

Ranch Reporter



Volume IV, Issue 3

Spring, 2009

City Council Election, Saturday, May 9

Below is information about the two candidates running for Place 3 on the Garden Ridge City Council. I did not want to show favoritism by placing the information provided to me by one candidate on the front page and that provided by the other on the second page, so I decided to put them side-by-side on the first two pages of this newsletter. Kerry Ledford, Newsletter writer.

Joseph M. Marchino II, Colonel, USAF (retired)

Occupation, Employer: Human Resources Director, Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph AFB

Education: B.S. in Engineering Mechanics from the United States Air Force Academy, M.S. in Aeronautical Science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Hometown: Vincennes, Indiana

Family: Wife: Becky (married 33 years); Daughter: Jennifer Marie, 31; Son: Anthony Joseph, 26

Civic Involvement: Order of Daedalians, Stinsons Flight #2; Military Officers Association of America, Alamo Chapter; AF Academy Association of Graduates, Alamo Chapter; Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church.

After 30 years of Air Force active duty service and 14 moves, for the first time in our adult lives my wife and I had a choice in where we could live; the Lord led us to Garden Ridge. I am very grateful for the warm reception and tremendous support I've received from throughout the city during my campaign. I've been encouraged by the many residents who have expressed their thanks just for the opportunity to have a choice in this election. I represent a new generation of residents, bringing a fresh perspective to the Council to meet the challenges of the next decade. I would passionately provide an independent voice to the Council, with allegiance to no group or special interest other than the good citizens of our community, refusing to accept the status quo as the way forward. I am motivated by a deep sense of selfless service to others. I bring leadership, uncompromising integrity, and character profoundly rooted in Christian values.

(continued on next page)

Jim Young, Colonel, USAF (retired)

Occupation, Employer: Retired, currently serves on the Garden Ridge City Council

Education: B.A. in Personnel Management from the University of Nebraska, M.A. in Public Administration from Ball State University.

Hometown: Stockton, California

Family: Wife: Trellis Grimes (Lt Colonel, USAF, retired, of Atlanta, GA). Daughter: Natalie Young, who lives in San Jose, CA; Son: MSgt James Young, USAF, assigned to Brooks AFB.

Civic Involvement: City Council since June 1999; Garden Ridge/Bracken Lions Club; Garden Ridge Cellular on Patrol member; Forest Waters Neighborhood Association; Forest Waters Club; Resurrection Baptist Church.

I have been in office since 1999. That may seem like a long time, but the mayor and city council members through continuity have accomplished a great many things for the citizens of Garden Ridge. These accomplishments include:

- ✓ When it was evident that the Edwards Aquifer could no longer support the water needs for the growth of the city, the city drilled a well through the Edwards Aquifer into the Trinity Aquifer. This is now the city's main source of water, and the Edwards Aquifer is now our secondary source. We are still exploring ways to secure more water for the city.
- ✓ The city, seeing a need for a place to have meetings and other functions, built a Community Center which was completely furnished by donations.
- ✓ The city built a new City Hall complex, which includes offices for administration, police, public works, and a new library. *(continued on next page)*

Joseph Marchino (continued)

We live in a beautiful community of warm, friendly people; certainly among the best in the San Antonio Metro area. My opponent has stated he considers Garden Ridge a "sleepy hollow," and would like to keep it that way; it reminds me of the billboards for Gruene: "Gently resisting change since 1872." But change is most assuredly coming to Garden Ridge. Next year, for the first time ever we're going to have a school in Garden Ridge; at the same time we will make the giant leap of no longer being a one-stoplight town. We need to plan and prepare for change.

The population of Garden Ridge has nearly doubled in the last ten years, greatly exceeding the current capacity of local businesses to service the population. I'd lead an effort to encourage further growth and development, bringing more businesses offering services to the local city area. Also, as reported by our homeowner's association, there have been two Georg Ranch homes burglarized since last October. The City allocated \$900,000 of its 2009 budget to law enforcement. I'd like to work with the Chief of Police to see if it's possible to utilize that same \$900K more efficiently, such as in training to enhance investigative skills and more frequent random unpredictable roving patrols as a deterrence to further break-ins. If it's possible without raising the tax rates, we could even pursue increasing our law enforcement officers' salaries to not only improve retention, but maybe even provide them the opportunity to not just work in Garden Ridge, but live here as stakeholders in the community.

Jim Young (continued)

Regarding his qualifications for the position, Jim says "I have over 30 years of experience working in human resources, plus over ten years in local city government, combined with my involvement in community activities. I believe this experience, combined with my strong leadership background, will continue to enable me to impartially represent the interests of all citizens and make sound decisions based on all the facts in all matters."

Jim says that the major issues facing Garden Ridge include access to water and managing the city's growth. About the water issue, Jim says that "The Edwards Aquifer was our main source of water until we drilled a well into the Trinity Aquifer and obtained a second source of water. The Trinity is now our main source and the Edwards Aquifer is our secondary. I will continue to seek out additional sources of water to accommodate the growth of our city." Regarding the city's growth, Jim says "If re-elected, I will continue to work toward managing the city's growth and development by increasing the support infrastructure."

Show Your Patriotism! - Georg Ranch Flag Program

Kerry Ledford, a resident of Georg Ranch and the writer of this newsletter, has program to display the American flag through the local Knights of Columbus Council that he is a member of. For \$24 per year, Kerry will put a 1-foot piece of PVC pipe in your front yard, and then on six holidays per year will come around sunrise and put a 10-foot flag pole with an American flag in that hole, and then pick it up around sunset. The six holidays are Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, and Veterans Day. This Knights of Columbus Council puts out over 100 flags on these holidays, mostly in Schertz and Live Oak. You might have seen these flags displayed at the Forum if you have been there on one of these holidays. The profits from this program go to charitable causes in our community. If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact Kerry at 656-1873 or kledford@satx.rr.com.

Next Property Owners Association Meeting

The next meeting of the Georg Ranch Property Owners Association will be held on June 17, 2009 at the Garden Ridge Community Center. One of the agenda items will be the election of a POA Board member. More details to follow.

New Web Page Information

For the benefit of our residents, we are now soliciting recommendations for the following services: babysitters, house sitters, and pet sitters. We have had one resident who is volunteering to do baby sitting: Ashley McClain, 21922 Las Cimas Dr., 651-9813. If you would be interested in performing one of these services, or you would like to recommend someone, please email me at kledford@satx.rr.com. If you can think of any other similar services that you would like me or the property management company to keep a list of, please let us know.

New Group Forming

A resident is trying to form a **Georg Ranch Harley Davidson Bikers** group. Anyone interested in joining and taking a trip around his neck of the woods, contact Conan Fox at conan@texaszorros.net.

Reminders to residents

- ✓ Remember to not feed the deer. This is not good for them in several ways.
- ✓ All sprinkler system back flow valves are required to have an annual inspection on file with the city. There are a couple of companies listed in the recommended businesses which could do this.
- ✓ Be careful of snakes. If you capture one, you can take it to the Snake Farm, on I-35 toward New Braunfels. If you are having a problem with snakes, you can call the City for assistance.

New Georg Ranch Residents

Guillermo and Magdalia Marin, 21942 Castano Cove, and Kevin and Charlotte Matthews, 9006 Cinnabar Court.

<i>Property Owners Association Board Contacts</i>	<i>Committee Chairpersons</i>
<p>President: Vann Riley, vriley@baishelectric.com Vice President: Ken Kneupper, klkneupper@yahoo.com Secretary/Treasurer: Dorothy Hopkins, pinky5754@aol.com Member: Luke Green, lgreen8@satx.rr.com Web site: http://www.georghranchpoa.com</p>	<p>Amenity Center Committee: Patty Lamberson, pattylamberson@gmail.com Safety Committee: Social Committee:</p>
<i>POA Management Company Contact</i>	<i>Newsletter Contact</i>
<p>The contact information for our POA is: Diamond Association Management & Consulting 6391 De Zavala Road, Suite 223D San Antonio, Texas 78249</p> <p>Phone: 210-561-0606 Fax: 210-690-1125 E-Mail: damctx@aol.com</p>	<p>The Writer/Editor for this newsletter is: Kerry Ledford, Ph.D. 21921 Las Cimas Dr. Garden Ridge, TX 78266 Phone: 210-656-1873 Email: kledford@satx.rr.com <i>Kerry is available for writing and editing work.</i></p>

Resident-Owned and Resident-Recommended Businesses and Services

Listed below are the resident-owned and resident-recommended businesses and services that I have been informed of. Appearance in this list does not constitute endorsement of a business or service by the Property Owners Association.

Resident-owned:

Aramendia Plumbing, John and Anne Aramendia, 654-1034.

Century 21 Realty, real estate agent and professional home stager, Denise Shepherd, 274-1910.

David Ballard, CFP, ChFC, CMFC, Financial advisor, Waddell & Reed, Inc., 826-0685, x102.

DIGIKIDS, a missing child recovery program, Jentry Poss, 200-8458, www.digikids-id.com.

Estate Liquidation, Lynda Martinez, 651-7593.

Farmers Insurance, Robert "Bob" Martinez, 349-2631.

Karlton Travel, travel agency, Tony and Karla Silva, www.Karltontravel.com.

LiquorMax liquor store, Lewis Syring, in the HEB center at I-35 and FM3009, 590-6299.

North East Air Conditioning, Heating, and Plumbing, Linda McClain, 658-0111.

Schertz Chiropractic, by Shipley's Donuts near I-35 and FM 3009, 646-6000.

Superior Homes Realty, Rose Delaney, Owner/Broker, 455-6895.

Voter registration - Denise Miner-Williams, a resident and deputy voter registrar, will provide help if needed. 651-9823.

Resident-recommended:

Affordable Blinds, Don Dickey, 654-6600 or 830-980-8092.

APM Landscape and Design, including sprinkler systems, 9124 Hampton Hills, Selma, 490-3174.

B & B Landscaping and Lawn Care, complete landscaping and design, tree and shrub trimming, 637-0964.

Five-Star Home Inspections, Mark Eberwine, 654-8833.

Garden Ridge Pet Sitter, Tami and Scott Schmitz, 651-6035.

Guajardo Grass and Landscaping, also sprinkler work, Gregory Guajardo, 494-8328.

Michael Howard, expert lawn service, 263-9612. Good work and very reasonable.

Invisible Fence of San Antonio (pet containment), 979-7387, www.invisiblefence.com.

Landscapes by Johnson, Jerry Johnson, 410-7347.

Master Service Pest Control, 410 E. Lindbergh Blvd., Universal City, 659-3875.

Mr. & Mrs. Alba, housecleaning,, 662-9564.

Mr. Erwin, Inc., air conditioning and heating, 1008 Beckett St., San Antonio, 349-4081.

Sterling Group Realty, Scott Varney, 17156 IH-35 N, Schertz, 945-2230.

TC Heating and Air Conditioning, 325-5014. Fast response, good service at a reasonable price.

Tri-County Sprinklers, 403-3898.

Ultra Power Service, lawn mower repair, 116 E. Lindbergh Blvd., Universal City, 658-8850.

Vacek Home Visions, home network/communications/security, 159 Louisiana Ave., N.B., (830) 708-1426.

Water softener/filter, BioTech Water Researchers, Hank Deutsch, 12612 Nacogdoches, San Antonio, 599-0048.

Westlund's Pest Control, 830-931-6330.

Any other recommendations of residents are solicited and appreciated. If an individual or company has given you excellent service for a reasonable cost, you will be doing them and our community a favor by spreading the word. Please give your recommendations to Kerry Ledford at 656-1873 or at kledford@satx.rr.com.