

From the Mayor's Desk...

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

April has arrived and with it comes a long term tradition known as Fiesta with the first Battle of Flowers parade held in 1891. Over the decades numerous organizations hold Fiesta celebrations beginning April 10th through April 27th this year. Check out the official website, http://www.fiesta-sa.org to plan for you and your family's enjoyment. Personally, the King Williams Fair is always a favorite!

The city's financial audit for Fiscal Year October 1, 2012 – September 30, 2013 received an excellent report from Armstrong, Vaughan & Associates, and PC at the March council meeting. Highlights cover the combined finances of the General Fund (Ad-Valorem Tax based) and Utility Fund (customer-based fees such as water/wastewater):

- (1) combined net asset position is \$18,196,969 which equals a 7.1% increase over the FY 2011-2012;
- (2) final budget results has \$455,000 additional funds arising from increase in permits (building, remodeling, etc.), sales tax increases, franchise increases as well as responsible stewardship in staff managed expenses;
- (3) the General Fund Reserve balance is \$3,982,022 with the addition of above of dollars;
- **(4)** ad-valorem property tax rate remains .2663 per \$100 of valuation. The beginning tax rate in 1988 was .25 per \$100 of valuation.

The complete 65+ plus audit is available on the city website; www. Fairoaksranchtx.org; on left side of home page screen click on Financials and you will find the audit referenced here. Right below it is an easy to read pie chart graph showing both revenue and expense percentages for this Fiscal Year 2013-2014 with dollars noted to the left of the charts.

A city gets its operating revenues from residential property taxes, sales tax from commercial entities, fees such permits and franchise fees from those who use city assets such as streets to service residents (power companies, cable/television/phone companies, etc.) The past

few years, the Ad-Valorem property taxes in Fair Oaks Ranch provide approximately 66%, or two-thirds, of the city revenue base to provide services. Approximately 9% comes from sales tax and 8% from franchise fees. Keeping property tax rate as low as possible is a priority of Council and city staff without sacrificing services or needs of the city as a whole today and tomorrow.

March 24th, the San Antonio-Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization (SA-BCMPO) held their monthly meeting with several items on the agenda directly related to the MPO's boundary expansion.

First, the organizational name was changed to Alamo Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (AAMPO). Secondly, a new logo to designate the new name and the many modes of transportation that MPOs consider was adopted by the Board. Thirdly, 19 out of 55 submitted projects were chosen by the MPO's Technical Advisory Committee with total costs almost \$ 111 million dollars. Fourth, the AAMPO after deliberation voted to accept the 19 projects as recommended by the TAC. The bridge at Fair Oaks Parkway and IH10 is one of the 19 projects approved for funding. The actual timing for construction is yet to be determined; I guess sometime in the next 2 -3 years although it could be as long as 2019. As a reminder, all frontage roads are being converted to one way frontage much like what occurred down at the Dominion area.

There is another major change expected up at the Fair Oaks Parkway intersection. As you drive toward IH 10, the empty corner lot in Fair Oaks Village on the right-hand side is where CVS Pharmacy is coming. That is the same retail center with Papa John, Conroy's, etc. and directly across from Frost Bank. CVS submitted the construction plans for the City's Building Code Official to review and approve. That process is completed and CVS will soon go out for bids. We expect to see signs of construction in June/July this year. This property was annexed into

(Continued on Page 2)

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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.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

MERGENCIES NUMBERS ### MERGENCY
1911 ### 1912 ### 1913 ### 1915 ### 1916
Marie
Fair Oaks Ranch Police Department
Animal Control
Boerne ISD
Boerne ISD
Fair Oaks Ranch Elementary
JTILITIES Allied Waste Services - Garbage & Recycling210-648-5222 AT&T - Telephone
Allied Waste Services - Garbage & Recycling210-648-5222 AT&T - Telephone
T&T - Telephone
CPSEnergy(new service) 210-353-2222(service trouble or repairs) 210-353-4357
(service trouble or repairs) 210-353-4357
(service trouble or repairs) 210-353-4357
air Oaks Ranch Utilities - Water210-698-7685
GVTC - Cable & Telephone800-367-4882
edernales Electric Co-op888-554-4732
ime Warner - Cable210-244-0500
OTHER
Inited States Post Office
607 E. Blanco. Rd Boerne, TX830-249-2414
(delivery info, stops, fwds, ect.) 830-249-9303
5837 De Zavala Rd - San Antonio, TX210-641-0248

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

our city a number of years ago upon the petition request by private property owner.

Every year the City has an election for Council members by State law. Council terms are two years by State law. Every year, three city council places are up for election. This year the three were Place 1, Place 2 and Mayor. Next year will be Place 3, 4 and 5. Elections follow a tight process and rightfully so. There is a specific "candidate filing time range". If all Places running for election have only one candidate with no opposition then after the filing time expires such as this year, the City can consider cancelling the election itself saving approximately \$ 6,000-10,000. (Yes, holding elections costs the entities such as City, County, School District, etc.) At the March Council meeting, Council voted to cancel the election. Glenn Damstra is re-elected for Place 2, Cheryl Landman is re-elected for Mayor and MaryAnne Havard is elected for Place 1. All three will take their oaths in May for the next two year terms.

Utility billings will have a Frequently Asked Questions insert regarding the water meter replacements.

This project is moving forward and you can expect late Spring or Early Summer to see the old meters replaced with the new over the following 3-6 months. Please read the FAQs for more details. There is a phone number available on the insert as well.

The regular March Council meeting also approved moving forward for architectural and engineering services for the design of the new Police Station to be located on the City campus. This is the first step

towards building the new Police Station. Once completed, the City will move forward to remodeling the "old police building" for use by Utility, Building Code and other related city functions that currently office in City Hall. The final step in upgrading facilities is the current City Hall building. Moving functions to the "old police building" will allow internal space changes within City Hall itself.

Before closing, the city's website is full of information including notices for meetings, agendas, minutes, budgets, etc. In addition, all meetings are open to the public (exclusive of Executive Sessions) and posted mostly before the 72 hours required by law. If you want reminders when something is posted so you can then go the website to read the details, please sign up for the Notify Me service provided for you. Need help signing up? Just call City Hall and we will help. The Regular Council Meeting is the 3rd Thursday of each month and it starts at 7:00pm. Other meetings may be called in-between and they are posted. Watch your local government in action...ask questions...learn the processes and how they must be followed by law.

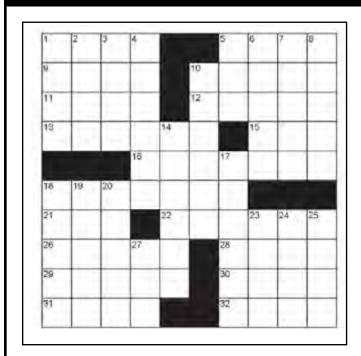
Last note, TxDOT is beginning work at the Ralph Fair/IH 10 bridge late March and will keep traffic lane(s) open as needed. This project will run about 15 months. When completed the bridge will provide six lanes with two of those being turn lanes.

Again, I thank FO Gazette, Peel Inc. for allowing us to submit this monthly column where you can garner the essence of various topics. This is mailed to all of the 78015 zip code at no cost to the City or to you.

Respectfully,

Cheryl Landman, Mayor

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1. Grabs
- 5. Capital of Western Samoa
- 9. Healing plant
- 10. Canned chili brand
- 11. Baby powder
- 12. Howdy
- 13. Mexican food brand
- 15. Billion years
- 16. Smash
- 18. In abundance
- 21. Scarf
- 22. Prejudice
- 26. Living
- 28. National capital
- 29. Fathers
- 30. Margarine
- 31. Entertainer
- 32. Nightly tv show

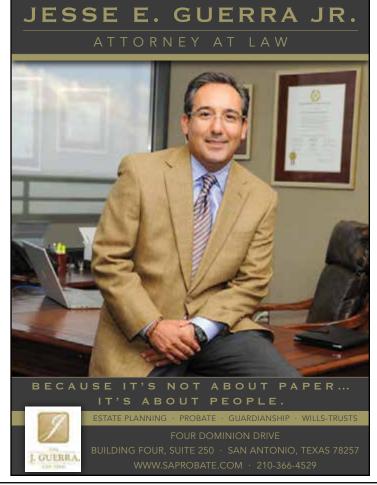
View answers online at www.peelinc.com

DOWN

- 1. North Atlantic Treaty
 - Organization
- 2. Winged
- 3. Fastening device
- 4. What the confederates tried to do
- 5. Dined
- 6. Whiter
- 7. Ice house
- 8. Hurting
- 10. Brand of soda
- 14. Literature
- 17. Baron
- 18. Embarrass
- 19. Crippling disease
- 20. Dens
- 23. Island
- 24. Killed
- 25. Cow noises
- 27. Animal doctor

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January 22, 2014

Dear valued member of our business community,

Plans are underway for a special event honoring the senior class at Boerne-Samuel V. Champion High School. We are celebrating their accomplishments by hosting Project Graduation—an all-night, alcohol-free, drug-free graduation party that is organized for students with help from parents, school staff and business people in the community. Project Celebration provides an environment where seniors don't have to deal with peer pressure to consume alcohol or other drugs or ride with a driver who is under the influence on that special night.

Project Graduation is a costly event to hold, but we know that providing a fun-filled alternative to drinking and driving will far outweigh the expense. We plan to make this a memorable event by organizing a variety of exciting activities, entertainment, food and prizes. We want our seniors to enjoy this last chance to share memories and create new ones to cherish for years to come. While the party is not until June 7, 2014, it's critical that our funding be in place as early as possible.

The event is completely funded by fundraisers and donations. We have 310 graduating seniors, and a MINIMUM budget of \$20,000 to secure the venue, food, entertainment, and security. Any funds raised over \$20,000 go towards door prizes to be given away throughout the night. This year's seniors earn raffle tickets for these prizes by participating in fundraisers, Project Graduation planning, and helping educate the community and their peers on the purpose of Project Graduation.

We urge you to support this worthy cause. Please consider contributing a monetary donation for this year's Project Celebration. If you prefer, we will gladly accept gift certificates or merchandise that we can use as door prizes for graduating seniors. We are happy to pick up donations. All donations are tax-deductible and your business will be gratefully acknowledged in our school and local newspaper.

We appreciate anything you can do to help us keep our community's graduating seniors safe so they can celebrate their accomplishments for years to come.

Thank you and best regards,

Karen D. Mathison Chairperson, Project Graduation Planning Committee (830) 446-9134

Business Name	Contact	
Mailing Address	City, Zip	_
Phone	Email	
Monetary Donation	Other Donation	
Value of Donation	Date Received	
Volunteer		

Donations can be mailed to: Project Graduation/Champion High School/201 Charger Blvd/Boerne, TX 78006

Please make checks out to "Project Graduation"

Project Graduation is a 501(c)(3) organization and all donations are tax deductible. Please retain this receipt for your tax records.

Trinity Glen Rose Groundwater Conservation District Water Conservation Audit

Well, it seems the winter rains passed up by! Here's hoping for April showers!

around 32 inches District-wide. Unfortunately, most of this was consultation to identify problems areas that could be resulting in received during sporadic weather events throughout the year. higher water usage to home or business owners residing within Case in point, we received ten inches of rain over Memorial Day our District. Following the visit, we offer recommendations to weekend. While every drop is welcome, high rainfall within such help reduce water usage both inside and outside the home and a a short timeframe results in much of that rain running off into our "goody" bag full of conservation-related items, including a hose streams and rivers providing little to recharge our aquifers. Please timer, moisture meter, and low-flow showerhead. bear this in mind as winter winds down and you begin spring planting and yard care.

(TGRGCD) would like to ask for your continued help in reducing trinityglenrose.com.

During 2013, much like 2012, our average rainfall hovered demand on groundwater resources. We offer a free on-site

Please contact us at 210-698-1155 with questions, or to schedule a free in-home audit! To learn more about Trinity Glen Trinity Glen Rose Groundwater Conservation District Rose Groundwater Conservation District, please visit us at www.



Dr. Rosario Faller Joins Child Birth Educator Team

Dr. Rosario Faller has recently joined the Child Birth Educator team of the Hill Country Pregnancy Care Center (HCPCC). Dr. Faller is initially from Colombia and moved to Texas with her husband Gary. Dr. Faller has also been a medical instructor in San Antonio. She and her family attend St. Elizabeth Ann Seton church in Leon Springs.

Recently, Dr. Faller attended the Prepared Childbirth Educators conference in Dallas and was the only one out of twelve attendees with experience in child birth educating. She has been teaching classes at the YMCA for the HCPCC and was proud to report that these classes exceed the standards and expectations of child birth classes nationally. Classes are available in English and Spanish.

Child Birth classes offered by the HCPCC at the YMCA are free to anyone in the Hill Country area. A three month membership at the YMCA is also provided so that childcare and post birth Mommy and Me classes are available. These classes were sponsored by a grant from the Cordillera Ranch Shindig. Anyone interested should call the Center at 830-249-9717 or email childbirth@lifesprecious.org.

Other free services offered by the HCPCC include prenatal and parenting classes, pregnancy tests, limited obstetric ultrasound, STD testing, post abortion Bible studies, Spanish Bible studies, material assistance, and community education presentations. For more information or to make a donation to support these free services call 830-249-9717 or go online to www.lifesprecious.org.





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Independent and Assisted Living

Situated in the historic setting of Leon Springs, between The Dominion and Fair Oaks Ranch, *The Lodge at Leon Springs* is one of the Hill Country's true gems. Family-owned for eighteen years, the fourteen-acre property showcases majestic trees, a lovely spring-fed pond and is home to an array of wildlife species, including ducks, fish, deer, and turkey to name a few. The animal companions of our residents are also welcomed as part of our community and considered extended family, as well.





The Lodge at Leon Springs is pleased to announce the addition of several newly-constructed one bedroom cottages, broadening independent living choices available for seniors in our community. Our spacious one and two bedroom cottages (800 & 1,500 sq ft, respectively) are each equipped with large screened patios, a fully functional kitchen as well as a laundry room with washer and dryer. Cottage residents enjoy dining options that include the delivery of three hot meals to their home(s) or joining friends and fellow residents in our assisted living home. For the comfort and convenience of our residents, The Lodge provides housekeeping, as well as facility and grounds maintenance. Activities are offered and designed to enhance quality of life and encourage new friendships.

Sit and enjoy the beauty of nature at its best and the serenity of the historic Leon Springs.

While some communities require a substantial, longterm, financial commitment, The Lodge at Leon Springs takes a different approach. While we prioritize the physical and emotional well-being of seniors, we respect their financial concerns, as well. To schedule a tour of our new one bedroom cottages and our unique community, contact Steve Kitchen at 210-410-3864 or stevekitchen@sbcglobal.net



24137 Boerne Stage Road | San Antonio, TX, 78255 210.698.9365 | 210.410.3864 | www.thelodgeatleonsprings.com



Do you have an article or story that you would like to run in this newsletter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue. Email your document to *fairoaksranch@peelinc.com*.

BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS

ALCALA ENTERPRISES - Seasonal clean-ups - landscaping, sod, mulch, lawn dressing - mowing - shrub- tree trimming Call mark @ 210-710-5010 We accept credit cards!

It's time to get ready for Spring and Summer. New flooring is a great way to update your home. I have been running Carpet City, my father's flooring business here in San Antonio for the last several years. We are very proud to say that we have been in business since 1964! If you need any residential or commercial flooring please give me a call. We want to help you find the right flooring for your home or office.







Carpet City Siobhain Anders Buckley 2622 Pleasanton Road San Antonio, TX 78221 210-260-6527

HCAL SOLUTIONS

The facts are simple. There are too many dogs and cats and not enough homes. Animal shelters are overflowing, resulting in approximately 4 million animals being put to sleep each year. The Hill Country Animal League (HCAL) recognizes that spay/neuter is currently the best method to minimize dog and cat overpopulation. Therefore, to reduce shelter intake and euthanasia, HCAL has been working hard for over 25 years to make a difference in the local area by providing safe, affordable and accessible spay/neuter services to all.

Like so many other nonprofit organizations, HCAL had humble beginnings. The organization was founded in 1986 in a garage in Fair Oaks Ranch. Volunteers would hold garage sales and use the proceeds to provide spay/neuter vouchers to those in need. Thanks to dedicated volunteers and staff, HCAL now has a thriving Thrift Store on Bandera Rd, which funds a high volume, Affordable Spay/Neuter Clinic, located on N. Main St., both located in Boerne.

In 2013, HCAL was able to perform almost 7000 spay/ neuter surgeries at their Clinic. Every surgery performed is subsidized with funds provided by the HCAL Thrift Store through sales of donated goods. The organization relies 100% on the generous donations from the Hill Country and surrounding community.

The need for affordable spay/neuter services continues to increase, which prompts the need for more donations to fund the cost of the surgeries. Many people have items that they would like to donate but do not have the means to deliver them to the Thrift Store. Hill Country Animal League has launched a new enterprise, Donation Solutions, to help solve this donation dilemma. The Solutions team, can customize a pick up package for a single item or the removal of items from an entire house. All donated items are tax deductible and more important, help reduce the heart breaking dog and cat overpopulation problem by providing gently used items that the Thrift Store can recycle and raise funds for affordable spay/neuter surgeries.

Hill Country Animal League Thrift Store / Donation Solutions 115 Bandera Road Boerne, TX 78006 (830) 249-8040



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