



THE GRAPEVINE

NOW OVER 1,500 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

The Newsletter of the City of Garden Ridge

April 2014

www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us

City Hall 651-6632 Lost Pets 651-6831 GRPD 651-6441

Non-emergency, after hours

Easter
April 20th



April Showers Bring May Flowers



Coming Events:

- 1 April – April Fool’s Day
- 2 April – City Council, 6pm
- 5 April – Hazardous Waste Disposal, 8am to 2pm (see website)
- 8 April – Planning and Zoning Commission, 6pm
- 10 April – Last day to register to vote in the City Election
- 14 April – Quarry Commission, 7pm
- 21 April – Meet the Candidates, 7pm Council Chambers
- 22 April – Water Commission, 6pm
- 23 April – Administrative Professionals Day
- 28 April – Early Voting begins, Council Chambers

NOTE: All meetings subject to change!

The City of Garden Ridge proclaims April 10th (the 100th day of the year) as 100 Club of Comal County Day. The 100 Club assists families of first responders that are killed in the line of duty. For more info or to join please visit <http://100clubofcomalcounty.org/> or visit us on facebook.

Water conservation in the yard and garden...

Plant drought-resistant lawns, shrubs and plants - If you are planting a new lawn, or overseeding an existing lawn, use drought-resistant grasses. Many beautiful shrubs and plants thrive with far less watering than other species. Replace herbaceous perennial borders with native plants. Native plants will use less water and be more resistant to local plant diseases. Consider applying the principles of xeriscape for a low-maintenance, drought resistant yard. Plant slopes with plants that will retain water and help reduce runoff. Group plants according to their watering needs.

Quarry Commission Happenings

The Quarry Commission’s monthly meeting was held on March 10, 2014. A review of February blasts was conducted. A total of 9 blasts occurred in the month of February. The highest ground vibration measured was .215 in/sec on February 12 and the highest air blast measured was 115.6 dB on February 4. All readings were within the criteria of City Ordinance 34. Citizen blasting reports submitted for the month of February for blasts occurring on February 12, 19 and 20 were discussed.

OUR THANKS TO THE QUARRY On March 1 Hanson Quarry gave away to 90 Garden Ridge citizens 158 loads of mulch, top soil, and crushed rock. This material will again be made available to our citizens on March 22. Trucks or small trailers only. No commercial vehicles will be allowed. Please remember that state law requires all loads be covered by a tarp.

DID YOU KNOW Hanson Quarry has provided over 35 tons of boulders for the City Library landscape. Public Works personnel selected the landscape rock from the quarry and Hanson Quarry moved the boulders to City property resulting in a sizable landscape cost savings to the city.

Citizens are encouraged to attend the monthly quarry commission meetings. Next meeting is April 14 at 7:00 pm. Citizen Blast report Forms can be found on the city’s web site home page (www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us). Citizens that wish to make a comment about a blast or have input for the Commission are encouraged to attend the April meeting

While not awash with rain, Garden Ridge is awash with activity. The Garden Ridge Women’s Club Garage sale was a huge success and work on the water line replacement project (CIP) is progressing well with activity along Garden Ridge Drive. Last summer, an isolated case of oak wilt was discovered in Garden Ridge and provided a wake-up call to update our Ordinance to protect the valuable resources which are our oak trees. As a result, in March your Council enhanced its oak wilt ordinance restricting the pruning and trimming of oak trees from February 1 to July 1. Work is underway to post the revised Ordinance to the website; until then, copies of the Ordinance can be obtained at City Hall.

In other news, although we have had some rain, water continues to be a concern for all in the Hill Country. Your City Council and Water Commission have been working hard on a number of different fronts to address the City’s water needs, including a new feature on water conservation you will see each month in the Grapevine.

City Council elections are scheduled for May 10, 2014. Councilman Roberts and McCaw are running unopposed. Councilman Britan has decided to retire from Council after 10 years of service. We will definitely miss Joe’s presence on City Council, but we have two fine candidates who are running to fill his place.

Our Mayor Andrew Dalton is recovering well from his surgery and our thoughts are with him and his family.

Finally, April 5 from 8 to 2 is the date and time for the Garden Ridge hazardous waste disposal event. A list of acceptable items is included in your water bill and we encourage all citizens to take advantage of this valuable City offering.

Nadine
Mayor Pro Tem

WELCOME TO GARDEN RIDGE

New Residents

JULIE LEIFESTE & TERRY MARTIN	DWAYNE LAINER
MICHAEL G. & STEPHANIE FRASER	WILLIAM M FRASER III

NOTE: Newcomers are derived from water service records, and thus, not all family members are included. Those not appearing are also welcomed! The City of Garden Ridge requires that all dogs and cats be registered, and each

Garden Ridge Area Republican Club Meeting

The Garden Ridge Area Republican Club will have its regular meeting on Monday, April 14, at 7PM in the Bluebonnet Room of the Community Center. Everyone is invited to attend.

GARAGE SALE – THANK YOU!

A big THANK YOU to all who volunteered their time for the GRWC Garage Sale, as well as to all the vendors and everyone who donated items. All of you helped make this event a huge success. We couldn’t have done it without you!!

Significant Actions - March City Council Meeting

March 5, 2014

- Approved variance for 9020 Sumac Cove.
- Approved amending Ordinance 71 (regarding Oak Wilt)
- Approved addendum to Ordinance 165-102011 (CPS Energy franchise fee)
- Approved Resolution 315-032014 San Antonio Bexar County MPO (recommending widening of F.M. 2252 from F.M. 3009 to Evans Road)
- Approved extended leave of absense for Mayor Andrew Dalton
- Accepted Joe Britan's resignation of Mayor Pro Tem
- Elected Nadine Knaus as Mayor Pro Tem

City of Garden Ridge Election is May 10, 2014

Its election time again! In the City of Garden Ridge Municipal elections; City Council Place 1, City Council Place 4 and City Council Place 5 will be on the May ballot. For more information go to the City's website at www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us or contact the City Secretary at (210)651-6632.

Candidates

Place 1	Place 4	Place 5
John McCaw	Patricia A. Ramirez Todd Arvidson	Bobby Roberts

Early voting begins on April 28 and runs through May 6, 2014.
8:00 am to 5:00 pm April 28, 30 May 1, 2, and 5, 2014
7:00 am to 7:00 pm Tuesday, April 29 and Monday, May 6, 2014

Election Day, May 10, 2014 7:00am to 7:00 pm
Both Early Voting and Election Day Location:

City of Garden Ridge City Hall
9400 Municipal Parkway

**2014 PRIMARY ELECTIONS
PRECINCT 205 TOTALS**

	REPUBLICAN	DEMOCRAT	TOTALS	% OF VOTE
ELECTION DAY	397	53	450	32.5%
EARLY VOTING	734	76	810	58.6%
MAIL IN	110	13	123	8.9%
TOTALS	1,241	142	1,383	
% OF TOTAL VOTE	89.7%	10.3%		

NOTE: We have 5,480 voters in Precinct 205, so our voting turnout was 25.2%. This compares to 20.7% for Comal County. The Comal County Website has detailed results for all races. Many thanks to everyone who took the time to vote!

Candidates' Forum

The Garden Ridge Area Republican Club and the City of Garden Ridge will co-sponsor a "Meet the Candidates Night" for the upcoming City Council Election on Monday, April 21, at 7:00PM in the City Council Chambers. All residents are cordially invited to attend and hear from the candidates. There will be a question - answer period during the event.

TRIUMPHANT LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.triumphantlutheran.org
21315 Bat Cave Road

The Community is invited to attend Holy Week and Easter Worship services
April 17 Mauny Thursday Seder Meal: 6:30 PM
April 18 Good Friday Worship Service: 12:00 Noon and 7:00 PM
April 19 Saturday: Easter Vigil Service: 5:00 PM
April 20 Easter Sunday: Sunrise Worship Service: 6:30 AM
Pancake Breakfast: 7:15 – 10:45 AM
Traditional Worship Service: 8:30 AM
Children's Easter Egg Hunt: 9:45 AM
Contemporary Worship Service: 11:00 AM

Will be holding "Fiesta Sunday" on April 27 at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall. This will be the only service that weekend, combining the usual 5:00pm Saturday, 8:30am Sunday, and 11:00am Sunday services into one service. The service helps to celebrate the Hispanic heritage of the San Antonio area in conjunction with Fiesta San Antonio. Refreshments will be served following the service. Sunday School will begin at 10:45am that day.



Botanical Gardens Tour

Date: Wednesday, April 9, 2014 **Time:** 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Location: GR City Park located near Grasscreek & Bluebell Drive.

Bring a sack lunch, enjoy the company of friends & neighbors & meet new friends. Attendees are welcome to:

- Display their business and/or organization materials
 - Share and demonstrate hobbies and crafts
 - Bring plants, seeds and cuttings to swap and share
 - Simply enjoy a lovely afternoon and have fun.
- (Please bring your own table, if needed)

Tea, water & dessert provided, plus some really swell games & prizes!
As this is a Members Only Event – anyone interested in joining the GRWC, please call Judi Hanna – 210-658-0819. Dues are \$20 per year.

Questions? Call Kate Kohl – 210-912-9012 – kate.kohl@yahoo.com

**Picnic in the Park!
Members Only Event**

Date: Wednesday, April 23. **Time:** 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.

Location: San Antonio Botanical Gardens, 555 Funston, Ph: 210-207-3250. Cost is \$10.00 and includes admission fee, tour of the gardens, and a class. Following the event, attendees may enjoy lunch at the Carriage House Restaurant on the grounds of the Botanical Gardens, if desired.

Make checks payable to GRWC and mail to Judi Hanna, 13622 Hercules Lane, Universal City, TX 78148. Questions? Call Judi at 210-658-0819.

Entertaining 101 – Rio Cibolo Cooking Class

The GRWC Cooking Class will be held at the lovely Rio Cibolo Ranch this year. Forget the forks and formality for this one. It will include "Easy Decorating, Entertaining and Appetizers" demonstrated by Margie Christopher. Lunch will follow.

Date: Thursday, May 15, 2014 **Time:** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Location: Rio Cibolo Ranch www.riociboloranch.com

Cost: \$30.00 members \$35.00 non-members

Reservations required by May 8. Please make checks payable to GRWC and send to: Janet Ruple, 9628 Kurre Way, Garden Ridge, TX 78266

Questions? Contact Janet @ 210 651- 4898 or jruple@aol.com

Footnotes

by Suzanne McCandless

April inspires Spring Cleaning and that is exactly what has happened in the Picture Book and Juvenile Fiction sections of the library. As a result, we are giving away FREE to any Garden Ridge parent with a library card, five (5) children's books. Come by and select your books from our Sale Room. While you are there, you might want to peek into our list of 100 Books to read to your child before kindergarten. You might want to investigate these in the nonfiction category:

The Bully Pulpit: Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and the Golden Age of Journalism, by Doris Kearns Goodwin explores the type of journalism that helped America become a better country. If that whole era which brought on World War I seems a little bit fuzzy, you might want to continue with Catastrophe 1914; Europe Goes to War, by Max Hastings or The Sleepwalkers: How Europe Went to War in 1914, by Christopher Clark. Both books explain the many elusive causes of this war which set the stage for the war-scarred 20th century.

Looking even farther back in time, we have George Washington's Secret Six: The Spy Ring that Saved the American Revolution, by Brian Kilmeade. Here is a true story of unsung heroes of our first war.

And perhaps winter has left you zestless. Staying indoors so long, you may have the ailments listed in The Novel Cure: From Abandonment to Zestlessness by Ella Berthoud. Read the right novel and feel better immediately.

The fiction shelves have not been ignored either. The latest and possibly the last novel featuring Jack Ryan (since Tom Clancy died in 2013) Command Authority, takes us right into today's headlines with events similar to those in Ukraine and the Crimea. One reviewer expressed the hope that things in real life turn out as well as they do in the story.

If you like your history with a good dose of story, here are a couple. The Pagan Lord, by Bernard Cornwell takes us back to the days of Saxon rulers of Britain. And My Name is Resolute by Nancy Turner brings us a pre-Revolutionary character to rival her Sarah Prine of the late 19th century.

May your life be enriched by visits to your library!