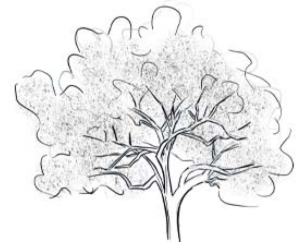




Gardens of Oak Hollow

A SMALL COMMUNITY WITH A BIG HEART

Neighborly News



Number 081

27 February 2024

HOA Election

HOA General Meeting 6PM, Tuesday, March 26

Just in case there is another neighbor who is consider running for one of the HOA Executive Board positions: President; Vice President; Treasurer; and Secretary, please be sure to let Zane know in the next week.

Paper Ballots

When all of the candidates have identified, paper ballots will be prepared and delivered to your doorstep. Remember, only one ballot per household. If you are unable to attend the General Meeting, be sure to submit your ballot to Zane ahead of time. Since Zane is not running for re-election, he has agreed to gathering the ballots. At the General Meeting, the paper ballots will be gathered, combined with the absentee ballots and counted.

Community Wide?



Heading

Recently I heard a couple of neighbors talking about holding their own garage sales before summer sets in.

It occurred to me that other neighbors may be interested in doing a bit of house / garage cleaning and making a little cash selling off their excess. If we all set our own garage sales for the same day we could advertise a "Community Garage Sale".

Any Interest?

If you are interested in this idea, let me know. We can figure out where to go from there.

email: carita@gardensof oakhollow.com

Texas Recognition Month



When I began this article, I had the thought of writing about some of the important events in Texas History that occurred in March. Two of the most notable days are:

- March 2, 1836: The Texas Declaration of Independence is signed at the Convention of 1836 at Washington-on-the-Brazos.
- March 6, 1836: Colonel William B. Travis and the Alamo defenders are overwhelmed by Santa Anna and his Mexican troops.

Soon, I was wondering if "Texas History Month" was official, or just what my History teacher had called it. I soon was lost down a different 'rabbit trail'.

I ended up at Chapter 662 of the Texas Government Code "Holidays and Recognition Days, Weeks, and Months". I did not find anything surprising in the first two subchapters, "Holidays for State Employees" and "Legal Holidays".

However, the other three subchapters listed the official Texas Recognition Days, Week, and Months. I strolled through this document and noted a few things.

Recognition Days

The earliest notation in this document was "added by Acts 1993, 73rd Legislature" and specified five dates:

- January 6 - Sam Rayburn Day
- April 9 - Former Prisoners of War Recognition Day
- 2nd Monday of October is Columbus Day
- November 3 - Father of Texas Day
- May 22 through May 26 is International Trade Awareness Week

There are now more than 40 Recognition Days including "Dr. Hector P. Garcia Day", "National Day of the Cowboy", "BRAVE Day", "Master Sergeant Jonathan J. Dunbar Day", "Blue Tie Day", and many more.

The most recent additions were added in 2023

- June 28 - Special Forces Day
- March 4 - COVID-19 Heroes and Memorial Day

Recognition Months

- In 1999, the 76th Leg. added "July is Buffalo Soldiers Heritage Month"

- In 2003, the 78th Legislature unanimously passed amendment which proclaimed: "March is Texas History Month".

So my History teacher was ahead of her time. Now March is officially "Texas History Month". So get out your old history books and re-read a few chapters.

One Liners

THE LIGHTER SIDE



- I told my doctor that I broke my arm in two places – he told me to stop going to those places.
- This is your captain speaking, AND THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SHOUTING.
- Before you criticize someone, walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you do criticize them, you're a mile away, and you have their shoes.
- I was at the park wondering why this frisbee kept getting bigger... and then it hit me.
- Two fish in a tank, one looks at the other and says, "How do you drive this thing?"
- Evening news is where they begin with "Good evening," and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.
- When I met my now wife, I asked if she was vegetarian because she really loved animals. She responded, "No, I just really hate vegetables."
- I know they say that money talks, but all mine says is "Goodbye."
- I have an inferiority complex, but it's not a very good one.

- What do you call a lazy kangaroo? A pouch potato.
- My wife and I laugh about how competitive we are. But I laugh more.
- My wife told me to stop impersonating a flamingo. I had to put my foot down.
- Have you heard about the guy who stole the calendar?! Well, he got 12 months!

Time Change



I don't know about you, but every time we have to change our clocks, I grumble to myself (OK, not always just to myself!) about why can't we just leave it on the REAL time.

So, when I ran across this article in the Saratoga Today Newspaper, it put "time" in a new light on "real" time for me. So, I thought I would share it.



Mar 10
Forward 1 hour

High Noon

Local time once was set by the noon mark. Noon was defined to be the time at which the sun was directly overhead. This meant, for every approximately 69 miles travelled west, the moment of noon differed by four minutes.

For example, the clocks in Boston were set about three minutes ahead of clocks in Worcester, MA. This was all well and good, so long as one never left home, or only

travelled north and south, but the idea of long-distance travel became more accessible with the advent of the railroads.

Railroads

On May 10, 1869, the era of trans-continental rail travel across the United States had begun. But did the trains run on time then? And if they did, who was to say, because whose time did they run on?

By 1879, there were about 500 railroad companies through the country. These companies defined their own time system, based on the local time of one of the cities in their region. To travel just from Portland, Maine, to Buffalo, New York, took passengers through four different time systems. Something had to change.

Father Time (Zones)

In 1868, Charles Ferdinand Dowd, a Yale graduate from Madison, Connecticut, together with his wife, Harriet Miriam North, moved from North Granville to Saratoga Springs where they established the Temple Grove Ladies Seminary. He put his mind to the problem of trains and timetables.

He did consider the uniform national time, as adopted in England, but studying solar times for 8000 locations across the United States revealed time differences of up to 4 hours, so this was impractical.

National Time

In October 1869, Dowd presented a plan to the Convention of Railroad Superintendents, and, following their approval, in 1870, published a pamphlet entitled "System of National Time for Rail-Roads". In it he proposed 4 regions across the country, with "Washington Time" the standard time for Atlantic States. (He later modified this to start at the 75th meridian west of Greenwich, to stop arguments over

Washington or New York). Similarly, the Mississippi Valley States would be one hour behind Washington Time, Rocky Mountain States two hours behind and Pacific States three hours behind. These divisions were based on approximately 15 degrees of longitude, and within each division, the time would be uniform.

Resistance

Unsurprisingly, there was reluctance to adopt the suggestion. Railway companies and their associated cities were unwilling to cooperate. Albany, New York City and Montreal were only different by a minute, but all insisted on keeping their own times.

13 Years to Implement

Dowd persisted with promoting his ideas. On November 18th, 1883, at 9am, the regulator clock at the Western Union Telegraph System building in New York City was stopped. After precisely three minutes and 58.38 seconds the clock was restarted, and this was the birth of Eastern Standard Time. During the day, a similar event happened at three other locations across the country to start Central, Mountain Standard and Pacific Times.