



# POST

**The Official Newsletter of the  
Plum Creek Homeowner Association  
March 2019  
Volume 10, Issue 3**

## **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!

### **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 February 1st, 2019, for submission in the March Newsletter, to: KnicaPChoa@gmail.com

## **Annual Meeting is March 28th at the Golf Course Banquet Room**

### **Rock the Proxy: Let Your Voice be Heard**

We've got an election coming up, and even if you're unable to attend the membership meeting and election, you can still vote by proxy.

A proxy is the written authorization that allows one person to appoint another (the proxy holder) to vote on his or her behalf. State law and the association's governing documents specify that the association can use proxy voting.

Why would you use a proxy? Maybe you're traveling during the election or have other obligations that prevent you from attending the meeting, but you still want your voice to be heard.

If you're interested in using a proxy, ask the manager or a board member for a proxy form. A copy of the official proxy form is included in the annual meeting notice. Cite the name and address of the individual you're appointing to cast your vote. Then list your name, address and telephone number, and sign and date the form.

The association can only accept one proxy form per person, so be sure to fill out your form accurately. By only accepting one official form, the association doesn't need to check each proxy to determine if it's legally sufficient. It also eliminates any potential problems if the vote is close.

Just be aware that by assigning your proxy to another person, you've authorized the proxy holder to vote for you as he or she sees fit. The proxy holder is responsible for voting or abstaining from a vote.

Essentially, a proxy is an act of trust—the proxy giver must trust the judgment of the proxy holder. The proxy giver may think the proxy holder will vote for a certain candidate or issue, but the proxy holder isn't legally bound by that assumption unless it's written on the proxy form.

*Source: Community Association Institute*



## 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

Maggie Trevethan ..... plumcreekdogparkcommittee@gmail.com

### COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE TEAM

OPEN

### LAKE/PARK COMMITTEE

Linda Campbell .....  
..... plumcreeklakeparkcommittee@gmail.com

### GARDEN COMMITTEE

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

### POOL COMMITTEE

Amy Canaan ..... plumcreekpoolcommittee@gmail.com

### RECREATION COMMITTEE

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

### SAFETY & NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COMMITTEE

OPEN ..... plumcreeksafetycommittee@gmail.com

### WELCOME COMMITTEE

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

HOA OFFICE PHONE ..... 512.262.1140

PLUM CREEK HOA WEBSITE: [www.plumcreektxhoa.com](http://www.plumcreektxhoa.com)

## Important Numbers

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..... pw@cityofkyle.com

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Barton Middle School ..... 512.268.1472  
Hays High School ..... 512.268.2911

**YOU SHOULD RECIEVE THE PLUM CREEK POST  
EACH MONTH ON OR BEFORE THE 10TH.**

## Pool Committee News

*By Amy Canaan*

*plumcreekpoolcommittee@gmail.com*

The pools may be closed for the winter but your committee and your HOA office have been working hard to get the pool ready for another fantastic year.

The McNaughton (lap) Pool has gotten a new roof in the last few weeks as well as a new delivery of furniture. The Haupt (bucket) pool was not forgotten! Haupt will have all new tables, new decking and the water features have been painted. We are happy to report that work being done is staying local with Capitol City Roofing and Hands & Feet painting. We love to keep our HOA dollars in our local community.

We plan to open Haupt pool April 1. Life guards will start on Memorial Day weekend. We are excited to welcome back life guards from Austin Pool Pros. Austin Pool Pros will be hiring local kids as well as foreign exchange students from Eastern Europe. We were pleased to get to know some of these hard-working young adults last year and look forward to meeting a new group of young adults. Do you know someone that may be interested in becoming a life guard? Applications can be submitted to Austin Pool Pros at [www.austinpoolspros.com](http://www.austinpoolspros.com).

The Pool Committee would like to welcome the life guards by hosting a meet and greet in the park Memorial Day weekend. We will meet at Haupt Park Saturday, May 25 from 9:30-11:30 AM. The committee will grill hot dogs and we would love the community members to come out and bring their favorite traditional American side, drink or dessert. More information will follow but if you are interested please contact [plumcreekpoolcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:plumcreekpoolcommittee@gmail.com) or follow our FB page: Plum Creek Pool Committee Page – Kyle TX.

As always, the committee is looking for enthusiastic members that would like to join. Some activities we would love to put together but we need volunteers to help plan are: Mommy & Toddler meet ups and a Teen Social Night. If you, your teen or someone you know would like to help out planning these activities, please let me know.

Finally, we would like to remind everyone before the pool season begins to contact the HOA office and pick up your recreational IDs (rec tag). Kids ages 11 and up will need their own rec tag to go to the pool when the lifeguards are on duty. Get your rec tag at the Plum Creek HOA Office. The HOA office is open Monday – Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Send an email to Melody Stein at [pcoffice@goodwintx.com](mailto:pcoffice@goodwintx.com) and she can help coordinate making rec tags via email.





## Gardening Presentation



The Garden Committee has put together some valuable information to present to all the residents of Plum Creek!

*"Gardening Presentation - Come Get Your Questions Answered!"*

**Date:** March 9th

**Time:** 9:00AM – 10:00AM, *depending on questions and comments*

**Place:** Plum Creek Community Center

If you want to beautify your garden, but are unsure how to begin, or have a question about trees or shrubs, then this seminar is for you. Most of us have quite a bit of shade in our yards, so properly maintaining dominant trees is important for their health and our enjoyment. A Master Gardener guest speaker will present valuable information concerning trees and their care.

**Don't miss this great opportunity to get your questions answered!!**

## Plum Creek Welcome Committee

**March 2019**

The Welcome Committee is still hosting game nights at the Community Center for all adult residents once a month on Saturdays from 6-9 pm, (exact dates TBA). We will also host a potluck for residents June 2nd 1-3pm at the Center. Come out and meet your neighbors! The primary mission of the Welcome Committee's is to greet each new resident moving into Plum Creek and to encourage them to become active and engaged in our community.



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## Annual Plum Creek Easter Egg Hunt!

**SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH, 2019  
9:30AM 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 April 20th, 2019. 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.

## Save the Date: Front Porch Days is May 18 and May 19

[www.frontporchdays.com](http://www.frontporchdays.com) -Check out our new event website

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

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

- Saturday, May 11: Spring Community Wide Garage/Front Porch Sale
- Saturday, May 18: Races, **AND** Plum Creek Garden Tour
- Sunday, May 19, 12p.m. to 3p.m.: Front Porch Days Carnival, the Pie Baking Contest and more at Haupt Park.

Front Porch Days is a great time to spend with family and neighbors. The entertainment and rides are FREE. Bring money to purchase food, drinks, and products from vendors and community groups or to participate in the washer tournament or races on Saturday <http://tinyurl.com/2019fpdraces>

**Have a baker in the family?** Pull out that favorite recipe and start practicing your dough-rolling skills. The pie baking contest awards prizes for taste and appearance and has Youth and Adult age groups. Keep an eye on the website for additional information.

**Interested in selling something?** Updates will be posted in April's PC Post. We are accepting vendor booth applications for booth spaces. If you're an artist, craftsperson, business, or community group, we want you! Contact Melody Stein at [pcoffice@goodwintx.com](mailto:pcoffice@goodwintx.com) to ask questions or get a booth application. Also, the application is posted online at [www.frontporchdays.com](http://www.frontporchdays.com).

**Interested in performing?** If you are interested in performing, contact Greg Walters at [gwalters219@gmail.com](mailto:gwalters219@gmail.com). Local talent is always wanted!

**Interested in another aspect of Front Porch Days?** You can direct general questions about the event to [event@frontporchdays.com](mailto:event@frontporchdays.com)

**Volunteers Needed-** as always Plum Creek community events needs volunteers. It can be as simple as packing race packets, standing at a street corner to cheer on walkers and runners, rolling out garbage cans the day of the festival, placing sponsorship signs around the park or judging the pies. You can sign up online here - <http://tinyurl.com/2019fpdvol>

**We look forward to seeing you at the event!**

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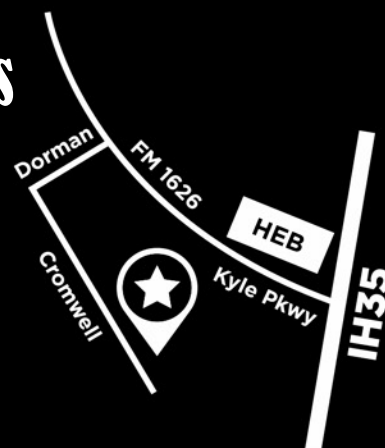
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# PLUM CREEK POST

## At the Fence

### Exterior Paint

Many houses in Plum Creek need a new coat of paint. The compliance inspection drivers do issue compliance notices for exterior paint. If you see peeling paint or lots of places with dark mildew, it's probably a good time to start planning to paint. NextDoor.com is great source for local painters. If you plan to change the exterior paint colors, you will need to complete an architectural request form to have the colors approved. You can find a copy of the architectural request form on the Plum Creek HOA resident website: [www.plumcreektxhoa.com](http://www.plumcreektxhoa.com)

We have an opening for a **Safety Committee Chairperson**. Please email Adriane with any questions you may have: [plumcreekmanager@goodwintx.com](mailto:plumcreekmanager@goodwintx.com)



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## March Sip & Sew

**KNITTING/CROCHETING CLASS** – Our group has received an “interest request:” for a knitting/crocheting class. Iris, one of our members has agreed to teach a knitting/crocheting class in March. Come, join our group for the knitting/crocheting class or come “do your thing”. Always crocheting, quilting, punch needle, knitting, rug hooking, needlepoint, mending and more! Looking forward to the second Tuesday of the month, March 12th, Haupt/Fergus Community Center....6:30 – 8:45 PM.

If you are a new knitter, let us know....so that we have the necessary supplies. Just call Iris Sandle – 512-405-0054 or Sandra Sigler – 512-405-0187. Come, Sip and Sew.

## Need to Reserve the Community Center?

To make a reservation, please login at [www.plumcreektxhoa.com](http://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](mailto:pcoffice@goodwintx.com).

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## Bare Spots in Yards

*PC Garden Committee*

*[plumcreekgardencommittee@gmail.com](mailto:plumcreekgardencommittee@gmail.com)*

In some of our yards, our trees have grown so big and full that our grass has thinned or just disappeared completely. If that's the case in your yard, here are a few ideas:

1. Just mulch it. Mulch introduces organic material into the soil, providing valuable nutrients to the tree roots. It helps stabilize soil temperature during summer and winter, too. Spread it about two to four inches deep and don't let it touch the actual trunk.

2. Amend the soil. Soil needs roots to hold it in place. Over time, exposed bare soil erodes away. Find a healthy top soil to top off the bare spots before installing new plants.

3. Let there be light! Thin the canopy of your tree and let the sun shine! Grass and many plants need plenty of sun to survive and thrive, so some selective pruning of your tree limbs may be a simple solution to thicken your grass.

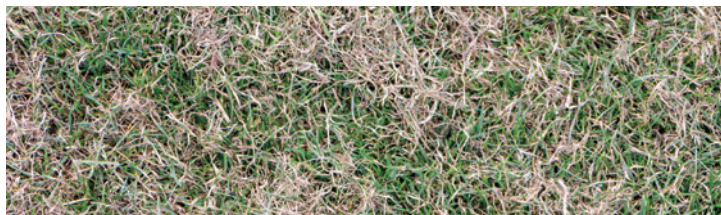
4. Get planting. One can always create a flowerbed or plant groundcover. Several groundcovers can be planted in shade, such as Pigeonberry, Purple Heart, or Monkey grass. Cedar Sage, Heartleaf Skullcap, or Columbine (reseeds when happy) are some great shady perennials. American Beautyberry is a lovely, shade tolerant shrub. When planting anything under a tree, be very careful with the roots, as not to stress the tree or expose it to disease. If possible, consider using seeds.

5. River rock. River rocks and other natural stones can create a lovely, non-traditional garden. Be sure to add an edge to prevent the rocks from washing out. An architectural approval is needed to change to xeriscape yards.

6. Visit the Plum Creek website - [www.plumcreektxhoa.com](http://www.plumcreektxhoa.com). Look in the Resource Center tab in the Deed Restriction menu item for general ideas. All yards were developed as sod yards. If you want to change to a xeriscape yard, you must submit an architectural change request form.

7. When all else fails, Google it! There are many creative solutions on the internet about how to deal with bare spots under trees. So, hit that keyboard.

Look for an upcoming Garden Committee Seminar. Ask the Garden Committee or the guest speaker about tips for a healthy yard.





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## Street Tree List Update

The Plum Creek Street Tree List was updated as of November 2018, which can be found on the Plum Creek website under Deed Restrictions>Street tree list>Amended Street Tree List or under Tree Care Information>Street Tree List.

**\*\*Mexican Sycamores** can be removed from the planting strip without approval, however please notify the HOA office if you intend to remove the Sycamore in the planting strip.

Large canopy trees can be removed from the front yard without approval if a canopy tree exists in the planting strip. A planting strip canopy tree can be removed if the front yard has an existing canopy tree.

Review the Landscape Template (on the Plum Creek website) for ornamental tree replacement requirements in the front yard.

The Mexican Sycamore has been replaced with a Monterey Oak on the assigned planting strip canopy tree list.



Daylight Savings Time is  
**Sunday, March 10,**  
**2:00 am**

## Newsletter Info

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## 9 Great Benefits of HOAs

*Submitted by Adriane Carbajal*



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](http://www.caionline.org)

Texas Community Association Advocates [www.txcommunityassociationadvocates.org](http://www.txcommunityassociationadvocates.org)

## The Value of Sleep for Children and Teens

*Shelley Coleman M.A., L.P.C.-S.*

As important as food and water, sleep is vital to your well-being. And, if you are a parent, research shows that your children are not getting the sleep they need. According to the National Sleep Foundation, children (ages 6-13) require 9-11 hours of sleep per night and adolescents (ages 13-18) require 9-10 hours per night. A recent study from the Centers for Disease Control found that 31% of teens get 8 hours or less of sleep per night and most school age children are getting 8.5 hours.

For growing brains and bodies, not getting enough sleep can have consequences on school and relationships. Teens and children can have difficulty concentrating when sleep deprived. And, according to the Sleep Disorder's Center, approximately 1,550 people are killed annually in crashes related to drowsy driving. Often, these crashes are caused by young people under the age of 25.

On the contrary, quality sleep has been linked to improved attention, better mental health, and lower risk of obesity. In recognizing the importance of quality sleep, parents can help children establish healthy sleep habits at an early age. If healthy sleep hygiene is established in adolescents, those habits can carry into adulthood.

Healthy sleep habits for teens and children include:

- a set bedtime and wake time that does not vary by more than 2

hours on the weekend

- a relaxing bedtime routine such as reading for teens or story time for children
- no "exciting" activities at bedtime such as jumping or wrestling for children or computer games for teens
- daily exercise
- healthy diet
- no caffeine after 4 PM

If you think your teen or child may have a sleep issue, there are common symptoms you may notice. For adolescents, parents may have difficulty waking them in the morning or observe that their teen is irritable in the early afternoon. Children may require excessive "help" falling asleep, wake many times during the night, or cause their parents to lose sleep. While these symptoms are usually easily addressed by improving sleep habits, more severe symptoms should be addressed with the help of a pediatrician or behavior specialist.

As parents, the value that we place on sleep is a big influence on our children's attitude toward sleep. Fortunately, there are a lot of practical steps we can take to help our children get the sleep they need. There are too many benefits of good sleep for our teens and children to miss out on them.







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## COME HOME TO **PLUM CREEK**

Welcome to Plum Creek, an award-winning 2,200-acre master-planned community in Kyle, Texas. With a focus on a maintenance-free lifestyle, the community offers front yard maintenance and full irrigation\*, which allows you more time to relax and enjoy family and friends. Empire offers a wide selection of floorplans ranging from 1,300 sq. ft. to over 2,200 sq. ft. in The Peninsula, a gated, private area within the Plum Creek community.

### CONTACT OUR SALES COUNSELOR

LARRY SCHULER

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E [LSCHULER@EMPIRECOMMUNITIES.COM](mailto:LSCHULER@EMPIRECOMMUNITIES.COM)



### VISIT OUR MODEL HOME

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\*Front yard maintenance and full irrigation are included in your monthly HOA dues of \$162.22 (effective 01/01/2018). Prices, plans, features and promotions subject to change without notice. E. & O.E. October 2018.