

Volume 11, Number 1

JANUARY 2014

www.circlecranch.info

NOUNCEMEN

Submitted by Karen Hibpshman, CCHOA Manager

VOTE!

Please take a moment to vote this year in the CCHOA Board of Directors Election. We need a 10% quorum in order to host the annual meeting in March.

CIRCLE C HOA ANNUAL MEETING & BOARD ELECTION

The Nominating Committee is accepting nominations through January 10, 2014 for the two open board seats (election to be held at the Annual Meeting, March 5, 2014 at the Circle C Community Center). You can download a Candidate Questionnaire from the News Section of the Circle C Website, www.circlecranch.info

The Annual Meeting and Elections will be held March 5, 2014 at the Circle C Community Center. Your ballot and proxy will be printed on the back side of the first 2014 CCHOA dues assessment invoice (which is mailed Feb 1st and due March 1st).

The Nominating Committee will host a Candidate Forum in February, date to be determined and posted on the website and in the February newsletter.

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP

The 2013 Annual Report to the membership from the Board of Directors will be printed in the March newsletter. A copy will also be posted on our website and available in the HOA office.

CCHOA NUMBERS

HOA Mgmt Office .. info@circlecranch.info or 512-288-8663 HOA Financial Officetgiles@mgilescpa.com or 512-451-9901 Aquatics Director director@ccswim.net or 2512-88-4239 Newsletter Publisher

Peel, Inc. advertising@PEELinc.com or 512-263-9181 Circle C Amenities

| Circle C Café | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Circle C CDC | |
| Circle C Swim Center | |
| Circle C Community Center Pool | |
| Grey Rock Tennis Club | |

CIRCLE C GATED COMMUNITIES

Enclave off Spruce Canyon (KB)

Enclave off La Crosse (Streetman)

Plateau Property Management......Rosalyn Peterson, 512-441-1041

Fairways Estates

Goodwin Management...... Marilyn Childress, 512-502-7509

Muirfield

Real Manage..... Tom Ellis, 866-473-2573

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| Chris Poynor | President |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Kim Ackermann | Vice President |
| Dan Vavasour | Treasurer |
| Natalie Placer McClure | Secretary |
| Jason Bram | Board Member |
| Steve Urban | Board Member |
| Michael Chu | Board Member |
| Contact the Board at | directors@circlecranch.info |

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

| City of Austin Solid Waste | 512-974-1945 |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Dead Animal Collection | 512-974-2000 |
| Abandoned Vehicle | 512-974-8119 |
| Pothole Complaints | 512-974-8750 |
| Stop Signs | 512-457-4885 |
| Street Light Outage | |
| Schools | |
| Clayton Elementary | |
| Kiker Elementary | |
| Gorzycki Middle School | |
| Bowie High School | 512-414-5247 |
| Mills Elementary | |

2 Circle C Ranch Newsletter - January 2014

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 <u>ashley@circlecranch.info</u> by the 10th of the month. The newsletter can also be viewed online at 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*. 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.

"Be the Community."



SOUTHWEST

REALTY AUSTIN MARKET UPDATE



stats based on MLS from Austin Board of REALFORS® (ABOR).

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HOA ANNOUNCEMENTS

FED BY KAREN HIBPSHMAN. HOA MANAGER

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HOLIDAY LIGHTING CONTEST WINNERS

SUBME

Congratulations to our winners of the holiday lighting contest!!! Your homes were beautifully decorated; thank you for bringing so much holiday cheer to the neighborhood.

> 6509 Freesia Court 6621 Hillside Terrace 6680 Ruxton Lane 7413 Magenta Lane 7008 Magenta Lane 6829 Tanaqua

After many years, 2013 will be the last year of the holiday lighting contest for Circle C. Although there are many, many outstanding, stunning, over-the-top displays in the neighborhood, fewer and fewer homes participate in the contest. We believe our residents decorate simply to celebrate the joy of the season and to spread the cheer among their neighbors, without thought of the contest.

Moving forward, every December, we will take calls and compile a list by area of homes that should be seen and enjoyed. Please help us spread the joy by letting us know when you see a home we should add to the list!

ADULT HOLIDAY & CASINO PARTY... WHAT A GREAT TIME!!

The Adult Holiday & Casino Party on December 14, 2013 was such a huge success. From the delicious food to the awesome singing on the karaoke, I think it's safe to say that everyone had a great time! Thank you to all of those that came out and celebrated the holidays with us.

We also wanted to send out a huge thank you to all the local businesses that donated awesome door prizes to help make this event a huge success! Thank you to:

Hand & Stone Massage and Facial Spa The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf Pilates South Austin Mangieri's Pizza Café Petite Dental Satellite Bistro & Bar Twin Liquors Massage Envy Spa Waterloo Ice House Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center & Café Maudie's Tex-Mex Vicki McMurry Art Doc's Bar & Grill Chuy's Koko FitClub Zen Well Spa Tiff's Treats Life Shotz Pei Wei Asian Diner Whole Foods Market Alamo Drafthouse Cinema

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Holiday decorations should comply with the schedule listed in the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions –all decorations, including lights, must be down by January 15, 2014.

RENT THE CIRCLE C COMMUNITY CENTER

The Circle C Community Center isn't only available for birthday parties, baby showers, and anniversary parties. Do you need space to teach your yoga class, boot camp, or art class, insurance seminar or real estate training? A conference room for a business meeting for 10 or less? Whatever it is, you can book your long-term rental at the Circle C Community Center. The Community Center is a versatile space to fit your every need, and it's right here in your neighborhood! If you are interested, please contact Ashley at ashley@circlecranch.info or 288-8663.

DEED RESTRICTIONS

As reported in each month's newsletter, the HOA staff drives at least two sections of the neighborhood per month to note violations of the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions. These commonly include: front yard landscape maintenance (mowing, edging, free of weeds), home maintenance (paint, screens, siding) and recreational vehicles (boats, RV's, trailers) parked in the driveway. The HOA is required by state law to notify owners in writing via certified mail and allow for the homeowner to request a hearing before the board of directors. If you receive a letter, please contact us at the HOA office and let us know your individual situation. We would like to work with you to bring your home into compliance. If you would like to report a violation, you can do so via our website at www.circlecranch.info.

(Continued on Page 6)

CCHOA ANNOUNCEMENTS (Continued from Page 5)

DEED RESTRICTION TIP OF THE MONTH

The Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for the Circle C Ranch Subdivision are lengthy to read through. Each month we will highlight and summarize one section that most applies to current issues and is a responsibility of home ownership in Circle C. Article VI, Section 1 is Duty of Maintenance. The required maintenance of Circle C homeowners includes, but is not limited to, the following: Prompt removal of all litter, trash, dead vegetation, refuse and waste; keeping exterior lighting facilities in working order; keeping driveways in good repair (meaning clean, free of weeds in the seams, power washed if needed, and clean and clear of debris); repair of exterior damages to improvements (including frayed and discolored window screens, fences, paint, front doors, trim, etc.). Please keep Circle C a beautiful place to live by ensuring that the above listed items are in good repair, so you can avoid receiving a deed restriction violation letter from the Association.

AUSTIN CITY CODE OF THE MONTH

This month, with most leaves off the trees, we highlight City of Austin Code 10-5-43, which addresses litter removal. Many property owners and occupants fail to remove fallen leaves and debris from the curb line and street, detracting from the beauty of Circle C. This City code requires property owners and occupants to remove litter from one-half of the street adjacent to the owner or occupant's property. This debris must be disposed of properly. It is against the law to sweep or blow debris into the sewer system. Please do your part by keeping the street and curb line in front of your home clean.

BARKING DOGS

The Association receives many calls from owners regarding barking dogs. We encourage neighbors to talk to neighbors if this is an issue; however, the Association also sends out Cooperative Letters alerting owners when this is reported. Keep in mind – the Association cannot verify barking dogs; we are relying on information reported from a third party, so if you are the one making the complaint, please be as specific as possible. If the barking continues after the Cooperative Letter is sent, the neighbor making the complaint may file an official complaint with the City of Austin.

If you have a pet, take a moment to consider whether they are a nuisance to your neighbors and modify the routine. Perhaps ask your neighbors if your dog(s) barking is ever a problem.

Dogs are going to bark, but when it's excessive or early in the morning or late at night, be mindful and be a good neighbor.



Submitted by Sarah Humphrey

NEW MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM!

While the Swim Center will be closed for improvements, the Swim Center office will be introducing a new computer system. This means starting in the New Year every resident will be required to fill out a new Household Pass Form in order to get a new Pool ID card. We appreciate your cooperation while we make this transition. Please check the website for any updates we may post.

WINTER HOURS SEPTEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 14

> SWIM CENTER MONDAY-FRIDAY 6-10 AM Lap Swim Only 3:30-7 PM Lap Swim Only

SATURDAY 8-11 AM Lap Swim Only

> SUNDAY CLOSED

COMMUNITY SWIM CENTER CLOSED FOR THE SEASON

HOLIDAY CLOSURE/ POOL CONSTRUCTION DECEMBER 14 - JANUARY 27, 2014

FIND US ONLINE!

WWW.CCSWIM.NET WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CIRCLECSC WWW.TWITTER.COM/CIRCLECSC WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/CIRCLECSC

YARD CARE TIPS for the Winter Months

Submitted by Susan Hoover

Living in Central Texas, we don't see "typical" winter weather like our friends from the North do although stable winter weather patterns do still exist. Dropping temps signal the end of outdoor chores for many people but there are things still to be done to protect our yards and landscapes as well as prepare them for Spring. This year in particular we have had a "real" Fall with trees turning colors rather than just drying up. Our October rains assisted with this!!

Container plants should be moved away from areas of wind exposure, especially northern winds or taken inside. Move them to an area with overhead cover (patios, under large trees). One trick you can use during a hard freeze is to group the plants together, line out some of your incandescent mini Christmas lights and cover with a sheet Or you can keep them near your garage to be quickly pulled inside before a freeze. If space and good lighting conditions permit, plants can be moved indoors as well.

Think about covering less cold-tolerant plants and shrubs during a freeze. Burlap, blankets, newspapers etc. are all good options. Avoid using plastic as it holds little heat overnight and too much heat during sunny days. Of course, your beds should be mulched to 2" to 3" hardwood mulch.

Stay on top of winter weeds in your beds; this will save you a lot of work in the spring. Generally in Texas you can trim back your perennials beginning at the end of January to prepare for Spring growth. Our last official freeze date is March 11, however with crazy Central Texas weather you can never predict for sure. This year the freezing weather came early with hard freezes over Thanksgiving and the first week of December.

Your lawn will still need water to keep from dying during the winter months (as do your plants!). Some grasses don't go completely dormant so it is important that they still receive water during drier and warmer periods. We are still under City of Austin Stage 2 Watering Regulations, so water on your designated water day, and never more than once a week. In the winter, the standard recommendation is about 1 inch per month if it is not raining. In Circle C, we turn the water off in all areas except anything that was newly planted in the fall as well as newly planted trees. Generally, the rain takes care of the amount of needed water. Preventing excessive foot traffic on lawns is important when the grass is dormant and in it's most fragile state. And as grass comes back alive at the onset of spring new growth is delicate so avoid disturbing these vulnerable areas of growth as well. Keep lawns free of unnecessary plant debris and wayward trash.

Finally, the end of winter is a good time to do any needed maintenance to mowers and other lawn care tools. Our winters are short and lawn care season will be back before we know it!

For more information:

http://agrilifeextension.tamu.edu/ http://centraltexasgardening.net/ http://www.lawncare.net/ http://www.lawncare.net/south-lawn-care-calendar/ Update on the Circle C Commons Areas

Despite a big onset of Fall weather (rain, rain, rain in October and early November) and big freezing weather in November and December Circle C Landscape was able to complete a number of significant landscape improvements before the end of the year. Many of the improvements involved upgrading irrigation to drip irrigation throughout the neighborhood. Circle C North has been converted almost entirely to drip, and the new improvements along LaCrosse near Park West were done with drip irrigation as well. Shrubs and beds along Dahlgreen were also converted during the fall. The big area between the Park West gates on LaCrosse was completely replanted and we are looking forward to seeing this area in the Spring. Rock work on median tips and in locations that are not suitable for irrigation was also finished.

We had quite a bit of clean up in November and December as the trees shed their leaves more slowly this year. In addition shrub trimming was completed before the end of the year, wildflower and natural areas were weed-eated, and bed maintenance occurred. The certified arborist for the CCHOA cleared tree limbs from the walls along LaCrosse, provided health prunes in this area, removed dead trees and also cleaned up the trees along South Bay. We are looking forward to the Spring with more improvements to come!!

News You Can Use



By USPTA/PTR Master Professional Fernando Velasco





How to execute The Two Handed Backhand Lob

In previous newsletters, I offered tips on how to hit the forehand groundstroke, the two-handed backhand, the one-handed backhand, the forehand volley, the two handed backhand volley, the serve, the forehand half-volley, the one-handed backhand volley, the overhead "smash", the forehand service return, the backhand service return, the forehand high volley approach shot, the two handed high volley approach shot. the one-handed high volley approach shot, and the forehand lob.

In this issue, I will offer instructions on how to execute the Two Handed Backhand Lob. This shot is used when a player is forced to retrieve a ball that is hit deep to the backhand side of the player, and the opponent is either charging to the net or staying far back. The player hitting the lob is looking for "air time" to regain balance and court space. This ball should be hit high enough so the players at the net cannot reach and "slam" the ball down, or force the opponent at the base line to retrieve back. In the illustrations, Marimel Ansdell, a Member of the Grey Rock Tennis Club, shows the proper technique to execute this stroke.

Step 1: The Back Swing: When Marimel is forced deep into the backhand side and realizes that she has to hit a defensive lob, she pivots to the left and gets her racket back early. Notice that the head of the

racket is low and her left hand is on the handle of the racket. Her eyes are focused on the path of the ball and her weight is on her left foot.

Step 2: The Point of Contact: Marimel is now ready to hit the ball. Her eyes are now focused on the point of contact and the face of the racket is tilted at a 45 degree angle in order to create height and depth on her lob. Her goal is to keep her head still and not start looking up to her opponent or to the other side of the court.

Step 3: The Follow Through: The success of a deep lob is the follow through. Marimel's left wrist is still "laid back" and her shoulder is lifting the racket above her head. Her right hand is holding the racket slightly, but still in control of the racket.

Step 4: The Finish: In order to create a natural top spin on the lob, Marimel is now finishing her stroke with the racket behind her right ear. This will make the ball bounce higher and/or force the opponent to hit a tennis ball that is still rotating on the air.

Step 5: The Shuffle Back: Once Marimel finishes the stroke, her goal is to either move forward toward the net top to hit an overhead, or to shuffle back to the middle of the court in order to drive the next ball back to the opponent. In this caption, she moved back to the center of the court waiting for the opponent's shot to come back.

Look in the next Newsletter for: How to execute "The One-Handed Backhand Lob"



CONGRATULATIONS JEFF RAUSCH

Jeff Rausch, Member of the Grey Rock Tennis Club and Circle C Ranch resident, is shown here with his two last trophies received at the Las Vegas Senior Open – Category II Tournament. Jeff won the Men's 55 Singles Division and was a finalist in the Men's 55 Doubles. In addition, during 2013 tournament season, Jeff won the following other tournaments: PTR Southwest Championships in Mesa, AZ; The Bub Walthall Alamo City Adult Open; and The Super Senior Mazor Zone Arlington Tennis Center. With his 22/11 National Record and 15/7 State Record, Jeff is presently ranked #2 in Texas and #14 in the US in the Men's 55 Singles Division.



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News You Can Use



Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center Events

Submitted by Alice Jansen

NEW GO NATIVE U CERTIFICATE SERIES AT THE LADY BIRD JOHNSON WILDFLOWER CENTER BOTANY X-FILES (BXF) CERTIFICATE: UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF FOOD AND DRUG PLANTS JANUARY 18, 25 AND FEBRUARY 1, 8

Ever wonder what part of a plant you are eating? Did you know that chocolate was once the coin of the realm for the Maya and that garlic is an aphrodisiac? When you slice open a cucumber, do you know what you are seeing inside? Learn the answers to these and other questions in this class specially designed for the botany sleuth in each of us. The series covers the science and sagas of food plants and those plants we utilize for their amazing chemical powers. These include herbs and spices, stimulating beverages, medicinals and even potential aphrodisiacs! This is a hands-on class where you get to play with plants and eat your homework. We guarantee that you will never look at a tomato or ear of corn the same way and will go home with botanical knowledge you can apply (and build on) in your everyday life.

Sign up for the certificate series or individual classes: Food Plants: Edible Botany I & II and Bioactive Plants I & II. http://www.wildflower.org/gonativeu



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Patty Webb

Realtor Cell: (512) 415-6321 patty@webbcirclec.com

News You Can Use

ATEXAS A&M GRILIFE EXTENSION

FUNGUS GNATS Submitted by Wizzie Brown

Fungus gnat adults are small, black, long-legged flies with long antennae. Most adults are about 1/16 an inch but some can get up to $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch. They are weak fliers and generally remain near potted plants, growing media, foliage or leaf litter.

Larvae, or immatures, have a black head capsule and long whitish body without legs. They feed on organic matter such as mulch, compost, grass clippings, plant roots and fungi. When conditions are very moist, fungus gnat larvae can become abundant and may leave slime trails on media that looks similar to trails left by snails or slugs.

While these gnats are a nuisance they are fairly easy to manage. To manage fungus gnat populations, work on reducing excessively moist conditions. Avoid overwatering and make sure that there is good drainage. The surface of container soil should be allowed to dry before watering again.

In homes, insecticides are rarely needed to manage fungus gnats.

If they are needed, Bacillus thuringiensis var. israelensis or the nematode Steinernema feltiae can be applied in containers to control larvae. Either spray on the media or apply as a soil drench. Biologicals work best when they are applied early in an infestation. If a population is already large, they may not provide the control desired.



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

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GOLTAJD 4th Annual Golf Tournament Monday, April 28, 2014 Grey Rock Golf Club 7401 Hwy 45; Austin, TX 78739

SPONSORSHIP

OPPORTUNITIES Visit www.HOPE4JD.org ronda@hope4id.org

512-845-1466

Volunteers Needed!



Registration Open

\$150/golfer Four Man Scramble Registration -9:30am Shotgun Start -11:00am To register go to www.hope4jd.org

Tournament Includes:

Sack Lunch provided by Chick-fil-A Dinner provided by Iron Cactus Golf shirt Gift bags Longest drive Closest to the Pin Other contest and games Prizes for 1st, 2nd and Last Place

HOPE4JD is organized to charitably support families of children up to age 21 who have suffered a hypoxic/anoxic brain injury (HAI) due to a nonfatal drowning in Texas. EIN: 32-0351208



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John Squires and the Squires Team sell scores of homes in Circle C Ranch, but they also work in many other areas all over Austin. Many sellers in Circle C want to "move-up" or "move-down" to other areas of Austin, such as Lakeway, Westlake, Rimrock, Dripping Springs, etc. Some move for the school systems and some move to retire here or completely out of state. Below are 8 homes John has either sold or has placed buyers under contract in the last month in different areas all around Austin. John has lived in Austin since 1960 so he knows the area. Please allow him to help you with all of your real estate needs. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!



We interviewed several agents and chose John Squires because he sold a few of our neighbor's houses and we see his signs every where. We've moved 20 times being in the Air Force for many vears. This home sale and move with John was among the smoothest and most professional. Thanks John! Colonel (Ret.) Gene and **Connie Duchamp 11401 Naples** Cv. "JUST SOLD!" \$469,000

3505 Travis Country Circle-Regents- "JUST SOLD!" John's Listing 1.65 acres with a well in **Regents schools.** Toll Brother's model home plan. \$915,000. Multiple offers in 2 days!



2729 Regents <u>"JUST</u> SOLD!"_John's Listing Stunning Westlake traditional on .65 acre with guest suite and diving pool. \$1,275,000. Multiple offers in 3 days!

wood floors. Unbelievably

John's "Sell" phone is (512) 970-1970!

#1 Agent in Circle C Ranch history with over 415 homes <u>"SOLD!!"</u> #1 Keller Williams agent listings sold in Circle C!

#1 Keller Williams agent buyers sold in Circle C!

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5028 Bluestar-"JUST SOLD!" John's Listing- \$289,000. Sold before coming to market!



5605 Yorkbridge- "JUST SOLD!" John's Listing \$322,500. Sold before coming to market!



11200 Capstone—"JUST SOLD!" John's Listing-Nice Streetman home. Listed at \$379,000. Multiple offers!

Go to SquiresTeam.com for all of your real estate needs!



11200 Cowher Ct. "JUST SOLD!" John built this home for his buyer and he can build one for you too utilizing his move-up plan! \$610,000.+/-

CircleCRealtor.com

Merry Christmas Circle C and Happy Holidays to all! Below are 5 of John's listings coming to market in the very near future. All of them are beautiful 2-stories, some upgraded to the hilt. Call John for a private tour of any of these homes. One is in Kemp Hills Estates and four are in Circle C Ranch.









Call John's "Sell" phone for a quick response at (512) 970-1970!



everywhere, media rm.

11625 Georgian Oaks—Absolutely stunning Newmark backing to greenbelt. S. American, Copaiba hardwood flooring thru. Stainless, granite...nicer than a model! Custom faux, stains, paint, trims, moldings. Just a great plan. \$469,900.



6101 Mordred Lane-Highly upgraded Newmark backing to greenbelt. Brazilian Cherry hardwoods, granite, commercial grade appliances. Too much to list! \$379,000.

T'was the night before closing On the Circle C dwelling Ten days on the market Thank God it's finally selling! Home under contract Many times in the past Realtor incompetence Left me totally aghast!





10309 Snapdragon-Complete remodel! Brand new paint, carpet, granite, etc. in this home backing to greenbelt and veloway. Great plan, quiet street. \$354,500.

"A Seller's Christmas Carol"

A seller at a loss What was I to do? In walked John Squires Right out of the blue! John took our listing Keeping all parties in the know He never missed a beat In the sales transaction flow!



10430 Snapdragon—White stone on cul-desac with HUGE back yard full of shade trees. Great plan, close in. Price still to be determined. Hurry!



So my advice to you all For your real estate needs John Squires is your man For selling or buying deeds! As I end my little poem Full of rhyme and full of reason With John Squires on your team You'll have a prosperous Season!

GOOD NEIGHBORS CAN BE GREAT FOR STRESS LEVELS

Do you live in a neighborhood where you feel safe and connected to others, or do you feel overcrowded, threatened, and otherwise unsafe in your surroundings? This, and other aspects of neighborhood life, can impact both your level of happiness and stress.

Socializing: With our busy schedules, we don't always see friends as often as we'd like. For a bit of socializing that takes only minutes out of your day, it's nice to stop and chat with people for a few minutes on your way out to your car. And the more people you have available for shared social support, the better, generally speaking.

Pooled Resources: I know people in some more-friendly neighborhoods who share dinners, minimizing the effort it takes to cook. Others trade fruit from their trees. A neighbor who borrows a few eggs may come back with a plate of cookies that the eggs helped create. Knowing your neighbors increases everyone's ability to share.

Security: Knowing the people around you can bring a sense of security. If you need something--whether it's a cup of sugar when you're baking cookies, or someone to call the police if they see someone lurking ourside your home -- it's nice to know you can depend on those around you and they can depend on you.

Home Pride: Knowing the people who live around you provides a strengthened sense of pride in your home and neighborhood.

Coming home just feels nicer. While you may not be able to change the neighborhood in which you live, you can change the experience you have in your own neighborhood by getting more involved with those around you and taking pride in the area in which you live. The following are some ideas and resources that can help you to feel more at home in your neighborhood:

Get Out More: If you live in a generally safe area, I highly recommend taking a morning or evening walk. It's a great stress reliever that also allows you to get to know many of your neighbors, get an understanding of who lives where, and feel more at home in your surroundings.

Smile: It's simple enough, but if you're not in the habit of smiling and giving a friendly hello to the people you encounter in your neighborhood, it's a good habit to start. While not everyone will return the friendliness immediately, it's a quick way to get to know people and build relationships, even if you've lived close for years and haven't really said much to one another.

Talk To Your Elders: The more veteran members of the neighborhood often have the inside scoop on the neighborhood. You may be surprised at how much you can learn if you stop to take the time to talk to the sweet old lady at the end of the block.

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Clubs & Announcements

Are you a Mom in Circle C? JOIN US!

Submitted by Lisa Williams

CircleCMoms meet up for playgroups, field trips, holiday parties, and activity groups (book club, craft night, movie night, moms night out, etc.) so you're sure to find something fun that fits your schedule. CircleCMoms are stay-at-home moms, working moms, work-at-home moms, part-time working moms...get the picture? If you are a mom in Circle C or Meridian (with kid(s) of any age), you can join CircleCMoms. For more info or to join: http://www. bigtent.com/groups/circlecmoms

SWING Networking Group

Get your New Year's resolutions off to a good start. Promote your business with local independent business owners. SWING (South west Austin Inclusive Networking Group) has been meeting every Thursday morning from 8AM to 9:30AM at the Waterloo Ice House on Escarpment for 8 years.

We have no dues, no initiation fees, we don't take attendance. Just pay for your own breakfast. The more often you show up the better we get to know you. We are an inclusive group, we will enjoy competition. So, bring your business cards and a good attitude and let's get to know you.

If you want more information, contact Liz Jensen at 512-301-6966 or lizleej@gmail.com or Peter Berardino (The King of SWING) at 512-695-2334 or peterberardino@ gmail.com.



SEND US YOUR

Event

Pictures!!

Do you have a picture of an event that you would like to run in this newsletter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue.

Email the picture to <u>ashley@circlecranch.</u> <u>info.</u> 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*.



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2014 AUSTIN BOAT & TRAVEL TRAILER SHOW



The 2014 Austin Boat & Travel Trailer Show will feature hundreds of watercraft and travel trailers from the top boat and RV dealers in Central Texas. Guests are invited to visit the Austin Convention Center to get a first look at 2014-model water craft and travel trailers on display, including wakeboard boats, cruisers, pontoons and fishing boats for water fun, and fifth wheels, truck campers and toy haulers for traveling in style. Other highlights include Bubble Runners, Kid's Catfish Tank and the Army Bass Anglers. This year's event also will offer Valet Parking for attendees.

Dates/Time:

Thur., Jan. 16 – 12 p.m. – 9 p.m. Fri., Jan. 17 – 12 p.m. – 9 p.m. Sat., Jan. 18 – 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. Sun., Jan. 19 – 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Admission: Adults - \$8 Seniors Over 60 - \$4 Children 7-12 - \$4 Children 6 and Under – Free

Location: Austin Convention Center 500 E. Cesar Chavez Street Austin, TX 78701 (512-404-4000)

For more information visit www.AustinBoatShow.com or contact Jennifer McKinney at 512-494-1128 or Jennifer. mckinney@austinboatshow.com.

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The 2014 Austin RV Expo will feature over 200 recreational vehicles of all sizes and price ranges from the top RV dealers across Central Texas. Guests are invited to the Austin Convention Center to get a first look at 2014-model motor homes, pop-ups, travel trailers, truck campers, fifth wheels and green RVing R-Pods. The event, well timed for the kick off the vacation planning season, offers the perfect chance to explore the recreational vehicles firsthand and determine which one is right for your family needs.

Dates/Time:

Thur., Feb. 20 – noon – 8 p.m. Fri., Feb. 21 – 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Sat., Feb. 22 – 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Sun., Feb. 23 – 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Admission: Adults - \$8 Seniors Over 60 - \$4 Children 7-12 - \$4 Children 6 and Under – Free

Location: Austin Convention Center 500 E. Cesar Chavez Street Austin, TX 78701 (512-404-4000)

For more information visit www.AustinRVExpo.com or contact Jennifer McKinney at 512-366-7135 or Jennifer. mckinney@austinrvexpo.com.



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