



SPICEWOOD

FEBRUARY 2019

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF SPICEWOOD & BRIARCLIFF

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 02

SPICEWOOD COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

It has come to the attention of Spicewood Community Alliance that a Legal Protest to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has been issued involving the improper development of adjacent parcels within a single quarry development project (per the TCEQ's own Quarry/Stone Crusher specifications) – creating boundary line violations and illegal equipment placement. It is worth noting that although this permit TCEQ/RN1104675111, permit ID Number 152877 action at TCEQ is pending, the Spicewood Crushed Stone Rock Crushing plant/Quarry continues to actively develop the quarry site.

In addition, It appears that the Spicewood Crushed Stone LLC Quarry/Crusher property development may be in violation of Burnet County permitting regulations regarding a single development on and across multiple parcels. Burnet County permitting department has stated they were only aware this was a raw land property use.

The parcels are:

Prop ID: 69606; Owner ID: 219488; 180.52 Acres; Geo ID: B0714-0000-00014-200 - 5500 E. HWY 71 TX

Prop ID: 108647; Owner ID: 219488; 100.74 Acres; Geo ID: B0714-0000-00014-30

It has also been identified (and under legal protest) that the TCEQ application as currently submitted by Spicewood Crushed Stone LLC clearly states the Quarry and Crushing plant operators plans to produce crushed stone product in excess of the limits allowed within the permit application guideline being requested (TCEQ/RN1104675111, permit ID Number 152877).

Based on the above issues Spicewood Community Alliance has been questioning County officials if any Burnet County approval of the Quarry should be withdrawn until the full re-review and resolution of the County property permitting is completed.

Spicewood Community Alliance is coordinating a meeting with Thomas Ranch to coincide with our public meeting in the 2nd or 3rd Quarter of 2019 to review the ongoing Subdivision's property development progress and address previous community inquiries regarding the Thomas Ranch impact to the Spicewood residents.

Spicewood Community Alliance discussed at our previous community meeting the Spicewood area TXDOT plans for Highway 71, which included turn lanes planned near and around the (2) current Cement plants, Asphalt Plant and the existing Lauren and planned Spicewood Crushed Stone Quarry developments. And in addition we discussed the TXDOT planned expansion/center turn lane from the Pedernales River to the Blanco County line (including a turn lane for the newly installed light at Fall Creek Road).



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Helping Hands Crisis Ministry	512-808-6092
Spicewood & Highland Lakes Lions Club..	830-693-3645
Spicewood Post Office.....	830-693-2377

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Sweetwater Residents Driven to Create a Safer Highway 71



White ribbons wrapped on trees and streets around the Sweetwater neighborhood during November served as a reminder of the tragic loss of a beloved resident. In late October, his vehicle was struck by a truck that crossed into his lane just east of the Pedernales Summit Parkway intersection, marking yet another fatality on Highway 71.

Members of the newly mobilized Safer 71 organization want to ensure this tragedy is not in vain.

Safer71 is a non-profit comprised of residents of Sweetwater and surrounding neighborhoods. The group aims to achieve a zero-fatality road corridor on SH71 between Southwest Parkway and the Blanco County Line. This stretch of highway has seen 20 auto-collision deaths and 128 serious injuries since 2014. Seven of these fatalities occurred in 2018 alone and collisions are on the rise from previous years.

With many subdivisions far from their full build-out, multiple new schools approved for construction, new sports facilities in the works, and commercial developments springing up along Highway 71, this stretch of road will continue to see an increase in population and traffic. Without safety improvements to SH71 and a change in how people drive along it, the next accident is just waiting to happen.

Working with municipal and county governments, traffic jurisdictions, and local neighborhoods, Safer 71 aims to provide the necessary research, advocacy and outreach programs to ensure that SH71 becomes a road that people can feel safe driving on every day. Their charter focuses on a comprehensive approach to the problems: Engineering, Enforcement and Education.

Safer71 asks that you join the effort by supporting, promoting or volunteering with its efforts. Visit www.safer71.org to learn more, stay informed on how you can help create a safer community for all residents and travelers on Highway 71.

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Spicewood & Highland Lakes Lions To Host 5Th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

The Spicewood & Highland Lakes Lions Club will host their 5th annual charity golf tournament in Spicewood on March 25 at the Barton Creek Lakeside golf course. This is the Lions club's primary fund-raising event for the year and helps to support Spicewood and Highland Lakes charities and community service organizations. Teams and individual golfers can get more detailed information and register online at www.highlandlakeslions.club, or contact Lion Dan at (713) 824-3205 or Lion David at (830) 693-3645. Barton Creek Lakeside is located at 1900 Clubhouse Hill Dr, Spicewood, TX 78669.

Join us! We welcome new members. All you need to have is a willingness to serve your community by volunteering some of your time and effort. Just visit our website above for details.

LTlov Welcomes a new President and Board Members



Picture Left to Right: (Top) Julie St. Onge, Fundraising; Stacy Mikrut, Public Relations; Michelle Zogas, Past President; Amy Holland, Treasurer; (Bottom) Cheryl Fowlkes, Membership; Fionnuala Stockton, Programs; Kim Kahle, President; Aida Coffey, Secretary

LTlov, a 501c(3) non-profit organization committed to supporting their Lake Travis area neighbors overcome limiting circumstances, has wrapped up their 11th year serving the Lake Travis community with the induction of a new President and two new Vice Presidents to the Board of Directors. Following 11 years at the helm of LTlov, Michelle Zogas has stepped out of leadership and entrusted the organization to a strong and dedicated leadership team. "It has been an honor and a worthy challenge to lead LTlov from a novice organization into the established and respected non profit it has become over the past 11 years. I look forward to continuing on as a member of both the Public Relations and Grants Funding committees and I have complete confidence in the leadership we have in place," commented Zogas.

Kim Kahle has been named to succeed Michelle Zogas as President of LTlov. Kim served as Vice President of Membership for the past two years and has been a member of LTlov for the past nine years. Her commitment to the Lake Travis community began in 2004 when her family moved to Lakeway from Virginia and she has served with the Lakeway Service League, Teen CBS Lake Travis and Hudson Bend Middle School, and currently serves on the board of the Good Sheppard Lutheran Church. Kim is a Top Producer with Coldwell Banker United Realtors in Lakeway. "As a resident of the Lake Travis area for the past fifteen years, I've watched it change and grow. I look forward to leading LTlov in continuing the work we have accomplished in helping to serve those in need in this community," commented

(Continued on Page 6)



ONE CHAPEL
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Jump into the new year!

New groups - Healthy living, Bible study, Addiction recovery, Financial Peace, Youth - all starting soon.



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(Continued from Page 5)

Kahle. Stacy Mikrut has been named to succeed Michelle Zogas as Vice President of Public Relations. In 2018, Stacy served on the School Supplies, Scholarship and Public Relations committees. Stacy is also actively involved with the Lake Travis Youth Association and is co-owner of a local business: Vantage Data Designs. Cheryl Fowlkes has been named to succeed Kim Kahle as Vice President of Membership. Cheryl has been a member of LTlov for the past six years, a resident of the Lake Travis community since 2007 and is the sole proprietor of Superior Town & Country Realty. Moving forward for additional terms on LTlov's board are Amy Holland, Treasurer and Aida Coffey, Secretary and completing their second year of a two year term are Julie St. Onge, Vice President of Fundraising and Fionnuala Stockton, Vice President of Programs.

LTlov is excited to participate in I Live Here, I Give Here's seventh annual Amplify Austin day of giving. This is the only fundraiser used by LTlov for LTlov to fund support for families, especially children, who are living at or below the poverty line in the Lake Travis area. Last year, LTlov raised just under 17K and beginning at 6:00 pm on Thursday, February 28, they hope to raise \$20,000 during the 24-hour, online campaign. Please visit www.ltlov.org, LTlov on Facebook or LTlaboroflove on Twitter for more information or to donate. Questions about membership can be directed to Cheryl Fowlkes at membership@ltlov.org.

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Prevent Oak Wilt

Don't Prune Oaks Feb 1st - June 30th



Oak wilt has claimed the lives of thousands of trees in Central Texas and beyond. Majestic oaks play a large role in this region's beauty and identity; it would be hard to imagine the Hill Country without them. They are an iconic part of many local businesses and neighborhoods, providing shade, beauty, and higher property values. Following simple preventive measures can go a long way towards stopping the spread of this destructive disease.

From February through June, avoid all pruning or cutting of oaks – this is the high season for oak wilt transmission. Any wounds that occur from construction, vehicles, wind, etc., should be painted as soon as they're discovered – ideally within ½ hour of being cut – with commercial tree wound dressing or latex paint. That includes freshly cut stumps and surface roots.

Pruning is least risky during the coldest winter days and extended hot periods in mid to late summer. Any time you prune though, the Texas Forest Service recommends painting all wounds and sanitizing pruning equipment between trees using denatured methyl alcohol (shellac thinner), isopropyl alcohol, or a general purpose household disinfectant such as Lysol, Listerine or Pine-Sol. Household bleach is not recommended.

Red oaks, including Spanish (now Buckley) oak, Shumard oak and blackjack oak, are very susceptible to oak wilt and play a key role in the disease's transmission. Oak wilt is caused by the fungus *Ceratocystis fagacearum*, which spreads its spores from "fungal mats" that form under the tree's bark. These mats have a sweet, fruity smell that attracts insects, especially the sap-sucking nitidulid beetle. After feeding and breeding on the fungal mats, these beetles fly away covered in fungal spores. As they visit other oaks, they spread the fungus through open wounds in the bark. The nitidulid beetle is only about the size of a pinhead, but is capable of flying as far as a mile away. While red oaks are the most susceptible to oak wilt, all oaks can become infected.

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Fungal mats usually form on standing trees, but can also develop on logs, stumps and fresh firewood cut from infected oaks. Make sure to remove and either burn or bury infected oaks to prevent mats from forming, and never store unseasoned wood from infected trees near healthy oaks.

The second way oak wilt can be transmitted is through the roots. Live oaks tend to grow together in dense mottes with interconnected roots, so the fungus can be transmitted easily among them. Oak wilt is occasionally transmitted through red oak roots as well, but the movement is slower and occurs over shorter distances than with live oaks. Root transmission can be prevented by cutting trenches four feet deep between infected and healthy trees, but by far the best option is to prevent infection in the first place.

So make sure NOT to prune oaks between February 1 and July 1, and ALWAYS paint wounds on oaks no matter what time of year it is. For more information on preventing and treating oak wilt, please visit texasoakwilt.org, the website of The Oak Wilt Information Partnership, a project of the Texas A&M Forest Service, the Forest Health Protection branch of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service and the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin.

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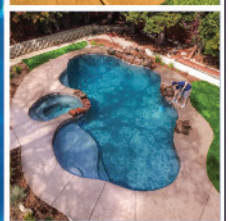
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Community Is Goal Of Grounded Coffee Company

Grounded Coffee Co., located in a mobile coffee truck at 22800 HWY 71 West, soon will be providing delicious craft coffee to Spicewood area residents and travelers on the highway. It will serve locally sourced, fair trade coffees such as espressos, lattes, and other specialty coffee drinks, as well as fine variety teas and smoothies.

"I'm excited that we will have local craft coffee," says Taylor Shealy, Grounded Coffee Co. manager, "It will be wonderful to have the convenience and quality of the coffee in our neighborhood."

Grounded Coffee Co. (GCC) will serve these drinks beginning in February, from the parking lot to the west of One Chapel Lake Travis. Coffee will be available Monday-Friday, 6am – 4pm, and Saturdays 8am - 2pm. The fresh coffee beans come from Numinous Coffee Roasters in Marble Falls, and other local roasters. Delicious flavored syrups, non-milk and sugar-free options will be available to add to coffee for patrons.

"GCC is a great place to grab a cup of specialty coffee on the go or to hang out in the hill country at picnic tables adjacent to the trailer," says Shealy, "It's a perfect spot to work on a beautiful day."

The mission of Grounded Coffee Co. is to create more

community by providing locally sourced, mission-based, and fair-trade coffees, teas, and espresso drinks at a convenient, local spot. The mobile coffee truck is located at 22800 Hwy 71 West. For more information about Grounded Coffee Co., go to <https://grounded-coffee-co.business.site>



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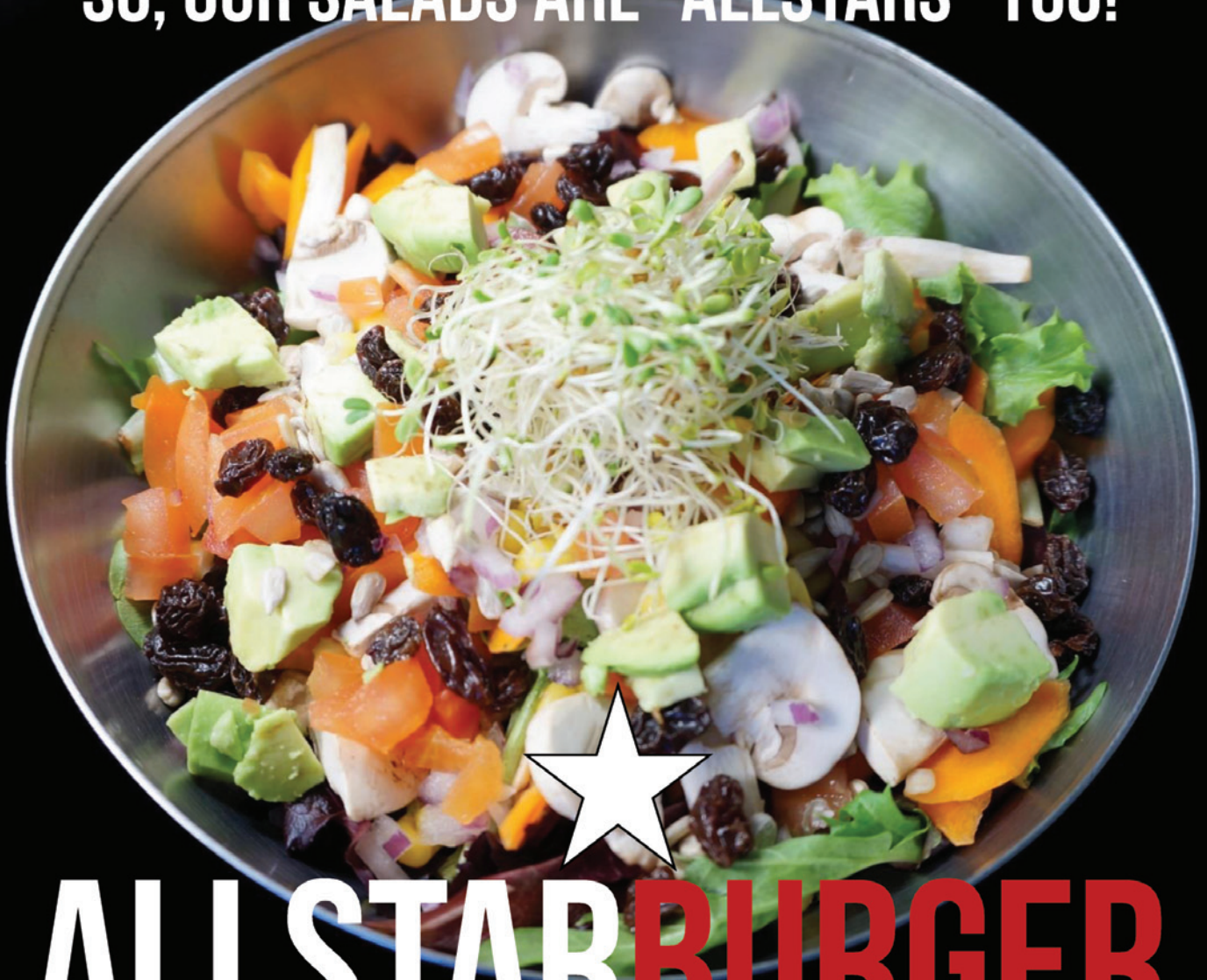
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Introducing *Get to Know Your* **NEIGHBORS"**

We are all very fortunate to call Spicewood home. But, Spicewood is more than just a place to live; it is a vibrant community brimming with family-friendly neighborhoods, chock-full of fascinating, talented people. Our variety is what makes us so both unique and extraordinary. However, sometimes, we get so busy, we lose sight of how interesting and diverse we've become.

We believe that getting to know the people who live nearby will help us create a sense of belonging and shared identity. We have created a column entitled, "Get to Know Your Neighbors" which we hope will strengthen connections, build trust in our wider community, and contribute to a happier neighborhood for everyone.

If you know of a person or a family that you believe is making Spicewood a better place to live, please let us know. We would like to introduce them to your neighbors.

Email Kelly@peelinc.com to be featured in a future issue.



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