



The City of Cedar Hill, Texas

February 2010

Website offers more interaction

The City of Cedar Hill has rolled out a new, larger version of their popular website at www.cedarhilltx.com.

The new site includes some innovative ways for residents to interact with City government. "We are always adding new online services," said Public Relations Manager Corky Brown. "Our residents can pay water bills, pay municipal court tickets, order a traffic accident report and do a number of other things online at their convenience."

There are thousands of pages of information on the site, thankfully there is a very efficient search function.

The site represents the City's Council's commitment to help keep residents informed and encourage their engagement in the community.

The site has an "I Want To..." button that helps residents adopt a pet, apply, contact, file, pay, report, request, suggest, view, volunteer or vote. "This is a great idea we 'borrowed' from the



City of Grand Prairie," said Brown. It's a very easy way to get involved in the community, or just solve your problem.

One the new features is a "What's On Your Mind" button that lets site visitors easily make complaints or suggestions about anything related

Cedar Hill PD hosts K-9 field trials

The Cedar Hill Police Department is hosting the 2010 United States Police Canine Association Region 20 Field Trials March 15-19.

On March 17 and 18, between 1 pm and 6 pm everyone is invited to watch officers and their canines certify and compete at the Trinity High School Stadium at 1231 E.

Pleasant Run Road.

Admission to the event is free. It is a great opportunity to see police officers and their well-trained K-9 partners demonstrate the skills needed in their various roles of drug detection and suspect apprehension.

The United States Police Canine Association is a national organization that allows

police canine officers to bring their canines before a panel of U.S.P.C.A. judges and certify in narcotics detection, agility, obedience, article search, tracking, suspect search and criminal apprehension.

The field trials are an annual event that draws 20-40 police canine teams from across North Texas.

Cedar Hill's Officer McCorkle works with Jax during trials last year at an area competition.



Sign up for alerts

The City of Cedar Hill has a new way to contact residents by phone for severe weather warnings, hazardous traffic or road conditions, and other situations that impact the safety, property, or welfare of our citizens.

To make sure you get the message, the City is asking residents and businesses to visit the Connect-CTY website, below, and add your contact information. It will not be sold or available to telemarketers.

<https://portal.blackboardconnectcty.com/welcome.aspx?eiid=1207B6088C3678A06B79>

Saturday, March 6th, 2010

10 a.m. 2 p.m.

Citywide

Neighborhood Block Party & Rec Center Anniversary

The first 500 guests to arrive will receive a free T-shirt!

ENJOY GAMES, PRIZES, HEALTH & FITNESS DEMONSTRATIONS, TOURS, POLICE K-9 UNIT, FIRE SAFETY PRESENTATIONS AND MUCH MORE!

Admission is FREE!

Celebrating 5 Fabulous Years
of Food, Friends, Fellowship & Fun for All

Presented by:

The City of Cedar Hill, Parks & Recreation, Neighborhood Services & the Cedar Hill Neighborhood Advisory Board



Santa makes it a 'grand' Christmas

An anonymous donor identified as "Santa" included a check for over \$1,000 in a Christmas card sent to the Tri-City Animal Shelter and Adoption Center in Cedar Hill.

"Santa" wrote that he was saddened by the loss of one of his pets during the past year, yet happy to welcome a new rescued pet. Apparently Santa's new pet came from the Tri-City Animal Shelter.

Shelter Manager Alissa Prelis said this card and donation are similar to a gift re-

ceived last year. "Last year it was a heart-warming surprise" she said, "and we were amazed to receive another generous gift this year."

"What a wonderful way to support a very worthy cause," said Corky Brown, Public Relations Manager for the City of Cedar Hill. "With city budgets as tight as they are, this donation to benefit our furry little residents is very much appreciated. It is encouraging to see people who are committed and involved in their communities."

The Tri-City Ani-

mal Shelter serves Cedar Hill, DeSoto and Duncanville and is funded by all three cities. A new building for the Shelter opened earlier this year.

The Tri-City Animal Shelter is at 1150 E. Pleasant Run Road in Cedar Hill.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon. - Fri. and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays. The main number is 972.291.5340.

Interested in volunteering at the Shelter? Contact Friends of Tri-City Animal Shelter at 972.291.1198 or at www.friendsoftri-cityanimalshelter.org.

Citizens Police Academy signup opens; classes meet March 11 thru May 27

The 2010 Citizens Police Academy is a 12-week course, meeting on Thursday nights starting on March 11. Classes will meet from 6:30-9:30 p.m.. The last class will meet on May 27 and the C.P.A. Graduation will be Thursday June 3, 2010.

This class is a great way to learn about the functions and responsibilities of the Cedar Hill Police Department and its role in making Cedar Hill one of the safest communities in the metroplex. Each week different topics will be covered with guest instructors from the PD demonstrating their equipment and discussing their methods.

Included are demonstrations by the award-winning Cedar Hill K-9 units and the Emergency Response Team (SWAT) among others.

Graduates of a CPA class are eligible to participate in Citizens on Patrol groups and join the Citizen Police Academy Alumni Assn. To signup, call Officer Lawrence Byrd at 972.293.5284 x2206.

Residents save with ambulance subscription

An emergency trip to the hospital in an ambulance can easily cost over \$700. To help residents deal with that cost, the City of Cedar Hill offers an optional ambulance subscription plan that reduces your cost for emergency ground ambulance transport.

For only \$60 per year the City of Cedar Hill will bill your primary insurance carrier or Medicare. Whatever amount is not covered by either one will be written off by the City.

This program covers ground emergency transport to an emergency room. It covers dependents living in your home up to age 25.

Citizens on Medicare do not qualify for this program.

You can make your payment by check, cash or money order. An installment plan is available which allows you to pay a \$5 assess-

ment each month on your water bill.

Enrollment forms are available at

the Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd. and the fire station at 1212 Belt Line.

The City of Cedar Hill, through the Emergency Medical Services provided by the Fire Department, is committed to providing quality, affordable emergency ambulance care as a service to all residents of Cedar Hill.



Traphene Hickman Day Proclamation...



Mayor Rob Franke reads the proclamation for Traphene Hickman Day during the January 12 City Council Meeting.

Whereas, Traphene Hickman has epitomized the spirit of devoted community involvement by serving Cedar Hill in many different capacities for over 50 years; and

Whereas, Traphene Hickman's active volunteer community service, leadership and civic organization involvements have included service as Interim Director for the Zula B. Wylie Library, Interim Librarian for W.S. Pementer Middle School, President of the Cedar Hill Chamber of Commerce, Cedar Hill Bicentennial and Sesquicentennial Chair, Evangelism Chair for the First United Methodist Church, and Northwood Cedar Hill Women's Board President; and

Whereas, the City of Cedar Hill Prides itself in exuding distinctive character with that small town feel. Traphene is a living legend and example of the character the City would like to retain and that many citizens admire and desire to emulate; and

Whereas, Traphene knows no strangers, gives of her time, resources and possessions and reveres every person as a child of God; and

Whereas, Trapene, while serving as Interim Library Director, has always exhibited service with a smile and is well known and liked for her vibrant personality so much that others g out of their way to be around her; and

Whereas, Traphene is loved, admired and appreciated by the City of Cedar Hill, the community at large and all those who know her,

Now, therefore, I, Rob Franke, Mayor of the City of Cedar Hill do hereby proclaim Tuesday, January 12, 2010 as TRAPHENE HICKMAN DAY in Cedar Hill, Texas.

Furthermore, Traphene continues her enthusiastic support of the Zula B. Wylie Library and the City of Cedar Hill and continues to provide her kitchen table for anyone interested for afternoon tea; and

Furthermore, I encourage each of you to imitate her integrity, strong work ethic, humility and sincere heart for others, remembering her service as a dedicated, respected, and valuable part of the Cedar Hill family.

Rob Franke, Mayor

Community Calendar

February

16 through April 13 Free Federal Income Tax Help by AARP

Tuesdays until April 13. 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Zula B. Wylie Library, 225 Cedar St., in the Meeting Room

AARP counselors will help residents deal with filing their federal income tax return. This is a free service, provided on a first come/first served basis.

20 Black History Month Celebration

2 p.m. Zula B. Wylie Library, 225 Cedar St., Meeting Room

23 City Council Meeting

6 p.m. Briefing Session, 7 .m. City Council meeting starts Cedar Hill Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd.

23 Investment Class - Morningstar Orientation

7 p.m. Zula B. Wylie Library, 225 Cedar St., Meeting Room

Morningstar Investment Research Center is a comprehensive online investing database. It provides independent opinion and data on more than 23,000 stocks and mutual funds.

Join us for an enlightening training session that will provide you with the skill you need to make the most of this online investing database.

March

1 Readers On The Hill

7 p.m. Zula B. Wylie Library, 225 Cedar St., Meeting Room

This month's discussion will be on THE COMMONER by John Burnham Schwartz. This bestselling novel is the mesmerizing, moving, and surprising story of a brutal and controlled existence at once hidden and exposed.

6 Citywide Neighborhood Block Party and Rec Center Anniversary Celebration

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cedar Hill Recreation Center 310 E. Parkerville

This community celebration takes over the entire Rec Center and spills out onto the grounds. Food, fun, fellowship for all. Enjoy games, prizes, health and fitness demonstrations, tours, police K-9 unit exhibition, fire safety demonstrations and much more. Great family event.

8 Last day to file application for position on May 8 election ballot

For more information contact the City Secretary at 972.291.5100 ext. 1011 Cedar Hill Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd.

9 City Council Meeting

6 p.m. Briefing Session, 7 .m. City Council meeting starts Cedar Hill Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd.

11 Citizens Police Academy Begins

6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Thursdays through May 27

Police and Community Service Center, 601 E. Belt Line Road

This program is a a great way to learn about the functions and responsibilities of the Cedar Hill Police Department and its role in making Cedar Hill one of the safest communities in the metroplex.

13 Hazardous Household Waste Collection

9-11 a.m. Cedar Hill High School parking lot.

For information about acceptable items and recycling options, please visit www.cedarhilltx.com/hhw

Visit the calendar on www.cedarhilltx.com for more events.

To submit your community organization's activity to be considered for this Community Calendar and to be listed on the City's website, please email complete info (including date, time, location, a contact number or email) to corky.brown@cedarhilltx.com.

Contacts

After hours
972.780.6643 Alarm

Animal Control
972.223.6111

City Administration
972.291.5100x1010

City Secretary
972.291.5100x1011

Code Enforcement
972.291.5100x1090

Economic Develop. Corp.
972.291.5132

Fire Department
Non-emergency
972.291.1011

Human Resources
972.291.5100x1050

Library
972.291.7323

Municipal Court
972.291.5100x1041

Neighborhood Services
972.291.5100x1084

Parks & Recreation
972.291.5100x1500

Parks Rain-outs
214.855.9758

Parks Special Events
214.890.6977

Police Department
Non-emergency
972.291.5100x2400

Public Relations
972.291.5100x1032

Public Works
972.291.5126

Recreation Center
972.293.5288

Senior Center
972.291.5353

Tri-City Animal Shelter
972.291.5335

Utility Billing
972.291.5100x1028

Rabies threat alert

January through March seem to be the most active months for sick wild animals to be seen. If a raccoon, skunk or fox is seen during daylight hours, please call dispatch at 972.223.6111 as soon as possible and give the exact location of the animal.

Animal Bite Safety

Texas State Law requires that an animal bite and/or scratch be reported within 24 hours to the local Animal Control Authority,



mainly because of the possible spread of the rabies virus. A domestic dog, cat, or ferret must be quarantined for 10 days during the rabies observation period (whether rabies vaccinations are current or not) or humanely euthanized and tested for the virus.

A wild mammal of any species that causes an unprovoked bite must be euthanized and tested.

Election date set, May 8

Mark your calendar: Saturday, May 8 is election day in Cedar Hill. Now is the time for action to make sure you are eligible to vote and or run for office.

Free elections are one of the greatest benefits Americans enjoy. Take advantage, get engaged.

Persons desiring to run for City Council can pick up application packets in the office of the City Secretary at Cedar Hill Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd.

Monday, Mar. 8 is the last day to file applica-

tion for position on the ballot.

Monday, March 15 is the last day to file for declaration of write-in candidacy.

April 8 is the last day to submit a voter registration application in time to vote at the election or to request a transfer of registration in time to vote in a new precinct not in the same county and territory.

Voter registration cards may be obtained at the front reception desk at the Cedar Hill Government Center, the Zula B. Wylie Library or any post office.

Monday, April 26 thru Tuesday, May 4 are early voting dates.

There will be three places up for election on May 8:

Mayor – this position is an at-large position, candidates are required to live within Cedar Hill.

Place 3 – must reside in Cedar Hill on the west side of Highway 67

Place 5 – must reside in Cedar Hill on the east side of Highway 67.



Published by the
City of Cedar Hill
Corky Brown,
Public Relations Manager
972.291.5100.X1032
corky.brown@cedarhilltx.com

Website features more features

from front page

ing, fire and police, schools, natural features, trash pick up, park trails and more.

Coming soon is an online citizen reporting system, an interactive experience that will enable residents to request City services, like inspecting code violations and more.

The software automates how requests are handled, prevents calls from being lost and will keep residents in the loop with updates as their request is handled. Code Enforcement issues will be available first, services of other departments will be added soon.

"This new way of handling requests for service will streamline the process and keep residents informed," according to Brown.

One of the most

popular places on the City website is online employment. That's always among the City's most frequently visited locations. Another popular page is the Recreation Center with information about membership and special classes.

Brown explained that the popular City site gets over 10,000 hits in an average week, with that number growing month to month. "We have found that over 25% of our residents are using the site to pay water bills," Brown said.

"Online payments are so much more convenient for residents and they are more efficient for City staff to process. It's a genuine win/win." City officials note that the website is a valuable tourism and relocation tool.