

ELE NEWSLETTER

April 2018

TEXAS SPRING IS

HERE

e have so many people transplanting themselves to Texas, many may not know about our State Flower, the Bluebonnet.

The Bluebonnet was named the official state flower of Texas in 1901. Lupinus Texensis or the Texas lupine is a species of lupine endemic to Texas. Bluebonnets have emerged! They are densely arranged on a spike with a characteristic ice white terminal tip. In recent years some pink bluebonnets have been developed.

Throughout the state, along roadsides and in uncultivat-

ed pastures, you can see fields of blue. The local entities have seeded the roadways in some locations. Left on their own, without humans picking or trampling on them, Bluebonnets will reseed themselves year after year. Thus leading to magnificent expanses of blue. As the blue begins to fade, the bright red Indian paintbrushes often appear to take over the work of colorizing the fields. If you're lucky, you will see swaths of both bluebonnets and Indian paintbrushes, and perhaps other Texas wildflowers such as Crimson Clover, Evening Primrose, Mexican Hats, Eggs and Butter, and many



more.

In our area, the second or third week of April is usually the height of bloom for these beautiful flowers. It seems to be a Texas tradition to plant your children or pets in the middle of a patch of bluebonnets and play photographer. Many believe there is a law prohibiting the picking of the State flower. There is no such law, but there are laws the t pertain to the parking along roadways and private property in order to enjoy the flowers.

Our April Yard of the Month is known for it's annual Bluebonnet bloom. Be sure and check it out.



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he home of Rick and Ginger Johnson at 3511 Lake Powell was chosen for the March Yard of the Month. The striking red-orange tulips were hard to ignore, standing so tall and elegant.

Rick says that he plants new ones every year, as you have to down in our area. The heat and humidity to not provide an environment for the tulip bulbs to naturalize. So, every year he purchases new bulbs, digs many, many holes and sets the bulbs, hoping for a beautiful Spring bloom. He said he was pleased with how well they blossomed this year.

Rick and Ginger are long time residents

of ELE, moving here in the early 80's. He is a retired endocrinologist in Arlington and Ginger is a retired teacher and administrator. Both she and Rick love



Tulips this bright are usually only found in Holland.

to travel, though travel is now usually closer to home. They enjoy taking their travel trailer to local state parks.

The Johnsons reared two daughters here, and now enjoy spending much of the time now with their four young grandchildren. The little ones love to come over to spend time with their grandparents to swim and play.

The front yard is not the only beauty spot Rick has. In his backyard, the azaleas make the area a little slice of heaven. And, he says he does enjoy the work that

brings these Spring beauties.

april yard of the month

avid Powell and Michelle Kurtz bring joy to the neighborhood with their

annual display of Bluebonnets. While biking in the Hill Country of Texas one year, David decided he must try these flowers. So he acquired a few seeds and here we are today.

bees, breathing in the heady aroma of so many beautiful flowers. And, best of all, if asked, David is glad to share seeds to

> those wanting to spread the beauty.

Their home at 3516 Lake Pontchartrain is best know for it's bluebonnets, but there are other beautiful blooms, including iris, lilies,

roses and azaleas.

And, in summer their fig trees produce huge fruit that has been known to end up in a neighbor's jam jars!





tures with their children, their dogs and of course, selfies. One neighbor reports she went simply for the smell, standing amongst the blooms, bees and bumble-

ELE HOMEBOY IS RISING RECORDING STAR

Jackson Christenberry

had never thought about pursuing music as my career until I was working at a local church youth group in college and they threw me up on stage because their worship leader left. I had only been playing guitar for about a month, just learning off YouTube, and had never ever sang before. Let's just say it wasn't pretty. My fiancé who was there during this time lovingly talks about how it was one of the worst parts of her week to come and listen to me sing and play guitar. I pushed through that hard time though and eight months of lessons, practice, and experience later, I felt like this music thing might be something I should look into. Four months later I was leading on average about five services a week. This meant

Christenberry's latest releases:

"Home" "We Are Free"

I was getting tons of experience in a very short amount of time.

During this time I started writing music of my own. It took me about a whole year of writing, re-writing, tweaking, and all



that jazz before I thought I had anything even vaguely worth sharing. Over the course of three years I got about 10 of my best songs together and my incredible community helped me get the money I needed to start recording them professionally. I've released two singles now under my artist name "Christenberry" which is my last name on all music consuming services, whether streaming or purchasing. The response has been incredible to see. It is one of the biggest joys of my life as a songwriter to hear about how people are being inspired by my work.

My first single "Home (feat. Hannah Kirby)" talks about never being able to run far enough away that God would forget about you. It is easily one of my favorite songs I've written because of how close to my heart that idea is. I'm not a perfect person. I mess up, and when I do, I go running for the hills to try and avoid my problems. One night I caught myself doing that and God reminded me that even though I was doing all that running, His arms were still open wide.

My second single "We Are Free" is just a good old fashioned hoe down to celebrate the great joy that is to have hope in the midst of our circumstances and the way that the world around us can remind us of that truth.

I am still in the process of finalizing all of the songs as far as mixes go, so I don't have an official release date just yet, but be looking for my album to drop sometime in May. And if you ever need some entertainment for an event you are hosting, I love playing house shows, especially in my own neighborhood!"

People can connect with me on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube by searching "Christenberry Music". Right now the biggest thing I need is to just get my music in front of people whether that's at a house show, a restaurant, or a local venue. Would love to be a resource to people for any entertainment and music needs they might have.



lease get your graduation information in.

We know that surely we have more than one young person graduating from High School, College, Kindergarten or other this spring. But, that is what has been received so far....one lone graduate!

Send information and picture(s) to

communications@elehoa.com.

Thanks!!



We have had some new neighbors move into our neighborhood in the last couple of months, but not enough information to formally introduce them yet. But, if you can, take a minute to welcome them:

Christopher & Lannie McClelen

3906 Lake Powell Dr.

Jeffrey A. Whitacre

7002 Big Bear Lake Dr.

Tan Van Nguyen & Phuong Lan Thi Nguyen

3508 Lake Powell Dr.

Christopher Rivera

3500 Enchanted Circle

ELE ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

It's that time again-

On May 19, ELE will have a neighborhoodwide garage sale. Every household that wants to participate is in charge of their own sale. The ELE HOA will be placing ads in the local paper and digital sites, and putting signs outside of the neighborhood about the sale.



MAY 19

We'll have maps of participating homes and balloons

for mailboxes. Let us know at Social@elehoa.com or Grounds@elehoa.com if you will be having a sale.

It is suggested that following your sale, you contact Mission Arlington (817-227-6620), or the charity of your choice, to pick up any unsold, donation-worthy items.

Take advantage of this opportunity to spring clean. We have had huge responses in the past.