



POST

The Official Newsletter of the
Plum Creek Homeowner Association
March 2018
Volume 9, Issue 3

PLUM CREEK GAME NIGHT!

Come join us for adult board or card game night at the **Plum Creek Community Center, from 6-9: pm**. All adult residents are welcome, **(please no children)**. We will have tables set up for Mexican Train and Spinner dominos, as well as card games such as canasta, hearts, etc . We will provide lemonade and water; guests, please feel free to bring appetizer, simple snacks or desserts to share.

See Schedule below:

February 17, (Valentine day month, love is in the air, so wear red in honor of Valentine day)

March 17, (St Patrick day month, 'Erin go Bragh ' or 'Kiss me I'm Irish' - wear green)

April 21, (Easter and Earth day month, bring a egg or two to share)

May 26, (Mother's day month, love or remember your mother)

June 16, (Father's day month, love or remember your father as well)

July 14, (Independence day month, show your colors, wear red, white and blue)

August 11, (Friendship day month, bring a friend with you)

September 8, (Labor and Fall day month, enjoy the time with friends)

October 13, (National Night Out month, come out to meet your neighbors)

November 10, (Thanksgiving month, Give Thanks)

December 8, (Christmas month, TBD (bring a small \$10. Gift to exchange with someone at your table)

Hosted by your Plum Creek Welcome Committee.

ALL RESIDENTS WELCOME AT ANNUAL MEETING



The association's annual meeting is the best opportunity for you to learn about this year's events and get caught up on everything happening in our community. Here are a few agenda items and meeting activities you won't want to miss:

- Meet board and committee members and the manager.
- Get an update on all current and future scheduled projects.
- Review the proposed budget, and hear how your assessments are being used and reserves are being invested.

Be an active community resident and attend the annual meeting. Come introduce yourself to the board, the manager and your neighbors and find a wealth of information about your community!

2018 Annual Meeting Date: April 5th, 2018

Sign-in starts at 5:45 PM, Meeting starts at 6:30 PM
Plum Creek Golf Course Banquet Room
Look for the meeting notice in the mail

Board Candidate Bios:

If you are interested in volunteering for a board position, you can email your candidate bio to Board Secretary, Nica Knepp. Submit your candidate bio by March 1st, 2018 to: KnicaPChoa@gmail.com

Committee Contacts

PLUM CREEK HOA MANAGER

Adriane Carbajal plumcreekmanager@goodwintx.com

PLUM CREEK POST AND WEEKLY ENEWS

Melody Stein pcoffice@goodwintx.com

COMMUNITY CENTER RESERVATION QUESTIONS

Melody Stein pcoffice@goodwintx.com

DOG PARK COMMITTEE

(Open)..... plumcreekdogparkcommittee@gmail.com

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE TEAM

(Open) plumcreekcomplianceassistancecommittee@gmail.com

LAKE/PARK COMMITTEE

Linda Campbell & Gary Gibbs.....
..... plumcreeklakeparkcommittee@gmail.com

GARDEN COMMITTEE

Sandra Gonzalez..... plumcreekgardencommittee@gmail.com

POOL COMMITTEE

Scott Brown & Amy Canaan
..... plumcreekpoolcommittee@gmail.com

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Jennifer Crosby
..... plumcreekrecreationcommittee@gmail.com

SAFETY & NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COMMITTEE

Tim McHutchion..... plumcreeksafetycommittee@gmail.com

WELCOME COMMITTEE

Arcelia & Gary Gibbs
..... plumcreekwelcomecommittee@gmail.com

HOA OFFICE PHONE 512.262.1140

PLUM CREEK HOA WEBSITE: www.plumcreektxhoa.com

Important Numbers

STREET LIGHTS, ROAD REPAIRS, STREET SIGNS

City of Kyle Public Works Dept..... 512.262.3024
..... pw@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

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PEC 1.888.883.3379

SCHOOLS

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

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Peel, Inc..... www.PEELinc.com, 512-263-9181
Article Submission... announcements@plumcreektxhoa.com
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CLASSIFIEDS

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

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.



READY. SET. SUMMER!

YMCA of Austin Camps offer children & teens safe, exciting, and memory-making experiences. At the Y, campers gain a sense of accomplishment, build relationships, and find their sense of belonging.

Summer Camp Registration Now Open

- For ages 4-14
- Sites in Travis, Hays and Bastrop counties
- 5 days a week
- Financial assistance is available

Spaces Are Limited!

Register at AustinYMCA.org/camp
or call Program Services at 512.236.9622

4Sight

How do I get rid of Red Eyes in my photos?

Thanks to filters and software, we can get rid of most red eyes in photos with the touch of a button, but have you ever wondered what causes this effect?

The red reflection of your eyes in photos is caused by the camera's flash reflecting off the blood rich layer called the choroid in the back of a human's eye. (Other mammals have different types of layers in the back of their eye, which affects the color reflected back.)

Some cameras have a red-eye setting that flashes twice in rapid succession. The first flash makes your pupils constrict, limiting how much of the back of the eye can be seen through the pupil, which reduces the red-eye look. The second flash occurs at the same moment as the photo is taken to provide light for the photo.

Another less sophisticated way to reduce the red eye effect is by simply looking slightly away from the flash of a camera. For example, focus over the photographer's shoulder instead of at the camera lens and flash. This changes the angle of light reflecting off the inside of the eye and typically

eliminates or reduces the red reflection significantly. Of course, if a photo can be successfully taken without a flash, it is better to turn off the flash to avoid the problem completely.

Most of the time, a red reflection is a normal, annoying side effect of photos taken in low light conditions. However, especially with children, if one eye has a bright white reflection in photos while the other eye has no reflection or a red reflection, this could be a sign of a serious condition and should be evaluated immediately by your eye doctor.

Hope these tips improve your photos this year!

Dr. Virginia Kekahuna, O.D.

 **ACUITY**eyecare

OPENING SPRING 2018 next to Plum Creek Golf Course at Kohlers Crossing and Benner Rd.

ANNUAL PLUM CREEK EASTER EGG HUNT!

**Saturday March 31st, 2018
9:30 AM Sharp
5832 McNaughton**

Come and join in all the fun! The Annual Plum Creek Easter Egg Hunt will be held in McNaughton Park at 9:30AM on March 31st, 2018. Gather your baskets, bring your kiddos and join us for Face Painting, Balloon Animals, Easter Eggs, and the GOLDEN Egg prizes!!

The park will be divided into multiple sections color coded by age range. Arrive a bit early this year as our hunting grounds are a bit different from previous years. We will have five sections this year with a new and more challenging area for 10+ and up!

We are a volunteer driven event! We are always seeking volunteers and even Sponsors. If you or your group would like to help please contact KellyJo Sloan 512-787-4485 or Heidi Rainer 512-787-4856





Saturday, March 24, 2018

11:00am - 3:00pm

Kyle Banking Center (next to the Post Office in Kyle)

— *Free and open to the public* —

Moonwalk • DJ • Pictures with the Easter Bunny
Train Rides • Miniature Ponies • Popcorn • Face Painting
Serving hamburgers or hot dogs, chips, cookie and a drink

Easter Egg Hunt (Don't forget your Easter Basket!)



1:00pm: 3 years and under

1:30pm: 4-8 years

2:00pm: 9 years and up

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Hi Pool Fans,

Update on upgrades happening at both of our pools

McNaughton Pool aka Lap Pool has been busy and much more work is coming soon. The baby pool cover was removed and the lateral wooden 'beams' that hold it were replaced. All new decking is completed and looks nice. The new small extension of concrete by the shallow pool area is going to be helpful for sitting in tree shade while leaving the walking path free of chairs. The entire building is being painted using 3 fresh shades to perk up the pool! The fencing, light poles & shade cover posts are changing from green to black. New bathroom stalls will be installed after painting is complete. You will be happy to know baby changers are being added. We are gathering options for other items to complete this wonderful "facelift".

Haupt pool fencing is changing from green to black and should be complete at the time of this PC Post. Some other mini facelift painting will be done at Haupt as well.

All new seating for Haupt is expected to be delivered in March so that is very exciting! Only excellent condition seating is being moved to the Lap Pool for this summer. New tables will be budgeted in the future.

Please watch our Facebook page Plum Creek Pool Committee Page for further updates. Articles for the PC Post have to be written and submitted a month ahead so the latest news will come out on our Facebook page.

Everyone is looking forward to a Great Swim Season this year!!!

Meet & Greet

The Welcome Committee hosts **Meet & Greet receptions** in the Community Center on a quarterly basis. The next will be Saturday March 24 from 4-6 pm at the Plum Creek Community Center. All Plum Creek residents, both new and longstanding, are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

The primary mission of the Welcome Committee is to greet all new residents moving into Plum Creek and to encourage them to become active and engaged in our community. If you would like to join our Committee, you can contact us at plumcreekwelcomecommittee@gmail.com



AT THE FENCE



SAFETY COMMITTEE

Introducing our new Safety Committee Chair: Please welcome Tim McHutchion

Are you missing important community emailed updates?

Be sure to Sign up on the Plum Creek HOA resident website: www.plumcreektxhoa.com

Add your current email in the Resident Directory.

SIP AND SEW

March is a great time to start or finish projects. Sip and Sew is a group of fun talented

Individuals ready to share their talents or come and share yours! Punch needle, crocheting, needlepoint rug hooking, counted cross stitch, quilting, mending and more!

Join our group, the second Tuesday of the month, March 13 at the Haupt/Fergus Community Center...6:30-8:45 pm. Come, Sip and Sew

Any questions, please call: Iris Sandle...512-405-0054 or Sandra Sigler...512-405-0187.

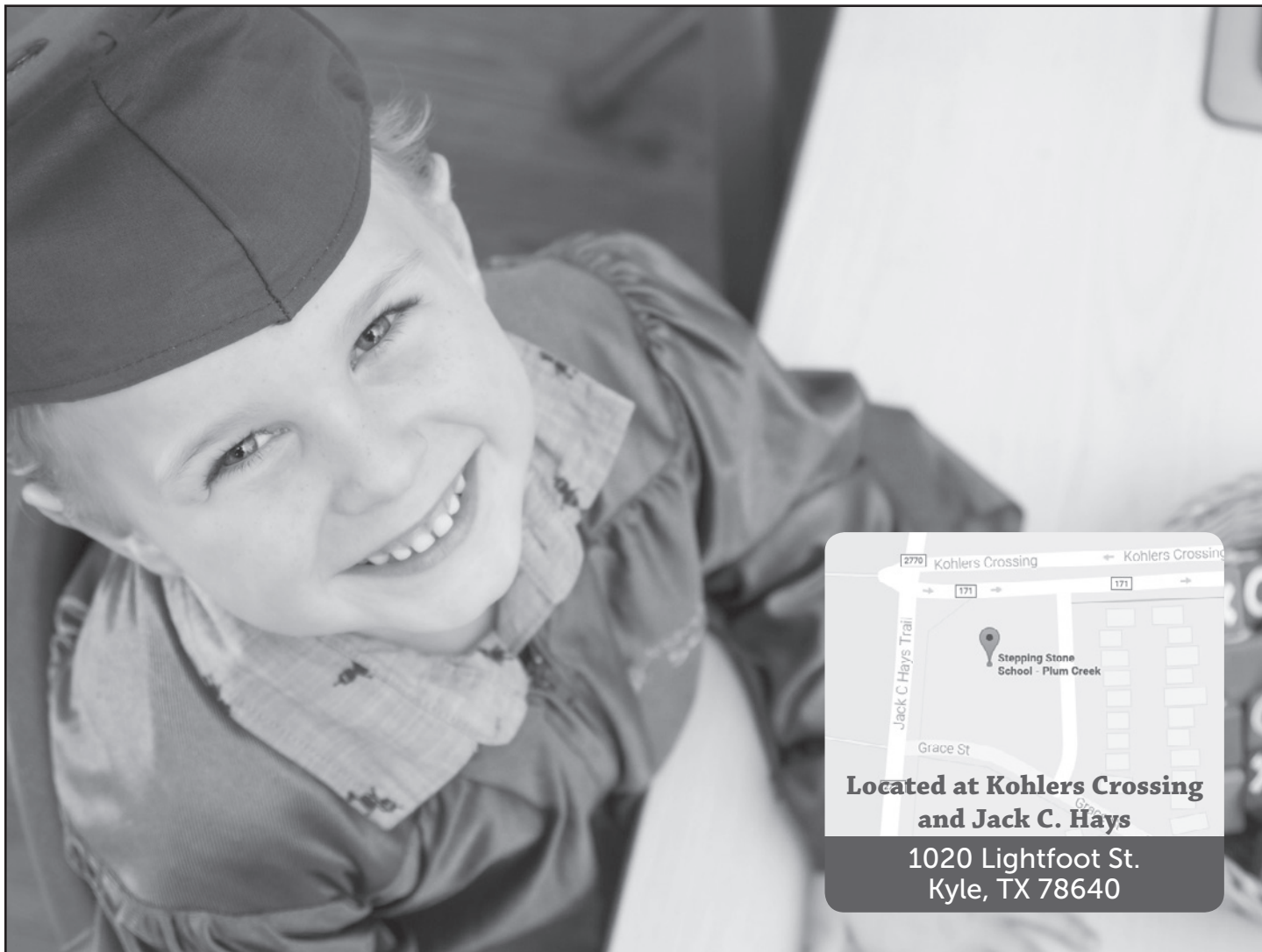
SCOOP THAT POOP

Protecting our waterways is a primary concern of the city's Stormwater Management program. The technical gobbledygook is the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems, or MS4, program. That's a mouthful!

Part of the stormwater management program for the City of Kyle includes public outreach and education. For example, encouraging pet owners to scoop their dog's poop up from yards, streets, parks and other areas.

What's the problem with not scooping the poop? Bacteria and other parasites found in pet waste, such as Giardia and Cryptosporidium, are able to survive for long periods when left on the ground. During a rain storm, these pollutants can be washed into local rivers and ponds and into local drinking water supplies. That pollution can have an adverse affect on fish and wildlife. So please SCOOP THAT POOP!

Garden Committee will be hosting another Garden Seminar this Month. Date to be determined. Check the Community Events Calendar on the Plum Creek HOA website for date and time.



New Campus Now Open at Plum Creek in Kyle!

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Yard of the Month



BEGINS APRIL 1ST

The "Yard of the Month" awards are just around the corner! As in previous years, only yards that have been nominated will be judged, so send in your favorite Plum Creek gardens. Judging criteria includes tree and shrub maintenance, originality, use of color, and lawn appearance.

You can nominate any home, including your own, by sending the address information to plumcreekgardencommittee@gmail.com.

The PC Garden Committee will judge the first round during the first week of April. Subsequent home nominations will be judged during the first week in May, then June. Gift card prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

So if you want to be considered for April, send in your nominations by April 1st to plumcreekgardencommittee@gmail.com. Otherwise, you can continue sending nominations until June 1st for consideration in May and June. Homes can only win once during the season.

Thank you for participating in making our community beautiful.

By: Plum Creek Garden Committee

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Some might advocate that a board should not take action without a vote of the members to find out what the people want. That would be counter-productive. If association members were to vote on every issue before a decision was made, there would be no need for a board, but simply someone to send out ballots and tally results. However, boards find out what their constituents want in other ways. Many make time to hear from residents at each board meeting. But, it's up to you to attend meetings, voice your opinions and participate in the exchange of ideas with the board. We also encourage your involvement and participation. Perhaps you would consider joining a committee. We want your input, ideas, thoughts and opinions.

When the season for community association annual meetings and annual board elections approaches, consider carefully which candidates you select—including yourself. Consider running for the board to help shape the future of your community.

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

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SAVE THE DATE: FRONT PORCH DAYS IS MAY 19TH AND MAY 20TH

www.frontporchdays.com

Front Porch Days is fast approaching. Front Porch Days is our huge neighborhood gathering during May and includes music, local organizations, vendors, pie baking contest, petting zoo, family fishing day, pony rides, jump castles, crafts, food, and more.

Excited? Here are the highlights of the upcoming activities and dates:

- Saturday, May 12th: Spring Community Wide Garage/ Front Porch Sale
- Saturday, May 19th: Races, AND Plum Creek Garden Tour
- Sunday, May 20th, 12PM to 4PM: Front Porch Days Carnival, including Music, the Pie Baking Contest, and more at Fergus Park.

Front Porch Days is a great time to get out with your family and neighbors. The entertainment and many of the events are FREE. Money is needed to purchase food, drinks, and products from vendors and community groups or to participate in the washers tournament or races (on Saturday May 19th –<https://tinyurl.com/2018fpdraces>).

Have a baker in the family? Pull out that favorite recipe and start practicing your dough-rolling skills. The pie baking contest also has a new twist on the format, including age groups! Visit the event website to locate the pie registration form.

Interested in selling something? We are accepting vendor booth applications for booth spaces. Visit the website to locate the vendor booth form. If you're an artist, craftsperson, business, or community group, we want you! Contact Melody Stein at pcoffice@goodwintx.com to ask questions or get a booth application. Also, the application is posted online at www.frontporchdays.com.

Interested in another aspect of Front Porch Days? You can direct general questions about the event to the Recreation Committee at plumcreekrecreationcommittee@gmail.com.

Volunteers Needed- as always Plum Creek social events need volunteers. It can be as simple as packing packets, standing at a street corner to cheer on walkers and runners, setting out garbage cans, placing sponsorship signs around the park or judging the pies. You can sign up online here - <http://tinyurl.com/2018fpdvoleunteers>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT LAWN DEED RESTRICTION VIOLATIONS

Compliance Assistance Team: plumcreekcomplianceassistance@gmail.com

Q: What do you mean that I have to recover my lawn?

A: For a variety of reasons including drought, disease, and lack of proper maintenance, some front yards have reached a state that is considered detrimental to the preservation of property values. Dead grass/shrubs, excessive weeds, and bare dirt, etc. are not acceptable. As the owner of the property, you are responsible for fixing these problems and restoring your front lawn to a state that is consistent with the policies established by the rules of the Plum Creek HOA. This does not necessarily mean you must immediately re-sod your front yard. HOA policy allows for and promotes alternative approaches.

Q: Should I replant when we are in drought conditions, have water restrictions and are being told by the City of Kyle to conserve water?

A: We all have to be realistic about our climate, but our yards must look decent. That's why the alternative is there to xeriscaping your lawn. Xeriscaping doesn't mean just rock and cactus. There are many ways to create a lush and water-wise landscape. Review the Landscape Design Guidelines for low water plants on the Plum Creek web site if you are interested in this type of landscape. Important Reminder: An Architectural Review Committee (ARC) request form must be submitted and approved before you start any visible changes to your landscape. See below for links to the form and the guidelines. Failure to have an approved plan on file may mean you have to take out plants or hardscape that don't meet the guidelines.

Q: What is considered a reasonable period of time to cure the violation?

A: It depends on what problem was identified. If it's something easily corrected (like weeding, mowing and edging), it should be fixed by the next inspection. Inspections are done every two weeks. If it's something more involved that requires more time such sodding, seeding or complete renovation of your landscape, remember to communicate with our property manager within two weeks of the violation date. You may be granted an extension to complete your project. Not taking corrective action or communicating will mean you may not have time to correct the violation before a fine is assessed. Fines are assessed on the third notice.

Q: Should I re-sod?

A: There are a lot of factors to consider before you re-sod such as soil quality, your ability to keep a new lawn watered, available shade, time of the year and of course your personal preferences. Re-sodding does not require an ACC request approval but it can be expensive so be sure you are willing to do what's needed to keep it alive before you make that investment. You will probably have

to hand water frequently to supplement the once-a-week watering restriction, especially during the hotter parts of the summer. Review the Landscape Design Guidelines for the list of approved low water plants.

Resources

- Need to Sign-In to the Plum Creek Web Site? Sign up onto www.plumcreektxhoa.com and select Resident Sign In. You must be a current resident.
- Resource Center
- Architectural Changes
- Governing Documents
- Landscape Template
- Hays County Master Gardeners – www.hays.agrilife.org
- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center – www.wildflower.org
- Central Texas Gardener – www.klru.org/ctg
- Search

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