

The FAIR OAKS Gazette

February 2018

Volume 8 Issue 2



NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF FAIR OAKS RANCH

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK... FEBRUARY 2018

Golf Cart Ordinance Implementation Moving Forward

The implementation of an ordinance to bring our golf cart use in compliance with the Texas Transportation Code is moving forward smoothly. To date, we have registered more than 400 golf carts and are still getting a fairly brisk daily registration flow at the police department. We have conducted four special registration events at Fair Oaks Ranch Country Club that were well attended. I have personally received and social media is reflecting favorable comments on the ease of completing the registration process.

Special thanks to both Fair Oaks Ranch Country Club and the local NAPA parts dealer for their help with this process. The NAPA folks were able to quickly plug the gaps in required equipment for the cart owners on site at the registration events. The Country Club, in addition to providing a great place to stage the events, was quite generous in providing some hot beverages to some very cold police officers and clerical support on one particularly cold session. I also noticed that one of the golf cart owners provided a portable heater used in golf carts to keep police department clerk Yvonne Medina warmed up while she was collecting payments. I appreciate these expressions of community support.

The ordinance went into effect on 1-1-18 but the police department has been observing a "grace period" in January while the rest of the cart owners get "caught up" with the registration process. If you have not yet registered your cart that you drive on city streets, please call 210-698-0900 to schedule an appointment for the police department to inspect your cart. You can read about the equipment and insurance requirements by going to the bottom of the home page on our city website under Helpful Links.

Foundational Studies Work and Stakeholder Involvements

As I mentioned last month, we resumed the work with the Stakeholder Group on January 18th. CDM Smith conducted their final meeting on drainage with the Stakeholder Group. The consultants presented a prioritization tool based on input previously received from the Stakeholder Group. This tool is designed to be used in conjunction with other criteria council may introduce to evaluate a logical order in which to address issues. I will caution that this is just one tool that will be employed in making decisions and, in no way, is a final answer to what will be done.

The CDM consultants pointed out that at this conceptual stage of engineering design, the tools are primarily useful in helping pick among various alternatives. For example, there may be multiple low water crossing improvements needed, but selecting one area to address may provide public safety access without having to immediately address all of the problem areas. At this level of design, the estimated costs are far from complete, but do give good insights to magnitudes among alternatives.

The consultants also presented a view of one funding alternative, which is the formation of a storm water utility district. We do not have a final view of how to pay for needed improvements, but this is one alternative that more than 100 cities in Texas have employed, including a number of smaller cities like us. This is a topic that will get much more public exposure before the council moves forward with any choices. This particular funding alternative can be used with either a "pay as you go" approach or by use of bond funding. There is still much more work to do here before moving forward.

CDM Smith will next move to finalizing their report. We will put their reporting in front of council when it is completed so we can begin the process of planning implementation.

(Continued on Page 2)

FAIR OAKS RANCH

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCIES NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	911
Fire.....	911
Ambulance.....	911
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

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AT&T - Telephone.....	800-464-7928
CPSEnergy.....	(new service) 210-353-2222
.....	(service trouble or repairs) 210-353-4357
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	
607 E. Blanco. Rd. - Boerne, TX	830-249-2414
.....	(delivery info, stops, fids, ect.) 830-249-9303
5837 De Zavala Rd - San Antonio, TX.....	210-641-0248

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**NOT AVAILABLE
ONLINE**

(Continued from Cover)

Pig Out On The Ranch – Mark Your Calendars for Saturday February 17th

I commented last month that the Wildlife Education Committee (WEC) was planning a family fun oriented educational session at Fair Oaks Ranch Elementary on Saturday, February 17th. We will have good educational programs starting mid-morning and going through lunchtime.

Lunch will be some authentic wild hog dishes, prepared by the Chefs Co-op, an organization of young professional chefs from San Antonio. Bubba Ortiz of Ortiz Game Management will be providing some tasty young hog meat. The chefs will also prepare some tasty side dishes.

I have bought a couple of tickets for Dedie and me and encourage you to do the same. To help defray part of the cost we are charging \$10.00 per person. Tickets are available at City Hall and you can pay there with cash, check, or credit card. We will also sell tickets at the event but will only accept cash or checks at that time.

Road and Bridge Construction and Water/Wastewater Improvements

- Information on our road reconstruction project can be found at
 - o The project website FairOaksRanchRoads.org
 - o The city website FairOaksRanchTX.org
 - o The Fair Oaks Ranch Homeowners Association website FORHA.org
- A number of folks have asked me about the recent lack of activity on Fair Oaks Parkway. We have a couple of things going on that have delayed completion. One is that it has been very cold. Our contractor will not lay asphalt unless the temperature of the roadbed is at least 55 degrees Farenheit. The other delay is waiting for the completion of a change order request to do some additional work identified as needed by the contractor. Pape-Dawson Engineering is working with the contractor to define scope of work and pricing. When that is done we can commence completion of the work. After the roadway surface is completed, additional work like adding reflectors to some of the newly surfaced roads will be completed.
- Please continue showing caution in driving through the construction zones.

Resident Volunteers/City Staffers at Work

Following are some updates on the work being done by volunteers and city staffers:

- Our city Facebook page is continuing to attract readers. We currently have 685 people following our page. We have had 2,211 visitors as of this writing. For those of you who are

(Continued on Page 4)

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FAIR OAKS RANCH



**Please remember to pick
up after your pets and
“scoop the poop”**

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

Facebook fans you can find us at City of Fair Oaks Ranch, TX. Our page is used for sharing information about the city, but it is not a public forum. The page is monitored and objectionable or off topic material will be removed.

- As I mention below in closing, January 21st is the 30th anniversary of our founding as a city. I am sure we will be recruiting volunteer assistance to help us put on a celebration of our 30th year. We will do this later in the year when the weather is better!

As we are getting ready to celebrate our 30th year as an incorporated city, I am thinking about some similarities between the “old days” and now. In many ways, the challenges we are going through today are just as exciting as the original efforts to form our city. The common element is that we are working just as hard to maintain our unique quality of life today as our founders did 30 years ago. Our efforts in managing quality of life are done to keep that original vision alive and flourishing.

My very best to all of you,
Garry Manitzas
Mayor – Fair Oaks Ranch

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter to the Editor, Fair Oaks Gazette

I have read the articles in recent issues of the Fair Oaks Gazette regarding the Fair Oaks Ranch annexation late last year. I am one of the recently annexed property owners and also one of the plaintiffs in a lawsuit against FOR regarding that annexation.

I respectfully disagree with several of the statements and figures in those articles, and a December 15, 2017 letter from the city to residents, regarding the number and acreage of developed vs. undeveloped properties. Given that the stated concern of FOR was future development of the undeveloped property, and SB6 "forced" them to fast-track the involuntary annexation in order to circumvent the new law and be able to control development, it seems to me that accurate information about how much of the annexed property is really undeveloped is pertinent. I have personally prepared a rather detailed analysis of the annexed properties, which is the basis for my conclusions and opinions. I would be happy to provide any of your readers who are interested with a copy of my analysis document. That way people can reach their own personal conclusions. Anyone who would like a copy of my analysis can contact me at SUFFOR@gvtc.com.

Note that this analysis was prepared by me personally. It has nothing to do with the lawsuit that has been filed alleging that the annexation violated the law. It was not prepared by any of the other affected property owners. Any inaccuracies or deficiencies in my analysis are my personal responsibility, no one else's. I welcome others to review my work and point out any issues that they find.

Do not conclude that what I have said in this letter or in my analysis means that I concur with the manner in which FOR is going about controlling development on the truly undeveloped properties. I ABSOLUTELY DO NOT. I am a believer in individual property rights. Both for people such as me, with a relatively small property with a house that we've lived in for 18 years without the need for any FOR "services," or taxes. AND for the owners of any undeveloped properties.

Wes Pieper
Fair Oaks Ranch (involuntarily)

**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.



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FAIR OAKS RANCH

THE HILL COUNTRY PREGNANCY CARE CENTER IS HAVING ITS ANNUAL TOPGOLF EVENT ON MONDAY APRIL 2, 2018

This event includes a wonderful lunch along with a morning of play and an awards ceremony. Teams of 4 can be registered for \$500 or individuals may play for \$150. Community groups (golf teams, school teams, church groups, etc) may participate in the Community Challenge. The community group with the most teams registered will not only win an award but also receive media recognition. There will also be a Corporate Competition for the business with the most teams registered with a similar award and media recognition.

All funds raised by this event will benefit families in the Hill Country who receive the FREE services of the Hill Country Pregnancy Care Center. The HCPCC provides FREE pregnancy services, STI testing and treatment, and individual and group parenting classes.



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12:00-12:30 - AWARD CEREMONY

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CHALLENGES AND COMPETITIONS:

Community Challenge: Community Groups* with the most teams win an award and media recognition.

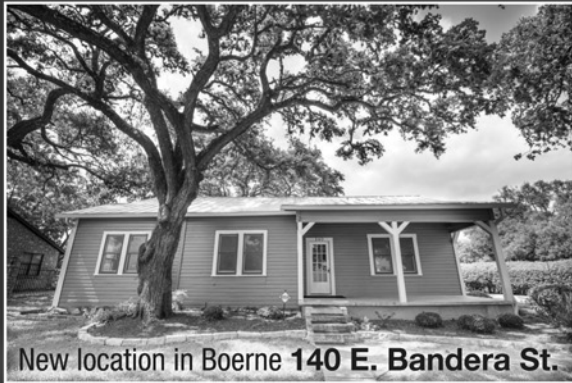
Corporate Competition: The Business sponsoring the most teams will win an award and media recognition.

*(Groups can consist of the following: Churches, Ladies golf teams, School teams, Clubs, etc.)

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www.lifespacious.org

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