



PRESS

The Official Newsletter of the
Plum Creek Homeowner Association

October 2011
Volume 2, Issue 10

October 8th



MORE EVENTS ADDED TO HOOTENANNY ON THE HILL ON OCTOBER 8TH

The Hootenanny on the Hill is something you won't want to miss! It encompasses the 6th Annual Wildflower Seed & Stomp, the Annual Pet Fair, and the 5th Annual BBQ & Chili Cook-off. Mark your calendars for October 8th and start preparing your recipes, grooming your dogs, and saving old clothes for making scarecrows. The entire event runs from 10AM to 2PM.

New events include Pumpkin Carving Contest, Star Dogs Talent Show, 5K and Fun Run, Pup Trot, lots of new Pet Events (see below), Washers Tournament, and Horseshoes Tournament. In addition to the events mentioned above and below, some old favorites return of petting zoo, pony rides, trackless train, lots of vendors, and more!

6TH ANNUAL WILDFLOWER SEED & STOMP EVENTS:

- Scarecrow Contest
- Photos by the Hay Bale Critters
- Hay Rides
- Pinecone Birdfeeders
- Pumpkin Decorating Contest (NEW!), Entries Due by Noon.
- All events are located at Fairway Fields. Email Christina Baese at announcements@plumcreekxthoa.com with any questions.

PLUM CREEK PET FAIR EVENTS:

- 10:00 am Announcements
- 10:30 am Child Safety Demonstration brought to you by Pet Eden
- 11:00 am Costume Contest (Prizes Awarded) AND Pup Trot following costume contest (prizes for "best pup trotter")
- 12:00 pm Star Dogs Talent Show (Prizes Awarded)

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Road Closure on October 8th

On Saturday, October 8th, a section of Fairway from Hartson to Haupt will be closed for the Hootenanny on the Hill event. We have events on either side of Fairway, and the 5K, 1K, and Pup Trot will start/end in this location. We do not want anyone to dart out from behind a parked car and be hit crossing the street, especially children or four-legged friends. So, for safety's sake, this area in front of Fairway Fields and Fergus Soccer Fields will be closed from 6AM to 4PM. You will be able to go around Fergus Park to rejoin Fairway, but if possible, it is best to seek alternative routes on this day during this time. Thank you!

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Hootenanny...- (Continued from Cover Page)

- 12:30 pm Demonstration from Daniel Casas Discovery Channel's "Hogs Gone Wild"

- 1:30 pm Conclusion and Announcement of Winners

Ongoing Events from 10:00am to 1:30 pm: Doggie Cake Walk, Muffin Eating Contest, Killer Cute Cat Kodak Moment Photo Contest, Face Painting and Balloon Animal Booth, Happy Trails Scavenger Challenge, and Silent Auction. The Tailwagger Sponsors are Plum Creek Veterinary Hospital and Kyle Animal Hospital.

All events are located at the Dog Park and Fairway Fields. Proceeds benefit the beautification of the Dog Park. For more information, contact Gary and Cindy Kennedy at dogpark@plumcreektxhoa.com.

5TH ANNUAL BBQ AND CHILI COOK-OFF INFORMATION AND EVENTS:

- BBQ & Chili Cook-Off: The BBQ competition is IBCA Sanctioned with categories for chicken, brisket, pork spare ribs, and cook's choice. The chili event is IBCA or CASI Sanctioned. Other categories include beans, potato salad, and desserts! Prize awarded for best cook site. Entry fees range from \$15 to \$25. Forms due October 1st. Check-in Friday, October 7th at 6PM.
- 5K and 1K Fun Run (NEW!), Starts at 7AM
- Washers Tournament (NEW!), Starts at 11AM, Coordinated by Shock Dance
- Horseshoes Tournament (NEW!), Starts at 11AM, , Coordinated by Shock Dance

All events held at the Plum Creek Community Center and Fergus Soccer Fields. Email recreation@plumcreektxhoa.com with any questions.

Vendors and Sponsors: If selling pet related products, email Gary and Cindy at dogpark@plumcreektxhoa.com. For selling all other products, email Christina Baese at announcements@plumcreektxhoa.com. If interested in sponsorships, email Brandee Otto at recreation@plumcreektxhoa.com

More information and entry forms provided via the PC eNews, www.hootenannyonthehill.com or friend us on Facebook. As always, volunteers are needed and appreciated at all HOA events! Come for the fun!

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Hoot Contests on October 8th

More Contests Added!

• **6th Annual Scarecrow Contest:** Open to residents of all ages! Organizations, neighbors, & classes join in the fun with two ways to enter: Create early and drop off at Negley's atrium by Friday, October 7th or create/drop off on Saturday, October 8th at the event. If you build one at the event, some hay and frames will be provided. Just bring clothes and props. Remember, only homegrown scarecrows!

Prizes awarded for the Most BEAUTIFUL, Most HUMOROUS, Most TRADITIONAL, Most CREATIVE/ORIGINAL, and maybe, one or two more categories depending on the creative entries! The scarecrows will be judged and photographed at day's end and remain at Negley Garden until 10/31 or until bad weather/damage forces their removal. Let's create a family of scarecrows in PC! Email announcements@plumcreektxhoa.com with questions.

• **Pumpkin Decorating Contest:** Open to residents of all ages! Organizations, neighbors, & classes join in the fun and bring your pumpkin already decorated and carved to Fairway Fields by Noon. Put your name, address, and phone number on the bottom of the pumpkin.

Prizes awarded for the Most BEAUTIFUL, Most HUMOROUS,

Most TRADITIONAL, Most CREATIVE/ORIGINAL, and maybe, one or two more categories depending on the creative entries! The pumpkins will be judged and photographed by 2pm and ready to take home at that time. Email announcements@plumcreektxhoa.com with questions.

• **Washers Tournament:** A double elimination washers tournament will be held on Saturday, October 8th as part of the Hootenanny on the Hill events. Check-in at 11am. For all the details and forms, visit www.hootenannyonthehill.com or email recreation@plumcreektxhoa.com.

• **Horseshoes Tournament:** A double elimination horseshoes tournament will be held on Saturday, October 8th as part of the Hootenanny on the Hill events. Check-in at 11am. For all the details and forms, visit www.hootenannyonthehill.com or email recreation@plumcreektxhoa.com.

• **Star Dogs:** Does your dog have a talent????? Let Plum Creek see and at enter into the First Annual "STAR DOGS" at the Plum Creek Pet Fair. Prizes awarded. Anything goes: dancing, fetching,

(Continued on Page 5)

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UPCOMING EVENTS

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE ON OCTOBER 1ST:

The Fall Community Wide Garage Sale is October 1st. Start cleaning out those closets and mark those calendars!

National Night Out is October 4th:

Email Wyana Eddleman at safety@plumcreektxhoa.com to get involved!

HOOTENANNY ON THE HILL IS OCTOBER 8TH FROM 10AM TO 2PM:

See articles throughout the Press for details!

Movie in the Park on October 8th:

Watch Spooky Buddies on October 8th at dusk at Fergus Park. The movie stars Harland Williams, Sierra McCormick, and Elisa Donovan (Walt Disney, Directed by Robert Vince, Rated G, 2011). Storyline: It's Halloween and the mysterious mansion across town is the scene of some very spooky action. With the help of some unexpected new friends, join Disney's irresistible talking puppies as they work together to save the world from Warlock the Magician's dastardly deeds.

SIP & SEW ON OCTOBER 11TH:

The Sip and Sew ladies are a lovely group, always very busy sipping and sewing! Members are willing to share their talents of knitting, fabric sewing, needle point, quilting, punch needle and rug hooking to name a few. Members are working on holiday projects now. Remember, the second Tuesday of every month, we gather at the Haupt Community Center from 6:30 to 9:00pm. For info, contact Pam Chapman (512.656.6050), Iris Sandle (512.405.0054), or Sandra Sigler (512.405.0187).

KYLE'S PUMPKIN PATCH RETURNS OCTOBER 12TH:

The Kyle United Methodist Church is hosting the only Kyle pumpkin patch again this year. (They hosted the Plum Creek one for 3 years.) The patch is located on the front lawn of the church on 408 W. Lockhart Street (located a half block away from the Kyle

Library). They will have plenty of places set up for you to take your family pumpkin patch photos, and they promise to have the maze set up, as well as fun things for kiddos to do. Photos and events are free, but if you'd like to take a pumpkin home, please bring a little cash. The patch will be open from Sunday, October 12th through October 30th. Hours: M-F, 2:30 to dusk, Saturday from 9a to dusk, and Sunday from noon to dusk

SCRAPBOOK NIGHT IS OCTOBER 14TH:

See At the Fence for all the details!

TODDLER TIME ON OCTOBER 20TH:

Join us for Toddler Time on October 20th for some Halloween carnival fun! Bring the tots dressed in their Halloween costumes, as we'll award some prizes, too! Some snacks and drinks provided too! Geared toward the 3 and under crowd. Meet at 10:00AM at the Plum Creek Community Center at 450 Haupt. **Email Christina with questions or RSVP at announcements@plumcreektxhoa.com.** We want to have enough for all of the kiddos!

OCTOBER 29TH MARKS THE 1ST ANNUAL SPOOK-TACULAR AT THE PLUM CREEK GOLF CLUB:

Plum Creek Golf Club is excited to partner with The American Cancer Society in hosting a Halloween Costume and Casino Nights party. Doors open at 5:30pm with games from 6pm to 10pm and costume contest a 8:30pm. Game Tables include 6 blackjack, 3 Poker, 1 Craps, and 1 Roulette. Includes costume contest, prize drawing for chip leaders, free finger foods, silent auction, and cash bar. Cost is \$30 at the door, \$25 for Plum Creek HOA and \$25 advanced online booking. Register at www.plumcreekgolf.com. Pre-registration is encouraged. Questions? Call 512-262-5555 or email Marc at marcf@foresightgolf.net or Ken at kenh@foresightgolf.net.

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Hoot Contests- (Continued from Page 3)

best kisses, etc. Limit your trick to three minutes. If interested, email dogpark@plumcreektxhoa.com for details.

• **Pup Trot/Costume Contest:** The pup trot starts at 11AM with same day registration. Fees are \$5 for t-shirt or free to just run! For costume contest details, email dogpark@plumcreektxhoa.com.

• **Killer Cute Cat Kodak Moments:** Photo contest for the cat lovers. Please submit your cute cat photos to dogpark@plumcreektxhoa.com before October 8, 2011. Winner will be announced at 1:30 pm on 10/8/11.

Happy Trails Scavenger Challenge: Pick up a scavenger clue list. Visit the vendors and go to the events. Make sure you get everyone's signature. Turn your list in by 1:30 pm under the tent for a raffle drawing. Winner will be announced at 1:30 pm after the photo contest.

More information on all contests and events can be found at www.hootenannyonthehill.com.



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AT THE FENCE

Big Welcome to New Landscape Chair Suzanne Parr: As mentioned earlier this year, Suzanne Parr is taking on the role as PC's Landscape Chair. You can reach her at landscape@plumcreektxhoa.com. For a few more months, Christina Baese will stay as her Co-Chair to help through the transition and will remain in charge of the Seed & Stomp. Everyone, please give Suzanne a warm welcome as she takes on this role for our community! Thank you, Suzanne!

Calling all Scrapbookers! Do you like to scrapbook and need a group to crop with? Are you interested in scrapbooking, but don't know how or where to begin? Are you bombarded by tons of photos that you want to display creatively in albums? Would you just want to meet other ladies in the community that share your same interest and have some girl time outside of the house? Then, we have a group for you! We are starting a new MONTHLY group here in Plum Creek for Scrapbookers. You don't have to be a expert or even, extremely creative. Just come, bring some basic supplies, and photos, and join us. Here, we will bounce ideas off of each other, trade supplies, and enjoy getting to know our neighbors while hanging out with like minded crafters! We will teach you if you are interested in learning. First meeting will be on October 14th from 7PM to Midnight, then, we will meet on the first Friday of every month at the same time beginning in November. Plus, we'll have four weekend retreats in 2012, including the 2nd Friday and Saturday in January (1/13 and 1/14) and April (4/13 and 4/14) and the 1st Friday and Saturday in August (8/3 and 8/4) and October (10/5 and 10/6). All free of charge! If you are interested in learning more about this group or to get on the email list, please contact Jeannie Willis at 512.268.4130 or Jeanniemn@yahoo.com.

Expired Coupons Being Collected for Military: From Resident Angie: If you have expired manufacturers' coupons, please do not

throw them out. These coupons can be used by our military families overseas. The coupons can be up to 6 months expired when used at our overseas military bases. I would like to start a project collecting these coupons and any other coupons that you will not use to send to our military bases overseas. Email Angie at angmen2002@gmail.com for all the information about where to drop them. Harper's Fine Jewelry in Buda has also offered to be a collection point if people happen to be near there, as well.

Did you know? Many Plum Creek residents have been asking about having rain barrels, solar panels, and flag poles. However, each one has various restrictions that apply and must be approved by the ARC before placed. Restriction details and ARC forms can be found at www.plumcreektxhoa.com.

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Tips for a SAFE HALLOWEEN!

- **S**words, knives, and similar costume accessories should be short, soft, and flexible.
- **A**void trick-or-treating alone. Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.
- **F**asten reflective tape to costumes and bags to help drivers see you.
- **E**xamine treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating. Limit the amount of treats you eat.
- **H**old a flashlight while trick-or-treating to help you see and others see you.
- **A**lways test make-up in a small area first. Remove it before bedtime to prevent skin and eye irritation.
- **L**ook both ways before crossing the street. Use established crosswalks wherever possible.
- **L**ower your risk for serious eye injury by not wearing decorative contact lenses.
- **O**nly walk on sidewalks or on the far edge of the road facing traffic to stay safe.
- **W**ear well-fitting masks, costumes, and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips, and falls.
- **E**at only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats

unless you know the cook well.

- **E**nter homes only if you're with a trusted adult. Otherwise, stay outside.
- **N**ever walk near lit candles or luminaries. Be sure to wear flame-resistant costumes.

EXPECTING TRICK-OR-TREATERS OR PARTY GUESTS?

- Provide healthier treats for trick-or-treaters, such as individual packs of raisins, trail mix, or pretzels. For party guests, offer a variety of fruits, vegetables, and cheeses.
- Use party games and trick-or-treat time as an opportunity for kids to get their daily dose of 60 minutes of physical activity.
- Be sure walking areas and stairs are well-lit and free of obstacles that could result in falls.
- Keep candle-lit jack-o'-lanterns and luminaries away from doorsteps, walkways, landings, and curtains. Place them on sturdy tables, keep them out of the reach of pets and small children, and never leave them unattended.
- Remind drivers to watch out for trick-or-treaters and to drive safely.

Follow these tips to help make the festivities fun and safe for everyone!

From: www.cdc.gov/family/halloween

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Watering Stressed Trees

We have lots of stressed trees due to this drought. If you can only “save” or water one thing in your landscape during this drought, strongly consider making it your trees. Each Plum Creek home is required to have two front yard trees and one street tree, and at around \$250 to \$300 per tree, it can be a costly item to replace. So, here are some great tips for taking care of those lovely trees.

Here are some great tips taken from the The City of Austin Arborist Program: Tree Preservation and Replenishment.

The exceptional drought central Texas has experienced this year is taking its toll on trees. Many trees are showing signs of drought-related stress such as branches dying and leaves wilting, turning brown, or dropping early. Generally, healthy trees can successfully tolerate drought conditions, however newly planted trees, trees impacted by development, or trees experiencing problems with pests or disease have higher risk of decline. Supplemental watering of these trees is encouraged until the rain begins to fall more regularly.

Following are some tips on watering trees. Along with these tips it is important to keep in mind the water conservation guidelines that the City may have during various stages of drought. <http://www.cityofkyle.com/utilitybilling/water-use-restriction-information>

TREE WATERING TIPS

- How often to water? Distressed trees should be watered at least once every two weeks after the last significant rainfall.
- How much water? This general guideline can be used to determine how much water your tree needs. The tree will need about 5 gallons for each inch of trunk diameter (width across) measured at knee height. Thus, a tree with a 12” caliper or diameter would need about (5 x 12) 60 gallons of water.
- Time: When you hand water using a hose at medium pressure, it will take approximately 2.5 minutes to produce 5 gallons of water. For example, a 10” diameter tree should have a total watering time of 10” x 2.5 minutes = 25 minutes. Adjust the watering time according to the method of application. Using a drip or soaker hose will take significantly more time to release 5 gallons of water than an open hose at medium pressure. Consider performing your own experiment at home to determine your application rate! Feel

free to email us with your results.

- Methods of watering: Slower application rates are always recommended. This can be accomplished by any of the following methods. Use a slow drip out of an open ended hose or spray nozzle. Use a soaker hose. Use 5-gallon buckets or water bottles with a few ¼” holes drilled into the bottom. Fill these with water and place the over the roots of the tree.
- Deep watering, well below the soil surface is recommended. Use mulch or small berms on slopes, heavy soils (clays), and compacted soils to assure water is soaking in and not running off onto paved surfaces. Do not let water pool up. Be sure to establish a personal reminder (i.e. tie a string around your finger or use a timer) so that you do not forget that you are watering your tree.
- Where do trees need water? Try to water the soil area that is directly beneath the foliage and shaded by the tree (under the drip-line). Young trees that have been in the ground less than two years have under-developed root systems, so concentrate water near the planting area. Old, large trees should be watered within the root zone, which extends far beyond the actual tree branches.
- Avoid Water Run Off: The ground may be hard, so you might need to modify your watering approach to allow water to soak in towards the roots. Water run-off does not help your trees, wastes precious water resources, and costs you money.

HOW ELSE CAN TREES BE PROTECTED FROM DROUGHT?

Mulching trees with a three to four inch layer of hardwood mulch conserves water and decreases the amount of water that evaporates from the soil, aids in water and air penetration, and cools the soil. Keep mulch six inches away from the trunk, because mulch mounded around the trunk can lead to trunk health issues. Fertilization is not recommended during a drought.

Regular maintenance that is designed to promote tree health and vigor ensures that their health and value will continue to provide benefits for decades to come. For more information about tree care visit: www.cityofaustin.org/trees

(Continued on Page 11)



Elite BodyWorks is private fitness studio Conveniently located in Kyle by the Hays Performing Arts center. We offer quality fitness services in individual and group settings without the need for a gym membership.

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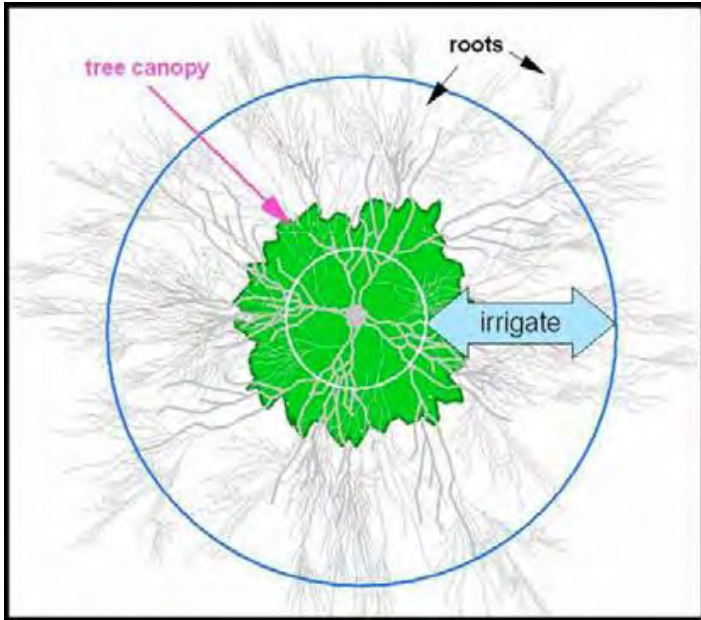
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Watering Stressed Trees - (Continued from Page 10)



SUDOKU

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6						5		3
	1				2			6

The goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each digit may appear only once in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box.

LIFE'S HEALING CHOICES

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