



# POST

**The Official Newsletter of the  
Plum Creek Homeowner Association  
April 2019  
Volume 10, Issue 4**

## **Annual Plum Creek Easter Egg Hunt! Saturday April 20th 2019 | 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 April 20th 2019. Gather your baskets, bring your kiddos and join us for music, Easter eggs and fun!

The park will be divided into multiple sections color coded by age range. 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 Sponsors. If you or your group would like to help please contact Kelly Jo Sloan 512-787-4485.



## Committee Contacts

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Adriane Carbajal ..... plumcreekmanager@goodwintx.com

### PLUM CREEK POST AND WEEKLY ENEWS

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### COMMUNITY CENTER RESERVATION QUESTIONS

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OPEN

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### 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

### 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

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### SCHOOLS

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

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EACH MONTH ON OR BEFORE THE 10TH.**



**Thanks to our Presenting  
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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 11th: Spring Community Wide Garage
- Saturday, May 18th: Races, AND Plum Creek Garden Tour
- Sunday, May 19th, 12PM to 4PM: Front Porch Days Carnival, the Pie Baking Contest, and more at Fergus Park
- Sunday May 19th: Family Fishing Day and Youth Tournament

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 18th –<https://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 also has a new twist on the format, including age groups! Visit event website for more information.

**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](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 another aspect of Front Porch Days?** You can direct general questions about the event to the Recreation Committee at [plumcreekrecreationcommittee@gmail.com](mailto: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/2019fpdvoleunteers>

## Garden Tour & Yard of the Month

It is that time again – Spring! Time to start sprucing up lawns and gardens.

While you are working on that fabulous garden, please consider showing off all your hard work by volunteering to be one of the gardens featured on our annual “Garden Tour”. This year’s Garden Tour is scheduled for Saturday May 18th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Contact Sandy Gonzalez at [plumcreekgardencommittee@gmail.com](mailto:plumcreekgardencommittee@gmail.com) if you would like to have your garden featured, or if you want more details. Last year’s Tour featured gardens that were wonderfully xeriscaped. Drought-hardy, low maintenance plants, along with non-grass designs were showcased. We would like to have this year’s Garden Tour feature colorful and/or whimsical designs. Please contact the Garden Committee if you have any questions. We would love to showcase your creativity in our neighborhood. Just note: we welcome all nominations for the Garden Tour.

Yard of the Month judging begins April 1st. You can nominate any garden in our neighborhood, including your own. Nominations for the first round of judging are due by March 31st, but you can continue submitting nominations up until May 31st. The Garden Committee will be judging yards for April, May, and June using the following criteria: curb appeal; overall design; weed control; pruned & healthy

trees and shrubs; and, clean & neat edgings and borders. Judging will be done the first week of the month, and signs will be placed in the winning yards. Gift cards will also be awarded.

If you have tried unsuccessfully to grow grass on your lawn – and you want something other than mulch as an option – how about “groundcovers?” Soil preparation is one of the keys to success. Clear the soil of any weeds or grass [being careful not to damage existing tree roots], and amend with compost and organic matter [at least 6 inches of well-amended soil to help establish a healthy root system]. Plan on buying about four plants per square foot if you are using 4-inch pots. Some groundcovers can be mowed, and some might need to be trimmed back occasionally. Some weeding will be necessary until the groundcover grows thick enough to crowd out the weeds.

Some of the groundcovers that do well in our area include: dwarf monkey grass, horseherb, leadwort plumbago, oregano, periwinkle, pigeonberry, sedges, frogfruit, silver ponyfoot, and mint. Keep in mind sun and water requirements for these before you plant. Oregano, for example, does best in full sun, while pigeonberry prefers shade.

If you have questions or comments, contact Sandy Gonzalez at [plumcreekgardencommittee@gmail.com](mailto:plumcreekgardencommittee@gmail.com). Thank you for making our neighborhood wonderful.



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## SUMMER OF DISCOVERY

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# PLUM CREEK POST

## Newsletter for the Plum Creek Welcome Committee

**April 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, (April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13, August 10, September 14, October 12, November 9, December 14). We will also host a potluck for residents on Sunday June 2nd 1-3 pm at the Community 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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## Protect the Deck Surface

**Please do not drag the pool furniture  
A new non-skid surface has been  
applied to each pool deck. The surface  
is rolled on and can easily be scraped  
off. Please pick up the furniture  
when you move it around to prevent  
scraping the deck surface. This will  
help the surface last longer.  
Thank you.**



## Pool Keys & Recreational IDs

McNaughton Pool is scheduled to open April 1st. All new residents will need their Pool Key and Recreational IDs!

New residents can obtain the pool key card at the HOA Office at 4100 Everett Ste. 150. Residents, 11 years or older, must have a Rec Tag (recreational ID) to use the pools, fish at the lake, play at the basketball courts or go to the dog park. Rec tags are issued to any homeowner, tenant, or resident family member.

Tenants are charged \$25 for each new Rec Tag. At the end of the lease period, tenants are encouraged and expected to return Rec Tags to the HOA Office. When a Rec Tag is returned, \$15 of the original \$25 per Rec Tag is reimbursed. For example, a family of 4 (all 11 and older) renting a home in Plum Creek must purchase 4 Rec Tags at an original cost of \$100. At the end of the lease period with the return of all 4 Rec Tags to the HOA Office, the family is reimbursed \$60. This helps improve security at the pools and offset the cost of continual Rec Tag issuance to rental addresses due to turnover.

If lost, homeowners and tenants can purchase a replacement Rec Tag for \$10.

One pool key is issued per address. If lost or a second one is needed, they are available for \$25.00 at the HOA Office. The office only accepts checks or money orders. Also, you need to call the office, at 512-262-1140, if you receive a key that is not working properly.

Please remember to have your pool key and Rec Tag available when entering the pool. If you do not have both cards when attending the pools, you may be asked to leave.



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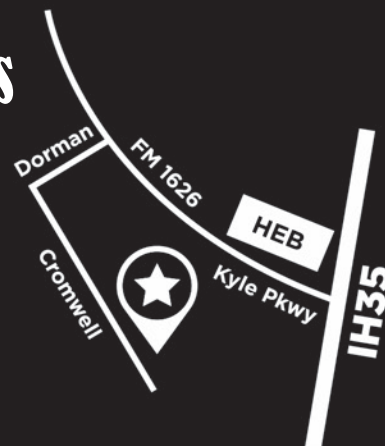
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## At the Fence

**Need to replace your mailbox or mailbox post?** Search the web for a supplier that carries the same or similar vinyl (or metal) mailbox and post. Be sure to get the matching color for your section of Plum Creek.

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

## McNaughton Pool Opening

Will open April 1st.

When lifeguards are not on duty, adult supervision, 18 and up, is required. Swim at your own risk.

**Open Swim:** 8 AM to 10 PM

**Open Swim:** Open to members, their families and accompanied guests.

Use your pool key card to access the pool. Your HOA account needs to be current for your key card to work.

In a board meeting held on February 21, 2019, the board of directors approved the use of St. Augustine with the following stipulations:

1. Architectural Review committee approval is required.
2. The neighbors on connecting lots must approve the installation of St. Augustine
3. A barrier must be installed between the yards.
4. The St. Augustine must be maintained at the lot boundaries.

## Sip and Sew

April, a month of warmth and inspiration. Come join our group, we are always full of creative ideas. Bring your project....need help or show us your talent! You will find punch needle, crocheting, needlepoint, rug hooking, quilting, mending and individuals working on matts for the homeless.

Join Sip and Sew the second Tuesday of the month, April 9th, 6:30-8:45 pm, Haupt/Fergus Community Center. Any questions, please contact: Iris Sandle, 405-0054 or Sandra Sigler, 512-405-0187.

**Come Sip and Sew**



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## Make a Clean Sweet with the Community-Wide Garage Sale on May 11th



Start cleaning out those closets and get ready for Plum Creek's Spring Community Garage Sale to be held Saturday, May 11th, 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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## Dog Park Mow Maintenance



The dog park is a great place to bring your dog and visit with neighbors. It is a common area and the mow maintenance crew is scheduled to mow the area under the maintenance contract. The location of the dog park surrounded by natural growing fields with native grasses which

makes the ongoing maintenance challenging. All sorts of ideas have been tossed around on how to maintain the dog park grounds. Again, it is a field that was never prepared to be a park area. If you have suggestions/ ideas for the ongoing maintenance of the dog park please attend an executive committee meeting or a board meeting and share ideas and solutions. Please do not stop the mow maintenance staff from completing scheduled maintenance in the dog park.

**Executive Committee Meetings:** 2nd Thursday of each month in the Plum Creek HOA office

**Board Meetings:** Quarterly board meetings- third Thursday of the second month of each quarter in the Plum Creek HOA office.

Check eNews and Community Event Calendar for changes in meeting dates and times.

## Snake Season



As always, please be very careful gardening, playing in the yard, or using the trails and lake, especially in the evenings. Check your porch and backyard before letting your kids or dogs outside. Examine your yard, porch, garage, and driveway, especially near the golf course, a drainage channel, natural area, or construction area. In addition, you may want to discuss the rattlesnake venom vaccine for your dog with your vet. If you spot a snake, leave the area immediately. If you find a snake or other critter and need assistance, you can contact Animal Control at 512-268-3232. Please don't kill snakes other than rattlers, as many of them are non poisonous and keep the rat and rattlesnake population under control. It is always better to retreat from any snake than engage it.



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# PLUM CREEK POST

## Plum Creek HOA Dues



Quarterly payments become due on:

January 1st, **April 1st**, July 1st & October 1st

The quarterly dues payment for 2018 is \$147.70. Peninsula-\$486.67 quarterly. Prepayments accepted.

You have 30 days to send in the payment before a \$36.00 late fee is applied.

The payment address is: **(This payment address has not changed)**

Plum Creek HOA

c/o Goodwin Processing Center

PO Box 93447

Las Vegas, NV 89193-3447

**\*\*include your account number**

You can contact the Plum Creek HOA office at 512-262-1140 to request your account number, or log in to the Plum Creek website [www.plumcreektxhoa.com](http://www.plumcreektxhoa.com) and go to the Home Tab and click on Account History on the resident dashboard and you can view your account number.

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# 10 Easy Ways to Make Your Home Safe

A home should be a sanctuary and a safe haven. You can ensure that you and your loved ones remain out of harm's way in the precincts of your homestead.

To avoid all kinds of accidents you should make it an accident-proof dwelling. It's really simple if you observe specific steps to keep mishaps at bay.

Here are 10 easy ways to make your home safe and secure. These will help you take care and protect yourself, family members and house-guests. Employ these effective tips:

1. Keep interiors and exteriors well lit. This is important at nighttime and also in winters when daylight is not very effective. Critical areas that need to be illuminated are the stairs, outdoors and foyers.

2. Never leave electrical problems pending at any point. The slightest fluctuation should be attended immediately. Make it a cardinal rule to switch off appliances after use.

3. Smoke alarms are a necessity and you must have the very best. Practice regular safety drills with your family to ensure awareness of procedures.

4. Keep ordinary appliances safely as they could be dangerous. Especially with kids around. Make electrical outlets safe by safety plugging and child proofing them. Keep sharp objects like scissors, knives, weapons and match boxes out of reach.

5. Ensure locks and bolts on doors and windows are in order and tamper-proof. Keep an eye out for suspicious characters and never invite strangers into your home. Teach your children not to entertain queries from strangers.

6. Do not share information about working or school hours. Teach family members to avoid telling people about schedules and routines. Do not put personal information online and never respond to voicemails.

7. The risk of accidents goes up when you are getting maintenance or repair work done. Ensure safety and precaution and be prepared to react quickly to accidents or injuries.

8. Do not attempt repair work of appliances involving undue risk. Many home accidents are the result of improper tampering with tools like lawnmowers and trimmers.

9. Maintain caution when driving vehicles in or out of your home. If you are backing the car up, watch out for children and pets on the road.

Make sure you don't leave stuff on stairs that may cause people to trip and fall. Be watchful when clearing snow from pathways that you do not heap it up in areas where people might walk.

## A FEW DAYS IN THE LIFE OF A HOME HANDYMAN

*by: Gordon R. Watson*

### DRIPPING FAUCETS

Vacationing at my mother-in-law's home always means doing some repair work. I like keeping busy, and there are generally some things needing attention. One of the recent issues there was a dripping kitchen faucet. Drips are really a thing of the past for most faucets. Happily, ceramic has replaced rubber as the seal, so most faucet manufacturers have a lifetime warranty of one sort or another. I gave her my standard verbal disclaimer (that her home's piping is old and something might break and require a real plumber). So far, I have never had to resort to calling one (knock on wood). I turned off the main water supply outside because her 1950's home doesn't have shut off valves (called stops in the trade) beneath the kitchen sink. Outside, after digging a hole in a flower planter to find the shut off valve, I gently advised her not to bury the main shut off valve because it wasn't designed to be buried, and it might be difficult to find quickly. In the kitchen again, fully expecting the old style rubber washers, I removed the kitchen faucet handle, protected the shiny chrome with masking tape, applied a wrench, and removed the faucet stem. To my surprise, the sink faucet did have new-style ceramic style seals. The problem, it turned out, was that debris, probably from her home's aging and rusting (50+ year old) galvanized pipes, had stuck in the ceramic cartridge, causing the seal to be incomplete. Fortunately, once I cleaned the debris out, the drip went away. I love it when I don't have to buy parts for a repair. The fact that the old piping is obviously corroding and slowly failing is another story for another time. Replacing that piping almost certainly will require a real plumber. Sometime I might mention to her that it might be a good idea to replace the old pipe on her schedule rather than the pipe's schedule.

### CORROSION

Her home also has a clothesline (not all that common these days) which had all but fallen over. The old clothesline was the old style with two "crosses" each cross with a two-inch galvanized pipe stuck in concrete (with five ropes for holding the clothes). Over time, these pipes rusted away. The funny thing is that the pipes really only rusted in one place: about two inches above the ground and two inches below the ground. The remaining pipe was in near-perfect condition. Even the pipes buried twenty-four inches in the ground were near-perfect! My point in mentioning this is that this corrosion is caused by moisture and oxygen. While we will likely never have a clothesline, the principle applies to all materials such as iron and wood placed in the ground and prone to rust or wood rot. While there is little we can do about oxygen, to the degree



feasible, we should try to keep water away from anything placed in the ground. Better yet, when feasible, avoid putting anything which can rust or rot directly in the ground.

### STUD FINDERS

Over the years, I have owned at least three electronic stud finders. These are the devices that are supposed to locate the wooden or metal studs behind the sheet rock. My history with them hasn't been trouble-free. My last one worked fairly well for a few years, but it recently proudly advised me that the closet wall I wanted to attach a shelf to, had no studs. I now have three "broken" stud finders in my tool box. I promise to properly dispose of them soon. Fortunately, while doing some work at my son and daughter-in-law's home, I found (in my son's tool chest) a non-electric, entirely rare earth magnet-type "stud finder" that works so well that I don't think I will ever go back to the electronic type. It is made by C.H. Hanson. Of course, it only indirectly finds the stud. It finds the nails or screws holding the sheet rock to the stud. At about \$10, it is a bargain. I just bought one for myself, and believe it may be the last I ever have to buy (unless I lose it, of course). Hint: Once a stud is found, you can apply painter's tape (masking tape (not too tight or you may strip away the paint) to the stud location, or you can place another magnet on the nail location as a marker.





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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

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### VISIT OUR MODEL HOME

1558 HARWELL LOOP  
KYLE, TX 78640

 **EMPIRE PLUM CREEK**

Your dream home begins at [EmpirePlumCreek.com](http://EmpirePlumCreek.com)

\*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.