



# THE GRAPEVINE

NOW OVER 1,450 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

The Newsletter of the City of Garden Ridge

## October 2013

[www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us](http://www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us)

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

Non-emergency, after hours



# HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



### Coming Events:

- 2 Oct – City Council meets, 6pm
- 5 Oct – Lions Club Fish Fry, BBQ, and Auction (see article)
- 7 Oct – Deadline to register to Vote in the November Elections
- 8 Oct – Planning and Zoning meets, 6pm
- 8 Oct – Bracken VFD General Membership Meeting (see article)
- 12 Oct – GRWC Holiday Marketplace (see article)
- 12 Oct – Big Book Sale @ Library (see article)
- 14 Oct – Columbus Day (City Hall Closed, but Library will be Open)
- 14 Oct – Voter Information Night (see article)
- 16 Oct – National Boss' Day
- 17 Oct – Men's Poker Night (see article)
- 21 Oct – Early Voting @ City Hall
- 22 Oct – Early Voting @ City Hall
- 22 Oct – Water Commission meets, 6pm
- 31 Oct – Halloween
- 31 Oct – Halloween Party (see article)

**NOTE: All meetings subject to change!**

### \*\* ELECTION UPDATE \*\*

There are elections scheduled for Tuesday, November 5. There will be both a Statewide Constitutional Amendment Election and a Comal ISD Bond Election. There will be two days of Early Voting at Garden Ridge City Hall. These two days will be **Monday, October 21 and Tuesday, October 22 from 8:00AM to 5:00 PM.**

If you are new to the area and want to vote in the November 5 Elections, the deadline to register to vote is **October 7.** Please see <http://www.votetexas.gov/> for details.

### Men's Poker Night at Forest Waters Club



Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm  
\$5 for Non Members  
RSVP: 210.651.6505

The Comal ISD is holding a \$451 Million Bond Election this November. In an effort to inform all voters about this Bond Election, the Garden Ridge Area Republican Club is sponsoring a "Voter Information Night" on **Monday, October 14, at 7:00PM** at the Garden Ridge Community Center. There will be a presentation from the Comal ISD as well as ample opportunity to ask questions. Everyone is invited to attend this meeting. If you have questions about the bond election, please contact the Comal ISD. If you have questions about the Voter Information Night, contact Charlie Flink at 210-651-6631.



### 41st Annual Fish Fry, BBQ and Auction

The Garden Ridge Lions Club presents their 41st annual Fish Fry, BBQ and Auction on **Saturday October 5, 2013** at the Garden Ridge Community Center on F.M. 3009 (3.2 miles NW of I-35, by the water tower)

This event is the primary fundraiser for the Garden Ridge Lions Club Charities, Inc. Proceeds support: sight services including eye glasses & exams for needy children; youth services including The Texas Lions Camp for Special Needs Children; community services including Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Baskets and Christmas toys for needy families; and scholarships.

#### Activities:

- Dinner served at 3:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
Fish Fry & Bar-B-Q: Adults \$10.00 / Children \$5.00
- Live Entertainment 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.
- Silent Auction 3:00 - 6:30 p.m.
- Live Auction @ 6:30 p.m. - Raffle during Live Auction, Super Raffle following Live Auction

Please come out and join us for some great fun, food, & friendship. Your valued support is very much appreciated.



### Holiday Marketplace is Right around the Corner!

Bring your family & friends  
& discover the treats that await.

**Date:** Saturday, October 12 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
**Location:** Garden Ridge Community Center.

Unique gifts for everyone on your shopping list, a silent auction with great items, a chance to win an original handmade quilt, and delicious foods available.

**We need donated items for the Silent Auction!** - Contact Cherlyn Koehler at [c-tkoehler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:c-tkoehler@sbcglobal.net) or 210-317-2104 if you have items to donate! **Vendors, we still have a few spaces left.** Contact Janet Ruple, at [grwcmarketplace@gmail.com](mailto:grwcmarketplace@gmail.com). **Volunteers**, if you can volunteer a few hours, contact Tanya Haddad, at [mimitn7@yahoo.com](mailto:mimitn7@yahoo.com) or 210-651-9241. All profits from this event will donated to local charities.

### Halloween Party at Forest Waters Club

Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013  
5 pm to 7 pm



Trick-or-Treat at the Club & join us for Treats, Drinks, Games & Prizes for Everyone!

## WELCOME TO GARDEN RIDGE

### New Residents:

Jason & Martha Everett	John & Bunny Barbieri
Versilene Ormond	Jack & Teri Chance
Collin & Rachel Cima	Juan & Lourdes Gomez
Karen Dixon	Richard L. Ward
Joyce Sanchez	Robert Simmonds
Brian & Janet Meek	

**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 January thereafter. Call 651-6831 for information.**

## From the Mayor

We had some good rain in September, but our Trinity and Edwards Aquifers remain stressed and Garden Ridge will likely remain in Stage 3 restrictions through November 23 unless we see significant improvements in the levels of our Trinity well. We continue to actively pursue several options to increase our Trinity and Edwards supplies and to find additional water sources for our City. Finding new cost-effective water supplies, improving our existing water infrastructure, and updating our drought management ordinance and drafting a new water conservation incentive plan are among my highest priorities.

This November there will be two important elections. First, there are several proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution, and you can obtain information about those amendments from the Texas Legislative Council, and on the web at [http://www.tlc.state.tx.us/const\\_amends.htm](http://www.tlc.state.tx.us/const_amends.htm). In addition, Comal ISD is seeking approval of a \$451 Million bond that would fund up to seven new schools and could add a new high school and a new middle school in the Garden Ridge area. You can obtain information about the proposed bond on the Comal ISD website at [http://www.comalisd.org/Bond\\_information/Bond\\_2013/](http://www.comalisd.org/Bond_information/Bond_2013/). Comal ISD will be making presentations about the 2013 bond at **City Council on October 2 at 6:00 PM** and at the Garden Ridge Area Republican Club **Voter Information Night on Monday, October 14 at 7:00 PM**, and I encourage everyone to attend one of these events. Also, please **register to vote by October 7, 2013** so you can make your vote count.

Sincerely,  
Andrew Dalton

The Bracken VFD will be holding its annual **General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, October 8, at 7:00PM** at the Bracken Fire Station. Everyone is invited to attend and hear about your Fire Department. There will be an election for three board members. Call the Fire Department at 210-651-5762 with any questions.

## Quarry Commission Happenings

The Quarry Commission's monthly meeting was held on September 9, 2013. A review of August blasts was conducted. A total of 14 blasts occurred in the month of August. The highest ground vibration measured was .350 in/sec on August 5 and the highest air blast measured was 120.6 dB on August 20. All readings were within the criteria of City Ordinance 34. Citizen blasting reports for the month of August were discussed and follow up action assigned. Citizens are encouraged to attend the monthly quarry commission meetings. Next meeting is October 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](http://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 October meeting. Additionally citizens interested in attending a tour of the quarry including witnessing an actual blast are encouraged to contact City Hall at 651-6632. The Quarry has expressed interest in talking about quarry operations with local groups such as home owner associations and service groups. If interested please contact city hall.

## Significant Actions - September City Council Meeting

### September 4, 2013

- Nominated candidate for Comal Appraisal District Board of Directors Election
- Conducted Public Hearing on Proposed 2013 Property Tax Rate of \$0.283246 for the City of Garden Ridge
- Amended lease agreement with Highpoint Church

### September 12, 2013

- Approved the fiscal year 2014 Budget for the City of Garden Ridge for the period of October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014 for the General Fund, Water Fund, Interest and Sinking Fund, and Capital Improvement Fund
- Adopted the Tax Rate of \$0.283246 per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation for the Tax Year 2013 (Fiscal Year 2014)
- Approved a request from Orica USA, Inc. for a Partial Exemption Permit to conduct blasting activities at the Hanson Quarry and to include setting annual fee for the Partial Exemption Permit



## Library Footnotes By: Karen Bishop



**BIG BOOK SALE** in the library October 12 from 10 am - 4 pm. Take advantage of this annual event which takes place while Holiday Marketplace is happening in the Garden Ridge Community Center. The all day sale is easy to work into your schedule as you shop the vendors at the market.

Notice that the Large Print book collection has been relocated. Instead of being at the first of the Fiction section it is now at the end of the Fiction section. As you so generously donate your gently used books we do periodically need to make adjustments to our shelf arrangements in order to accommodate all of our newest additions.

We are happy to accept memorial donations in honor or memory of persons, pets or events you wish to recognize. It can be a special book or money to acquire an appropriate book. We'll be glad to discuss possibilities with you so your memorial will be specifically what you desire. We will place a book plate in the item in their honor.

The binder labeled "Series by Author" is maintained so you can refer to your favorite authors and see which title comes next in a series in which you are interested. The list comes in handy if you are like a lot of readers who enjoy reading one author's series of titles in order.

The library will be open during its usual hours 10 am - 5 pm on Columbus Day, Monday October 14. We have several recent additions to our collection which will probably be of interest to you.

Among recent book donations are the latest titles by a number of popular authors. Khaled Hosseini's *And the Mountains Echoed*, C.J.Box's *The Highway*, Daniel Silva's *English Girl*, Philipp Meyer's *The Son* (a Texas based novel) and *American Rust*, two titles by Elin Hilderbrand, and an additional book by Danielle Steele. If you are a dog lover, the monks of New Skete have written *Art of Raising a Puppy*. We now have volume 3 of Winston Churchill's *Last Lion* series, General McChrystal's biography and Nick Tate's *Obamacare Survival Guide*. Quite a list to appeal to your varied interests!

A big "THANK YOU" to those who have donated their old bowling balls to the library landscape project. We would appreciate monetary donations to offset the cost. In return for a nominal donation packets of red poppy seeds are available in the library. If any of you would be willing to participate in the necessary physical labor, please leave your name at the library and we will notify you when the actual work starts. We're waiting for cooler weather!