



The Official Newsletter of the Plum Creek Homeowner Association January 2016 Volume 7, Issue I

Greetings New Residents and Welcome to Plum Creek!

Plum Creek is a great community. While you should have received a copy of the Plum Creek Declaration and Bylaws at closing, we thought the following basic information would be helpful.

1) The Plum Creek HOA office is located at 4100 Everett suite 150, near the Hays Performing Arts center and Plum Fit. The office number is 512-262-1140. The office hours are Monday – Friday 9 AM to 5 PM. The property manager is Kristi Morrison: plumcreekmanager@goodwintx.com.

2) Plum Creek HOA has a resident website: www.plumcreektxhoa. com. Request a resident login in to access pertinent documents in the Documents Library and other important information.

3) The Welcome Committee delivers welcome bags to new owners. This comes the month after your closing date. If you have not received a welcome bag within two months after the closing, you can email welcome@plumcreektxhoa.com.

4) Parking in the back alley ways is prohibited. The alleys are for ingress and egress only. You can park in driveway or in your garage. The front streets have limited street parking and are usually public streets. Try not to block your neighbor's house.

5) Garbage pickup is on Tuesdays. The trash and recycling cans need to be stored out of view by the following day to prevent getting a violation notice. The recycling schedule is located on the City of Kyle website under http://www.cityofkyle.com/utilitybilling/citykyle-solid-waste-collection-information

6) Xeriscaping is allowed in Plum Creek. To add xeriscaping you must submit an Architectural Review Committee Approval Application (ARC form) with an installation plan and the survey. This form is located in the Documents Library on the Plum Creek HOA resident website. 7) Any permanent exterior improvements to the house may require approval from the Architectural Review Committee. Review information in the Architectural Changes menu link on the website: www.plumcreektxhoa.com.

8) Whether you are a renter or buyer, your yard is important so you'll need to keep it maintained.

9) Enjoy the pool! If you do not have a pool key or recreational ID or your pool key does not work, contact the Plum Creek HOA office.

10) Annual coupons are issued to all residents who are not set up for the ACH draft. Owners will receive a payment statement which will provide a payment history for the new homeowner account. You can set up an automatic draft at www.goodwintx.com with the account number on the coupons. Call Goodwin Customer Service with questions about the ACH draft: 512-502-7515. Haven't received your welcome letter from Goodwin Management? Call the Plum Creek HOA office and verify that we have received your correct mailing address.

11) Sign-up for the Weekly eNews. This emailed weekly edition of news is generated from the Plum Creek website. This is an optin subscription located in your User Profile on the private resident menu of the Plum Creek website.

These are some of the basic and frequently asked questions. Want more reading? Log onto the Plum Creek website and review the Documents Library for copies of governing documents, Plum Creek Post newsletter, or check the Events Calendar to find dates of planned community events. Visit the website at www.plumcreektxhoa.com. Welcome to the neighborhood!

Committee Contacts

PLUM CREEK HOA MANAGER

Kristi Morrison plumcreekmanager@goodwintx.com PLUM CREEK POST AND WEEKLY ENEWS

Adriane Carbajal.....announcements@plumcreektxhoa.com COMMUNITY CENTER RESERVATION QUESTIONS Adriane Carbajal.......reservations@plumcreektxhoa.com

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SAFETY & MONITORING COMMITTEE

Carol Peterssafety@plumcreektxhoa.com WELCOME COMMITTEE

Arcelia and Gary Gibbs......welcome@plumcreektxhoa.com

PLUM CREEK HOA WEBSITE:www.plumcreektxhoa.com

Important Numbers

STREET LIGHTS, ROAD REPAIRS, STREET SIGNS City of Kyle Public Works Dept......**512.262.3024**

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City of Kyle Animal	Control	

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POWER OUTAGES

PEC1.888.883.3379

SCHOOLS

Hays CISD	
Negley Elementary	
Barton Middle School	
Hays High School	512.268.2911

Newsletter Info

PUBLISHER

Article Submission

.....announcements@plumcreektxhoa.com

Advertising.....advertising@PEELinc.com

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Please support the advertisers that make the Plum Creek Post possible. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office at 512-263-9181 or <u>advertising@PEELinc.com</u>. The advertising deadline is the 8th of the month prior to the issue.

DON'T WANT TO WAIT FOR THE MAIL?

View the current issue of the Plum Creek Post on the 1st day of each month at www.PEELinc.com





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Community Association Living

In today's society, we have so many choices on where to live...condos, apartments, downtown lofts, farms, and classic neighborhoods. Some neighborhoods, like Plum Creek, even have homeowner associations (HOA's), which connects us even further. In our neighborhood, each person has their own perspective of what is important about living in an HOA, including

- A great school district in Hays CISD
- Budget friendly
- Easy access to local businesses and work
- Proximity to Austin or San Antonio
- Safety
- Social activities
- Great community pools, trails, and parks
- Quiet
- Connected community

While this may not be a complete list, it mentions a few of the wonderful things about our neighborhood. The last one, being connected, is what makes Plum Creek so unique. Plum Creek is a diverse group of people that come together to create a community. We live, work, and play here. We share space with our neighbors from alleys to parks to our own yards and many spaces in between. Being so connected is wonderful, but it can present some challenges. Each of



us have different work and play schedules, different sleep habits, and different noise level tolerances. Being neighborly and understanding is a very important part of living in neighborhood, such as Plum Creek.

Residents move in and out of the neighborhood all the time. Get to know your neighbors. Wave and smile! They probably chose to live in the community for some of the same reasons as you. If you haven't already, introduce yourself to a neighbor you haven't met yet. It just takes a few minutes to walk up and greet your neighbor. Relationships take time to build, but relating on basic levels is always a good place to start.

Another place to meet and greet neighbors is the common areas. These include the pools, parks, community center, and walking trails. While using these areas, we owe it to ourselves and our neighbors to be on our best behavior. Have fun, but remember the basics...clean up and be courteous. Remember to toss all of your trash or wipe off the table after a picnic lunch. Treat the common area items as if your own. Use a little extra care with common area landscaping, playscapes, bathrooms, the community center, tables, chairs, and more. Damages to these items can cause HOA dues to rise or take facilities out of use. What is that old boy scout rule? "Always leave the campground cleaner

(Continued on Page 4)



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than you found it." While that's not always 100% possible, it's a good thing to remember and try to follow. If a problem should ever arise in a common area, kindly explain the park, trail, or pool rules or report the problem, if necessary. It's a big community, and we can make it a great place to live for everyone!

So, whether you are here for one year or you are here to stay, remember to be neighborly, use your best behavior in the common areas and help keep the common amenities in great condition for all to enjoy.

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Classified Ads

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Forest Creek residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail <u>forestcreek@peelinc.com.com</u>

Business classifieds (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office at 512-263-9181 or *advertising@PEELinc.com.*

Plum Creek HOA Dues

Quarterly payments become due on: January 1st April 1st July 1st October 1st

The quarterly dues payment for 2016 is \$134.00. Prepayments accepted. You have 30 days to send in the payment before a \$36.00 late fee is applied.

The payment address is:

Plum Creek HOA

c/o Goodwin Processing Center

PO Box 93447

Las Vegas, NV 89193-3447

**include your account number

You can contact the Plum Creek HOA office at 512-262-1140 to request your account number.

Set up ACH Draft:

Visit our website www.goodwintx.com to login to your HOA account and view your account detail and payment options. Once you are on the website, you will select your community from the drop down box on the bottom left hand side of the screen, select "go" to open your community's homepage, and then select the blue login button on the left.

Not sure about your user name and password for the Goodwin payment website? Call Goodwin Customer Service: 512-502-7515

Looking to Buy, Sell or Invest in Real Estate? We Can Help!



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Community Association Living Traits of Good Board Members

Do you have what it takes to be a good board member? Chances are you do.

If you have a mix of some of the following traits and skills, consider running for a seat on the board. We'd love to have you.

Respect. If you can give others respect and expect it in return, you can help keep board discussions civil, productive and on point. We're looking for people who can lead by consensus, not by command.

Good listening. People want to be heard. Can you listen to board members and residents with sincere interest? You may have a few ideas of your own, but everyone benefits by sharing and discussing.

Thick skin. Sometimes, residents—even other board members—can be mean and insulting. Are you good at turning a conversation around and finding out what's really bothering people?

Egos aside. If you can give others credit, the board will operate better as a team.

Agenda aside. Members who come to the board looking to help only themselves are a problem. A board is more productive when members don't have a personal punch list. Are you able to look after the community, not just your own interests? Are you willing to compromise?

Skill. An association is a business. So having board members with accounting, organizational behavior and teambuilding backgrounds can help. Someone with a financial background, for example, might make for a good treasurer.

The ideal board comprises a mix of management styles, professional skills and temperaments. If you know people with some of these traits or relevant skills, ask them if they'd be interested in joining the board. Some people don't think about running for a seat unless asked.

You don't have to know everything when you join, but you should be familiar with the governing documents and the responsibilities of the job. Fellow board members and managers can help you with the transition and train you on board responsibilities, current work, projects and hot issues.

Leaders can come from different places and backgrounds. There's no one mode that fits all. Share your knowledge and passion with the community.

Source: Community Associations institute (CAI) www. caionline.org



TexPTS South Austin announces new Clinic Director

Justin Simon, PT, DPT, OCS

is a Board Certified Orthopaedic Clinical Specialist. Dr. Simon graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Health and Human Performance from Montana State University of Billings in 2010. He went on to receive a Doctorate in Physical Therapy from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA in 2013. He then moved to Texas in 2013 to pursue Residency training in Orthopedics through Evidence in Motion and graduated in the spring of 2015. Justin and his wife continue to live in San Marcos, where they met. They spend their free time around the San Marcos river, love biking and hiking in the hot Texas summers and are both heavily involved with their church with the children's ministry and with the band. Justin plans to continue in the educational realm by educating and mentoring young physical therapists and doctoral interns.





TexPTS South Austin is located at:

801 East William Cannon Drive Suite 225 Austin, TX 78745 (512) 270-2060 (512) 270-2761

Dr Simon is joined in practice by Peyton Sykes, PT, DPT.

Dr. Sykes completed his Bachelors in Kinesiology at Stephen F. Austin State University. He received his Doctorate of Physical Therapy (DPT) from University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences in Austin, Texas. As part of the first class to complete the DPT program at this campus, he was asked to deliver the Student Commencement Speech at graduation. Throughout the course of the program, he also participated in two orthopaedic clinical internships. Dr. Sykes is currently completing his orthopedic physical therapy residency.

He enjoys treating patients with all types of orthopedic conditions, ranging from high school athletes to retirees looking to get back to enjoying their lives and activities at the most optimal level.

Dr. Sykes is a Southeast Texas native and moved to Austin in 2009. He enjoys staying active, outdoor activities, and performing as a singer/song-writer in his spare time.

Services provided at TexPTS South Austin include:

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XERISCAPING!

From the Landscaping Committee

If you are still pondering what to do with your yard, please consider XERISCAPING. No we do not mean all cactus, rocks, and cattle skulls. That is not xeriscaping. According to Dr. Welch from Texas A&M University, xeriscaping is a quality landscape that has proportional balance of 1/3 plantings, 1/3 lawn, and 1/3 hardscape (decks, patios, sidewalks). You can see quality landscapes (i.e. XERISCAPED) in magazines such as Southern Living and Better Homes & Gardens. There are many yards in Plum Creek that are xeriscaped according to Dr. Welch's definition. With his definition in mind, you can have a beautiful landscape and also save time and conserve water. It is never too late to start saving water and doing our part to preserve our planet. Happy Gardening!!!!!

Plan your yard for the upcoming Yard of the Month contest from April –June.

**Changing from sod yard to a xeriscaped yard is a permanent exterior change to your house. This requires approval from the architectural review committee. You can download a copy of the Architectural Review Form from the Plum Creek resident website: www.plumcreektxhoa.com or you can request an email copy from the Plum Creek HOA office: plumcreekmanager@goodwintx.com.





If you know or hear of a friend, relative, or coworker that is thinking of buying or selling a home, please share our contact information. We would love to provide them with excellent client care.

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AT THE FENCE

New Plum Creek Lake/Park Committee

The newly established Plum Creek Lake/Park Committee will have its first meeting January 19th at 7:00 PM at 1401 Kirby, (Linda Campbell's home). Initially, Linda and Gary Gibbs will serve as co-chairs. This committee will be concerned with maintenance and improvements to the Plum Creek lake area as well as all of our neighborhood parks, in particular the Kirby Park.

Plum Creek Welcome Committee News

The Plum Creek Welcome Committee will meet Monday January 18th at 6:30 PM at 1143 Sanders, (the home of Arcelia and Gary Gibbs). Any resident is welcome to attend. We are always looking for new volunteers.

The Plum Creek Welcome Committee greets new neighbors moving into Plum Creek. We give every new resident a Plum Creek tote bag, which contains a Plum Creek HOA Welcome Packet, a Kyle Chamber of Commerce Guidebook, and a variety of items from local area businesses. Some of our volunteers also solicit local businesses for the promotional items to be included in the tote bags.

Sip and Sew

New Year resolutions? Maybe to learn to knit, crochet, needle punch or finish an already started project. Sip and Sew is a table

filled with talented individuals willing to share their knowledge. It is fun to watch the creative ideas flow. We meet the second Tuesday of the month, location to be determined. January 12th at 6:30 - 8:45 PM. For additional information, please contact: Iris Sandle – 512-405-0054. Come join our group.....come Sip and Sew!

Check upcoming weekly eNews for location.

Bulky and Brush Pick-Up

Another part of the expanded residential service is large bulk and brush collection. Kyle residents can contact TDS once per year to have items such as furniture, appliances or bundled brush of up to 3 cubic yards (approximately the size of a washer and dryer) picked up at no additional charge.

Questions regarding the program can be directed to TDS Customer Care at 1-800-375-8375 or visit the website: http:// www.texasdisposal.com/

Need to get moving after the holidays?

Go to the Athlete Guild website: www.athleteguild.com/ Find race and walk or run to get moving! Save The Date:

2016 Annual Meeting- Thursday, March 24, 2016 at 6:30 pm

Community Center Reservations

The community center is available to Plum Creek residents to reserve year round. To make a reservation complete the following steps:

1. Log in as a resident user to the Plum Creek HOA: www. plumcreektxhoa.com

2. Select the Reservation link.

3. Search the reservation calendar for available dates and times

4. Select time slot you want by clicking the word Available in the calendar.

5. Fill in the on line form to hold the reservation.

6. Complete and return the Reservation Form to the HOA office. Read the rules.

7. An approval email will be sent to your primary email in your User Profile with the access code.

8. You will need your pool key to open the first gate. Reservation Approval Process:

- The HOA account must be paid current
- The paper Reservation Form must be turned in

• Community Social Events take precedent over individual reservations. The community social event calendar is released in the first quarter of each year and published in the newsletter, eNews, and on the Plum Creek HOA website. Community Social Events include Easter, Front Porch Days, 4th of July, Hootenanny on the Hill and Santa Pictures.

• Reservation approvals are sent to the email address listed in the address book. Make sure that your current email address is updated in the address book.

• The approval email will come from: plumcreek@ yourcommunitybulletins.com 2- 3 weeks prior to the event. This email will contain the access code. Make sure your pool key card is working.

Call the Plum Creek HOA office at 512-262-1140 or email plumcreekmanager@goodwintx.com with questions about the reservation process.

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Update From The Architectural Review Committee (ARC)

The Architectural Control Committee of Plum Creek HOA would like to remind everyone to submit your proposed improvements to the ARC for review. Just about all exterior changes you are considering require review. Many common landscaping improvements have Design Guidelines that specify how things can be installed. For specific information, go to www.plumcreektxhoa.com, and select Architectural Changes. Here is a list of some of the improvements that need review:

- substantial re-design of front yard landscapes
- conversion of front yard landscapes to Water Wise landscape plans
- decks, sheds, patios, patio covers
- playscapes
- home additions

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SPRINGTAILS

Springtails are very small, jumping insects that can sometimes become a problem inside homes. Springtails are usually found in areas of moisture, so indoors they may located near potted plants, sinks, bath tubs or kitchen compost areas. These insects are typically found outside in gardens, near swimming pools or near where there is excessive moisture or standing water.

Springtails are small (about 1/16 of an inch long), wingless and come in various colors. These insects have a "tail" that latches into a space on the underside of the body that they can use to "jump" several inches into the air.

Springtails are considered a nuisance insect, but some may chew on roots and leaves of sapling plants. They usually do not cause enough damage to warrant control measures to be taken. If you have springtails in your home it points to a moisture problem that should be fixed.

Options for helping reduce springtail problems:

- Remove excessive mulch and/ or leaf litter near the home
- Change watering schedule to reduce the amount of moisture near the home

- Use fans or dehumidifiers to reduce moisture indoors
- Seal cracks, crevices, pipe & wire penetrations on the outside of the home
- Replace or repair any screening on doors and windows that is damaged
- Replace weather stripping around doors and windows that does not provide a good seal
- · Suck up any indoor infestations with a vacuum

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

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