

The Caddie

September 2011

Volume 5, Issue 9

Official Publication of the Forest Creek Homeowners Association

DON'T LEAVE IT, BAG IT!

THE F.C. YAHOO GROUP DISCUSSES A PET PEEVE!

Hi All, just joined the group and I would like to ask is anyone else fed up with the amount of dog poop on the sidewalks. I walk everyday and have done for the last 7 years. It has never been so bad. Now someone near Hilton head and Harvey Penick has decided that it was too much trouble to carry his/her bag of poop around. There are two there this week, it is not the gardeners job to collect them. I think if we see people doing this we should ask them not to. I put a piece into the Caddie for next month. Hopefully the more we voice it the more people will clean up after their dogs....

THE ARTICLE....

Hi Neighbors, am a Forest Creek resident and I walk morning and night in our lovely neighborhood. I am writing to the Caddie today to hope to get the attention of some other walkers. In particular you who walk dogs and neglect to clean up after them. I recently began to notice more and more dog poop in the area and now another observation, bagging the poop and leaving it on the grass near the sidewalk! I personally think this is a horrible habit. I know for sure it is against our HOA rules, not to mind Round Rock Ordinances. Please be respectful of you other neighbors and be responsible dog owners. Bag your dog's poop, if you forget a bag there is plenty provided by the Association in various places and when you bag it take it home with you or find a proper place to dispose of it! I have attached the following rules from the Round Rock code of ordinances:

Public nuisance animal means any animal that unreasonably annoys humans, endangers the life or health of persons or other animals, or substantially interferes with the rights of citizens, other than their owners, to enjoyment of life or property. The term "public nuisance animal" shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Any animal that is found running at large more than three times in a 12-month period;

2. Any dog in a park or public recreation area unless the dog is controlled by a leash or similar physical restraint;
3. Any animal that damages, soils, defiles, or defecates on any property other than that of its owner;
4. Any animal that makes disturbing noises, including but not limited to continued and repeated howling, barking, whining, or other utterances causing unreasonable annoyance, disturbance, or discomfort to neighbors or others in close proximity to the premises where the animal is kept or harbored;

PLEASE, LET'S MAKE THIS A CLEAN NEIGHBORHOOD TO WALK!!

Niamh Fogarty.

RESPONCES FROM THE FOREST CREEK YAHOO GROUP.....

When walking my dog (with a baggie in-pocket!), I see horrendous amounts of uncollected dog refuse all throughout the subdivision. It's reprehensible that people don't pick up their pets' messes.

Join the Choir. I am a dog owner myself and find it very irritating that other dog owners cannot take less than 5 seconds to clean-up after their dogs. Usually the poop left on the sidewalk is from a large dog which makes it even worse. There's no excuse when there are Waste Bag stations every 1/4 of a mile. Not sure of the solution other than making sure we as a community ensure other dog-owners are called out when caught in the action. (Of course politely.)

I agree. People who own pets need to clean up after them and that includes the common grounds too!!

I once wanted to suggest that people

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Don't Leave It! - (Cont. from Cover Page)

who witness violators take a photo/picture but this is not considered PC. What's not PC is having disregard for everyone else in the community.

Cats are also a problem. People let their cats roam the streets and turn my garden into a litter box that stinks to high heaven. I've caught the cats in the act but they are too quick to catch and just run away. I'm considering renting a trap and when I catch the cat(s), turning them over to the humane society or if they have a tag on them, calling the owner and have them come pick up their little furry friend.

These animals' droppings breed disease and rodents. Owners should be fined for these offenses. My two cents...

My front yard usually has several piles each week and there is a poop bag dispenser immediately across the street from my corner yard. It would seem people would care about their neighbors a little more than they do.

register at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/forestcreekroundrock/> to read current and past posts and air your opinions and advice concerning this and other important issues, concerns and events happening right here in Forest Creek. Don't be the last to know what's going on, REGISTER TODAY!



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MANAGERS CORNER

The City of Round Rock has provided all of you with new trash cans, and although the city has been generous in the size it has become very inconvenient for many of you to put them in your garage or out of view. For those of you who are having difficulty finding a way to store the trash cans in a concealed location as required by the Deed Restrictions (Article III, paragraph 3.4 below), the Forest Creek Board of Directors would like to encourage you to install landscaping or a fencing screen on the side of the house to create a screened location to store the trash cans. This fencing screen addition must go through the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) and must meet the ARC guidelines, but, the ARC will make every effort to help our homeowners meet this deed restriction and keep our neighborhood looking great.

You can find the guidelines and request form at the Forest Creek Website www.forestcreekhoa.org, or email us at kh@centexmanagement.com so we may provide you with the proper

forms. We realize the inconvenience this has caused all of you, and would like to assist in helping you stay within the Forest Creek Deed Restrictions.

Please consider your neighbors as leaving trash cans and bags at the street brings unwanted guests into the neighborhood such as larger birds, pests and even rodents.

3.4 RUBBISH & DEBRIS. Refuse, garbage and trash shall be kept at all time in covered containers and such containers shall be kept within enclosed structures or appropriately screened from view, except for the 24 hour period beginning at 8:00 pm on the day before a scheduled trash pick up and ending at 8:00 pm on the day of a scheduled trash pick up.

Please feel free to contact me anytime regarding any issues within the Forest Creek Community, I welcome your suggestions, comments and concerns.

Sincerely,

Kerri Hebert

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IS THE U.S.A. A SOCIALIST COUNTRY?

Most people would say the United States is a democracy, but it isn't. Can you describe what type of government system we have? The Founding Fathers said they gave us a Republic, a nation of laws that protect the rights of the individual to be free to pursue his or her dreams. The U.S. Constitution was designed to create a republic, with clear limitations on federal power, distributed authority through the three branches, checks and balances on the use and abuse of power, and democratically elected representatives to speak for the people. In a democracy the most popular group can change or even abolish the laws when they become the majority, but it is the enduring laws protecting the freedom of the individual that make us a republic. Early in the 20th century presidents and congress alike began a long march towards federal level centralized planning and control over the states and citizens with the government reaching far into the lives of every citizen. Both political parties have contributed to this march to a more expansive federal government and more central planning, both through amendments to the Constitution and by ignoring the limits placed on the federal government.

Are we free to pursue our dreams without interference from the government today? Do government programs, regulations and taxes interfere with that pursuit? In the name of the public good the

government has created laws, taxes and programs that have become deeply rooted in everyday life. Our government uses taxpayer-funded grants and incentives to tell farmers what to grow, people what to eat, support artists, and subsidize this or that business or cause. The tax code manipulates individual and corporate behavior for everything from giving to charity or buying solar panels to converting corn to ethanol to burn in our cars through subsidy or tax deductions.

What is socialism? In the extreme it is almost communism; the "public" (i.e., the government) owns and operates all the forms of production of goods and services. Everyone works for the government. In lesser versions practiced to varying degrees by most European countries, it is the government nationalizing many public services and making sure everyone has a minimum standard of living, to include shelter, a job, food, and money for anything else deemed at the time as necessary for that minimum standard. We have all heard the cry to tax the rich to feed the poor. Over the decades our elected representatives have voted for more and more taxes and government programs aimed at making sure every citizen achieves an ever rising minimum standard of living.

To fund the federal government's expanding goals a constitutional

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Socialist Country? (Continued from Page 4)

amendment creating the income tax was sold to the public on the promise of only taxing the rich and with a top rate of 3%. Social Security was sold as a program to make sure old folks with no family or money who could not work, would not starve to death in the street, a clear act of compassion, but administered at the federal level, not the community level. In later years, it was sold as the government forcing us to invest in our own "retirement fund" through taxation as they steadily raised the taxation rates. Clearly, some of the people could not be trusted to plan for themselves, in the opinion of the politicians. The families, churches and communities could also not be trusted to care for such people. Over time, more government programs to "care" for the citizens: welfare, food stamps, subsidized housing, Medicare, Medicaid, education, transportation, communications, the arts, food production, and banking. And the list goes on. Now we add to this list the Affordable Care Act to provide guaranteed health care for all....and to pay for all this, more federal taxes and more national debt on our children.

Where are we on the sliding scale from individual responsibility with the freedom of a limited-government republic, to the total government control of communism? Socialism has many degrees of governmental intervention, but all of them take away from individual

responsibility and opportunity. After all, to be free to choose also needs to include the responsibility for the choices made. If there is a government provided safety net for bad financial or health choices, then people are encouraged to take greater risks. This choice of a government safety net or personal responsibility applies to the individual as well as the large corporations currently being bailed out by our government.

How far down the path of socialism have we come, and how much further can we go before we lose all personal freedom and become slaves to the will of the central planners? Should the federal government tax the hard working citizen of today and put debt on future generations to pay for someone else's risky behavior, bad choices, laziness or unfortunate circumstances? Whether that choice was to invest their retirement fund in the stock market, take out a second mortgage to pay for current living expenses, or banks issuing mortgages or credit cards to people who couldn't possibly afford to pay them back, the question of who lives with the consequences of those decisions is at the heart of the problems being discussed today in Washington. That question is at the heart of the financial problems in our federal and local governments, and it needs to be at the heart of

(Continued on Page 6)

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The Caddie

Socialist Country? (Continued from Page 5)

discussions around the dinner table and at the local gathering place. Does the social safety net belong at the political and bureaucratic federal level, or is it better served and administered at the local family, church, charity and community level? Does the federal government even have the constitutional authority to provide such a safety net? Should some people be forced to pay for other people's failed choices or unfortunate circumstances, or should individuals have to live with the choices they made and family and local communities deal with the unfortunate circumstances? And how far does that safety net reach: government checks for indefinite unemployment, college, transportation, phones, computers, internet, television?

The United States of America is at a critical junction of our history. Are we going to continue this path of central planning by charismatic politicians who think they know best how we should live and prosper? Are we going to continue to elect people who make the best campaign promises, but who do what they or their party wants once in office? Or do we return to the principals of individual freedom, personal responsibility, limited government, and a system of enduring laws that protect those freedoms for our children? The choice can still be ours by getting involved and educated on the topics, speaking out to your representatives and by choosing wisely and voting in the 2012 elections. Unless we wake up now, the choice will be made for us.

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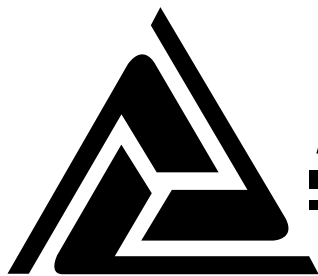


THANK HEAVEN For Ms. Angel

One of the best things about my summer break is spending Tuesdays and Thursdays with an Angel. My mom has been bringing us here (Forest Creek Young Explorers) for the last three summers. Many of my friends either stay home with their parents or are taken by their parents to daycares. But this daycare is like no other!! My best friends: Brandon, Sonya, Layla, Amanda, Jessica, Michael, Nicole, & Wyatt, as well as my cousin Katja and my brother David, and I meet at Ms. Angels for an awesome day. Ms. Angel greets us every morning with hugs and kisses making each one of us feel super special. She gives us lots of love. We hang out and play with all her toys (and there's A LOT of them) till snack time. My mom always knows what we are having for snacks and lunches since Ms. Angel gives all moms a menu of what we will be eating that week. For snacks she always gives us something yummy and organic. Then it's back to play time. Since I get to play with all of my best friends the time goes by super fast. Before I know it, it's lunchtime. Like snacks, lunch is nutritious and healthy and never out of a can. I'm usually amazed when I see my friends eating their veggies and cleaning their plates clean of food at Ms. Angel's when I have never seen them eat that same food anywhere else! I think this is because of our Newman-O'. You see, we get one special organic cookie (it's like an Oreo) if we finish our food. After more play time, we do art. Ms. Angel always comes up with creative ideas and projects to do. Before we leave for the day, we do cleanup. Then one by one, moms come by to pick us up. By this time I'm exhausted but I have lots of stories to tell my mom of all of the fun things we did that day. Before we leave, we usually leave with a toy in hand. Ms. Angel has a toy library. She lets us borrow any toy that we want so we can play with it at home. Best of all, I like going to Ms. Angel's because she gives me lots of love and she does an excellent job taking care of me. I told my mom "I'm still going when I'm 15!!"

By Ismael Garudo





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The Caddie

JULY BLIND WINE TASTING

More than 35 people enjoyed eighteen different red wines from South America at the home of Kate and Gary Beetley on July 16. Believe it or, not out of eighteen bottles of wine, there were no duplicates, so we all had a great variety of wines to enjoy.

The evening started out with several couples taking Kate and Gary up on their gracious invitation to come and eat before the tasting – about fifteen people brought meat to grill and a side dish or salad, so we all enjoyed plenty of good food. By the time everyone ate and the area was cleaned up, people were arriving for the tasting.

As I said, the wine was to be any dry, red wine from South America. We had malbecs, merlots, cabernets, and blends – quite a variety! The winning wine was a 2008 malbec from the Trapiche vineyard in the Mendoza province of Argentina, which is the home of close to 50% of the malbec vineyards. This winery is heavy into biodynamics -- everything is natural and they forbid the use of chemicals, herbicides and fungicides. The only fertilizers allowed are the vegetal and animal wastes from a biodynamic farm. All the work in the vineyards is planned taking into account the different moon phases and the stellar dynamics, assuming the moon cycles and the position of other planets influence the vines, as happens with the tides. (Okay, we didn't know this when we were doing the tasting, but the Internet is a wonderful tool!!)

The winning wine was the first wine tasted, which is usually NOT how things turn out!

The wine winning second place was a 2020 Frontera cabernet-merlot blend, brought by Al and Angel Donato. Third place went to the 2009 Terrazos malbec brought by Steven and Raquel Bernstein.

For those considering maybe wanting to buy a bottle of the winning wine, here is a picture of the label (always helps me to know what I'm looking for!). And Javier said this is definitely NOT a "purse breaking" wine – costs less than \$9 at HEB. So, it's something we can all definitely enjoy!

It was difficult getting a picture of everyone ... but those who were there at the end gathered on the Beetley staircase, and I tried to take a picture of the group. Don't know if it was me (and the wine) or my camera, but I couldn't get everyone in ... so – here's a picture showing MOST everyone who sat ... except poor Hampton

who was way at the bottom ... but I got another picture with him and Melodee Hinkley, so he didn't escape after all!

Our next tasting is scheduled for September 17, 2011, at the home of Jay and Lora Weber, which is located at 1902 Mulligan Drive, and the wine of the month is Riesling – white wine -- which should go very well with the hot weather! Please RSVP directly to Lora at 512-423-8263 or lora.h.weber@gmail.com.



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ATTENTION!

TEENAGE JOB SEEKERS LIST UPDATE

It has been brought to my attention that over 70% of the teenage job seekers list needs to be updated, many are now older, some have moved out of the neighborhood and others have changed their phone numbers or have gotten new certifications. The most efficient way to revamp this list will be to scrap it and start over! Beginning with the October Issue Only those listings that were submitted since Jan. 1st 2011 will be included in the list. Anyone on the list prior to that will have to resubmit their name and information by the 9th of Sept. to be included in the Oct. Issue! All subsequent issues will include only info submitted after 1/1/2011 and before the 9th of the month prior to publication. Going forward, I ask that everyone on the list inform of us of any changes in your information as soon as they occur, so we can avoid this problem in the future!

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Pack 404 is the Cub Scout Pack serving the Forest Creek Elementary area, sponsored by First Baptist in Round Rock. Last year, our pack of over 100 boys had a great fall selling popcorn, camping at Lake Belton, and racing Cub Cars while celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. Over 20 boys were awarded their Arrow of Light in December and crossed over into Boy Scouts. Last spring we raced pinewood derby cars, camped out at Stillhouse Hollow Lake, and visited the USS Lexington. Over the summer, many of our scouts attended summer camp and spent a "Night at the Museum" at the Dallas Museum of Nature and Science.

We have a great 2011-2012 year planned with popcorn, campouts, pinewood derby, and lots of other great events where boys can enjoy time with friends and family while learning core values and skills that will last a lifetime. Our first pack meeting will be Thursday, September 8th at 6:45pm at the Forest Creek Elementary cafeteria. All boys in the 1st through 5th grade are welcome to join the pack. For more information about pack 404 or Cub Scouts, please visit www.bsapack404.com or www.bsacac.org. You may also call Wally Pilcher, Committee Chair, at 512-388-1489.

WANTED

COMMUNITY ARTICLES FOR THE CADDIE

Articles based on The Forest Creek Community experience are being sought for future editions of the Caddie. This is the perfect opportunity for residents to recognize an accomplishment of a friend or family member, express their opinions of our community, share information about clubs they may have formed that are open to other residents or reveal some little known history about our community! Notify all the scouting groups that their input is very welcome also! All articles, photos and inquiries should be sent to MyEnergyAngel@aol.com.

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Karen Halsema

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JOIN US IN HAVING A SAFE SUMMER IN THE WATER!



September 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 July, August and September 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 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!



OurGift.Org™

September 2011 - Sign up for Ourgift and Colin's Hope will receive donations during September!

OurGift.Org™ has chosen Colin's Hope as one of the charities that will benefit from donations in September. Please visit www.ourgift.org to learn more and sign up to receive the daily deals from local businesses. It's a great way to help prevent childhood drowning! You get a great deal, a local business is supported and Colin's Hope will get a donation!



October 1 - Colin's CrossFit Challenge

CrossFit Lakeway is hosting a community event from 8:00am-10:00am at BACKWOODS in the Hill Country Galleria to benefit Colin's Hope. The Crossfit Challenge will be open to all fitness levels. There are Beginner / Intermediate / Advanced divisions and prizes will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place in each division. Registration is \$30. For more information or to sign up, please visit www.crossfitlakeway.com or call 512-689-3798. Help us Prevent Drowning...One workout at a time!

Download a
QRcode App
on your phone
& scan me!



Children who drown often do not **scream, splash, or struggle**. They can silently slip beneath the water, even with adults & lifeguards present.