

Granada Hills & Estates

Neighborhood Newsletter

Serving the Communities of Granada Hills & Estates,
Granada Oaks, Southview Estates and Fox Run Estates



Volume 3, Number 5

May 2009

www.grnadahoa.org

Granada Hills Meeting, Picnic & Plant Exchange

The Granada HOA will be hosting our 2009 Semi-Annual meeting on Saturday, May 16th, at 12 Noon. The meeting will take place around the basketball court in Felder Park; bring a lawn chair if possible.

We'll have a BBQ lunch for HOA Members and their immediate families and we'll be collecting dues for non-members. No votes are scheduled to occur at this time, but informational updates regarding events in the Oak Hill area will be presented.

We will discuss our 4th of July event and we will be planning for the Independence Day Parade through our neighborhood. If we're lucky, we will have some live music, as well as a volleyball game, and possibly a visit by one of our elected officials.

Please mark your calendar to have Lunch at the Park on Saturday, May 16th, High Noon. If you need transportation, please call one of the Board members and we'll pick you up.



WELCOME FAMILY MANZER

After several house hunting trips to Austin, the Manzers fell in love with 7902 El Dorado Dr., sold their home in Ohio and moved here in August. Robert began working at St. Edwards University, their oldest son Sam stayed behind at Ohio Northern University to finish his senior year and Jack and James have been busy making friends here in Granada Hills. We welcome the Manzer family: Robert, Alison, Sam, Jack and James. They have an outstanding backyard and are looking forward to enjoying their pool and hopefully planting a vegetable garden in the near future.

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Granada Hills & Estates

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Granada Hills residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail rperkins@austin.rr.com.

Business classifieds (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales at 512-263-9181 or advertising@PEELinc.com.

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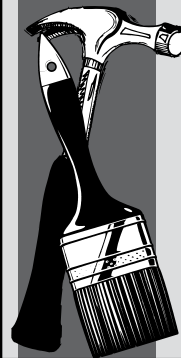
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New Elementary School Boundary Issue

Submitted by Jamie Casaday

AISD is building a new public elementary school in the Meridian development south of Texas 45 and east of 1826 that is supposed to open in Fall 2010. This school will relieve overcrowding at Clayton, where Granada Hills and neighboring areas are currently zoned.

Everyone in the neighborhood should be aware of the school boundary changes coming. Proximity and quality of a neighborhood's public schools affects all of us via enhanced or degraded property values, not merely parents of public elementary school students.

I think it is important for our neighborhood to have a somewhat unified voice in the upcoming school boundary change process that starts this August. The Circle C HOA has an active Education Committee that fought ferociously and victoriously during the recent (and bitterly contested) middle school boundary changes. They have many dedicated people willing to put in a lot of time and energy to get what they want. We can expect their battle-hardened veterans to be very involved in

the Clayton/Meridian boundary change. During the middle school fight Circle C's interests aligned with Granada Hills', but we should NOT expect that this time around.



It is highly likely that our neighborhood will be zoned differently when the new school opens, unless we decide to voice our opinion. While I expect that the new school will be of high quality, my concern is that it will be even further away from our neighborhood than Clayton. In fact, there are five elementary schools closer to our neighborhood than the new school will be. (These are, in general order from closest to furthest away, Mills, Oak Hill, Kiker, Clayton, and Patton, although the exact ordering varies slightly depending upon where exactly you start from.)

Of Clayton's nearly 1,000 students, only about 300 students live outside of the immediate area of the school, which includes the entire Meridian neighborhood and all the neighborhoods west of FM 1826. The vast majority of Clayton students (about 70%) live

(Continued on page 5)

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Granada Hills & Estates

2009 - GRANADA HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION - 2009

Your HOA Dues pay for Common Property Insurance, Maintenance, Utilities, Taxes, Tennis Court Access, Private Park Access, and Local Events

HOA Members Should Sign Up to the Granada HOA Email List Serve. Send a Blank Email to: GranadaHOA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com (Non HOA Members Will Be Dropped)

NAMES:

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE:

EMAIL:

In what YEAR did you move into Granada Hills, Estates, or Oaks?

2009 Annual DUES \$ 96.00

Specify Extra Optional Donations

General Maintenance \$ _____

New Entrance Sign \$ _____

Children's Play Area \$ _____

Park BBQ Pavilion \$ _____

Security / Cameras \$ _____

Granada Legal Fund \$ _____

TOTAL Enclosed \$ _____

Please Drop Off in Our Secure Drop-Box at 8100 El Dorado, or Mail this Completed Form with Check Payable to GHA:

GHA
8100 El Dorado Drive
Austin, TX 78737

Thanks for Your Support !

Pool Cooperative Membership Info

Sign up to the GranadaPool@yahoogroups.com List Serve for more info. Send a blank email to GranadaPool-subscribe@yahoogroups.com You must be a member of the Granada HOA in order to become a member of the Pool.

3 Ways to Pay – Check, Credit Card, PayPal

1. CHECKS: Please Complete this Form and Drop Off in Our Secure Drop-Box at 8100 El Dorado, OR Mail this Form with Checks Payable to GHA, to: GHA, 8100 El Dorado Drive, Austin, TX 78737

2. CREDIT CARDS or 3. PAYPAL: A \$4 processing fee must be added to amount. Go to www.paypal.com, click payment, send it to rick@granadahoa.org, select credit card or Paypal, add \$4.00 to the total to cover the PayPal fee ; In the Notes, enter your name, address, phone number, and email address.

Thanks for Your Support !

Please Provide Feedback on How You Would Like to Make
Granada a Better Place to Live

Granada Hills & Estates

School Boundary Issue - (Continued from Page 3)

in Circle C and closer to Clayton than they do to the new school. The general feeling from these families is that they ALL expect to remain at Clayton. Since that will not be possible, we can be certain they will oppose moving more Circle C families to the new school so that some of "outside" 30% can remain at Clayton.

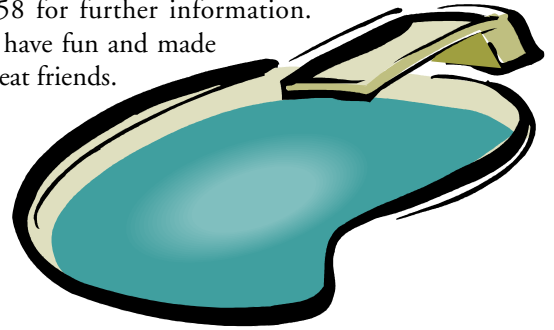
If you think that Granada Hills, as a neighborhood, should be involved in a somewhat unified way in these boundary discussions, please e-mail me at schools@markschulze.net and I will report back to the Granada HOA email list about the level of interest in the community. Together we'll take the next steps in organizing based on how much interest is shown. Regardless of any neighborhood organization that we may develop, I encourage you all to monitor the situation and express your opinions to school and district authorities.

Business Classifieds

PIANO TUNING/REPAIRS by GH Neighbor. Expert, experienced, many references. Standard tuning, \$85. Patterson Barrett, 301-6897.

Water Arobics at Granada Hills Pool 2009

It is that time of the year again to think about getting in shape!!! The pool committee is planning to offer, as part of your membership, WATER AEROBICS three days a week, or as agreed among those that are interested in participating. Last year we met at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Please feel free to call me, Hope Dyson at 394-1558 for further information. We did have fun and made some great friends.



Great Hills Baptist Church

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

- Vacation Bible School | **June 15-19**
- Going Beyond - Women's Conference with Priscilla Shirer | **June 26-27**
- Patriotic Celebration - Both Sunday Services | **June 28**
- Children's Fine Art Workshop | **July 6-10**
- Veggie Tales Day Camp | **July 27-31**
- Middle / High School Camps - Baylor University | **July 27-31**
- Celebrate Recovery | **Mondays, 7 pm, 2nd floor of building A**

Regular Sunday Schedule:

- 9:30 & 11 am Bible Life Groups for all ages
- 9:30 am Celebration - Connection | *Worship Choir & Orchestra*
- 11:00 am Life - Connection | *Worship Band*

10500 Jollyville Road . Austin, TX . 78759 | www.ghbc.org | 512.343.7763

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HAVE YOU SEEN THE BLUEBONNETS AT THE CORNER?

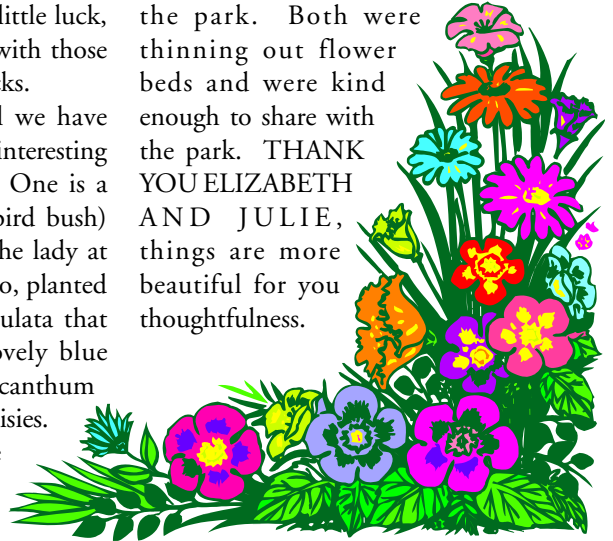
Several years ago while walking in the neighborhood I harvested Bluebonnet seeds from many, many locations in Granada Hills. At the time the flower bed at El Rey and Espanola was just being developed and I must have thrown well over one hundred seeds in that bed. Many harvested right here in the neighborhood and some I bought at the "Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center" and last year one plant came up. I just wonder where all those other seeds went! I hope they came up in your yard. All last summer and this past winter I kept an eye on that corner and no sight of a single Bluebonnet, until one day in February scattered between the rocks a Bluebonnet plant popped up, I was so excited I could hardly speak. As the weeks went on I would check the corner regularly and more and more plants were appearing, I quickly weeded the area and prayed that they

would survive, and they have!!!! Every day or so I either walk by or drive by and can not believe my eyes, there are masses of flowers, just think they will go to seed and throw their seeds and next year, with a little luck, the corner will welcome Spring with those sweet little flowers among the rocks.

For your pleasure by the pool we have planted the flower pots with some interesting plants for this summer season. One is a Dielepra Mexicana (Hummingbird bush) it was recommended to me by the lady at Geo Growers just down 290. Also, planted in the pots are Plumbago Auriculata that will bloom all summer with lovely blue flowers, and Melampodium Leucanthum otherwise known as Black Foot Daisies. All of these plants should be spectacular once the swim season begins. I hope we attract lots of

hummingbirds and butterflies.

Last but not least a big thank you to Elizabeth Keller and Julie Clark for a donation of plants for the park. Both were thinning out flower beds and were kind enough to share with the park. THANK YOU ELIZABETH AND JULIE, things are more beautiful for you thoughtfulness.



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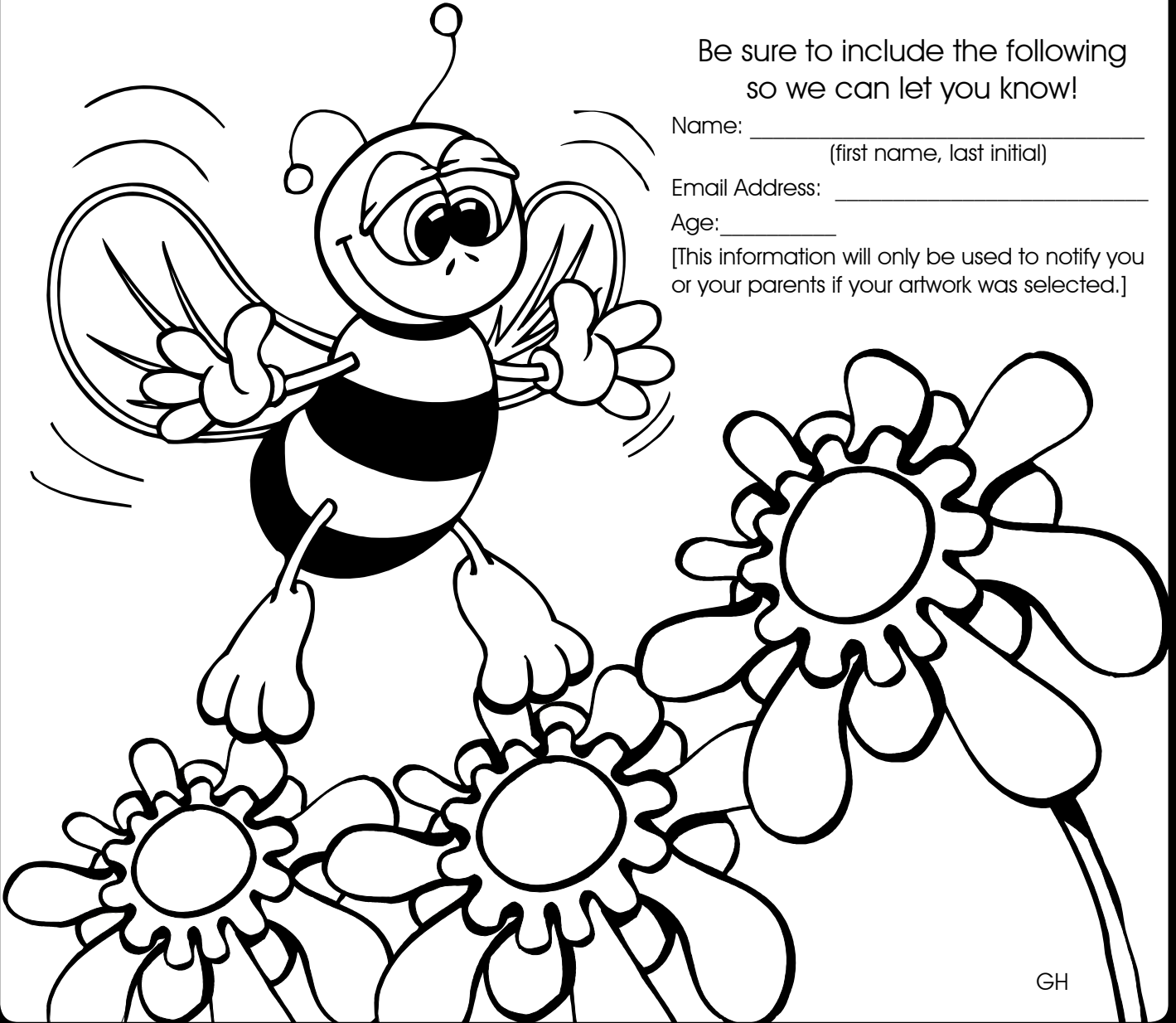
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9505 Vera Cruz – SOLD!



8900 Granada Hills – SOLD!

Neighbor To Neighbor

Granada Hills Market Report

3 Months Sold History

Jan – April 1, 2009

	Available	Pending Sale	Sold	\$ Sold/sq ft
Granada Hills & Estates	5	1	5	~ \$126 *
Granada Oaks	2	1	1	~\$140+

Note: Market report data was obtained from the Austin Multiple Listing Service (MLS). In some cases new construction and FSBO homes are not in the MLS data and therefore are not represented. Data is deemed accurate but not guaranteed.

(* \$ Sold/sq ft data reflects homes with & without swimming pools.)

\$8000 IRS Home-buyer Tax Credit

- *This is a tax credit and not a tax deduction, so this money is paid to you or it reduces the overall tax amount owed to the IRS. Note: This is not a loan!*
- *Must close on or before Nov 30, 2009*
- *Buyers must be first-time home buyer or not have owned in past 3 years*
- *You can claim the tax credit on 2008 or 2009 taxes though buying in 2009*
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- *Single Person must make under 75k, married under 150k, (If income is slightly over, then partial tax credit is possible)*



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