



The Official Newsletter of the Plum Creek Homeowner Association May 2016 Volume 7, Issue 5





Front Porch Days is almost here. Front Porch Days is a huge gathering each year in May and includes music, a pie baking contest, petting

zoo, pony rides, inflatables, barrel train, Skate Team demo, local organizations, vendors, crafts, food, and more.

All of the entertainment and many of the events are provided by Plum Creek HOA. Money is needed to purchase food, drinks, and products from vendors and community groups or to participate in the golf tournament, 10K, 5K, 3K, or 1K run.

## Schedule of Timed Events *Saturday, May 14th:*

• 7AM: Front Porch Days Races 10K, 5K 3K, & 1K Run, Negley Elem.

#### Register online @ www.tinyurl.com/2016FPDRaces

- 9AM: Plum Creek Garden Tour, starts at Haupt Park
- 12PM: Golf Tournament, PC Golf Course.

Register online http://tinyurl.com/h2ko8e8

#### Sunday, May 15th:

- Front Porch Days Carnival from Noon to 3PM
- Plum Creek Music Festival from Noon to 3PM
- Pie Baking Contest @ 11:45 am, PC Community Center
- Washer Tournament- registration closes at 1 PM
- And More!
- 4PM to 6PM: Family Fishing Day at the Lake

Visit www.frontporchdays.com for details and event updates! YARD of the MONTH April

Yard of the Month Winners

## Congratulations

1ST PLACE 6134 Hartson

ers 2ND PLACE 4091 Mather ers 3RD PLACE

1093 Dorn

Please take a look at these beautiful yards; they are only three of the many wonderful landscapes in Plum Creek. Signs of recognition will appear in the winning yards April 15th. Please send nominations (yourself or your neighbor) to landscape@plumcreektxhoa.com.

## **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

#### DOG PARK COMMITTEE

Aimee Kalmus ......dogpark@plumcreektxhoa.com

LAKE/PARK COMMITTEE Linda Campbell.....lake@plumcreektxhoa.com

- LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE Sandra Gonzalez.....landscape@plumcreektxhoa.com
- POOL COMMITTEE Scott Brown......pool@plumcreektxhoa.com

**RECREATION COMMITTEE** Mary Halenza ...... recreation@plumcreektxhoa.com

SAFETY & NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COMMITTEE Carol Peters & Denise Quinterri.....

.....safety@plumcreektxhoa.com WELCOME COMMITTEE

Arcelia Gibbs.....welcome@plumcreektxhoa.com

PLUM CREEK HOA WEBSITE:www.plumcreektxhoa.com

## **Important Numbers**

#### 

Hays CISD	512.268.2141
Negley Elementary	512-268.8501
Barton Middle School	512.268.1472
Hays High School	512.268.2911

## **Newsletter Info**

#### PUBLISHER

Article Submission .....

.....announcements@plumcreektxhoa.com

Advertising......advertising@PEELinc.com

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## Alley Ettiquette

Spring is here and the kids are out! This time of year, before the temperature soars and the fire ants wage their battles in the plots of bermuda, feels like paradise. When you're a kid, there is nothing more fun than speeding down an alleyway on your new bike. Even better if you have some friends to form a posse. For parents, its a great place to let them blow off all that steam. You'll also see the little ones wandering after the big kids, hoping to ride someday like they do. It's a great time of year and a good time to remember safety in our streets in alleys. We have no shortage of large vehicles in Texas and they can be scary and dangerous to kids. Watching your speed around corners, being extra slow in case a bike might come barreling towards you goes a long way to ensure our neighborhood is safe and sound for the little lives that are being nurtured in our neighborhood.



- Be a responsible dog owner
- Dog poop is classified as a pollutant not fertilizer. It kills grass.
- Dog poop creates a hazard for other animal as well as humans.
- It's a dog owner's responsibility to clean up after their pet.

If your dog decides to poopy, please bend down and scoopy!

## PLUM CREEK POST

## Make A Clean Sweep with the Community-Wide Garage Sale

Start cleaning out those closets and get ready for Plum Creek's Spring Community Garage Sale to be held

Saturday, May 7th, from dawn until dusk. So, while you are doing your spring cleaning and you run across things you no longer want—hold onto them for a bit longer and sell them at Plum Creek's Community Garage Sale! Remember-- one neighbor's trash is another's treasure!

All homeowners may participate and should display their items on their front lawn for better crowd control. Our goal is to encourage visitors to park on the streets and not in alleys. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and will help us to have a safe and pleasant garage sale experience. Also, kids are welcome to earn money by selling baked goods or drinks! So, start saving bags for your customers to take home their treasures in and newspapers for wrapping breakable items.

## Guidelines for the Board Meeting

Residents are encouraged to attend and observe association board meetings. If you'd like to bring an issue to the board's attention, you're welcome to speak during the homeowner forum—a time set aside just for you. So that everyone who attends has an opportunity for a meaningful exchange with the board, we ask that you observe the following guidelines:

• Although we're all neighbors, this is a corporate business meeting. Please behave accordingly.

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• If you'd like to address the board, please sign in when you arrive. You will be called in the order you entered. This allows the board to contact you if we need further information and to report back to you with an answer.

• The homeowner forum is an exchange of ideas. If you're bringing a problem to our attention, we'd like to hear your ideas for a solution too.

• To keep the meeting businesslike, please refrain from speaking if you're particularly upset about an issue. Consider speaking later, speaking privately with a board member, or putting your concerns in writing and e-mailing them to the board.

• Only one person may speak at a time. Please respect others' opinions by remaining silent and still when someone else has the floor.

• Each person will be allowed to speak no more than three minutes. Please respect the volunteers' time by limiting your remarks.

• If you need more than three minutes, please put your comments in writing. Include background information, causes, circumstances, desired solutions and other considerations you believe are important. The board will make your written summary an agenda item at the next meeting.

We may not be able to resolve your concerns on the spot, and we may not debate an issue with you during the homeowner forum. Your issue may be part of the ongoing maintenance budget. If your issue is not part of the maintenance budget, we may need to discuss and vote on the issue first. But we will try to answer you by the next board meeting.

Board meeting dates are announced via the eNews from the Plum Creek resident website: www.plumcreektxhoa.com. If you have not logged in as a resident, be sure to do so to receive board meeting notices and other important HOA related notices.

Source: Community Associations Institute



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### Lake and Parks Committee

The next meeting of the Plum Creek Lakes and Parks Committee will be May 17th at 7 pm at the home of Arcelia and Gary Gibbs (1143 Sanders). Any resident is welcome to attend. We are looking for volunteers willing to work to ensure that our outdoor amenities serve the recreational needs of our community.

As our lake and parks bloom with the beauty of springtime in Texas, the Lake and Parks Committee would like to encourage residents to get outside and enjoy all the outdoor amenities Plum Creek has to offer. Research shows that getting your kids outdoors and immersed in nature is good for their development in so many ways (read "Last Child in the Woods" by Richard Louv). And the exercise and stress reduction will certainly benefit busy adults. For those of you who fish the lake, we ask that you take your recreation tag with you when you fish. The lake is an amenity for the use of Plum Creek residents and their guests, so committee members, security people and others may ask you to show your recreation tag when you fish. We also remind fishermen that artificial baits only are to be used and that all fishing is catch and release. Teach your kids how to properly release a fish so they can can catch a bigger one next time. Finally, we want to enlist all residents to help take care of the parks, trails and lake by keeping them clean and following rules meant to provide for safe, family-friendly fun for residents.

## At The Fence

#### PLUM CREEK WELCOME COMMITTEE NEWS

The Plum Creek Welcome Committee will next meet Monday, May 16th at 6:30 PM at 1143 Sanders, (the home of Arcelia and Gary Gibbs).

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.

The Committee is also considering new services such as a monthly meet-and-greet for new residents, and providing reference material for elderly residents who may need additional social services.

#### POOL KEY CARDS

Pool key cards will be suspended if your dues are not paid current. Dues can be prepaid annually or paid quarterly. Details about payment options are posted on the Plum Creek resident website in the Online Payment link at the top of the menu. Resident website: www.plumcreektxhoa.com

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## PLUM CREEK POST

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#### **REVISED POOL RULES**

Revised pool rules are now posted on the resident website: www. plumcreektxhoa.com

Login as a resident user and select the Documents Library link. Then select Pool Information in the drop down menu on the right.

#### WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The 2016 annual meeting was held on March 24, 2016. The number of volunteer board members was increased from 3 to 5 members. Welcome Jennifer Crosby, Brad Growt and Gary Gibbs to the board. As volunteer board members, they will serve along with Tony Spano and Megan Rogers.

#### SIP AND SEW

Want to join a group of creative individuals? Sip and Sew is a group of individuals enjoying their hobbies....which includes needlepoint, crochet, knitting, punch needle, rug hooking, counted cross stitch, quilting and sewing. We have numerous individuals willing to share their talents. We meet the second Tuesday of the month, May 10th, 6:30-8:45 PM.

Location Plum Creek HOA Office: 4100 Everett, Suite 150. Come ready to "do your own thing" of to get instructions or assistance with a project or just to observe. Come, Sip and Sew! If you have questions, please contact: Iris Sandle-512-405-0054 or Sandra Sigler 512-405-0187

## Why Do We Need Reserves?

Equipment and major components (like the community center roof) must be replaced from time to time, regardless of whether we plan for the expense. We prefer to plan and set the funds aside now. Reserve funds aren't an extra expense—they just spread out expenses more evenly. There are other important reasons we put association monies into reserves every month:

1. Reserve funds meet legal, fiduciary, and professional requirements. A replacement fund may be required by:

- Any secondary mortgage market in which the association participates (e.g., Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, FHA, VA).

- State statutes, regulations, or court decisions.
- The community's governing documents.

2. Reserve funds provide for major repairs and replacements that we know will be necessary at some point in time. Although a community center roof may be replaced when it is 25 years old, it is common property and each owner should share its replacement costs.

3. Reserve funds minimize the need for special assessments or borrowing. For most association members, this is the most important reason.

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4. Reserve funds enhance resale values. Lenders and real estate agents are aware of the ramifications for new buyers if the reserves are inadequate. Many states require associations to disclose the amounts in their reserve funds to prospective purchasers.

5. The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) requires the community association to disclose its reserve funds in its financial statements.

Source: Community Associations Institute www.caionline.org

## Community Association Living How to Be a Good Neighbor

A little consideration goes a long way. Read the following tips from eHow.com on how to be a good neighbor beyond just a smile and a wave.

• Welcome any new neighbors with a personal note or pop by for a personal introduction.

• Make sure that the outside of your home—along with the grounds—is well-kept and complies with our association's CC&Rs.

• Be mindful of noise—loud music, barking dogs, power tools that may disrupt the neighborhood beyond a reasonable hour.

• If you have a large party, consider your neighbors when directing your guests where to park, end the party at a reasonable hour and invite your neighbors to join in the fun.

• Return anything you borrow from your neighbor promptly, in the same condition they lent it to you, and express your thanks.

• Replace anything of your neighbor's that you, your children or your pets break or soil.

• Respect your neighbor's privacy.

• Offer to take care of mail pick-up, plants or pets while your neighbor is on vacation.

• Be social! Inviting a neighbor over for coffee and conversation can promote open communication and a friendly neighborhood environment from which all neighbors can benefit.

Visit www.ehow.com for other helpful, neighborly advice.



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