



CIRCLE C RANCH

The Official Publication of the
Circle C Homeowner's Association

Newsletter

Volume 6, Number 7

July 2009

www.circlecranch.info



Legislative Review

Submitted by Russ Hodes

The 81st Texas Legislature began the session with more than 25 bills that addressed Property Owners Associations (POAs), which includes Condominium Associations and Home Owner Associations (HOAs). That number grew to 50 bills before the session ended. The Texas Legislative Action Committee of Community Associations Institute Austin Chapter (CAI), managed to significantly amend one of the largest of the POA bills (HB 1976 – by Rep Burt Solomons) this year. That bill passed through the House, but it ultimately died in the Senate.

Texas has more than 30,000 POAs today, which represent the smallest clusters of Townhomes to the largest neighborhoods like Circle C Ranch and Sun City. The majority of these HOAs are run by property management companies, which are often more efficient for smaller groups. CAI was concerned that many of these POA bills would have created significant financial and organizational burdens on most Texas associations, particularly the smaller HOAs. That would have translated into in higher assessments, as well.

I noted that CCHOA is well ahead of the curve on many of these bills. We already incorporate most of their requirements, with the combination of an on-site HOA office, records, and a web site with the most requested documents. We already have a very transparent organization, we hold regularly posted board meetings, and we follow best practices. However, we also have 5 Gated Communities within Circle C Ranch, which would have been unfairly burdened with some of these POA bills.

We'll have to be even more vigilant in the 82nd Legislative Session, as many of these bills are very likely to be brought up again.



Swim Center Summer Pool Hours

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



Mark Your Calendars!

Upcoming HOA Events

- 4th of July Parade – Sat, July 4 at 8:30am, Swim Ctr Plaza
- Movie Night at the Pool – Sat, Jul 11th, "Kung Fu Panda"
- BBQ Cook-off and Family Festival – Sat, August 15th

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

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Mary Goehring	Vice President
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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,
CAFÉ AND LANDSCAPE SERVICES TRASH ONLY.

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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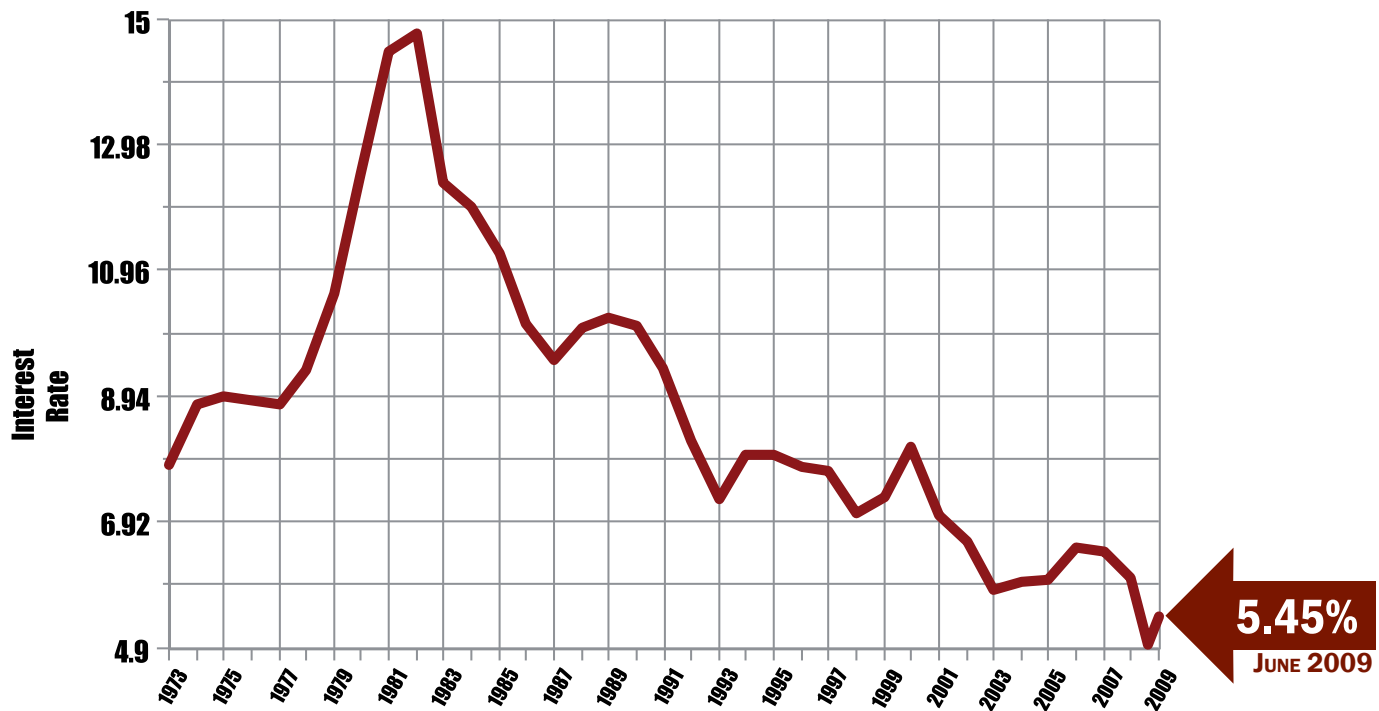
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CCHOA News

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, have 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.

New Middle School

As many of you know, we have a new middle school (Gorzycki Middle School) opening at 7412 West Slaughter Lane in August of 2009. Vickie Bauerle has been named school principal. Several residents have brought to our attention their concerns with students walking or biking to and from school. The City has approved a school zone speed reduction along Slaughter to assist with cars slowing down in this area. In addition, there is a missing sidewalk piece from Circle C North heading west towards the school. We are currently in communication with the developer in charge of adding this sidewalk and with the City to determine if the sidewalk can be built prior to school opening. We will have updated information in the next newsletter.

Opening Soon in Circle C!



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CCHOA News Continued

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 Turf Replacement – completed along La Crosse, east of Escarpment
- Landscape Bed Upgrades – Wildflower Park and Circle C North are complete
- Bollard Lights (the tall pole like lights that line Escarpment Blvd) – 16 new lights were installed
- Slaughter Landscape Lighting – all lighting in this area has been repaired
- Swim Center – volleyball net has been upgraded
- Swim Center – new picnic tables and have been ordered and delivered
- 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 should be complete by publication of this newsletter
- Playscapes – phase II of the playscape projects in Wildflower Park and Vintage Place are underway; shade tarps to both parks will be added in July

Please Slow Down

School is out, summer is here. Please be sure to reduce your speed on all neighborhood streets in Circle C and keep your eye out for children. We have specifically been asked to ask for cars traveling on Gorham Glen to slow down. Thank you.

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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Wednesdays in the Park with Oak Hill UMC!

Come join us for a little fresh air and a whole lot of fun this summer! We'll gather every Wednesday evening, June 10 through July 29 at Dick Nichols Park on Beckett Road, about 5:30 P.M. each week. Come and go, come and stay, whatever your family's schedule allows. Bring lawn chairs, a light picnic supper if you'd like (water will always be provided), and join your church family for some fun, fellowship and exercise.

Each week we will have a featured activity, and we'll provide equipment for pick-up games of volleyball, softball and basketball. We'll also bring washers, tailgate golf, horseshoes, etc. and the park has tennis courts, a playscape, and a one mile paved trail, too. Swimming is free at Dick Nichols pool. We'll start our first mile walk on June 10, for those who wish to participate.

It's summertime! Make time to join your church family for Wednesdays in the Park and exercise a little, laugh a lot!! Take care of yourselves in body, mind, and spirit.

SCHEDULE

June 10 - Featured event: **Volleyball!**

First mile walk. Fruit and water provided.

June 17 - Featured event: **Basketball!**

Second mile walk. Fruit and water provided.

June 24 - Featured event: **Silly Games!** (potato sack races, relays, etc.) Third mile walk.

Fruit and water provided.

July 1 - Featured event: **Watermelon Night**, including a seed spitting contest! Fourth mile walk.

Church will provide watermelons and water.

July 8 - Featured event: **Supper together in the park!**

Lots of activities to participate in. Fifth mile walk.

Church will provide dinner and water.

July 15 - Featured event: **Wheels/Dancing/Football!**

Bring your bikes, roller blades, skateboards, wheelchairs, etc., and enjoy mobility via wheels! We'll also have folks on hand to lead us in stretching, simple dance team routines, and some line dancing!

Sixth mile walk. Fruit and water provided.

July 22 - Featured event: **Lawn Games!** Horseshoes and washers, lawn darts, croquet, bocce, tailgate golf, etc. Seventh mile walk. Church will provide water.

July 29 - Featured event: **Supper together again!**

Come celebrate this final evening of Wednesdays in the Park with all kinds of activities! Eighth mile walk (won't you be proud?!).

Church will provide dinner and water.

Oak Hill United Methodist Church is located on Hwy. 290, just west of the Hwy. 290/Hwy. 71 split ("the Y") in Oak Hill. We are directly across from the ACC Pinnacle Building.

Join Us SUNDAYS For Vibrant Worship with Inspiring Music and a Positive Message!

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Sunday School

10:00 A.M. Pathways Contemporary Praise
Worship Service, Sunday School

11:15 A.M. Traditional Worship Service,
Sunday School

Please call the church office at 288-3836 or
visit our website at
www.oakhillunitedmethodistchurch.org
for additional information.



Oak Hill United Methodist Church
7815 Highway 290 West
Austin, Texas 78736

CCHOA News Continued

Circle C Landscape Update

Submitted by Susan Hoover

Well, I am writing this mid-June, and can already tell that this is going to be a hot summer. So, hopefully, you have your cool mountain vacation planned for sometime in July or August.

We have been busy on the commons areas during June. The biggest project was the installation of new turf grass along LaCrosse, from MoPac to Escarpment. This area has been under renovation as a multi-year project, and the turf installation will make it complete. This area previously had buffalo grass that had been installed as part of the buffalo grass phase prevalent in the mid 1990s. Unfortunately, that grass turned out to be hard to maintain.

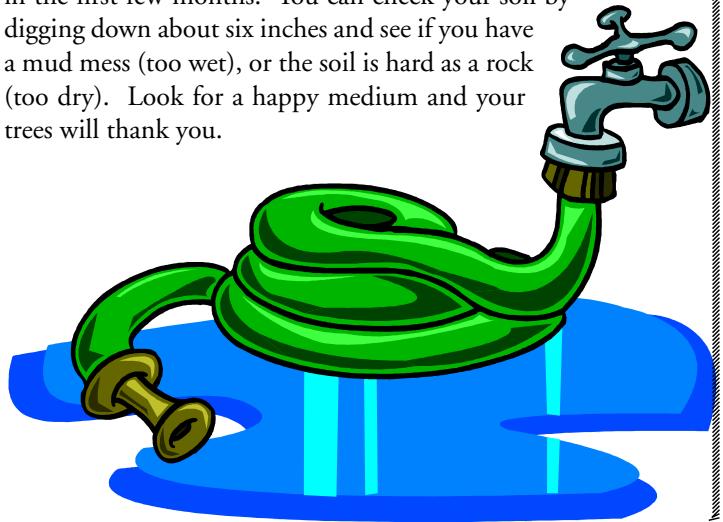
In 2005, when the CCHOA adopted the Green Community Landscape model, the new grass specification became Pallisades zoysia. This is a very drought tolerant turf that looks good, holds up well, and will achieve what is called summer dormancy. In periods of high heat and drought, it will go dormant and recover under better conditions. In the turf labs, they tested Pallisades zoysia by installing it in the sun and not watering during the summer for 79 days, and it still regained its growth and good looks once water was restored. This is a good benefit for the commons areas of Circle C, because if there were any occasion when the City of Austin required us to go to Stage 2 or Stage 3 water conservation restrictions, then the grass will most likely survive. It also uses much less water than other grasses, is not subject to disease and is treated with standard landscape products, all of which make it an ideal grass for our area.

Another finished improvement was a landscape renovation to Circle C North. Rock work has been installed and existing rock work was repaired. Over grown plants have been replaced and some of the beds have been filled in. Our new design model mandates flat median tips, which improve visibility for cars.

You will see us installing flat rock work at intersections and in very small areas that previously had one or two plants in them along with a single sprinkler head. These are being removed to simplify maintenance and save water.

Our standard maintenance specifications call for the following projects to be done in early summer: vine trimming, selected perennial trimming, mulch touch up and turning, and tree trimming over pedestrian sidewalks. These projects go along with our regular maintenance services of mowing and bed care that happen year round.

In your own yards, don't forget to give your young trees extra water during the hot summer months. The best method is to deep water once or twice per week—put on a slow drip hose for 30-60 minutes. Equally important is to let the soil dry out between watering. Many trees are lost because they are drowned in the first few months. You can check your soil by digging down about six inches and see if you have a mud mess (too wet), or the soil is hard as a rock (too dry). Look for a happy medium and your trees will thank you.



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CCHOA News Continued

BEWARE!

Coyote Sightings

There have been several coyote sightings in Circle C (Circle C North and Circle C Main off Dahlgreen). If you see a coyote, please report to City of Austin 311. You can find helpful tips on how to discourage coyotes from your area at: http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/council/bm_urban_coyote_info.htm

Safety Announcement

We have had a string of reports of vehicle burglary throughout Circle C – all cars were left unlocked overnight. Please remember to keep all valuables out of sight (cell phone, laptop, etc.) and to lock your vehicle each night. If you do experience a vehicle burglary, please report to the Austin Police Department as soon as possible.



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/>



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CCHOA News Continued

Swim Center News

*Submitted by Brandon Ducote*Sand Volleyball

Now registering girls in 5th-12th grade for summer volleyball clinics. Coach Robert Bardeleben comes with 10 years playing experience, 12 years coaching experience, and is now the varsity coach for Austin Waldorf School and Director of the Hill Country Elite Volleyball Club.

July 20-21 5th-7th	9am-Noon
July 22-23 8th-12th	9am-Noon
July 27-28 5th-7th	9am-Noon
July 29-30 8th-12th	9am-Noon

Residents \$80 Non Residents \$95

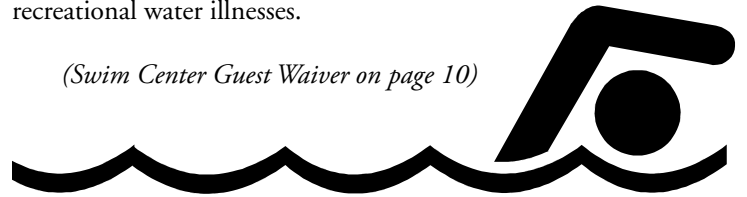
Please include the attached copy of our guest waiver or include it on the web site. Currently one of the delays at the front desk are guests that have not filled out a waiver (we keep an excel file with waivers that people have completed, so they do not have to fill out another one). This is the information that I would like to include in the news letter:

Guest Policy for the Circle C Swim Center

Circle C residents are permitted four guests per household per visit. There is a \$3 guest fee per person or a \$40 guest pass may be purchased by the resident for 25 visits. There is no expiration date on the Guest Pass. Children under 3 are free and out of town grandparents are not required to pay a guest fee; however all guest must fill out and sign a guest waiver. Guests must sign the waiver and for minors a parent or guardian must sign the form. These forms are on the Circle C Website at www.circlecranch.info.

Reminder- Please remember that the Circle C Swim Center will be closed Monday's during the summer for maintenance and hyper chlorination of the pools to prevent the possible transmission of recreational water illnesses.

(Swim Center Guest Waiver on page 10)



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CCHOA News Continued



Circle C Swim Center Guest Waiver



Guest Information

Name(s): _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 Guest of: _____

Emergency Contact Information

Name: _____
 Phone: _____
 Relationship: _____

1. Do you have any allergies? (yes) (no)

If yes, please list: _____

2. I am at least 18 years old. (yes) (no)

Waiver and Release of Liability

PLEASE READ BEFORE SIGNING BELOW

I hereby agree to hold harmless Circle C Ranch Homeowner's Association/Circle C Swim Center and its officers and employees from and against any and all liabilities for any injury which may be suffered by me arising out of, or in any way connected with the Circle C Homeowner's Association/Circle C Swim Center. It is understood that some recreational activities including but not limited to, swimming, aerobic exercise, running and exposure to sunlight involve an element of risk or danger of accidents, skin cancer and/or drowning, and knowing those risks, I hereby assume those risks.

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian (Under 18) _____ Date _____



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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 through Aug 17
 Fee: \$150/wk for Y members;
 \$180/wk nonmembers

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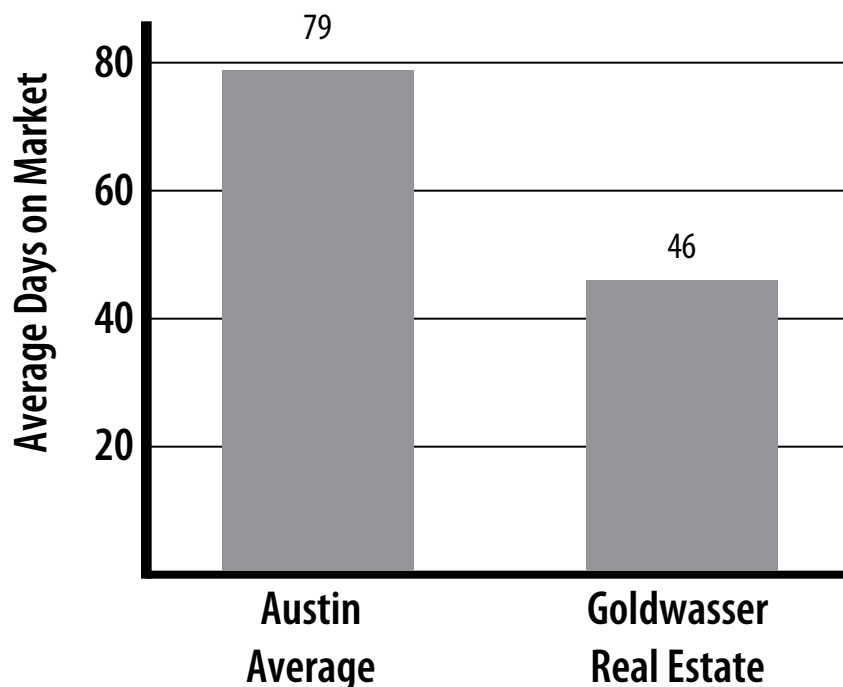
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CCHOA Clubs & Announcements

Senior Men's Social Group

Submitted by AE Martin

The Circle C senior men's group continues to meet every Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock at Waterloo on Escarpment for coffee and breakfast. Membership is now more than thirty and there are usually about a dozen members enjoying the conversation. Six members recently attended the Austin Auto Show together and then enjoyed a BBQ lunch.

If you interested in any of the following please join us.

- Comparing travel plans and past adventures
- Discussing current local and national politics
- Seeking and sharing garden and lawn advice
- Comparing prostate surgery
- Hearing about the latest in cardiology
- Talking about and resolving your computer problems
- Helping plan a day trip for the group
- Reviewing books and movies
- Critiquing the American Statesman editorials
- Demonstrating your new iPhone
- Learning how to publish your poems or Any other topic

For questions about the group send a note to aemartin@austin.rr.com or call 301-9070

Reading Rocks All Summer Long at Mills Library

Submitted by Kristen Card

Mills Elementary is once again promoting the fun, imagination and adventure of reading this season through its *Summer Reading Rocks* program.

The Mills school library is open **every Tuesday and Thursday from June 16th to August 6th** to help keep kids reading through the summer months. Students can come to the library to check out books, practice their reading skills, or participate in book clubs, storytimes and workshops.

Summer Reading Rocks is intended for all Mills students, but originated through the school's Roaring Readers initiative, an early intervention program for struggling readers that is staffed during the school year by more than 100 volunteers.

Summer Reading Rocks events for July include Positively You! storytimes, Roaring Readers coaching sessions, Take Flight All-Stars Summer Book Club, Parent & Child Yoga classes, reading and cooking Noodles from Scratch, and paper-folding a story character.

For the complete *Summer Reading Rocks* schedule, please visit www.millspta.org.



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CCHOA Clubs & Announcements *Continued*

Project Linus

Submitted by Anita Howe

Project Linus is a national organization with 384 chapters, 16 are located in Texas. First, it is our mission to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteer "blanketeers." Second, it is our mission to provide a rewarding and fun service opportunity for interested individuals and groups in local communities, for the benefit of children.

When we say "handmade" or "homemade" we mean something that is not commercially manufactured or purchased. Of course, home sewing machines, knitting machines, etc. are fine. It has always been the mission of Project Linus to donate only handmade blankets. We receive thousands of letters and thank you notes every year from children. Over and over they express how touched they are that a stranger would take the time to make something for them. They really know the difference. Purchased blankets are nice, but handmade blankets are from the heart.

Once a month, except November and December, we gather together in two locations. Our north location is in Round Rock at the McConico Building on the corner of N. Brown St and W.

Bagdad. Our South Austin location is at Bethany Lutheran Church on Slaughter Lane in Room 108.

Please consider joining us on any third Saturday. You do not need to bring a blanket (although we will gladly accept any and all you may wish to bring)! You do not need to know how to sew, crochet or knit, we can show you how to do that. We need people to fold blankets and package them. We need people with sewing machines to put labels on blankets that have been made and we need those who can hand sew labels on blankets. There are many opportunities available.

Most children receive a Project Linus blanket through a local hospital, shelter, or other agency. However, if you know a child in crisis who will not likely get a Project Linus blanket from one of these facilities, please contact Anita Howe at 512-963-3015.

You can learn more about blanket sizes and types, recipients of blankets, drop-off locations for blankets, how to donate (monetary and/or fabric, yarn, cutting tools, needles, etc) by visiting our website: <http://www.orgsites.com/tx/austinlinus>

If your organization or company would like, we also have available volunteers who can give a short presentation about Project Linus.



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CCHOA Clubs & Announcements Continued

Britt's Book Buzz: *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*

Submitted by Brittany Jedrzejewski

The Best Breed of Book

The more I find myself referencing the book I am currently reading (or have read) to friends, family and co-workers, I more I realize how much I've enjoyed it. Well, I've been talking about *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle* by David Wroblewski quite a bit and not because the author and I share long Polish last names.

I'm a sucker for human-dog stories and this is a unique and unforgettable journey between a young boy and his dogs. The main character, Edgar, is born unable to talk. He creates his own form of sign language, allowing him to communicate with his parents and their dogs (his family breeds a custom specialty of dog) until something happens that really rocks Edgar's secure world.

The book captures the love and devotion between dogs and humans and communicates the personality in every creature. I enjoyed reading about dog training and its related terminology and how much companionship and loyalty define our outlook on life. The family unit, prior to Claude, was truly special and the drama that ensued post-Claude entering the scene left you waiting for disaster.

This book is truly an adventure with the best breed of companionship. There's little dialog since a majority of the book is spent on Edgar's journey (both literally and figuratively), which is engaging every step of the way. It's heartbreaking to witness his relationship with Almondine, his best friend.

I have two points of contention with the book, parts of which were told in the voices from the main characters in the book (one of them being Edgar's dog, which I thought was really great). Edgar's mom, Trudy, shared her frame of reference, but it was so poorly portrayed. The author did a good job of developing her character, but either hadn't fully developed Trudy's voice or severely lacked experience in the mind of a woman. It was shallow and weak and didn't correlate to the character he built for her.

My second point of contention was how the book ended. I have never truly complained about the way a book ends, but I feel strongly enough to say that I hoped the author would have found a more creative end. In the end, was it all for not?!

Feel free to comment on this review, your thoughts on the book or suggest a book for me to review on my blog: <http://brittsbuzz.blogspot.com>.



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CCHOA Clubs & Announcements Continued**Congratulations Cardinals!***Submitted by Melinda McKenna*

Congratulations, Clayton Elementary Math Pentathlon Team. In only our 2nd year, Clayton is the #1 team in the state of Texas! In addition, our team was just 14 points behind the National team winners. The hard work of our students and volunteer coaches has been amazing, and we are so proud of our students for the way in which they represented Clayton at their tournaments. In addition to engaging in great problem solving and learning in math, these Cardinals were respectful and friendly role models in the spirit of teamwork and good sportsmanship.

Way to go, Cardinals!!

**Host an Exchange Student:
Make a World of Difference***Submitted Natalia Cox Wulfe*

Non-profit organization iE-USA is looking for loving homes to host international students during the upcoming school year. All you need is a place for them to call home, a seat at your table, and a bed to sleep in. They will bring their own medical insurance, monthly spending allowance and a great excitement for experiencing American culture! Meet two of the students we're looking to place in Austin:



Johanna is one of our German students. Johanna plays violin, sings in the choir and plays volleyball. She loves to travel and speaks four different languages!



Luka comes from Montenegro. He loves all kinds of sports and wants to come to the US to learn how to play American football and baseball.

To learn more about hosting Johanna, Luka or any of our students, contact:

Natalia Wulfe: (512) 796 - 2074 - OR - nwulfe@gmail.com

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CCHOA Clubs & Announcements *Continued*

Pink Hibiscus Mealybug

Submitted by Wizzie Brown

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

AgriLIFE EXTENSION
Texas A&M System

Adoption Coalition of Texas

Submitted by Tracy Eilers

Michael DOB: 08/1993

Michael is a loving and thoughtful young man. He is sensitive and funny. Michael has a good sense of humor and a good attitude. He enjoys video games, summer camps, go cart racing, fishing, baseball and anything having to do with cars. He hopes to become a chef or work with cars someday. He currently participates in special education and tries really hard in school. He attends Catholic church and his religion is very important to him. Michael is a baseball player and hopes to continue this sport once he is adopted.

Michael will capture your heart with his thoughtful ways, playful spirit, and his desire to be loved. He's adventurous and an absolute blast to be around.



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CCHOA Clubs & Announcements Continued**Community Project Opportunity!***Submitted by David Chung*

During his campaign, Obama encouraged all Americans to help out their community. If you don't support Obama, I'm sure John McCain doesn't advocate selfishness either. If you support neither...well, empathy builds your physical, ethical, and intellectual character.

I have one in mind, and it doesn't take all that much. Helping your community does not have to mean social upheaval; incremental steps are often sufficient. This is much of the latter: we don't need a Gandhi, we just need a you.

All around as driveways age, they accumulate contaminants. A dirtier house, no doubt, does not enhance interest. The fact is driveways are easy to clean. It's just that most people don't get around to doing it. As a community, let's abate depreciation and clean up this neighborhood's driveways once and for all. What we're going to do is go door-to-door and wash the driveways of consenting owners. All that's required is a power-washer and muscle. I know not many households have such hoses, but I'm confident a lot of

people possess the willpower to help. For those who do, it would be great if you lend your hose for this project. (Note the word "lend," please.) I'm calling for at least ten volunteers to participate in this project. It will be held from August 10th-14th, 10AM-5PM. During the allotted time we will clean as many driveways as we can. With clean driveways, our neighborhood will look nicer and thus attract more interest. Greater interest will in turn raise home values, which we so need in this economy. What's more is that just one coruscated lot amid a wasteland of dilapidated driveways would make a street look odd as opposed to beautiful. Therefore augmenting house prices relies on a community effort to make all houses pretty.

So if you love this neighborhood—or hate it so much that you want to sell your house and leave ASAP—this is the project for you! If you would have any questions and/or you would like to sign up and/or lend a power-washer, please email us at sparkly.volunteers@gmail.com or call 971-4802. Remember, only you have the power to change your life.



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CCHOA Clubs & Announcements *Continued*

Park West HOA News (Specifically for Park West Residents)

Submitted by Jackie Rollins

Message from the PWHOA Board of Directors

Richard Scott, President of the Board, resigned on May 31st. The Scotts' home sold recently and they are moving from the neighborhood. Frances Bush, Vice President, is currently leading the Board. Please join us in thanking Richard for his service and dedication to the Park West HOA over the past two years and for his tireless efforts in making this an even better place to call home. We also extend our thanks to both Richard and Alanna for co-chairing the Social Committee during the past three years and planning such popular events as the annual Memorial Day Barbeque, the wine tasting club and the bi-annual Park West Garden Tours. At the time of this writing, the Board was seeking a volunteer to fill the vacant seat through the end of the year.

Landscaper News and Sprinkler Checks

Summer is almost here. Have you requested your sprinkler check yet? It only takes a few minutes to ensure that your system is working at its optimum level. E-mail scott@pearsonlandscape.com or call Jackie Rollins at 940-5745 to schedule an appointment.

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.

Read All About It

Do you know of a dependable handyman that can fix anything at a reasonable price?....a cleaning service that does a super job?....a great new place to eat?....a pet sitter extraordinaire? If you have something worth sharing with your Park West neighbors, don't keep it to yourself....post it on the PWHOA website. It's easy. Just sign on to the website, click on "Message Board" at the top of the page and then "Neighborhood Referrals." Post your referral, or read

(Continued on Page 19)

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— T. Ewing


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or by email - robby@dwpainting.com**

**We look forward to helping you
create your perfect home!**



CCHOA Clubs & Announce. *Continued*

Park West HOA News - (Continued from Page 18)

the many that have already been posted by other residents. If you haven't been to the website yet, you will need a registration code to complete your initial sign on. E-mail webmaster ruthbolsen@austin.rr.com for the code.

Outside the Box

Board member Jackie Rollins was recently selected for a three-year term on the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP). TAP is a Federal Advisory Committee established under the authority of the Department of the Treasury to allow citizens the opportunity to participate in the federal tax administration system by providing direct input to the Internal Revenue Service. The Panel is comprised of approximately 100 ethnically diverse citizens from all walks of life from each of the 50 states as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico who are subdivided into seven geographical area committees, each working with the IRS on specific topics. Jackie is excited about the appointment and the challenges it presents. She is looking forward to her week of orientation and training in D.C. this December. She says the average time commitment for a TAP member is at least 300-500 hours per year, greater for those who take on additional responsibilities, such as a committee chair, and adds that she certainly won't have to worry about having too much spare time on her hands for awhile.

If you know someone who should be given credit for being a good neighbor of the month, 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.

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 \$65, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office at 512-263-9181 or advertising@PEELinc.com.

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Circle C BBQ Cook-Off



CIRCLE C 1ST ANNUAL BBQ COOK-OFF AND FAMILY FESTIVAL!

Join us on Saturday, August 15th, 4pm to 7pm for an afternoon of fun! Activities include:

- Games 2 Go Tour Bus
- Volleyball & Basketball Tournament
- Local vendor booths
- Face Painting
- Food & Drink
- & Much More!!

Admission is FREE!

DON'T MISS OUT ON THE LAST BIG EVENT OF THE SUMMER!

If you are interested in participating in the BBQ Cook-Off and/or renting a booth as a vendor, please see registration forms in this newsletter. Questions? Call us at 288-8663 or email at info@circlecranch.info

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**Circle C BBQ Cook-Off Continued**

Circle C BBQ Cook-Off and Family Festival Rules & Regulations

1. All registration forms are due by July 31, 2009. There will be no on-site registration on the day of the cook-off. Judging will begin at 2pm with turn-ins at separate times. Cooks may begin set-up anytime on Friday, August 14th beginning at 6pm.
2. The team captain must be a Circle C resident. A barbeque team may have no more than 4 people per team.
3. Barbeque must be cooked from scratch on-site the day of (or night before) the cook-off. It must be prepared in the open at the team's booth site. No gas cooking allowed.
4. Teams are asked to prepare and cook food in as sanitary manner as possible. Cooking conditions are subject to inspection by the head judge. All food, equipment and utensils must be stored at least 6" off the floor on pallets, shelving or tables at all times.
5. Each team will be given one parking space at the back of the swim center. Spaces will be numbered and each team, upon registration, will be given a number. Appropriate themed decoration of your area and related costuming is encouraged, but please remember this is a family event.
6. Cooking will take place in the designated parking space area only. Cooks must provide their own materials to include: table, chairs, shade, cooking utensils & ingredients.
7. At the discretion of the head judge, cooks may be required to taste their own barbeque in front of a judge at any time during the event.
8. Firearms, explosives or other pyrotechnics will not be allowed on the premises.

Circle C BBQ Cook-Off and Family Festival BBQ Cook-Off Contestant Registration Form

Saturday, August 15, 2009 from 4pm to 7pm, Swim Center Plaza

All interested teams are required to complete and submit a signed copy of this form by July 31, 2009. Upon registration, team captains will receive more information. \$10 registration fee for each category.

MAIL OR DROP OFF COMPLETED BBQ COOK-OFF CONTESTANT REGISTRATION FORM TO:

Circle C HOA
Attn: BBQ Cook-Off
5919 La Crosse Avenue, #100
Austin, Texas 78739

Team Name: _____
Team Captain: _____
Names of other Team Members: _____

Categories in which your team will compete: (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beef Brisket | <input type="checkbox"/> Pork |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BBQ Sauce | <input type="checkbox"/> Pork Ribs |

TEAM CAPTAIN CONTACT INFORMATION:

Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Circle C BBQ Cook-Off & Family Festival
Saturday, August 15, 2009
4pm to 7pm - Swim Center Plaza

I, (print) _____, have read the above listed rules and regulations for the Circle C BBQ Cook-Off and Family Festival and agree to abide by them.

Signature: _____

Date: _____



Circle C BBQ Cook-Off Continued



BBQ Cook-Off and Family Festival

The CCHOA will host the 1st Annual BBQ Cook-Off and Family Festival on Saturday, August 15, 2009 from 4pm to 7pm in the Swim Center Plaza.

Join us for a day of fun! We'll have a Mobile Video Game (state of the art electronics, lighting and sound, including multiple flat screen HDTV displays inside and outside with tons of games to play), a volleyball tournament at the pool, face-painting/tattoos, motorized boat races, vendor booths with many items for sale and lots more!

- If you are interested in entering the BBQ Cook-Off, look for official rules and registration in this newsletter and online at www.circlecranch.info

- If you would like to rent a booth space to sell crafts, merchandise, jewelry, services, etc., the cost will be \$50 per spot (maximum 6ft table to set-up your product). For \$75, you will also get your name/company logo on the back of our official BBQ Cook-Off T-shirt which will be given

away at the event. CCHOA residents will be considered for booths first with remaining booth rentals available to non-residents. Vendors are responsible for set-up and equipment of booth including tables and chairs.

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11:00 am Life - Connection | *Worship Band*

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Circle C BBQ Cook-Off Continued



CCHOA BBQ Cook-Off and Family Festival

Saturday, August 15, 2009 4pm to 7pm

Vendor Registration Form

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Booth Description: _____

_____ \$50 check enclosed for booth rental fee

_____ \$75 check enclosed for booth rental fee and company name/logo on T-shirt

(you will be contacted for logo information)

Drop off or mail to: 5919 La Crosse Ave, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78739. DEADLINE: July 31, 2009

CCHOA residents will be considered for booths first with remaining booth rentals given to non-residents.

Vendors are responsible for set-up and equipment of booth including tables and chairs and clean-up.



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Baby Bird/Mammal Rescue Guides

Baby Bird Rescue Guide

1. Obtain and prepare a container: Some things that work nicely include dog/cat carriers, cardboard boxes, or paper sacks closed with a clothespin. Line the container with a soft cloth, tissue, paper towels or toilet paper.
2. Wear gloves if possible.
3. Place a towel or sheet over the bird.
4. Gently scoop up the bird with the towel and put in the prepared container.
5. Provide warmth: Place a portion of the container on a heating pad set to low or place a heat source next to the bird. Good items to use include a plastic soda bottle or rubber glove filled with warm water. A sock filled with rice and then warmed in the microwave will also work.
6. Close the container and seal shut.
7. Make a mental note of where you found the bird. This can be important as some birds need to be returned to the same area at release.
8. Keep the bird in a warm, dark and quiet place away from the pets and children. Resist the urge to handle as this will stress the bird. Do not give it anything to eat or drink.
9. Wash your hands well. Birds can carry diseases and parasites.
10. Call Wildlife Rescue at 472-9453 for instructions on where to take the bird.

Baby Mammal Rescue Guide

1. Obtain and prepare a container. Some things that work nicely include dog/cat carriers, card boxes, Rubbermaid storage container with lids (be sure to make holes for air) or paper sacks. Line the container with soft cloth, tissue, paper towels or newspaper.
2. Wear gloves if possible.
3. Place a thick towel or blanket over the baby.
4. Gently scoop up the baby with the towel and put it in the prepared container.
5. Provide warmth: Place a portion of the container on a heating pad set to LOW or put a heat source next to the baby. Use a covered plastic soda bottle or a rubber glove filled with warm water. A sock filled with rice and then heated in the microwave will also work.
6. Close the container and seal shut.
7. Make a mental note of where you found the baby.
8. Keep the baby in a warm, dark, quiet place away from pets and children. Resist the urge to handle as this will cause undue stress to the animal. Do not give it anything to eat.
9. Wash your hands well. Wild animals can carry diseases and parasites.
10. Call Wildlife Rescue at 472-9453 for instructions on where to take the animal.

(Detailed Charts on Pages 25-26)

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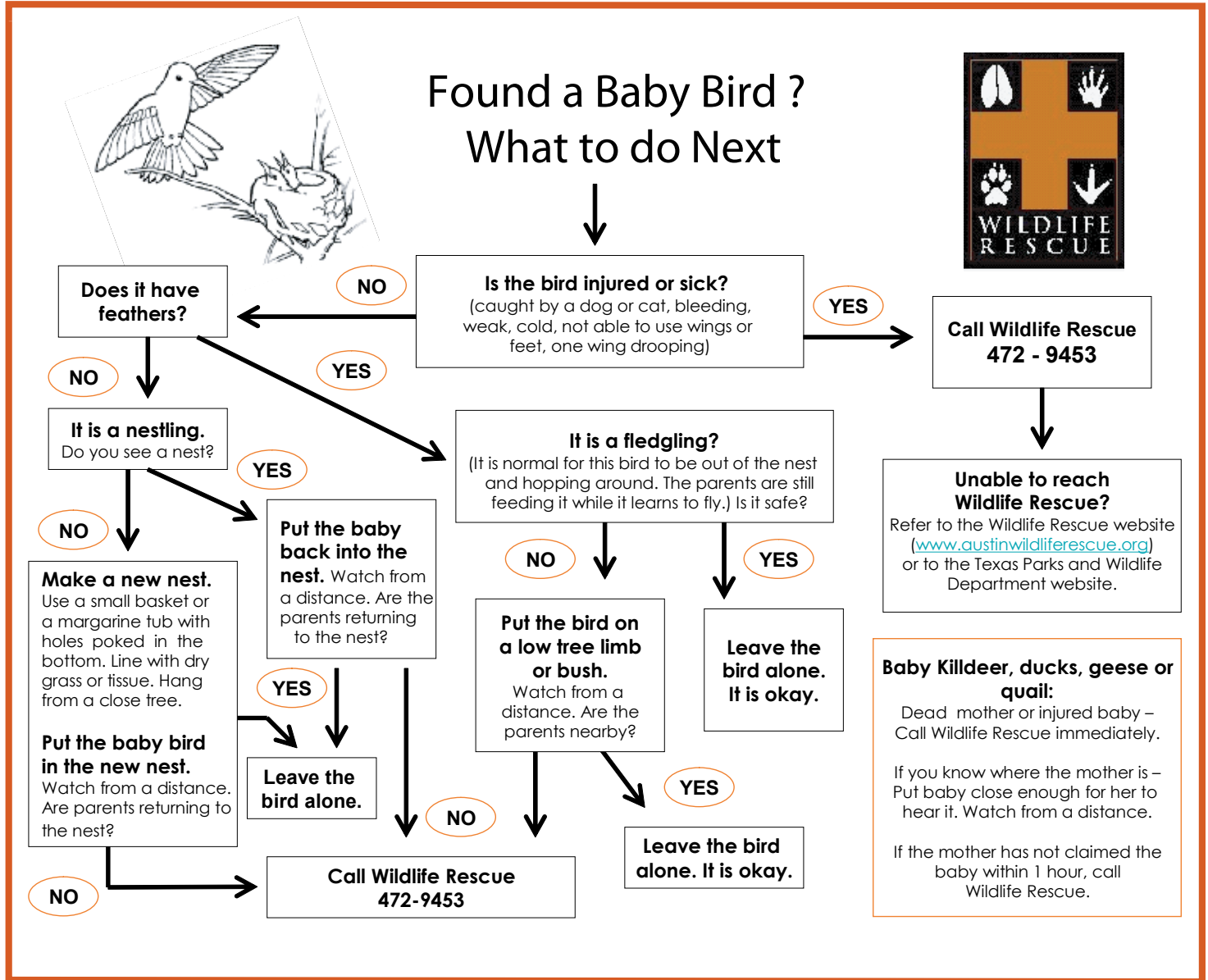
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Baby Bird/Mammal Rescue Guides Continued



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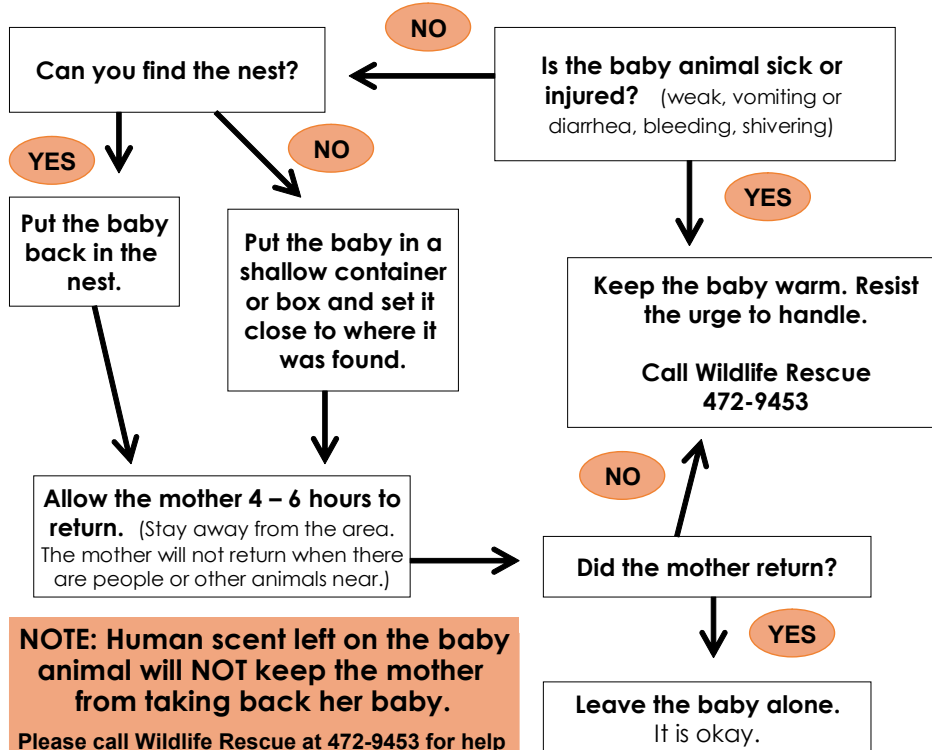
Baby Bird/Mammal Rescue Guides Continued



Found a Baby Mammal ? What to do Next



PLEASE DO NOT FEED OR WATER



If you find a fawn:



It is normal for the doe to leave it alone for several hours at a time. The fawn will often lay flat with its head down (called "pancaking").

DO NOT GIVE IT ANYTHING TO EAT OR DRINK.

If it is cold, hungry, sick, or in an unsafe area call **Wildlife Rescue**. 472-9453

If you find a baby bunny:

Look for the nest (a shallow depression in the ground lined with grass and fur.) Put the bunny back in the nest and cover with grass to hide. The mother spends most of her time away from the nest returning to feed at dusk & dawn.

Healthy bunnies are on their own when they are the size of a tennis ball or 4-5 inches long.

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Circle C Amenities

FOUR STAGES OF IMPROVING YOUR GAME

Submitted by Fernando M. Velasco, General Manager and Director of Tennis - Circle C Tennis Club

In past issues, we have covered how to get proper equipment and how to practice. In this issue, we will give you some advice on how to progress on your game following the CCDP stages:

Stage One: Consistency

Our muscles react to repetition of something that feels good and natural. If a player needs work on a particular stroke, hundreds of balls need to be given so the production of their stroke looks the same regardless of where the ball is located. Consistency of grips, foot work, anticipation, point of contact and follow-through, need to be almost "carbon" copy of each other.

Stage Two: Control

Do you know that there are only eight shots that can be executed when you hit a groundstroke? They are: cross court, down the line, flat, top spin, slice, drop shot, lob and "miss-hits" Once a player reaches the consistency of getting the ball over the net and into the court, the player needs to start working on controlling the "where" and "how" type of shot. As players advance on control, they will

combine these shots, such as "top spin cross court, slice down the line, top spin lobs, etc.

Stage Three: Depth

Most players want to hit the ball an inch above the net height. If players look at most of the great players, they will realize that most of the shots they hit are at least three feet over the net and land between the service line and base line of their opponents. The balls that are "skimmed" over the net, are usually passing shots when the players come up to the net, or great winners that only a Roger Federer or an Andy Roddick can do with great control and consistency.

Stage Four: Power

Once a player feels comfortable with the first three stages, then it is time to create Power. Unfortunately, most tennis players become injured by going to the Fourth Stage too quick into the game and become frustrated, thus ruining their weekend games and being sore for an entire week due to torn muscles. Power is generated mostly by

(Continued on Page 29)



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Circle C Amenities Continued

Four Stages - (Continued from Page 28)

good timing, good foot work, reading early where the ball will land, and by planning the shot even before the player gets to the ball.

Most players in League level 2.5 to 4.0 will end up winning their matches by mastering the first three stages, while the ones going to stage Four too quick, will be spending their time with ice packs and taking Ibuprofen pills until the next match and start the "vicious" circle again....

Circle C Manager and Director of Tennis *Number #1 in Texas*



Fernando Velasco, General Manager and Director of Tennis at the Circle C Tennis Club, was co-ranked # 1 in the Men's 65 and over division for Texas and #20 in the United States in the year 2008. Last month, Velasco upset the Number 4 and Number 1 Seeds to reach the finals in the Category II Super Senior Championships

held at Westwood Country Club. Velasco lost 6-2, 6-4 to the number 2 Seed, Michael Stewart from California, and affirmed his Number 1 Ranking Year to Date in Texas.

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How to Google Smarter

Submitted by Rich Keith

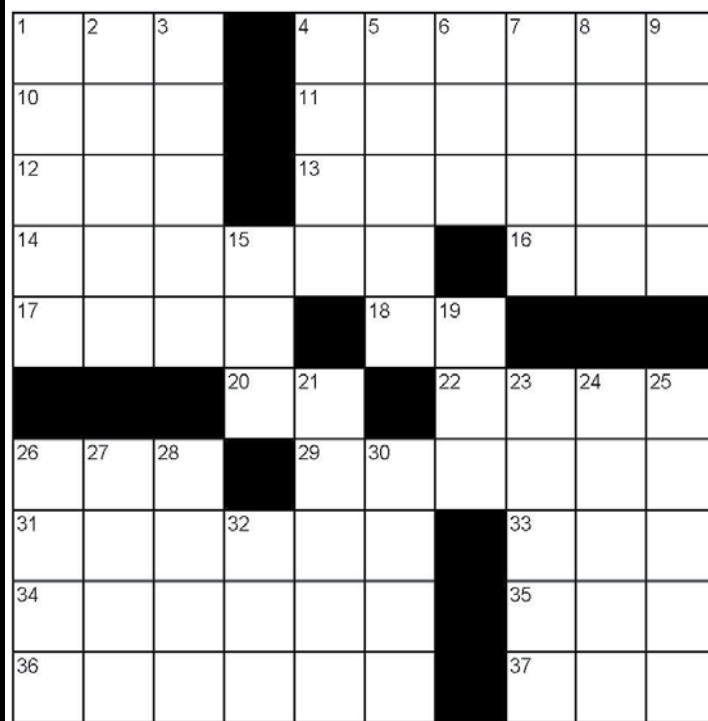
In my work as a financial service professional I often help my clients find information which will guide their understanding. But with my background in computer science I'm just geeky enough to enjoy the finer points of searching online. Here then, are ways to improve your Google experience.

- **Check your stocks.** Take a deep breath, and then enter a ticker symbol to see a real-time quote. Try ORCL or LUV.
- **Include the word you need.** Google ignores common words and characters such as where, the, how, and other digits and letters which slow down your search without improving the results. (Google will indicate if a word has been excluded by displaying details on the results page below the search box.)
- **If a common word is essential** to getting the results you want, you can include it by putting a "+" sign in front of it. (Be sure to include a space before the "+" sign.) For example, here's how to ensure that Google includes the "IV" in a search for Star Wars, Episode IV: Star Wars Episode +IV
- **Convert currency and units.** Easy examples: "12 euros in dollars" or "12 tsp in tbsp" or "12 % of 93,755" for example.
- Get the synonyms too with synonym search. If you want to search not only for your search term but also for its synonyms, place the tilde sign (~) immediately in front of your search term. For example, suppose you want to search for food facts. Here's how to search for food facts and also get similar information on nutrition and cooking information: ~food ~facts.
- **Narrow by file type.** To find PowerPoints, Excel spreadsheets, or books scanned into PDFs, add "filetype:ppt" (or any other extension) to your query.
- **Search ranges.** Use two periods between two numbers, like "Wii \$200..\$300." Even dates work. Try "Earl Campbell 1970..1990"
- **Be prepared for flight delays.** Type in the airline, then your flight number, like "AA 1237."
- **Easy definitions.** To get the definition for a word, just type the word define: followed by the word. Include the colon and space, such as "define: annuity"
- **Find the right sources:** Add "site:edu" or "site:gov" to limit your search to school, org, or government domains. For example, "529 plan site:org." To target a specific web site, type, say, "annuity site:primerica.com."
- **Little known search operators.** This is neat: the asterisk (*) can be used if you don't know exactly how to spell a word. For instance, "contagiou*" will match all articles containing words that start in "contagiou." Give it a try, it's contagious. Other operators include the pipe code (|) which acts as the word "OR." For example, a search for "large cap|mid cap" will return search results for "large cap" OR "mid cap." You can also use the uppercase word OR. For example, here's how to search for a vacation in either Sedona or Flagstaff: "vacation Sedona OR Flagstaff"
- **Want a picture or a map?** Google can search for different media such as websites, images, videos, maps etc. Select the option above the input box. An easy way to refine your search is to select the "advanced search" option next to the input box.
- **Exact Phrases.** By default, Google searches for any of the terms you enter. To find a specific phrase, use double quotes (""). You will get different results for invest dollar cost average than you will for invest "dollar cost average".

Combine and see what happens. Now you have what you need to mix it up! I combined the stock search with the date range and it worked. To see information on Intel from 1968 (founding year) to 1978, type in "INTC 1968..1978". Now go and play with Google and see what you can find! Sources: Google, Wired.



Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1. However
4. Brand of soda
10. Environmental protection agency (abbr)
11. Large zoo animals
12. Revolutions per minute
13. Timely (2 wds.)
14. Careen
16. BB association
17. Totals
18. We
20. Disc jockey (abbr.)
22. ___ the hatchet, forgive
26. Move up and down
29. Famous female pilot Earhart
31. For each one
33. Teaspoon (abbr.)
34. What a pastor gives
35. Representative
36. Scours
37. Whichever

DOWN

1. Baseball player Yogi
2. Elevated
3. Broken in
4. Loafer
5. Eastern religion
6. Liable
7. Gyrate
8. Burial chamber
9. At sea
15. Drug
19. Compass point
21. Israel's former name
23. Radical
24. Got out of bed
25. Talky
26. Singing voice
27. Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
28. Energy
30. Not women's
32. Flightless bird

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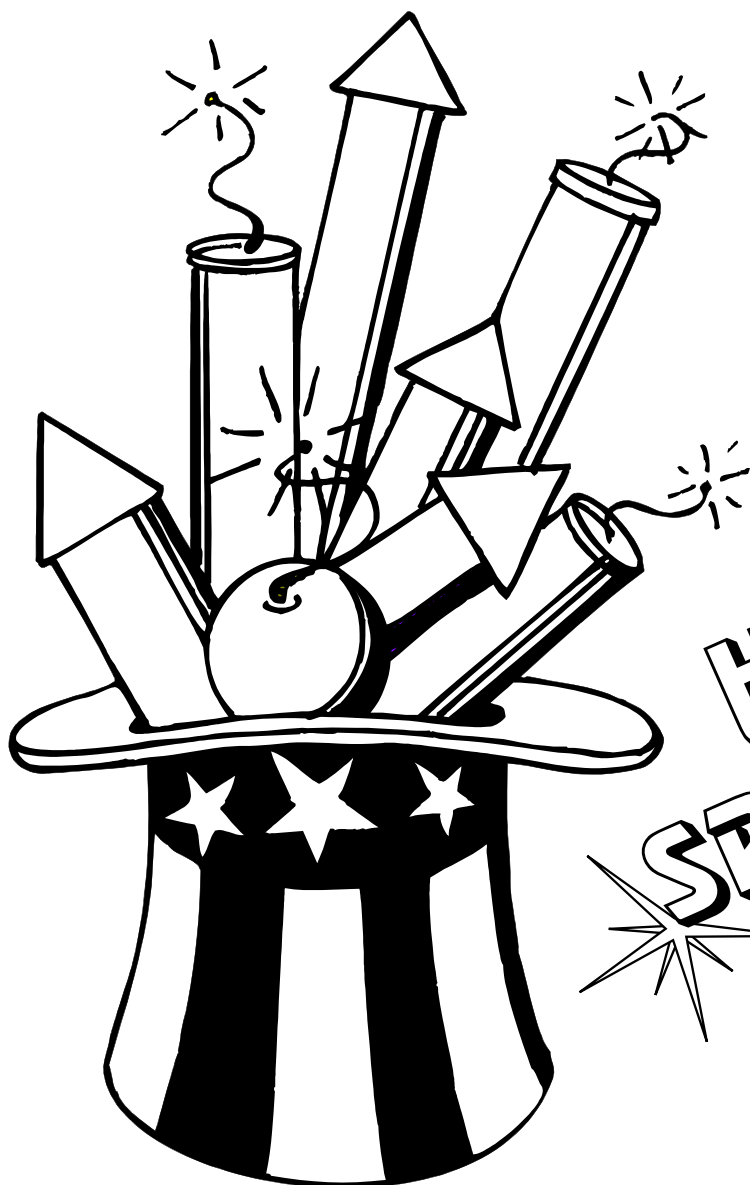
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	Homes Sold	Square Feet	Price / Sq. Foot	Price \$K	Year Built	Days On Market	Available	Pending Sale
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Wildflower	10	2,205	\$ 126	\$ 277	2001	32	8	2
On The Park	4	3,341	\$ 112	\$ 375	1996	47	3	1
Vintage Place	4	3,499	\$ 93	\$ 326	2005	266	0	2
Hielscher	17	3,022	\$ 116	\$ 351	2003	103	10	4
West	14	3,320	\$ 113	\$ 374	2004	97	20	3
Park West	2	2,281	\$ 146	\$ 333	2001	82	9	2
Park Place	2	2,911	\$ 113	\$ 330	2006	131	5	2
Muirfield	3	2,985	\$ 132	\$ 393	2006	30	6	1
Enclave/Stone Creek	16	2,500	\$ 116	\$ 289	2006	99	13	3
Alta Mira	6	3,058	\$ 119	\$ 364	2008	105	3	2
Fairway Estates	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	0
Circle C Ranch Total	123	2,794	\$ 115	\$ 322	2001	93	98	39
% Change Mo/Mo	45%	3%	2%	1%	0%	36%	-5%	-13%

Market Report data was obtained from the Austin Multiple Listing Service (MLS) on 06/03/2009. 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.

WHAT ARE YOU WATCHING?

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