

Volume 11, Number 3

**MARCH 2014** 

www.circlecranch.info

Submitted by Karen Hibpshman, CCHOA Manager

#### CCHOA ANNUAL MEETING APP BOARD ELECTION



The Nominating Committee accepted nominations to the Board of Directors through January 10, 2014 and the following residents were nominated: Bob McKenna, Jason Bram, Les Trobman, Premal Amin, and Steve Urban. You can find their bios and candidate questionnaires posted on our website, www.circlecranch.info. You may also opt to sign your proxy over to a trusted neighbor or board member - this will still count toward our quorum. You can fill out the absentee ballot or proxy on the back

side of your February dues assessment or contact the Financial Manager at 451-9901 if you need a replacement. The Board Election results will be posted on the website by March 6, 2014.

#### **Annual Report**

The Annual Report of the Association for 2013 is included in the center of this publication. If you would like to request an extra copy, please contact the HOA office at 512-288-8663.

#### Food Trailer Night is Back!

We are excited to announce that Food Trailer Night is back! Our next Food Trailer Night will be on March 21, 5pm at the Circle C Community Center. This trailer night will also feature a homes & gardens show inside as well. Make sure that you

#### **CCHOA** Annual Meeting

Wednesday, March 5, 2014 at 6:30 PM Circle C Community Center Check-in begins at 6 PM **ID** Required Please vote!

are signed up for our email announcements and check the website regularly for updates and more details as we get closer to the date.

#### Easter Egg Hunt

Join us for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19th at 9:30 am at the Circle C Child Development Center. Cost is \$1 per child. Children ages 1-10 years are welcome (areas are divided by ages: 1-3 years, 4-6 years, and 7-10 years). Limit is 12 eggs per child (parents, please monitor this). Come see the

Easter Bunny and enjoy Easter treats. If you would like to help volunteer for this event, please contact us at info@circlecranch. info or 288-8663 - we can always use extra help!

#### **Important Dates**

#### MARCH 1:

First ½ Year Assessment Fees Due (must be mailed in to PO Box 163541 Austin, TX 78716)

MARCH 5

Annual Meeting

MARCH 21

Food Trailer Night

MARCH 26

**HOA Board Meeting** 

#### **CCHOA NUMBERS**

HOA Mgmt Officeinfo@circlecranch.info or 512-288-8663
HOA Financial Officetgiles@mgilescpa.com or 512-451-9901
Aquatics Director director@ccswim.net or 512-288-4239
Newsletter Publisher
Peel, Incadvertising@PEELinc.com or 512-263-9181
Circle C Amenities
Circle C Café
Circle C CDC
Circle C Swim Center
Circle C Community Center Pool512-301-8259
Grey Rock Tennis Club
CIRCLE C GATED COMMUNITIES
Enclave off Spruce Canyon (KB)
Spectrum Management
Enclave off La Crosse (Streetman)
Plateau Property ManagementRosalyn Peterson, 512-441-1041
Fairways Estates
Spectrum Management

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Park West

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

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

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	
Abandoned Vehicle	512-974-8119
Pothole Complaints	512-974-8750
Stop Signs	512-457-4885
Street Light Outage	311
Schools	
Clayton Elementary	512-841-9200
Kiker Elementary	512-414-2584
Gorzycki Middle School	512-841-8600
Bowie High School	512-414-5247
Mills Elementary	512-841-2400

#### **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 <u>advertising@peelinc.com</u>. 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."





# REALTY AUSTIN MARKET UPDATE CIRCLE C

Average Sales Price Average Sold Price/SqFt Average Days on Market

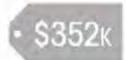
Jan 2014







In 2013







\$21K more! \$15/SQ FT more!

Stats based on Dec 2012 and Dec 2013 MLS name sales from Austin Board of REALTORS® (ABOR).



#### Homes listed by Realty Austin sold faster than any of the top 15 real estate firms in Austin in 2013\*!

When you're ready to make the move, you deserve to work with the very best! Our hand-picked team of top-producing agents are tech savvy, they know this market, they average 10 years experience and they outperform the competition many times over.

"Based on 2013 residential home sales through Austin Board of REALTORS"

#### Call our Southwest office or visit us in Arbor Trails today!



#### SOUTHWEST OFFICE

4301 W William Cannon Dr Bldg K, #200 Austin, TX 78749



realtyaustin.com/southwest-team • 512.600.9727





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# HOA ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### SUBMITTED BY KAREN HIBPSHMAN, HOA MANAGER

#### **APRIL 12TH NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE**

We are gearing up for our Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale on April 12. Now is a great time to start going through your old items and deciding what you'd like to sell. The HOA will handle all of the advertising for the garage sale, and you will simply setup your garage sale at your home. Please contact the HOA at 288-8663 if you have any questions.

#### **SCOOP THE POOP**

We have recently received complaints about residents not picking up after the dogs, especially in Vintage Place. Please do your part. Take a waste bag with you, pick up after your dog, and take the bag home with you to dispose of it properly. We also wanted to remind residents of the City of Austin leash laws. Your dog is required to be on a leash at all times when outside of your property.

#### TREE STAKES

All tree stakes and supporting wires and cables should be removed 10-12 months after trees are planted. Left in place any longer, these

can damage the tree trunk and limbs, weaken the establishment of the root system, and are unattractive in the appearance of your home.

#### **HAVEYOU RECEIVED A DEED RESTRICTION?**

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)





CRS, ABR, SFR, GRI

2012, 2013, 2014

2012, 2013, 2014

512.924.9923

Pattie Cabrera Webster

**Austin Platinum Top Fifty Finalist** 

**Texas Monthly Five Star Agent** 

#### **CCHOA News**

#### **HOA ANNOUNCEMENTS** (Continued from Page 5)

#### **FENCE REPLACEMENT**

The HOA has taken many calls lately on fence replacement, recently because of the weather. If you share a fence with a neighbor, the general rule of thumb is that the cost to replace or repair is split 50/50. You will need to speak with your neighbor and work out a plan. If you are proposing to change your existing fence, either materials or location, you must obtain approval from the Architectural Control Committee. The Architectural Control Committee has issued the guidelines below for fence replacement:

Architectural Control Fence Guidelines:

- If you are replacing your fence with a fence that is exactly like the one you have, no ACC review is required
- Fences that face a street or open space are required to have the smooth side out. Ownership of a fence is not a function of who has the smooth side.
- The ACC recommends that you use the galvanized steel poles if you are concerned with the longevity of the fence. They are superior in this regard.
- Four inch or six inch pickets are acceptable and must be installed

Preferred Material: Western Red Cedar. These fences will last much longer and are required for wooden fences that face common areas like Escarpment, Barstow, La Crosse, South Bay, and Dahlgreen. If you do not face a common area and currently have a treated wood or pine fence, you may use this as a replacement, however, it may not last as long as a cedar fence. If you are uncertain about the material, ask your fence contractor. If you are unsure if you face a common area, please email acc@circlecranch.info, and we will let you know of any special requirements for your area.

Fence Height: The City of Austin regulates the fence height under the Land Development Code. The approved fence height for the City is six feet. If you back to a common area street with no driveway cuts, you may already have a higher fence up to eight feet. You will need to contact the Architectural Control Committee if you back to a common area. For all others, if you want to alter the height of a six foot fence, you must get a City of Austin permit and submit the project to the Architectural Control Committee.

It is up to individual homeowners to determine if they would like to share the cost of fence replacement between properties.

If you want any other alternate type of fencing such as wrought iron, you will need to submit it to the Architectural Control Committee.

In most areas, gates from the rear fence into drainage or natural areas are prohibited unless you have written permission from the ACC and the landowner.

If you are thinking of installing a trellis above the fence, you will need to submit the project to the Architectural Control Committee. The trellis must be free standing on its own posts and be well designed with a frame and generally cannot be higher than 24".

To make a submission to the Architectural Control Committee, please go to the Circle C website at www.circlecranch.info and click on ACC from the top menu.

## CIRCLE C-SWIM CENTER

Submitted by Sarah Humphrey

#### **NEW POOL CARDS!**

Attention Residents, Circle C Aquatics has implemented a new system that requires updated information for all Homeowners and Renters. The form on page 9 can be dropped off at the Swim Center Mondays and Wednesday between 10am and 6pm. If you cannot make it to the Swim Center you may drop the form off at the HOA Office. We will be printing new photo ID pool cards for all residents in the neighborhood. We will be printing cards the entire week of Spring Break, March 8th through the 16th! Please come by and get your cards made during this time! We will be printing cards during regular business hours following Spring Break but the office does get crowded so get them before the summer starts!

#### **REOPENING MARCH 3RD!**

#### Monday-Friday

6-10 a.m. Lap Swim Only 3:30-7 p.m. Lap Swim Only Saturday 8-11 a.m. Lap Swim Only

Sunday **CLOSED** 

#### Spring Break Hours (March 8th-16th)

Monday-Friday 6-10 a.m. Lap Swim Only 10-6 p.m. Recreation/Lap Swim Saturday 7-10 a.m. Lap Swim Only 10-6 p.m. Recreation/Lap Swim Sunday 10-6 p.m. Recreation/Lap Swim

#### FIND US ONLINE!

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



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# CircleCRealtor.com



COMING SOON! 6303 Walebridge Stunning white stone at approximately 3300 sq. ft. in a deep cul-de-sac with a huge yard. 4 large bedrooms, 3.5 baths, PLUS a BIG office that could be a 5th bedroom. Stunning game room/media room with a gorgeous fireplace too! This home has been completely remodeled with \$25,000. in windows, brand new hardiplank siding, galaxy black granite counters, paint, wood flooring and on and on. The kids and pets have a large back yard, side yard and front yard to play in. The large deck out back is perfect for BBQ's and parties. The home is surrounded by huge oak and elm trees. It is a wonderful home for a growing family. Call John for a private tour of this fine property that was possibly a former model home. (512) 970-1970.

John Squires developed "Professional Profiles in Circle C" 15 years ago to promote small businesses that need an advertising boost. This is an absolutely free service that John provides as a means of giving back to the community that has given so much to him. Call John or email if you have a small business that needs some help. John@SquiresTeam.com or (512) 970-1970



At intersection of 1826 and Highway 45! So close, you gotta go!

Hey Circle C, it's that time of year again and Anytime Fitness has some great promotions to get your physical health headed in the right direction. This is a state-of-the-art gym and it is open 24 hours a day! It is super-clean, never crowded and they have personal trainers and nutrition programs available if desired. Just call Justin Fox at (512) 810-2084 or email him at Justin.fox3@yahoo.com. Bring this newsletter or mention "John Squires" name and get in for NO enrollment fee and your first month of membership for FREE! You'll absolutely love this gym and with your key fob, you can go whenever you want. Super convenient, no excuse now!:)

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





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

#1 Agent in Circle C Ranch history with over 425 homes "SOLD!!"

**#1 Keller Williams agent listings** sold in Circle C!

**#1 Keller Williams agent** buyers sold in Circle C!

Austin Business Journal's citywide "Top 50" agent in Central Texas or nominated out of 8,500 realtors over 10 times. Flexible move-up and move-down plans for growing families or retirees. John works with all relocation companies. (Yes, it is your choice to use ANY agent you choose to sell your home with any relocation company) John is relocertified with all relocation firms and he is the #1 Circle C Ranch listing expert. John Squires will professionally consult, stage, renovate, update and upgrade your home (if needed) to sell for the maximum price the market will bear at no additional fee ever!

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

#### **FOOD TRAILER FAMILY NIGHT**

**HOME & GARDEN SHOW** 

FRIDAY - MAR. 21ST

5-8 pm

@ The Community Center



**Kids Games** 

& Activities



12 of Austin's

**Finest Food Trailers** 

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Spring Home & **Garden Show** 





John Ed. Marchak @ jed@close2myhome.com or 512.705.1107

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#### **RESIDENT INFORMATION FORM**

One form for each household address. Please type or print information legibly.

Do You: 🔲 🔾			Rent Home (Must also fill out Renters Only section)				
PRIMARY MEMBER			*************************				
Legal Name:	lame	First Name	Middle Name or M.I.				
Street Address:			Austin, TX Zip:				
Email Address:							
Gender:	☐ Female		Is this number a Cell Phone? □Yes □No				
Date of Birth:	///		Alt Phone: ()				
	MM DD	YYYY	Office Use Only Member ID:				
			Since one only Member 13.				
ADDITIONAL HOUS	EHOLD MEMBERS	Only persons	residing at address. Persons 23+ require proof of residency.				
First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Date of Birth Gender Member ID POR				
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			/ /				
		. <del></del>					
Name:	must be		Phone: ()				
RENTERS ONLY:  If you are leasing your home in Circle C the Homeowner or Leasing Agency must fill out the following portion of the Resident Information Form.  In the owner or leasing agency of the property listed above, the do hereby relinquish both my rights, and those of my household member(s), to the amenities of the Circle C alomeowner's Association. We award these rights to the tenants listed on this form during the following lease terms:  Lease Start Date// Lease End Date/_//			I do hereby assume all risk of injury to myself or to my wards and my guests and absolve and hold harmless all lifeguards, employees and administrators of Circle C Homeowner's Association Inc., from any and all claims for losses, injuries and/or all consequential damages including attorney fees. I am aware that swimming is a strenuous activity with some inherit dangers and risks. I acknowledge that I have received, understand, and agree to all Circle C Aquatics Rules, Policies and Procedures. Any changes to the above information will require a new form to be submitted.				
Contact Phone Number			Signature of Primary Member				
Date			Date				
		Office Use	Only				
	☐ Add	lress Verified [	Renters Only (if applicable)				
Daxko Entry By/Date:			Membership Verified By/Date:				

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#### News You Can Use

# CRCLECLANDSCAPE

Submitted by Susan Hoover

After enduring quite a cold winter, Spring suddenly seemed to appear in mid-February as we are writing this newsletter. We don't know if we will have another Polar Vortex, non-snow day, or a bunch of freezing weather, but at least for the next few days, Spring is upon us.

On the Circle C Commons Areas we have been busy over the winter getting ready for this warm up. You will notice that all of the perennials have been trimmed, and the beds have been cleaned. We were able to do a little weed treatment over the winter on the dormant grass. In March we will resume our mowing, and look forward to seeing all of the plants regenerate.

After we have mowed twice and generally late March to mid-April, we will be fertilizing the commons areas. It is important to do this after the grass has begun growing. This is when you get the most benefit. Our irrigation has been turned off, for the most part, over the winter. We spend the winter doing a big tune up on the entire system so it is ready to go when we need it. Hopefully, along with the warmer temperatures we will get much needed rain. The drought forecast mid February shows us in a moderate to severe drought. Without

much needed rainfall over the Highland Lakes, they remain at some of their lowest levels. We anticipate that if the Spring rains do not come, we will move toward even greater water restrictions. This, of course, makes landscape practices even more challenging.

We will also begin some of the 2014 improvements which include more installation of drip irrigation, tree planting, bed upgrades and entrance and post office improvements. We are looking forward to seeing everything in Circle C look its best over the next few months!!

So, by the time you get this newsletter, you should have pruned back all of your perennials and raked out the old leaves in your yard. After all, you have to get ready for Oak Pollen!!!! Another messy experience. Also, it's a good time to dethach the lawn and then near the end of the month, apply the correct type of fertilizer. We recommend a good organic fertilizer for most yards in Circle C, and you can apply it without having to water it in right away.

So, let's hope we get some good Spring rains and we can be looking forward to wonderful blooms after a long cold winter!!



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#### NEWS FROM THE PARK WEST HOA BOARD

Submitted by Fran Greve

By the time you read this, PWHOA will have had our annual meeting and the election of two directors to the board. A heartfelt thank you to Jan Stephens, who has served the Park West community for 3 years as the Treasurer of the PWHOA Board, and Eileen Groves who completed the term of director Patrick Wilson, who resigned during his term.

Fortunately, Park West has always had experienced community minded citizens who volunteer to guide the HOA. Job well done!!

As the weather warms and our plants and trees emerge from winter dormancy, it is time to think about having your trees pruned and shaped. With the small yards in Park West, take a look to make sure that trees do not impact your fences, house or roof. It damages the branches of the tree as well as damaging the structures if the branches are scraping against hard surfaces. Careful pruning is beneficial to the tree in other ways also: it removes diseased, broken and dead branches and prevents decay-producing fungi from infesting other areas of your tree; it enhances structural integrity and develops pleasing branch architecture; it can protect against storm damage and the danger of falling limbs. In Park West, our landscaper cares for the trees to the height of 8 feet. Above 8 feet is the responsibility of the owner of the tree. Get a jump on the

busy spring landscaping season and call a tree expert today to prune your trees. To protect against oak wilt experts recommend not pruning during the spring season of Feb 1 to June.

The board has recently received inquiries about violation notices. All violation notifications come from the office of our HOA manager at Goodwin Management, Marilyn Childress. This could be in the form of a courtesy email, phone call or a violation letter. No action is required by a resident unless official notification comes from Marilyn. After which the board would appreciate quick response in remedying the cause of the violation.

We will have news soon about the new Xeriscape Landscaping plans that are being developed as a guide to homeowners who desire to make substantial changes to their front yards.

We hope you will consider volunteering. There are many opportunities to be involved, on an ongoing basis throughout the year or in special consultation to the board, sharing your expertise and experience. Thank you for being wonderful neighbors and caring for our community. Park West is a great place to live and both our community and the surrounding area of Circle C Ranch provide lovely areas for recreation and fun activities.





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Please contact Robby Chapman at 512-632-5990 with D&W Painting, Inc. or by email - robby@dwpainting.com

We look forward to helping you create your perfect home!



# IN THE YARD

Submitted by Jackie Rollins

Even without the sun on a gray and wintry day, the beauty and serenity of Park West homeowners Pam and Mike Andrews' pond and side yard greenery makes for an attractive picture. Look closely and you'll see one of the pond's orange Koi fish peeking out from under a rock to check on the food supply.





Linda Takenaka Work with the Best!



## **Linda's Promise to You!**

#### **Exemplary Service**

You are guaranteed to receive a response from Linda within 3 hours!

#### **Years of Experience**

Over the years, Linda has sold hundreds of homes in Circle C & South Austin.

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# JOIN US FOR GOLF AND A GREAT CAUSE!

DATE: Wednesday, April 30th 11:00 am Registration - 1:00 pm Start LOCATION: Flintrock Falls Country Club FORMAT: 4-person scramble

**COST**: \$165 per golfer\*
\*Includes lunch, dinner and lots of swaq

Register online at: www.colinshope.org

Questions about the event?

Contact Amy Domecq
or Tracie Garvens
amy.domecq@colinshope.org
(512) 470-9470



## GREY ROCK BOOT CAMP AND TENNIS MIXER

Cold, wind nor rain would stop the WTTA Players at Grey Rock Tennis Club for attending their Boot Camp and Tennis Mixer held during the week of January 27-30, 2014. Five WTTA teams will be participating during the Spring 2014 Season.







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An Official Publication of the Circle C Homeowners Association

# INTRODUCTION



# THE PRESIDENT Chris Poynor

Ridge continue to grow. We are happy to announce research the candidates. that a third pool in Circle C will be located in Avana and is being built by the developer. The estimated you for the opportunity to serve you. It has been an opening date will be sometime in the summer of honor and we will continue to strive to keep Circle 2014. GreyRock Ridge will also have a pool built C the best and most sought after neighborhood in by the developer and is not expected to open until Austin.

This past year was a very big year for Circle C. 2015. This will make a total of four pools in Circle C

Denise Nordstrom, our long time HOA manger, As we approach our annual meeting in March, resigned her position to pursue other interests. The I ask that you take the time and fill out your board hired Karen Hibpshman as the new HOA absentee ballot or name a proxy. The absentee manager in August. Karen came to us with over 10 ballot and proxy can be found on the back of this years of HOA experience, and has proven herself to year's first assessment which was mailed to you at be a great asset to our community. The Community the beginning of February. We need to have ten Center continues to be a success and has been heavily percent of members voting to have a quorum or used. It is a great place for our residents to gather we cannot conduct business at the annual meeting. for neighborhood functions and personal gatherings. This board has done a lot this year and the best The landscaping and irrigation improvements have way to thank them is to participate in the Annual been completed on Barstow and along La Crosse Meeting and vote. Candidate biographies are Ave. Our newest sections, Avana and GreyRock available on the website, so please take the time to

The current Board of Directors would like to thank

of the Board of Directors of the Circle C Homeowners Association. In this report we provide an overview of the activities and achievements of 2013 for the Association as well as an outline of our proposed activities and goals for 2014. We believe that 2013 was a year of significant progress for the Association, and we are committed to continuing that progress in 2014. Our primary goal remains preserving and improving the Circle C. Ranch subdivision.

This is the Annual Report

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#### **COMPLETED PROJECTS DURING 2013**

- Community Center Landscapes
- Irrigation infrastructure improvements
- Bed upgrades including La Crosse and Barstow
- Rock work throughout Circle C
- Swim Center Furniture & Equipment
- Swim Center Security Cameras
- Swim Center Parking Lot Repair
- Community Center Parking Lot Repair
- Circle C North Barstow Fence

# COMMUNITY INFORMATION

#### CIRCLE C GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

All of the Circle C HOA's defining documents can be found on the HOA website at www.circlecranch.info; under the Resource tab. Residents must register for the website in order to access the documents.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The members of the CCHOA elect a volunteer Board of Directors (BOD) to run the Association. The board consists of seven people, all of whom must be property owners. Directors are elected for three year terms. We have two director seats that expire in 2014 (Jason Bram and Steve Urban). Kim Ackermann and Dan Vavasour's terms expire in 2015. Chris Poynor, Natalie Place McClure and Michael Chu's terms expire in 2016.

As of this writing the CCHOA BOD has four officers: President (Chris Poynor), Vice President (Kim Ackermann), Treasurer (Dan Vavasour) and Secretary (Natalie Place McClure). Michael Chu, Steve Urban and Jason Bram also serve on the board. You can email the board at directors@circlecranch.info

#### OPERATIONS STAFF

- Operations Manager: Karen Hibpshman, CMCA
- Operations Asst. Manager: Gale Foster
- Community Center Coordinator: Ashley Gladden
- Facility Maintenance Coordinator: Robert Bardeleben
- Aquatics Director: Brody McKinley
- Financial Manager: Terri Giles, Giles & Shea

#### PUBLIC BOARD MEETINGS

The CCHOA BOD holds monthly board meetings that are open to residents, currently scheduled at 6:00PM on the last Wednesday of each month at the Circle C Community Center. We allot time at the beginning of each meeting for a Homeowners Forum that allows residents to address the board.

#### ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

#### Committee Members:

- A.E. Martin, former CCHOA Board Member
- Laura Sherman, AIA Registered Architect
- Trent Rush, Principal, TBG Partners, Reg. Landscape Architect

#### New Homes Reviewed:

138 new homes were reviewed and approved.

#### Remodels/Residential Projects:

The ACC reviewed 208 residential projects

#### Current Circle C Residential Builders for New Homes:

- KB Home—Fairway Estates and Golf Course Estates
- Standard Pacific—Avana
- Streetman Homes—Greyrock Ridge, Barstow Court
- J.D. Hunt Construction—Barstow Village

#### Current Residential Development:

• Greyrock Ridge—368 single family lots located on the south side of SH

- 45 at the bend. Phase I is complete and approximately 35 residences are completed and occupied. Phase II is under construction.
- Standard Pacific—35 single family lots located on the west side off Escarpment across from the fire station. Currently under construction.
- Standard Pacific—approximately 358 lots in Avana, on the extension of Escarpment, with 149 homes completed and occupied or near completion, a new phase of forty one 75 foot lots is open with a model home and current construction. A section of 117 fifty and sixty foot lots is open and under construction.

#### COMMON AREA IMPROVEMENTS

Landscape Improvements to the extension to Escarpment south of SH45 Phase 1 and Phase 2, was reviewed and approved for acceptance into the common areas of the Circle C HOA.

An amenity center off Escarpment, south of SH 45 which includes a pool, with office, restrooms, pavilion and surrounding natural and play areas was approved an will be under construction in 2014, with an anticipated opening date of late summer, 2014.

Landscape Improvements to Archeleta Boulevard, off SH 45 at the bend and the entry into the Greyrock Ridge subdivision were review and approved for acceptance into the common areas of the Circle C HOA. A small amenity center has been approved for construction off of Archeleta Boulevard, but no construction date has been set.

#### ANNUAL MEETING FOR MEMBERS

The CCHOA holds its Annual Meeting in March. The Annual Meeting agenda includes election of directors, a financial review, and an operational report to members. The 2014 Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 5 at 6:30pm at the Circle C Community Center. Please be on the look-out for the February assessment with ballot and proxy on the back. We encourage everyone to attend the Annual Meeting as well as vote in the 2014 Board of Directors election.

#### **Communications**

There are several ways to contact the Association. You can submit a concern, report a deed violation or ask a question via the HOA website at www. circlecranch.info. You can email or call our manager, Karen Hibpshman. Her phone number is 512-288-8663, and her email address is info@circlecranch. info. You can speak to the Board at the monthly board meeting or send them an email at directors@circlecranch.info.

We have several ways we use for neighborhood communications. Our web page is at http://www.circlecranch.info (please register if you haven't already), we publish a newsletter monthly, sent to your home by first class mail. We maintain eight marquees around the neighborhood for announcements.

We also utilize a Community Email database for Circle C HOA announcements. Please take a moment to sign up to receive timely HOA news via email by logging onto: www.circlecranch.info.

#### GROWTH OF CIRCLE C RANCH

# **AQUATICS REPORT**

#### **AQUATICS LEAD STAFF**

- Aquatics Director: Brody McKinley
- Assistant Aquatics Director: Beth Ann Matlock
- Aquatics Coordinator: Sarah Humphrey
- Select Head Coach: Hayley McGregory
- Swim Lesson Coordinator: Amanda Hartman

#### LISAGE

Resident Entries 61,316 Guest Entries 4,326

#### **EVENTS**

- Dive-In Movie Nights (June 8, July 13, August 10)
- World Championship of Texas: 3-on-3 Swimming Tournament (September 15)
- Colin's Hope Underwater Santa Photo Shoot (November 2)

#### SELECT SWIM TEAM

- Head Coach: Hayley McGregory
- Assistant Coach: Jessica Starosielec

#### TEAM PARTICIPATION

- Jan 138 May - 127
- Feb 133 Jun - 102
- Iul 83 Mar - 148
- Apr 130
- Aug 103
- Nov 136 Dec - 88

Sep - 149

Oct - 153

#### SWIM MEETS ATTENDED

- February 14-17 A Champ Meet March 22-24 SASA Champ Meet April 13-15 CCAA LC Unclassified May 18-20 AAAA LC Senior Series
- June 28-30 TXLA Open July 12-14 A LC Champs
- AAAA End of Summer Splash August 3-5
- September 20-22 Round Rock Unclassified October 4-6 TXLA Fall Kickoff
- November 8-10 TXLA Unclassified

#### GROUP SWIM LESSONS

398 registrations

#### PRIVATE SWIM LESSONS

866 Private Swim Lessons Taught

#### **CLASSES & CLINICS**

Water Aerobics

Instructor - Marilyn Vaillant Class Participation: 76

#### Masters

Instructor - Hayley McGregory

Class Participation: 98

Technique & Fitness Clinic

Instructor - Elli Overton Class Participation: 71

Swim Versity Clinics

Class Participation: 25

Lifeguard Certification Classes

Class Participation: 16

Boy Scout Swim Testing

Class Participation: 80

#### AREA RESERVATIONS

Swim Center - 53

Community Center - 58

#### **FACILITY RENTALS**

Swim Center - 11 Community Center - 7

#### CONTRACTED RENTALS

- Austin T3
- Austin Swim Club
- Bowie High School Swim Team
- Boy Scout Swim Testing
- CDC Summer Camp
- Dream of Hopes Ranch Special Olympics
- Kiker Summer Voyager Summer Camp
- Seals Swim Team
- **SwimVersity**
- TriZones
- Veritas / Regents / Waldorf Swim Team

#### **ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS**

- Water Rescues 26 (All minor None requiring EMS)
- Head/Neck/Back Injuries 1
- Minor Cut/Scrape/Laceration 14
- Minor Bump/Bruise 7
- Bloody Nose 7
- Insect Bite/Sting 2
- Bone Break/Fracture 0
- Heat Related Illness 1
- Report of Theft 2

#### CIRCLE C HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

## 2013 INCOME & EXPENSE STATEMENT (UNAUDITED)

INCOME:		EXPENSES:				
HOMEOWNER INCOME		COMMONS AREAS SERVICES				
Homeowners Dues	\$2,591,085.44	Landscape Maintenance Contract	\$712,243.73			
Resale Certificate Income	\$68,426.00	2013 Land Additions	\$180.00			
Transfer Fee Income	\$103,600.00	Landscape Repairs	\$41,124.14			
Late Fees Collected	\$29,185.21	Landscape Utilities – Water	\$164,227.96			
Lien Admin Fee Income	\$5,316.20	Landscape Utilities - Electric	\$32,903.72			
Filing Fee Income	\$5,556.38	Tree Pruning	\$25,350.00			
Nsf Fee Income	\$250.00	Fence Repairs & Maint	\$1,288.07			
Collection Fee Income	\$1,848.01	Electrical Repairs & Maint	\$11,319.18			
Total Homeowner Income	\$2,805,267.24	Neighborhood Repairs & Maintenance	\$7,684.00			
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW INC	COME	Total Commons Area Services	\$996,320.80			
Total Architectural Review Income	\$61,435.00	SWIM CENTER FACILITY				
RENTAL INCOME		Administrative	\$20,106.47			
Office Rent	\$8,505.50	Supplies - Pool	\$1,482.57			
Grill Rent	\$8,400.00	Supplies – Chemicals	\$33,721.58			
Total Rental Income	\$16,905.50	Supplies & Fees – Programming	\$3,442.26			
SWIM CENTER INCOME		Supplies & Fees – Swim Team	\$25,750.40			
Pool Programs	\$83,506.11	Maintenance – Pool	\$22,548.61			
Pool Programs-Swim Team	\$203,531.44	Maintenance – Building	\$24,262.25			
Guest Fees/Facility Rentals	\$52,061.10	Maintenance – Contract Landscaping	\$21,108.72			
Total Swim Center Income	\$339,098.65	Maintenance – Non-Contract Landscaping	\$3,369.37			
CIRCLE C COMMUNITY CENTER	INCOME	Payroll – Staff	\$375,977.33			
CCCC Facility Rentals	\$31,871.52	Payroll – Programming Staff	\$32,934.91			
Total Community Center Income	\$31,871.52	Payroll – Swim Team	\$64,116.40			
OTHER OWNER LANDSCAPE REIMBU	<b>JRSEMENTS</b>	Utilities – Water	\$17,708.56			
Stratus Landscape Reimb	\$97,000.00	Utilities – Electric	\$35,167.79			
Coa Landscape Reimb	\$17,600.00	Utilities – Gas	\$21,075.82			
Total Other Owner L/S Reimb	\$114,600.00	Utilities – Phone/Internet	\$2,293.31			
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME		Total Swim Center Facility	\$705,066.35			
CCCC Fiscal Reimbursement	\$105,857.02	COMMUNITY CENTER FACIL				
Interest Income	\$2,181.28	Utilities – Water	\$6,236.07			
Total Miscellaneous Income	\$108,038.30	Utilities – Electric	\$22,511.98			
		Utilites – Phone/Internet	\$10,608.21			
TOTAL INCOME	<i>\$3,477,216.21</i>	Furniture	\$2,628.90			

#### CIRCLE C HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

# 2013 INCOME & EXPENSE STATEMENT (UNAUDITED) Maintenance = Building \$13,516.07 TAXES

Maintenance – Building	\$13,516.07	TAXES	
Maintenance – Contract Landscaping	\$21,108.72	Taxes – Property	\$5,886.01
Maintenance – Non-Contract Landscaping	\$6,550.08	Taxes – Other	\$0.00
Total Community Center Facility	\$83,160.03	Total Taxes	\$5,886.01
HOA OPERATIONS		INSURANCE	
Office Supplies	\$7,913.40	Gen'l, Property, B&M & Auto	\$56,374.69
Office Equipment & Maintenance	\$10,951.34	Insurance - D & O	\$8,653.00
Postage/Delivery	\$11,074.87	Insurance - Workers Comp	\$16,191.41
Website Operations	\$3,697.84	Total Insurance	\$81,219.10
Printing/Hoa Office	\$3,477.24	COMMUNITY ENHANCEMEN	T
Hoa Meetings	\$641.11	Donations	\$280.00
Deed Restrictions	\$5,612.13	Association Memberships	\$160.00
Hoa Special Events	\$30,539.75	Total Community Enhancement	\$440.00
Misc Operational Expenses	\$1,090.00	DEBT SERVICES (NEW COMMUNITY CE	NTER LOAN)
Hoa Operations Total	\$74,997.68	CCCC Debt Services - Principal	\$359,895.01
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT		Interest – Austintelco	\$52,855.71
Financial Management Services	\$85,738.68	Total Debt Services	\$412,750.72
Resale Certificate Expense	\$12,121.36	CAPITAL BUDGET PROJECT	S
Lien Filing Fees	\$3,084.00	Landscape – Cccc	\$2,985.54
Bank Charges	\$3,945.15	Landscape – Bed Upgrades	\$6,021.50
Cpa/Audit	\$6,800.00	Landscape – Irriagation Infrastructure	\$18,497.89
Total Financial Management	\$111,689.19	Landscape – Rock Work	\$2,000.00
HOA MANAGEMENT		Landscape – La Crosse Bed Areas	\$18,000.00
Management Salaries	\$164,206.50	Barstow Fence	\$34,479.50
Maintenance Salaries	\$50,150.04	Total Landscape Projects	\$81,984.43
Management Payroll Taxes	\$17,966.22	Swim Center Furniture & Equip	\$23,123.77
Mileage Reimbursement	\$4,544.08	Swim Center Security Cameras	\$23,816.44
Health Insurance Stipend	\$18,153.00	Swim Center Parking Lot	\$22,184.50
Continuing Ed/Skills Enhancement	\$1,015.00	Total Swim Center Projects	\$69,124.71
Management Staff Total	\$256,034.84	Community Center Parking Lot	\$10,705.93
Architectural Review	\$27,377.44	Pool Renovation	\$2,950.00
Total Architectural Review	\$27,377.44	Total Neighborhood Projects	\$13,655.93
Legal	\$14,730.25		
Total Legal	\$14,730.25	TOTAL EXPENSES	<i>\$2,934,437.48</i>

\$542,778.73

**EXCESS REVENUE OVER EXPENSES** 

# LANDSCAPE SERVICES - 2013

Circle C Landscape continued providing landscape maintenance, irrigation and installation services for the CCHOA in 2013. Over the course of 2013, the commons areas increased in size due to the addition of Escarpment in Avana. In late 2013, Archeleta Boulevard and the further extension of Escarpment were added for the 2014 year. In total, the landscape area for the Circle C Commons Areas includes approximately 125 acres of irrigated high maintenance land, approximately 65 acres of maintained natural areas, 26 postal stations, and the Circle C Swim Center and the Circle C Community Center.

Landscape Maintenance Services include standard mowing, blowing, weed-eating, bed weeding, fertilizations, trimming and pruning, daily trash pickup, irrigation monitoring and repair and installation of landscape and irrigation improvements according to projects approved by the CCHOA Board of Directors.

The Green Community Model which emphasizes water conservation, diversified trees, limited turf area, installation of drought tolerant plants and conversion to drip irrigation and more efficient irrigation where possible is the governing standard for care on the commons areas. Circle C Landscape is responsible for complying with all City of Austin Water Conservation requirements, filing the appropriate variances and audits with the City and keeping all irrigation systems up to the standards of the State of Texas and the City of Austin.

**Water Management:** Water is carefully controlled on the commons areas and irrigation controllers are monitored and re-set according to weather conditions. Irrigation repairs are completed in a timely fashion to prevent water waste.

*Tree Care:* Circle C Landscape monitors and supervises tree care throughout the commons areas. This year, all trees located on Escarpment from Aden Lane to LaCrosse received a health prune. In addition, trees on LaCrosse west of Escarpment were pruned and all trees that overhang walls and fences in that area were trimmed back to prevent damage. Due to the drought, weak trees have been under pressure and more than average have died. They are promptly removed to keep the commons areas looking their best.

Tree planting: In accordance with the Circle C Green

Community Model, diversified trees and trees that enhance the urban landscape are planted in areas that are undergoing restoration or renovation.

#### **IMPROVEMENTS:**

Conversion of rotors or spray heads to drip. Due to the new water conservation rules from the City of Austin and in an effort to provide the most efficient irrigation, it is a goal of the CCHOA to convert as many areas as possible to drip irrigation. In 2013, the following areas were converted:

- Circle C North—all bedding areas have been changed to drip irrigation
- Dahlgreen, south of Galsworthy—side and median beds
- Circle C Swim Center—area around new deck
- LaCrosse—Rhett Bulter to Dahlgreen, north side and median
- MoPac/LaCrosse intersection—median beds and trees
- LaCrosse, median north of swim center
- Escarpment/Slaughter, south side, trees and shrubs behind monument and on outside of circle on east side.
- Irrigation controllers throughout the commons areas more than 10 years old were replaced.

#### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS:

Circle C North: All old shrubs from the mail center to Hillside Terrace were removed to facilitate the installation of the new fence. After the fence was installed, new plantings, drip and rock work were installed. The median across from this area was renovated. The developer of Barstow Court paid to have new landscaping and drip irrigation installed along the outsides of the new wall on Barstow. Additional beds on the east and west side were renovated at the time of this project. Rock work was installed in key locations to prevent water run-off and improve visibility.

*LaCrosse:* Park West Pass to Fox Creek Pass. A landscape renovation was needed in this area to reduce turf areas and replace with drip irrigation, drought tolerant plantings and ornamental trees. This will allow the sidewalk and street areas to be maintained according to the Green Community Model, while allowing the more remote areas to naturalize. Rock work was installed in appropriate areas.

# LANDSCAPE SERVICES - 2014 - 2016

Landscape Services, 2014-2016. The CCHOA Board of Directors created a Board task force to review the current specifications and pricing for the landscape maintenance on the commons areas since the contract with Circle C Landscape ended in 2013. After extensive review, the Board unanimously voted to enter into a new contract for three years with Circle C Landscape. The experience on the property, excellent supervision, active response to concerns, leadership in water conservation and management, and pricing were considered in this decision.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

(for the period ending December 31, 2013)

The CCHOA Treasurer has very specific responsibilities, which are detailed in our By-Laws (Article VIII, section 8, (d)). Those duties include ensuring that our funds are collected and accounted for in the bank accounts and books, securing the annual audit, and reporting our financial condition at the annual members meeting.

The CCHOA completed 2013 under budget

- Income was \$3,477,216 (vs. \$3,133,665 last year).
- Expenses were \$2,934,437 (vs. \$3,107,984 last year)
- Retained Earnings \$3,394,025 (vs. \$2,701,783 last year) The income break-down is \$2,591,085 from HOA dues (75%) and \$886,130 from other sources (25%). Under expenses, the larger categories were, \$996,320 (34%) for common area services, \$788,226 (27%) for the swim center & community center, \$164,765 (6%) for capital improvement projects and \$442,722 (15%), for operations. The Delinquency rate for the HOA dues is 10.5% currently compared to last year which was at 2.3%.

CCHOA used a combination of their dedicated reserve funds, the developer collected Amenity Fund, and a 10-year mortgage loan to finance the Circle C Community Center (CCCC) and pool. In 2013, total payments on the loan totaled \$412,750, of which \$250,000 was an additional payment towards the principal.

The developer continues to collect an Amenity fee for every home sold in Circle C Ranch and will continue to add to this fund, as new lots are sold to home builders. The result is that CCHOA can anticipate more than \$600,000 of income over the next 10-15 years, which goes into the capital improvements and amenities for the neighborhood.

CCHOA continues to maintain a reserve fund for emergencies. The goal of the Reserve fund is to cover 10% of our annual expenses. This is the current fund size for 2013:

• The General Reserve Fund is \$504,746.

The required annual audit was completed by Stephen M. Tilson, PC. The inspections took place during March of 2013, for the budget year that ended on December 31st, 2012. The CCHOA budgets and audits are always available for inspection, by any HOA member at the HOA office, during the usual office hours.

All of the board members participated in preparing the 2014 budget this year. As always, we look forward to answering your questions at the annual meeting, on March 5th at the Community Center, next to Clayton Elementary school.

Dan Vavasour, CCHOA Treasurer

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2014

Circle C Homeowners Association www.circlecranch.info

JAN 1

New Year Holiday, HOA Office Closed

JAN 15

Holiday Lights/Décor must be removed

FEB 1

First ½ year assessment mailed, due March 1st \*\*Ballot & Proxy to be printed on back of assessment

FFB 11

Board of Directors Candidate Forum: 6:30pm -8:30pm

MAR.

Board of Directors Annual Report in March newsletter

MAR 5

Annual Meeting, Community Center: 6:30pm-9:30pm

APR 12

Community Wide Garage Sale: 8:00am-5:00pm

**APR 18** 

Good Friday, HOA Office Closed

APR 19

Easter Egg Hunt, Pool Plaza @ Escarpment: 9:30am-11:00am

**MAY 26** 

Memorial Day, HOA Office Closed

JUL 1

Second ½ year assessment mailed, due August 1st

IUL4

Fourth of July Community Parade, Pool Plaza @ Escarpment: 9:00am-11:00am

IUL 4

HOA Office closed

SEPT 1

Labor Day, HOA Office closed

**OCT 18** 

1st Annual Pumpkin Derby: Time TBD

NOV 27 & 28

Thanksgiving, HOA Office Closed

TBD

Children's Holiday Party, Circle C Community Center: Time TBD (entry is one new unwrapped toy per child)

TBD

Adult Holiday Party, Circle C Community Center: Time TBD

DEC 24-26

Christmas Break, HOA Office Closed

Board of Directors Meetings, Last Wednesday of every month, 6:00 pm at the Circle C Community Center.

Swim Center Events, please see website, www.circlecranch.info
\*\*All dates are subject to change.



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# TENNIS TIPS

By USPTA/PTR Master Professional Fernando Velasco











#### **How To Execute The Forehand Drop Shot**

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 forehand lob, the two-handed backhand lob and the one-handed backhand lob.

In this issue, I will offer instructions on how to execute the Forehand Drop Shot. This shot is used when a player is deep on the baseline and returns a short soft ball. The player hitting the drop shop is forcing the opponent to run toward the net. This ball should be hit high enough to clear the net and almost bounce back toward the net. If the player running for the shot can get it on the first bounce, it will likely be off balance and will be forced to make an error or return for an easy put away volley. In the illustrations, Fernando Velasco, Manager and Director of Tennis at the Grey Rock Tennis Club, shows the proper technique to execute this stroke. This shot can also be executed from the base line when the opponent is expecting a deep return of a serve.

**Step 1:** The Back Swing: When Fernando detects the ball landing short and high, he starts his back swing high and compacted. He is using the continental grip and keeping his eyes focused on the flight of the ball. His left hand is up front to keep the proper body balance.

**Step 2:** The Point of Contact: Fernando is now ready to perform the drop shot. His eyes are now focused on the point of contact and the face of the racket is angled up to create the underspin on the ball. His goal is to keep his head still. His left hand is still in front and his weight is shifting toward his left foot.

**Step 3:** The Follow Through: The success of a drop shot is to keep the ball on the strings as long as possible. Fernando is almost "cupping" the ball during the follow through. Fernando's grip is relaxed and the head of the racket is pointing toward the sky. His left shoulder is almost opening to the net and his eyes are following the path of the ball.

**Step 4:** The Ready Position: Once Fernando finishes the stroke, his goal is to follow the path of the drop shot. If he created a good drop shot and sees his opponent running with the head of the racket down, Fernando will move closer to the net or anticipate the angle shot. More likely it will be an easy sitter for a put away volley.

Look in the next Newsletter for: How to execute "The Backhand Drop Shot"

# HOPF4

Presents

4th Annual Golf Tournament

Monday, April 28, 2014

**Grey Rock Golf Club** 7401 Hwy 45; Austin, TX 78739



Visit www.HOPE4JD.org ronda@hope4jd.org 512-845-1466

**Volunteers Needed!** 































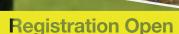




Texas







\$150/golfer Four Man Scramble Registration -9:30am

Shotgun Start -11:00am

go to www.hope4jd.org register

**Tournament Includes:** 

Sack Lunch provided by Chick-fil-A Dinner provided by Iron Cactus **Golf shirt** Gift bags

Contest and games

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









RESIDENTREALTY







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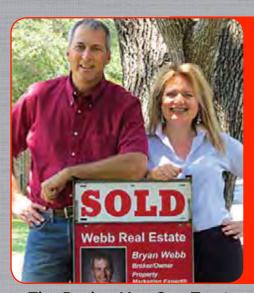
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#### **Patty Webb**

Realtor

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# EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!

KIKER ELEMENTARY NEEDS YOU

Looking to advertise your business? We have the perfect place for you!

Kiker's Annual Fundraiser is right around the corner. Seeking donations of event desserts, jewelry, sports memorabilia, certificates, hole sponsors, and more.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.kikerelementary.org/partners/kiker-annualfundraiser

PLEASE JOIN US AND SUPPORT KIKERI

Golf Classic Dinner and Dance Saturday, May3, 2014 Silent and Live Auction 1:00 p.m. Shotgun Start Sunday, May4, 2014

# Gorzycki Tiger Drill, Tiger Dancers and Tigerettes Garage Sale

Submitted by Anna Ginsberg

A friendly reminder -- The Gorzycki Middle School Tiger Drill, Tiger Dancers and Tigerettes are holding a garage sale fundraiser on March 29 in the parking lot of the Urgent Care Center at 5000 W. Slaughter Lane. Proceeds will be used

> to buy costumes and pay entrance fees for competitions, so stop by and check out the goods! The sale

starts at 7:00 AM and will go on until about 2:00 PM. See you there!



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# Gorzycki 2014 District & Region Choir Winners Submitted by Brad Heckler, Director/Instructor



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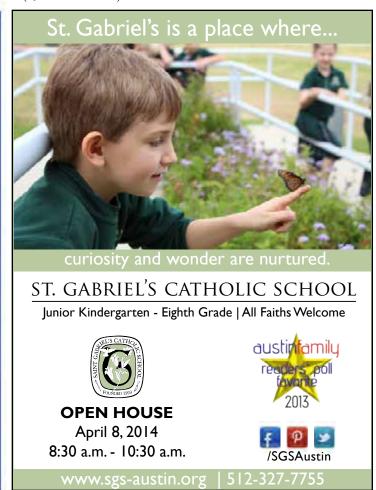
36 students from GMS participated in the TMEA Region 18 Middle School Choir Contest on Saturday, January 25. There were more than 600 middle school students from over 30 schools that competed for the top 210 spots to be in one of the three elite choirs. Girls who were selected had to place in the top 13 chairs in their auditioned rooms. Boys who were selected had to place in the top 18 chairs in their auditioned rooms.

Choir students who were selected will perform on Saturday, February 8 at the Bastrop Performing Arts Center.

Seventh grade girls who will perform with the 7th Grade Treble Choir are Taylor Brown (8th chair soprano 2), Carly Lewis (7th chair soprano 2), Alison Howard (5th chair soprano 2), & Emily Merritt (4th chair soprano 2). Eighth grade girls who will perform with the 8th Grade Treble Choir are Megan Bench (4th chair soprano 1), Abby Criswell (5th chair soprano 1), Melina Gary (9th chair soprano 1), Avery Goodwin (9th chair alto), Megan Oldham (4th chair alto), & Emma Villanueva (4th chair alto).

Boys who will perform with the TTB Choir are Stephen Do (12th chair tenor 2), Blake Moyer (1st chair tenor 2), & Xander Perez (5th chair tenor 2).

GMS choir students who received the distinction of placing in the District Choir but will not be performing are Cade Oldham (20th chair tenor 1), Amy Stein (18th chair soprano 2), Bayley Stewart (16th chair alto), Lauren Stuart (18th chair soprano 2), & Branden Wenzloff (25th chair tenor 1).



# Teaching Children the Value of Effort Over Achievement

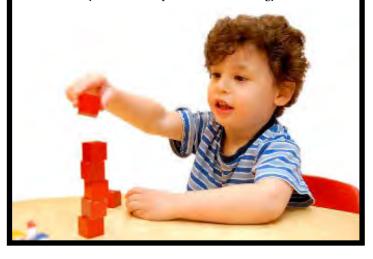
Submitted by James Espy

As the owner of a martial arts school here in South Austin, I have had the pleasure and privilege of working with countless children. Some I've met only in passing, such as when we teach PE in area schools, and some I've taught for years. I'm constantly inspired by the sheer delight children have for learning new things and moving their bodies in new ways. I've also had the good fortune to learn quite a bit about what best motivates kids and how their self-esteem develops.

When it comes to motivation and self-esteem, I've seen nothing as significant or as powerful as emphasizing effort over achievement, and this is a central focus in my school. For instance, a common practice in martial arts schools is to test students for a new belt frequently to keep them interested and to help them feel good about themselves. In our school, belt testing is a much rarer event. We've designed such a rich, full curriculum that rapid advancement would lead to poor quality. There is simply too much to learn for that approach. We emphasize the experience of the progression, rather than the end result (a belt). This way, students learn the value of process rather than achievement.

Why is this important? When a child is purely goal-oriented, they project their sense of identity and self-worth onto an external object, their goal. If they stumble in their efforts, difficult feelings of fear, frustration and questions of self-esteem can arise. But when a child is focused on the process, with a goal simply offering a direction, then stumbling is no big deal. The child is excited to get up and keep going because they have a love for the process.

Science is starting to catch up to these ideas. Research is increasingly showing the value of the effort over achievement approach. I recommend you start looking for ways to encourage your child around process rather than outcomes, and see for yourself how powerful this strategy can be!



# DROUGHT IS TOUGH ON TREES

HOMEOWNERS CAN HELP OR HINDER

Submitted by Lisa Schissler

Join us for a FREE Tree Health & Maintenance talk given by a Texas Certified Arborist!

Wednesday, March 12 from 7-8 pm Located at the HOA Community Center at La Crosse & Spruce Canyon (parking lot)

- Find out how your watering & landscaping practices are impacting your trees
- Learn how to efficiently water a tree (the tree benefits and you don't waste water!)
- Learn how to help trees recover from the changes that construction can bring to their root zone and canopy

Killanderlisa@gmail.com | Texas Certified Arborist | TX 3735-A

#### SWING NETWORKING GROUP

Submitted by Peter Berardino

SWING is proud to announce and host a very special event. Please mark your calendar and RSVP now for a presentation & book signing by Scott Shickler. Scott is one of the world's leading experts on personal empowerment and is a thought leader in his field. Mr. Shickler, CEO, Author & Co-Creator of 7 Mindsets, will discuss strategies for applying the 7 Mindsets to create a mindset revolution resulting in a positive, long-term impact on individuals and organizations all over the world. Change the course of your life by joining us on Thursday, March 13th, 8AM sharp, at the Waterloo Ice House. Please RSVP to this event by calling Carl Mehlman at 512-954-1978 or email at carl@7mindsets.com.

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 and we enjoy competition. So, bring your business cards and a good mindset and let's get to know you.

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

## Olympic Fever Can Encourage Physical Activity In Children

According to an expert at Baylor College of Medicine, the Olympics are a great opportunity for children to learn about physical activity and goal setting.

According to Dr. Jorge Gomez, associate professor of pediatrics in the division of adolescent and sports medicine at Baylor, Olympic competitions will encourage children to do something fun and active.

"Research has shown that the strongest predictor of children remaining physically active into adulthood is having experiences of being active with their parents," said Gomez.

He offers the following tips for parents when watching the Olympic Games with their children:

- Point out that the athletes are participating because it¹s fun for them.
- Emphasize athletes are where they are after years of hard work.
- Discuss what it means to be a team player and to have good sportsmanship.
- Focus on the fact that the athletes are fit because they take care of themselves by eating well and exercising.
- While encouraging children to explore new activities, keep safety in mind.



# Inside Austin Gardens Tour Submitted by Rosalie Russell

You are invited to the Inside Austin Gardens tour featuring six gardens of exemplary quality and design. The tour is presented by Travis County Master Gardeners Association in cooperation with the Travis County AgriLife Extension Service on Saturday, May 3, 2014 from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm. Tour includes gardens to explore, continuous one-on-one educational offerings, kids' activities, and book sales. Complete tour information can be found at www.InsideAustinGardens. org.

#### **CONTACT**

Rosalie Russell, gisathccs@aol.com, 512-804-2257



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#### **ANTS VS. TERMITES**

Submitted by Wizzie Brown

Soon ant and termite swarmers will be seen flying in Central Texas. Swarmer is another term used to describe the reproductive stage of ants and termites. These insects have wings when they initially leave the colony, but the wings are either shed (by termites) or chewed off (by ants) before they form a new colony. Some people may have trouble distinguishing the two types of insects, but with a few key characteristics, it can be very simple.

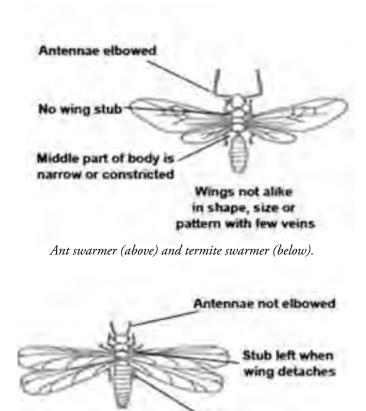
Ant swarmers have elbowed antennae and a narrow, or constricted, waist. The front and back wings of ants are not similar in size or shape and have few veins. If the wings are missing from the ant swarmer, there will not be a wing stub left on the thorax from where the wing was attached.

Termite swarmers have antennae that are not elbowed and the waist is not narrowed. The wings on termites are of similar size and shape and have many veins. Termite swarmers have a wing stub left on the thorax once the wing detaches from the body.

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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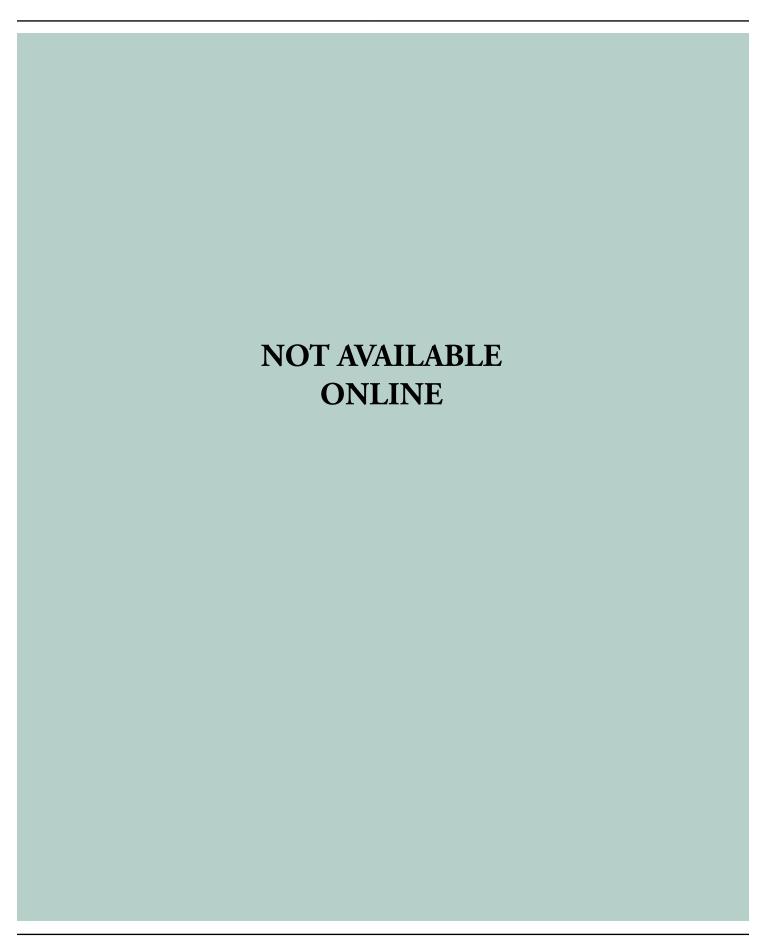
Wings similiar in

shape, size & pattern

with many veins

Middle part of body

not narrow



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#### MARCH 27

- @ The Belmont
- → 6:00 pm
- → No cover
- → Special guests!

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Please join us March 27th at the beautiful Belmont in downtown Austin for the Pure Gold launch party, benefiting Black Fret and Capital Area Food Bank.

Featuring: Kalu James, Dexter Freebish, The Whiskey Sisters, Codi Jordan, and a special headliner!

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# **Prevent Colon Cancer In Less Than An Hour**

Regular screenings for colon cancer can catch the deadly disease before it even begins, according to doctors at Baylor College of Medicine.

"Colon cancer is known as the silent killer because symptoms are not present until it's too late," said Dr. Waqar Qureshi, professor of medicine and chief of endoscopy at Baylor.

Symptoms include rectal bleeding, abdominal pain, weight loss or anemia. But if symptoms are apparent, then it s more than likely the cancer has already spread. Screening can catch precancerous growths at a time when life-saving treatments are still effective.

A colonoscopy is the most accurate way to find precancerous growths. A colonoscopy takes up to 20 minutes, and patients are sedated so most don't even remember the procedure.

"Usually screenings start at age 50 and continue every 10 years after that," said Qureshi. "However, if colon cancer runs in your family, screenings should be more frequent and begin sooner."



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# **GOT STATS?**

		6 Months	Sold	Histor	v (O	3/2013	-01/2014)		Current Market	
Circle C Danch by	TOTAL	6 Months Sold History (08/2013-01/2014)  TOTAL AVERAGE						TOTAL		
Circle C Ranch by Neighborhood	Homes Sold	Square Price /		Sold Price \$K		Year Built	Days On Market	Available	Pending Sale	
Circle C Central	52	2,826	\$	131	\$	370	1993	23	3	3
North	20	2,084	\$	148	\$	308	1996	32	1	4
On The Park	5	3,353	\$	131	\$	441	1996	19	0	0
Wildflower	11	2,304	\$	144	\$	331	2002	6	1	1
Park West	9	2,338	\$	155	\$	362	2002	27	1	2
Vintage Place	5	3,583	\$	116	\$	414	2003	14	0	0
Hielscher	10	3,164	\$	134	\$	425	2001	50	1	0
West	13	3,559	\$	136	\$	483	2004	22	1	1
Park Place	6	2,511	\$	144	\$	361	2004	5	0	2
Muirfield	2	3,018	\$	150	\$	453	2006	44	2	1
Enclave 1&2	5	2,681	\$	149	\$	399	2007	21	0	0
Lacrosse	4	2,687	\$	141	\$	379	2007	44	2	1
Alta Mira	6	3,156	\$	130	\$	409	2007	54	1	1
Fairway Estates	3	4,225	\$	153	\$	648	2012	31	2	1
Enclave Estates	n/a	n/a		n/a		n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0
Avana-Esquel	4	2,485	\$	162	\$	403	2013	75	4	4
Barstow Village	n/a	n/a		n/a		n/a	n/a	n/a	0	0
Barstow Court	1	2,733	\$	141	\$	385	2013	21	0	0
Greyrock Ridge	1	1,887	\$	172	\$	325	2013	7	0	0
Total	157	2,796	\$	139	5	388	1999	27	19	21
% Change Mo / Mo	-30%	0%		0%		1%	0%	1%	-21%	0%
% Change Yr / Yr	45%	-6%	1	0%		4%	0%	-27%	6%	-34%

 $Market\ Report\ data\ was\ obtained\ from\ the\ Austin-Multiple\ Listing\ Service\ (MLS)\ on\ 02/06/2014.\ Texas\ License\ \#\ 515586.$ 

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.





Tara West

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