



PRESS

The Official Newsletter of the
Plum Creek Homeowner Association
December 2010
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New Management Company for Plum Creek in 2011

The Plum Creek Board of Directors is pleased to announce the hiring of Goodwin Management as Plum Creek's new management company effective January 1, 2011.

The Board did not make the decision to change management companies lightly, since we have used RealManage or its predecessor, Liddiard Management, from the very start of the neighborhood. An extensive search process was conducted over the course of several months, during which time we received proposals from several management companies, including RealManage. We carefully considered all options and, while we appreciate the service provided by RealManage over the years, we decided that the change to Goodwin was in the best interest of the Association.

Goodwin Management is a locally owned and operated management firm that has been providing management service in and around Austin since 1978. They currently manage an extensive portfolio of Associations in the Austin area. We believe their experience and services will add value to our community and benefit our homeowners.

We anticipate a smooth transition process from RealManage to Goodwin leading up to January 1. Be on the lookout for an introductory letter from Goodwin that addresses where to send payments, new account codes, and contact information, amongst other items.

As part of the transition, there will be new on-site personnel effective January 1, 2011. Residents are encouraged to stop by the on-site office in January to meet the new staff!

We are excited about bringing Goodwin into Plum Creek and look forward to the services they will provide to the neighborhood and its residents!

Austin Community College Announcement

Voters in Hays Consolidated Independent School District (Hays CISD) approved annexation into the Austin Community College (ACC) taxing district during the November elections. As a result, a North Hays County ACC campus is planned for the Kyle neighborhood of Plum Creek. Annexation into the ACC taxing district was also approved by voters in the Elgin Independent School District (Elgin ISD).

"Elgin ISD and Hays CISD are now full partners in the regional ACC District," says Dr. Stephen B. Kinslow, ACC president/CEO. "We welcome those residents and look forward to delivering all the benefits of annexation, including dramatically lower tuition, expanded instructional programs and support services, as well as a more educated workforce, which is an asset to the entire community."

The college has entered into a contract to purchase 96 acres of land in Plum Creek. The site is located southeast of the intersection of Kyle Parkway and Kohler's Crossing. The groundbreaking will take place early next year with a new campus opening in fall of 2013. A draft rendering of the proposed ACC campus is below.



(Continued on Page 3)

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ACC Announcement-
(Continued from Cover)

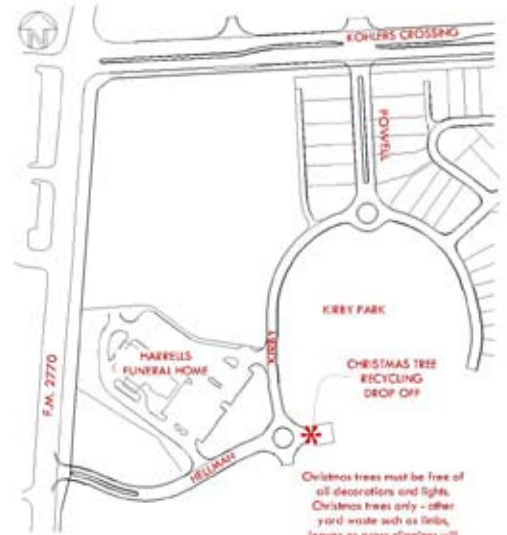
Hays CISD residents are immediately eligible for in-district tuition at all ACC campuses. Students who have registered and paid for spring classes will receive a reimbursement for the difference between in and out-of-district tuition. In-district tuition is 72 percent lower, bringing the cost down from \$150 per credit hour to \$42 per credit hour.

For more information about Austin Community College, visit <http://www.austincc.edu/>.

Christmas Tree Recycling at Kirby Park

Plum Creek residents have another great option for extending the life and usefulness of their natural Christmas trees. Beginning Sunday, December 26th and running until Wednesday, January 12th, you can drop your Christmas tree at Kirby Park. The tree drop-off is located at Kirby Park at Hellman and Kirby, just behind Harrell Funeral Home. Check out the map to the right!

Thanks to Benchmark Development, Plum Creek's developers, the trees will be chipped free of charge to the HOA, and the mulch will be used in Kirby Park. *Please remember to remove all hooks, tinsel, and decorations from your trees before disposing of them, and only drop Christmas trees, not trees used in landscaping or any landscape debris. Lastly, please do not drop trees after dark or outside the posted dates or designated area. Thanks so much!*



Seasons Greetings

from your family physicians
in Plum Creek

Dr. Erik Arhelger, Dr. Tim Kay (Santa)
Heddie, Kellie, Vanessa,
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Judging for the Lights Contest

*Begins on Saturday,
December 4th*

Beginning Saturday, December 4th, the PC Landscape Committee will judge the holiday lights of Plum Creek. With three categories of traditional, religious, and novelty, everyone has the opportunity to get into the spirit of the season.

Traditional includes the simpler designs of house trimming and lots of greenery and awards 1st to 3rd. Religious embraces all major religious holidays and awards only 1st. With Novelty, you can run amuck and receive 1st to 3rd.

Winners receive a gift card and a sign in their yard through the holidays. Judging will begin the night of Saturday, December 4th at 6PM and run through the night of Wednesday, December 8th. Get those lights up quickly and leave them shining!

*Feel free to nominate your own home or your neighbor!
Just email landscape@plumcreektxhoa.com.*

Santa Claus Arrives on Saturday, Dec 4th at 11am

Visit the Haupt Community Center on Saturday, December 4th from 11am to 3:30pm to take your picture with Santa and do some Christmas shopping with local vendors.

Digital photos will be taken by the Recreation Committee and printed for you to pick up. You can snap some photos, too. Please bring a donation of canned foods to give to the Hays County Area Food Bank. Feel free to bring 1 ornament per family to help to decorate our community Christmas tree. Vendors can have a table for just \$10. Make checks payable to the Hays County Area Food Bank. Space is limited and first come, first serve.

*For questions or to reserve
a vendor space, please call
Brandee Otto at 512-405-
0159 or email recreation@plumcreektxhoa.com.
See you and Santa on December 4th
from 11AM to 3:30PM!!!*



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A Sweet Exchange

By Melissa Housman



Packages of homemade cookies, in all flavors, shapes, and textures, make never-fail gifts during the holiday season. Making holiday cookies does not have to mean hours of rolling and decorating hundreds of cookies, especially when you are trying to juggle a busy holiday schedule. The solution is simple and will have you making only one kind to share with friends...host a cookie swap.

The Invite

Invite guests three to four weeks in advance. Have each person bring their cookies, copies of their recipe and some gift-wrapping supplies, such as ribbons, tags and boxes.

The Cookies

Ask each guest to make a dozen cookies for every person in attendance, plus an extra dozen for sampling. If that number seems too daunting, scale it back. Just make sure everyone will go home with an assortment of several dozen cookies to give as gifts.

The Swap

On the day of the party, brew some coffee and tea and clear a few tables for a sampling station and a swapping and packaging station.

Provide platters and cake stands and have each guest put out a plate of cookies for tasting along with their provided recipes. Once it is time to trade, have each person walk around the table to pick up their share for packaging.

The Gift Wrap Station

Ask guests to bring wrapping materials, which may include tags or labels, ribbons, twine, boxes, tissue paper, baking papers, cellophane, scissors, or paper plates. Set everything out on a large worktable and have guests make their cookie boxes.

Give it a try! It might lead to the beginning of a sweet tradition. Happy Holidays!

Butterscotch Cookies

Makes about 30 cookies

- 14 tablespoons unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1 1/4 cups dark-brown sugar
- 1 large egg
- 2 tablespoons nonfat dry milk
- 1 tablespoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for shaping
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

1. Preheat oven to 375° F. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper or a nonstick baking mat; set aside.
2. In the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, cream together butter and sugar. Beat in egg, dry milk, and vanilla.
3. In a medium bowl, sift together flour, baking soda, and salt. With the mixer running, slowly add the flour mixture to butter mixture.
4. Drop heaping tablespoons of batter onto prepared baking sheets about 2 inches apart. Lightly flour your fingers and flatten each cookie slightly.
5. Transfer to oven and bake until lightly browned, 8 to 10 minutes. Transfer cookies to a wire rack to cool completely.

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Social Groups

Sip & Sew Group Meets December 14th

We have had a grand beginning with our Plum Creek group sipping and sewing. Many talents surfaced, and the room was filled each month with needlepoint, crocheting, sewing, knitting, rug hooking, and punch needle.

Dawn Hummer, a teacher from the Old Oak Ranch Fiber Art Center in Wimberley provided a kit and instructions for those individuals wanting to learn the art of punch needle at the November meeting.

The December meeting will be held, as usual, on the second Tuesday of the month on December 14th from 6:30 to 9:00pm! We will celebrate the coming of the holidays but will continue to Sip and Sew on the projects needing to be finished. In the New Year, we continue to look forward to the friendships and good times we experienced in 2010 with the next meeting on January 11th!

Questions? Please contact Pam Chapman at 512.656.6050, Sandra Sigler at 512.405.0187, or Iris Sandle at 512.405.0054

Plum Creek Bunco Night on December 21st

Bunco is going strong! So, come on out and roll the dice, ladies! The cost is \$5, and a light meal/appetizers and dessert are provided. Mark your calendars for the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30PM and come to the Plum Creek Community Center with your 5 buckaroos! If interested in playing, please RSVP via email to Zoe Smith at zls823@gmail.com

Plum Creek 55+ Group Meets December 11th

The 55+ group will meet on Saturday, December 11h. The group always meets at 6PM at the Plum Creek Community Center for the potluck dinner and fun. Want to join? Email Dennis Perkins at dperkins@reoservices.com.

Plum Creek Motorcycle Journey Group Takes Break

The Plum Creek Motorcycle Journey Group will take a break from December to February and begin riding again with better weather in spring. For more information, contact Ross Wood at rwoody3@hotmail.com RE: Motorcycle Journey Group.



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AT THE FENCE

Starlight Symphony Orchestra Offers Free Concerts in December

This holiday season, the Starlight Symphony Orchestra will host a free symphony concert and sing along. On Saturday, December 4, 2010, please join the Orchestra at 7:30PM at Blanco High School (1215 Fourth St. Blanco, TX). For those who cannot attend Saturday's concert, please come on Sunday, December 5th at 4:30PM to St. Stephens Episcopal Church in Wimberley (6000 FM 3237).

What a great way to start the holiday season! If you are a musician and interested in auditioning for the orchestra, they still have string positions open. The orchestra practices every Thursday from 7:15 to 9:15 in Wimberley, and there are four concert seasons each year.

If interested, please contact Michelle Winn at simpldimple@yahoo.net.

Starlight Symphony Still Needs Youth

The Starlight Symphony Orchestra, a community orchestra in Central Texas, is proud to announce two exciting programs available for advanced student musicians through grade twelve. The Youth Orchestra Festival invites students to come together in January and February of 2011 to prepare full orchestra literature for performance with the Starlight Symphony Orchestra in early March.

String students will audition for seating. Wind and percussion player's spots are limited so they will audition for acceptance into the festival and for seating placement. The Young Artist Solo Competition is designed to provide the opportunity for two talented and dedicated young musicians to be featured soloists with the Starlight Symphony Orchestra. Winners will also receive a \$500 scholarship.

Please contact Michelle Winn at simpldimple@yahoo.com or 512-658-9141 for additional questions and application information.

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Merry Christmas!



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