

POST

The Official Newsletter of the Plum Creek Homeowner Association September 2017 Volume 8, Issue 9



Mark your calendars for October 14th when Plum Creek presents Hootenanny on the Hill from 12PM to 4PM. Join us for a day filled with fun for the whole family with races, live music, games, storytelling and more. The acclaimed Austin-based band, People's Choice, will be headlining the live music stage.

Our festival begins in the wee hours with the Hootenanny Races - 10k/ 5K/3K/1K at 7am. Races will start and finish at the Dog Park. Tinyurl.com/2017hootraces to be in the race or tinyurl. com/2017hootvolunteer to cheer and help!

We will also be hosting the annual BBQ Cook-Off at the Plum Creek Community Center. Tickets will be available for \$2/each for BBQ samples with 50% of ticket sales going to the Hays County Food Bank. The other 50% will go to the BBQ Team that has collected the most tickets. The BBQ competition is IBCA Sanctioned with categories for chicken, brisket, pork spare ribs, beans, a cook's choice, and dessert. We still have a few spots open for judges for the cook-off. If you would like to taste some outstanding BBQ, please email Michelle Ducote at mducote@hcwc.org to sign up.

For more information and updates check out our website at www. hootenannyonthehill.com.

Hays County Food Bank

Did you know that 20.2% of Kyle residents live below the poverty line? Donate to your neighbors in need at Hootenanny on the Hill, where Hays County Food Bank will be accepting nonperishable (labeled, sealed) food items, fresh produce, and monetary donations. Please visit http://haysfoodbank.org/FoodDriveToolkit.pdf for a list of what we need the most. Be sure to make your way by the BBQ booth as well - 50% of BBQ sample donations will benefit our annual Turkeys Tackling Hunger (holiday meal box) campaign!



POLICE · COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

National Night Out is a public safety program that fosters crime prevention by fostering communication and partnerships among neighbors and public safety officials. The National Night Out event will be held throughout the community on Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2016 from 6 p.m. until 8:30.

Please see City of Kyle: http://www.cityofkyle.com/police/national-night-out-2017.

In Plum Creek, we will have four block parties, beginning at 6 p.m. Neighborhood Watch members are hosting events at: Decker Park, Haupt Park (bucket pool), McNaughton Park, and at the Herzog & Hellman greenbelt. There will be games with fun prizes for the kids. Additionally, children have an opportunity to visit with emergency responders, learn valuable safety information, and explore the emergency vehicles.

Please come to your closest park, visit with your neighbors, Kyle Police and Fire Department representatives, and other City staff!

If you have any questions, please contact the PC Safety & NW Committee chairs (Denise Quinterri and/or Pauline Villegas) at safety@plumcreektxhoa.com or come to next month's meeting. (The September meeting will be Tuesday, Sept. 26, at 6:30 p.m., in the community center.)



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

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Inchartant Numbers

Important Numbers

STREET LIGHTS, ROAD REPAIRS, S City of Kyle Public Works Dept	512.262.3024	
••••••• F	w@cityofkyle.com	
TRI SHIELD SECURITY		
	512-486-9955	
ANIMAL CONTROL		
City of Kyle Animal Control	512.268.8800	
SOLID WASTE		
TDS Customer Care Dept	1 800 375 8375	
1D5 Customer Care Dept	1.000.J/ J.0J/ J	
POWER OUTAGES		
PEC	1.888.883.3379	
SCHOOLS		
	512 269 21/1	
Hays CISD		
Negley Elementary		
Barton Middle School	512.268.1472	
Hays High School	512.268.2911	
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EACH MONTH ON OR BEFORE THE 10TH.		
EACH MONTH ON OR BEFORE		

PLUM CREEK POST **COMMUNITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE**

Start cleaning out those closets and get ready for Plum Creek's Fall Community Garage Sale to be held Saturday, October 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.

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MAKE A CLEAN SWEEP WITH THE **Parking Issues on Narrow Plum Creek Streets**

The Kyle Fire Department has a difficult time maneuvering through the narrow Plum Creek streets with the large pump trucks. In case of a fire or other medical emergency, it is extremely important that fire trucks are able to pass through the streets without vehicular obstructions.

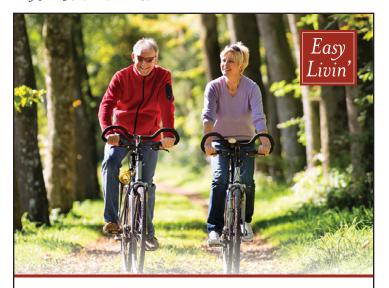
The Fire Department recently surveyed the streets in Plum Creek and has identified parking in intersections a problem for the large trucks to turn. In an effort to provide the truck more turning radius, the Kyle Police Department will soon begin ticketing vehicles that are parked within 20 feet of intersections. Other problem areas include parking in the round-abouts and neck downs where the roads narrow. Fire trucks are not able to pass vehicles when the road narrows.

The City of Kyle follows the Texas Transportation code. Section of the code are referenced below. This code is searchable online.

Texas Transportation Code - TRANSP § 545.302. Stopping, Standing, or Parking Prohibited in Certain Places

Definitions:

§ 541.303. INTERSECTION. § 541.302. TRAFFIC.





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TEXAS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ADVOCATES CREATED A LIST OF NINE GREAT BENEFITS OF HOAS

- 1. HOAs preserve the nature of the community and protect property values by delivering services and providing a safe, well- maintained living environment.
- 2. HOA regulations are another layer of protection against neighborhood degradation, and an effective means to maintain community standards and protect property values.
- 3. HOAs lessen the need for local government oversight of housing conditions. Most municipalities are not equipped- i.e. do not have the manpower- to monitor housing.
- 4. HOA leaders live in their communities and better understand the needs of the community, from the delivery of core services, such as waste collection, to amenities and decisions affecting the future of the community.
- 5. HOAs promote a higher level of civic involvement than municipalities, in terms of voting, meeting attendance and volunteerism.
- 6. By definition, planned communities offer a more efficient use of land to address the growing issue of urban sprawl associated with unplanned development.
- 7. Land-use efficiencies can make homes more affordable, a benefit for first-time home buyers, retirees and low-and moderate- income families.
- 8. Many HOAs maintain swimming pools, tennis courts, playgrounds and other amenities that most Americans cannot afford on their own.
- 9. Associations offer a sense of community, an important contribution in an increasingly transient society.

Living in a community association encourages all members to work for common goals of maintaining the community. If you want to find out more about how a community association works you can visit the following websites:

Community Associations Institute www.caionline.org Texas Community Association Advocates www.txcommunityassociationadvocates.org

Deed Restriction Reminders

Notice of Violations

Property inspections are performed as part of the management company's contract in order to monitor compliance with the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions. The purpose of monitoring for compliance is to maintain the beautiful community we live in and help uphold property values. In the end, the goal of all parties involved is not to send more violation notices or to assess fines but to cure outstanding violation issues.

Here are a few guidelines for keeping your property in compliance:

- Mow, edge, trim and weed the front and back yard on both sides of the fence. This is particularly important for owners in the alleys. The area on the alley side of the fence is homeowner responsibility.
- Keep trash cans off the street on non-trash days and store in an area appropriately screened from view (behind a fence, in garage, or behind approved screen)
- Keep flower beds free of weeds.
- Ensure that barbecue pits are stored on a driveway when not in use.
- Vehicles should be not be parked in the lawn or alley way at any time.

Remember that ARC approval is required for all exterior modifications, prior to starting the modification. The ARC form can be found on the HOA website (HYPERLINK "http://www. plumcreektxhoa.com" www.plumcreektxhoa.com) in the Resource Center tab.

Also, please remember that the HOA is here for you. Our goal is not to send violations and collect fines, but rather to get everyone into compliance to make this a place we all want to live and to let our property values grow. If you ever have a question regarding a violation, please feel free to call we are happy to talk to you about it and work to reach an amicable solution.

Thank you for helping to maintain Plum Creek as a beautiful and desirable neighborhood!

Garden Tips for September

Prepare your lawn for Fall and Winter

September and October are the perfect time to aerate and top dress or compost your lawn. Follow with foliar feeds like seaweed, Garrett Juice, or Medina Soil Activator through November. If just trying to winterize spread organic pellet fertilizer by Lady Bug or Fox Farm and then drench the lawn with a foliar feed. Control Weeds: Spread Corn Gluten Meal on your lawn between 9/1 and 10/15 to control weeds. As a natural weed & feed and common ingredient in pet food, it does not kill active weeds, but it prevents weeds from sprouting. Also, it fertilizes the lawn with 9% nitrogen. Plant Everything!!!

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**ATM fee refunds are awarded on next statement cycle after qualifications are met.

FirstStar Rewards Savings



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PLUM CREEK POST



HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST

We are looking for a volunteer or volunteers to organize the December Holiday Lights Contest. If you have questions about the event you can email the Garden Committee: garden@ plumcreektxhoa.com

Register your email on the Plum Creek resident website

www.plumcreektxhoa.com

The resident website is the official email directory for the association. Owners are responsible to keep their email address updated in the directory. Be sure to sign up on the new website and add a current email address.

EVENT FANFARE:

Plum Creek HOA hosts many social events each year and you, your family and neighbors are always welcome! The events mostly take place in the parks, though some happen in other spots throughout the neighborhood. Social events promote teamwork and community involvement, and we encourage participation and volunteerism. If you live near a park, or on a running course trail, enjoy fanfare and community spirit during these events! As a courtesy to all, event dates are posted in the first quarter of the PC Post newsletter and on the Plum Creek HOA website: www.plumcreektxhoa.com

SEPTEMBER SIP AND SEW

We always feel September is a new start after Summer. A fun group of individuals ready to share their enjoyment of "hand craft". Always ready to teach, assist, just enjoy the friendships. We have knitters, crocheting, punch needle, needle point, rug hooking, mending, quilting.....you name it, we have it! We meet the second Tuesday of the month, September 12th in the Haupt/Fergus Community Center, 6:30-8:45 PM. Come join our group.... any questions, please contact: Sandra Sigler – 405-0187 or Iris Sandle – 512-405-0054. Looking forward to September Sip and **Sew!**



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 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.

PLUM CREEK POST

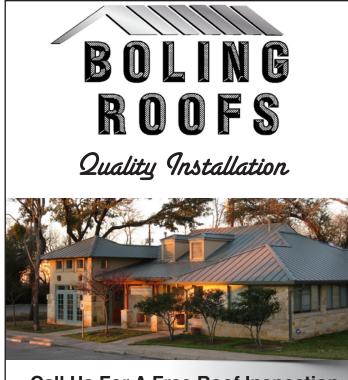
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For all you Pie Lovers

We have included the recipe for the winning pie at Front Porch Days:

Lemon Berry Angel Pie

Ingredients:

4 eggs, ¹/₄ tsp cream of tartar, 1 ¹/₂ cups of white sugar, 6 Tbl. Lemon juice, 3 Tbl. Water, ¹/₂ tsp lemon zest, 2 cups of heavy cream, whipped, ¹/₂ pint of black or blueberries

To Make the Pie Shell:

- Beat 4 egg whites until frothy.
- Add in cream of tartar
- Gradually add in 1 cup of sugar, and beat until stiff and glossy
- Spread into a greased pie pan (spreading more of the whipped egg whites toward the side of the pan than the bottom)
- Bake @ 300* for 1 hour
- Cool completely

Filling:

- Beat the 4 egg yolks
- Add ¹/₂ cup of sugar, lemon juice, water, and zest.
- Cook in a double boiler (a heatproof bowl over a pan of simmering water) until thick, stirring constantly.
- Remove from the heat and cool completely.
- Spread 1 cup of the whipped cream into the bottom of the cooled pie shell, and top with the lemon filling. Take care to use a light touch so as not to crush/crack the delicate merengue crust.
- Top with berries
- Refrigerate for several hours or overnight.

Get Involved: Volunteer for a Committee

All residents-long-time homeowners, new residents and even renters-can contribute to making our community a great place to live by volunteering a few hours a month on any one of several association projects. The next time you're looking for an activity or a way to meet your neighbors, consider participating on an association committee or task force or volunteering to plan a casual neighborhood social gathering. Your ideas, time and effort will be a valuable contribution to making a neighborhood event successful. Your neighbors aren't the only ones who'll benefit from your volunteer endeavors. According to HELPGUIDE.org, volunteering can reveal untapped talents, teach new skills, introduce you to new activities and increase your self-confidence. Participating in a community activity also can provide networking opportunities that can benefit your career and your social life. Contact an association board member soon to ask how you can get involved in our community. Who knows? There may even be a vacancy on the association board or a committee that should be filled by someone just like you.

Source: Community Associations Institute

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Allison Pflaum, Realtor® Team Leader allisontrickey@kw.com



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We recently worked with both Allison Pflaum and Courtney Martinez in selling and purchasing a home and we couldn't be happier to have such a dedicated team on our side. There were numerous stressful bumps in the entire process but these two awesome ladies continuously reassured us that everything would work out in our favor then took whatever decisive action was needed on our behalf. Overall a great experience and we highly recommend the Hays Home Team to anyone with real-estate needs. - E. Garsez

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NEED TO RESERVE THE COMMUNITY CENTER?

To make a reservation, please login at www.plumcreektxhoa.com

- Click on Resident Sign In.
- New to the website? click on "New User? Sign up today"
- Once signed in, go the "Stay Connected" Tab Calendar Reservation Calendar.
- Review the calendar to find a date that works for you.
- To reserve a time slot click on the green tab "Request Reservation"
- Complete the on-line form to hold the reservation. You are required to read the Community Center Reservation Rules. Please note, we cannot approve reservations submitted for events longer than four hours and Residents can only reserve the community center once per month per household.

The HOA account must be paid current.

We will send you a confirmation/approved email 2-3 weeks before your event with your access code.

The documentation must be completed and submitted to receive approval. Submit a \$15 check for an inflatable, if used.

Plum Creek Community events that require the usage of the clubhouse, will take precedence over any individual reservations. These community events are Front Porch Days (May), Fourth of July, Hootenanny on the Hill (October) and Santa Pictures (December). These events are on the Reservation Calendar and the Community Events Calendar.

For additional questions you can call the Plum Creek HOA office at 512-262-1140 or email pcoffice@goodwintx.com.





Trees are one of the many things that make Plum Creek such a wonderful place to live.

The street trees and yard trees planted throughout Plum Creek reduce home cooling costs by providing shade. They cool the ambient air temperature by providing shade to the sidewalks and streets, which absorb sunlight and continue to radiate heat during

the night. Trees reduce storm water runoff, store carbon, and improve air quality by releasing oxygen and filtering the air. Additionally, the trees make walking in Plum Creek cooler and safer by creating a physical barrier between pedestrians and cars and improve our quality of life.

However, these wonderful trees with all of their benefits need our regular attention and care. Many of the trees need to be trimmed to prevent damage to persons or vehicles that traverse the sidewalks and streets. Please prune any and all of the trees in the planting strip or yard that are encroaching on these areas. It is requested that these trees be trimmed up to allow seven (7) feet of clearance over the sidewalk and fourteen (14) feet over the street. Remove dead trees and limbs on a regular basis. Unmaintained trees and limbs can lead to a deed restriction violation which may result in a \$25 fine until the violation is corrected.

With everyone taking care of their trees, Plum Creek will continue to be a place where people want to call it home. Thanks so much!



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