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2nd Year Doug Bacon Randy Larson Robert Taber, Jr.

3rd Year Chris Fair Ron Hammon Pam Kuhlman

Officers

Robert Taber, Jr., President Doug Bacon, Vice President Randy Larson, Secretary Vacant, Treasurer

BOD Meeting: April 25, 2024, 6 p.m.

BOD Committee Workshop April 11, 2024, 9:30 a.m. Both meetings in Ballroom



COMMITTEE DIRECTORY

Committee	Frequency/Day	Time	Location
Airport	April 11	8 a.m.	Planeview Park (weather permitting)
Appeals	April 9	10 a.m.	S&S Conference Room
ACC	April 4 & April 18	2 p.m.	S&S Conference Room
Bylaws	April 8	3 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Communications	April 8	10 a.m.	CH Conference Room
Entertainment	April 3	2 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Finance	April 17	3:30 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Golf	April 3	8:30 a.m.	CH Conference Room
Horse Owners	TBD	6 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Infrastructure	April 2	9 a.m.	CH Conference Room
LRP	April 15	1:30 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Marina	April 10	3 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Safety & Security	April 16	9:30 a.m.	S&S Conference Room
Sports & Rec (Grounds)	April 2	1 p.m.	PAC
Wildlife	April 12	8:30 a.m.	CH Conference Room

MEETINGS ARE OPEN. PLEASE CHECK WWW.PPOAWEB.COM OR CALL THE CLUBHOUSE FOR LATEST INFORMATION BEFORE ATTENDING A MEETING.

New Member Orientation

10 a.m. in the Terrace Room To register for New Member Orientation, please contact Sarah Lord, Pecan Member Representative at sarahlord@ppoaweb.com or 817-573-2641 Ext. 335. **APRIL** Saturday, April 6 Tuesday, April 16 **MAY** Saturday, May 4 Tuesday, May 21

2

Columns

PECAN PLANTATION CLUBHOUSE AND OFFICES

8650 Westover Ct, Granbury TX 76049 www.ppoaweb.com | 817-573-2641 Office Hours 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

STAFF DIRECTORY

Title	Name	Email	Extension
General Manager Rick Lantgen		gm@ppoaweb.com	340
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Business Office	Patty Trunk	pattyht@ppoaweb.com	331
Code Enforcement/ACC	Brent Hamilton	acc@ppoaweb.com	349
Communications Director	Jay Arrington	jay.arrington@ppoaweb.com	347
Controller Kristi N		kristi@ppoaweb.com 333	
Event Coordinator	Brenda Palmer	bpalmer@ppoaweb.com	325
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Operations Manager	Daniel Van Patten	daniel@ppoaweb.com	342
Security Director	Harold Aydelott	harold@ppoaweb.com	341
Sports & Recreation Manager	Joi Keahey	joi@ppoaweb.com	361
Tennis Pro	John H. Ingram III	johni@ppoaweb.com	817-579-9412

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY

Clubhouse
Fire/EMS
Code Enforcement/ACC
Front Gate
Back Gate
Security Office
Golf Pro Shop
Tennis Shoppe
19th Hole-2-Go
PAC
Marina

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PLANTATION

COUNTRY C

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Member tags and contractor decals issued at Security office Mon-Fri, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and first Sat. of each month, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Member tags require registration, title or bill of sale, driver license and proof of insurance. Contractor decals require registration, driver license, proof of insurance.

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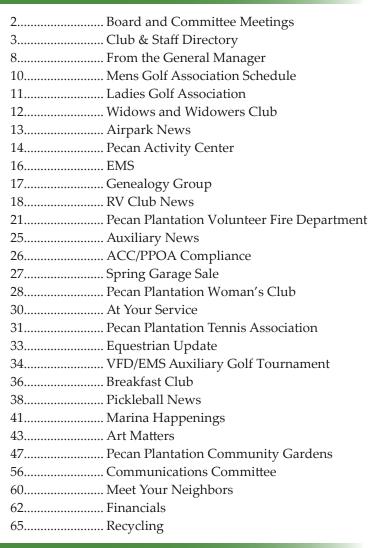
Equilux, Equinox, & the Eclipse

Fun and Educational ways to celebrate Earth Day



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PECAN PLANTATION COMMUNITY



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ABOUT US



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Columns is the official magazine of Pecan Plantation and is distributed to each household every month. We strive to provide residents with news and information about events, activities and people in the community. The views expressed by contributors may not necessarily be those of Columns Magazine or Hyde Media Group. All rights reserved and no part of this publication may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means without the written permission of Hyde Media Group, LLC. © 2023.



WEATHERED WOOD



Darren Clark can be found on the golf course (no, that guy is Darren Clarke—with an "e"), on the stage at the Granbury Opera House, or in his cubicle manipulating pixels into many of the Hyde Media Group's publications. Darren is a designer, photographer and occasional writer.

Eden met Granbury 36 years ago and is grateful to have moved here in 2000. She and husband "Hug" raise/raised their two natives here. Eden loves her semi-bohemian lifestyle of hanging out with artists, writers and photographers both young and not as young. Her passions include coffee dates, succulents and making new friends.



Eden Duncan Gilbreath



Karen Gomez

Karen picked up her first camera in 2011, then quickly discovered her love of both wildlife and aviation photography when she and her husband, Doug, moved to Pecan Plantation in 2016. Karen's photographs have been on the covers of Columns magazine, and the wildlife Christmas and note cards they design and produce are big sellers during the holidays.



ON THE COVER



ON THE COVER

With the start of the new season comes rebirth and new life. These swallows on a limb in Pecan Plantation chirp for their mother who was nearby bringing them morsels to eat. *Photo by Karen Gomez*

COLUMNS MAGAZINE DEADLINES

If you have editorial or photography for Columns, please write to Columns@hcnews.com. The deadline for submissions is the first day of the month prior to publication date. EX: Jan. 1 for the February issue.

Advertising closes on the first of the month prior to publication date. Contact Brittany.Bowers@hcnews. com or call 817-559-5099 and ask for Brittany Bowers.

Want to Contribute to Your Neighborhood Magazin<u>e</u>?

See something that makes you think "that ought to be in the magazine"? Send us ideas for stories or photos of friends, family, nature, wildlife, sports action, special moments, and you might see it in print!

A few tips: Photos should be high quality JPGs—at least 4x6 inches at 300 dpi. If you are sending them from a smart device, choose "Actual Size" or "Original Size" to send. Low resolution, out of focus, inappropriate or otherwise poor-quality photos, or those that have been heavily edited or filtered, will not be published.Contact us at columns@hcnews.com



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GENERAL MANAGER



As your general manager, it is a privilege to address important matters that shape the future of Pecan Plantation, and this month I am writing about a subject that makes many of you a little nervous. I am right there with you. It's no secret, we have witnessed tremendous growth in the past year as lots have been selling, and more and more people will soon be building in and calling Pecan "home."

It makes sense. This is an amazing place; who wouldn't want to join our fold?

Still, I hear on almost a daily basis, "when all these folks get here, we won't be able to get tee times;" "I'll never get to play pickleball again;" or "The traffic is going to be so much worse; our roads won't handle it." These are very valid concerns.

I won't sugarcoat it; these problems are on the horizon. We are currently doing all we can to address them. It isn't unreasonable to think that in two or three years, we could easily have more than 10,000 people living inside our gates. That's why it's imperative for us to begin thinking about new amenities for our current residents as well as future neighbors. As new families and individuals move to the peninsula, we must ensure Pecan remains special.

To this end, management, the long-range planning committee, and the board of directors have been looking into projects that will not only meet the current demands of our residents, but also foster a sense of community and well-being for years to come. Some of the proposed ideas include a fitness center/indoor pool with a SilverSneakers program and a new events facility with indoor tennis and pickleball. (If you have been to any of our club activities lately, it easy to see we have outgrown our current ballroom.) There are other ideas, too, like improvements at the marina, renovating the club pool, a splash pad for kids, and projects that cater to all interests and age groups within our community.

We understand that decisions of this nature require the input and support of our members. Our bylaws make it very difficult to expand our offerings, since it only takes a few members to block change. Finding any idea where 66.7% of the people agree is immensely difficult no matter the subject! This alone makes adding amenities problematic.

In the coming weeks and months, you will probably hear all kinds of rumors. Remember, unless you learn about something from an official Pecan Plantation Owners Association source, take what you hear with a grain of salt, and feel please free to ask my staff or me for clarification. That's why we are here. I encourage you to share your thoughts and help shape the future of our community. Let's work together and make Pecan an even better place to call home.



EXAMPLE 2024 PPCC MEMBER GUEST JUNE 6-9 IT'S GOING TO BE EPIC! ONE GREAT EVENT TWO NIGHTS OF MUSIC THREE ROUNDS OF GOLF FOUR DAYS OF FUN Save the Date



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APRIL

APRIL 4 - 4 MAN SHAMBLE, COUNT 2 BB PSST APRIL 13 - 2 MAN TEAM, 9 HOLE SCRAMBLE, 9 HOLE SHAMBLE PICK PARTNER APRIL 18 - PECAN SPECIAL APRIL 25 -LOW GROSS/NET WHINER SPECIAL, DROP 2 WORST HOLES.

Hello everyone! Hopefully everyone is enjoying this beautiful weather. Our days are getting longer and warmer. I'm not sure about you, but I'm ready for warmer weather and longer golf days. The irrigation crews are doing a pretty good job of helping take care of our golf course. Please, let's continue to do our part to take care of it also. Spring has arrived and summer is right around the corner, so don't forget to make your travel plans.

~ Robert Forshee MGA President



LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION



Spring has sprung and finally we've had some great golfing weather. March was a busy month for the Ladies Golf Association, but April will be even busier. We were able to remodel the bathrooms on Hole #5 and Hole #14. We worked in conjunction with the Men's Golf Association and our course superintendent, J. D. Ashwood, to replace the fixtures and repaint the buildings. They turned out great. We had a great Sadie Hawkins tournament that helped pay for the remodel. Thanks to Renee Sasser and Bev Franzen for their hard work making this a successful endeavor. Thanks to all of those who helped paint as well.

We had our first Suburban play day at Harbor Lakes. It was a fun day and we had a delicious lunch. We had our first general meeting after our play day and had a good turnout with productive results. Our first guest day March 18 was fun. Thanks to Lindy Williams for an impressive day. Our Spring Ringer tournament is quickly approaching. Dana Murphy and Tracy Gullet have worked diligently to make this a fun and challenging event.

I hope everyone had a blessed Easter with your families and your circadian rhythm wasn't too disturbed with the time change. It just means longer daylight to play more golf!

Marilyn Neely PPLGA President

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WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS CLUB

By Caryl Mahaffey

The Pecan Widow and Widower's Club will hold its April meeting in the club ballroom April 23. Chef Jordan will present one of his special menus for the group. Meal selection will be sent to members closer to time. The program, The Epic Race to the South Pole, will be presented by one of The Widow and Widower's board members, Dan Crise. Dan has been an avid reader and student of history. Recently he has been highly intrigued by the explorations of courageous adventurers like Amundsen-Scott's epic 1910-1912 race to the South Pole. Dan's power-point study of the historical feat will keep everyone involved in the race.

The club recently celebrated its reorganization one-year anniversary with 57 members present. A special anniversary cake was enjoyed by everyone.

The club meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month. This month, we'll meet April 23 at 5:30 p.m. Due to the increase in attendance, we will now be meeting in the club ballroom.

RSVPs are required to attend the meeting and are due the week before the meeting (April 16). Those can be made by e-mailing Caryl Mahaffey at caryl.mahaffey@charter.net or by phone or text to 817-964-5915.

Plan now to come and enjoy the great people that make up the Pecan Widow and Widower Group.





Board members with the one-year reorganization anniversary cake include (L-R) Peggy Wetle, co-chair; Dale Heid; Caryl Mahaffey, leader; Dan Crise





Have you ever wanted to fly, but didn't know the cost or how to get started?

On April 20, starting 10 a.m., EAA Chapter 983 in Pecan Plantation will present its second annual Flying Start Program. This program is for ages 18 and older, and is designed to educate, excite and motivate you as a fledgling pilot. You will receive written material, a video presentation, and hear pilot testimony about all the exciting types of flying: fixed-wing, gliders, helicopters, gyrocopters and light sport aircraft.

In addition, you will take a flight with one of our experienced pilots who will give you a chance to control an airplane while in flight. Flight instructors in this area will be available to answer your question about cost and equipment should you want to sign up.

To signup go to: https://www.flyingstart.org. Look for the Pecan Plantation Flying Start tab. Space is limited; first come, first served. Or contact Tom Woodward at Buhwana@charter.net or text/call 817-279-3080.





PECAN ACTIVITY CENTER APRIL 2024

SPORTS & RECREATION 817-573-7952, pac@ppoaweb.com Monday to Saturday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday noon to 6 p.m. Wednesdays 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

ADULT GUITAR LESSONS

Next 6 week session starts April 11. Lessons every Thursday 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. Carolyn Troland will teach you how to play the guitar in six weeks without reading music! \$25 a lesson. Please bring a guitar with newer strings on it.



"LET'S KARAOKE PECAN II"

Six week class: Five classroom Tuesdays at the PAC starting April 9 thru May 7. The final and sixth class will be a Karaoke Night performance May 11. This class is a continuation of "Lets Karaoke I" with more intense instruction, one-on-one time together, and more difficult material. Prerequisite: Must have attended Class I. Instructor: Rebecca Faiola (510-326-3553) \$70/person Sign up at the PAC - Space is limited!

PAINT ALONG W/ KATHY YODERS

Sunday, April 14 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Cost: \$75 - includes all supplies Bring a beverage of your choice and get step-by-step Acrylic instruction on canvas. Space is limited. **New Workshop 2nd Sun of every month**

HAPPY HOUR AT THE DOG PARK

Saturday, April 27 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. Come to the Dog Park to meet your neighbors and learn about this wonderful amenity. F & B will be selling beer, wine, hot dogs & brats. (Alcohol must be purchased at event - no coolers). FOPP will be there selling homemade dog treats and introducing you



to Pooch Plantation. There will be a food drive for a local shelter and more!

CPR CLASS AT THE PAC

April 27 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Classes are free to attend. If certification is desired, the cost is \$15. (testing required). AHA certification.

SAVE THE DATE...

May 4: Green Thumb Club Plant Sale 9 am - 3 pm May 4: Election Day 7 am - 7 pm May 5: Free Mothers Day Crafts 2 pm May 6: Tiny Tribe soft play for toddlers 1 pm - 2 pm May 8: Red Cross Blood Drive 8 am - 2 pm May 11: Pecan Car Show 10 am - 2 pm May 18: CPR Class 10 am - 12:30 pm May 24: Club pool opens 9:30 am - 8 pm

EXERCISE CLASSES

Traditional Yoga Mon, Tues, Thurs, & Fri 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Chair Yoga Monday 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Thursday 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

"Improve the way you move" stretch class Monday 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Cost: \$10/class or \$35/month (4 classes) or \$65/mo



Cost: \$10/class or \$35/month (4 classes) or \$65/month (8 classes) or \$95/month unlimited classes Certified Instructor: DeDe Lamont (503-572-8840)

Pilates

Mon, Tues, Thurs, & Fri 8 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. Cost: \$3/class Instructor: Shawn Farris (Please bring your own mat)

Low Impact Aerobics Mon, Tues, Weds, Thurs, & Fri 8 a.m. - 9 a.m. Saturday (9 a.m. - 10 a.m. Cost: \$3/class *Bring hand weights & a mat if possible

Line Dancing - Free Fridays 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. No Instruction. Intermediate dancers meeting for practice, exercise & fun

INDOOR PICKLEBALL SCHEDULE

Weekdays 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Wednesday 9:30 am - 11:30 a.m. Family Friendly Open Play (Two Courts) Tues & Fri Evenings 6 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. Sundays 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. Ladies Only Open Play - Tuesdays 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Beginners' Clinic - Mon, April 15 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Limit 8 - pre registration required Three outdoor courts available with reservation from 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. through PPOA app or website.

KIDS DANCE CLASSES

Every Monday **Mini Tots Ballet and Tap**: (18 mo to 4 years), 3:30 p.m - 4:15 p.m. **Ballet/Tap/Jazz/Hip-Hop Combo**: (ages 5 & up) 4:15 p.m. - 5 p.m. Cost: \$50/monthly Instructor: Dance Dreams Instructors



THE SPORTS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETS TUESDAY, APRIL 2 AT 1 P.M. AT THE PAC.

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Reighborhood FAVES

By Brandl Stephenson BA, LP, NRP, FP-C, Chief, Pecan Plantation EMS

Good day, Pecan! I recently attended the Hood County Hospital Board meeting in town and learned that many residents of Pecan are anticipating an increase in dues for fire and EMS. I know this has been buzzed about quite liberally in recent months and I would like to use this venue to clear this up. The proposed increase is not going to be on the ballot. A transfer contract has been established with Glen Rose Medical Center that will provide another revenue source for our department. Emergency service for residents of Pecan will not be interrupted for transfers. A patient requiring transport for a higher level of care from GRMC will receive prompt, courteous and professional service, but our priority is to you, and that will not change.

Due to the increase in call volume on property, plus the added volume of transfers from GRMC, I am planning on staffing a third 'on-call' truck. This will allow us to maintain our high level of care and rapid response in Pecan while keeping a third truck available to take any transfers from Glen Rose Medical Center. Nothing is set in stone at this time, but we are blessed to be able to consider this. Pecan Plantation is growing every month and we are growing along with it.

Please take a moment and remember those who serve, both at home and abroad. Your prayers and well wishes really do carry weight, and are greatly appreciated.

Remember to call 911 for emergencies and have a great day!



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GENEALOGY GROUP

MILITARY RECORDS – WHERE TO FIND AND HOW TO USE THEM

The Genealogy Group will meet Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 10 a.m. at Pecan Plantation EMS Training Room at 9518 Monticello Drive behind the fire station. Everyone is welcome. Participants do not need to be residents of Pecan Plantation. Those coming from outside Pecan should tell gate security they are attending the genealogy meeting at the EMS training room.

At this meeting, Pecan Plantation Genealogy Group will honor our military forbears by exploring resources for military genealogy. Please join us to survey more avenues for learning about the lives of service our ancestors lived. Through genealogical research, we strive to fill in our family members' lives between their birth, marriage and death records. Military documents provide insight into not only their military service but also their occupations, families, home addresses, and sometimes their photographs and medical histories.

Should you have any questions, call or text Kay at 682-459-5718



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FIRST NATION

Congratulations!

As of January 1st, longtime FNB Officer and Director, Mark Webb, was promoted to President and CEO. Mark has been our Executive Vice President and Chief Lending Officer since 2015. Please welcome him into his new role at FNB! We are very proud to have his leadership!

MARK WEBB

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RV CLUB NEWS By Glenna Haskell, VP

Do you live in Pecan and own an RV? Why not check out the PPOA RV Club? We have a lot of fun members that like to travel and enjoy the outdoors. If this sounds interesting, please check out our PPOARV.ORG website for more information.

At our February business meeting, our hosts asked that we come dressed for Valentines Day. I have never seen so much red in one room. We had a contest for best dressed and the Robinsons were the clear winners. This club is so much fun.

We have many upcoming rallies:

- April 6-8 Solar Eclipse Rally at our very own Shady Campground.
- April 14-19 Camp FIMFO in Waco.
- May 19-22 Spring Mini Rally at Dinosaur Valley RV Park in Glen Rose
- September 15-18 Fall Mini Rally TBD
- October 13-18 Fall Rally at Finish Line RV Park in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

As you can see, we are a very busy RV club. Be sure to register early if you want to attend. Our hosts for these rallies have many fun activities planned. Don't miss out on the Solar Eclipse and the Waco rallies in April.

Last month, past president David Kroon told us about the old Pecan Tree at our own Shady Campground that was destroyed by high winds. At our February meeting we talked about having the stump carved in commemoration. The tree is estimated to be over 300 years old. Hopefully we can honor the tree in some way.

In closing, I would like to encourage everyone to visit our website. If you have any pictures or would like to share any of your travel adventures, please send them to rvclub@ppoarv.org.



Lewis and Daysie Robertson, Joe and Judy Henson



Joe and Judy Henson



Bob and Helen Price



Judy Henson, Carol & Gene Chiappe, Glenna Haskell

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- Home Health: 817-573-7474 Hospice: 817-573-3092
- 31314 Paluxy Rd Suite 200

PPVFD

JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER

PECAN PLANTATION FIRE DEPT.

It's springtime in Pecan Plantation, and residents are spending more time with outdoor activities. Your Pecan Plantation Fire Department has a robust itinerary scheduled for training, maintenance and recruitment. We strive to provide excellent service whether it is rescuing a cat stranded on a roof, preventing a grass fire from spreading to neighboring houses, or making sure the smoke you smell is not coming from your attic space. We are a Hood County Fire Department, but Pecan Plantation is our home.

In this month's Columns magazine, we want to elaborate on one aspect of training for newer volunteer firefighter recruits. In March, three of our newer volunteers are attending the Granbury Fire Academy. These trainees are spending 11 weeks learning about fire safety, fire prevention, and — importantly — how to respond to fire, vehicle or civil emergency. The trainees are enrolled in both an online course and a hands-on, all day exercise each Saturday. Training is conducted at Granbury's Drill Grounds, located close to Reunion Rodeo Grounds where Granbury has its burn house and training facility. This facility provides the opportunity to train alongside certified firefighters, and Hood County volunteer firefighters with decades of training experience. The opportunity to train is special to PPVFD in that the fire academy is a certified Texas state training facility. Graduates of the academy can further train to become certified (professional) firefighters.

A great aspect of the academy for Pecan Plantation residents is the level of training our volunteer firefighters receive, and that the cost to PPOA residents is zero dollars spent. Tuition is covered by grants through the Texas Forest Service. What a great benefit to have one of Hood County's Fire Departments located within our gates.

Following is a quick sample list of materials covered in the fire academy by our volunteer recruits.



SCENE SAFETY

Recruits learn how to understand fire behavior, and how to properly use their PPEs (personal protective equipment), as well as how important their SCBAs (self-contained breathing apparatus) are in a smoke- or chemical-filled environment.

PROPER METHODS OF RESCUE

This can be either from ground level, a ladder, or hydraulic platform. Trainees will be instructed on proper techniques in ladder placement. As mentioned earlier, we have rescued cats from house tops, pet birds from trees, and an individual hanging from a water tank and trees. Recruits practice how to make a forced entry into a structure when needed for life saving or fire control.

HANDLING OF FIRE HOSES

Our firefighter trainees must study and test on the proper usage and handling of fire hoses. PPVFD's tanker can easily pump enough nozzle pressure to shove two firefighters to the ground or escape their grip when handled incorrectly, causing a serious hazard to anyone nearby.

As Pecan firefighter trainees advance with their training, they will experience search and rescue exercises in a totally smoke-filled environment. They will don their PPEs with SCBAs and blindfolded masks, to search on hands and knees for unconscious or stranded victims within the burn house. During the next evolution of training, Pecan Volunteer Fire trainees will be exposed to enemy number one, the flashover. A specially and highly certified instructor will create, as close as possible, a deadly flashover. Trainees will experience, while in their PPEs, the effects of and the warning signs of

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a flashover. The ceiling temperature will rise to 1,100 degrees, and water will instantly change into steam. The flames will start to crawl on the ceiling as the trainees watch, secure inside their PPEs. Anything combustible within the room will spontaneously ignite; even the smoke particles in the air will ignite. This is deadly serious, and it's why we train.

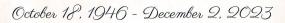
As completion of training nears, trainees will ascend Granbury's 105-foot aerial ladder to experience the thrill (terror) of fighting a fire from a very high, swaying location. What becomes of that trainee? They become my brother or sister; I trust them with my life.

Fire academy is an intensive 11-week training program that endeavors to change a novice firefighter into a person who could make firefighting a lifelong career, if they choose. Pecan Plantation is blessed to have men and women who volunteer their time and efforts to make this an outstanding community. We hope the residents of Pecan and surrounding Hood County never need our services, but we are nearby, ready to respond during some of your darkest times. We will be there!

If you are interested in volunteering, we always want new members to our fire department. Age doesn't matter — we have volunteers from 17 to 80 years old. Fire support maybe for the older individuals, or our junior program for younger individuals. There is a place for everyone. Come by and visit us at 9518 Monticello Drive or call us at 817-573-1643. We will be glad to answer your questions.



Celebrating the life of "Solution "Victor "Vic" Schoepf



Please join us in celebrating the life of Victor Schoepf

Sunday, April 28th beginning at 3:00 p.m.

Pecan Plantation Country Club 8650 Westover Ct., Granbury, Texas 76049

Memorial contributions may be made to Pecan Plantation Fire/EMS

For directions or information, please call Kathie Schoepf at 817-271-6104



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AUXILIARY NEWS By Lana Robinson

The Pecan Plantation VFD/EMS Auxiliary Golf Tournament is just around the corner. The annual fundraiser is slated for Saturday, April 20, at the Pecan Country Club and course. Check in at noon for the 1:30 p.m. shot gun start.

Van Griffith is once again offering a new KIA car for a hole-in-one prize. Some of our early raffle prizes include a nighttime aerial flight over Ft. Worth, provided by resident pilot Steve Bloomquist, Fathom Realty; a \$600 gift certificate/ BBQ meal for 20 with sides from Steve and Brandi Smith, owners of Smitty's Barbecue; a \$350 WeatherTech gift card from Eric and Lana Robinson, PRAIRIE WIND REAL ES-TATE LLC; a \$350, 52-quart insulated RTIC Cooler, donated by ARIES Building Systems; two vintage quilts handstitched by Lucy Espisito; and a variety of other gift baskets and certificates for products and services from area businesses.

If you haven't already, be sure to form your four-person team and sign up at the Pro Shop. Cost is \$75 per person. Carts will be \$30 for 2 people (2 cart maximum per team and must be reserved). Payment must be received at time of registration, along with a registration form with all fields completed. Register early as this is a first-come, first-served basis, and the course only has room for 144 players.

If you prefer, you can pick up a form and mail check(s) for correct entry amount made payable to "PPVFD & EMS Auxiliary," P.O. Box 6674, Granbury, TX 76049. To pay securely by Credit Card or for other information, contact Susan Thillen at ppaux2023treasurer@gmail.com.

We are still in need of sponsorships and donated items/ services for our raffle. One hundred percent of the profit goes directly toward the Pecan Plantation VFD/EMS. In exchange, your business(es) can be promoted through multiple outlets throughout our community and within Hood County. Sponsors' names, as well as those who donate raffle prizes, will be posted on a list and updated/refreshed regularly on the Pecan Plantation VFD/EMS Auxiliary FACEBOOK page, Nextdoor Pecan and other social media.

Contact Susan Thillen, ppaux2023treasurer@gmail.com if you are willing to be a sponsor and to arrange for secure payment. To donate a product or service for our raffle, call Julie Logan at (727) 252-3702.

Volunteers are also needed for the golf tournament. To find out how you can help, email Auxiliary Volunteer Coordinator Seleta Webster at seleta.chere@gmail.com or call 806-646-0656.

There were 43 residents and volunteers in attendance at the March business meeting. EMS Chief Brandl Stephenson gave an interesting and informative presentation on the history, operations, staff, financials and future plans for the EMS here in Pecan.

The next regular meeting of the PPVFD/EMS Auxiliary is set for 7 p.m., Monday, April 1, at the Charlie Lee Memorial EMS building at 9518 Monticello Dr. All Pecan residents are invited to attend. Come at 6 p.m. for a social time and potluck meal prior to the meeting.



ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL AND PPOA COMPLIANCE

ACC REPORT

The number of new home permits increased a bit during February 2024 with the ACC approving five New Residence Construction Permits, seven Miscellaneous Construction Permits, and no Construction Revisions or Permit Extensions.

The ACC construction permit list currently contains 46 active permits for new homes under construction and 20 active miscellaneous permits for various other improvements.

The following new homes were approved to begin construction during February 2024:

Address	Sq/Ft Living Area	Owner	Builder
1129 Tremont Ln	2625	Ryan Couto	Ryan Couto
2505 Birchwood Dr	2581	Lacey Padgett	Bruce Padgett
2516 Birchwood Dr	2247	William Vogler	William Vogler
8401 W. Landings Rd.	3679	Casey Barrington	Casey Barrington
7006 Gulfstream Dr.	2507	Laura Steen	Mike Leatherwood

COMPLIANCE CORNER

During February 2024, the Compliance Office received 24 calls and 31 emails reporting possible compliance issues, four calls and six emails regarding vacant property maintenance, plus 556 calls and 62 emails requesting ACC, plat/lot, rules, C&R or construction information.

Since many lots have recently been sold in the newly developed additions, all owners of vacant lots are again reminded to enlist a

landscape maintenance contractor to regularly service your property for the entire annual mowing season which usually includes the months of March through at least mid-November. All properties are not only required to be mowed on a frequent enough basis to prevent the average growth height from exceeding the violation level of 10", but must also be kept free of fallen tree limbs, trash and other debris. Under PPOA Rules & Regulations, vacant properties found in a violation condition are subject to the Association arranging for enforcement service on the property with cost recovery charges billed to the owner's member account. Cost recovery charges for non-scheduled property maintenance are generally far more expensive than routine/contracted landscape service because personnel and equipment to perform the task must be pulled from a contractor's daily schedule of jobs and work area.

HOME SALE NOTE

Upon the sale or transfer of home ownership by any other means, Section-15 of PPOA Rules & Regulations requires residential property to be in compliance with all applicable elements of PPOA's Governing Documents. If ownership is transferred with an existing non-compliant issue, the new owner will be responsible for bringing the property into compliance. When it is requested by a title company, lending institution or prospective buyer, PPOA will perform a compliance inspection and return a report stating whether or not the property is in compliance and detail any deficiency if it is not. Since compliance certification requests are frequently received only a few days before the scheduled closing date, we remind members contemplating the sale of their home to help avoid any last minute surprises or delays by contacting Membership Services at the PPOA Business Office to arrange an early inspection of the property to identify any existing issue that may require corrective action.





Call or text Lana or Eric Robinson today to schedule your private showing or for a free market analysis of your property and to learn more about our client services. Pecan residents since 2006. We are quick to point out our wonderful amenities here and market Pecan as a lifestyle. We also list for less!

"I have known Lana for several years, and knew of her reputation as a realtor. I am so glad I contacted her when I decided to sell my home. She is so knowledgeable and experienced. Any time I felt overwhelmed or stressed during the process, I could call and she would put me at ease. There were so many decisions. She gave me sound advice, reassured me and helped me each step of the way. Lana cares about her clients. She is someone you can trust."

~ Suzette Gentry



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PECAN PLANTATION WOMAN'S CLUB Swinging into spring

Sandy Hoelting, President

The Pecan Plantation Woman's Club is getting excited about its upcoming Spring Fashion Show Thursday, April 18. "Swing Into Spring" will be a different and sensational fashion show with "lots of surprises," promises Director Debbie Rickman.

Prominently displayed will be many new fashions presented by Granbury area merchants. It will be a special day for PPWC members. A lively and impressive day is in store for all our members. Like most of the club's ongoing events throughout the year, this one, too, is always "sold out." Be sure to make your reservations early. Don't risk being left out.

We completed our Boot Scootin' event March 23 and had an absolutely smashing event where we raised thousands of dollars to provide funds for our charities and scholarships. We would like to take this time to thank our sponsors who made the event even more successful:

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SILVER SPONSORS

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A huge "THANK YOU" to our sponsors and to the residents of Pecan Plantation for your ongoing support. Because of you, we are able to help our community and so many more people in Hood County with our charitable giving and additional scholarships for young students.

As always, information about joining Pecan Plantation Woman's Club is available by email to sandyh9911@gmail.com or by phone at 501-922-7464.





Columns





Thursday, April 18, 2024

Pecan Plantation Woman's Club Spring Fashion Show



Luncheon, Meeting & Program Thursday, April 18, 2024 Clubhouse Ballroom Gathering 9:30am - Meeting 10:00am Sandy Hoelting, President - 501-922-7464 Menu

Swing into Spring

Half of a Smoked Chicken Potato Salad Baked Beans Corn Bread Dessert: Confetti Cupcakes Featured Cocktail: Margarita - \$5

Luncheon: \$21.00 Reservation and Cancellation deadline Noon Thursday, Aprill 11, 2024 -RESERVATIONS-Email (preferred) to ppwcres@gmail.com

Or call Susan Martin (361)215-4599

No-show policy is in effect

COLUMNS

At Your Service By John Ingram III USPTA Master Professional

Evaluation of the PPTA St. Patrick's playday and ceilidh (a traditional Scottish and Irish social gathering) last month. A celtic good time was had by all. Slainte!

Our PPTA spring Bar-B-Que is April 12. Get out your best 1940s and WWII attire, for this will be a swingin' Hangar Dance. (At the EAA hangar.)

Heads up! We'll be celebrating the next tennis major, the French Open, in May at the red clay court at River Crest Country Club in Fort Worth. More information to follow.

Remember: Spring Junior Tennis is every Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. (ages 6-9) and 5:30 (ages 10-12).



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TENNIS AND MORE!

(featuring tennis, basketball, soccer, and others) 9 a.m. to noon A. June 4-7 B. June 18-21 C. June 25-28 D. July 16-19 E. July 23-26 Ages 6-10

Ages 6-12

whiffleball, etc.)

 Golf and tennis equipment provided if needed

We will do tennis and swim every

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sport each day (basketball, soccer,

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VISA

PECAN PLANTATION TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Mon.-Fri. 10am-6pm

GREETINGS, SOCIALITES AND TENNIS LOVERS!

With April being the lull before the summer storm, I'll be brief. Hopefully we had a huge turnout for the March 9 St. Patrick's Day Playday. Next up is the April 12 annual meeting. Sir John, our ambassador of tennis, had the idea of changing the usual venue of using the campgrounds and moving this year's meeting to the air park hanger at the north (Wedgefield) end of the runway for a WWII-themed dance with catered BBQ.

With volunteerism at Pecan Plantation Tennis Association being the lowest I've seen in decades, I will be reluctant to volunteer my handful of board of directors members and their generous significant others who have been stepping up, to engage in any other fundraising opportunities that have been offered. We have had only one person volunteer for the board of directors in the last four years. With annual dues of just \$35, numerous free playdays and an annual meeting, I think it's time for our board to switch to marathon mode instead of growth mode until we get more offers to help from all our playday and annual meeting participants in particular. Your current board has overseen three new shade structures and is ready for new people and ideas.

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Enough bummer for now, keep your emails updated and get your volunteer shoes on.

See you on the courts!

Prez





Columns



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EQUESTRIAN UPDATE

By Tammy Dressman

Have horses — will travel! That's just what some of the Pecan Plantation Stables boarders have been doing. During the months of February and March, we have three boarders, Barbara Davidson, Cindy Rowe and Brenda Tealer, who loaded up for a nearly month-long trip and traveled to Tombstone, Arizona, for a few nights' stay before moving on to Apache Junction. They got to meet up with longtime friends and have been having quite a time. As you can see from the included photos, riding is not all they've been doing. After a good four to five-hour ride in the Superstition Mountains each day, they put on their fancy duds and hit the town. While on trail rides, yes you enjoy beautiful scenery, relax and unwind, but the camaraderie with friends while sitting around campfires with games, guitars, harmonicas (the true cowboy way), trips into town, sharing meals together — that is what brings people closer, even though they may live miles apart. We're so happy that the women at the Pecan stables have been able to enjoy so much of that while on their trip.

We also have boarders who are gearing up for some local rides. If you haven't been to Wyatt Ranch in Glen Rose yet, that is a great day riding trip. Six 0's ranch between Glen Rose and Cleburne is another great day ride. Beautiful scenery without traveling far is nice for sure! We're seeing that a lot of Lake Whitney's trails are being cleaned up. The last time we visited Whitney, the trails were quite overgrown. We're so excited to see that is being cleaned up and ready for riders. Benbrook has a nice day ride area as well. And then of course the LBJ Grasslands in Decatur is only a two-hour drive from here. Several are planning a trip in mid-April and looking forward to meeting up with friends for several days.

While we continue to remain at full capacity at the stables, be sure you call to get on the wait list. Eventually you will make it in and you will be so glad you did. To get on the waitlist, call the PPOA business office at 817-573-2641, ext. 337. To request a tour or for any and all other stables-related questions and information call me, Tammy Dressman, at 817-614-9744.







VFD/EMS AUXILIARY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Benefiting the Pecan Plantation Volunteer Fire Department and EMS

KIA Car Hole in One Prize offered by Van Griffith KIA

(Once hole-in-one prizes are won, no other player may win them)

Raffle with Many Valuable Prizes

The PPVFD/EMS Auxiliary will sell Raffle Tickets for Valuable Prizes!

Location: Pecan Plantation Golf Course

When: Saturday, April 20, 2024

Time: 1:30 PM

Shotgun Start Registration Begins: 12:00 PM

Format: 4 Person Scramble Entry Fee: \$75 per person Guest Cart Fee: \$30 (2 people)

Sign up at the Pro Shop (817) 573-2645

Pro Shop will establish teams.

Winners will receive Pro Shop Credit (1st = \$300; 2nd = \$200; 3rd = \$150)

Please join us for a fun and competitive day of golf for an especially important benefit. If you have questions, please, contact Donna Bullis at 817-454-0422.



BREAKFAST CLUB



Chris Cassidy, former NASA astronaut, Navy Seal, and president/CEO of the Medal of Honor Museum will speak to the April Breakfast Club meeting

On March 13, we were blessed to have Melinda Ray as our guest speaker. An expert on local history, Melinda has published several books including two about Granbury's Nutt, Landers and Bond families. Melinda did an excellent job of bringing these characters from Granbury's past into focus for the club members. More fun local history!

On March 27, we heard from Mary Flores. Mary is the Hood County crime victim liaison. Many of us have wondered what exactly a crime victim liaison does and gratefully Mary explained this vitally important function and her role in executing the program. She highlighted her presentation with actual stories from her past experiences. A fascinating program about this crucial program!

Next month, we will have a representative from the Medal of Honor Museum as our special speaker. I'm not sure at this time which representative will visit with us but I'm hoping it is Chris Cassidy. Chris is president and CEO of the museum. He is a former NASA astronaut, Chief of the Astronaut Office at NASA, and former Navy SEAL. Captain Cassidy was awarded several medals for leading missions during Operation Enduring Freedom. Keep your fingers crossed! Also, in April we will hear from Debby Gordon from the Historic Granbury Merchant's Association. Debby will explain the role of the Historic Granbury Merchant's Association in promoting Granbury. Additionally, she will tell us of some new and exciting events.

Breakfast Club meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of most months for food, fun and fellowship. Breakfast is available at 9 a.m., followed by the program at 10 a.m. If you don't want breakfast, then drop in at 9 a.m. for coffee and fellowship!

We strive to bring the best in presenters of interest to our audience. There are no dues for Breakfast Club, and everybody is welcome. We request you call the clubhouse front desk at 817-573-2641 to make reservations no later than noon on the Tuesday prior to our meeting. You may also order breakfast at this time if you wish to join us for breakfast. Send your email address to pecanbreakfast@gmail.com to be included in our mailing list. Watch for eblasts and Columns articles about our activities. Come join us!

Let us know if you know of a particularly interesting speaker.







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PICKLEBALL NEWS

By Jana Reeves

The Pecan Plantation Pickleball Association held its annual membership meeting Tuesday Feb. 27 at the PAC. New board directors were elected. Congratulations to the following members: First VP Gary Bullard, Second VP Jan Burch, Secretary Terry Garlow. They join the existing board directors: President Sam Butler, Treasurer Mylene Boles, Communications Director Jana Reeves and Director-at-Large Tracy Davis. The board looks forward to leading the association to another fantastic year.

There has been an overwhelmingly positive response from indoor players to the new and improved floor in the PAC. Following the re-opening of the gym, there were approximately 646 member sign-ins to play pickleball in February. This is an increase from approximately 348 member sign-ins in December. The gym is open from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. each Monday through Friday, except for an earlier closing at 11:30 am on Wednesdays. Also, family-friendly hours Sundays from noon to 2 p.m. and Tuesday and Friday evenings from 6-7:45 p.m. have been added! Mark your calendar for Saturday April 6 for the Pecan vs. DeCordova Pickleball Challenge Cup. There will be up to 17 different matches throughout the day on the three outdoor courts in Pecan. Best of luck to the competitors and if you are not in the tournament, please come out and cheer for your fellow Pecan Pickleball players!

In April, there will be one beginner's clinic Monday April 15 from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. There is a limit of eight participants and sign-up is required. Please, call or stop by the PAC to register.

The ladies only pickleball play is every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. indoors at the PAC. All levels of play are welcome.

Once again, the PPPA will be serving up sandwiches, chips, drinks and dessert at the Spring Pecan Plantation Garage Sale. Please, visit the front circle to grab a bite to eat. The association always appreciates the support we receive from residents.



2024 Pickleball Board of Directors



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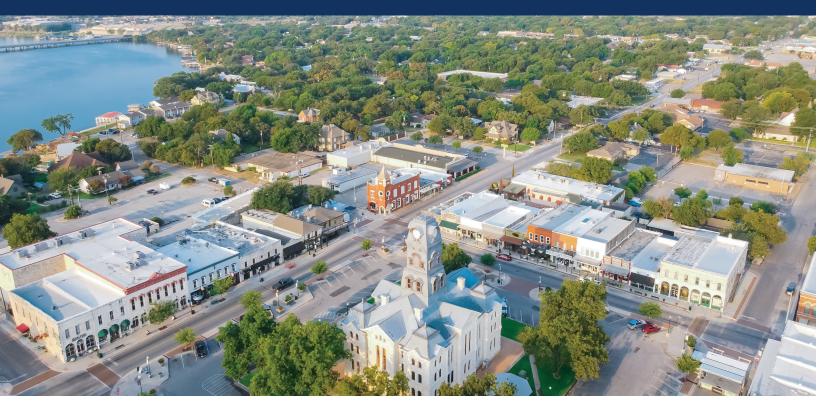
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MARINA HAPPENINGS

DID YOU KNOW THERE ARE TWO WAYS INTO THE MARINA AT 4600 W. WEDGEFIELD ROAD?

- Never leave Pecan property. Turn left on W. Wedgefield Road and go through the tunnel.
- Or, just outside the back gate of Pecan there is an automatic gate that uses your standard car entrance reader, allowing you to easily access the marina and The Pecan Pit Bar and Grill.

PHASE 1 UPDATES COMPLETED

- Heated and air-conditioned indoor dining that will accommodate 48 guests
- Pay at the pump fuel is non-ethanol the good stuff!

READY TO ENJOY

- The Pecan Pit Bar and Grill
- Outdoor dining
- Great views of Lake Granbury
- Live music on select weekends
- Boat launch
- Fishing pier

PHASE 2 UPDATES IN PROGRESS; STAY TUNED FOR MORE IMPROVEMENTS TO COME

• Décor updates

1

April 13

In the 19th Hole!

- New decking and roofs for boat slips
- Marina yard changes

LAKE GRANBURY FISHING REPORT

- Striper fishing is getting hot
- Largemouth bass fishing can be excellent around any of the docks and piers. Crankbaits, jigs and worms are top bets
- Fishing by the dam is always a good location for Lake Granbury

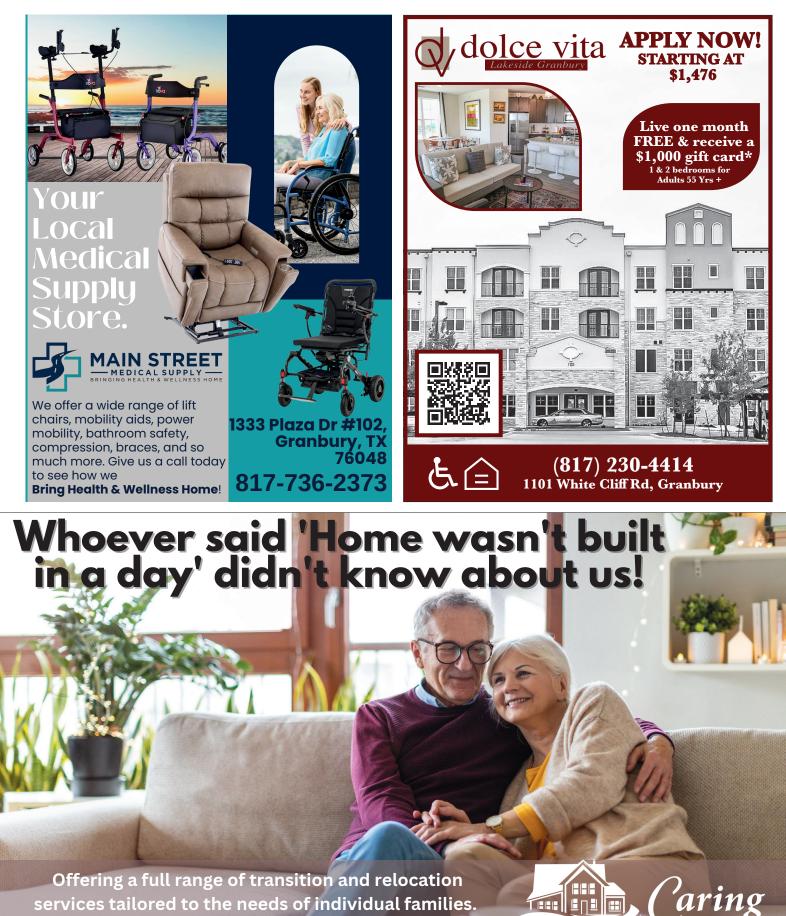


BUFFET BINGO

April 9

In the ballroom Buffet 5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. Bingo 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Make reservations at the front desk!





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Membership in the Pecan Plantation Art Guild is open to all Pecan Plantation residents who are interested in art. Our meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the Pecan Activity Center. Dues are \$35 per calendar year. For more information, visit our website at pecanplantationartguild.com





On April 9, Janet Everitt-Forte will demonstrate her techniques with pastel landscapes. Originally from Fort Worth, Janet has been drawing since she was a child and "fell in love" with pastels when she bought her first set at age 10. The beauty of North Texas drew her to plein-air painting and studying with master pastelists and oil painters. She works in a variety of mediums and enjoys portrait and figure painting along with plein-air. The beautiful effects of light, the variety of surfaces and techniques, and knowing where to stop before over-developing a painting are hallmarks of her creations. Her works have been included in numerous national and international juried shows and numerous solo and group shows. She is currently represented by Rain Bird Gallery in Blanco.







Jimmie Borum, with her winning painting for Artist of the Month in March. View April's winners' work at the PAC Also enjoy our curated art displayed throughout the clubhouse and along with the wall leading to the ballroom, this month featuring the art of Betsy Ferguson.

PECAN PLANTATION ART GUILD SPRING SHOW AND SALE

Langdon Center Art Gallery 308 E. Pearl St. Granbury

Open Thursday, April 4, 2024, 1 to 5 p.m. April 5-14, Thursdays-Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

AWARDS/RECEPTION Friday, April 5, 5 to 8 p.m. Internationally recognized local artist James R. Spurlock will judge our spring show. He is a successful painter and sculptor who is also sought after as a teacher to seminar and private students across the country. He says, "Art is just a series of adjustments... and life is art."



James R. Spurlock

BALANCING LIGHT

The 2024 equilux and equinox phenomena in Hood County

BY MICKY SHEARON

As the Earth dances around the sun, it brings forth a symphony of light and darkness, day and night, crafting the rhythm of our lives here in Hood County. Among these celestial events, the equinox and equilux stand out, each marking a unique moment in our journey through the cosmos. But what exactly are these phenomena, and how do they differ? More importantly, when can we, the residents of Hood County, expect to witness these events in 2024?

THE EQUINOX: A BALANCING ACT OF DAY AND NIGHT

The term "equinox" is derived from Latin, meaning "equal night," and occurs twice a year, around March 20 and Sept. 23. It's the moment the sun crosses the celestial equator, making day and night approximately equal in length. This astronomical event heralds the beginning of spring and autumn, a time of change and renewal.

In Granbury, with our coordinates firmly placed at 32° 26′ 31.488″ N, the equinox invites us to celebrate the transition of seasons. In 2024, mark your calendars for March 20 and Sept. 23, as these dates approximate the spring and autumn equinoxes, respectively. These days symbolize a balance, a momentary pause in the Earth's tilt, neither leaning toward nor away from the sun.

THE EQUILUX: WHEN DAY AND NIGHT TRULY EQUAL EACH OTHER

While the equinox might be the more familiar term, the equilux is its lesser-known cousin, yet equally fascinating. The word "equilux" combines Latin roots for "equal" (equi) and "light" (lux), referring to the days when we experience exactly 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of darkness. Unlike the equinox, the equilux dates vary significantly depending on one's geographical location.

For us in Granbury, the equilux occurs slightly before the spring equinox and just after the autumn equinox. Given our latitude, the 2024 equilux is anticipated to fall March 16 for the spring and Sept. 26 for the autumn. These are the days when the sun's disk, from its first morning ray to its last evening glow, spans an equal duration to the night.

WHY THE DIFFERENCE?

The distinction between the equinox and equilux lies in how we measure the start and end of the day. The equinox considers the moment the sun crosses the equator, while the equilux takes into account the actual hours of sunlight we receive, influenced by the Earth's atmosphere bending the sun's rays. This bending, or atmospheric refraction, extends the day slightly beyond what we'd expect, leading to the equilux occurring on dates different from the equinox.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR GRANBURY?

For the residents of Granbury and Hood County, these celestial events are not just markers of time but opportunities to connect with the natural world. The equinox reminds us of the Earth's endless journey around the sun, a cycle of life, growth and renewal. The equilux, on the other hand, offers a moment of perfect balance, a day of reflection on the equality of light and darkness in our lives.

As we approach these dates in 2024, let's take the time to observe the sky, to feel the change in the air, and to celebrate the celestial dance that brings us together under the sun and stars. Whether you're a stargazer, a photographer capturing the changing light, or simply someone who appreciates the beauty of our universe, the equinox and equilux in Hood County are events not to be missed.

ENGAGE WITH THE COSMOS

As we continue our journey through 2024, let these celestial events inspire us to look up and wonder, to learn more about our place in the universe, and to find harmony with the natural rhythms of our planet. The equinox and equilux are not just astronomical terms but symbols of the balance and beauty that surround us here in Hood County as we spin through the vastness of space.

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE, APRIL 8

DID YOU KNOW?

A total solar eclipse will be visible from Texas to Maine on April 8, 2024. NASA notes that this phenomenal, awe-inspiring event occurs when the moon passes between the sun and Earth, completely blocking the face of the sun. The National History Museum notes that solar eclipses occur between two and five times a year, but a total solar eclipse occurs less frequently. A total eclipse takes place every 18 months or so, but that does not mean everyone can view the eclipse. Whether or not a total solar eclipse is visible depends on where a person happens to be at the time it occurs. In fact, the NHM reports that generally total solar eclipses are visible every 400 years from any one place. Americans interested in seeing a total solar eclipse should make a concerted effort to do so in 2024, as NASA indicates the next total solar eclipse visible from the contiguous United States will occur in August 2044.



THE BASICS OF A SOLAR ECLIPSE

The natural world is wondrous to behold. In a given day, there is no shortage of events to capture human attention and imagination, and such occurrences are free of charge.

A solar eclipse is one phenomenon that never ceases to amaze. Millions of people will get a chance to experience this stunning phenomenon on April 8, 2024, when a total solar eclipse will be visible from Texas to Maine, according to the National Park Service. In anticipation of the eclipse, readers can learn about these unique events.

WHAT IS A SOLAR ECLIPSE?

According to NASA, a solar eclipse occurs when the sun, the moon and Earth line up, either fully or partially. During a solar eclipse, the moon passes between the sun and Earth, casting a shadow on the planet. That shadow either fully or partially blocks the sun's light in certain areas.

HOW FREQUENTLY DO SOLAR ECLIPSES OCCUR?

NASA reports that solar eclipses happen only occasionally. That's because the moon does not orbit in the exact same path as the sun and Earth.

ARE ALL SOLAR ECLIPSES THE SAME?

All solar eclipses are not the same. When a solar eclipse occurs, it may be categorized as a total solar eclipse, an annular solar eclipse, a partial solar eclipse, or a hybrid solar eclipse.

• Total solar eclipse: A total solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes between the sun and Earth and the face of the sun is completely blocked. According to NASA, the sky darkens during a total solar eclipse, just as if it is dawn or dusk. The outer atmosphere of the sun, also known as its corona, is typically invisible because the sun is so bright. However, the corona is visible during an eclipse.

• Annular solar eclipse: An annular solar eclipse happens when the moon passes between the sun and Earth when the moon is at or near its farthest point from the planet. That distance is why the moon does not completely cover the sun. NASA notes an annular solar eclipse makes the moon appear as a dark disk on top of larger, bright disk. This creates the awe-inspiring impression that there is a ring around the moon.

• Partial solar eclipse: During a partial solar eclipse, the moon passes between the sun and Earth at a time when all three are not perfectly lined up. NASA notes that the visual effect of this is that only part of the sun appears to be covered, giving it a crescent shape.

• Hybrid solar eclipse: As its name suggests, a hybrid solar eclipse features characteristics of two different types of eclipses. NASA notes that the curved surface of Earth helps to create a hybrid solar eclipse, during which a shift between annular and total eclipse occurs.

A total solar eclipse will occur on April 8, 2024. NASA urges all individuals who intend to witness this awe-inspiring phenomenon for themselves to wear eclipse glasses or to utilize an alternative safe solar viewing method, such as a pinhole projector. More information about solar eclipses and how to view them safely can be found at science.nasa.gov.

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PECAN PLANTATION COMMUNITY GARDENS Steph Phalen

April is a time for growth, both in vegetables and membership.

Introducing some of our newest members:

Jan and John Bowen (pictured below) met in Clearwater, Florida in 1980. When John was home on leave from the Air Force at Thanksgiving, he met Jan at a family friend's house. Jan is a registered nurse and John is now a retired airline pilot. They moved from Flower Mound to Pecan in 2011. Jan loves cooking with fresh vegetables and felt the Community Gardens would be a good fit. She is interested in learning from others and sharing in the harvest. Welcome, Jan and John.

The next garden workdays are April 6 and April 20, when we will plant beans, cucumbers, squash, zucchini, tomatoes, peppers and herbs. Members will also beautify landscaping beds with spring flowers.

Join us in the Community Gardens to experience the April 8 solar eclipse. Find details on Pecan Plantation Community Gardens Facebook page or email susanharris21@ yahoo.com.

We would love to see you in the garden.

The members of the PPCG come from a variety of gardening backgrounds and are a mix of differing levels of expertise. The club welcomes anyone who is interested in organic gardening.

Annual membership is \$25 per family and applications are available at the PAC.

Come grow with us in 2024



Jan and John Bowen

GARDEN TIP OF THE MONTH

HERB BOMBS

To preserve unused fresh herbs (think basil, dill, parsley, cilantro, etc.) simply chop them up and place in an ice cube tray along with broth or water. Then freeze these "flavor bombs" for future use. They can be used in stews, stir-fries, soups and more. Fresh herbs not only add flavor, but they're also loaded with antioxidants and other health-promoting nutrients.

PAWS OFF! Practice pet poison prevention



Companion animals typically do not understand that certain items in their environments can be harmful. Pets' innate curiosity coupled with unique aromas produced by common household items can put them in jeopardy of potentially deadly poisoning.

According to veterinary experts at WebMD Pet Health Center, an estimated 232,000 cases of pet poisoning occur annually in the United States. In March 2022, the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center hotline fielded 22 percent more calls stemming from incidents of pet toxicity than in 2021. The following are some steps pet owners can take to protect their companion animals against poisoning.

DON'T LEAVE OUT HUMAN FOOD

Dogs, cats and other animals may be lured by the sweet temptation of their owners' food. Many food scraps can be toxic to pets, including alcoholic beverages, chocolate, coffee beans, moldy foods, and raisins, among others. Keep the kitchen tidy and trash cans (indoor and outdoor) secured.

BE CAREFUL WITH HOUSEPLANTS

While they may look beautiful and filter indoor air, certain houseplants can be toxic to pets if ingested. Before bringing any new plants into your home, check the ASPCA Toxic and Non-Toxic Plant Guide. Lilies may be pretty, but they also are quite toxic. The smallest nibble can be fatal to cats.

KEEP MEDICATIONS LOCKED AWAY

Be sure that over-the-counter and prescription medications are locked away and cannot be accessed by curious pets. Even seemingly mild medications, like human pain relievers, can be toxic to pets.

BE SAFE WHEN SPRING CLEANING

Keep pets out of rooms when they are being cleaned by chemical products or when using insecticides. Wait a day or more before letting pets back into the area. Store products beyond a pet's reach when they're not in use.

With diligence, a significant percentage of pet poisonings can be prevented. Pet owners should do their homework about toxic items in and around their homes and do their best to keep pets safe.

Columns



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HOW EMPTY NESTERS CAN Menunpose BEDROOMS IN

It can be bittersweet when adult children decide the time has come to move out of the family home. Parents perhaps get their first trial run of this scenario when their children go off to college or enlist in the military. Rooms are left empty, if only for a certain period of time. Eventually, those rooms will remain empty as adult children move out of the house for good.

Converting a child's bedroom into an area for adults may take some planning. It can be exciting to regain space, but at the same time, it can be disheartening to convert a child's bedroom once and for all. When the time comes and homeowners are emotionally ready to tackle bedroom conversions, these tips can help the process go smoothly.

REPURPOSE THE SPACE FOR THEM

Give a childhood bedroom an adult spin without changing too much. If furniture is in good shape, replace the bedding, change the flooring, swap out artwork, and remove "youthful" items like toys, trophies and other collectibles. When the child comes home to visit, he or she will still feel comfortable in the space.

CREATE EXTRA STORAGE

The bedroom can be transformed into a walk-in closet or dressing space. According to the design experts at Houzz, many clients request this type of dressing room situation. There's a bonus if the layout allows the space to connect to the owner's suite or bathroom. This is a major overhaul, so homeowners should enlist a professional contractor.

MAKE A FITNESS CENTER

A bedroom can be turned into a home gym to make working out more convenient. Homeowners should take inventory of equipment they may have and then figure out where existing and new equipment will go. They may need to consult a structural engineer to ensure that the flooring can bear the weight of additional equipment.

CREATE A WORK SPACE

#NIGHT

NIGHT

One of the best ways to transform adult children's bedrooms is to convert the spaces into home offices. Those who have been setting up "desks" at dining room tables or elsewhere may be excited about the prospects of finally having a private, dedicated space to work from home.

TURN IT INTO A CRAFT ROOM

The bedroom can be converted into a space to explore hobbies and various other interests. A dedicated craft space, a reading nook, a place to store photography equipment, or another function can serve as a useful way to repurpose an empty bedroom.

Empty nesters have many possibilities when it comes to converting their children's old bedrooms into adult spaces.

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HOW TO KEEP YOUR LAWN LOOKING GREEN

omeowners' fascination with a lush, green lawn is something that has developed over time and is still "growing" strong. According to a 2019 survey conducted on behalf of the National Association of Landscape Professionals, 81 percent of all Americans had lawns and 79 percent said a lawn is an important feature when buying or renting a property.

Even though lush lawns are still coveted, due to drought, the financial climate and even invading insect populations, many people are taking inventory of their landscapes and deciding if a lawn is a priority, even going so far as to reinvent their spaces with lawn alternatives. Still, there are ways to keep properties green no matter which route is taken. Here's a look at some environmentally friendly ways to address a landscape.

IRRIGATE FROM BELOW

There are many ways to water landscapes, but homeowners may want to take their cues from the commercial farming industry. Drip irrigation systems utilize a network of valves, pipes and tubing close to the roots of plants or under the soil. Such systems are more efficient than surface irrigation options, helping to save water and nutrients in the soil.

WATER EARLY

Scotts Lawn Care suggests watering a lawn in the morning before 10 a.m. when it is cooler and winds tend to be calmer. This ensures water can be absorbed into the soil and grass roots before evaporation occurs. Watering midday may cause the water droplets on the lawn blades to heat up and actually scorch the lawn.

PLANT A NEW GRASS TYPE

Homeowners can experiment with eco-friendly grass seed blends that mix native grasses and may not require as much water nor ideal growing conditions.

UTILIZE GREEN ALTERNATIVES

Rather than focusing solely on grass, some homeowners are turning to alternatives like clover and even moss, particularly if their landscapes do not have the most pristine growing conditions. This may reduce the need for chemical fertilizers and herbicides. The result is still a green, inviting yard.

WATCH THE LAWN HEIGHT

Mowing too frequently or at too low a height may compromise the lawn's ability to thrive. Grass cut to the proper height develops a deep root system to better locate water and nutrients in the soil. That means homeowners may not have to water as much or as frequently. Taller lawns also shade the soil and the roots, reducing some evaporation.

COMPOST

Leave the clippings on the lawn to break down and further feed nutrients to the lawn, helping it look greener and thrive. Furthermore, rely on supplementation with compost to reinforce the nutrient profile in the soil. The National Resources Defense Council says composting is the natural process of recycling organic matter, such as leaves and food scraps, into a valuable fertilizer. It doesn't take much to nurture compost in a yard.

Green landscapes are possible with a few tips that help conserve water and maximize natural resources.

FUN AND EDUCATIONAL WAYS TO CELEBRATE

Earth Day

arth Day is an annual holiday that has been celebrated since 1970. Despite somewhat humble beginnings, much of the globe now celebrates Earth Day, which this year takes place on Saturday, April 22. Earth Day has long drawn attention to issues affecting the planet and its climate. The effects of those issues have grown increasingly noticeable in recent years, which makes this Earth Day and all subsequent celebrations an ideal opportunity to celebrate the planet while learning about the many challenges it faces in the years to come. The following are some unique, fun and educational ways to celebrate the plan-

LEAVE THE CAR AT HOME

et this April.

Winter weather is a distant memory by late April in many places, making Earth Day an ideal time to travel by foot or by bicycle instead of by car. That's not only fun, but also a great opportunity to learn about carbon emissions. The United States Environmental Protection Agency reports that a typical passenger vehicle emits about 4.6 metric tons of carbon dioxide each year. Vehicles also emit a substantial amount of methane and nitrous oxide. This is why gas-powered vehicles are so often linked to climate change, much of which is driven by greenhouse gas emissions. A car-free Earth Day can be fun and serve as a catalyst for conversation about the effects of gas-powered vehicles on the health of the planet.

VOLUNTEER WITH A LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL OR-GANIZATION

Environmental organizations are committed to the ideals behind Earth Day all year long. However, each Earth Day many of these organizations sponsor eco-conscious efforts to help the planet and raise awareness about issues like climate change. Volunteering with a local beach or park cleanup or signing up to walk and raise money for a local environmental charity makes for a fun and educational way to spend your Earth Day.

GET YOUR HANDS DIRTY AND PLANT

The National Forest Foundation notes that planting trees can have a profound and positive impact on the planet. According to the NFF, planting more trees helps forests to sequester carbon, which can have a significant effect on climate change. The NFF estimates that 100 mature trees can remove 50 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent and 430 pounds of pollution from the atmosphere. Even if you can't work with a local forestry organization to plant more trees in a nearby forest, planting native trees on your own property can help combat climate change.

INVOLVE CHILDREN IN YOUR EFFORTS TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

Today's adults likely won't be the ones forced to confront the more challenging consequences of climate change. Unfortunately, that cost is likely to be passed on to future generations. That makes this Earth Day a great time to involve kids more directly in efforts to combat climate change. Explain the significance of avoiding the car, volunteering or planting trees in terms that kids can understand, emphasizing that the future of the planet could very well be in their hands.

Earth Day takes on greater significance each year as the effects of climate change become more noticeable. This year the holiday can be celebrated in various ways that are both enjoyable and educational.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

SPRING CLEANING IS UPON US... LET'S ORGANIZE OUR DIGITAL WORLD.

Deleting unnecessary e-mails as well as deleting cache and cookies would be good start.

Please remember all adult household members are eligible to receive e-mails from Pecan Plantation Owner Association and Pecan Plantation Country Club, LLC. For assistance please go to or call the clubhouse administrative offices for assistance.

PLEASE SAVE NO-REPLY@PPOAWEB.COM TO YOUR E-MAIL CONTACTS.

Saving an email address to your contact list can help your email service, distinguish between spam and messages from people you know. If you receive regular messages from someone and do not want them to be marked as spam, the safest option is to add the email address to your contact list. Below are other reasons you may have difficulty sending and or receiving e-mails

WHAT DOES A HARD BOUNCE MEAN IN EMAIL?

Hard bounces are permanent email delivery failures. A hard bounce occurs when your customer's email address is invalid or is no longer in use. Typically, the domain name (the bit after the @) no longer exists or it no longer has registered mail servers (these contacts should immediately be removed from your list).

WHAT DOES A SOFT BOUNCE MEAN IN EMAIL?

Soft bounces are temporary deliverability issues as opposed to a hard bounce which is a permanent deliverability problem (and these contacts should immediately be removed from your list). There are many causes for a soft bounce, some of which include: The recipient's inbox is full. Email file size may be too large

CLEAR CACHE ON IPHONE

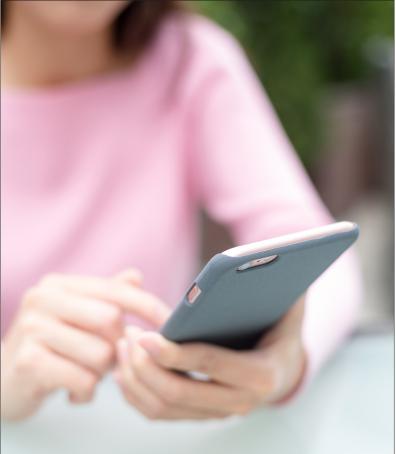
In the Safari app (compass symbol) you can erase your browsing history and data to clear the cache on your iPhone. This action removes the history of websites you visited and recent searches from your iPhone. This process also removes the cookies and permissions you granted to websites to use your location or send you notifications.

Note: Clearing your browsing history in Safari doesn't clear any browsing histories kept independently by websites you visited, or your browsing history in other apps.

- 1. Open the Safari app on your iPhone.
- 2. Tap open book symbol.
- 3. Tap clock symbol.
- 4. Then tap Clear.
- 5. Below Clear Timeframe, choose how much of your browsing history to clear.

Note: If you have Safari profiles set up, select a profile to clear only the history of that profile, or select All Profiles.

6. Tap Clear History.



CLEAR CACHE ON ANDROID

To delete the cache data for all apps on your phone at once, you can follow these steps:

- 1. Open the Settings app on your phone.
- 2. Tap on Storage.
- 3. Tap on Cached data.
- 4. Tap on Clear cached data.
- 5. Tap on Clear all data. *Note: Phone manufactures and models may vary*

The above guidance may also be Googled in your web browser of choice

DID YOU KNOW?

The online Columns has hyperlinks, this allows you to directly call telephone numbers or directly access websites with just a click or tap that are listed in the online Columns.

To access the online Columns from the website:

- 1. Log in to your PPOA member account
- 2. Click on My Club
- 3. Select Communications
- 4. Scroll down and select The Columns Note: Columns is not currently available on the PPOA Application (App).

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Child abuse and neglect can occur in any neighborhood at any time. Individuals are urged to remain diligent and recognize signs of potential abuse against children so kids can get the help they deserve.

Children who are suspected of being abused can be reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's CyberTipline at 800-843-5678, or by contacting local law enforcement or the closest child protective services agency.

THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME POTENTIAL SIGNS OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT.

- Bruising or welts that cannot be explained, particularly bruises on several parts of the body simultaneously.
- Injuries to parts of the body where children do not typically get hurt, such as on the torso, buttocks, thighs, and neck.
- Fear, anxiety or clinging tendencies are noticed.
- Child still has urinary accidents at an age when that should no longer be an issue, or has frequent nightmares and disrupted sleeping patterns.
- Social withdrawal from peers or activities.
- Chronic school absenteeism occurs.
- Difficulty walking or sitting, or complaints about vague symptoms.
- Child shows poor hygiene or is dressed inappropriately for weather.
- Child seems malnourished or always hungry.
- Lack of communication is noticed when caregivers or parents are contacted.
- Presence of burns or bite marks on the body.
- Traumatic hair loss is noticed.
- The child complains of angry or forceful parents at home.



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JERE AND SANDY AMES-JOHNSON, Middle Circle

Court, relocated from Rockwall. They have three children and four grandchildren. Jere and Sandy are both retired and enjoy spending time with their grandkids and dogs, and gardening. They are looking forward to learning golf and joining clubs.

BILL AND CINDY BARRETT, Prospect Hill Drive, moved to Pecan from Chatsworth, California. They have five children and five grandchildren. Bill retired from Dreamline Aviation and now works for Clipper Aviation. He enjoys shooting, aircraft, boats and fishing. Cindy is retired from the restaurant business. She enjoys walking, cooking, baking, tennis and gardening.

AMEYA AND ABHINANDA BHANDARE, Lot #3888, relocated from Murphy. They have one son. Ameya is employed by AT&T and enjoys traveling and music. Abhinanda works for Citibank and enjoys traveling and art. They also enjoy dogs and have a golden retriever named Scoopy.

CALEB COONCE, Tezcuco, relocated from Midland. Caleb is a recent Baylor MBA graduate and is employed by Grady Rentals. Caleb enjoys hunting, fishing, competition BBQ and traveling.

BOBBY "PETE" AND MARGE GARNER, Westover Drive, moved from Odessa. They have three children, two grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Pete retired from Nurses Unlimited having worked in environmental modifications. He enjoys golfing, fishing and hunting. Marge retired from Ector County ISD and enjoys golfing and shopping. They are looking forward to settling in to enjoy life at Pecan "where the grass is green and the trees are taller than 4-feet!"

DOUG GARRETT AND JENNIFER VEGA, King Air Court, relocated from Oxnard, California. They have three adult children. Doug is employed with American Airlines and Jennifer is employed in family business. They enjoy aviation, classic car collecting, travel, reading and crocheting.

MARCIE GOODIN, Brierfield Road, relocated from Las Vegas, Nevada. She has three children and two grandchildren. Marcia is semi-retired. She enjoys health and wellness, yoga, pilates and acupuncture.

GREG AND DEBBIE GRAVELLE, Westover Drive, moved to Pecan from San Angelo. They have five children and 12 grandchildren. Greg retired from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and is now self-employed. He is looking forward to getting back into golf and woodworking. Debbie is employed as a registered nurse. She enjoys tennis, Bunco and Mahjong. **JASON AND TEENA HELLER**, Lot #4001, will be relocating from Midland. They have four children. Jason retired and is now self-employed. He enjoys aviation, motorcycles, travel and mountains. Teena is also retired and enjoys aviation, travel and mountains.

KAREN HOLLAND, Westpark Lane, relocated from Austin. She has two children and one grandchild. Karen works remotely for the City of Hope as a Registered Oncology Nurse. She enjoys cooking, tennis and reading and is happy to be in Pecan.

AUSTIN AND JACQUI JORDAN, Monticello Drive, moved to Pecan Plantation from Granbury. They have one child. Austin is employed with Condy and Jordan Realty Group-KW and Jacqui is a stay-at-home mom. They enjoy spending time with their family and dogs.

CLAY AND GLENDA KRUGER, Fairview Court, relocated from Katy. They have four children and six grandchildren. Clay is a semi-retired business owner and Glenda works within the school system. Clay enjoys golf, bowling, hunting and woodworking. Glenda enjoys crochet, crafts, and outdoor activities such as walking and looks forward to playing golf and pickleball.

MARK AND ANGELA MALONE, Landings East, will be relocating from Houston. They have two children. Mark is employed with Southwest Airlines and enjoys flying, building planes and traveling. Angela is a registered nurse at a chemical plant in Houston. She enjoys playing cards, Womans Club and traveling.

JON AND KACIE TAYLOR, Piper Drive, relocated from The Woodlands. They have three children and eight grandchildren. Jon is employed with JBA Aviation Inc., and enjoys flying. Kacie is semi-retired from Kingwood Specialty Hospital.

JAMIE AND PAXTON WOOLEY, Westover Drive, moved to Pecan Plantation from Wylie. They have one child. Jamie is employed as a home builder. He enjoys hunting, snowboarding and weightlifting. Paxton is a real estate investor. She enjoys working out, golf, music, painting, outdoors/nature and family.





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Pecan Plantation Owners Association Pecan Plantation Country Club For the Three Months Ending January 2024

	Α	ctual YTD	Budget		Variance	
Operating Revenues	\$	2,628,911	\$	2,551,506	\$	77,405
Cost of Goods Sold	\$	(388,008)	\$	(346,355)	\$	(41,653)
Gross Operating Profit	\$	2,240,903	\$	2,205,151	\$	35,752
Labor, Taxes & Benefits	\$	(1,424,322)	\$	(1,479,938)	\$	55,616
Other Operating Expenses	\$	(745,584)	\$	(846,992)	\$	101,408
Net Operating Income/(Loss) Before Depreciation	\$	70,997	\$	(121,779)	\$	192,776

CONSOLIDATED OPERATING STATEMENT

RESERVE & REPLACEMENT FUND

	Actual YTD		Year End Forecast	
Beginning Balance	\$	3,431,261	\$	3,431,261
Fund Deposits	\$	1,265,166	\$	1,283,209
Fund Expenditures	\$	(694,662)	\$	(3,379,479)
Ending Balance	\$	4,001,765	\$	1,334,991

NEW CAPITAL FUND

	Actual YTD		Year End Forecast	
Beginning Balance	\$	1,050,920	\$	1,050,920
Fund Deposits	\$	191,939	\$	716,453
Fund Expenditures	\$	(20,601)	\$	(93,297)
Ending Balance	\$	1,222,258	\$	1,674,076

ROAD & DRAINAGE FUND

	Actual YTD		Year End Forecast		
Beginning Balance	\$	1,364,734	\$	1,364,734	
Fund Deposits	\$	456,384	\$	1,862,996	
Fund Expenditures	\$	(57,703)	\$	(2,559,608)	
Ending Balance	\$	1,763,415	\$	668,122	

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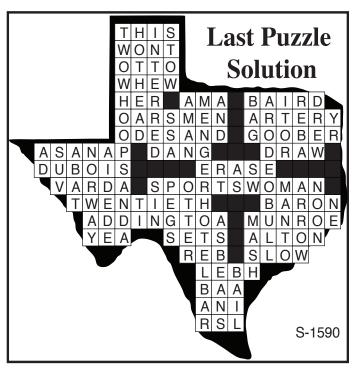


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Puzzle solution for Crossword Puzzle on page 63.





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RECYCLIN

Residents of Pecan Plantation have three collection points for recycling.

Visit the Collection station at 6907 Cottage Court, off Ravenswood near the Stables.

LAST SATURDAY of each month from 8 a.m. to noon. Bring recyclable items, branches and bulk trash.

WEDNESDAYS from 4 to 6 p.m. Only branches and recyclables are accepted.

Never accepted at this location: refrigerators, TVs, tires, paints or other hazardous materials.

Call the Operations office 817-408-3511 for more info.

Pecan Plantation's Tennis Shoppe recycles aluminum cans, with proceeds benefiting Pecan tennis. All cans should be rinsed and free from residue.

BUILT TO LAST

Hood County Citizens Collection Station is located at 244 Bray St. Call 817-579-3288 for hours and information. This location does accept glass, aluminum and metal cans, cardboard, paper and most plastics. Follow the QR code for a detailed list and instructions on what and how to recycle.

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	Acceptable Recycling Items			
ITEMS TO BE RECYCLED	YES	NO	HOW	
METAL	Aluminum, tin food & beverage cans, up to 1 gallon in size; 3 gallon #10 cans such as coffee containers	Any other metal containers including aerosol cans containing hazardous chemicals, paints, cleaning fluids, poisons, no scrap metal	Rinse empty containers & place in cart; can lids ok, in can labels ok.	
Newspaper, catalogs, maga- zine, junk mail, shredded paper	Clean, dry newspaper & inserts, magazines & catalogs, junk mail, computer paper, stationary, bills, shredded paper, envelopes with windows, NOTE: must be less than 2 months old or goes in the trash	All other paper including soiled paper, telephone books, non-paper bags such as plastic or Tyvek, overnight delivery envelopes, bubble wrap, books of any kind, greeting cards, gift wrap & product samples.	Place in brown paper grocery bags or cardboard & place on top of other materials. NO PLASTIC BAGS.	
Plastic	Small & wide mouth containers up to 1 gallon marked on the bottom with a "1" or "2".	Containers with other numbers or no numbers; containers larger than three gallon; plastic bags, motor oil & anti-freeze containerseven if marked with a "1" or "2".	Make sure containers have a "1" or "2" on the bottom; remove cap or lid; labels okay; rinse & place in cart.	
Boxboard	Cereal, cracker, shoe boxes, shirt boxes, beverage cartons & six-pack cartons	Boxboard containing wax, plastic or foil; or contaminated with food	Remove plastic cereal bag, flatten boxes, place in polly cart	
Corrugated Cardboard	Clean cardboard with wavy middle layer of brown paper	Pizza boxes, wax-coated ardboard	Remove packing materials, flatten boxes	

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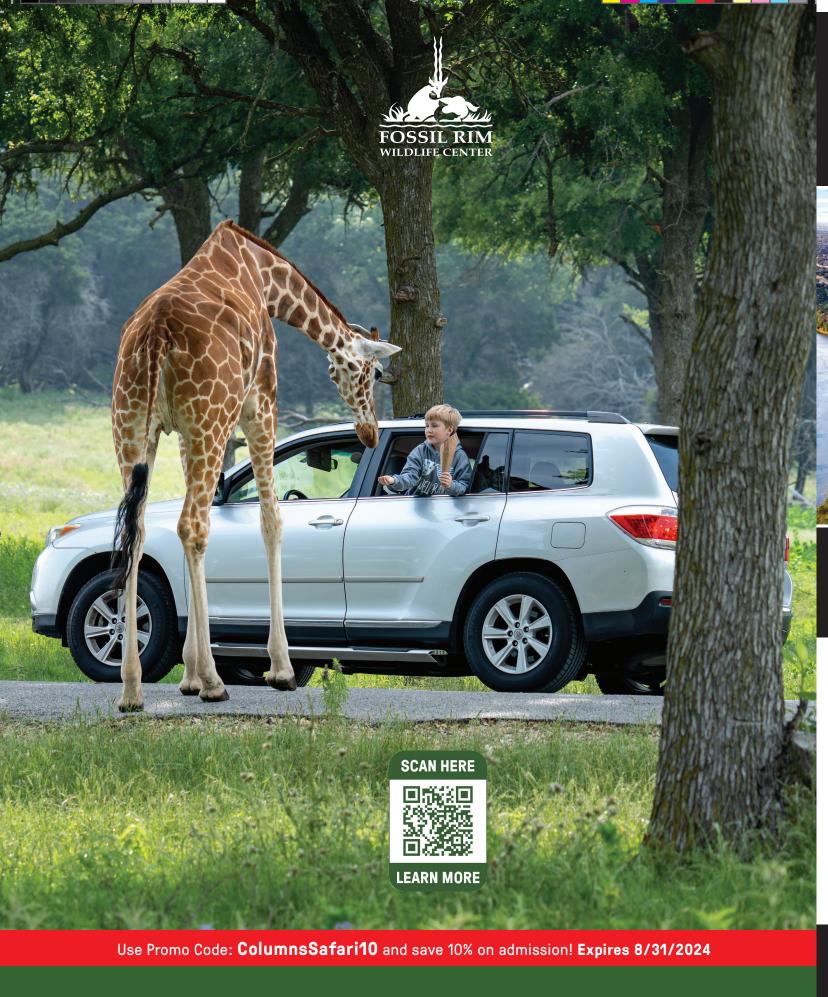
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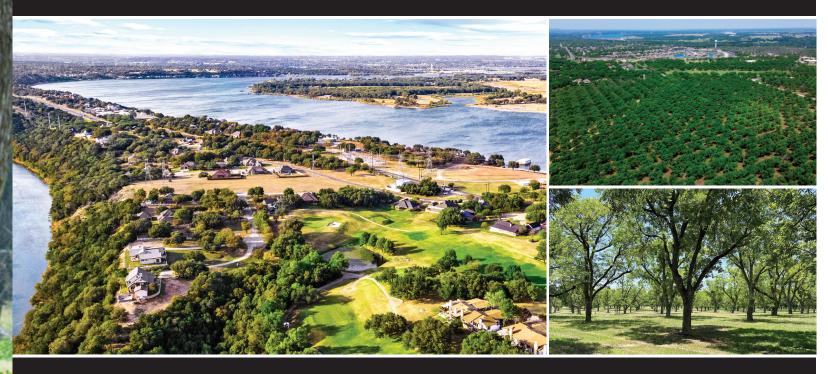
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