

MAYOR'S MESSAGE June 2020

PRETTY PURPLE FLOWERS!?



*"And behold, it was completely overgrown with thistles. Its surface was covered with nettles
Proverbs 24:31 NAS '77*

Are Thistles Good or Bad?

The answer to that question really depends on who you are talking to. Many ecologists consider the thistle as a beneficial plant. Surprisingly, the leaves and stalk are edible after removing the thorns, the purple flowers attract bees which in turn aids in the pollination of other plants, birds eat its seeds, and native thistles are thought to crowd out the wild non-native species. The thistle is the national flower of Scotland as well as Lorraine in France. If the thistle has so many virtues, why is it so disliked by ranchers, farmers, and many home owners? Wild thistles such as Milk thistle and bull thistle can have serious impact on rangeland and pastures. Wild thistles can cause nitrate poisoning in cattle and sheep, they reduce forage where cattle graze, and when they are uncontrolled can produce significant green weight by competing for moisture with beneficial plants. Thistles also have spines and prickles that make the plant noxious when one comes in contact with the leaves, stalk ,or flower.

Controlling Thistles

Plants can be manually removed by cutting just below the ground. Young plants can be removed by a hoe while mature plants may be removed by brush cutters, shovels, or loppers. Protective clothing is required (remember the spines and prickles). Many authors recommend removing the heads before cutting the plant. Once the flower is fully developed the seeds may mature and then be spread by handling or wind even after being removed from the stalk. Avoid cutting the heads and leaving them exposed to the environment. Herbicides are effective in controlling the spread of thistles when applied early and in an effective and safe manner. Contact a county extension agent, botanist, or a chemical dealer who has experience with different types of herbicides. If you use herbicides, be sure to follow the instructions on the label, using only appropriate concentrations of the chemical. Precautions should be taken to not harm flowering plants and grasses, pets or cattle in the area being sprayed. TimberCreek Canyon (TCC) is experiencing an inordinate number of thistles this year. Residents should be aware of this increase and make a concentrated effort to reduce the number of thistles around your property. Again, be safe when handling these plants or using chemicals to control them.

Covid-19: Condition Red Continues

The Board of Aldermen will meet Thursday, June 11th and ammend the disaster declaration concerning the corona virus and will follow Governor Abbott's guidelines for abating the effects of the corona virus in our area. As most of you are aware, Amarillo and the upper Panhandle continue to be a hot spot for the virus but thankfully the number of new cases is declining. Hopefully, Condition red will be down graded to Condition Yellow in the next couple of weeks as the number of new cases decline and the number of recovering cases increase. Be safe: continue to wear a mask when out in public, practice social distancing, and wash your hands often.

TCC Village Day

The TimberCreek Village Day picnic originally scheduled for June has been moved until September. The exact date will be set at the next Aldermen Meeting and posted in the July Mayor's Message.

Next Board of Alderman Meeting

The next Board meeting is scheduled for June 11th and is open to anyone interested in attending. You may use your computer, tablet or phone to attend. Log on information will be posted in the next Mayor's Message.

Items that are on the May 14th Board agenda that may be of interest to residents of TCC:

1. DISCUSS AND PROPOSE FINAL CHANGES TO ORDINANCE 2020-3, AMENDING THE VILLAGE OF TIMBERCREEK CANYON CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 9 - BUILDING
2. DISCUSS AND PROPOSE AMENDMENTS TO THE VILLAGE OF TIMBERCREEK CANYON CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 10 - TRAFFIC
3. DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON ADDITIONAL FUNDS COMMITTED TO J. SHEHAN ENGINEERING FOR SURVEY SERVICES OF PROPERTIES THAT ARE TO BE TRANSFERRED TO/FROM THE VILLAGE
4. DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON FORMAL AGREEMENT WITH TIMBERCREEK CANYON PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION REGARDING GATEHOUSE
5. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON CONTRACT WITH FLATLAND MEDIA CO. FOR WEB DESIGN AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES
6. DISCUSS AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH RANDALL COUNTY FOR 2020 CESF PROGRAM FOR CORONAVIRUS RELATED EXPENSES
7. REVIEW AND DISCUSS OUTCOMES OF VILLAGE CLEANUP DAY - MAY
8. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER POTENTIAL TIMBERCREEK CANYON COMMUNITY BUILDING

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Timbercreek Canyon Regular Meeting

Thu, June 11, 2020 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/786650965>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: +1 (786) 535-3211

Access Code: 786-650-965

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UPCOMING DATES 2020; Mark your calendar!

TCC Village Day – Moved to September

FireWise Picnic – TBA

Fall Village Clean Up – October 3rd