



# CIRCLE C RANCH

The Official Publication of the  
Circle C Homeowner's Association

## Newsletter

Volume 7, Number 9

September 2010

[www.circlecranch.info](http://www.circlecranch.info)

### Circle C Community Center and Pool Project Update

The CCHOA will hold a Town Hall meeting on Thursday, September 16, 2010, from 6pm to 8pm at Kiker Elementary to go over the Circle C Community Center and Pool project. We have included a site plan and building layout in this newsletter so that you can view a footprint of the project on the site. The site plan contains everything that can possibly be built (in phases), but does not necessarily represent all that will be built. These are also posted on our website, [www.circlecranch.info](http://www.circlecranch.info) – under the “Stay Connected” tab.

If you have questions prior to the meeting, please do not hesitate to contact the HOA at 288.8663 or email [info@circlecranch.info](mailto:info@circlecranch.info). We look forward to seeing everyone there. We will continue to post updates in the newsletter as we move farther along in the process.

### Monthly Board of Director Meetings

The CCHOA is governed by a seven member volunteer board, your neighbors (a listing can be found in the inside cover of this newsletter).

The Board of Directors meets once a month on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm at the Child Development Center (5917 La Crosse Avenue, upstairs). There is a Homeowners Forum at the beginning of each meeting that homeowners may sign up for to address the board. Slots are 3 minutes and you are asked to please bring your concerns in writing.

If are unable to attend the board meetings, please sign up for the website ([www.circlecranch.info](http://www.circlecranch.info)) and you can access the board meeting minutes under the Resource Tab.

### Official HOA Communications

*..inside pages 8-16*

### Sign-Up for Circle C HOA Announcements!

*Do you want to find out  
the latest news in  
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## CCHOA NUMBERS

HOA Mgmt Office ..... [info@circlecranch.info](mailto:info@circlecranch.info) or 288-8663  
 Financial Office ..... 451-9901  
 Aquatics Director ..... 288-4239  
 Newsletter Publisher

Peel, Inc. Sales Office. .... 512-263-9181

Advertising.....[advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto: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

Karen Hibpsman, CMCA, Manager ..... 347-2891

Parkwest HOA

Goodwin Management ..... 502-7509

Streetman Enclave HOA

K.O. Orsak ..... 646-6739

Muirfield HOA

Sara Huff ..... 219-1927

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chris Poynor ..... Secretary

Joel Pace ..... Development Officer

Rob Johnson ..... Board Member

Steve Urban ..... Board Member

Contact Information ..... Email: [directors@circlecranch.info](mailto: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

Gorzycki Middle School..... 841-8600

Small Middle School ..... 841.6700

Bowie High School ..... 414.5247

SAYSA..... 899.1049

## ARTICLE INFO

The Circle C Ranch newsletter is mailed monthly to all Circle C Ranch residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to submit information about their organizations in the newsletter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, recipes, special celebrations, and birthday announcements are also welcome.

If you have an article of interest to the community please submit to [info@circlecranch.info](mailto:info@circlecranch.info) by the 10th of the month. The newsletter can also be viewed online at [www.circlecranch.info](http://www.circlecranch.info).

## ADVERTISING INFO

Please support the advertisers that make the Circle C Ranch Newsletter possible. If you are interested in advertising, please contact Peel, Inc. at 512-263-9181 or [advertising@peelinc.com](mailto:advertising@peelinc.com). The advertising deadline is the 8th of the month prior to the issue.

## MISSION STATEMENT

### Peel, Inc. Community Newsletters

Our goal is to provide the Circle C Ranch community with one source of local news content that is provided by Circle C residents. Our goal is to help build Circle C by connecting local businesses with residents and residents with relevant neighborhood information.

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MARY KAY

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# Calendar of Events

## September 2010

| Sunday                                       | Monday                                     | Tuesday | Wednesday                              | Thursday | Friday                                  | Saturday |
|--|--|---------|--|----------|---|----------|
|  |  |         | 1                                      | 2        | 3                                       | 4        |
| 5  | 6<br>Labor Day<br>POOL OPEN<br>10am to 6pm | 7       | 8                                      | 9        | 10<br>Newsletter<br>Article<br>Deadline | 11       |
| 12   | 13   | 14      | 15<br>Monthly Board<br>Meeting, 6:30pm | 16       | 17                                      | 18       |
| 19   | 20   | 21      | 22                                     | 23       | 24                                      | 25       |
| 26<br>Circle C Open<br>House Tours<br>1-4 pm | 27   | 28      | 29                                     | 30       |   |          |



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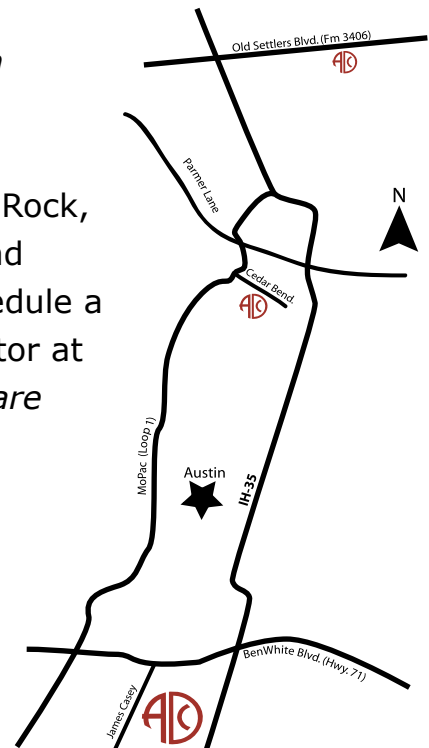
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## CLASSIFIED ADS

**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](mailto:info@circlecranch.info).

**Business Classifieds** (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$65, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. at 512-263-9181 or [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com).

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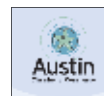
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## DEED RESTRICTION Tip of the Month

The CCHOA staff is currently reviewing about three sections of the neighborhood per month (there are a total of 18 sections) in an effort to remind owners of the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (the "deed restrictions") that each owner agreed to when purchasing their home in Circle C. If you would like to report a deed restriction violation, you can do so via the website under the "Resident Services" tab – under Management Office and Forms.

This month we would like to ask that everyone keep their driveways clear of debris. What is debris? It can include your lawn mower, lawn chairs, coolers, toys, numerous pots (with or without plants) and basically anything other than your vehicle. Help keep Circle C a beautiful place to live!

## PLEASE OBEY THE SPEED LIMIT

Speed limit laws should always be obeyed, but especially during the summer when so many children are out playing. Please slow down and keep your speed limit below the limit on our neighborhood streets.

## 2010 Capital Budget Projects Update

Each year the Board of Directors votes on a list of capital projects that occur throughout the calendar year. In 2010, the following items were approved and budgeted, the majority have been completed:

### SWIM CENTER:

New playscape installation (see description below under Swim Center News)

New shade structure over Café ordering window

New upstairs space finished out for additional office space

New lounge chairs to replace those that have broken or worn out

New hand dryer in the restrooms (less paper waste)

New artificial grass between the swim center office and café

New chemical controllers and pumps

### LANDSCAPE:

Improvements to the irrigation infrastructure

Turf Replacement (to more drought tolerant type of grass)

Bed upgrades and updates to outlying areas

La Crosse Median, Phase I (new plantings to come in the fall)

### ELECTRIC

New bollards to replace those that have broken (along Escarpment)

New entrance lighting Upgrades throughout Circle C.

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|--|-----------|--|-----------|---|-----------|
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| \$75,000 TO \$124,999                  | 1.06%**** | 12 MONTHS                                  | 1.26%**** | 12 MONTHS                                 | 1.36%**** |
| \$125,000 AND ABOVE                    | 1.16%**** | 24 MONTHS                                  | 1.76%**** | 24 MONTHS                                 | 1.91%**** |

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**NCUA** **LENDER**

## Development Update Barstow Village

The two land parcels at the on the east and west sides of Barstow at the entry of Circle C North are currently going through the City of Austin development process. They will be developed as single family homes, and be part of the Circle C Homeowners Association.

On the east side, six homes will be built and there will be one private drive with an entry near the existing mail center. The exterior of the residential development will be surrounded by a masonry wall to match the existing wall around Vintage Place. The developer has worked closely with the City of Austin forester to insure that the major trees will be protected and saved. The entry area will be landscaped to match the existing landscape.

On the west side, there will be 22 homes,

with one street and an entry off Barstow. The existing mail center and filtration pond at the entry will remain. A masonry wall will be constructed along Barstow and around the west corner. Fencing to the west will be wood fence with columns to match the existing fences that currently back to Slaughter from Circle C North in this area.

The landowner is currently in the final stages of negotiating the sale of the lots to a homebuilder who has extensive experience building in Circle C. The final deed restrictions will be comparable or exceed the existing deed restrictions for Circle C North. It is anticipated that construction of the subdivisions will begin sometime after the first of the year, and homes could be built on the lots during the Fall, 2011.

## PARKING

The HOA receives quite a few calls and emails from residents who are frustrated with parking scenario's on their street. The BEST place for residents to park is in their garage, not only does this look better, but it's safer in terms of potential vandalism. If you are unable to park in your garage, perhaps it's time to consider clearing out this space and looking for better storage solutions. If you absolutely cannot park in your garage, then the next best place is your driveway. This ensures that the streets are kept clear, which not only looks better, but is also safer in terms of emergency vehicles having the best access. If you have guests over and they must park in the street, ask them to park directly in front of your home. If you are in a cul-de-sac, this is especially true, and cars must not park nose in, cars must park parallel to the curb.

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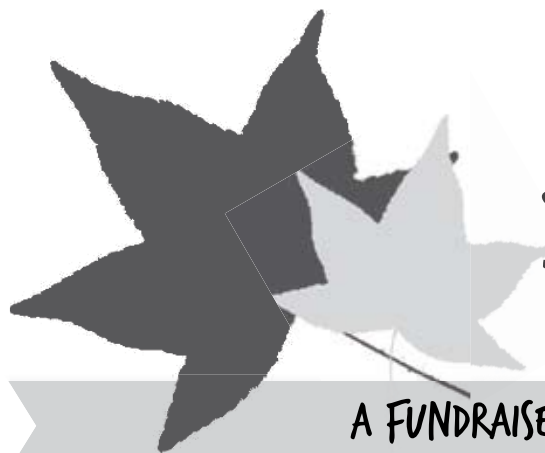
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## Circle C Swim Center News

*Suzanne Edwards, Circle C Resident*

The Pool is humming with excitement this month as the Circle C Select team kicking off their competitive season. With the last of the Stroke and Conditioning Clinics wrapping up in July, the team officially begins weekly practice August 2nd.

We at the swim center are excited to welcome the newest member of our team, David Kelange, the new head coach for the select team. David is a native of Huntsville, Alabama and has been involved in competitive swimming since the ripe age of 4. Among his swimming and coaching accolades are a USA Swimming Junior National Championship, and in 2009 the American Swimming Coaches Association Certificate of Excellence for coaching multiple swimmers to finals and top three finishes at USA Swimming's National Championships. Dave moved to Central Texas in 2004 with his wife and daughter. He can be reached at [ccscoachdave@gmail.com](mailto:ccscoachdave@gmail.com).

If you're interested in participating in this year's select team and have never done so before, email Coach Dave to set up an evaluation and see the front desk for registration. Registration started at the end of June for residents and is on-going, and registration for non-residents begins July 12. For more information regarding the select team, call the Circle C Swim Center front desk at 512-288-6057.

Another exciting development at the pool was the installation of a new state-of-the-art playscape near the sports courts. Be advised the new playscape is more physically demanding and not designed for toddlers. Instead of saying it is more physically demanding, just say that it is designed for kids 5 and up. Ages 2-5 and 5-12 are the standard breakdowns for play equipment.

I would mention that this is a new style of "kinetic" playground equipment and it was chosen because it was different than the other playscapes in the neighborhood and surrounding schools. Not only does it look different but it is a different style of interaction and activity than the standard decks and slides at most playscapes.

Regularly scheduled group swim classes continue in the month of August for the final time before school starts so if you haven't taken advantage of the summer programs yet, it's not too late!



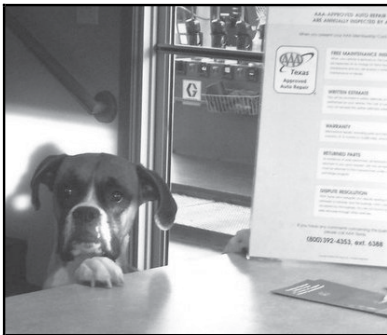
*(Continued on Page 13)*

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**CC Swim Center-** (Continued from Page 12)

The pool hours of operation will change to our fall schedule this month on (date) to the following:

**August 24th – October 17th**

|           | Lap Swim               | Recreation             |
|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Mon.-Fri. | 6am-11am<br>3:30pm-8pm | 9am-11am<br>3:30pm-8pm |
| Saturday  | 7am-6pm                | 10am-6pm               |
| Sunday    | 10am-6pm               | 10am-6pm               |

**Labor Day - September 6th**

OPEN 10am-6pm

The summer may be two thirds over but the pool is still a full of activity. If you'd like to participate in any of our numerous programs, see our Web site for more information, [www.circlecranch.info](http://www.circlecranch.info) or call the front desk.

## SECOND ANNUAL SWIM-A-THON



*Submitted by Circle C Select Swim Team*


The Circle C Select Swim team will hold their second annual Swim-a-Thon<sup>®</sup> at the Circle C Swim Center on October 10th, 2010.

The Swim-a-Thon<sup>®</sup> will provide funds that will enable the team to establish a strong swimming program. The Swim Team currently has over 100 swimmers in the program and is in their second year as part of USA Swimming. The season runs from August - March.

Swim-a-Thons<sup>®</sup> are conducted across the country by many of the more than 2600 member clubs of USA Swimming. Circle C Select Swim Team will retain 95% of the proceeds they raise and will send 5% to USA Swimming.

Swimmers from the Circle C Swimming team will be collecting pledges for Swim-a-Thon<sup>®</sup> from September 1 - October 9. Each swimmer can swim up to 200 lengths in two hours on the day of the event.

Please call 288-6057 for more information.



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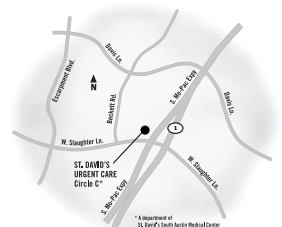
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## Circle C Landscape

*Submitted by Susan Hoover*



It seems that I am always writing about the weather, and that is because the single element which most affects our landscape is, of course the weather. While there are many seasonal gardening calendars and plenty of advice, standard practices work best when

the weather is cooperating. So, normally, as we move into September, we anticipate a little relief from the hot summer around the middle of the month. The plants and grass appreciate it, as well as all of the workers.

The National Weather service indicates we are moving from an El Nino (wetter and cooler due to cooling waters in the Pacific) to a La Nina weather pattern (for us, drier and warmer than normal). This also seems to indicate more tropical storms and hurricanes late in the season. We will have to see how all of this develops, and base our landscape practices around it.

So, in August for the Circle C Common Areas, we spent most of the month trying to manage the excessive vegetation that grew at several times its normal rate during July. Again, this was due to unusual rains very late in the season. All of the natural

areas and some of the maintained areas have experienced huge growth in some pretty undesirable things such as nut grass and Johnson grass. Not to mention that the drought tolerant perennials were so happy they grew over all the sidewalks, into the trees, and generally look like they all need a drastic haircut. Hopefully, by the time you get this, things will be back under control.

For September, it is important to remember that all residential properties remain under the water restrictions imposed by the City of Austin. Watering hours are limited to after 7:00 p.m. until 10 a.m. for sprinkler systems, with odd addresses watering on Wednesday and Saturday and even addresses limited to Thursday and Sunday.

At the end of September, we will be able to begin some planting again to finish out the landscape projects for 2010. These

*(Continued on Page 15)*

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**Circle C Landscape-** (Continued from Page 14)

will include replacement trees at the Escarpment median north of LaCrosse, replacement plants were some have been lost due to traffic damage or to extreme weather. We will be doing some bed improvements at SH 45 and Spruce Canyon, Muirfield Entrance and Circle C North. We will continue with some irrigation improvements, primarily running bubblers to trees in selected locations throughout.

The last fertilization of the year will occur after the weather has really cooled down and we can sense that late fall is truly here. This is a winterization treatment and allows the vegetation to store nutrients over the winter to be ready for Spring.

September is also a great time for your Fall garden. Most of the local nurseries will be stocked with all of the great Fall vegetables, and this is really a fun activity for families. Whether you use containers or get a small plot in the ground, the most important element will be bringing in good soil to make sure your plants are very productive.

## TREE TRIMMING

Homeowners are responsible for trimming their trees so as not to obstruct stop signs and street name signs. City of Austin Code requires homeowners to keep trees and shrubbery trimmed out of the right of way which is 10 feet back from the face of the curb and to a height of 14 feet above the street or sidewalk. Shrubby should not obstruct the sidewalk nor should it obstruct the view of drivers if on a corner lot.

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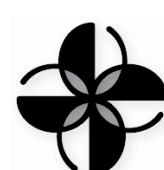
## Thank You!

### Ronald McDonald House Tab Collection

Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who is in the habit of collecting their aluminum soda can tabs! The HOA is continuing 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/> Thank you to resident Bob Hendee for volunteering his time to this effort.






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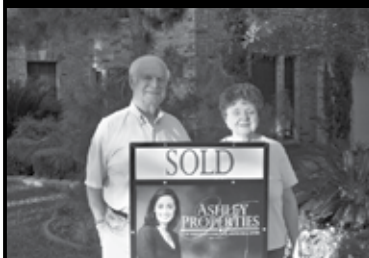
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2010

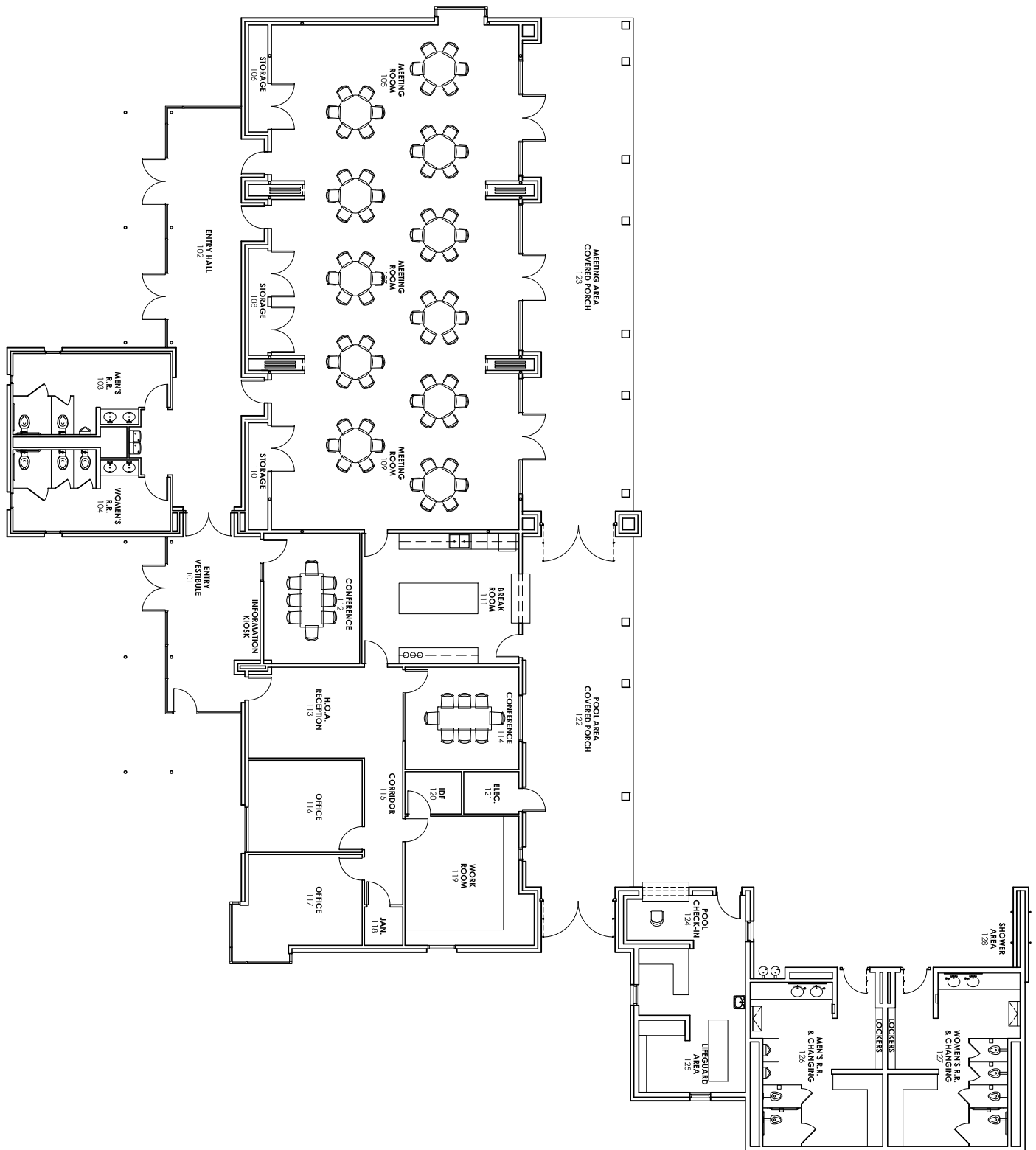
To follow the progress of The Parade of Homes™ and view available homes in the community, visit:

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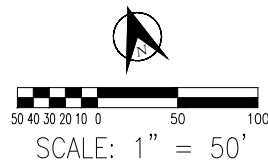
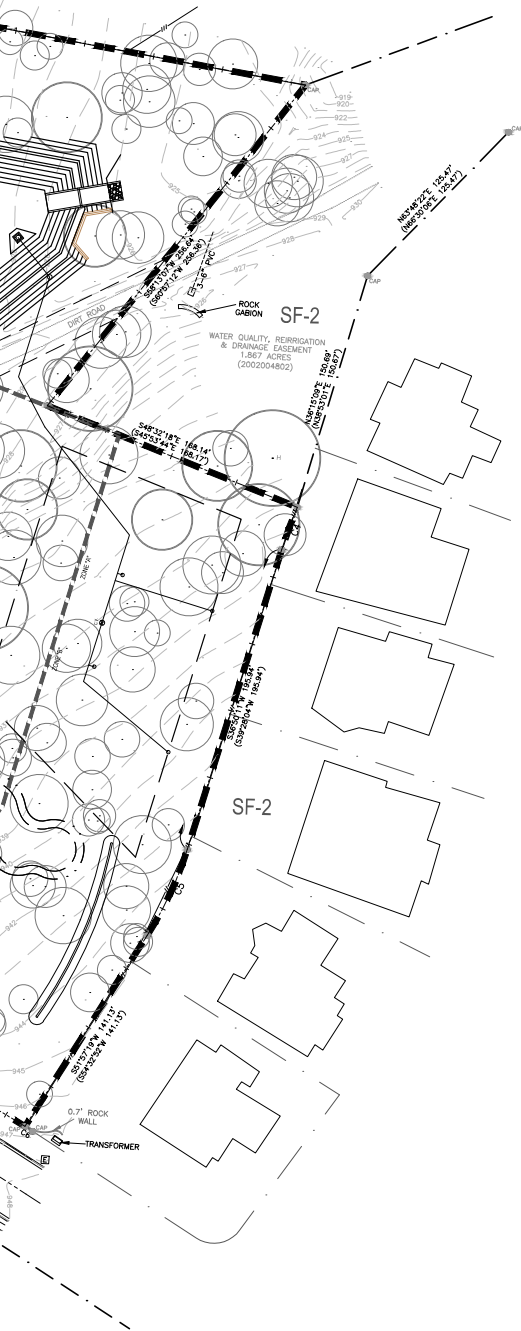
# Building Plan





# Site Plan





|                        |  |  |                              |
|------------------------|--|--|------------------------------|
| Slender-Leaf Hymenoxys |  |  | Russian Sage                 |
| Mexican Bush Sage      |  |  | Red Yucca                    |
| Yellow bells           |  |  | Purple Lantana               |
| Red Autumn Sage        |  |  | Gold Mound Lantana           |
| Barbados Cherry        |  |  | Zexmenia                     |
| Blackfoot Daisy        |  |  | Mexican Hat                  |
| Live Oak               |  |  | Drummond's Wild Petunia      |
| Possumhaw Holly        |  |  | Shumard Red Oak (Fall Color) |

# Circle C Community Center

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# Park West HOA News

## Park West News

Submitted by Glynda Eschle, Circle C and Park West Resident

### MEET YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD VOLUNTEERS:

Little acts of kindness, volunteers, and philanthropy demonstrate the steadfast goodness of people in our country. Austin's reputation as a volunteer city has recently lost some of its luster. In 2007 a federal report stated that Austin had the third highest rate of volunteerism among large cities in the United States. In 2009, that same reporting agency ranked Austin as 36th. Despite the report, local nonprofit leaders say they are flush with volunteers. For years, Austin has touted itself as a leader in community service and I am here to say volunteerism is alive and well in Park West.

It took me only minutes to contact a few Park West HOA residents to enlist them to participate in this column. I asked each one to provide a short accounting of their favorite charity activity which they perform on a regular basis. For most of them, it was difficult only because they needed to make a choice among their volunteer jobs. For the most part, these accounts are in their own words. They are descriptions of what is involved in their participation as a volunteer in a variety of places in our city.

#### Linda DeMayo

Linda gives her time to Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas. She is a longtime presence with the Toy Cart, which is Assistance League's 35-year old program distributing new toys and books to each patient 3 times a week. Linda served as chairperson at the time of the move to the new hospital, so is well-versed in juggling toys, book, schedules and volunteers. In addition, she does weekly stints as a volunteer gardener at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.

#### Donna Friedenreich

Donna claims a love affair with Austin's Zilker Botanical Garden began for her in the spring of 2001. After joining a garden club that met at that facility, she decided to volunteer with the Garden Council's education program. Donna became a docent for school tours and participated in interactive school gardening programs,

the Plant mobile and Supermarket Botany. In 2002 and 2003, she helped plan the Get Growing, Keep Going Youth Gardening Symposiums. With an avid passion for self-growth in the gardening field, she volunteered to join AAGC's Board as VP-Publicity which included being responsible for promoting the primary fundraiser, Zilker Garden Festival. In 2009, Donna became president of AAGC. If you would like to learn more about Zilker Botanical Garden, Donna recommends that you check their website, [www.zilker garden.org](http://www.zilker garden.org) which provides information about this wonderful place she enjoys so much.

#### Jane Gault

Jane is a "natural" for one of her volunteer jobs because she taught elementary school many years ago. Now retired, she volunteers at Clayton Elementary School. This is fortuitous because she worked with her granddaughter's first grade this past school year and will follow her to second grade in the fall. Jane is grateful to have the opportunity to be a part of her granddaughter's school day while assisting the teacher with small group reading instruction. She also volunteers in the school library as needed.

The gift store at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center and clerical work at Westoak Woods Baptist Church fills the remainder of her time set aside to volunteer.

#### Nancy Hall

Nancy, a long-time member of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center began volunteering 4 years ago when she moved close to that world-famous research facility. She appreciates the unique architecture as well as learning about Central Texas plants. Nancy likes the broad range of conservation projects supported by the center which include Land Restoration, Native Green Roofs, Seed Bank, and Invasive Plants among their many projects. There are varied opportunities for volunteering. Nancy volunteers for different assignments as the need arises. The assignments include seed cleaning, assisting visitors in the gallery and helping with administrative tasks

*(Continued on Page 23)*



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**Park West News-** (Continued from Page 22)

or special events. She has taken docent training at the Wildflower so she can lead tours.

If you would like to have the same pleasure she has found in her volunteering, Nancy encourages you to contact the very helpful volunteer coordinator at the center. For more information go to: [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org).

**Anne Hansen**

Anne developed her talent as an artist when she began lessons when she lived at Sun City, Georgetown. One of the results of this talent was a decision to volunteer at the Austin Museum of Art-Laguna Gloria. Their Art School offers a number of summer classes where children are encouraged to express themselves through creating art. Her duties as a volunteer involve assisting with classroom coordination, monitoring student work and facilitating classroom instruction. Classes are limited to 12 students to provide individual attention. Anne recently worked with the creative clay class which introduced the children to creation of their own unique pieces using simple techniques as hand molding, glazing and texture. Anne enjoys the environment of the Art School which is a creative and positive learning experience for our community.

(Continued on Page 24)

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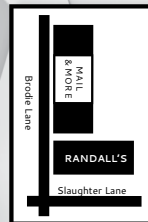
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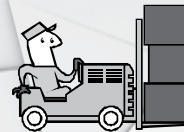


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# Park West HOA News

*Park West News- (Continued from Page 23)*

## Sheila Plank

Sheila Plank is an active volunteer with several arts and social service organizations in the Austin community. They include SXSW, Austin Art Alliance, Austin Film Festival and the United Way of the Capital Area (UWCA). Though it is difficult to pick a favorite from such diverse activities, Sheila cites her work on behalf of UWCA as especially dear to her heart. The United Way address critical issues and needs, provides assistance to many -- with and through -- its partners, and has measurable community-wide impact. Sheila enjoys giving her time to help make the community the best it can be for all who live and work here. Involved on a weekly basis, she is a member of the UWCA President's Cabinet and serves on the Board of Directors' Long Range Strategic Planning, Fund Raising and Marketing committees.

## Glynda Eschle

The Hugs Project is a national project with headquarters in Oklahoma City. I am including my favorite volunteer duty to make you aware of this little-known endeavor to support the soldiers in service to our country.

For four years, each week, I have gone to Oak Hill United Methodist Church to work with a group from 10:00 until 2:00 in the afternoon. It is not a Methodist's mission project but that church generously

allows us to meet in their facility. We break for a brown bag lunch between cutting plain muslin, stitching, stuffing and packing boxes of Hugs to send to soldiers in the desert areas of war. The polymers placed in the Hug become cold when dipped in water which then cools the soldier. It is gratifying work for we receive very heart-warming thank-you notes from the recipients. We happily accept names of soldiers to send them a box with enough Hugs and other "goodies" for their whole platoon. Also, we make stockings to fill with goodies for these men and women for the up-coming holiday season. Some of the Hugs we make are of colorful fabric to sell to fund our charity. We sell them to local gardeners, sports enthusiasts, or people to wear as they attempt to stay cool during hot weather in Austin.

Actually, I have two favorite volunteer activities for my time spent each week in the Gift Store at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center is a joyful activity for me also.

## Thoughts concerning the content of the material in the column this month:

It would appear there is a gender bias in this article with only women included. I would like very much to include men who volunteer in the October issue. If you know of, or if you are a man who does

*(Continued on Page 25)*

## Oak Hill United Methodist Church Welcomes You!

7815 Highway 290 West, Austin, Texas 78736

### Upcoming Events:



### United Methodist Women's



**Sunday, September 19**  
**Fellowship Hall - 2:00 p.m.**

This is open to ALL women.

Our guest speaker will be  
Pat Pewthers of *Funny Business* to  
bring inspiration through humor.



### MINISTRIES FAIRE

**Sunday, September 12 - Fellowship Hall - 10:30 to 1:00 p.m.**

Here's your chance to speak with representatives of all of the many different Adult, Youth and Children's Sunday School classes, Caring ministries, Bible Study groups, church organizations and find many great opportunities for ministry that are available at Oak Hill UMC.

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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. Visit our website at [www.oakhillumc.org](http://www.oakhillumc.org) or call 288-3836 for more information.

**Park West News-** (Continued from Page 24)

regular hands-on volunteer work, I would like to have the name of that person. Activities such as lead a Boy Scout troop, coach a team, teach English as a second language, and volunteer at Seton SW are suggestions but not a requirement.

**INTEREST GROUP ACTIVITIES**

**Travel Group:** Barbara Cothron reports final plans have been made for a trip to Santa Fe, New Mexico, in September. If anyone is interested in future trips or local outings, please contact her at 288-1995

**Book Group:** The group will discuss *The Linet Bird* by Linda Holeman at their September meeting. They meet on the fourth Wednesday, September 22nd at 7 PM in a member's home. Contact Nancy Hall at [nansuehall@aol.com](mailto:nansuehall@aol.com) for more information.

**Men's Poker:** Randy Nelson is working on organizing the men's poker group. He would welcome anyone to join him and a few other men. Contact him at 507-5122 to enjoy this activity.

**UNTIL NEXT TIME ...**

My name is Glynda Eschle. I have volunteered to edit the Park West HOA portion of the Circle C Ranch Newsletter. I welcome any constructive suggestions or information you would like to submit. I can be contacted at 6542 Tasajillo Trail; by phone at 288-1503; or by email at [glynda.eschle@sbcglobal.net](mailto:glynda.eschle@sbcglobal.net).

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## SEND US YOUR *Event Pictures!!*

Do you have a picture of an event that you would like to run in the Circle C Ranch Newsletter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue. Email the picture to [info@circlecranch.info](mailto:info@circlecranch.info). Be sure to include the text that you would like to have as the caption. Pictures will appear in color online at [www.PEELinc.com](http://www.PEELinc.com).



## Don't want to wait for the mail?

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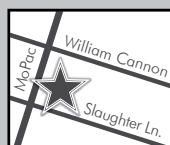
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# Clubs & Announcements

## Rain Barrel Mosquito Control

*Submitted by Jack Simpson, Circle C Resident*

Wanting to conserve water after the previous summer, my son bought two rain barrels from Home Depot. They had fairly tight lids and a contractor properly hooked them up to the downspouts, so we thought there would be minimal problem with insects getting in.

With this summer's wetter weather, it did not take long for the barrels to fill up. When we took the lids off to check things out, we noticed a number of mosquito larvae wiggling around near the surface of both barrels. These larvae can turn into mosquitoes in as little as ten days, so one way or another, we had to get rid of them. Checking the internet, we found several ways:

1. Add fish to eat the mosquitoes,
2. Add an oil slick on the surface to smother the mosquitoes. Vegetable oil works for this. Since we remove water via a spigot at the bottom of the barrel, the oil slick should remain undisturbed.
3. Cover the openings and intake with screening and seal the barrel. Well, we thought we did this!
4. Use a chemical larvacide. These are available at hardware and other stores but need to be added periodically (at least I hope so, because if they don't break down the officials that oversee the Edwards aquifer may have something to say about their use).

We opted for the fish, bought two twenty cent gold fish at the pet mart and put one into each barrel. We checked on them the next

morning. They were down near the barrel bottom, requiring a flashlight to see them. Looking down the flashlight beam, we were horrified to see that the mosquito larvae were not only on the surface, but all the way along the beam. We were running an unlicensed mosquito breeding facility. There were hundreds of them! I still can't figure out where all these could find enough food in the rain water.

We panicked and bought four more fish, bringing our total expenditure up to over a dollar. When we checked a few days later there were no larvae, and a fish had died in each barrel. My son, who is something of an aquarium hobbyist, said it is common for pet store fish to have problems, and indeed, after more than a month, the other four fish are doing fine.

Now whenever we look, we can't find any larvae, so we drop in a bit of fish food twice a week. The fish produce a small amount of ammonia as waste, which can only help the plants where you use the water. We also turned the lids to allow some light (not direct sunlight) and a few bugs to get in.

Since Switzerland has declared it illegal to keep only one of a social animal, and includes goldfish among these, maybe two fish per barrel is about right, and should be plenty to eat all the insects if you give them a few days.

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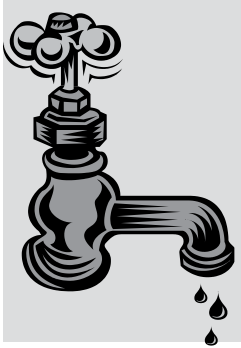
*\*Minimum order with this offer. Must present ad.*





## Are You Watering Your Lawn Efficiently?

*Submitted by Lisa Todd, Circle C Resident*



We consider ourselves very conscientious regarding our water usage. We water only on the days we are supposed to and keep our grass cut at a tall height to reduce the need for water. When I saw that the City of Austin provides free sprinkler system audits, I decided to see if there were improvements that we could make to reduce the amount of water we use in the growing months, and hopefully reduce our water bill.

I called the City at 974-3535 and they promptly scheduled our audit. A very professional young man, by the name of Patrick performed the audit. To my surprise we were watering way too long and the system pressure was too high. We had been watering twice a week and using approximately 20,000 gallons of water a month on average based on the length of time I had scheduled on each station. In order to maintain a healthy lawn, the city estimates we really only need to water once a week at two intervals for a lot less time than I had programmed in. By doing this, we will change our monthly consumption of 20,000 gallons to 5800 gallons.

To reduce the high pressure it was recommended that we install a "pressure reducing valve" which costs about \$300. The city provides a \$100 rebate for the valve. According to the city it will pay for itself over time because the system will last twice as long and it will reduce the misting effect in which a lot of water is lost due to evaporation. According to the city, this will save about 30% in water cost.

We have changed the amount of time we water our lawn to the city's recommendation and are looking forward to seeing if we can reduce our water bill and still maintain a pretty lawn. We will have to wait, however, on installing the pressure reducing valve until it fits in the budget, which shouldn't be too long with the water savings from the first step.

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# Clubs & Announcements



*Submitted by Saralee O Tiede,  
Director of Communications, LBJ Wildflower Center*

## **TEXAS FOLKLIFEYARD SHOW**

*September 4 through December 5*

Indoors and out. Bottle trees, photographs, stories and artifacts based on Jill Nokes' book, "Yard Art and Handmade Places." Presented by Texas Folklife.

## **LABOR DAY SIDEWALK SALE**

*Saturday, Sunday and Monday, September 4, 5 and 6*

A yard art extravaganza in the store and reductions on gifts and apparel.

## **RED FLAG(S)**

*September 7 through February 27*

An extraordinary installation in the meadow made of steel and salvaged stained cedar.

## **AUSTIN MUSEUM DAY**

*Sunday, September 19*

Visit with scientists who demonstrate cool things in anthropology, biology, ecology, geology, engineering and other fields from 1 to 3 p.m. at our annual Women in Science event. Free admission all day.

## **NATURE NIGHTS: PLANTS & PEOPLE**

*6 to 9 pm. Friday, September 24*

From dyes to jelly, medicine to your daily meal, find out the benefits and use of native plants in our everyday lives. Spanish handouts available. \$1 admission. Sponsored by KVUE.

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# Austin Newcomers Club September Luncheon

Austin Newcomers is a social organization dedicated to introducing residents to the Austin Community and giving them the opportunity to meet and make new friends. Join us at our monthly luncheon as well as take the opportunity to learn about and become involved in many varied fun Interest groups.

**Time:** 11:00 AM Social - 12 Noon Luncheon

**Date:** September 15, 2010 (Reservations required by Thursday, September 9th)

**For Luncheon Reservations email:** LuncheonDirector@AustinNewcomers.com or Diane Israelson 512-467-4979

## For other Newcomers information

visit [www.austinnewcomers.com](http://www.austinnewcomers.com) or call 512-314-5100

**September Program:** Dr. Jurgen Streeck from the Department of Communication Studies and German Studies at the University of Texas, Austin  
September 15, 2010

What nonverbal messages are you sending? We are sending nonverbal messages constantly and sometimes our nonverbal messages are more important than what we actually say!

Our next speaker will be Dr. Jurgen Streeck from the Department of Communication Studies and German Studies at the University of Texas, Austin. He also serves on UT's faculty for Foreign Language Education and African and African-American Studies. Dr Streeck has conducted many studies regarding non-verbal communication and has published several books on the subject.

His main area of expertise is the study of face-to-face interactions with a focus on gestures. His studies have delved into cultural differences, which has led him to conducting field research in Germany, the Philippines, Bali and Columbia.

He teaches undergraduate classes on social interaction and visual media, inter-cultural communication, and hip-hop/rap. He also teaches graduate level students on the Analysis of Human Interaction.

Dr. Streeck was President of the International Society of Gesture Studies, and serves on the editorial board of Gestures. He is the author of Gesturecraft: The Manu-facture of Meaning, several books on child communication, and has published many articles.

Please join us for an enlightening afternoon and meet new friends.

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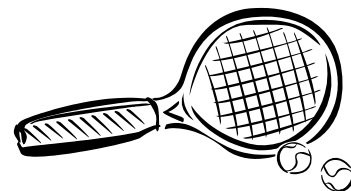
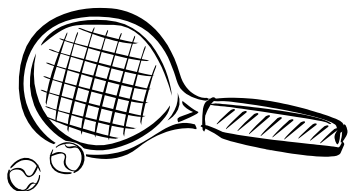


# Clubs & Announcements

## Circle C Tennis News

*Submitted by: Fernando Velasco, General Manager, Circle C Tennis Club.*

The Circle C Tennis Club hosted the NTRP Sanctioned Texas Tournament on July 15 - 18, 2010. Over 85 players from Texas participated in this event. Circle C Tennis Members who participated and reached the finals of the tournament were as follows:



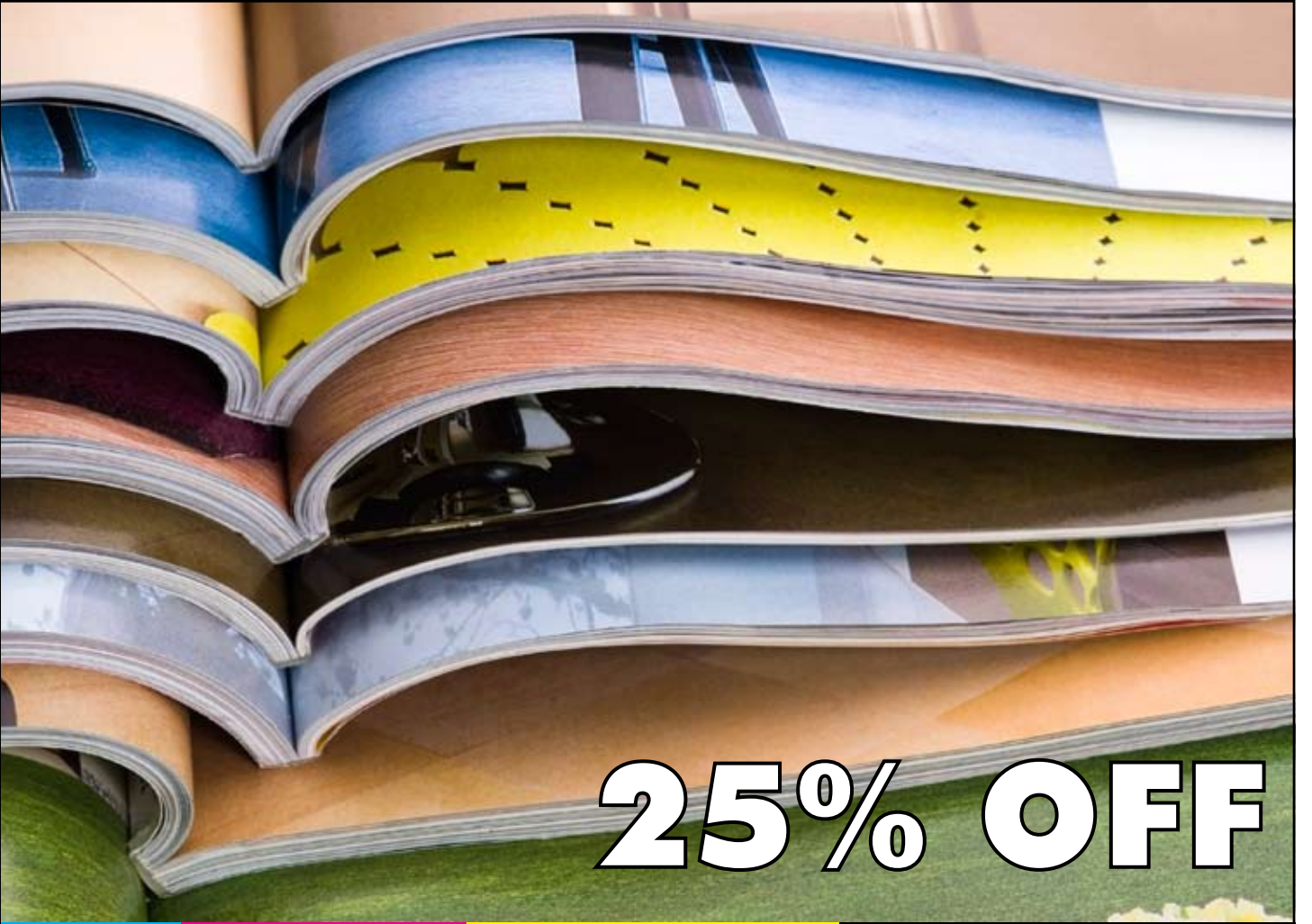
*Top Row: Carmen Manzur & Benita Temple; Maureen Percenti, Cindy Breed, Kathy Smith & Matilda O'Connor; Bruce Walden & Ray Ralph, Kathi Calhoun & Suzie Bradford.*

*Second Row: Nandhini Rangarajan; Judy Haugen & Masami Fujita; Shelly Foreman; Raymond Jackson;*

*Third Row: Eric Marin; Manny Solorio; Chris Cannella; Mark Muenze, Danny Rodriguez, Manny Solorio, Bob Alexander, Gary White, Mike Dillon, Austin Maddux & Glenn Jorden*

*Fourth Row: Michele Salter, Shelby Walden, Shelly Foreman & Susan Lenahan; Louie Zeng & Roger Keen*

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# Clubs & Announcements



## A Unique Childcare Option

*Submitted by Holly Edger*



With more dual-working and single parent families in Austin than ever before, local parents are finding it difficult to balance life, family and work. For busy families, an important part of this juggling act is finding the right childcare for their children. Families need a trustworthy caregiver that can offer the flexibility a busy family requires. One flexible and affordable option available to parents that is gaining popularity in Texas is hosting a live-in au pair.

As a new local childcare coordinator for Cultural Care Au Pair, I have had the chance to meet many of the au pairs who join our program. These au pairs are adventurous, educated, young people from abroad who choose to leave their life at home for one year to share their love for children with an American host family. Au pairs are excited to become part of an American family and experience American culture by living in our communities, volunteering and taking classes at local colleges.

Although the au pair program has been around for more than 15 years, many families are not aware that hosting an au pair is a childcare option available to them. The U.S. Department of State regulates all au pair programs in the United States, offering parents the peace of mind that their children are in trusted, qualified care. Au pairs live and study in the United States for one year on a J-1 cultural exchange visa, in exchange for providing 45 hours of childcare per week. Au pairs are between the ages of 18 and 26 years old and speak proficient English. The au pairs I've met bring great enthusiasm into the home and are excited to teach their host children about a new language, culture and music. Host families are able to take advantage of this unique form of childcare and cultural exchange, building relationships with their au pair that last a lifetime.

During their stay in the U.S., au pairs provide live-in childcare and help their host families more easily balance their busy lifestyle. A host family can set their au pair's working hours according to their hectic schedule, often having the au pair drive the children to and from school or to appointments, as well as supervise the older children during after-school hours and vacation breaks. Of course,

they can supervise young children as well! Finally, au pairs can be a great help to the family because they also assist with light household responsibilities, such as preparing meals, the children's laundry, and helping the children keep their rooms and play areas neat.

Although I'm just getting started as a local childcare coordinator, I'm really impressed with the au pairs that I've met and I'm working with several families who've welcomed au pairs into their homes for several years (each au pair commits to a 12-month stay, and can extend for an additional 12 months. Many of my families have welcomed multiple au pairs into their home). As one of the three coordinators in Austin, I'm a local resource for the host family and the au pair, making sure that all questions are answered quickly and just keeping in touch with everyone and making sure that we fulfill all of our requirements with the state department.

For an active family with children, hosting an international au pair at the cost of \$340 per week—regardless of the number of children being cared for in the family—is one of the most affordable childcare options available. And yet, hosting an au pair is also one of the most rewarding childcare options for families—au pairs create a very caring environment for children and enrich children's playtimes with international games, stories and activities, while also helping families' better balance their daily lives and schedules. Hosting an au pair not only provides the flexible and affordable childcare families need, it also creates an international bond that will last a lifetime.

### About the Author

*Holly Edger is mom to one-year-old twins, Knox and Piper, as well as a Local Childcare Coordinator for Cultural Care Au Pair in Austin. She loves connecting host families with au pairs from around the world, helping families find flexible and affordable childcare. Holly welcomes your questions about the au pair program and can be reached at 512.535.6555 or [holly.edger@lcc.culturalcare.com](mailto:holly.edger@lcc.culturalcare.com). For more information, please visit <http://hedger.aupairnews.com/>*



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## got kids?

*Submitted by Kim Gallant,  
Circle C Resident*

MOMS Club of Austin / Circle C-NW is a group designed just for the stay-at-home mother. We bring together moms from Circle C, Meridian and nearby SW Austin neighborhoods to share activities and playdates, perform service projects and develop friendships.

We meet during the day, when at-home mothers need the most support. Children are welcome at our activities (except Mom's Night Out!) and we have mothers of all ages among our members. Each of us has a unique parenting style and we are able to share and learn from each other in a fun, relaxed environment.

For more information, email [swaustinmomsclub@gmail.com](mailto:swaustinmomsclub@gmail.com)

## Looking for ways to get involved?

**Circle of Friends are community-based volunteer support groups of the Children's Medical Center Foundation with several chapters around the**



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# Clubs & Announcements

## PROTECT YOURSELF

### *When Walking*

- Avoid walking alone at night unless absolutely necessary.
- Keep to routes that are well lit and commonly traveled.
- Avoid shortcuts and dark, isolated areas.
- Walk purposefully, know where you are going, and project a no-nonsense image.
- Avoid potentially dangerous situations.
- If you feel threatened, cross the street, locate an emergency phone, or enter a store or place of business even if you have just left it.
- Have your door keys ready; carry them in your pockets, not buried in a purse.



*This information was provided by the Travis County Sheriff's Office Community Services and Outreach Unit. For more information on crime prevention tips contact Deputy James Kitchens.*

## September 25th 9-10am FREE CLASS: Mom & Child(ren) Happy Hour Workout

*Submitted by Sarah S. Jordan, Circle C Resident*

Get fit while enjoying the company of other moms in Circle C! Pack up your sweet little addition(s) in the stroller (or make it mommy-only time) and let's hit the road for a Happy Hour Workout! What better way to expose our children to the great outdoors and their mommies being active than a fitness class together? We will be power walking and using our body weight for sculpting intervals while getting strong, centered, and fit together. Bring sunscreen and plenty of water. More classes to come. We will meet on the back side of the Circle C Child Development Center near the playground at 8:50am and start walking at 9:00am. (If the weather is looking questionable, please check [www.livefitaustin.com](http://www.livefitaustin.com), as an announcement will be posted (only if questionable weather) 30 minutes prior to the workout.) See you there!



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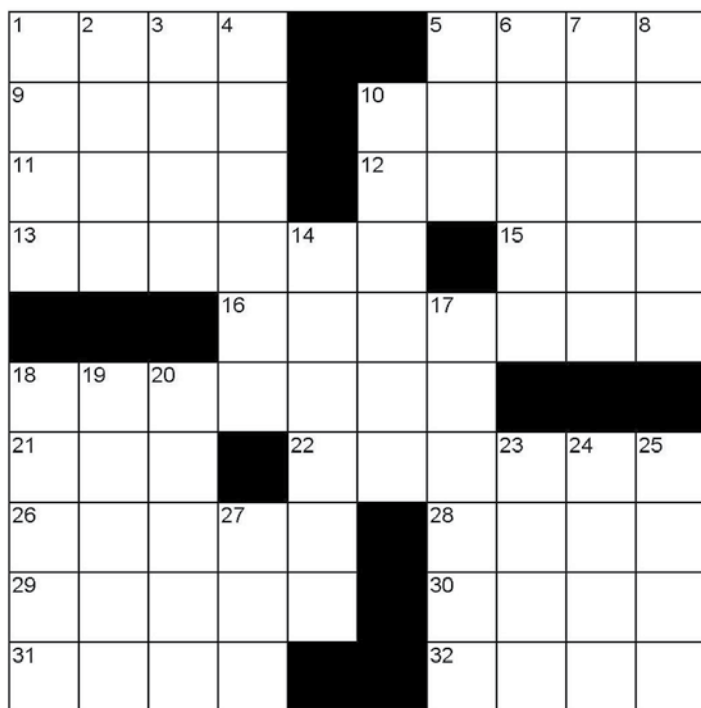
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## Crossword Puzzle



### ACROSS

1. Blow
5. Green Gables dweller
9. Not there
10. Ask for legally
11. Smooth
12. Island nation
13. Fertilized cell
15. Ex-serviceman
16. Rovers
18. Covered in coarse hair
21. Single
22. Sacred songs
26. Scrimmage
28. Prophet who built the arc
29. Remove
30. Canal
31. Eye infection
32. Tear

### DOWN

1. Virtuoso
2. Airy
3. "Ribbit" animal
4. Singing voices
5. Wing
6. Innocent
7. Meat curing ingredient
8. Gives off
10. Sharks
14. Man's wig
17. Less nice
18. Houses
19. Sluggish
20. Electrical device
23. Tenet
24. Water pipe
25. Cote
27. East southeast

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# News You Can Use

## SCOUTJAM 2010 CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

### *of Scouting in America*

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America, Austin's own Capitol Area Council is hosting ScoutJam 2010. ScoutJam 2010, an all day event to be held October 9th at the Travis County Exposition Center, is an opportunity for families to enjoy a variety of adventures together while learning about the history and current programs offered by the Boy Scouts' local Council. ScoutJam 2010 is open to the public, and all Central Texas families, as well as Scout Alumni and community leaders, are invited to attend.

A low-cost and family-friendly alternative to the concurrent Austin City Limits Festival, ScoutJam is an adventurous wonderland of outdoor activities and captivating learning opportunities for every parent and child. Activities will include outdoor activities such as fishing, dirt bike riding, archery, and water sports. Indoor activities, including guitar lessons, food tastings, sumo wrestling, bungee runs and chemistry lab experiments, are sure to elicit wide-eyed exclamations of joy as well. Meanwhile a rock concert, wildlife exhibits, aviation technology displays and historical re-enactments are sure to educate and inspire through a fun and multi-sensory approach to teaching.

The event is the Capitol Area Council's largest yet, and is intended to grow community awareness about the Boy Scouts of America programs offered locally. These include Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Sea Scouts and Venturing. Sea Scouts and Venturing are unique in that they are available to young women and men between the ages of 14 and 20. Current Scouts in attendance of ScoutJam will also have the chance to earn activity badges, and Eagle Scouts will gather from all over the world to celebrate their common bond.

Event sponsors include the American Chemistry Society, A+ Federal Credit Union, AT&T, Austin Toros, Cerqa, Covert Chevrolet,

Dandy Idea, Gibson/Epiphone Guitar, HEB, Safe Kids Austin and Whole Earth Provision Company. Of these sponsors, the Toros, as well as Gibson and Epiphone Guitars will be actively participating in basketball throws and music lessons for the youngsters. Covert Chevrolet will be displaying electric and hybrid cars in a forum about alternative transportation technologies.

"For the past 100 years, Boy Scouts of America has helped young boys grow into great men," stated Charles Mead, the Council's Director of Public Relations, while explaining the significance of this event. "Now, more than ever, we have the opportunity to make an impact on our community by helping kids from all walks of life gain confidence and finish school, allowing them to develop into successful adults." To the Boy Scouts, celebrating the past is about making a real difference for the future of our country by creating opportunity for all of our nation's youth.

To join the Boy Scouts of America, Capitol Area Council in this celebration, register online at [www.ScoutJam2010.org](http://www.ScoutJam2010.org). Early bird tickets will receive a five-dollar discount through September 24th, and tickets can also be purchased onsite on the day of the event.

#### **About Capitol Area Council, Boy Scouts of America**

For the past 100 years, Boy Scouts of America has been the most successful national youth program in American History. Austin's local Capitol Area Council continues this legacy by combining fun, adventure and values to help its approximately 22,000 young members become better, stronger, more confident community members. A variety of activities are offered for both young boys and teenage boys and girls through Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Sea Scouting and Venturing Programs. These programs help young people develop the self-esteem and tools they need to become the future leaders and active citizens that our country needs.



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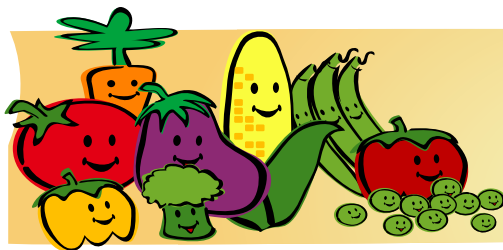
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## PACK A LUNCH

### *With a Lesson in Nutrition*

Parents may urge their children to pack their lunch to lighten their own load during the busy school year but it also helps teach kids important lessons about nutrition and responsibility, said a Baylor College of Medicine ([www.bcm.edu](http://www.bcm.edu)) expert.

"Allowing children to pack their own lunch provides a great opportunity for children to take on more responsibility as they get older," said Dr. Teresia O'Connor, assistant professor of pediatrics - nutrition at the USDA/ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center (<http://www.bcm.edu/cnrc/>) at BCM and Texas Children's Hospital ([www.texaschildrens.org](http://www.texaschildrens.org)). "It is also a great occasion to talk to your child about a balanced diet and teach about healthy balanced meals."

Parents should offer a little guidance initially, however. Younger children and parents should pack lunches together, and as the child gets older, he or she can take on more of the responsibility. This way, parents can teach their children what constitutes a healthy lunch. Later, parents can check in with them, learn the child's preferences and help

make sure that everything is available from the grocery store.

No matter who packs the school lunch, O'Connor recommends that it include a serving of fruit and a serving of vegetables. Veggies can include carrot sticks, celery or some other cut up vegetable as well as sliced tomato or lettuce on a sandwich. Sandwiches can be made on whole wheat bread to get the whole grains recommended on [Mypyramid.gov](http://Mypyramid.gov), a resource of the USDA ([www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)). Low-fat or skim milk or water makes a great drink option. Fruit is a good way to satisfy a sweet tooth, but a healthy lunch can still include occasional cookies or other sweets, O'Connor said.

"Sweet snacks have a place in a balanced healthy diet but the key is moderation," O'Connor said. "If the child gets a sweet at lunch, give them different choices for their after school snack or after dinner. Think about what the child ate throughout the whole day." The same rules apply if your child decides to buy lunch at school. They should select foods from a variety of food groups, including fruits and vegetables.

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## Business Classified Ads

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**JUST A PENNY:** You can run a business classified in the Circle C Ranch newsletter and reach all of Circle C for less than a penny per home. Call 512-263-9181 for details.

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### *Business Classifieds*

**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](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com).

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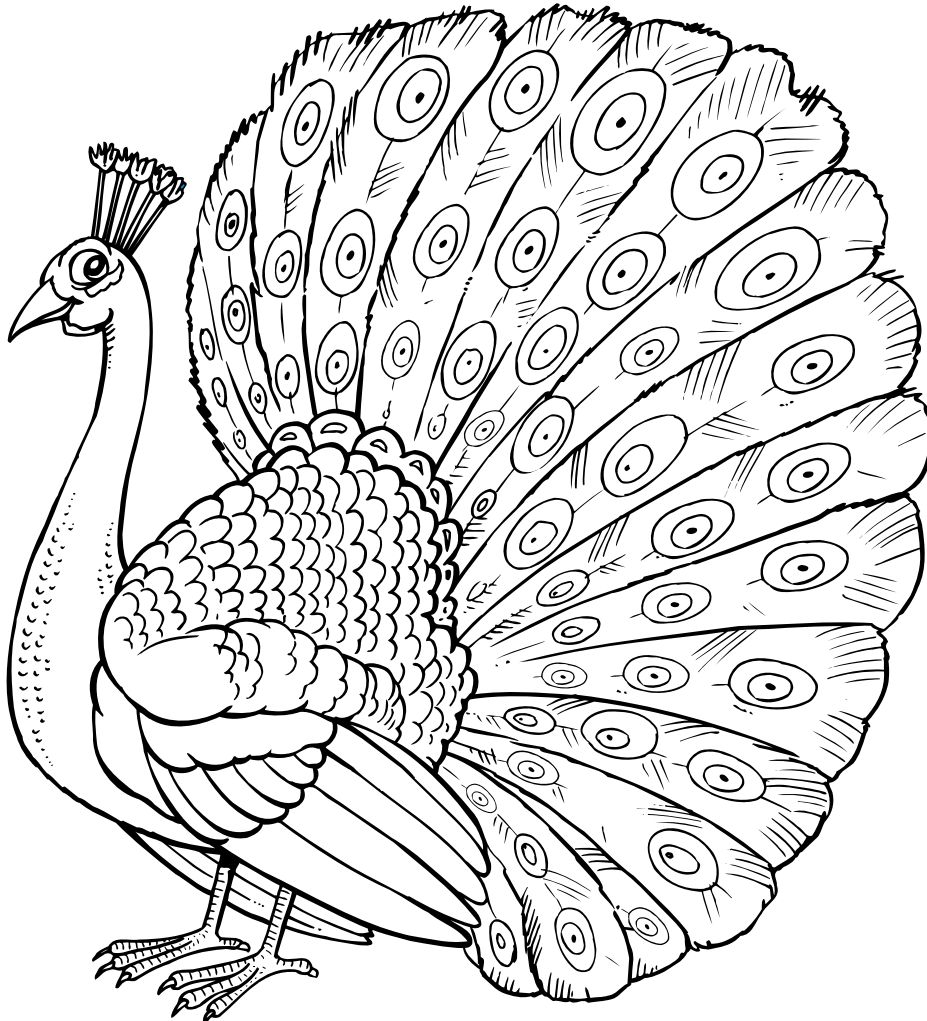
Color the drawing below and mail the finished artwork to us at:

Peel, Inc. - Kids Club  
311 Ranch Road 620 S, Suite 200  
Lakeway, TX 78734

We will select the top few and post their artwork online at [www.PEELinc.com](http://www.PEELinc.com). DUE: September 30<sup>th</sup>

Be sure to include the following so we can let you know!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
(first name, last initial) (This information will only be used to notify you or  
your parents if your artwork is selected)



CC



HOMES SOLD



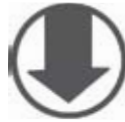
**35%**

\$/SF



**1%**

SOLD \$K



**-1%**

DAYS ON MKT.



**-18%**

AVAILABLE



**17%**

PENDING SALE



**-69%**

## AUSTIN REAL ESTATE PARTNERS **MARKET WATCH**

| Circle C Ranch by<br>Neighborhood | 6 Months Sold History (2/10 - 7/10) |                |                     |                   |             |                   | Current Market |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
|                                   | TOTAL                               | AVERAGE        |                     |                   |             |                   | TOTAL          |                 |
|                                   | Homes<br>Sold                       | Square<br>Feet | Price / Sq.<br>Foot | Sold Price<br>\$K | Year Built  | Days On<br>Market | Available      | Pending<br>Sale |
| Circle C Central                  | 46                                  | 2,813          | \$ 108              | \$ 305            | 1994        | 51                | 29             | 4               |
| North                             | 20                                  | 1,987          | \$ 125              | \$ 249            | 1997        | 44                | 6              | 0               |
| Wildflower                        | 21                                  | 2,198          | \$ 126              | \$ 276            | 2001        | 71                | 7              | 1               |
| On The Park                       | 7                                   | 3,517          | \$ 111              | \$ 390            | 1996        | 60                | 2              | 1               |
| Vintage Place                     | 10                                  | 2,905          | \$ 112              | \$ 324            | 2003        | 57                | 2              | 0               |
| Hielscher                         | 22                                  | 2,998          | \$ 119              | \$ 355            | 2003        | 44                | 12             | 4               |
| West                              | 13                                  | 3,335          | \$ 118              | \$ 394            | 2005        | 47                | 18             | 2               |
| Park West                         | 5                                   | 2,688          | \$ 124              | \$ 334            | 2002        | 97                | 11             | 2               |
| Park Place                        | 7                                   | 2,580          | \$ 120              | \$ 311            | 2005        | 70                | 5              | 0               |
| Muirfield                         | 3                                   | 3,383          | \$ 115              | \$ 388            | 2006        | 80                | 3              | 2               |
| Enclave/Stone Creek               | 5                                   | 2,795          | \$ 116              | \$ 324            | 2007        | 82                | 5              | 1               |
| Alta Mira                         | 13                                  | 3,008          | \$ 120              | \$ 362            | 2008        | 93                | 9              | 0               |
| Fairway Estates                   | 1                                   | 4,074          | \$ 137              | \$ 560            | 2010        | 63                | 0              | 0               |
| <b>Circle C Ranch Total</b>       | <b>173</b>                          | <b>2,758</b>   | <b>\$ 117</b>       | <b>\$ 323</b>     | <b>2000</b> | <b>59</b>         | <b>109</b>     | <b>17</b>       |
| <b>% Change Mo/Mo</b>             | <b>35%</b>                          | <b>-2%</b>     | <b>1%</b>           | <b>-1%</b>        | <b>0%</b>   | <b>-18%</b>       | <b>17%</b>     | <b>-69%</b>     |

Market Report data was obtained from the Austin-Multiple Listing Service (MLS) on 8/03/2010. 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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