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**3rd Year** Chris Fair Ron Hammon Pam Kuhlman

#### Officers

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

#### BOD Meeting: May 30, 2024, 6 p.m.

BOD Committee Workshop For May's date and time check the calendar on the PPOA website



#### **COMMITTEE DIRECTORY**

Committee	Frequency/Day	Time	Location
Airport	May 9	8 a.m.	Planeview Park (weather permitting)
Appeals	May 14	10 a.m.	S&S Conference Room
ACC	May 2 & May 16	2 p.m.	S&S Conference Room
Bylaws	May 13	1 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Communications	May 13	10 a.m.	CH Conference Room
Entertainment	May 1	2 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Finance	May 22	3:30 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Golf	May 1	8:30 a.m.	CH Conference Room
Horse Owners	TBD	6 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Infrastructure	May 7	9 a.m.	CH Conference Room
LRP	May 20	1:30 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Marina	May 8	3 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Safety & Security	May 16	9:30 a.m.	S&S Conference Room
Sports & Rec (Grounds)	May 7	1 p.m.	PAC
Wildlife	May 3	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. MAY Saturday, May 4 Tuesday, May 21

JUNE TBD

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
Executive Assistant	Marilyn Amos	marilynamos@ppoaweb.com	340
Asst. Controller	DeeAnn Greene	deeann@ppoaweb.com	343
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 Nickel	kristi@ppoaweb.com	333
Event Coordinator	Brenda Palmer	bpalmer@ppoaweb.com	325
Executive Chef/Food & Beverage Director	Jordan Ray	jray@ppoaweb.com	319
Front Desk—Clubhouse		reception@ppoaweb.com	817-573-2641
Golf Course Superintendent	JD Ashwood	jd@ppoaweb.com	357
Golf Pro	Duff Cunningham	golfpro@ppoaweb.com	330
Guest Services Manager/Membership Services Sarah Lord		sarahlord@ppoaweb.com	335
HR Manager	Nancy Smith	nancy@ppoaweb.com	332
IT Specialist	Brian Stange	itadmin@ppoaweb.com	324
Marina and Procurement Manager	Blake Sanders	blakes@ppoaweb.com	323
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

817-573-2641 817-573-1643 817-573-0594 682-498-6312 817-573-6561 817-408-3511 817-573-2645 817-579-9412 682-498-6319 817-573-7952 817-573-3201

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#### GATE ACCESS

Please call the gate or use the ABDI app to put guests on the list before arrival – Security 817-408-3511.

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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#### INFO TO GO

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#### **ABOUT US**



P.O. Box 879 1501 South Morgan St., Granbury, Texas 76048

The Hyde Media Group, LLC The Hood County News · The Tri-County Reporter The Gatesville Messenger · Fairway Magazine · Columns Magazine The Spur Magazine · The Gatesville Area Guide The Azle Chamber of Commerce Directory The Springtown Chamber of Commerce Directory

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### 817-573-7066

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#### A Hyde Media Group, LLC Company

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.





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.

Darren Clark can be found on the golf course (no, that guy

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.



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them from a smart device,

special moments, and you

A few tips: Photos should be high quality JPGs—at least 4x6 inches at 300

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.



## 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.



**ONTHE COVER** 

#### ON THE COVER

Ladybugs are said to bring good fortune and luck. The saying says that the redder the ladybug, the better the luck. Here's hoping for all the luck and good fortune as we move into May.

A ladybug sits on a sunflower in this awesome photo by Pecan Plantation's own Karen Gomez.



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## **GENERAL** MANAGER

I don't know about you, but I have certainly enjoyed the explosion of bluebonnets and other wildflowers this year. These amazing blooms put an exclamation point on Pecan's spring activities as we head into summer. They bring cheer and remind me of our Association's recent successes. We have taken on many major and difficult projects like new roofs on many of our facilities, the golf course irrigation system, the Pit dining room remodel, and, of course, our recent elections. The latter of which, I want to focus on here.

In recent years, Owners Associations like ours have witnessed a remarkable shift towards modernizing their voting processes, with electronic voting emerging as a preferred choice for many residents. This transition isn't just about keeping up with the times; it's about efficiency, accessibility, and transparency in decision-making within our community. And you have embraced the concept.

Over the last three voting cycles, the trend speaks volumes: 70%, 78%, and 79% of PPOA'S ballots were cast electronically, signaling an overwhelming acceptance and recognition of the benefits electronic voting brings to our elections. So, what exactly are these benefits?

First and foremost, electronic voting streamlines the entire voting process, from start to finish. No more waiting for physical ballots to arrive in the mail, no more manual counting of votes – electronic voting simplifies everything. With just a few clicks, residents can cast their votes securely and conveniently from the comfort of their own homes.



Moreover, electronic voting enhances transparency and accuracy. Every vote is recorded digitally, leaving behind a clear audit trail that eliminates the possibility of human error or tampering. This transparency builds trust within the community, ensuring that every voice is heard and every vote counts. Though not without a few bugs here and there, our most recent election proved the success of utilizing electronic voting.

That said, we owe a large debt of gratitude to Election Chair Ron Hamman, the election committee, and Marilyn Amos for spearheading this enormous project and ensuring its success. Their dedication to facilitating fair and efficient elections deserves recognition and appreciation. Thanks to their hard work and commitment, electronic voting is becoming an integral part of Pecan's democratic process.

I want to express our heartfelt thanks to you – the residents – for embracing electronic voting. Change can be tough, but your participation not only reflects your commitment to shaping the future of our community but also paves the way for continued progress and innovation in our HOA elections.

As we look ahead, let's continue to embrace the opportunities that electronic voting presents. Together, we can build a stronger, more inclusive community where every voice is heard, and every vote matters.









# **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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## LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION



May is a full tournament schedule for the ladies of Pecan Plantation LGA. We are in full swing season with guest days, Suburban at Nutcracker GC and many invitational tourneys in the immediate area and Fort Worth. April began with our first guest day hosted by Lindy Williams and Rose Tibbitts. Thanks, ladies, for a great job. It ended with our Spring Ringer tournament hosted by Dana Murphy and Tracy Gullett. They celebrated our 50th Anniversary with great decorations and tee prizes from the past to the present.

I always love the Easter Season. It is truly a new beginning for the earth, the animals and people. I love the Easter Egg hunt at the PAC and everyone's yard decorations that remind us of this rebirth. Let us approach our golf game with the same newness and eagerness of a new season of hope and improvement.

I'll end with congratulations to Laurie Hoggatt for her hole in one during the Sadie Hawkins tournament. Cheers, Laurie!!

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## **ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE**

Hello from Vicki Winder and Cherry Redwine.

We are the new co-chairs for this year's entertainment committee. We will continue to bring everyone fun and exciting entertainment this year. May 4 will be our second annual Kentucky Derby event. We encourage ladies to decorate their hats and we will have a photo op available for your pictures. Tickets will be sold for \$1 each or six for \$5 and participants will drop their tickets in the bag with the name of the horse they think will win. Prizes will be given for the win, place and show horse. A cash bar will be available, including mint juleps.

Also, save the date of Oct. 5 for the Around the World event in Pecan. It was a great event last year and will be even better this year. We welcome any ideas you have; let the front desk know and they will let us know.

More information about all our upcoming events will always be in the Columns magazine and your weekly e-Blast.

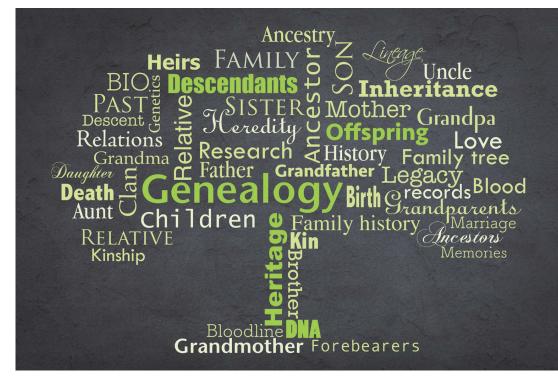




## **GENEALOGY GROUP**

On May 21, 2024 at 11 a.m., please join the Pecan Genealogy Group for a field trip to the Fort Worth History Center. A service of the Fort Worth Library, the center provides access to local history and genealogy resources. Collections include census records, books, periodicals and online databases focusing on Texas and the South, as well as information about the Midwest and the original 13 states. The center provides research help from specialists and archivists and offers unique programs for history fans. The Fort Worth History Center is located at 501 E. Bolt St. in Fort Worth.

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





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### 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.

#### **CLUBHOUSE POOL**

#### Note Special Clubhouse Pool Hours:

Opens for season: Fri, May 24 (9:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.) Street Dance: Mon, May 27 (9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.) Pool CLOSED: Tuesday, May 28 Normal Club Pool Hours: 9:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. Closed: Every Monday (Guest fees of \$4 apply to all non-members) No outside food or drinks allowed at Club Pool

#### PAC POOL HOURS MAY THRU AUGUST

Open: Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri, Sat, & Sun 6:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. Closed: Every Wednesday (Guest fees of \$4 apply to all non-members)

#### SWIM LESSONS AT THE PAC POOL

Session 1: (June 3 - June 14) Session 2: (June 17 - June 28) Session 3: (July 8 - July 19) (8) 30-Minute Classes Lessons held Mon-Tue-Thurs-Fri Mom & Tot (Ages 6 mo. to 4) 10 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Beginners (Ages 3 to 5) 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Older (Ages 6 to 9) 11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Cost: \$80/members & \$100/guests Instructor: Certified Swim Instructor

#### **DEEP WATER AEROBICS AT CLUB POOL**

Starts Tuesday, June 4 Tues - Fri 8:30 a.m. - 9:20 a.m. Cost: \$45/month (16 classes) or \$5/class Certified Instructor: Leslie Stain Must pre-register at the PAC. All payments must be made at PAC.

#### PAC GOLF CART DRIVE-IN MOVIES

Fri, June 7 (9 p.m.) Migration (PG) Sat, July 13 (9 p.m.) Wonka (PG) Bring your Golf Cart or a chair and enjoy! Free popcorn. PAC will remain open for bathrooms as well as candy, snack, and drink sales.



#### **FREE KIDS CRAFTS**

Crafts start at 2 p.m. Mothers Day Craft: Sunday, May 5 Fathers Day Craft: Sunday, June 9 Children under 6 will need adult assistance. Limited to 10 children. Must pre-register at the PAC.

#### **KIDS SOCCER CAMPS**

June 3, 4, 5 & 6 Ages 4 to 6: 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. Ages 7 to 10: 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Cost: \$40/members & \$50/guests YMCA Soccer Coach Meet at PAC Soccer fields. Please bring shin guards, soccer ball, and water each day.

#### 2 DAY AIR RIFLE CAMP

(Ages 8 - 13) June 1 & 2 (Sat & Sun) 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Cost: Free! Practice on Saturday. Tournament on Sunday. MUST PRE-REGISTER! Space is limited to 18 kids.

#### 2 DAY ARCHERY CAMP (Ages 8 - 13)

June 8 & 9 (Sat & Sun) 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Cost: Free! Practice on Saturday. Tournament on Sunday. MUST PRE-REGISTER! Space is limited to 18 kids.

#### LET'S SING AND ACT I (Ages 7 - 11)

July 15, 16, 18, 19 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Cost: \$50/members & \$55/guests Instructor: Rebecca Faiola Introduction to musical theatre class with exercises in singing and acting for kids new to theatre

#### LET'S SING AND ACT II (Ages 12 - 16)

July 15, 16, 18, 19 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Cost: \$50/members & \$55/guests Instructor: Rebecca Faiola Intermediate class studying musical theatre, styles of singing, monologue coaching, and improvisation. Sign up at the PAC - Must pre-register!

#### EXPEDITION: ART (Ages 7 - 12) -

June 25, 26, 27, & 28 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Cost: \$65/members & \$70/guests Instructor: PP Art Guild members 4 Different projects: paint your pet, mixed media, textile art, and acrylic color swipe string pull. All supplies included. Snack provided daily. Maximum 12 students - Must pre-register!

#### **KIDS 4TH OF JULY COOKIE DECORATING**

Saturday, July 6 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. or 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Ages 8 & up Cost: \$30/members & \$35/guests Instructor: Donna Swarb (11th Green Bakery) Kids will be learning beginner cookie decorating skills to a 4th of July themed class. Kids go home with 3 decorated cookies. All supplies included. Maximum 10 students - Must pre-register!

#### LITTLE ARTISANS CRAFTING CAMP



10 a.m. - 11 a.m. Ages 4 to 10 Cost: \$100/members & \$110/guests Includes all supplies for crafting plus water and an organic snack daily. Instructor: Kate Little Kids will be making a craft project to take home daily. Wear clothes to get messy in. Provide preferred name (for projects) and favorite color.

#### CUPCAKE/CAKE POP CAMP (Ages 8+)

July 29 & 30 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

July 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12



Cost: \$35/members & \$40/guests Instructor: Donna Swarb (11th Green Bakery) Kids learn how to pipe buttercream and decorate 3 cupcakes and mix and shape dough to make 3 cake pops and then decorate them. All new! Maximum 10 students - Must pre-register!

#### PRINCESS TEA PARTY

Friday, June 14 (seating at 2 p.m.) \$25/person inclusive - all ages welcome! Location: Clubhouse Ballroom Real antique china, Hors d'oeuvres, crafts, and songs. Pre-registration required - limited to first 100 people!

#### MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE PRESENTS "HERCULES"

July 22 - July 27

Auditions are: Mon, July 22 (10 a.m. - 12 p.m.) This is a free event for children to participate. Children must be available for rehearsals and performances during the entire week. Rehearsals are: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. and/or 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Kids must be available for 2 performances on Sat, July 27. Performance times will be 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. MCT will accept children entering 1st thru 12th grade. Audition sign-ups at the PAC. Grandkids welcome!

#### MCT WORKSHOP: Put your Best Foot Forward

Thursday, July 25 (3 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.) Learn different styles of movement and dance in theatre. Must be participating in MCT play to attend workshop. Sign up at PAC– Grades K thru 12 - Cost: \$5/child

#### **ENCHANTED SUMMER DANCE CAMP** (Ages 3 - 7)

August 8, 9 & 10 1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m. Cost: \$75 each

Instructor: Dance Dreams Academy Staff The kids get to experience all of the fun of being different Disney Princesses throughout each day all while focusing on ballet and tap technique. Kids will be doing crafts and singing songs too! Please bring princess stuff and tap shoes if possible.

#### **ANNUAL KIDS FISHING TOURNAMENT**

Monday, June 10 at 8 a.m. Meet at No. 10 Golf Course Pond All ages are welcome! Bring your fishing pole. Bait will be provided. Medals awarded to the winners of each category!

#### GOLF, TENNIS & SWIM CAMP (Ages 6-12)

Session 1: (June 11- June 14) Session 2: (July 9 - July 12) Session 3: (July 30 - August 2) 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Cost: \$165/members & \$185/guests Register at Tennis Shop - 817-579- 9412 First day check-in is at the Tennis shop @ 8:30 a.m. Bring swimsuit, towel, hat, sunscreen, water and pool shoes. Racquets & clubs provided if needed.

#### TENNIS & MORE SPORTS CAMP (Ages 6-12)

Session 1: (June 4 - June 7) Session 2: (June 18 - June 21) Session 3: (June 25 - June 28) Session 4: (July 16 - July 19) Session 5: (July 23 - July 26) 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Cost: \$165/members & \$185/guests Tennis pro: John Ingram (USPTA Certified) Register at Tennis Shop - 817-579- 9412 Tennis and swim every day plus an additional fun sport each day. (Ex: BB, soccer, whiffleball, etc.) Bring swimsuit, towel, hat, sunscreen, water and pool shoes. Racquets provided if needed.

#### JUNIOR GOLF CAMPS (Ages 5 - 16)

Camp 1: June 26, 27, & 28 Camp 2: July 24, 25, & 26 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. Cost: \$60/members & \$70/guests Instructors: Duff and Phil (Golf Professionals) Sign up at the Pro Shop: 817-573-2645

#### KIDS PICKLEBALL CAMP (Ages 8 - 12)

June 17, 18, 20, & 21 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Cost: \$100/members or \$80/PPPA members One hour of indoor Pickleball instruction and one hour of supervised swim to cool off! Please bring towel, swimsuit, water & sunscreen. Wear tennis shoes. Limit of 16 kids. Sign up at the PAC!



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



Betsy Ferguson and her native Texan husband Doug moved to Pecan Plantation just a year ago from Waco after falling in love with Granbury when they were vendors during Harvest Moon Festival. Doug keeps busy as an emergency medicine physician specialist while Betsy is immersed in art... literally! She sometimes paints in the swimming pool where the water flows the paint and the heat of the sun dries the layers! She also has five or six paintings in progress all the time in her backyard studio. This creative. Indiana born and educated artist brings her business, real estate and interior design background to

the halls of the clubhouse where she serves as curator for the Pecan Plantation Art Guild, in collaboration with Event Coordinator Brenda Palmer. Ten to 15 artworks for sale by PPAG artists hang in quarterly rotation throughout the clubhouse. Betsy's eye for art and design has proved a great benefit for our Art Guild community, and we are grateful for her contributions to our success. If you are an artist residing in Pecan, and unable to attend meetings, consider joining PPAG to take advantage of opportunities to show your art and other activities. Annual membership is \$35.



**Betsy Ferguson** 



Barbara Brown with her winning painting for Artist of the Month in March. View April's winner's work at the PAC until May 14. Enjoy the art of Beth Eschbach all month on the way to the ballroom, as well as curated art throughout the clubhouse by other PPAG artists.

On May 14, David Calton brings us an inspiring presentation on his ink and watercolor paintings and a demo on the art of box building, showing the process and samples of decorative objects to complete Art Boxes. Calton studied art at Florida State University and did his graduate work in Sculpture and Printing at the University of Georgia. After artist residencies in both Michigan and Alabama, he became a working artist and a college professor. He now resides in Granbury, where he creates Western and nature-themed art. "I do a lot of nature stuff, and that's evolved over time," Calton said. "I do pet portraits, but I also do wildlife animals and people. I travel a lot, so I see a lot of different things, and I think it's connecting with what we know and love, and the beauty we get out of nature and what it brings to us. His beautiful, animated website www. davidcaltonart.com reflects the artist's love of nature and shows a wide range of drawings, paintings and unique sculpture. Be sure to take a look.





#### POP-UP ART SHOW at the EAA HANGAR

May 18, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Buzz on over to Wedgefield and park at the Airpark Pavilion beside the runway and follow the signs. Worth a flyover to see the variety of art available on this lovely Spring day!

Columns

# DIROOFING

## AROOFAS

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**W** 

Reighborhood FAVES

### **At Your Service** By John Ingram III **USPTA Master Professional**

- Thanks to all who participated in the PPTA annual Spring Barbecue and Hangar Dance. What fun to see everyone in a social setting! Much appreciation to the hardworking PPTA board (Ken, Randy, Sherry, Dee and Pat) for making it happen (and thanks to the EAA folks who let us use their hangar!)!
- It is time for the summer tennis majors! (French Open in Paris; Wimbledon in London; U.S. Open in New York) If you find that you were mistakenly left out of the draw, be sure to play in our Pecan Gland Slam Tennis events.
- A group of ladies from Sun City Georgetown will be visiting us May 7-9. If you would like to play some tennis with this very fun and friendly group (mostly 3.5 level), let us know.
  - Summer is almost here! Make sure you have signed up your child or grandchild for our summer Junior Camps.

#### **SACREBLEU!**

It's time to "play on the clay" to celebrate the French Open which takes place in Paris May 20-June 9. Join us on the clay courts at River Crest Country Club in Fort Worth, Saturday June 1, 3-5 p.m. See Monsieur John Ingram for details. Tres Bon!

See the Pecan Activity Center pages for information on Tennis related camps





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PROPERTIES

## **PECAN PLANTATION TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

Happy new year, Pecan Plantation Tennis Association members! Yep, we will have a new board by the time you read this, and I haven't a clue if I'm still on the board! So I'll just say, as we start a new fiscal year in PPTA land, that the state of our union is strong. Through energetic volunteer fundraising (snow cones, aluminum cans, etc.) we continue to grow our coffers in spite of the worthwhile eat, drink, play tennis play days. Don't forget the annual meeting and barbecue we just had on April 12. Now it's time for new ideas and continuing volunteerism. If this is my last article, I would like to thank our board members (Dee, Randy, Pat, Joe, Sherry and John) for making this service/meetings the most enjoyable of my four terms on the board. If only the folks in Washington, D.C. could be so cooperative!

Now getting back to business, hope we can find a dozen or so folks able to volunteer an hour at the Memorial Day street dance!

See you on the courts/at the parties!

Prez Ken



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FIRST NAT

### 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

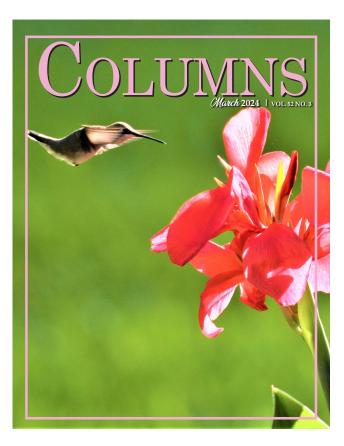
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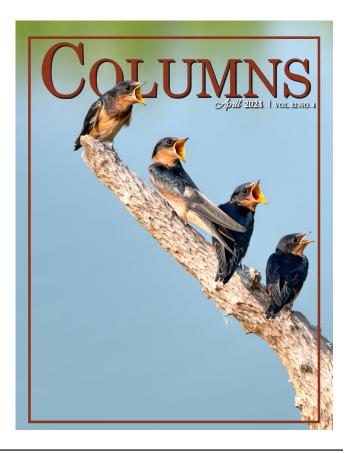
## **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

To all you photo buffs in Pecan, the communication committee wants to remind you of the upcoming opportunity to share your talents. With spring heading out the door and summer just around the corner, photo opportunities abound here in Pecan. Your photo could be on the cover of the September Columns magazine. Here is a reminder of the instructions for submitting your photos:

#### COLUMNS COVER SHOOT RULES AND DETAILS

- 1. The Hyde Media Group will select the cover photo.
- 2. The subject matter of the photo must be positioned in a manner where the title of the magazine will not cover important photographic elements (see a previous issue of the Columns as an example.)
- 3. Pictures should be thematically relevant to the month at hand. For example: Christmas photos would not be appropriate for September.
- 4. Pictures must be in portrait orientation (up and down), in color, and in high resolution, at least 300 DPI for a 10x14 photo.
- 5. The subject must be Pecan-specific and taken on Pecan Plantation property.
- 6. The deadline for the September Columns cover is July 30.
- 7. If the photo includes people, permission must be given by those appearing in the photo and must be obtained by the photographer before submitting and available upon request.
- 8. When emailing the photo, include a brief description of the subject matter who or what is in the photo, what is taking place, etc., as well as your name, phone number and email address.
- 9. The photographer must own all rights to the photo.
- 10. Low-resolution, out-of-focus, inappropriate or otherwise poor-quality photos will not be published.
- 11. Photos remain the property of the photographer, but submission grants PPOA all rights to use the photo for the Columns magazine.
- 12. Please email the original photo to communications@ppoaweb. com. We are unable to accept printed photos.
- 13. The decision of the Hyde Media Group is final.





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### AUXILIARY NEWS By Lana Robinson

The Auxiliary is gearing up for its May 25 Pancake Breakfast, to be held in conjunction with the Granbury Lion's Club, at the EAA 983 Chapter Hangar (McCommas Hangar) and Planeview Park Pavilion at the Airport, 5400 Wedgefield Road.

Pancakes, sausage, butter, syrup, orange juice and coffee will be served from 8:30-11 a.m. Tickets, which will be sold in advance and at the door, are \$10 each for adults and \$5 for children (ages 5-10). Musical entertainment provided by the Marina Trio.

Pancake Breakfast tickets will be available for purchase in advance of the breakfast or can be purchased at the door that morning. Mark your calendar for this fun gathering and show your appreciation for your VFD/EMS.

Also, baseball aficionados, be sure to save the date for another fun event coming up at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 20 at the Cleburne Railroaders Stadium (The Depot), located at 1906 Brazzle Blvd. in Cleburne. On this particular evening, the Pecan Plantation VFD/EMS Auxiliary will be the designated Spotlight nonprofit organization. Tickets are \$11 each, and the auxiliary will receive \$5 of each ticket sold provided those attending purchase the tickets online using the QR code or link: https://bit.ly/3TggvZj.

The Cleburne Railroaders are a professional baseball team that plays in the American Association of Professional Baseball, an official partner league of Major League Baseball. The auxiliary appreciates the Cleburne Railroaders for giving the organization an opportunity to have an enjoyable evening with family and friends from Pecan Plantation and beyond while raising money for our community's fire department and emergency responders.

For those of you who haven't already purchased a memorial brick honoring a loved one or a respected volunteer, past or present, who helped build and support our Pecan Plantation VFD/EMS, you still have the opportunity to do so. Creation of the Pecan Plantation VFD/EMS Memorial Brick Patio, a place of remembrance for our community's heroes, has already begun. Bricks can be custom engraved by a local business in Granbury and then set in the patio to be viewed and enjoyed by the residents of Pecan for years to come. The 4-inch by 8-inch bricks are \$50 each and can be custom engraved with a name or logo (at an additional cost) to pay tribute to someone special to you. Sale of the memorial bricks is an ongoing fundraiser.

Order forms are available at the auxiliary meetings and the EMS building during regular business hours. They can also be accessed online by going to the link provided on our PPVFD/EMS Auxiliary Facebook page.

Calling all patriots! The Pecan Plantation VFD/EMS is selling 3-foot by 5-foot flags on sturdy, decorative poles to be displayed in the front and back circles on Memorial Day weekend and Veterans Day. Pecan residents can purchase the flags for \$25 each (This is not a fundraiser, but the actual cost). Cards indicating the names of the individual participants will be displayed with each flag. Forms with instructions will be available at various locations in Pecan and can be dropped off, along with payment, in a ballot-type box outside the EMS building. Details and forms will also be available on the Pecan Plantation VFD/EMS and the Pecan Plantation VFD/EMS Auxiliary Facebook pages.

The auxiliary's March 23 boot drive garnered \$5,436.50. Thanks to all the generous donors and volunteers who made it a success!

The next regular meeting of the PPVFD/EMS Auxiliary is set for 7 p.m., Monday, May 6, at the Charlie Lee Memorial EMS building at 9518 Monticello Drive. All Pecan residents are invited to attend. Come at 6 p.m. for a social time and polluck meal prior to the meeting. The Pecan Plantation VFD/EMS board of directors will conduct a business meeting at 7 p.m., Tuesday, May 21, at the same location.



## **BRAZOS RIVER SPORTSMAN'S CLUB**

By Cecil Caldwell

Hope everyone is having a great spring — it will be summer before we know it. The club has been busy recently with its spring fish fry. Several members closed the fishing season at Comanche Reservoir (formerly Squaw Creek) with a successful catfish outing. The lake will reopen in the fall. Most of the fish were consumed at the fish fry. David Pritchard had a good fishing trip on the White River in Arkansas as shown with the nice trout he caught. The shotgun shooting group is now making regular outings to Defender Outdoors in Aledo. Here are scores from recent outings:

Shooter	Score
Mac Gilbreath	43
Rod Bradshaw	39
Jim Berzina	36
Ken Wiggs	35
Milt Schrepel	35
Jerry Sprayberry	34
Walter Berry	26

Shooter	Score	
Mack Gilbreath	39	
Milt Schrepel	34	
Don Haynes	32	
Jim Berzina	32	
Dan Young	28	
Rod Bradshaw	27	
Neil Miller	25	
Ken Wiggs	24	
Greg Pearson	24	

At a recent meeting the club welcomed the owner of Truelife Taxidermy, Roy Holdridge, and one of the company's taxidermists, Stephen Watson, who spoke to the club about their business and what all it entails. They offer complete services from lining up hunts all over the world, getting your game through customs, and accepting all types of game for processing. They can handle literally any kind of game you can imagine. It was an interesting talk and the club will be taking a tour of their large facility here in Granbury in the near future. In the picture are Stephen Watson, Roy Holdridge and club member Joe Fritz, who has used their services. Thanks to Joe for lining up the speakers.

If anyone knows of a good dove hunting opportunity in the area, we are looking to line up a hunt for the fall dove season, or if you are interested in the club you can contact me at ccald67@gmail.com.





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## EQUESTRIAN UPDATE

By Pam Chipps

This month we want to honor one of our stable's horses, Cowboy. Cowboy's owner, Pam Chipps, wrote a beautiful tribute from the perspective of her horse, telling about the wonderful life he lived. We've included a couple of photos for your enjoyment as well. Rest in peace sweet Cowboy!

Howdy, my name is Cowboy. I am a 30-year-old Bay gelding who lived at Pecan Plantation Stables. I didn't always live here. I have had a wonderful life journey. It began when I was just a stallion growing up in Austin. When I turned about 2 years old (after bone plates closed) I began to jump obstacles. Wow, was that exciting! Unfortunately I had an accident and injured my left shoulder and knee requiring surgery. No more jumping for me.

At age 4, now a gelding, I was sold to Pecan residents Cindy and Ron Rowe. They brought me to live at Pecan Plantation Stables after selling their Austin farm. It was nice at the stables; I made friends with 19 other horses. My owners took me trail riding at every state park in Texas. The scenery was so pretty and WOW, Big Bend National Park was fantastic! We did a lot of hauling as we trailered to Arizona, Utah, Colorado and New *Mexico to trail ride.* 

After riding all those numerous trails for 18 years, the Rowes sold me to Tina Haywood, also a Pecan stables boarder. I guess they thought I needed to retire - but not me. Tina rode me in the Fourth of July parades. Then I got to train her grandson how to ride - what fun! Now I am 27 years old. Fun fact: domestic horses live to be between 20 to 30 years old, primarily due to better nutrition, veterinary care and exercise. Those poor Mustangs in the wild usually only live to be 5 years old.

Now I've reached retirement. My new owner and fellow stables boarder, Pam Chipps, took me to a stall just across the alley way. I didn't have any teeth and I had severe arthritis in all my joints. Each day was a challenge to even walk around and to get up when I laid down. Another fun fact: a horse can only lay down for approximately 45 minutes because the weight of their body cuts off the circulation in their intestines. When I start to have belly pain, I get up. As I was drawing closer to my end-of-life stage, my new owner was taking such good care of me. I got nightly body massages, she rubbed my cheeks and legs, and for a treat she cut an apple in small bites so I wouldn't choke. In cold weather, she would put a blanket on me and feed me hot mash. She always told me, "It would stick to my ribs and keep me warm." It was so nice when heated water buckets were purchased for all the stable's horses with money raised from our public event held each December. This took the chill off and kept my water from freezing. Because of my arthritis and the fact I don't eat as fast as the other horses, my owner walks me out each morning. I get to spend my day walking the pasture with my best friend, Maverick. I try to graze but since I have no teeth, I pretend, then spit it out. Right before the sun goes down, Pastor, the stables caretaker, and his wife Macrena bring all of us in for our dinner. I eat my dinner with my girlfriend, Luna. My owner brings me alfalfa and pain medication for my arthritis. Lately my pain medicine has not been working. She and I pray about it each night as she tucks me in. We knew one day God would take my pain away and I would again run and jump, ride trails and eat all the green grass I want. I love my owner so much, but the pain is just too much to bear. I have lived a wonderful and full life. I want to thank all the other horse owners, Pastor, and Macrena for helping me all those years. When you drive by the pastures on Ravenswood, know that I am having fun and holding my beautiful head high with my black mane and tail flying in the breeze.

Cowboy, 5-4-1994 to 3-22-2024.

Be sure to check out our Pecan Plantation Stables Facebook page. We have lots of posts from boarders and others with horsey pics and stuff that won't be included in the Columns magazine. As well, check the PPOA official website ppoaweb.com — where you'll find additional information about committees, meeting times, etc. We continue to remain at full capacity at the stables. If you're interested in getting on the wait list, call the PPOA business office at 817-573-2641, ext. 323. For all other stables-related questions and information call me, Tammy Dressman, @ 817-614-9744.







COLUMNS

## **BREAKFAST CLUB**

Breakfast Club meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of most months for food, fun and fellowship. Breakfast is available at 9 a.m. while our program begins 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 and make reservations no later than noon 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 on the mailing list. Watch for e-Blasts and Columns articles about our activities. Come join us, and let us know if you know of a particularly interesting speaker.

Our first speaker in April was the dynamic Capt. Chris Cassidy. Cassidy is a retired Navy SEAL, combat veteran, former Chief NASA Astronaut and CEO and president of the Medal of Honor Museum Foundation. Cassidy updated Breakfast Club about the foundation as well as the construction of the Medal of Honor Museum in Arlington.

On April 24, we heard from Debby Gordon of the Historic Granbury Merchants Association. Debby brought us up-todate on the numerous activities the association has planned for downtown Granbury. We were also pleased to hear from Gail Joyce as part of our new Ten-Minute Conversation. Gail reminded us of the importance of the Field of Flags and encouraged all to purchase a flag to support this wonderful effort. Flags may be purchased online at www. HonoringHometownHeroes. org.



In May we will hear Dub

Gillum's amazing story of survival. Dub, while he was a state trooper, was shot 10 times during a traffic stop on U.S. Highway 377. His story is amazing. You can hear it May 8 at Breakfast Club. On May 27, Pecan's own Bob Lusk, the Pond Boss, will be our guest speaker.

Check out our Facebook page at Pecan Breakfast Club for the latest information from your Breakfast Club.



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"Recently worked with Lana Robinson on two real estate transactions in Pecan Plantation. One was the sale of an estate home in The Retreat and the other was the purchase of a new home. Prior to this, I have worked with the leading real estate producers at Briggs Freeman Sotheby's in Dallas on two transactions and one in Plano. Lana is the epitome of high performance and knows the real estate industry inside and out. Most importantly, she completely understands the unique attributes of Pecan Plantation that are critical to closing and ultimately funding transactions no matter the complexity. Not only was Lana's leadership valued, but her integrity and ethical conduct while serving as a trusted advisor was second to none." ~ Juliet Gritz





LANA ROBINSON 254-495-1717

ERIC ROBINSON 512-461-3459

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

Good day, Pecan. Our numbers for March sit at 330 calls for service with our interfacility transfer volume at 72, a new high for our department.

We've been featured on Pecan local Rebecca Van Buren's YouTube channel! If you search her name on YouTube, you can enjoy her professionalism (and my immense discomfort being in front of a camera!) as she and I talk about our EMS department.

We are blessed to include a new piece of equipment to our trucks: an emergency ventilator called an oxylator. These will be purchased from the extremely generous donations of Pecan VFD/EMS Auxiliary members David and Janie Narducci and an anonymous donor. The oxylator stands as an adjunct between the bag valve mask and a full transport vent, allowing us to rapidly employ automated ventilation for emergent cases.

Our monthly training meetings continue, with April's topic being the new oxylators and a new basic airway adjunct. It is exciting to see our department grow, meeting the needs of Pecan residents and guests.

We are currently transitioning to a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Pecan EMS has historically been a 510(c)(4) with an exemption in place. This was necessary back when the corporation was first formed to allow for unrestricted donor funding. Nowadays, this rule has changed and, because there are many more opportunities for grants for a 501(c) (3), I felt it was time for us to switch. Pecan has always been regarded as a highly skilled but small department, serving a select community. With recent growth projections, we are in a period of massive change, both as a developed area and as a department. Extensive change all happening at one time can appear overwhelming, but I am happy to report our department is weathering the challenges these changes bring with aplomb and professionalism. Our first priority remains, as always, you.

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!





### PECAN PLANTATION COMMUNITY GARDENS Steph Phalen

#### MARCH MADNESS, MAY FLOWERS AND MORE!

PPCG members showed up in force during the March workday where they picked radishes, kale, Swiss chard and asparagus. While some pulled weeds and prepared beds for future plantings, other members planted bush and pole beans, cucumbers, dill and sunflowers.

In April, zucchini, tomatoes, peppers and herbs went in the ground. Thanks to all our efforts, spring and summer will yield a sumptuous bounty.

During our May 11 workday, we will plant additional herbs, eggplant, okra and black-eyed peas. At the end of the month, we will pick garlic, onions and several potato varieties.

The garden club is proud to offer organic vegetables and all the sunshine and free vitamin D you can handle. We welcome anyone with an interest in gardening; no experience necessary. Annual family membership is \$25 and applications are available at the PAC. Meet new people, bask in the sun and partake in our garden rewards.

A special thank-you to all those who donated garden fencing.

We appreciate you. Come grow with us.



Charlie and **Dustin Wagner** 

#### GARDEN TIP FROM **VANCE NAPPIER**

- Plant dill and fennel with lettuce 1. and other greens for aphid control.
- 2. Plant peppers and onions together to deter aphids.
- 3. Companion planting can be done in containers as well as in the ground.



**Charlotte Bishop planting pole beans** 



Jan Bowen, Sherry **Bishop**, Jill Hosek

COLUMNS

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## MARLEY'S MISSION: Pedaling from Texas to Alaska for cancer research

By: Micky Shearon

ranbury is known as the "Celebration Capital of Texas," and later this summer, all of Granbury and Hood County will indeed have something huge to celebrate. One of its own, Marley Fox, a 2020 graduate of Granbury High School, is gearing up to embark on an extraordinary journey — one that stretches over 4,000 miles from Austin to Anchorage, Alaska. This is not just any

trek; it's a mission to fuel cancer research and hope, all on two wheels.

#### FROM LOCAL GRAD TO LONG-DISTANCE CYCLIST

Marley, now a senior at the University of Texas at Austin, majoring in sociology with a minor in environment and sustainability studies, is set to participate in the Texas 4000 Bike Ride for Cancer. But what is Texas 4000? It's the longest annual charity bike ride in the world, founded in 2004 by fellow UT students Chris and Mandy Condit. Their vision was clear: to harness the vigor of youth in leading the charge against cancer.

Each year, UT students who demonstrate a fiery passion for cancer advocacy, solid communication skills, and the ability to thrive within a team are chosen through a competitive selection process that culminates in them riding the more than 4,000 miles between Austin and Anchorage, Alaska. Prior cycling chops are optional.

These students commit 18 months to the entire process — raising a minimum of \$4,500, riding 2,000 training miles, volunteering 50 community hours, and meticulously planning the expedition.

#### MARLEY'S PERSONAL DRIVE: A STORY OF RESILIENCE AND MEMORY

Marley's connection to Texas 4000 is personal and profound. Her mother's best friend rode in the 2005 event, honoring Marley's grandad, who was then battling Stage 4 multiple myeloma. "I knew that if I ended up going to college

ppoo

at the University of Texas, I definitely wanted to ride in the Texas 4000," Marley recalled. She rides with her grandmother, a recent breast cancer survivor, and her late grandfather in her heart.

Her dedication shines through her fundraising prowess, as Marley has exceeded her \$4,500 target by a significant margin, amassing nearly \$12,000 in support. "Every penny we raise goes toward cancer research or support services for cancer patients," she proudly states. "I'm thrilled that I've surpassed my minimum goal, but I want to raise as much as I possibly can because it's such a great cause that I believe in deeply."

#### A GRUELING PREP: SADDLE UP AND PERSEVERE

Marley's physical preparation, which started last September, has been as intense as it is inspiring. "I came into this training with quite a bit of prior cycling experience . . . but the training process is still fairly grueling," she admits. The training consists of rides each week with different riding groups and a long ride every Saturday to build up their miles. "Our average daily mileage during the actual ride will be 70-80 miles, with some days being close to or over 100 miles," said Fox. "We also have to keep up a certain pace so that we get to our next scheduled stop on time since we do not ride after sundown."

Despite two freak accidents resulting in a broken hand, Marley's humor and determination remain unshaken. "Both times I broke my hand, they were such freak accidents," she laughed. "One time, I just ran into a curb, and I broke my pinky finger. The second time was three weeks ago. I had just been back on the bike for about a week, and we were out on a long training ride to Canyon Lake and back. We rode in a single-file line, and the girl who was two riders in front of me was waving to someone, but she didn't realize the shoulder of the road had run out. So, she crashed, and the girl right in front of me crashed into her, and then I crashed into her. When I fell, I put my hand down to break my fall. I didn't think anything about it until a few minutes later. I was like, 'I can't really move my hand."

#### THE ROUTE-AHEAD: A ROCKY ROAD TO TRIUMPH

For the actual ride, the riders are split into three route groups: the Sierra route, the Rockies route, and the Ozarks route. Fox has been assigned to ride the Rockies route, which leaves Austin May 25 and heads north. Each journey is marked by stops in several major cities and a few minor ones. Marley and her fellow Rockies route riders are scheduled to be in Hood County May 27, where they will spend the night in Pecan Plantation with Marley's family.

The next morning, the riders will depart Pecan Plantation and head to Cleburne and then on to Dallas. From there, the Rockies route travels north in the shadow of the Rocky Mountains through the United States and Canada. Passing through North Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana, the route then heads into the Canadian provinces and territories of Alberta, British Columbia and the Yukon before passing into Alaska.

#### **BEYOND THE MILEAGE:** A QUEST FOR A CURE

Marley Fox is a focused and determined young woman. While she knows the ride will oftentimes be difficult and grueling, she has a passion deep within her that drives her. "I know that some of the researchers that are funded by the money we raise are working on a cure for multiple myeloma, the cancer that gave my grandfather such a bleak prognosis. Because of their research, it's now common for people to live six or seven years with the same diagnosis my grandfather had," said Fox. "That's why I'm riding."

If you would like more information about the Texas 4000, visit their website at https://www.texas4000.org/. If you would like to donate to Marley's ride, scan the QR code, which will take you directly to her donation page.

Marley's tale is a vivid narrative of endurance, a dedication to a cause greater than oneself, and a profound connection to a community rooting for her every mile. As she sets off on this incredible journey, Hood County watches with pride, knowing one of its own is part of a grander story written with every push of the pedal.





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# PECAN PLANTATION VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

### Fire hydrant testing has begun in Pecan Plantation

You've probably never thought about it, but Pecan Plantation is very fortunate to have fire hydrants. The vast majority of Hood County does not have hydrants in the neighborhoods. We must use a tanker to shuttle water from the nearest fire hydrant to the pumper engine that is actively fighting the fire. It requires multiple shuttle tankers to maintain a constant water supply. Using hydrants, we can run a 5-inch supply line from the hydrant directly to the pumper engine to provide all the water needed to extinguish the fire.

#### WHY DO WE TEST FIRE HYDRANTS?

During a fire emergency, reliable sources of water can mean the difference between life and death. This is why the National Fire Protection Association outlines fire hydrant testing that measures real-world pressure and flow in a city's water distribution system. A fire emergency is not the time to discover the hydrant doesn't work. Performed by your PPVFD firefighters, fire hydrant testing verifies the performance of the AMUD water distribution system, determining the pressure and rate of flow available at various locations. It measures static (non-flowing) and residual (flowing) pressure in pounds per square inch, as well as the rate of discharge in gallons per minute (GPM) of each fire hydrant. We first flush the hydrant to clear any debris, such as gravel or sand, that could destroy the pump on the engine.

#### WHAT DO WE DO WHEN A FIRE HYDRANT FAILS TESTING?

If a hydrant fails to provide at least the NFPA minimum pressure or flow rate, we bag the hydrant and contact AMUD to get the hydrant repaired or replaced.

#### WHEN DOES NFPA REQUIRE HYDRANT TESTING?

Regular fire hydrant testing ensures the ability to provide water at an acceptable pressure and flow rate for public health and firefighting operations.

The 2022 edition of "NFPA 291: Recommended Practice for Fire Flow Testing and Marking of Hydrants" (4.2.2) recommends that fire hydrants should maintain a residual pressure of 20 psi for effective firefighting, as well as to prevent backflow that could contaminate the public water supply.

NFPA 291 stipulates hydrant flow tests every five years to ensure changing conditions in the piping and system demands won't impede hydrants' ability to deliver water. We test them every two to three years.

What can you, as homeowners, do to help us? Some people plant shrubs or flowers around their hydrant to hide them from view. Please do not do that! If we can't easily see the hydrant, we can't hook up to it. Also, if we do see it, our 5-inch supply hoses will crush anything that is too close to the hydrant.

Please keep at least a 3-foot radius around your hydrant clear of any vegetation, except grass.

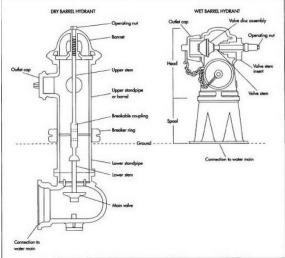
If you have any interest in joining our department, or just helping out, please contact Scott Christy at the fire station at 817-573-1643, or drop by the station between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. We can always use more people. We will train you to whatever level you are comfortable with. Training is the first Saturday of the month at 8 a.m. and the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. We usually have dinner at 5:30 p.m. so come early if you want to eat. Dinners are prepared by the PPVFD/EMS Auxiliary and there is always plenty to eat.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. We hope you learned something you didn't already know. Stay safe!









YOUR Pecan Plantation Volunteer Fire Department

# WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS CLUB

By Caryl Mahaffey

The Pecan Widow & Widower's Club will meet one week earlier this month due to the Memorial Day Holiday. We will meet at the Pecan Shady Grove RV Pavilion for a covered dish picnic Tuesday, May 21, at 5 p.m. If you are able to attend, please RSVP by Tuesday, May 14 by contacting Caryl Mahaffey at caryl.mahaffey@charter.net or by calling 817-964-5915.

Salad, side dishes and desserts will be provided by club members. Chicken, rolls, iced tea and water will be provided by the Club.

#### Last names beginning with A-G bring SALAD

Last names beginning with H-M bring MAIN DISHES/VEGETABLES Last names beginning with N-Z bring DESERTS

Please bring family-size servings and the serving utensil for your food.

You will want to eat heartily in order to test your skills after dinner at the corn hole games, golf disc toss, zinc and Chutes & Ladders. See which team is the winner for our group.

Come dressed cool and casual to have a good time with your W/W friends. If you wish, bring your own folding chair and the beverage of your choice.

The club has just enjoyed its first outing by attending the Passion Play in Glen Rose. Other events are being planned for the group during the summer. The club will meet the fourth Tuesday at the Club Ballroom for games during the summer months.

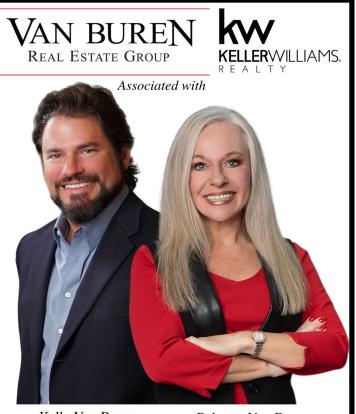
All Widow & Widowers of Pecan are invited to attend by making an advance reservation.



Pecan Widows & Widowers Club Picnic Tuesday, May 21 5 p.m.

## **DON'T MISS OUR SPECIAL** GRADUATION **SECTION ON MAY 18!**





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# Pecan Planation

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### Wednesday, May 8th, 2023 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Walk-ins welcomed from 8AM to 1PM Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Pecanplantation to schedule an appointment.



All donors receive coupons from Board & Cork, Pecan Ace Hardware and Chef Jordan at Pecan

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# **MARINA HAPPENINGS**

Summer is just around the corner and the Marina is a great place to enjoy Lake Granbury! Everything you need to enjoy the lake is right here in Pecan Plantation!

- Great views of the lake
- Fishing pier
- Boat launch
- Fuel

#### **READY TO ENJOY**

- The Pecan Pit Bar and Grill, serving lunch and dinner seven days a week, breakfast on weekends and daily specials such as Taco Tuesday and Friday Fish Fry
- Outdoor dining
- Live music on select weekends
- Air-conditioned indoor dining
- Pay at the pump fuel, non-ethanol the good stuff!

#### **UPDATES IN PROGRESS**

Stay tuned for more improvements to come

- New roofs for boat slips! The underside of the roofs will be light blue as a means to keep the spider activity down. Blue is the color of the sky, and it may make spiders feel vulnerable to predators by making it seem that they are not under any protective cover.
- New decking and decking repairs
- Fresh paint
- Clean up of the marina is ongoing

#### HOW TO GET TO 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"

#### LAKE GRANBURY FISHING REPORT

- Good fishing spots
  - The mid-lower lake seems to be best, which includes our Marina area. Largemouth bass fishing can be excellent around any of the 1,000-plus boat docks and piers. Crankbaits, jigs and worms are top bets. Catfishing is good throughout the reservoir.
- May average air temperatures
  - Avg. high 85 F
  - Avg. low 62 F

#### LAKE GRANBURY: DID YOU KNOW?

- Is approximately 8,310 sq acres (33.6 sq km) in size
- Is approximately 75 feet (22.9 m) at its deepest point
- What kind of fish can you catch in Lake Granbury?
- Although there may be others, anglers can expect to find a variety of fish including channel catfish, largemouth bass, striped bass and white bass. Other fish species in the lake include crappie and sunfish.
- The American white pelican migration includes Lake Granbury and happened this year in early March. Thanks to Craig Rodgers for the great picture.





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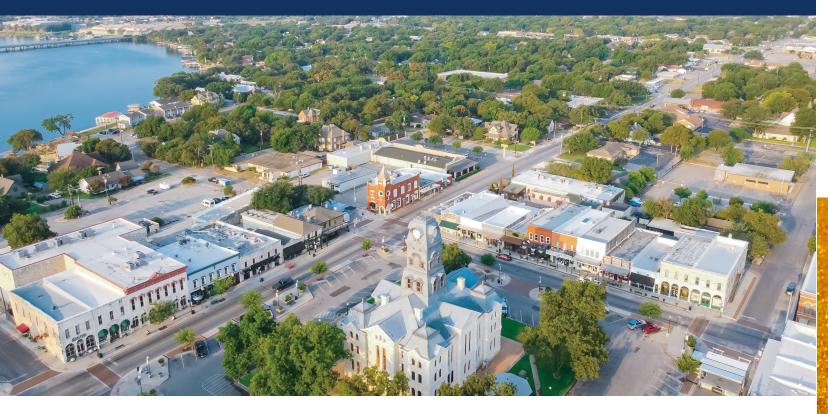
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# BUFFET BINGO

**May 14** 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!







In the 19th Hole!



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New Enclosed Climate Controlled Units PICKLEBALL NEWS

By Jana Reeves

With the arrival of springtime, several Pecan Plantation Pickleball Association members have participated in area pickleball tournaments. In the Cowtown Senior Open Series in Fort Worth, Carmine Esposito won a gold medal and Don Temple won a silver medal. Jodi Davis and DeAnna Berry won a gold medal. David Burch and Tracy Davis won a bronze medal. PPPA members also had a great showing in the Texas Leadership Fundraiser tournament in Granbury. David Burch and Tracy Davis won bronze in the competitive division. In the recreational division, Steph and John Phalen faced their daughter Kirby and her partner. The match came down to a sudden death with the score tied at 10-10. Kirby and her partner prevailed and went on to win the gold medal. Congratulations to all Pecan Plantation Pickleball players with their ongoing success.

Once again, this year the PPPA will offer a Pickle/Swim camp for kids ages 7-12. The camp will be June 17-18 and June 20-21 from 1-3 p.m. at the PAC. There is a limit of 16 participants and pre-registration is required. The cost is \$80 per student for PPPA members and \$100 per student for non-PPPA members. The kids will have one hour of pickleball instruction followed by one hour of swimming in the PAC pool.

A reminder that the gym is available for open play from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for an earlier closing at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesdays. Also, family-friendly hours are Sunday from noon-2 p.m. and Tuesday and Friday evenings from 6-7:45 p.m.

In May, there will be one beginner's clinic Monday, May 13 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. The group will close out spring pickleball play with an end-of-the year party Tuesday, May 21. The ladies-only play will resume in the fall when students return to school.

The PPPA would like to take this opportunity to thank residents and visitors for stopping by and grabbing lunch at our fundraiser during the spring garage sale in April. We greatly appreciate your support.





Above: David Burch and Tracy Davis won bronze in the competitive division of the Texas Leadership Fundraiser tournament in Granbury

Left: Steph and John Phalen narrowly lost to their daughter Kirby who went on to win the gold medal in the recreational division.

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### **RV CLUB NEWS** By Glenna Haskell, VP

The Pecan Plantation Owners Association Recreational Vehicle Club held its March meeting at our very own Shady Campground on March 19. This meeting was very well attended by approximately 45 members for the pot luck dinner. There was a lot of food to choose from. We have some very good cooks in this club. The meeting was held following the dinner.

We discussed the upcoming rallies:

- May 19-22: Spring Mini Rally at Dinosaur Valley RV Park in Glen Rose
- Sept. 15-18: Fall Mini Rally TBD
- Oct. 13-18: Fall Rally at Finish Line RV Park in Hot Springs, Arkansas

We currently have 87 members on our roster. It sure would be fantastic if more members could join us on one of these rallies, or to our monthly meetings. These rallies are a lot of fun and you get to meet your new RV friends.

Remember if you live in Pecan and own an RV you, too, can be a member of our RV Club. If you are interested in attending a rally, please contact us at rvclub@ppoarv.org.

Exciting news from the meeting, we now have a banner to display at our rallies. Special thanks to member Bob Price for designing the banner. It is a wonderful addition for our club. At each meeting we sell 50/50 tickets. Half the money collected goes to the winner and half to the club. The April winner was Ralph Stutes. Way to go Ralph!

In closing, I would encourage everyone to visit our website at PPOARV.ORG. The website has been recently updated by member Bill Winkler, and it is outstanding. There are many resources, like the bylaws, election process, hosting rallies, etc., and there are lots of photos posted of all your friends. Until next time,

Glenna Haskell, VP









Above: RV Club members enjoy the March pot-luck meeting.

Left: The new RV Club banner. Ralph Stutes was the 50/50 drawing winner.

Columns

## **PECAN PLANTATION WOMAN'S CLUB** New Year's on June 1? Yep!

The Pecan Plantation Woman's Club works very hard running multiple events year-round to raise funds for the various charities we support throughout our community. And now it is time to give back. With great excitement, the club will donate funds to designated charities and award scholarships later in May to deserving young women to attend two-year colleges and trade schools. This is an important niche in which members take great pride.

The seven charities PPWC has chosen as its recipients for 2023-24 are as follows:

Ada Carey Center Women's Shelter, Mission Granbury, Hood County Senior Center, Friends for Animals, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), Ruth's Place and Habitat for Humanity of Hood County.

The traditional New Year is celebrated on Jan. 1 each year. But, for the PPWC, the New Year occurs June 1. And that means we have newly elected officers for the upcoming year 2024-2025. Taking the lead as president will be Gerta Howell; other officers include Vice-President Rhonda Humphreys, Secretary Terri McBay, Treasurer Kim McIntire, Assistant Treasurer Kathie Schoepf, Historian Debbie Rickman and Parliamentarian Sandy Hoelting. It is exciting to have such a qualified group of ladies to lead us this next year. They will bring new ideas to this wonderful organization and help us to be even more successful as we support our community, local charities and scholarships for young women.

The final meeting of this year will be Thursday, May 16, but it will not fade out quietly. We will host Dave Lieber, a motivational speaker, author, humorist and playwright. He currently writes the "Watchdog" column for the Dallas Morning News. Come prepared to be entertained and enlightened as Dave Lieber tells us about his "Journey to Discover Ross Perot and Texas' Top Family."

Although our fiscal year ends May 31, our Pecan Plantation Woman's Club is always active. Our summer Chit Chat meetings, always the third Thursday of each month, will begin at 10 a.m. June 20 in the ballroom. Additional summer Chit Chat meetings will be July 18 and Aug, 15. We hope our members and guests will make it a point to join us on these dates.

This will be my last article in the Columns magazine as president of the Pecan Plantation Woman's Club. It has been my sincere pleasure to lead this group of ladies as we have raised money throughout the year for deserving charities, provided scholarships, helped our community of Pecan Plantation, made new friends and strengthened our relationships with one another. We truly have supported and inspired each other – TOGETHER. Thank you for this opportunity.





Thursday. May 16, 2024



Dave Lieber -Motivational Speaker, Author, Humorist, Playwright





SATURDAY, MAY 18th, 10:00 A.M. THRU 1:00 P.M. PECAN ACTIVITY CENTER PARKING LOT Pecan Neighbors - Join with Pecan Plantation Woman's Club and Fill the Rancho Brazos Pantry!

Canned Items: Fruit, vegetables, soups & meals, Spaghetti Sauce & pasta, Boxed mashed potatoes, Cereal, Oatmeal, Pancake mix and syrup, Hamburger Helper, Flour, Sugar, Rice, Canned Chicken & Tuna, Crackers, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Pudding & fruit cups, Cake Mixes, Condiments

Hygiene Products: Shampoo & conditioner, body wash, bothpaste & toothbrushes, deodorant, toilet paper, Kleenex tissue, comb/ brush, hair accessories, Pull-ups & disposable diapers, detergent & fabric softener, feminine products.

Monetary Donations always appreciated.



Luncheon, Meeting & Program Thursday, May 16, 2024 Clubhouse Ballroom Gathering 9:30am - Meeting 10:00am Sandy Hoelting, President - 501-922-7464

#### Menu

Chicken chile relleno with Poblano Cream Sauce, Corn/black bean succotash Dessert: Cinnamon Buttermilk Pie

Luncheon: \$21.00

Reservation and Cancellation deadline Noon Thursday, May 9, 2024

-RESERVATIONS-

Email (preferred) to ppwcres@gmail.com

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# WILDLIFE COMMITTEE REPORT

Spring time is a big time for Pecan Plantation wildlife. Punxsutawney Phil nailed it this year when he didn't see his shadow. Winter departed early; spring got a jumpstart. Who knew an overgrown gopher truly knew?

Redbuds were early. Some of us thought it was trick of nature, until the mesquite tree truth made us shake our proverbial heads. When mesquites bud, winter is over. They were early, too.

Neighbors reported bluebirds nesting three weeks earlier than normal. Flocks of turkeys along the river were strutting and gobbling three weeks earlier than normal.

Turkeys strutting along the river, run in flocks from just a few to as many as forty birds, mostly hens and jakes. Jakes are young males, heads typically a light blue color. As their breeding season started, flocks broke up into smaller groups and Toms were dancing their courting ritual, tails flared. Toms have a long black beard and more vibrant colors than hens. The longer the beard, the older the turkey. Sometimes a hen will have a short beard.

Turkeys are ground nesters. They'll fluff out a dusty bowl in grassy clumps or sometimes in brushy cover. Hens pick a place where newly hatched poults can hide from predators. They'll lay an egg a day until there's a clutch of 10-12 eggs, then sit. It takes 28 days from the time she sits until the eggs hatch.

We should start seeing poults sometime this month, but don't be surprised to see the turkey breeding season here extend into late June.

Speaking of breeding, the deer rut was earlier than normal as well. Last year, the first fawns were seen around May 2, but by the time this article hits your mailbox, there well may be newborn fawns.

When you see a fawn, leave it be. Even if you don't see its momma, stand away. She's nearby, you can bet. Newborn fawns may be curious about you, but nature's way is to keep a distance. Observe, take some pictures, but don't assume a fawn has been abandoned. It hasn't.

Most does will have twins, except some of the yearlings. A few exceptional moms can have triplets. Here's another little-known fact. Not all twins have the same dad.

When a fawn lies in your yard, or is at the door like a little spotted trick or treater, it's no trick at all. Enjoy, but follow the rule of nature.

The wildlife committee is in the midst of its annual fundraiser, a gun raffle. See the attached brochure. This raffle is intended mostly for the ladies. Take note . . . proceeds, after paying for the guns, go straight into helping manage wildlife. In years past, all those dollars buy rainbow trout for the kid fishing derby, held each winter.

So, as we soak in the spring, keep a lookout for new creatures. Birds, deer, even skunks and possums will bless us with their young of the year.



Turkeys were in full strut along the river in early March, several weeks earlier than normal. *Credit: Holly Dockery* 



Fawns normally arrive around the beginning of May, so be on the lookout. *Credit: Karen Gomez* 

Check out the information about our fundraising raffle on page 56!

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2024

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# JUNE 8 THE LOST SHAKER OF SALT BAND

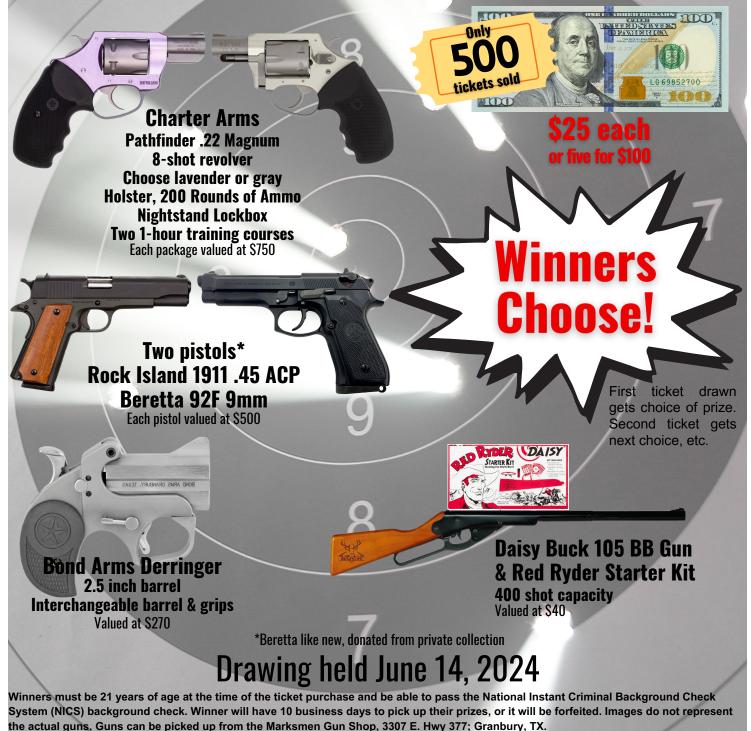
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# THE DBREAKERS

# Pecan Plantation Wildlife Committee Gun Raffle and Fundraiser

### Benefitting the Annual Dr. Barna Memorial Kids Trout Fishing Tournament

The PPOA Wildlife Committee is raffling off six pistols to benefit the youth fishing tournament held each year. The proceeds go toward stocking the ponds with trout. To purchase tickets, contact any Wildlife Committee member, go to the Marksmen Gun Shop, or email WildlifeCommitteePPOA@gmail.com.



#### WildlifeCommitteePPOA@gmail.com

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# **SPRING BUTTERFLIES**

Butterflies certainly represent the activities around the flowers of the season (Spring!) Photos by Gary Marks



Tiger Swallowtail on Zinnia



Tiger Swallowtail on Lantana



Tiger Swallowtail on Zinnia

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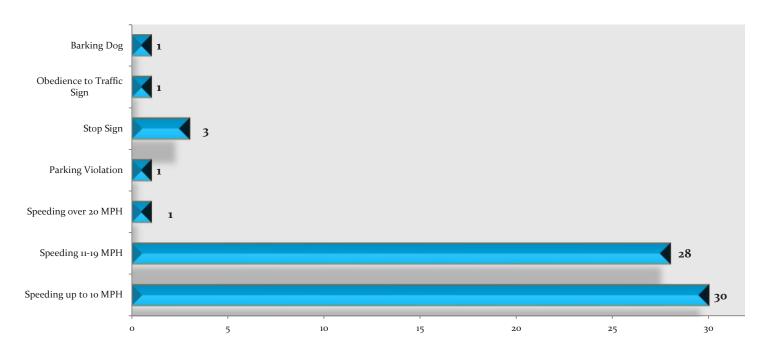


VISA

May 2024 | 57

# Security Statistics March 2024







Asset Type	Amount
Speeding up to 10 MPH	30
Speeding 11-19 MPH	28
Speeding over 20 MPH	1
Parking Violation	1
Stop Sign	3
Obedience to Traffic Sign	1
Barking Dog	1
Total Warnings Among Citations	4

#### Areas of Citations Issued

Bellechase - 2 Cherokee - 1 Claremont - 12 Monticello - 16 Orchard - 4 Plantation - 13 Ravenswood - 4 Village - 2 Wedgefield - 8 Westover - 3 **Breakdown by Violator Type** Member/ Guest - 33 Contractor/ Vendor - 32



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Pecan Plantation Owners Association Pecan Plantation Country Club For the Four Months Ending February 2024

	А	ctual YTD	Budget		Variance	
Operating Revenues	\$	3,459,528	\$	3,325,942	\$	133,586
Cost of Goods Sold	\$	(501,156)	\$	(433,384)	\$	(67,772)
Gross Operating Profit	\$	2,958,372	\$	2,892,558	\$	65,814
Labor, Taxes & Benefits	\$	(1,862,773)	\$	(1,951,228)	\$	88,455
Other Operating Expenses	\$	(1,005,238)	\$	(1,130,561)	\$	125,323
Net Operating Income/(Loss) Before Depreciation	\$	90,361	\$	(189,231)	\$	279,592

#### CONSOLIDATED OPERATING STATEMENT

#### **RESERVE & REPLACEMENT FUND**

	Actual YTD		Year End Forecast	
Beginning Balance	\$	3,431,261	\$	3,431,261
Fund Deposits	\$	1,343,349	\$	1,296,379
Fund Expenditures	\$	(912,122)	\$	(3,352,191)
Ending Balance	\$	3,862,488	\$	1,375,449

#### NEW CAPITAL FUND

	Actual YTD		Year End Forecast	
Beginning Balance	\$	1,050,920	\$	1,050,920
Fund Deposits	\$	230,237	\$	718,625
Fund Expenditures	\$	(26,050)	\$	(86,300)
Ending Balance	\$	1,255,107	\$	1,683,245

#### **ROAD & DRAINAGE FUND**

	Actual YTD		Year End Forecast	
Beginning Balance	\$	1,364,734	\$	1,364,734
Fund Deposits	\$	609,059	\$	1,862,153
Fund Expenditures	\$	(256,112)	\$	(2,407,153)
Ending Balance	\$	1,717,681	\$	819,734

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## EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION PRESENTS SCHOLARSHIPS

Chapter 983 of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), Pecan Plantation, presented three local youth with a total of \$15,000 in aviation scholarships during its monthly meeting at the Pecan Plantation Airport April 6.

Wyatt Richeson and Angeline Barber-Petroff were each awarded \$2,000 scholarships to attend the EAA Advanced Aviation Air Camp in Oshkosh, Wisconsin in July. The program will coincide with the world's largest experimental aircraft airshow, called the EAA Air Venture. For that week, Oshkosh is the busiest airport in the world, with an aircraft landing or taking off every 15 seconds. Over 10,000 aircraft attend the show and last year more than 750,000 people attended the week-long event. While there, Richeson and Barber-Petroff will participate in aerospace education seminars, learn "hands-on" aircraft construction skills in wood and aluminum fabrication, riveting and welding. They will also participate in both aircraft and helicopter flights.

Richeson is a junior at Granbury High School and is involved in the GHS Aerospace Engineering class, building an experimental RANS S-21 aircraft. He is also a member of the teen Elevate group at Stone-water Church, the Junior Optimist Club, National Honor Society, and GHS Student Leadership Committee. He builds and races 'dwarf' dirt track race cars and would like to study engineering in college for a career in aviation. Wyatt's scholarship is sponsored by local business-man Rocky Campbell, CEO of Hybrid Financial. When Rocky learned of Chapter 983's involvement in youth aviation programs through a client, he volunteered to support sending a local student.

Barber-Petroff is a homeschooler from Iredell. She soloed in a glider in March and plans to get her glider license before starting helicopter training. She also plans to study engineering in college to pursue a career in aviation. She is an avid backpacker and has plans to attend her first technical mountaineering course to summit the Grand Tetons in Wyoming this summer. Barber-Petroff's scholarship is sponsored by the local EAA Chapter 983 members.

An \$11,000 flight scholarship was awarded to Tania Magallanes. Tania graduated from GHS a year early last year. She was involved with the GHS Aerospace Engineering class, building an experimental aircraft. She currently works part time to support her flying lessons and volunteers time as a coach for her sister's soccer team. Magallanes has been actively involved with the Dennis Polen Aviation Educational Foundation. This foundation teaches the "practical side" of aircraft design and engineering. Skills are learned as they are needed for various projects. So far, her favorite skill is welding. Her scholarship will enable her to acquire her private pilot license and then enroll in the Southwest Airlines Cadet Pilot program.

Chapter 983 supports the EAA Young Eagles flight program where our pilots give orientation flights to youth, ages 8 through 17. The next Young Eagles event will be May 4 at the Pecan Plantation Airport. On April 20, we will host our next "Flying Start" program for those adults 18 years and older who may be interested in starting flying lessons.

For those interested in learning more about our activities, visit EAA983.org or you may contact John Bowen at 817-559-5080 or bowenjandj@gmail.com. All are welcome; you do not have to be a pilot, just have an interest in aviation. Meetings are at 10 a.m. the second Saturday of each month at the Pecan Plantation Airport.



Hybrid Financial CEO Rocky Campbell presenting Wyatt Richeson with his 2024 Advanced EAA Air Camp scholarship plaque.



EAA Ch. 983 President Dick Keyt presenting Angeline Barber-Petroff with her 2024 Advanced EAA Air Camp scholarship plague.



EAA Chapter 983 President Dick Keyt (right) and Chapter Scholarship Chairman Bruce McJunkin (left) presenting Tania Magallanes with her 2024 EAA Ray Flight Scholarship plaque.





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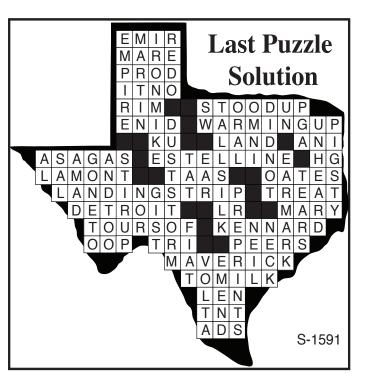




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#### *Puzzle solution for Crossword Puzzle on page 63.*





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# RECYCLING

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.

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.



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, stredded 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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