



# PRESS

The Official Newsletter of the  
Plum Creek Homeowner Association

July 2011  
Volume 2, Issue 7

## 2011 Annual MEETING WRAP-UP

The 2011 Plum Creek HOA Annual Meeting was held on May 26th at the Plum Creek Golf Club. Approximately 30 to 40 owners attended the meeting. David Mahn gave the Board report, which highlighted 2010 accomplishments/challenges and 2011 goals. Items of note in 2010 included a change in management companies and continued improvements to the community center and playscapes. Goals for 2011 include a reduction in the delinquency rate and a large replacement of landscape materials in high profile common areas.

David Mahn also delivered the Developer's report which included a discussion of new and upcoming commercial projects in Plum Creek, a recent ownership change of the Plum Creek Golf Club, and an update on construction plans for the Plum Creek land recently purchased by Austin Community College. Matt Gibson, representing Goodwin Management, presented the HOA manager's report. The report included a summary of the 2010 financials, an overview of the 2011 budget, an update on collection status for delinquent owners, and a summary of restriction enforcement in the last 30 days.

It was announced that the HOA on-site office would be moving toward the end of the summer. The new office address will be 4100 Everett, Suite 150. The office will be next door to Plum Fit in the Uptown District across from the Plum Creek Golf Club. Committee Chairpersons each presented a summary of their committee's activities and plans for the future.

An election was held for the expiring term of Peter French. There were two nominations presented by the Nomination Committee, and one nomination was made from the floor. Votes were tallied, and Peter French was elected to another three year term. Several residents signed up to speak at the end of the meeting. Concern was expressed regarding trash can enforcement, consideration of allowing St. Augustine grass, if the lake water was dangerous for dogs, dying street trees, and replacement of dying plants in HOA medians.

*Overall the meeting was very smooth and informative.*

*Thank you to everyone that attended!*

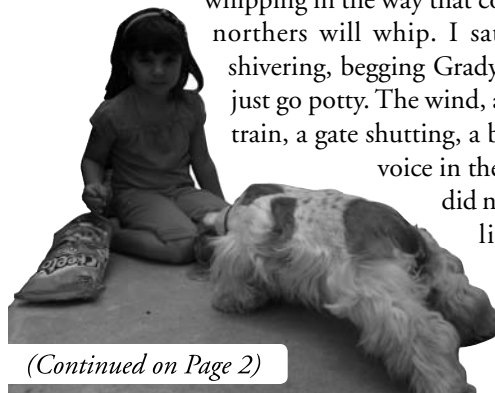
## THE CHEETOS MIRACLE

*A Touching Story about a  
Girl and a Frightened Pooch*

*By: Kathy Jackson*

Grady was rescued by Austin Cocker Rescue after he was surrendered to the shelter by a woman who later was arrested for animal cruelty. Extensive research on puppy mill survivors led me to the conclusion that Grady was not just a shy dog but a "damaged" dog. Watching a dog that is terrified of humans is a sorrowful ordeal. It is so difficult not to feel pain every day when exposed to such a scared pitiful creature. Any empathetic human would find it hard to be around a dog that is in a flight response 99 % of the time. After weeks and weeks and WEEKS of exposing Grady to the simplest of experiences, I was questioning if Plum Creek was the right neighborhood for such a frightened boy. The picket fences, alleys, porches, sidewalks, kids, bikes, skateboards, parks, neighbors--- all the elements Plum Creek residents love--- were Grady's biggest obstacles to peace and security.

I specifically remember one cold November night. A norther had blown in to central Texas, and the wind was whipping in the way that cold November northerns will whip. I sat in the yard shivering, begging Grady to pullllleese just go potty. The wind, a car door, the train, a gate shutting, a blowing leaf, a voice in the night air---it did not matter; any little noise or movement



*(Continued on Page 2)*

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## Committee Contacts

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## Newsletter Info

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on the 1st day of each month at [www.PEELinc.com](http://www.PEELinc.com)

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### The Cheeto Miracle - (Continued from Cover Page)

made my terrified little boy run for cover. The first few days that Grady lived with me, the biggest hurdle was just getting him INTO the yard to do his business. Passing a human to get to the backyard proved too great a risk for my sweet Grady, who was spending 90% of his time under the bed. Somehow, my other cocker, Izzy, seemed to intuitively know how to get him out the door, through the porch, and into the yard. I would open all the doors, stand in the yard, and say, "Go get Grady, go on, get Grady." With perfect understanding, Izzy would run back into the house and out would run Grady following her. She was his security blanket, and to be truthful, I'm not sure how I would have handled him if she had not been part of the picture.

Soon, Grady was following Izzy to the fence where Izzy's best friend lived: Kaycee. No, she is not a dog but the cutest little girl in the universe! Kaycee would visit Izzy almost everyday at the fence when returning from school. Usually, she would have her afternoon snack in her hand, and Izzy was on point to get any tidbits that Kaycee offered. One day, Kaycee arrived with Cheetos. Grady inched up one brave step at a time and finally, made it to the fence--- reaching, reaching, reaching--- stretching his body as far as possible in order to get his Cheeto from Kaycee. Immediately, he turned around and ran for cover; but I knew instantly that we had crossed a huge boundary.

As you may know, stressed dogs will rarely take treats. Therefore, I was finding it increasingly difficult to reward my sweet boy for "desired" courage. Thanks to Kaycee and Cheetos, Grady is on the road to recovery. Now, when I need Grady to be very very very brave, the Cheetos come out. It is hilarious to watch him stick his little tongue out to get his Cheeto while his eyes are darting around searching for humans to avoid. Now that Grady is well into his "human" desensitization training, I realize that Plum Creek is the best environment for him, instead of the worst. Fortunately, hardly a day goes by that he does not hear or see a human. The neighborhood has successfully contributed to his new found confidence. We are not ready for the dog park yet; but who knows, if Kaycee is there with Cheetos, he may walk through those gates!!!!

*Note to dog owners: Dr. Bryant has given the ok for "occasional" Cheetos for Grady—not to be used regularly for doggie treating.*



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## FOURTH OF JULY REMINDERS

### PLUM CREEK'S ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION ON MONDAY, JULY 4TH!

Come out for our annual 4th of July Parade and Picnic! The fun happens on Monday, July 4th from 10:00 am to Noon. Decorate those wagons, strollers, bikes, and scooters and come out to march with your neighbors in the parade. If you don't want to decorate your stuff or walk, please come out and cheer on those in the parade, it is a sight to see!

The Parade will start at the corner of Witte and Negley and continue down Witte to McNaughton Park with the picnic to follow. Bring the whole family and enjoy the fun. Lunch will be served but bring blankets and lawn chairs. Don't forget the swimsuits and sunscreen, as we will have a waterslide to help keep you cool. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Brandee at [recreation@plumcreektxhoa.com](mailto:recreation@plumcreektxhoa.com) or 512-557-2728.



The City of Kyle has increased fines for fireworks, which are now \$500 to \$2000. Plus, with our drought, fireworks could prove especially unsafe.

### CITY OF KYLE'S INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION FIREWORKS

Join in the celebration of Independence Day this July 4th as the City of Kyle once again has planned for a spectacular fireworks show, which will start about 9:30PM

Due to limited space at Gregg-Clarke Park, the fireworks show has moved this year to the Plum Creek Golf Course's Practice/Driving Range. Before it gets dark on July 4th, find a safe and secure location around the Hays CISD Performing Arts Center (PAC) or anywhere around the intersection of Fm 1626 and Kohler's Crossing. The show can even be seen from the parking lots around Subway, What-A-Burger and Kohl's.

*Please use extreme caution in parking on the street's right of way and no alcohol is permitted at the PAC or on school property*<http://www.cityofkyle.com/recreation/independence-day-celebration-fireworks-show-0>

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## JUNE 2011 YARD OF THE MONTH

*1st Place: 5312 Hartson*  
*2nd Place: 242 Cleveland*  
*3rd Place: 1285 Fairway*

In addition to the winners, we'd like to make note of all of the nominations received and homes judged, which included the following homes: 288 Caraway, 222 Cleveland, 131 Decker, 5911 Hartson, 357 Haupt, 2193 Herzog, 606 Hogan, 113 Horton, 4332 Mather, 277 McGarity, 5913 McNaughton, 162 Mendez Loop, 6257B Negley, 125 Polk, 733 Sampson, 632 Scheel, 230 Skinner, 241 Skinner, 266 Skinner, 280 Skinner, 109 Steele, 5912 Steiner, 110B Utterback, 163 Wetzel, 211 Wetzel, 239 Witte, and 126 Zapalac

Some of the homes were works in progress, but if you've been working hard, your neighbors have noticed and nominated you. **So, good job!** The Plum Creek Landscape Committee would like to congratulate all of the winners and all of the nominations for a job well done. Nominees, keep up the good work for next year. You're on our "short list" for next year. Of course, we'll be looking for more nominations and thanks for a TERRIFIC Yard of the Month season. Plum Creek gets more beautiful all the time!



*Congratulations*  
*5312 Hartson!*



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Starting Soon: Men's Anger Management,  
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**WATCH LIVE services Sunday mornings**

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## AT THE FENCE

### CITY OF KYLE WATER RESTRICTIONS: STAGE 2 IN EFFECT

As of June 1st, Kyle water customers must comply with Stage Two Water Restrictions. These restrictions tighten up on most outdoor uses of water, but retain a twice a week watering schedule. This schedule may be updated to once per week as conditions warrant. Complete information on the status of water management in the City of Kyle is available on the City's web site at <http://www.cityofkyle.com/>.

### RAIN BARRELS AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER

As of June, the Community Center has two brand new rain barrels to use! Big thanks to Plum Creek resident Mary Halenza of Lone Star Barrels for the donation and for painting them to match the building, too! Thank you, Mary!

### 6TH ANNUAL HILL COUNTRY KIDS & FAMILY TRI

On Saturday, July 23rd, this great race returns to Plum Creek. It begins at 7am, and the event will use many parts of Plum Creek, including several streets and McNaughton Pool. So, please watch for small runners and bikers this morning. More information will be provided as the event near via the eNews and other outlets.

### NO TODDLER TIME IN JULY

Toddler Time is taking a break in July, but it'll be back in August for a Pool Day! See you then!

### AGGIES OF HAYS COUNTY UNITE: BBQ SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER ON AUGUST 14TH

The Hays County A & M Mom's Club is hosting a BBQ Fundraiser Sunday, August 14th at Old Town Texas in Kyle from 12 to 3pm that will serve to bring Past, Current and Future Aggies (and their friends and families) together! Our goal is to raise \$5000 to \$10,000 for scholarships through our sponsorships, donations of items for auction, and ticket sales. We know we can achieve this goal with your help. Pre-sale tickets are \$8.00 for students or \$12.00 adults or can be purchased at the door for \$10.00 for students and \$15.00 for adults. Sponsorships range from \$100 to \$1000+. Silent auction items are need, such as Aggie Collectables, art work, gift certificates, travel, services and more. Any gift you can give will be greatly appreciated. Interested in sponsorships, tickets, or donations? Contact Cindy Taylor at [Cindy.taylor98@yahoo.com](mailto:Cindy.taylor98@yahoo.com) or 512-847-9914 OR Shawna Mayerson at [mayersons@hayscisd.net](mailto:mayersons@hayscisd.net) or 512-965-8989



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# PLUM CREEK PRESS

## TRASH CANS, TRASH CANS, TRASH CANS...

With three trash cans now, many residents are struggling with how to stow them. The actual deed restriction can be found below: However, rules can be difficult to interpret, so here are some general guidelines.

- 1. The trash cans should be out of the alley paving. They cannot rest on the strip between your fence and the alleyway paving.
- 2. The trash cans should be screened from view with either a fence, lattice, or even, plants. Of course, when trying to hide the trash cans, priority would be given to the front of the home (and side of the home when a corner lot). In other words, it's more important to hide them from the street view than the alley view, but ideally, the receptacles should be screened from all streets and alleys.
- 3. They should be neatly stowed
- 4. They cannot reside in the driveway.



**3.13 Rubbish and Debris.** No rubbish or debris of any kind shall be placed or permitted to accumulate upon the Property and no odors shall be permitted to arise therefrom so as to render the Property or any portion thereof unsanitary, unsightly, offensive or detrimental to any other property or to its occupants. Refuse, garbage and trash shall be kept at all times in covered containers and such containers shall be kept within enclosed structures or appropriately screened from view or in the area(s) designated for such purposes on the house plan approved by the Architectural Review Committee for such Lot.

If you have decided that you just cannot deal with three cans, you can contact TDS at 1-800-375-8375. They will collect them. However, you will still pay for the service via your garbage bill, even if you use only 1 trash can.

If you feel that you cannot comply with these guidelines due to the layout of your driveway, home, etc. and want to keep all three receptacles, you can seek an exception from the ARC by filing the appropriate paperwork.

If you have questions or need clarification on your trash can situation, you can contact Kristi at the HOA office at 512-262-1140.



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*Event Winners*

...can be found at [www.plumcreektxhoa.com](http://www.plumcreektxhoa.com) and in future PC Press editions, as space allows. - Thanks!

## HOA OFFICE MOVING

The on-site HOA office will be moving toward the end of the summer. The exact moving date is not yet known. The new office address will be 4100 Everett, Suite 150. The office will be next door to Plum Fit in the Uptown District across from the Plum Creek Golf Club. Additional details will be announced as they become available.

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### **July – August 2011 The Hospital at Westlake Medical Center Flamingo Sale to Benefit Colin's Hope!**

When the beloved garden center, Pots & Plants closed its doors- several flamingos were injured in the move. You can help them return for the best care in town at The Hospital at Westlake by donating \$15. ALL profit in June, July and August benefits Colin's Hope. You can add to The Hospital at Westlake's flock, or start your own flock at home. Visit [www.westlakemedical.com](http://www.westlakemedical.com) for more details or stop in The Hospital's Waterfall Café, 5656 Bee Caves Road, Building L, level 3 to sponsor your flamingo. Spread the word on Facebook and raise even more funds for Colin's Hope.



### **August 28th 3rd Annual Colin's Hope Kids Triathlon**

Athletes ages 5-15, mark your calendars for August 28th. Our Kids Triathlon will once again take place in the Lake Pointe neighborhood. NEW this year are athlete training clinics sponsored by Austin Cycle Camp, Jack & Adams and Nitro Swimming. Go online to register at [www.colinshope.org](http://www.colinshope.org).

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