

The FAIR OAKS Gazette

September 2013

Volume 3 Issue 9



NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF FAIR OAKS RANCH

From the Mayor's Desk...

"Everyday is a Good Day in Fair Oaks Ranch"©

SUMMER

Summer is still ongoing and there is minimal to no rain for our area of Texas which means it is hot and dry. According to the Climate Prediction Center (<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>), we are in a persistent drought condition and will continue such. Rainfall is the

area's primary source of raw water. Our test well recorded August 22nd at 1034'; it's dropped substantially from the 1040' posted August 2nd. Continue being proactive and practice Water Conservation for your inside needs as well as outside needs.

Again, thank you to everyone for limiting outdoor irrigation beginning the evening of Monday, August 19th through Wednesday same week. The water plant power failure occurring late Sunday or early Monday combined with normal water usage over the weekend drained the storage tanks almost empty. Without your cooperation, experiencing "no water through the faucet Tuesday morning" was high as well as insufficient water reserve to handle a fire emergency. Your cooperation allowed for the storage tanks to recover steadily and quickly. All was back in appropriate working condition and Thursday citizens went back to the once a week Watering Schedule based on the last house number. Again, thank you.

TODAY IN AMERICA

A few weeks ago, the initial draft video was returned for some corrections in a couple of the photographic frames and matching of subject matter to the speaking part. We are expecting the "final draft video" back any day. At that point- assuming all is corrected- it will be approved. Then the studio will begin scheduling the television airings. Plan is to let you know when that may occur so you can tune it and watch along with the rest of America.

FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 BUDGETS

The proposed General Fund budget is based on the same property tax

rate as the previous year - .2663 cents per \$100 of property valuation that is determined by the applicable county appraisal district. The Mayor wears a number of hats to include Chief Executive Officer and Budget Officer of Fair Oaks Ranch. City Management staff understands their fiduciary responsibility as annual budgets are developed. Council exercises its fiduciary responsibility and determines final adoption of proposed General Fund budget each year. Additionally, the proposed budget for the Utilities Budget which is an enterprise entity is also adopted.

The proposed FOR General Fund and the FOR Utilities Fund Budgets are on the city website with the Mayor/Budget Officer's Executive Summary highlighting changes for the upcoming 2013-2014 Fiscal Year. The material includes city organizational chart, governmental financial definitions, etc. Two public hearings are scheduled for General Fund comments – August 28th at 3:00pm and September 11th at 6:00pm at City Hall. The proposed budgets will be agenda items at the regular monthly Council Meeting September 19th and if adopted by Council go into effect October 1, 2013. This information is posted under News Alerts on city website as well as published in the Boerne Star the week of August 19th-23rd.

AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING

As one Fiscal Year ends and another begins, City Council approved Resolutions for standard business contracts such as the City Attorney, Municipal Court Judge, City Prosecutor, City Auditor, City/Police Dispatching, Animal Boarding Facility, Street Sweeping, Pest Control, Heat/AC Maintenance Service, Health Inspections, IT Support Services and Landscaping with all effective Oct. 1, 2013.

These contracts provide a variable expense commitment versus fixed
(Continued on Page 3)

FAIR OAKS RANCH

ADVERTISING INFO

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ARTICLE INFO

The Fair Oaks Gazette is mailed monthly to all Fair Oaks Ranch area residents. Residents, community groups, churches, etc. are welcome to include information about their organizations in the newsletter. Personal news for the Stork Report, Teenage Job Seekers, recipes, special celebrations, and birthday announcements are also welcome.

To submit an article for the Fair Oaks Gazette, please email it to fairoaksranch@peelinc.com. The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the issue.

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Fire..... 911
Ambulance..... 911
Fair Oaks Ranch Police Department.....210-698-0990
Animal Control.....210-698-0990

SCHOOLS

Boerne ISDwww.boerne-isd.net
Fair Oaks Ranch Elementary210-698-1616

UTILITIES

Allied Waste Services - Garbage & Recycling.....210-648-5222
AT&T - Telephone.....800-464-7928
CPSEnergy.....(new service) 210-353-2222
.....(service trouble or repairs) 210-353-4357
Fair Oaks Ranch Utilities - Water.....210-698-7685
GVTC - Cable & Telephone800-367-4882
Pedernales Electric Co-op.....888-554-4732
Time Warner - Cable.....210-244-0500

OTHER

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.....(delivery info, stops, fuds, ect.) 830-249-9303
5837 De Zavala Rd - San Antonio, TX.....210-641-0248

OH, DEER!

DEER RESEARCH UPDATE

The researcher continued throughout the summer tracking the white-tail deer locations by sight and by transmitters. This will continue through the spring. The study needs two full seasons of breeding and birthing for adequate research data. The goal of this project is to present Texas Parks and Wildlife quantifiable data that provides for other deer management possibilities for the growing Texas urban-rural cities and communities such as Fair Oaks Ranch. Informal discussions with the researcher have most migration change of white-tail deer during the rutting (breeding) season. During the rest of the year, the researcher tends to find the transmitter deer in the same general areas suggesting that ingress and egress migration is low. The tagged deer especially females tend to stay put when birthing and raising their young. The research conclusion will provide a more concrete analysis.

More details are available at <https://sites.google.com/site/fairoaksranchdeer/home>. You can enter tracking info, too, by completing the form at "How Can You Help?" at the same site. Fun project for the children I am told!

DEER CAUTIONS

Rutting season is coming up...many of the bucks still have velvet on the sprouting antlers yet others are shedding it quickly. This is repetitive to most of you yet we have many new families moving here the past twelve months or so. Bucks become aggressive when in rut. Their primary instinct is to breed. Please stay alert and keep your distance over the next few months. Explain to your children the same; avoid any feeding as the doe in season (heat) will bring the buck(s) to the area. When the birthing begins (baby fawns) please continue your vigilance as a "mama doe protecting her fawn" is far more aggressive than any buck. Fawns are absolutely adorable... please resist touching them, moving them, etc. Call Animal Control at City Hall if any concerns.



Photo by Gail Yovanovich, July 4, 2013

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View the current issue of Fair Oaks Gazette
on the 1st day of each month at www.PEELinc.com

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From The Mayor's Desk (Continued from Cover Page)

expense with additional city staffing, city equipment, etc.

The FOR Utility company presented Water and Wastewater Fee schedule effective October 1, 2013 and Council approved it. This is the 3rd Year of the Three Year Phase-in Plan of the revised business model of the utility budgeting structure. Year 1 and 2 added approximately \$5.00 each and Year 3 is in the same range.

Public Works Department (PWD) is moving forward on two projects that Council approved as well. First one is contracting with Building Technologies Division of Siemens to perform a special audit of the City's properties, water/wastewater plants/lines, current meters, etc. The goal is to identify areas needing updating or upgrading for maximum efficiencies and financial savings. This audit will address "loss" of energy, water seepage, automatic meter readers, etc. In addition, the PWD will initiate a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) database. This is a computer software program with input/output potential data on parcel boundaries, water utilities, wastewater utilities, electric utilities and aerial imagery. The work scope for both of these PWD projects is on the city website with the August Council Agenda Meeting Notice.

The FOR Eight-Year Strategic Plan document with proposed timelines and estimated costs for each project was approved by Council.

It is understood that this is a plan dependent on annual city budget planning which includes economic issues, feasibility studies as well as needs. Each budget cycle Council must consider and approve funding sources as well as prioritizing of needs annually. Full document is on the city website.

Council reviewed and approved internal proposal to assign General Fund Reserves to specific categories: Six Month Operating Expense -

\$1,848,000, Capital Improvements - \$ 1,000,000, Legal Issues - \$50,000 and Unassigned Fund - \$260,573. Historically, the Reserves have been Unassigned. This change provides direction with monies available for such.

A Broad Scope Assessment contract was approved to have an engineer firm examine Battle Intense/Cibolo Creek drainage. The firm will conduct Hydraulic Modeling, provide Schematic Design Plan and Profile for a bridge to handle 10 Yr. Flood and a 25 Yr. Flood with Cost Estimations, include a Limited Floodplain Topographic Survey, research impeding Private Property and present related Right of Way impact. Final report is due no later than September 30, 2013. You may see surveyors plus others physically working at the site...now you know the rest of the story.

The organization of a Lifestyle Enhancement Ad-hoc Advisory Committee was discussed and approved that night as well. The primary objective of the committee is to address potential opportunities for personal outdoor recreational activities within the Fair Oaks Ranch area. It will be a proactive approach to ask the needed questions, research, study and recommend potential opportunities for the area as a whole. Anticipate more information to be made available late September/early October 2013.

We appreciate that Peel, Inc. publishes our column; I hear from many residents that they appreciate being kept in the know. The publication can also be viewed on their website the early part of the month as well as received in the mail mid-month.

Respectfully,

Cheryl Landman, Mayor

City of Fair Oaks Ranch, www.fairoaksranchtx.org



Trinity Glen Rose Groundwater Conservation District Water Conservation Audit

The sweltering days of summer are just around the corner and with increasing temperatures, come increasing pressures on our aquifers to meet water demands. Trinity Glen Rose Groundwater Conservation District (TGRGCD) would like to ask for your help in reducing that demand on groundwater. We offer a free on-site consultation to identify problem areas that could be resulting in higher water usage to home or business owners residing within our District. Following the visit, we offer recommendations to help reduce water usage both inside and outside the home and a "goody" bag full of conservation-related items, including a hose timer, moisture meter, and low-flow showerhead. We would love to work with you on conserving our water resources and helping potentially reduce your water bill as well!

To schedule a visit, give us a call at 210-698-1155!

To learn more about Trinity Glen Rose Groundwater Conservation District, please visit us at www.trinityglenrose.com.

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Local Pastor's Wives Help Raise Funds for Pregnancy Care Center

On Saturday July 27th several hundred women gathered to enjoy each other, a delicious lunch, fabulous fashions, drama and song. The Hill Country Pregnancy Care Center's annual Fashion Show was catered by Angel Food catering and featured wives of local pastors as their fashion models. They all looked lovely in fashions that were provided by Lillians, Wear its At, and Christie's. Some modeled with their children while others were accompanied by moms and grandmothers. They represented churches of many different denominations who were all united in their desire to provide services to pregnant women and their families.

Teresa Marie Santos was the lucky winner of the Americus Diamond pendant.

All services provided by the Hill Country Pregnancy Care Center are provided free of charge and include pregnancy tests, limited obstetric ultrasounds, STD testing, prenatal and parenting classes, material assistance and now child birthing classes along with free prenatal vitamins.

Anyone interested in learning more about HCPCC services, volunteering or helping to support this ministry is encouraged to call the Center at 249-9717.



Angie Brown, whose husband is Pastor Jason Brown of Nineteen:Ten Church, is shown here with her two daughters (who also modeled) and her mom.

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FINASTERIDE SAVES MEN FROM PROSTATE CANCER

A long-term follow-up to a groundbreaking study led by the director of the Cancer Therapy & Research Center confirms that a drug shown to reduce risk of prostate cancer by more than a third has no impact on lifespan but further reduces the risk of prostate cancer. Reducing the risk of prostate tumors by about 30% - and low-grade tumors by 43% - means thousands of men can avoid a cancer diagnosis and subsequent treatments that significantly affect quality of life, said Ian M. Thompson Jr., M.D., director of the CTRC at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. The study was published today in the New England Journal of Medicine.

"If you look at the number of prostate cancers that are diagnosed annually and multiply that by 30 percent, that's the number of cancers we might be able to prevent each year," Dr. Thompson said. "That's more than 71,000 men. That's more than 175 jumbo jets full of men who won't get cancer, who won't face treatments with side effects like sexual dysfunction."

"There's nothing like disease prevention. Nothing comes close."

Finasteride is a generic drug developed and currently used by physicians to treat enlarged prostate and male pattern baldness. While it significantly reduces the risk of prostate cancer, during the trial of 19,000 men a slightly higher percentage of those on finasteride developed high-grade cancer than those taking a placebo (although this difference shrank in the follow-up analysis). This caused concern and debate in the medical community,

and doctors backed away from prescribing the drug. Multiple studies prompted by this concern ultimately concluded finasteride, by shrinking the prostate and making the PSA test work better, made the tumors easier to find. Nonetheless, in 2011, the Food and Drug Administration added a warning to the label about the increased risk of being diagnosed with high-grade prostate cancer. The Prostate Cancer Prevention Trial, funded by a National Cancer Institute grant, began in 1993. It was coordinated by SWOG, an international network of research institutions, and led by Dr. Thompson. The men in the finasteride arm had a median age of 62 and took the drug for seven years. The 18-year follow-up to the study examined survival in both study arms to see if there was an increased risk of death in men who took finasteride. The results show no impact on either overall survival or survival after prostate cancer diagnosis.

"What that tells us is that in men who take finasteride, a third fewer will be diagnosed with prostate cancer," Dr. Thompson said. In today's medical climate, many men with even low-grade tumors are treated unnecessarily, he noted, and those treatments carry a considerable burden for the patient and for society.

"If we can free thousands of men each year from that unnecessary burden," he said, "we could use those resources for other important medical interventions, reducing death and suffering from disease."

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WELCOME

NEWCOMERS OF SAN ANTONIO CLUB

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September 8: 5th annual Colin's Hope Kids Tri, and All Star Burger Fundraiser (10% of sales donated).

October 19: Sharkfest Austin Swim benefiting Colin's Hope. Volunteers needed.

November: Underwater Holiday Photos (multiple locations and dates).

February 16: Austin Marathon. Runners, walkers, and water stop volunteers needed.

Be a Water Guardian and Watch Kids around Water. Drowning is preventable!

Thank you to all who supported our efforts this year to raise water safety awareness to prevent children from drowning.

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