



PRESERVE AT PECAN CREEK

thepreserveatpecancreekhoa.com

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Happy New Year Residents!

Looking back at 2009 I'm so proud of my committee members for all the hard work they put forth to bring a little fun and connectivity to our neighborhood! Good work team! 2010 will be just as fun, we discussed several ideas at our meeting back in November and are excited to jump right in. If you are interested in helping out with one or more events, please contact Robyn Brumfield at robyn.brumfield@gmail.com. We look forward to meeting new faces!

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events!

Bingo Breakfast

January 23, 2010

at the Amenity Center

9:00 am - Breakfast served

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - BINGO

\$2.00 per person

Pancakes - Sausage - Juice - Coffee

PRIZES TO WIN



Easter Egg Hunt

sponsored by: Eaglepointe Church

April 3, 2010

Spring Garage Sale

April 9th & 10th

8:00 am - 1:00 pm



\$1.00 Hot Dog Nights will return this summer along with a Splash Party, Teen Night, Craft Fair and More!!

If you have not signed up for our email distribution, please do so. It is an easy way to keep up with current news & events in our neighborhood.

January / February 2010

Happy New Year!

Since the updates for September did not make the newsletter, I will be mentioning some things that may sound a little out of context for January.

2009 September updates

- The drains on the children's pool were repaired and the pool was resurfaced
- The new key card system was installed and after a few glitches, proved to be a great addition to the old code system. There were a few cards left behind and turned over to Lone Star for return to the home owner
- The front gate has been covered with grating to eliminate homeowners from reaching through to open the gate and or climbing up and over the front gate.
- The pool was accessed after hours, fireworks were set off in the pool area leaving permanent scars on the deck surface
- Residents were reminded that drinking alcohol beverages in the pool area was not allowed, glass containers are not allowed at anytime in and around the pool area
- There were no accidents reported so a safe summer is the best news of all
- Dana Erwin resigned from the pool committee so there is a vacancy; please call 940-382-8053 if you are willing to serve on this committee. There is a need for representation from The Trails and The Meadows.

2010 January Updates

- Additional pool committee members are still needed and can volunteer by calling the number listed above. There are at least two positions open and more if we can get the volunteers. The committee met last year once a month on Thursdays at 6:30 but that is very open to change to meet committee member's needs. The social committee and pool committee met together last year but will meet independently in 2010. Melissa Eckstein is the pool committee Advisor
- Susan Garrett, Lone Star Management group has informed the pool committee that our request to get the clubhouse painted and redecorated will happen before the new 2010 season
- At the end of the swimming season there were concerns about chemical levels in the pool and it was discovered that the chlorinators were not large enough to handle the increased usage. The pool committee has been informed that these chlorinators will be replaced before the 2010 season
- Homeowners reported that the pool was not looking as clean as in years past and the surface appeared dirty. This is due to a degradation of the pool surface

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so the large pool will be resurfaced for next summer usage

- The pool committee requested a bike rack last season and we have now been informed that it will be installed to the left of the front door in the grassy area before summer
- The committee has been informed that the pool will be getting some new furniture but it is not known at this time just exactly what will be purchased
- Sparkling Waters will be signing a new contract for the 2010 season and the same interior cleaning company will service the restroom areas and the clubhouse

I would like to say thank you to the pool committee members and all the residents who assisted in making the Pecan Creek Pool a safe and happy place to relax and enjoy getting to know our neighbors. It takes everyone's commitment to keep the pool area clean, chairs and tables returned to their respective places, everyone practicing safe swimming habits and following the pool rules. With everyone being aware of these critical needs we will once again have a safe season.

Your pool committee, Karen Nygaard Chairperson, Larry and Jeanne Parchman, Christina Kraft-Anderson, Ray Stefl, Gene Nygaard, Melissa Eckstein Advisor

Greetings from the Landscape Committee

The committee would like to give a huge thanks to Four Seasons Nursery for their sponsorship of our gift certificate program through the Fall Displays. If you haven't visited them yet for your landscape needs please consider stopping by their business. The committee would also like to recognize the many residents for the overall maintenance of yards and landscapes throughout our community of The Preserve. Keeping properties mowed, trimmed and manicured continues to enhance the quality of life in our area as well as keep values high for homeowners.

An effort is being made to reduce the number of signs along Lakeview Blvd. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated in removing garage sale and other signs by Sunday evenings at the conclusion of your event.

Also, the city of Denton has installed lighting at the front entrance of The Preserve on the corner of Shady Shores and Lakeview Blvd. This has helped brighten the entrance at night and early in the mornings. They did address the missing lights on Lakeview Blvd. and have

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notified us that this project will not occur in this year's budget. We will continue to pursue this request to add the missing lights.

We are happy to serve our neighbors and the committee will work diligently in continued beautification of the Preserve at Pecan Creek. If you would like to serve on this committee, we always welcome new members and new ideas.

Crime or Prohibited Act Reporting

Join us in making your community a safer place to live! In recent years, neighborhoods have experienced rapid change. The old, well-established neighborhoods, where everyone knew everyone, have been replaced by a highly transient community where people seek more and more privacy. This life style tends to promote unfamiliarity with neighbors and a corresponding lack of concern. Unfortunately, this enhances the "opportunities" for the criminal element and increases the community's vulnerability to crime or prohibited acts.

The security of the Preserve at Pecan Creek and its citizens depends greatly upon the people themselves. In today's society no police department can effectively protect life and property without the support and cooperation of the citizens it serves.

The police have limited capabilities. Therefore, it becomes as much a citizen's responsibility as the police's responsibility to curb crime or prohibited acts occurring in their respective communities. It is time for all to assume an active role, including our community's youth who typically spend more time outside than adults.

What is crime reporting?

Most simply, it's giving the proper authorities information about

- A crime or prohibited act that might be committed
- A crime or prohibited act that has been committed
- Someone who was involved in committing a crime or prohibited act

Young people are capable of understanding the importance of reporting crime or suspicious behavior and its relationship to safer schools and neighborhoods, and, if they know how to report effectively, they'll do it. Young people can also help encourage peers to report crime or prohibited acts in the making, as well those under investigation by HOA officials or the police. A key

element involved in preparing young people to report things they observe to their parents is the elimination of retaliation, fear, or feeling that they would "get in trouble."

Is It Snitching?

Often, the labels of "snitch or tattletale" carry negative connotations, but young people are capable of recognizing the difference between those juvenile behaviors and reporting crime or suspicious behavior. They can be encouraged to report because they don't want friends hurt, they don't want a thief on the loose who might target their home, or they don't like the idea of someone getting away with doing something wrong. An effective reporting system encourages candor and reduces fear. Young people should know what to report to their parents, how to report, and why to report.

Benefits of reporting

- It heads off incidents before they can take place
- It helps to identify problems causing crimes or neighborhood concerns
- It makes it easier to find offenders and prevent them from offending again
- It creates a climate that does not tolerate crime or prohibited acts

How do you decide what to emphasize?

First, it depends upon you, and the level of your young person's maturity. Most parents have already provided some rudimentary guidance to their children regarding what to do if approached by a stranger or how to respond to telephone inquiries from someone with whom they are not failure. It's important to keep the system as open as possible with your young person. It may be the only way some young people have to let a responsible adult know they've been victimized or witnessed a prohibited act.

What do they need to look for?

Some of the things they should keep their eyes and ears open for:

- Someone screaming or shouting for help
- Someone looking into windows or parked cars
- Unusual noises
- Property being taken out of closed businesses or houses
- Cars, vans, or trucks moving slowly with no apparent destination, or without lights
- Anyone being forced into a vehicle
- A stranger sitting in a car or stopping to talk to a child
- Abandoned cars
- Anything "different" or "unusual" in the neighborhood

Not Your Mother's Couponing...

Do you want to cut your grocery bill by 50%? Who doesn't? If you never used coupons or want to start up again you came to the right place. Here are a few tips on getting started.

1) Start Slow. It will take about 4 weeks for you to get a good variety of coupons. A couple of resources are of course the Dallas Morning News Sunday paper (\$3.00 each) but better yet, I get the bulk of my stash by buying the local paper that comes out each week. Be patience. You are not going to walk into the store your first time and get \$100.00 worth of groceries for \$20.00. You will make mistakes (I still do. Ha!Ha!). Learn from them. Keep going. You'll get the hang of it. I promise. I spend about 4 hours a week. Not bad for the money I save.

2) Organize your coupons. If they are not easy to get to you won't use them. If you are a beginner you might want to use the envelope system. Just label each envelope with a category ie. Dairy, breakfast, meat, frozen, baby, makeup, etc... Another popular method is the baseball card holder. Just need a binder to put these into.

3) Don't clip every coupon. At first just clip what you might use. That goes for printing off internet coupons. You might want to put the date on the front

of your coupon packet and file what you don't use in a folder. That way if you decide you want to use a coupon you can go back and cut it out.

4) Start with One Store. Become an expert at one grocery store before you move on to another. Learn their policies and sale patterns. Once you conquer your store of choice pick drugstore. I would do CVS first. They seem to be easier than Walgreens to learn and use.

5) Don't try to figure all the deals out yourself. There are many sites to help you. You don't need to figure all the deals from the sale ads when they are done for you.

6) Be committed to every dollar you save. Don't get discourage if you save a few dollars at first. As time goes on you will save more and more. It's a process. Once you have it down you will never go back to paying full price again and you'll reach you goals in no time.

7) Last but not least, have fun!!!

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