



THE GRAPEVINE

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The Newsletter of the City of Garden Ridge

www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us

April 2011

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

Non-emergency, after hours 651-6831



April Showers bring Spring flowers



Coming Events:

- 1 Apr — April Fool!
- 6 Apr — City Council meets, 6 PM
- 9 Apr — Hazardous Waste Collection (See article)
- 11 Apr — Quarry Commission meets, 7 PM
- 11 Apr — Garden Ridge Area Republican Club Meets (See Article)
- 12 Apr — Planning and Zoning meets, 6 PM
- 19 Apr — Meet the Candidates, 7 PM Community Center
- 21 Apr — Planning and Zoning Meets, 6 PM
- 22 Apr — Good Friday
- 24 Apr — Easter
- 26 Apr — Water Commission meets, 6 PM
- 27 Apr — Administrative Professionals Day
- 28 Apr — Arbor Day

Texas Lions Camp 2011 Summer Camp Dates

Providing camping experiences at no charge, to children with medical conditions since 1949.

- Session 1 — June 5 - June 11
- Session 2 — June 12 - June 18
- Session 3 — June 19 - June 25
- Session 4 — June 26 - July 2
- Session 5 — July 3 - July 9
- Camp Discovery — July 10 - July 16
- Texas Burn Survivors — July 17 - July 23
- Down Syndrome Camp — July 17 - July 23
- Diabetes I — July 24 - July 30
- Diabetes 2 — July 31 - August 6

For Information or qualifications and enrollment at:

Texas Lions Camp
PO Box 290247
Kerrville, Texas 78029-0247
(830) 896-8500; Fax (830) 896-3666
tlc@lionscamp.com
www.lionscamp.com

Mark your calendars!

This year's annual **Bracken VFD Firefighter's Festival** will be held on Saturday, May 7, at the **Garden Ridge Community Center**. A fajita dinner will be served from 4 - 8PM, with to-go orders available. There will be a live auction beginning at 6PM, a silent auction, raffle and other booths. Please come to eat well, have fun and support **YOUR** Volunteer Fire Department.

If you wish to donate items for the auction or raffle, please contact BVFD Chief Donald Zipp at 210-651-5762.

Quarry Commission Happenings



On Feb 28, 2011, the Quarry Commission met for the second of two special sessions held in February. The discussions from the first special session were continued. The Commission also went into executive session to discuss City Ordinance 34, which governs blasting within the City. The Commission plans to send a final draft revision of Ordinance 34 to the City within six weeks. The Quarry Commission met again on Mar 14th. At that meeting, the Quarry informed the Commission that some repairs to citizens' homes have been made and a review of other damage claims is on-going. Following a discussion about blasting times, (previously between 8:30 am and 3 pm), the Quarry set a goal of blasting between 11 am and 1 pm. (Note: to minimize the impact, the blasts will be shot when the weather conditions are most favorable rather than at prescribed times.) The Quarry agreed to notify the City anytime a blast will occur. The Quarry also explained their plans to direct as much as is possible of the air-blasts' effects away from citizens' homes. Based on limitations of the current Citizens' Blasting Form, the Commission will provide a more comprehensive form. The City agreed to develop a spread sheet that will record citizens' complaints, comments, and recommendations. The new report will be reviewed each month by the Commission and follow-up actions will be tracked. If you wish to complain about a blast or have comments for the Quarry Commission, contact City Hall.

FROM THE MAYOR

Time is scooting along quickly! Spring and summer are upon us and before we know it, the heat cometh.

With the dry winter we are experiencing, I watch with alarm the levels of the Edwards Aquifer. If the level hits 660', we will enter Stage 1 drought restrictions in the city. Although the Edwards is not the primary source of water to the city, it is nevertheless a source and we honor the drought restriction rules to cooperate with the region. Notification will be given and the Stage 1 restrictions are not tough. Please remember year round restrictions apply regarding watering with sprinkler or sprinkler systems. Do not water between 10 AM and 8 PM. Watch the back page of the Express News Sports section for watering information.

Besides this potential problem, all else is going well. Have a great and safe Texas Spring!

Jay F. Feibelman, Mayor

Garden Ridge Area Republican Club Meeting

The Garden Ridge Area Republican Club Meeting will be held on Monday, April 11, at 7PM in the Bluebonnet Room of the Garden Ridge Community Center. Everyone is invited. Call Charles Flink at 651-6631 with questions.

LIBRARY FOOTNOTES

By Suzanne McCandless



"April Showers bring May Flowers." That's what all Garden Ridgers are hoping for as April rolls in—some lovely rains to head off the long summer of drought.

But here at the library, we have already experienced the kind of shower we love the most—one of new books.

Old time favorite authors are well represented. Ken Follett gives us *Fall of Giants*, the first book of the Century Trilogy, set during World War I. John Grisham deals with the death penalty in *The Confession*. Tom Clancy (with Grant Blackwood) continues the story of Jack Ryan's family in another thriller, *Dead or Alive*. Nevada Barr's *Borderline* takes us to Texas' Big Bend National Park for an exciting adventure. And Nicholas Sparks pens another love story in *The Last Song*.

Some authors new to our library have promising books out. Making the list of last year's best books by women are *Room* by Emma Donoghue and *The Cookbook Collector* by Allegra Goodman. *Room*, told from the perspective of a five year old boy, is really the story of survival in captivity. *The Cookbook Collector* is a social comedy in the dot-com. era between 1999 and 2001.

The Forgotten Garden, by Kate Morton, is another book by a new-to-our-library author. In it, a four year old girl arrives in Australia alone and with no memory of her past or name. The only clue is a suitcase with a volume of fairy tales which provide clues to the mystery involving five generations and tragedy and redemption over two continents.

Some of us older Garden Ridgers may be interested in a non-fiction added recently called *Age-Proof Your Mind: Detect, Delay and Prevent Memory Loss Before It's Too Late*. (You can have it right after I finish it, if I can remember to get it back to the library.) Younger residents may want to check out *Ultra-Longevity: The Seven-Step Program to a Younger, Healthier You*.

Other nonfiction books worth mentioning include *Outliers: The Story of Success* by Malcolm Gladwell. It has been on the best seller list for many months. And in the juvenile nonfiction you will find *Girls Think of Everything: Stories of Ingenious Inventions by Women* by Catherine Thimmesh.

Many library patrons love to read a complete series, such as Lee Child's Jack Reacher books or Anne Perry's Charlotte and Thomas Pitt books. Now your library is providing a service that will help you find that next book in your favorite series or which one to read first in a new series. Linda Crosland has made up a notebook containing many of the popular series, listing the books in order. Look for the notebook next to the card catalog computer.

So stop by and check out a book from our deluge of literature. I hope you need your umbrella to get here.

WELCOME TO GARDEN RIDGE

New Residents:

Michael & Susan DeLoach
Stephen Elsdon
Mike & Carol Johnson



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 initially registered and again each January thereafter. Call 651-6831 for information.

Voter Information Forum / Meet the Candidates Night.

The Garden Ridge Area Republican Club will sponsor a Voter Information Forum and a Meet the Candidates Night for the upcoming May elections. The event will be held on Tuesday, April 19, at 7PM at the Garden Ridge Community Center. The first part of the event will be an information forum about the ESD Property Tax Cap Election. In the second part, all candidates for the City of Garden Ridge Alderman and Mayoral Election will give speeches and take questions from the audience.

Everyone is cordially invited to attend this important and informative meeting. Call Charles Flink at 651-6631 with questions.

CURVES ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

We are celebrating 5 years of friendship & member loyalty as owners of the Curves in Garden Ridge! We're excited to be kicking off the 5th Annual Curves Food Drive this April!

Please bring any non-perishable food items to Curves (18771 FM 2252 - Bracken Village) for the 2011 Annual Food Drive.

We are excited to announce that our goal for 2011 is to collect and donate 1200 pounds of non-perishable food items. We can't do this without your help! In an effort to increase the amount collected, we are waiving the initial service fee (savings of \$199) for any women wanting to join, when a donation is made during the month of April. Note that membership is not required in order to make a donation. For more information, please call us at: **(210) 651-9500**.

Thank you for your continued support - it is greatly appreciated!

Triumphant Lutheran Church Easter Week Services

The Community is invited to attend Holy Week and Easter Worship services at TRIUMPHANT LUTHERAN CHURCH, 21315 Bat Cave Road.

April 21 Maundy Thursday Seder Meal: 7:00PM
April 22 Good Friday Worship Service: 12:00
Noon and 7:00 PM
April 23, Saturday Easter Vigil Service: 5:00 PM
April 24. Easter Sunday
Sunrise Worship Service: 6:30 AM
Traditional Worship Service: 8:30 AM
Contemporary Worship Service: 11:00 AM
Easter Breakfast: 7:15 – 11:00 AM
Children's Easter Egg Hunt: 9:45 AM
www.triumphantlutheran.org

Northeast Bible Church Easter Service

"How hard we search for the things we've lost says a lot about how much we care for them. This Easter, join us as we reflect on a God who moved heaven and earth to show how much He cares about us."

Service Times: 8 am
9:30 am
11 am.

Nursery/Childcare provided

Northeast Bible Church
19185 FM 2252
Garden Ridge Texas
(210) 651-5462

Significant City Council Actions – in March

UPDATE:

- Public safety concerns in the Wild Wind Unit 3 Subdivision of Garden Ridge, Texas
- FM 3009 Construction Project
- Water System Capital Projects

APPROVED:

- Resolution No. 235-032011 in support of citizen request for regulatory safeguards related to the discharge of guns and other weapons within a reasonable distance from residential subdivisions to promote public safety and provide adequate protection against property damage and personal property
- Request by Tony Overman for an adjustment to the December 2010 water bill for the Dawn Meadows office complex located at 19115 FM 2252 B
- Ordinance 161-032011 amending Ordinance 161-022011 for the appointment of an Election Judge and an Alternate Election Judge for the General Election on May 14, 2011 for the City of Garden Ridge
- Interlocal Agreement between the City of Garden Ridge, Comal County and the City of New Braunfels to support the Household Hazardous Waste Collection program scheduled for April 9, 2011
- Release of Municipal Court Clerk Viviana Jenkins from 90 days probationary period effective February 22, 2011 with 5% salary increase due to release from probationary period
- Ordinance 121-032011 amending Ordinance 121-062010 passed and approved on June 2, 2010 appointing city officials for the City of Garden Ridge, Texas by amending the appointment of City Officials in Sections 3 and 9 of said ordinance

Tax Season Scam

The Internet has made everyday tasks more convenient—even filing taxes has become easier. In fact, the Internal Revenue Service is advocating the use of eFiling over paper filing for the 2011 tax season.

Unfortunately, the increased convenience of online tax preparation and filing has attracted phishing scams from fraudsters who pose as IRS agents. These scammers use scare tactics (threat of audit) or promise of reward (large refunds) to capture personal and sensitive information.

1. **Think twice before sharing personal information.**
2. **The IRS still corresponds through paper.**
3. **If ever in doubt, contact the IRS or your tax professional directly**

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

WHEN: Saturday, April 9 from 9 AM to 3 PM rain or shine
WHERE: New Braunfels Fire Station # 2
4120 Loop 337

Questions? (830) 221-4040 or (830) 221-1108

www.nbtexas.org

www.co.comal.tx.us

What is Household Hazardous Waste? If the chemical product is it's HHW.

Toxic: herbicides, pesticides, fungicides
Reactive: pool chlorine, drain cleaner, hydrogen peroxide
Ignitable: gasoline, lighter fluid, paint thinner, stains
Corrosive: muriatic acid, laundry bleach, oven cleaner

Acceptable for dumping (Not inclusive list, call for more details)

YES

NO

Auto batteries	Ammunition or explosives
Antifreeze	Flares or fireworks
Brake fluid	Compressed gas cylinders
Cleaners, Gasoline, motor oil	Medical wastes or pharmaceuticals
Paint, paint thinners, stains	Radioactive materials

Collection Rules:

1. Do not mix products
2. Transport products in car trunk
3. Bring a picture ID for proof of residency
4. Bring items in original, properly sealed, and labeled containers

MARK YOUR CALENDARS CITY ELECTION

Early Voting: May 2 through 10 in City Hall from 8 am to 5 pm except May 3 and 5 from 7 am to 7 pm.

Election Day: Saturday, May 14 from 7 am to 7 pm.

Contact City Hall for more information: 651-6632