

From the Mayor's Desk...

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

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

Daylight Saving Time is out and standard time is back effective Sunday, November 2nd. Many people take time to change the batteries in their smoke detectors when they change their clocks as Daylight Saving Time provides a convenient reminder. Great idea! Have you changed yours yet?

PINS AND NEEDLES DAY

How many times do you say or hear "pins and needles"? Each year, November 27th celebrates Pins and Needles Day. According to Holiday Insights (www.holidayinsights.com), the real origin of this special day goes back to the labor movement in the 1930s. The pro-labor Broadway musical Pins and Needles, opened on this day in 1937, at the Labor Stage Theater in New York City. This play was written by Harold Rome. It was produced by the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union. Union members made up the cast. It ran for 1108 performances, once holding the record for longevity. Today, "pins and needles" tends to convey a nervous and anxious situation much like the labor issues of 1930s.

STREET INITIATIVE BOND ELECTION

At this writing, Early Voting is in full swing in all three counties. Election Day, November 4th is expected to continue the voter lines. A special thank you to the Street Initiative Steering Committee (citizen group) for their help and guidance

in developing information for the bond issue. The various informational meetings gave the neighborhood leaders and citizens opportunities to hear those facts plus share concerns, etc. Final election results are not available as of this writing.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

This event continues to grow...there were ten separate Night Out events in our City on October 7th with full potluck spreads to ice cream socials. Fair Oaks Ranch Police, McGruff – the Crime Dog, Leon Spring Volunteer Fire Department and EMS are favorite "guests". The youngsters love to spray the Fire Engine hoses! From my perspective, it is great to see neighbors gather together sharing time, stories, food, etc. We thank those neighborhood organizers for bringing their neighbors together. Crime prevention begins with neighbors noticing unfamiliar parked cars, unusual casual walkers ringing doorbells, being aware when their neighbor is out of town, etc.

Chief Rubin consistently suggested that to minimize crime keep cars locked and valuables hidden or in the house. Crime of opportunity is merely finding the unlocked car with valuables (computer, cell phone, garage opener, etc.) in sight. In addition, use your alarm systems whether away for short periods (an hour or less) or in the house. Unfortunately, we tend to not use our alarm systems as we should. Not everyone has an alarm system, yet ensuring your doors are locked at all times, garage door closed and/or if going out of town be sure to participate in the Home Watch program through the FOR Police Department. The Home Watch program is a great service for our citizens as it provides a Police presence in the neighborhoods deterring potential crime enthusiasts. Call City Hall for details: 210-698-0900.

(Continued on Page 2)

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.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCIES NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	
Fire	
Ambulance	
Fair Oaks Ranch Police Department	210-698-0990
Animal Control	210-698-0990
SCHOOLS	
Boerne ISD	www.boerne-isd.net
Fair Oaks Ranch Elementary	210-698-1616
UTILITIES	
Allied Waste Services - Garbage & Recycling	g210-648-5222
AT&T - Telephone	
CPSEnergy(new serv	vice) 210-353-2222
(service trouble or repa	
Fair Oaks Ranch Utilities - Water	210-698-7685
GVTC - Cable & Telephone	800-367-4882
Pedernales Electric Co-op	888-554-4732
Time Warner - Cable	210-244-0500
OTHER	

United States Post Office

From the Mayor's Desk (Continued from Cover)

PARTNERSHIP WATER STUDY

At the October 9th San Antonio Council Meeting, the proposed water study partnership with Fair Oaks Ranch and City of San Antonio was approved. At the Fair Oaks Ranch Council Meeting July 17, 2014, Dr. Calvin Finch stated the Study would look at San Antonio and Fair Oaks Ranch's goals and expectations on future growth and development, and how it affects the water situation. It will assess costs to provide water, how to provide water, sustainability, distribution systems, describe special circumstances, provide analysis of each city, best practice analysis, review water rates, have stakeholder input, and identify major assets of water resources among other things. Our Council voted to proceed with the Water Study Partnership.

This is the first regional approach for Fair Oaks Ranch. Both entities share many of the same water concerns and interests: SAWS provides water services to both cities, both cities are GBRA customers, Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone extends to our Cibolo Creek, Trinity Glen Rose Groundwater Conservation District (TGRGCD) serves unincorporated area of northwest Bexar County and Fair Oaks Ranch, rapid growth out IH 10 West is affects both cities, similar climate shared by both, etc. The final study report is expected in about six months.

CITY CAMPUS

In preparation for the new Public Safety Building, there are minor changes occurring on the almost 7-acre City campus.

The Dietz Elkhorn street side is a more open space with a nice wooden fence surrounding maintenance equipment area.

Both drought-resistant grass seed and assorted wildflower seeds were distributed early October in the open space. Long term expectation is the equipment area may need enlarging as the city continues to add in-house equipment versus outside contracting of maintenance work.

Additionally, an area behind the maintenance buildings is now an employee parking lot; the space currently holds 14-16 cars and has built-out capacity for 24 cars or so. With City Hall a polling site at this time, the voters have more parking spaces around the City Hall building. We anticipate additional opportunities to enhance parking on the City Campus over the next couple of years.

HISTORICAL STREET INFORMATION

A few residents recently shared their confusion as to how new streets are paid for. The Fair family, as the private property owner of the original 5,000 acre core of "The Ranch", was the developer of the original 5,000 acres. (Just recently did the family complete development of their 5,000 acre property.)

As "the developer", they paid for the streets as each area/ neighborhood was developed. The counties – Bexar, Comal and Kendall – also paid for those determined to be county responsibility. Today, the system is the same. All new roads are paid for by developer along with all utility infrastructures for each specific development. The current tax payers are not paying for these new streets. According

(Continued on Page 3)

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

to our Public Works Director he has never seen any city-street construction designs. (Yes...infrastructure costs are incorporated into the land/house sale price.)

As a City, all roads are public except for gated community streets (they are private streets). Although initially built/paid for by developers, the roads are annexed and the City maintains them. Unlike many other states, Texas cities receive

no state aid to offset the benefits that city streets provide. Other states return a portion of vehicle registration fees or gasoline taxes to cities for this purpose; Texas doesn't.

However, the Texas Legislature has granted Texas cities the authority to impose a street maintenance sales tax of up to 1/4-cent to be used to maintain city streets. The voters take advantage and continue re-authorizing the ¼-cent; those monies become part of the daily road maintenance needs.

NEW WATER METERS!

All water meters throughout the City are now in place. As with any change, you may have questions as how to read the new meter, how can I monitor my usage, etc. Please contact Kelly at City Hall at 210-698-0900. Two areas that may cause unexplained water usage are leaks and water softeners. The computer system provides data by the day and by the hour. If your landscaper has irrigation programed for every other day at 2:00am, the system will show something is running at those days and that time. Seem water softeners tend to cycle more than expected as well.

Just how much water is lost daily through leaks? Basic data: (1) dripping leak: 15 gal., (2) 1/32 in. leak: 264 gal., (3) 1/8 in. leak: 3,806 gal., (4) 1/4 in. leak: 15,226 gal. and/or (5) 1/2 in. leak: 60,900 gal. Take the daily figure and multiply it by 30 days. Leaks grow quickly...high water loss and high water billings (*http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense).

THANKSGIVING

November is a special time for family and friends to gather and celebrate Thanksgiving. The City extends a special thank you to our residents for choosing to make Fair Oaks Ranch your home.

> Respectfully, Cheryl Landman, Mayor

PS: Still thinking about "mentoring"? November 10-14, 2014 is National Young Reader's Week. Contact FOR Elementary and share 30 minutes a week with a "young reader". Contact Deborah Saldana at 830-357-4807 or email at Deborah.Saldana@Boerne-ISD.net.



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Fair Oaks Gazette - November 2014 3

Autum Tree Color

Fall color change in Central Texas may not have quite the grandeur of the New England area, but its less frequent occurrences of grandeur can make an even more stark contrast and impression upon us. I'm often asked about the reasons for this mysterious color transformation. I will provide the basic scientific explanation for this in the first part of the article and the second part I will cover many of the species both native and naturalized (non-natives that are a very positive addition to our total tree species in Central Texas) that contribute dramatic Fall brilliance to our area.

First, why are leaves green? It is a result of a pigment called chlorophyll, which captures solar energy and employs it in the production/photosynthesis of carbohydrates/sugar (i.e. tree energy or tree food). This "energy factory" if you will, occurs almost exclusively in the leaf, and other pigments are also in play in lesser amounts during photosynthesis. Spurred by the shortening of the daylight hours and temperature decline, various plant growth hormones changes occur and leaf senescence or the programmed plant-leaf aging process enters its last stages for deciduous trees (tree species that lose their leaves every Fall).

Due to less sunlight energy, less chlorophyll is produced and the leaves begin to turn golden or brown. The diminishing of chlorophyll, the amount of sugar, and the amount of the two other pigments in play in photosynthesis – anthocyanin (reds & purples) and carotenoids (yellows and oranges) are the main factors which cause the color changes. So the more sugar and the higher concentrations of either of the two remaining pigments causes the peak color purity and color brilliance. Other factors that are also in play include: latitudinal and longitudinal coordinates, elevation above sea level, geographical setting (best color tends to be found within valleys or ravines near creeks or rivers), annual rainfall the previous year plus this year and final month, availability of macro and micro nutrients available, the timing and duration, plus depth of first cold front/northerly freezes, tree species, and the individual hereditary traits of that particular tree.

Finally, to increase the chances of good color - use of a Fall tree

fertilizer with ample water, will increase the chances of longer and higher quantity of sugar production and capacity for trees to also create ample amounts of the other pigments needed. Healthier trees are more likely to have better color.

As a disclaimer, the species with corresponding colors are the typical color displayed, but there are always exceptions such as a small area I've visited with Cedar Elms displaying more red than the typical yellow they generally display and often many of the trees go through phases of each color being displayed in stages (yellow to orange to red). Also, a rare phenomenon in a sparse amount of Live Oaks occurs where they will change into crimson, scarlet, then purple hues!

CREATE YOUR OWN PALETTE

These are by no means comprehensive, but the hope is that it peaks interest and renews interest in more seasonal color-representative tree species being planted (next Spring and Summer we will focus an article on each of them respectively).

NATIVE TREES

Spanish Red Oak (multi), Cedar Elm (yellow), Blackjack Oak (red/ purple), Bigtooth Maple (multi), Escarpment Black Cherry, (yellow), Bigleaf & Littleleaf Walnut (yellow), Texas Ash (yellow then scarlet then purple!), Flameleaf Sumac (multi).

NATURALIZED TREES

Shantung Maple (multi), Caddo Maple (multi), Mexican Sugar Maple (multi), Silver Maple (multi), Drummond Red Maple (scarlet), Amur Maple (multi), Trident Maple (multi), Chinese Pistache (multi), Shumard Red Oak (scarlet).

Finally, if you have not made a trip to Lost Maples State Park – please do so! Next month we will look into various evergreen trees that are underused and undervalued despite the beauty, uniqueness, and capacity for surviving in our harsh climate. Any questions or comments on this article or previous ones may be directed to: kevin@ arborcareandconsulting.com

LONCHORN SOLAR CUSTOMERS HAVE SAVED OVER \$1 MILLION IN ENERGY BILLSI



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Fair Oaks Gazette - November 2014 5



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 Fair Oaks Ranch Golf and Country Club.

The Rotary Club facilitates the Meals On wheels service for the City and surroundsand is always looking for folks who need that service.

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*.



HEALTH FAIR *at Schreiner University*



Daphne Luttrell, RN, BSN, Director of Nursing for Hill Country Pregnancy Care Center (HCPCC) is joined by Dr. Rosaria Faller, Child Birth educator for HCPCC at Schreiner University as they meet Monty the Mountain Lion. They were at a Health Fair at Schreiner University on October 1. In addition to health information they were available to provide specific information about sexually transmitted infections and to provide STI testing on campus.

The HCPCC is a faith based 501 c 3 non-profit that provides free pregnancy tests, first trimester sonograms, STD testing, prenatal and child birth classes, parenting classes, post abortion bible studies, diapers and baby clothes, and referrals. Individuals and couples may "earn" items such as cribs, car seats, pack and plays, etc. through attending classes.

Free child birth classes are also held at the YMCA on Wednesday evenings and one Saturday every other month. All classes at the YMCA and at the HCPCC facility on Fabra St. in Boerne are available in English and Spanish. Speakers are also available to community groups on a variety of topics: Dating Violence, Healthy Relationships, STDs and Risky Behaviors, and Fetal Development (with a portable sonogram machine).

Anyone interested in reveiving services or in financially supporting this ministry should call 830-249-9717 or go to www.lifesprecious.org or www.boernepregnancy.org The HCPCC is open Tuesday/Thursday 10-8pm, Wednesday 10-4pm and Friday 10-1pm.



PARTNERSHIPS FOR CHILDREN

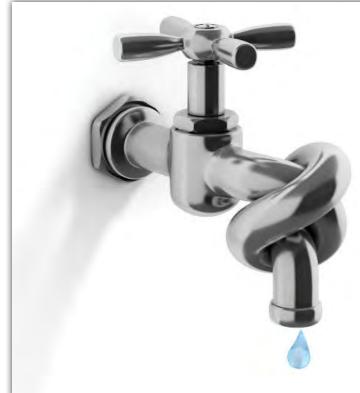
Paul is a sweet, loving boy—and he almost always has a smile on face! While he is extremely active and loves to play sports and be outside, Paul does well academically and is a polite young man.

Paul is 7 years old and is confident in his abilities to entertain others with his dance moves, creativity, and jokes. An abundance of support and patience will help Paul achieve success in his promising young life.

To find out more about Paul, please contact Grace Lindgren, LMSW, Wendy's Wonderful Kids Recruiter, at (512) 810-0813 or glindgren@helpinghandhome.org.

Adopting a child from the foster care system requires little or no cost to the adoptive family and funding may be available to help the adoptive family support the child or sibling group.

The Heart Gallery of Central Texas is a program of Partnerships for Children. To learn more about the adoption or fostering process, please call the Heart Gallery of Central Texas at (512) 834-3102, email heartgallery@partnershipsforchildren. org or visit our website at www.partnershipsforchildren.org.



Trinity Glen Rose Groundwater Conservation District Water Conservation Audit

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 problems 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.





Situated in the historic setting of Leon Springs, between 'The Dominion and Fair Oalu Ranch, *The Lodge at Leon Springs* is one of the Hill Country's true gents. Family-owned for eighteen years, the fourteen-acre property abovecases majertic trees, a lovely spring-fed pend and is home to an array of wildlife species, including ducks, fish, deer, and markey to name a few. The animal companions of our residents are also welcound 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 dryet. 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 screnity 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 smotional 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 stevelittchengebeglobal.net



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10 Fair Oaks Gazette - November 2014

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FOR

WAGNER is #1 in <u>SALES</u> the past Decade in Fair Oaks Ranch!

- San Antonio Business Journal ranked The Wagner Team the <u>#1 TEAM in San Antonio</u> & the Hill in 2013 across all Real Estate Companies.
- Neller Williams is the #1 Brokerage Company in Fair Oaks with nearly 50% market share in 2014.
- Dave Wagner is <u>#1 in Fair Daks Ranch</u> over all other Realtors or "Individual Brokers" by a very wide margin.
- * 33 Year Resident & Member of the Club. Expansive LOCAL NETWORK & KNOWLEDGE that is unparalleled.
- * 9 Time Consecutive Platinum 50 Winner & Texas Monthly 5-Star Realtor.
- Trinity graduate with numerous industry Designations & Certifications.
- Lives right around the corner!

"Congratulations, David, on being the <u>NUMBER ONE</u> producer in Fair Oaks Ranch! According to the San Antonio Multiple Listing Services, you have had, by a WIDE margin, more SALES, more LISTINGS, more BUYERS, and more transactions than all other REALTORs or INDIVIDUAL BROKERS from all companies in Fair Oaks Ranch!

Wendi Harrelson

Team Leader, Regional Area Directoer, South Texas Keller Williams Realty

DAVE WAGNER 210.862.7616



12 Fair Oaks Gazette - November 2014

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