

# Hickory Ridge News

*A warm welcome to our new Hickory Ridge Neighbors!*

*We are glad you have chosen our community as your new home, and we look forward to meeting you at social events!*

*Mark Your Calendars: June 4*

*Grand Reopening event at the pool. Come out and kick off a safe swim season! More details soon.....*

Inside this issue:

Yard of the Month, Pets 2

Student Journalist 3

Spring Cleaning 4

Our Royal Chef 5

## SPRING FLING

Saturday, April 9

3pm-5pm

Grassy Knoll on Old Veranda



Join your neighbors for an afternoon of fun!

Bounce houses, face painting and games!

Bring your family's favorite baked goods to sell in our bake sale. We need lemonade stands too!

*\*All proceeds will benefit local charities!\**

***We need your help to make this a success!***

***Kids, we need you there to take charge of selling.***

**Please rsvp to [colleen@hickoryridgehoa.org](mailto:colleen@hickoryridgehoa.org)**

**or [meredith@hickoryridgehoa.org](mailto:meredith@hickoryridgehoa.org) to let us know that you will be bringing items to the sale.**

We have four tables that will be provided. If you have a table or stand of your own, labeled with your name, please bring!

## Please Don't Be a Party Pooper

We love our pets in Hickory Ridge, however...no one wants the "gifts" that your pets leave behind in their yards or our common areas.

Please be a responsible pet owner and pick up after your pet at all times!



## Yard of the Month 2011

2011 Yard of the Month is here! We look forward to seeing our beautiful yards this year, as well as awarding the best Halloween décor!

May - Waskom Drive / Dancing Waters Road / Leafy Glade

June - Kenosha/Morning Star

July - New Hope/Wind Dance

August - Old Veranda/White Porch

September - Hearthlight/Warm Springs

October - Best Halloween Decorations

Is your yard ready?

Check our website monthly for a photo of the winner!



## *Stay Informed*

*Bookmark our website and check in regularly.*

*[www.hickoryridgehoa.org](http://www.hickoryridgehoa.org)*

*Look for signs at the entryways and stay in touch with your block captain.*

*Who is your block captain? I'll help you find him/her. Email [meredith@hickoryridgehoa.org](mailto:meredith@hickoryridgehoa.org)*

## Welcome Our New Student Journalist!

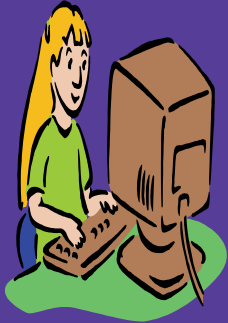
Hi! My name is Amelia Leslie, and I'm a new journalist. I have 2 brothers and a two year old golden retriever named Lucy. I'm ten years old, and in fourth grade. I love animals and hope to be a vet someday.

I may act a little crazy; that's because I'm growing up with 2 brothers, and no sisters. I absolutely love to read and write. I love music, too; it's one of my favorite things in the world. I spend my time playing soccer and gardening. I also love spending time at my aunt's house and my grandmother's house. I honestly do not know what to say next so, so long for now!

### The Buzz at Borchardt

By Amelia Leslie

Here at Borchardt, spring break has sadly come and gone. Back to work. Our fabulous fourth graders have braved the harsh writing TAKS, (I know the labor, I'm a fourth grader after all!) Recently, there was a carnival to celebrate Ruth Borchardt day, and Borchardt's tenth anniversary. There was a train ride, cake, stickers & tattoos (washable, of course), fun games, and other amusing entertainment. Ruth Borchardt day is a day to celebrate Ruth's birthday, even though she is no longer with us. As you can guess, our school was named after her because she taught practically her whole life. There's a Frisco street, cheeseburger at Scotty P's, and elementary school named after her. Her son, Mack Borchardt, is the current fire chief in Frisco. 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades all have the TAKS tests coming up. Wish them good luck! We also have the Kindergarten Roundup for incoming kindergarteners on Monday, April 11th through Friday, April 15th from 9:00 - 2:00 (until 7:00 on Tuesday). That's the buzz at Borchardt! So long for now!



Want to be the featured Hickory Ridge "Good Kid" for the next newsletter?

Email [meredith](mailto:meredith@hickoryridgehoa.org)

@[hickoryridgehoa.org](mailto:hickoryridgehoa.org)

## Friendly Reminders from the HR HOA Board

**The primary purpose of a Homeowners' Association is to ensure that all properties within the community are maintained in such a way that property values continue to increase.** Many homes in our Hickory Ridge neighborhood are in need of some maintenance and repair. As you know, proper maintenance of each residence is crucial to the overall appearance of any community.

The Hickory Ridge governing documents Article VII Section 7.1 State, "*All owner & occupants of any lot shall have the responsibility, at their sole cost & expense, to keep their lot in a well maintained & attractive condition at all times.*" Some of the items that fall within these guidelines are: fences, front doors, yard and landscape beds, any woodwork on your home, arbors, etc.

Please take the time to assess the current state of the following items at your home:

**Fence:** If you stained your fence upon moving into your home, you have the responsibility to continue to stain it to keep it up to property standards.

Many homeowners re-stain their fence yearly, and it shows. Also, if your fence is in disrepair,

it is also your responsibility to repair it to good condition.

**Front Door:** Many front doors are showing the effects of the harsh Texas sun. Most doors in our neighborhood are in need of re-staining if they have the original stain job. A few hours (or a good painter) are all it takes to restore your front door to its proper condition. Color and stain should be in accordance with the neighborhood. If you are unsure of the color or stain, please check with the ARC before updating.

**Address Plaques:** Are your house numbers aged and fading? A magic marker or a little black paint is all it takes to make sure your house numbers are visible from the street to emergency vehicles. Are there shrubs growing out of control and your house numbers can't be seen anymore? Please tame those shrubs!

**Wooden Shutters/Beams/Arbors:** Many homes in our community have wooden shutters or posts that require re-staining to maintain them properly.

**Landscape Beds:** Owners have the responsibility to remove weeds and grass from landscape beds as well as any dead shrubbery. Shrubs should also be trimmed and kept from being overgrown.

*Please take the time to properly maintain your home.  
It benefits you as well as our entire community.*

## *Chocolate Biscuit Cake*

*From our neighbor, Darren McGrady*

*aka*

## *The Royal Chef*

*In honor of the royal wedding this month Darren would like to share the recipe for the groom's cake as chosen by Prince William. Darren prepared this cake for the royal family many times during his tenure as Princess Diana's personal family chef!*

### **Chocolate Biscuit Cake**

Makes 1 cake (10 portions)

4 ounces dark chocolate (for the cake)

4 ounces granulated sugar

4 ounces unsalted butter (softened)

1 egg

8 ounces Rich Tea biscuits

½ teaspoon butter for greasing

8 ounces dark chocolate (for coating)

1 ounce chocolate (for decoration)

1. Lightly grease a 6 inch by 2 ½ inch cake ring and place on a tray on a sheet of parchment paper.
2. Break each of the biscuits into almond size pieces by hand and set aside.
3. Cream the butter and sugar in a bowl until the mixture starts to lighten.
4. Melt the 4 ounces of chocolate and add to the butter mixture whilst constantly stirring.
5. Beat in the egg to the mixture.
6. Fold in the biscuit pieces until they are all coated with the chocolate mixture.
7. Spoon the mixture into the prepared cake ring. Try to fill all of the gaps on the bottom of the ring because this will be the top when it is un-molded.
8. Chill the cake in the refrigerator for at least three hours.
9. Remove the cake from the refrigerator and let it stand while you melt the 8 ounces of chocolate.
10. Slide the ring off the cake and turn it upside down onto a cake wire.
11. Pour the melted chocolate over the cake and smooth the top and sides using a palette knife.
12. Allow the chocolate to set at room temperature.
13. Carefully run a knife around the bottom of the cake where the chocolate has stuck it to the cake wire and lift it onto a tea plate.
14. Melt the remaining 1 ounce of chocolate and use to decorate the top of the cake.

# Around Town Events

## Vacation Safety School

[www.plano.gov](http://www.plano.gov)

Vacation Safety School is free and a lot of fun. Sign-up is April 15<sup>th</sup> and they usually fill up within an hour! Interested parents can sign up at 909 14<sup>th</sup> Street (Police Headquarters) or at the police substation next door to Davis Library, 7501-A Independence. It's usually a good idea to sign-up in person! You must have the signed original application before a child is accepted. Visit the website, [www.plano.gov](http://www.plano.gov) for more information!

## Public Information Meeting Notice

The Plano community is invited to attend a public information meeting from 6pm-8pm on Wednesday, April 13 at Russell Creek Park to discuss a proposed Plano Youth Soccer and City of Plano Soccer and Park Support Building at Russell Creek Park. For more information about the proposal, [click here](#). Russell Creek Park is located at 3500 McDermott Road in Plano.

## Summer Camps and Activities

[www.planoparks.org](http://www.planoparks.org)

[www.friscofun.org](http://www.friscofun.org)

[www.friscoisd.org](http://www.friscoisd.org)

[www.russellcreekymca.org](http://www.russellcreekymca.org)

