school and move on to middle school, they will also bridge to become Cadette Girl Scouts and continue to learn and grow into the leaders of tomorrow.

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CCHOA Clubs & Announcements Continued

Join Mills Elementary this summer for Summer Reading Rocks!

Submitted by Michelle Moon Reinhardt

For detailed, scheduled information go to: www.millspta.org. From June 16th through August 6th every Tuesday and Thursday we Rock the House at the Mills Library! Hours we're open are Tuesday's from 3-6 and Thursday's from 10-1.

We will have storytime every hour on the ½ hour. Stories read by Mills Parents, faculty and staff.

Every Tuesday Lynn Peterson will host a parent and child yoga class. Beautiful stories will serve as the springboard for creative yoga movements and singing. No previous yoga experience required. Examples include: Frog and Toad with the theme of will power and Corduroy with the theme of Love.

Every week, we'll be podcasting! Summer Reading Rocks will be publishing a weekly audio podcast featuring Mills students.

Students will be able to read a short book, or read a book review/summary they've prepared. These will be recorded and published via the internet.

Kids will also learn paper folding. Mills parent, Lucia Markert will read a story and the children will learn how to fold something from the story.

Check back to www.millspta.org for information on these other events that are also on deck: An American Girl book club with cooking out of the AG Cookbooks, A Bluebonnet Winners Book Club, Science experiments paired with a gooey, sticky, science kid's books and a Percy Jackson Mythology Book Club.



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CCHOA Clubs & Announce. *Continued*

Meet Chris

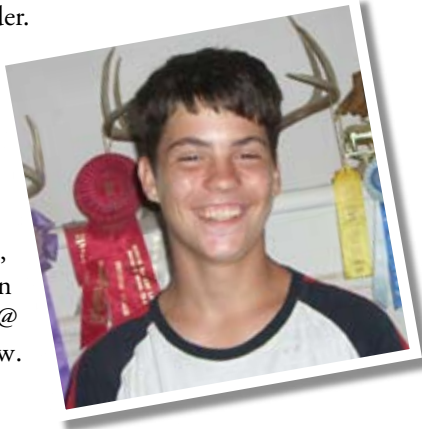
DOB: 3/1993

Chris is an energetic youth who enjoys playing video games, lifting weights, and playing sports. He adores animals. Chris is talkative, outgoing and enjoys new experiences. Chris is very likeable and has tremendous potential.

Chris responds best to positive praise and reinforcement. He needs a family that will commit to him, ensure him that he's loved and safe. He will do well in a family that is active and has other children his age or older.

Chris will thrive in a family able to provide a structured routine and clear rules.

If you would like more information about adoption from foster care in general, please contact the Adoption Coalition of Texas at info@adopttexas.org or www.adoptioncoalitiontx.org



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Camp Kaleidoscope



“Where Kids Care”



New Flexible Options!!!

From June 8th–August 14th Clayton and the Circle C Child Development Center will once again be partnering to host interactive and engaging summer sessions taught by Clayton and CDC teachers. Kaleidoscope will include swimming, arts and crafts, outdoor play, cooking, field trips, and bi-monthly themes! It is the most rounded camp around! Community service projects will be incorporated into each session.

Camp Kaleidoscope is held at Clayton Elementary

New Ages:

Pre-K (going into Kinder) – 5th Grade

New Options:

Option 1: Monday-Friday, 7:00 am-6:00pm @ \$400 per two week session or a discounted rate of \$760 if you sign-up for two consecutive sessions.

Option 2: A mini or half day camp, Monday-Friday 8:00-1:00 is also offered at \$225 per two week session

Registration is now open for all options

June 8th-19th Up, Up, and “Air” Way

Join us for a fun filled study of air, bubbles and flight with a field trip to see “Up” the movie. We will swim, defy gravity on a moonwalk and fly kites...just to name a few highlights.

June 22nd-July 3rd Fun in The Sun

Join us for summer games, the study of color, swimming and a Fourth of July Parade!

July 6th -17th Lights, Camera, Action...

Be discovered through movie making, theater productions, “Hip Hop” and puppetry. We’ll cap off the session with a trip to a local theater production.

July 20th -31st “Zoo-Riffic”

Clayton will transform into Savannahs, Deserts, Mountains...where we will discover strange and wonderful wildlife. A special visit from The Zoo-Show promises great adventure.

August 3rd-14th Exploring Austin and Central Texas

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****Please complete the attached registration form and tuition agreement form to reserve your spot today!! Forms may be turned into Clayton Crew, Kiker Krew or Circle C CDC.***

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Circle C Amenities

The Circle C Tennis Club Honored as a "Top 50 Tennis Welcome Center" For Promoting the Growth of Tennis in the U.S.



*The Circle C Tennis Club staff
lauded for its proactive role
delivering tennis to the community*

The Circle C Tennis Club has been named a "Top 50 Tennis Welcome Center for 2008" for delivering a variety of tennis programs to new and current players of all ages in efforts to increase participation in the game, the Tennis Industry Association and United States Tennis Association announced.

"The staff at the Circle C Tennis Club has created a positive tennis experience for people in the Austin area," says Jolyn de Boer, executive director of the Tennis Industry Association (TIA). "Tennis Welcome Centers serve a vital role in delivering tennis, and we are pleased to recognize these efforts with this award."

(Continued on Page 23)

GRADUATION IS NO TIME TO LEARN YOU HAVEN'T SAVED ENOUGH FOR COLLEGE.

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Fee: \$150/wk for Y members; \$180/wk nonmembers

Kinder Camp: (ages 4-5)
Offers age-appropriate games, field trips, crafts, books and character-building activities.
Schedule: M-F, 7:30am-6pm.
Weekly sessions June 1-Aug 21
Fee: \$150/wk for Y members; \$180/wk nonmembers

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Circle C Amenities Continued

Circle C Tennis- (Continued from Page 22)

The Circle C Tennis Club was selected as a Top 50 Tennis Welcome Center for 2008 for its increased participation figures involving new and returning players, its support of industry programs and its community tennis development, among other criteria and requirements.

"We were surprised and pleased that we were included in the top 50 again", mentions Fernando Velasco, General Manager and Director of Tennis, "since we were included once before in 2006. Kudos to our staff for providing services which cater to children and adults of all abilities and ages and also, to our Members for continuing to support our programs to help select us among 2,000 other clubs from all over the United States."

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Circle C Amenities

How To Start Playing Tennis

Fernando M. Velasco

General Manager and Director of Tennis

Circle C Tennis Club

In the last issue, I gave you some tips on how to select the proper racket, strings and shoes. In this issue, I will give you some tips on how to practice with another player.

One does not need a full tennis court to practice the fundamental strokes of the game. I suggest contacting some of the tennis centers in your area and ask them to give you some of their "old teaching balls." Most of the clubs replace them every so often and they may have some that are still good for practicing.

I recommend placing the balls in a ball hopper (available in sport stores), or even a simple laundry basket (like we used to before the sophisticated ball retrievers became available). Start practicing by simply dropping the ball and hitting it over the net.

Remember to take your racket back early, have a good point of contact and follow through without snapping your wrist. Start first with your forehand and then practice your backhand.

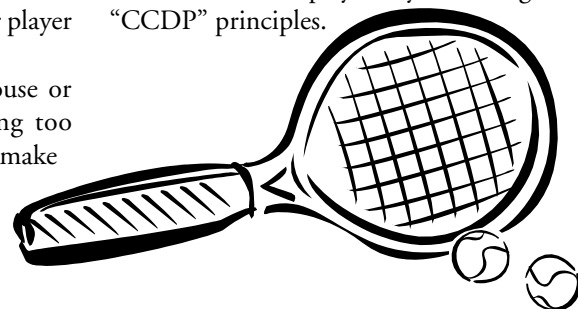
After hitting all balls over the net, then each player should be on opposite sides of the court. One will feed the ball; the other will try to retrieve it back. Try to hit as many consecutive balls as possible. Once, all balls have been used up, then let the other player do the same.

If you are playing with your spouse or spouse-to-be, I suggest not making too many suggestions. No one wants to make mistakes and hit balls long, into the net, nor to the parking lot. Your local tennis professional will

come in handy to give you advice on how to become a "consistent" player.

Your local club offers many lessons for beginners, advanced beginners and players who are returning to the game. These group lessons are inexpensive and allow players of equal ability to meet and later practice with each other.

In the next issue, I will give tips on how to become better players by following the "CCDP" principles.



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Travis County Sheriff Programs

Submitted by the Travis County Sheriff's Department

Personal Safety Programs

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Parents in Travis County are welcome to visit monthly Child Safety Seat Fitting Stations on the first Wednesday of every month. This is a FREE service provided in partnership with Texans in Motion. For more information, contact: Andrea Buckley, (512) 854.7786 Carrie Fortner, (512) 854.6615

Project Lifesaver

Project Lifesaver is an internationally recognized program designed by law enforcement for law enforcement that assists in bringing home lost individuals. Through the use of radio frequency technology, the client wears a wristband that assists law enforcement when conducting a search for a missing person.

For more information, contact: Andrea Buckley, (512) 854.4384

RoadShare Cycling Safety

This program educates adult cyclists and motorists on the importance to share the road to reduce cycling/traffic accidents; emphasis is placed on traffic laws and common courtesy.

For more information, contact: Andrea Buckley, (512) 854.7786 Carrie Fortner, (512) 854.6615

Seniors & Law Enforcement Together (SALT)

Establishes an effective partnership between seniors and law enforcement services; working toward the reduction of crime and victimization of older persons and provide assistance to elder victims.

For more information, contact: James Kitchens, (512) 854.8413

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Shattered Dreams is an educational experience that reminds teens of all the dangers associated with drinking and driving. Teens are reminded that too many lives have already been lost and countless others severely impaired because of the tragic consequences of underage drinking and drinking when combined with driving.

For more information, contact: Derrick Taylor, (512) 854.4315

Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE)

Travis County Sheriff's Office is a chapter of the national SAVE organization created by students for students. SAVE's mission is to decrease the potential for violence in schools and communities by promoting meaningful student involvement in efforts to provide safer environments for learning, and is implemented in Travis County elementary and middle schools. For more information, contact: Andrea Buckley, (512) 854.7786.



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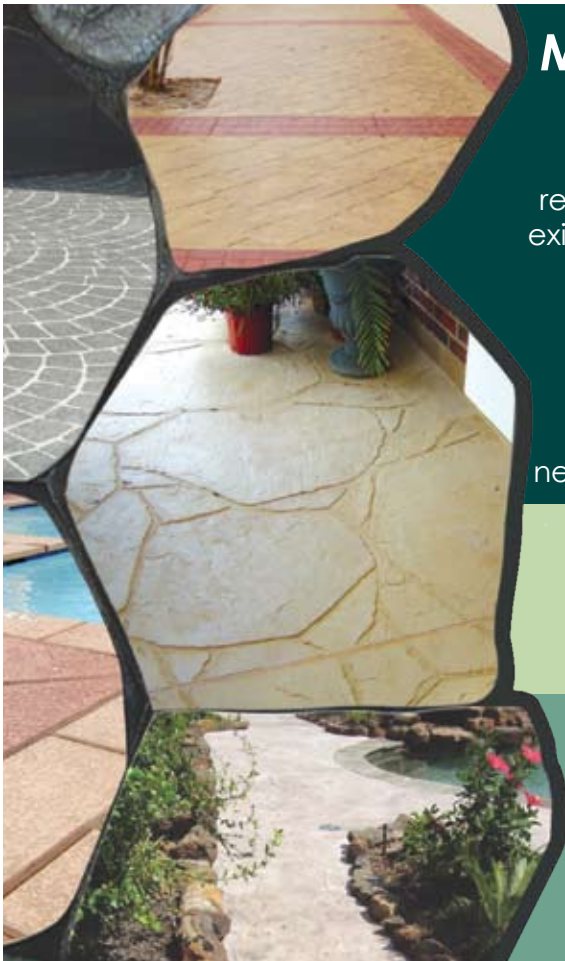
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Nature Watch, by Jim and Lynne Weber

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CAVERNS & CAVES

Millions of years ago, the great seas that stood over Texas deposited the makings of thick layers of limestone. As the land rose and the seas fell, eons of rainfall leached out hollows, deep pits, and underground streambeds, and over time, these deeply hidden worlds built a silent beauty. Today, Texas is riddled with over three thousand known caves and sinkholes, most of them in the Edwards Plateau region of central Texas.

The most important factor in cave formation is the presence of carbon dioxide in water, the main source of which is found in the soil. Rains form a weak carbonic acid that drives the progressive process of dissolution, a process that is more common in limestone than in any other type of rock. Fractures in the limestone allow this weak acidic water to fill voids in the rock, and as the water flow eventually decreases and the water table recedes, caves may become dry or partially dry.



Some of the carbon dioxide that was in the water is released into the cave atmosphere, causing the water to become less acidic, and the calcium carbonate dissolved in it begins to form tiny crystals or precipitate. Individual crystals build upon one another, and a steady drip from a cave ceiling can create a wide variety of cave formations. There are downward-building stalactites, upward-growing stalagmites, and if the two grow together they can form a column. Ribbons of stone can develop into shapes resembling draperies, curtains,

soda straws, coral, pearls, and even strips of bacon!

The unusual and ever-changing environment of a cave with its constant darkness, temperature, and relative humidity creates unique and interesting inhabitants. Scientists believe that many are relic species, isolated populations that were left to follow their own evolutionary path.

(Continued on Page 29)



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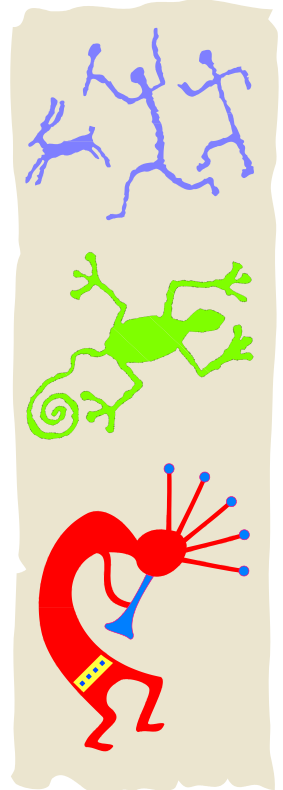
Nature Watch - (Continued from Page 28)

Those species truly adapted to caves have reduced eyes & pigment, slender bodies, and extra long legs, which allows the animal to spread itself over a larger surface area in such a food-poor environment. These extreme adaptations can be seen in many of central Texas' threatened and endangered species such as cave salamanders, beetles, spiders, pseudoscorpions, and other cave invertebrates. While several species of bats inhabit Texas caves – almost 100 million in about a dozen caves – they routinely leave the caves in search of food and therefore show the least adaptation and restriction to these environments.

While many central Texas caves are considered “wild” and are explored mainly by expert cavers, geologists and biologists, seven of these caves are considered “show” caves, or caves that have been developed enough to be enjoyed by the general public. Natural Bridge Caverns, located north of San Antonio, is the largest commercial cave in Texas, and full of draperies, curtains, stalagmites, and stalactites. Cascade Caverns in Boerne, otherwise known as the “Peep in the Deep”, has a 90-foot waterfall when conditions are wet. Wonder World Cave in San Marcos is the

oldest commercial cave in Texas, where you can find ceilings full of fossils and directly view the waters of the Edwards aquifer as well as the underside of the Balcones fault line. Longhorn Caverns in Burnet was used for shelter by the Comanche Indians and for worship by a local church, and has large calcite crystals filling its walls. Inner Space Caverns in Georgetown features soda straw ceilings and an underground theater for educational programs. The Caverns of Sonora, a short drive from Sonora, was designated a National Natural Landmark in 1966, and is one of the most active caves in the world, with over 95% of its formations still growing. The Cave Without a Name, just northeast of Boerne, holds the state's best examples of cave bacon, one of which is almost 22 feet long!

As unique features of the land, caves are protected by Texas law, and benefit from the stewardship of cavers, cave owners, and the general public. Marvel at the formations (but don't touch), seek to understand their origins, and remember, summer is the perfect time to get out of the Texas heat by heading down into a cave!



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Regular Checkups Big Part of Staying Healthy

Regular screenings are an important part of staying healthy, but it's hard to remember what tests are needed at what age. Baylor College of Medicine doctors offer guidelines to help maintain good health through the ages.

"It is very important at any age to have regular health screenings," said Dr. Steve Rosenbaum, assistant professor of medicine at BCM and section chief of general internal medicine at Baylor Clinic. "It allows us to appreciate our good fortune for good health, and regular exams can detect problems early, so they can be treated and dealt with more expeditiously."

As we age, it is even more important to have regular screenings, kind of like having a favorite old car that we have to "baby" along, Rosenbaum said. He recommends people come in during their birth month. That way it's very easy to remember.

Just how often people should visit their doctor for regular checkups and screenings is a common question. **For people with no chronic health issues, Rosenbaum suggests:**

- People in their 30s should have checkups every two to three years
- By 40, checkups are recommended every 12 to 18 months
- Annual checkups starting by 50

RECOMMENDED SCREENINGS INCLUDE:

CHILDREN

- Hearing, Vision, Height/weight/Body mass index, Blood pressure,

Speech and motor skills development, and Social/behavioral skills

TEENS

- Pap smear, Sexually transmitted infection screening if sexually active, and Vision

20S

- Vision, Pap smear, and Lipid test

30S

- Baseline mammogram at 35, Vision, and Pap smear

40S

- Mammogram, Pap smear, Vision, Prostate, and Heart stress test

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- Colonoscopy, Glaucoma/vision, Prostate screening, Skin cancer, Stress test, and Hearing

There are many factors that could influence the frequency of screenings.

Family history of certain illness and risk factors should be discussed with your doctor. For some illnesses, like skin or colorectal cancer, if a first degree relative has been diagnosed, screening could be recommended to begin in the early 20s.

Remember, talking about family medical history with your doctor is just as important as staying up to date on your checkups.

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Sun-Blocking Babies Leads To Need For Vitamin D

Baylor College of Medicine

HOUSTON - The lack of sunshine exposure in many babies and small children has led to an upsurge in vitamin D deficiency and rickets.

"Since we don't want infants and children unprotected in the sun, we are now recommending vitamin D drops for all babies," said Dr. Steven Abrams, a professor of pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. "In addition, there is increasing recognition that maintaining adequate vitamin D intake is important for all ages, from infants to the elderly."

Infant formulas and cow's milk are fortified with vitamin D at the levels needed by infants and toddlers. However, breast milk does not contain enough vitamin D for some babies, especially those with dark skin who have limited sunshine exposure.

"The body can make all the vitamin D it needs when the skin is exposed to sunlight," said Abrams, also a researcher at the USDA's Children's Nutrition Research Center at Baylor. "However, the dangers of skin cancer have caused us to recommend that everyone, including young infants, be protected with a sunblock when exposed to sunlight. Sunblock also prevents the production of vitamin D."

Vitamin D is not easily obtained through diet. Certain types of fish are good sources, and some soy beverages, fruit juices and ready-to-eat cereals are fortified with the vitamin. Checking food labels is the best way to see if vitamin D has been added.

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Recipe of the Month:



Blueberry Muffins

Blend:

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1 3/4 cup sugar	2 eggs
1 1/2 T. Butavan	

Combine:

3 cups flour	1 T. baking powder
1 tsp. soda	

Add alternately to the first mixture with 1 cup buttermilk.

Stir in 1/2 can canned blueberries (drained) plus 6 T. juice.

Bake in muffin tins at 350° for 20 minutes.

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Baylor University | **July 27-31**

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11:00 am
Life - Connection
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Austin History Corner

Submitted by Rich Keith

WHAT ABOUT VOLENTE?

Volente is on Lake Travis and Farm Road 2769. Volente is from the Latin word meaning "to be willing." A post office was established at Volente in 1886 with Andrew J. Stanford as postmaster. The area was partially submerged by Lake Travis in the 1930s, and residents had to relocate on higher ground. In the 1940s and early 1950s the community was called Dodd City, for a local realtor and restaurant owner, but later in the 1950s the name was changed back to Volente. The community population was estimated at 250 in 1959 and at 400 in 1989. By 1990 Volente had a church, a combination fire hall-community center, several businesses, and the Anderson Mill Museum.

IS THERE A MILL AT ANDERSON MILL?

Anderson Mill was located on Cypress Creek in northwestern Travis County. It was named for Thomas Anderson, who came to Texas from Virginia in the late 1850s. In the early 1860s he built a mill to make gunpowder for the Confederacy. When the war was over he converted the operation to a gristmill. Farmers came from miles away to have their corn ground, sometimes having to camp near the mill for several days to wait their turn. In the early 1870s Anderson added a cotton gin to his operation. A post office opened at Anderson Mill in 1876 with Anderson as postmaster. In 1884 the community had a population of thirty. The development of steam-powered mills and gins gradually forced Anderson out of business. After his death in 1894 his family sold the equipment and moved to Austin. A historical marker was placed near the mill site in 1936.

CEDAR CHOPPERS & DEER SKINNERS

Journalist Winston Bode described some of the early settlers in the Hill Country as "a proud, independent, robust tribe of transplanted Southerners who came here to flat-cut cedar and burn charcoal." Locals referred to them as "cedar choppers." J. Frank Dobie wrote that when he came to Austin in 1914, "the hills were populated by cedar choppers who hauled charcoal to town by wagons. In addition to cooking over live coals, most ironing was done by flatirons heated over charcoal burners." Burning cedar while green avoids reducing the ash to fine powder and produces a hard char. Men placed several cords of cedar in a kiln or pit, covered it with dirt to shut out air and burned it for two or three days until the coal was ready.

The choppers also hauled large cypress logs from the Pedernales River to a sawmill site called Shingle Hill, so named because of the many cedar shingles made there. Hunting in the early days was more a means of survival than a sport. People hunted to put food on the table as well as for income. The deer were plentiful and hunters killed them for hams and saddles and sold the hides as buckskin for clothing and decoration.

*Sources: B. Varner, **Lakeway, the First 25 Years**; V. Smyrl, **The Handbook of Texas Online**; E. Seals, ed., **A Legend Collection: Fact and Fantasy**. For more information contact Rich Keith at 266-8498 or email RKeith@primerica.com.*

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Guest Speaker: Rhoda Mae
Kerr, Fire Chief of the
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Rhoda Mae Kerr Bio

Rhoda Mae Kerr is a fourth-generation firefighter with 26 years experience in the field. She is currently the Fire Chief of the Austin Fire Department and most recently served in that same position with the city of Little Rock, Arkansas; she was also Assistant Fire Chief at Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Chief Kerr brings a Master's in Public Administration, Bachelor of Arts degree in Physical Education and Health, an Associate's degree in Fire Science Technology, and a certification from the Harvard University program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government. Prior to entering the fire service, Chief Kerr was a coach and physical

education teacher at the high school level for 12 years.

Chief Kerr heads the Human Relations Committee of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, is Southwest Director of the National Society of Executive Fire Officers, and is actively involved as a Rotarian, along with other community and professional organizations. She was a member of the Arkansas Women Executives, Arkansas Women's Leadership Forum, and an active member of the Arkansas State Fire Chief's Association. She is an avid sports enthusiast, enjoying cycling, golf, tennis, and skiing.



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Healthier Homes

By: Michelle and Charlie Bubnis

Non-toxic Relief from Mosquitoes

That high pitch hum in your ear...summer is here and the mosquitoes have arrived. It's time to take action but let's keep the family protected and safe.

Don't use any mosquito spray that contains DEET (diethyl toluamide). DEET is a very effective insect repellent but not the best choice for the families' health.

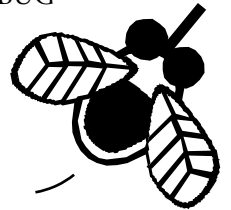
DEET is a known neurotoxin, causes kidney and liver damage and has been implicated in birth and developmental defects. "Children in particular are at risk for subtle brain changes caused by chemicals in the environment, because their skin more readily absorbs them, and the chemicals more potently affect their developing nervous systems." ¹ The World Health Organization (WHO) states that over 30% of the global burden of disease in children can be attributed to environmental factors, including pesticides.²

If the bottle of repellent you are planning to purchase contains DEET the label will say: may damage furniture finishes, watch crystals, leather, painted or varnished surfaces. This is a very harsh chemical that shouldn't be sprayed on the skin.

So what are some other options? Vinegar, either white or apple cider will work. Put it in a salad dressing bottle and sprinkle it on exposed skin. There are also herbal oils that are recommended such as tea tree, cedar, peppermint, citronella, eucalyptus and lemongrass. Mix these oils with cooking oil to dilute prior to putting on the skin.

If you wish to purchase insect repellent BUG OFF ³ from Dr. Mercola is a healthier option. It contains several of the essential oils listed above.

(Continued on Page 35)



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Healthier Homes- (Continued from Page 34)

Mosquitoes are attracted to light colored clothing especially yellow. They zero in on fragrances from scented body care products, laundry detergents and scented fabric softeners. The use of unscented fragrance free products decreases the families' neurotoxic exposure but also keeps mosquitoes searching for another meal. Mosquitoes do not like the smell of garlic so by using a product called Mosquito Barrier(a very potent garlic solution) on the lawn, this will repel mosquitoes from the yard.

Check the external home environment. Be sure to empty any standing water around the home because this will provide the mosquitoes with a breeding ground. Consider putting up a bat house. A bat can eat approximately 600 mosquito sized insects an hour.

With these measures in place your family will probably not hear a high pitch hum in the ear this summer. The mosquitoes will find a better location than your home for their next meal.

For more learning and resources:

- 1 Duke University Medical Center (2002, May 2) DEET Brain Effects in Animals , Warrant Caution
- 2 Beyond Pesticides Fact Sheet: Children and Pesticides Don't Mix, Debra Lyn Dadd: About Natural Mosquito Relief, www.1001nets.net, cotton mosquito nets form Australia
- 3 Bug Off Toll free number to order: 877-985-2695

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				3	7			
						1		
1					9			3
			7			8	2	
	3	6				5		
					2		1	6
	6							1
	2		5				8	
7		5				4		

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Approximately ten orphaned children will be coming to the Austin area to participate in Summer Miracles 2009. For more information about how you can help or host one of these children, please call Stephanie Karasick at 512-415-7082, or email stephanie@austinkidsave.org.

Be a voice for change for children who need families. Volunteer to help a child this summer!



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In Social Or Public Situations, Keep Cell Phone Talk To A Minimum

If you roll your eyes when people are chatting away on their cell phones in a public place, you're not alone. According to an expert at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, public cell phone use at times shows disrespect and may impede social interaction.

"Depending on the situation, cell phone use can be problematic," said Dr. Catherine Romero, assistant professor in the Menninger department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at BCM. "The manner in which you do it can also have an impact."

Talking on your cell phone while at a social event can unintentionally convey to those around you that their time is not as important as yours, said Romero. This is also true for texting or browsing through your blackberry. Nonverbal behavior such as lack of eye contact can convey a negative message.

In a public situation, loud cell phone talk can intrude on others' privacy and need for quiet. Sharing too much information on the cell phone in a public area can also make others feel uncomfortable. At times, it can even be dangerous. "If you're using your cell phone in the car or other times you need to be paying attention, you are

putting yourself and others at a greater risk," she said.

Those who are talking on their cell phones are also less likely to make contact with others around them, said Romero. It could be keeping them from forming social connections.

Romero suggests talking in a quiet voice if you must make a phone call, or excusing yourself to take a call and making it brief. Unless the atmosphere is very casual, she suggests not accepting non-urgent calls. It's important to be mindful and respectful of others around you, said Romero.

If someone around you is disturbing you with their cell phone conversation, Romero suggests gently approaching them and asking them to reduce their volume. It's important to convey that you are not angry. If they refuse, remove yourself from the situation.

"Many times, people may not even be aware of how loud they actually are," said Romero. "So try and give them the benefit of the doubt, and treat them how you want to be treated."

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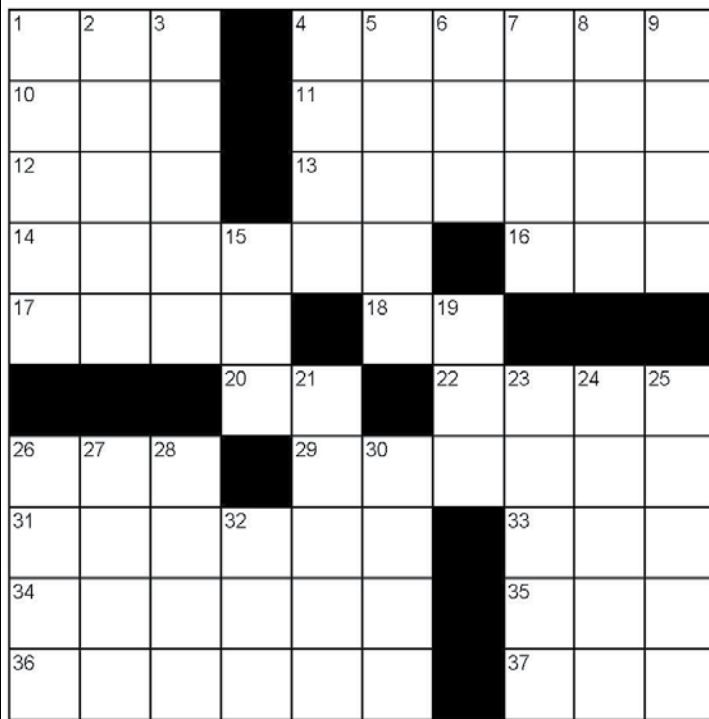
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Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1. Dawdle
4. Permanent
10. Brew
11. Brand of adhesive strip
12. Charged particle
13. A Nissan car
14. Parallelograms
16. Male cat
17. France & Germany river
18. Father
20. Strontium (abbr.)
22. Animal oil
26. Part of a min.
29. Saudi
31. Singer Bing
33. No. eggs in a package
34. One-celled water animal
35. Southwestern Indian
36. Raving
37. Hallucinogen

DOWN

1. Dens
2. Hawaiian 'hello'
3. City
4. Replace a striker
5. Spring flower
6. Music
7. Lure
8. Type of car
9. Cheese
15. Married woman
19. Wing
21. Jewish religious leader
23. BB player Kareem __ Jabar
24. Public disorder
25. Groggy
26. Blemish
27. Writer Bombeck
28. Racoon's nickname
30. Baseball's Nolan
32. Scene

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Austin Real Estate Partners' Market Report								
Circle C Ranch by Neighborhood	6 Months Sold History (Nov '08 - Apr '09)						CURRENT MARKET	
	TOTAL	AVERAGE					TOTAL	
	Homes Sold	Square Feet	Price / Sq. Foot	Price \$K	Year Built	Days On Market	Available	Pending Sale
Circle C Central	22	2,742	\$ 106	\$ 292	1994	68	16	12
North	9	1,936	\$ 131	\$ 253	1997	20	6	6
Wildflower	7	2,046	\$ 129	\$ 265	2000	31	8	3
On The Park	3	3,158	\$ 112	\$ 353	1997	59	4	1
Vintage Place	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	4	2
Hielscher	14	3,062	\$ 116	\$ 354	2003	50	12	4
West	9	3,395	\$ 113	\$ 383	2004	86	16	6
Park West	2	2,281	\$ 146	\$ 333	2001	82	13	0
Park Place	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	2
Muirfield	1	2,884	\$ 147	\$ 423	2006	23	7	1
Enclave/Stone Creek	12	2,475	\$ 118	\$ 292	2007	89	9	7
Alta Mira	6	3,058	\$ 119	\$ 364	2008	105	4	1
Fairway Estates	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	0
Circle C Ranch Total	85	2,711	\$ 117	\$ 318	2000	68	103	45
% Change Mo/Mo	8%	-1%	0%	-1%	0%	0%	-11%	25%

Market Report data was obtained from the Austin-Multiple Listing Service (MLS) on 05/06/2009. In some cases new construction and FSBO homes are not included in the MLS data and therefore are not represented. Data is deemed accurate but not guaranteed.



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