

The FAIR OAKS Gazette

June 2014

Volume 4 Issue 6



NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF FAIR OAKS RANCH

From the Mayor's Desk...

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

At the City's Regular Council Meeting this June, we will have a new face as well as two re-elected faces. What are the Council and the Mayor's major responsibilities once elected and taking the required Oath of Office? The foundation guidelines are specified in the Texas Local Government Code (TLGC) for General Law cities such as Fair Oaks Ranch. Public health, welfare and safety are the primary purposes of the City and its governing body. Hope the information below will not be too heavy with too much legalese.

The governing body of the City is the Mayor and five Aldermen serving At-Large representing the entire City and its citizens/residents. A term of service is two years for each position with staggered terms ensuring that a level of continuity carries from year to year. Continuity provides the City and its governing body ease and ability to move forward on City business needs. The Oath of Office reinforces that each elected official is to carry out the laws of the State, the United States and the City; an elected candidate cannot participate on the Council until the oath is taken.

Under TLGC, the Mayor is the Presiding Officer and "shall preside at all meetings of the governing body of the municipality and, except in elections, may vote only if there is a tie." Then comes the not-so-fine print verbatim:

(a) The mayor is the chief executive officer of the municipality. The mayor shall at all times actively ensure that the laws and ordinances of the municipality are properly carried out. The mayor shall perform the duties and exercise the powers prescribed by the governing body of the municipality.

(b) The mayor shall inspect the conduct of each subordinate municipal officer and shall cause any negligence, carelessness, or other violation of duty to be prosecuted and punished.

(c) The mayor shall give to the governing body any information, and shall recommend to the governing body any measure, that relates to improving the finances, police, health, security, cleanliness, comfort, ornament, or good government of the municipality.

(d) The mayor may administer oaths of office.

(e) In the event of a riot or unlawful assembly or to preserve the peace and good order in the municipality, the mayor may order and enforce the closing of a theater, ballroom, or other place of recreation or entertainment, or a public room or building and may order the arrest of a person who violates a state law or a municipal ordinance in the presence of the mayor.

Annually, the governing body shall elect one alderman to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore. In the Mayor's absence, the Mayor Pro Tempore shall perform the Mayor's duties...including the not-so-fine print noted above. The difference between "shall" and "may" in government language is simply "must do" versus "maybe do". Yes, there are penalties when elected official doesn't perform the "must do" items with the most concerning penalty-criminal charges.

To understand the Aldermen's role is to view them as a "board of directors" with the primary responsibility to set policy as it relates to the TLGC parameters for a General Law city. City staff is entrusted with the functions plus operations to implement the approved policies through direction provided by staff management and supervisors.

Based on past experience as an Alderman for ten years, I spent approximately 15-20 hours weekly fulfilling the

responsibility of a policy maker: attending meetings of all kinds, reading, researching, attending both mandatory and non-mandatory

(Continued on Page 2)

FAIR OAKS RANCH

ADVERTISING INFO

Please support the advertisers that make Fair Oaks Gazette possible. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 888-687-6444 or advertising@peelinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 20th of the month prior to the issue.

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

seminars, etc. Today, the time spent to fulfill the Mayor's responsibility averages 40 plus hours weekly. The governing body (Mayor and Aldermen) are elected volunteers; they do not receive pay for their work, time, expertise or commitment. Each governing body official since 1988 has served in this voluntary capacity. (Helps keep the property tax rate low for all.) The backbone of our City is strong, proud and preserving. And, they serve unselfishly with the good of the whole uppermost in mind daily.

CODE RED and NOTIFY ME

Many of you are signed up to receive the CodeRed alerts on the city's website (www.fairoaksranchtx.org). The weather alerts are the most vital announcements as they give warnings for you and your family's safety. These announcements can be sent to landline plus cell phone. Out of town family members can also sign up for the FOR alerts keeping them informed as to what is occurring. Take a few moments to sign up or call City Hall for assistance. This simple "alert" process offers great peace of mind for you and your loved ones. Pass the word around as this is an excellent communication tool.

Notify Me is another message tool that keeps you informed of what is happening at City Hall. Again, City activities such as Council Meetings and News Announcements can be sent directly to your email or by text to your cell phone keeping you in the know. Just sign up!

Both CODE RED and NOTIFY ME are listed on the left-hand side of the city's website home page. Again, if you need assistance for either or both, please call City Hall at 210-699-0900 or 866-258-2505.

WATER CONSERVATION

Nothing is more vital to life than water. This enduring drought sweeping Texas needs to be of concern to all. Rain, melting snow and melting ice create water (it is not a manufactured product). There is a two-fold issue: no enough rain and high volumes of water consumption.

Water is classified as essential or non-essential. Essential water is for personal usage – cooking, laundry, sanitation, etc. Non-essential is seen as landscape watering, fountains, etc. The number one residential "water hog" is outside landscape watering. Home irrigation is a non-essential usage although the results foster great personal satisfaction and pride.

It is very convenient for an outside irrigation system to just go on and off based on the timer's setting. Likewise it is very easy not to monitor the times and/or the need for the irrigation system to be running. Consequently, you may have leaks in the irrigation system wasting tremendous amounts of water. Effective May 15, 2014, Leak Appeals will no longer include irrigation systems as

(Continued on Page 3)

From the Mayor's Desk *(Continued from Page 2)*

well as other homeowner maintenance items. Full details to the ordinance changes can be viewed on the city's website or call City Hall for information. (Phone numbers above.)

SUMMER FUN

School will be dismissed for summer fun and frolic. Keep a watchful eye daily for our young residents being outdoors more and longer: riding bikes, walking, jogging, playing ball, etc. PLEASE regardless of age wear brightly colored clothing during light hours and white or reflective during dusk/night hours. Those in darkish colors blend into the background of the tree trunks during the day and basically disappear in the dark. Be on the safe side and dress to stay safe! Let's practice defensive driving as well.

In closing, a special thank you to Peel, Inc. for publishing this message From the Mayor's Desk the past sixteen months!! Appreciate the opportunity to share tidbits with each of you monthly! Happy and Safe Summer!!

*Respectfully,
Cheryl Landman, Mayor*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Do you have an opinion that you'd like to see printed in this newsletter? Send it to us and we will publish it in the next issue. Email your document to fairoaksranch@peelinc.com.

BJORN DYBDAHL HONORED

At the recent Assistance League of San Antonio Gala, held on April 5th at the Omni Hotel, Mr. Bjorn Dybdahl was recognized with the National Operation School Bell® Award. Mr. Dybdahl received this award in recognition of his many years of dedicated service to Assistance League of San Antonio helping to raise funds for the chapter's Operation School Bell program.

Operation School Bell is the flagship program of the National Assistance League, of which Assistance League of San Antonio is a chapter. In San Antonio, this program provides new school clothing, Payless shoe vouchers, school supplies, dictionaries and age-appropriate books, and hygiene kits for the nearly 3,000 elementary children from 15 local school districts who come to our School Bell store to select their clothing. An additional 2,700 elementary children receive uniform and shoe vouchers.

Be sure to visit the Assistance League Thrift House at 2611 West Avenue. All proceeds support the programs to clothe San Antonio children, provide safety education, furnish decorated caps for children in chemotherapy, and support child literacy and other programs for children and adults in the San Antonio community.



Pictured l to r: Priscilla Allen, President, and Bjorn Dybdahl, recipient

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Trinity Glen Rose Groundwater Conservation District Water Conservation Audit



During 2013, much like 2012, our average rainfall hovered around 32 inches District-wide. Unfortunately, most of this was received during sporadic weather events throughout the year. Case in point, we received ten inches of rain over Memorial Day weekend. High rainfall within such a short timeframe results in much of that rain running off into our streams and rivers providing little to recharge our aquifers. Please bear this in mind

as we head into summer. While all rainfall events are welcome, monitors wells into the Trinity Aquifer throughout the District still reflect record lows.

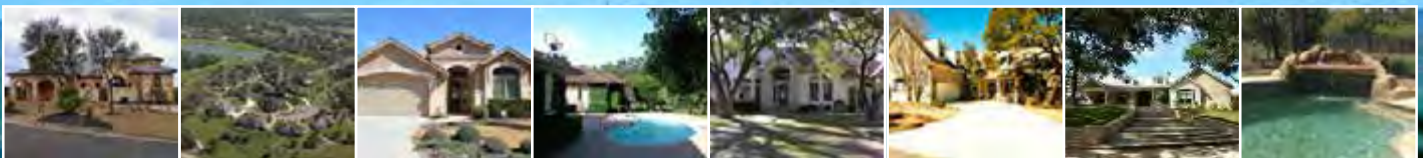
Trinity Glen Rose Groundwater Conservation District (TGRGCD) would like to ask for your continued help in reducing demand on groundwater resources. We offer a free on-site consultation to identify problem areas that could be resulting in higher water usage to home or business owners residing within our 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.

Please contact us at 210-698-1155 with questions, or to schedule a free in-home audit!

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

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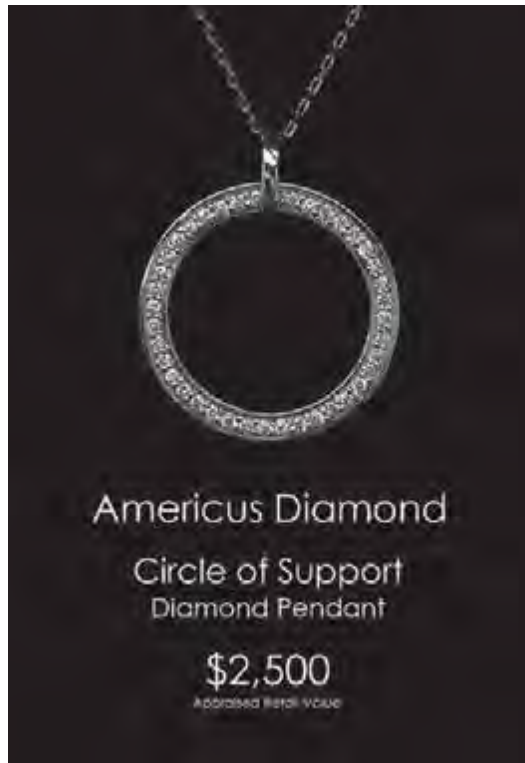
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Americus Diamond Available at HCPCC Fashion Show

The Annual Fashion Show and Luncheon to benefit the women and families of the Hill Country Pregnancy Care Center is on Saturday June 21st. It will be held at 11:30 in the Cana Ballroom at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Boerne.

The models will feature women of all ages and "little women" too. So, be sure to bring your mother, your sister, your daughter and your friends to this yearly good time. This year's theme is the Art of Conversation and will feature lunch by

Karen Brickey of Angel Food Catering.

In addition to the Americus Diamond necklace that has been donated for the raffle, there will be the usual overstuffed theme gift baskets and larger silent auction items.



Tickets are \$30 for an adult and \$12.50 for a child under 12. A few tables for 10 are still available for reservation at \$500. Please call Shirley at 830-249-9717 for further information or for your prepaid reservations.



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Newcomers of San Antonio

Newcomers of San Antonio is a non-profit social organization founded in 1981. Membership is open to anyone residing in the greater San Antonio area for three years or less. We sponsor social events (monthly luncheons the 1st Thursday of the month and monthly coffees the 3rd Thursday of the month), interest groups (including games, book club, evening groups and local day trips), and opportunities for community involvement. Please visit us at NewcomersofSanAntonio.org for more information.

ROTARY CLUB OF FAIR OAKS RANCH

meets weekly at noon at the
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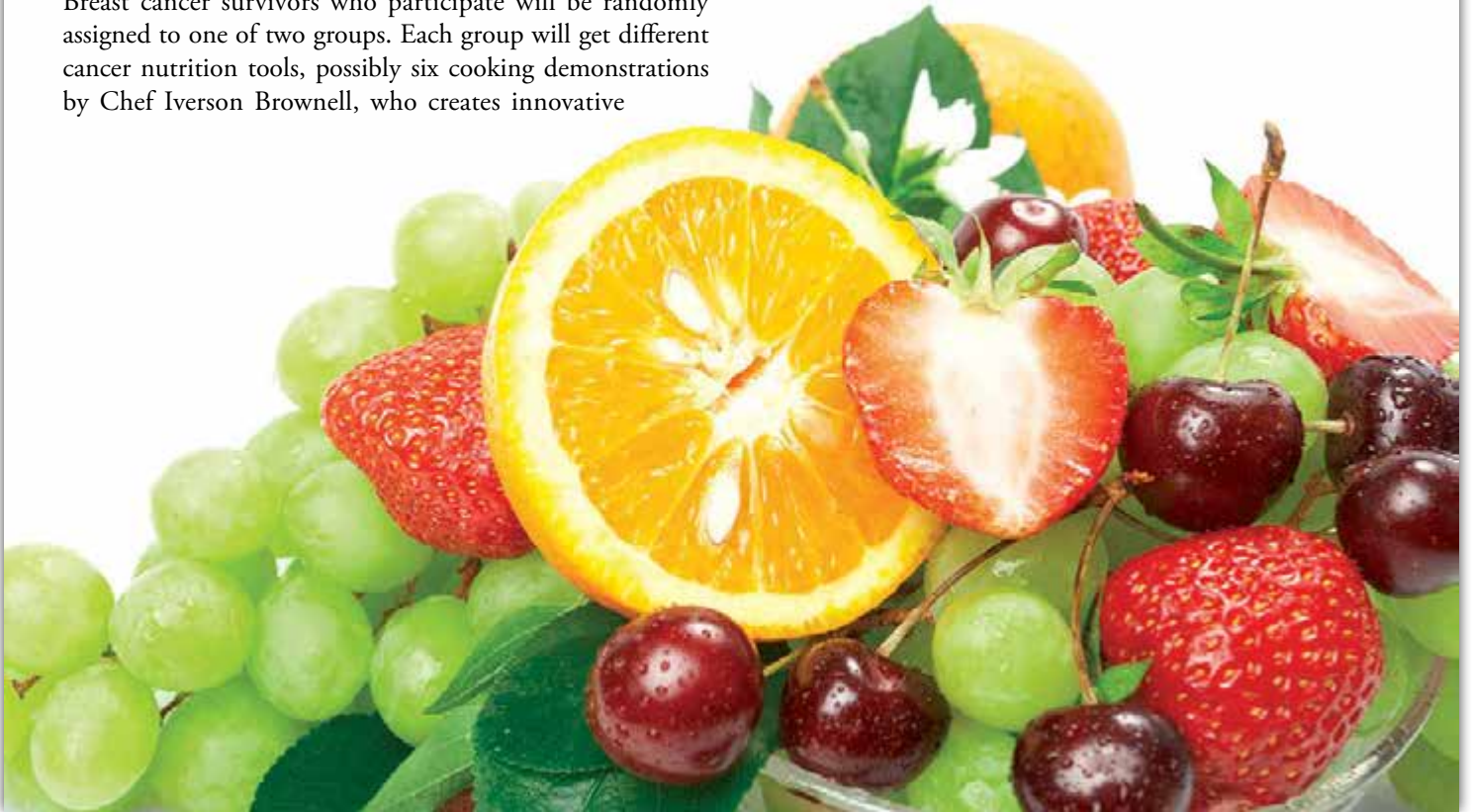


FAIR OAKS RANCH

Breast Cancer Survivors Sought for New Study that Teaches a Cancer-Fighting Food Plan

Breast cancer survivors can now join a new study to learn how certain foods may reduce the risk of cancer recurrence. The study, Rx for Better Breast Health, is funded by Susan G. Komen for the Cure and led by Dr. Amelie Ramirez, professor and director of the Institute for Health Promotion Research (IHPR) at the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio. Breast cancer survivors who participate will be randomly assigned to one of two groups. Each group will get different cancer nutrition tools, possibly six cooking demonstrations by Chef Iverson Brownell, who creates innovative

culinary recipes that taste great and promote health. To join the study, breast cancer survivors must be ages 18-75 and meet additional criteria. Three gift cards will be given to participants who complete the study's three assessments—including surveys, blood work, and other measurements—at the CTRC. Call 210-562-6579 to see if you qualify.



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National Day of Prayer



Boerne YMCA staff members Merri Hammond and Ashley Mattum along with Y member Anrea Zuniga enjoying refreshments after the National Day of Prayer ceremony held at the Boerne Y



Executive Director of the Boerne Family Y Paul Giguere addressing the attendees at the National Day of Prayer held at the Boerne YMCA

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GOOD NEIGHBORS CAN BE GREAT FOR STRESS LEVELS

Do you live in a neighborhood where you feel safe and connected to others, or do you feel overcrowded, threatened, and otherwise unsafe in your surroundings? This, and other aspects of neighborhood life, can impact both your level of happiness and stress.

Socializing: With our busy schedules, we don't always see friends as often as we'd like. For a bit of socializing that takes only minutes out of your day, it's nice to stop and chat with people for a few minutes on your way out to your car. And the more people you have available for shared social support, the better, generally speaking.

Pooled Resources: I know people in some more-friendly neighborhoods who share dinners, minimizing the effort it takes to cook. Others trade fruit from their trees. A neighbor who borrows a few eggs may come back with a plate of cookies that the eggs helped create. Knowing your neighbors increases everyone's ability to share.

Security: Knowing the people around you can bring a sense of security. If you need something—whether it's a cup of sugar when you're baking cookies, or someone to call the police if they see someone lurking outside your home—it's nice to know you can depend on those around you and they can depend on you.

Home Pride: Knowing the people who live around you provides a strengthened sense of pride in your home and neighborhood.

Coming home just feels nicer. While you may not be able to change the neighborhood in which you live, you can change the experience you have in your own neighborhood by getting more involved with those around you and taking pride in the area in which you live. The following are some ideas and resources that can help you to feel more at home in your neighborhood:

Get Out More: If you live in a generally safe area, I highly recommend taking a morning or evening walk. It's a great stress reliever that also allows you to get to know many of your neighbors, get an understanding of who lives where, and feel more at home in your surroundings.

Smile: It's simple enough, but if you're not in the habit of smiling and giving a friendly hello to the people you encounter in your neighborhood, it's a good habit to start. While not everyone will return the friendliness immediately, it's a quick way to get to know people and build relationships, even if you've lived close for years and haven't really said much to one another.

Talk To Your Elders: The more veteran members of the neighborhood often have the inside scoop on the neighborhood. You may be surprised at how much you can learn if you stop to take the time to talk to the sweet old lady at the end of the block.

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Event Pictures!!

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Email the picture to fairoaksranch@peelinc.com. Be sure to include the text that you would like to have as the caption.

Pictures will appear in color online at www.PEELinc.com.



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TENNIS TIPS

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Fernando Velasco



STEP 1



STEP 2



STEP 3



STEP 4

The Modern Game: The Top Spin Forehand

In previous newsletters, I offered tips on how to execute the basic strokes for players who are starting to play tennis or who want to get back into the game.

From this newsletter on, I will be offering suggestions on how to play the “modern” game mostly geared towards players who are happy with hitting the ball over the net and controlling the point with consistency. These players may be already playing for leagues or tournaments and are looking for more “weapons” on the court.

In this issue, I will offer instructions on how to execute the Top Spin Forehand. This shot is used when a player is now hitting the ball long and out. The ball will be aimed high over the net and hit with power. The ball will have a “top spin” so that when the ball hits the court, it will take a big hop, forcing the opponent to fall back close to the fence, or to hit the ball on the rise.

In the illustrations, Danny Rodriguez, Director of the Pre-Advanced Tennis Program at the Grey Rock Tennis Club, shows the proper technique to execute this stroke. This shot can also be executed from the service line as an “approach shot” to the net.

Step 1: The Ready Position: When Danny prepares to hit

a forehand top spin, he will change his grip toward the “semi-western” or “full western grip” (The palm of the hand is flat on the handle). His knees are slightly flexed and his eyes are focused on the oncoming ball.

Step 2: The Back Swing: Danny is now ready to perform the shot. The head of the racket is now above his head, his shoulders are turned, the left hand is in front to help him keep the center of gravity in front, and he has loaded his weight to the back foot. His grip is relaxed and his wrist is “laid back” to allow maximum point of contact.

Step 3: The Point of Contact: The success of a top spin shot is keeping the ball on the strings going from low to high in a 30 degree angle. Danny started the swing high and “looped” it to allow the head of the racket to drop down. He will be brushing the ball as he makes contact with it. His left shoulder is almost opening and his weight has now been shifted toward the front.

Step 4: The Follow Through: Notice Danny’s finish above his left ear and his elbow pointing toward his target. He has now shifted his weight on his right foot and is ready to shuffle back to his home base.

Look in the next Newsletter for: “The Modern Game: The Backhand Top Spin”

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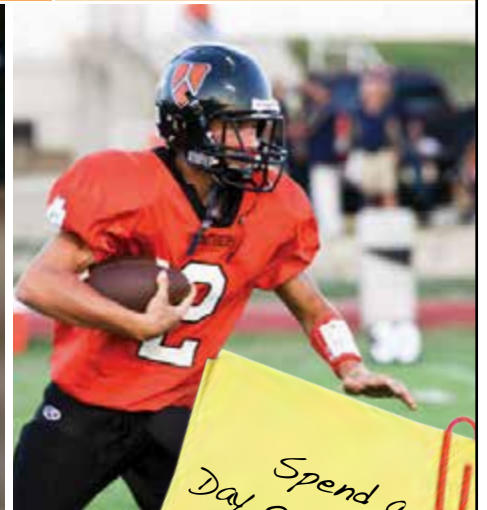
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The goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each digit may appear only once in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box.

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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.

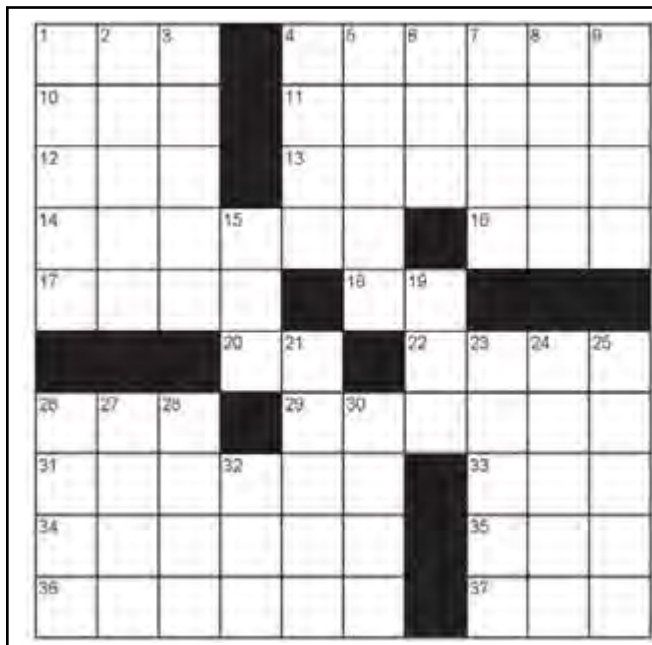
While some communities require a substantial, long-term, financial commitment, The Lodge at Leon Springs takes a different approach. While we prioritize the physical and emotional well-being of seniors, we respect their financial concerns, as well. To schedule a tour of our new one bedroom cottages and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



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18. Father
20. Strontium (abbr.)
22. Animal oil
26. Part of a min.
29. Saudi
31. Singer Bing
33. No. eggs in a package
34. One-celled water animal
35. Southwestern Indian
36. Raving
37. Hallucinogen

DOWN

1. Dens
2. Hawaiian 'hello'
3. City
4. Replace a striker
5. Spring flower
6. Music
7. Lure
8. Type of car
9. Cheese
15. Married woman
19. Wing
21. Jewish religious leader
23. BB player Kareem __ Jabar
24. Public disorder
25. Groggy
26. Blemish
27. Writer Bombeck
28. Racoon's nickname
30. Baseball's Nolan
32. Scene

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