



**CEDAR HILL**  
The City of Cedar Hill, Texas

October 2011

## Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center Opens

The day finally arrived. After years of planning, fund raising, negotiating and acquiring land, the Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center at Cedar Hill (DCAC) opened to the public.

Sunny skies, but a cooling breeze, greeted visitors as they stepped off the shuttle buses from the parking at Uptown Village. Visitors of every age took in the 6,400 sq. ft. Doolin Visitors Center building and its beautiful natural surroundings.

There was a learning area in the woods for kids, demonstrations and programs in the center's rooms with views. Many enjoyed visiting the gift shop and the adjacent canyon observation room.

DCAC Director Dr. Patty McGill was very pleased with the turnout "We think this is just the beginning of some great adventures."

DCAC is a partnership between the City of Cedar Hill and Audubon Dallas. It consists of over 200 acres of important wildlife habitat and a



**LEFT:** WFAA's Good Morning Texas show welcomed Mayor Rob Franke and supporters from our community to promote DCAC in Cedar Hill, just a few days before the public opening.

**BELOW LEFT:** DCAC's theme of 'a wild & special place' was reflected by Allison Thompson of our Economic Development Corporation, David Hurt, who pioneered Dogwood Canyon as a preserve, and Carolyn Skeels, Shonda Johnson and Clifton Felts representing Parks & Recreation.

**BOTTOM LEFT:** KTVT meteorologist Jeff Jamison did his afternoon weather broadcasts from DCAC in Cedar Hill before the grand opening. Sometimes a turtle was the star.



**A City ordinance requires yard sales and garage sales to be registered online at [www.cedarhilltx.com](http://www.cedarhilltx.com) or by calling 972.291.5100 x1090. Register online or call by Thursday to get on the list.**

**It's free and it will advertise your sale on the list published Fridays on the city website at [www.cedarhilltx.com/garagesale](http://www.cedarhilltx.com/garagesale).**

*Continues on page 4*

# City Council OKs budget & more

At the Sept. 13 meeting, the Cedar Hill City Council held a public hearing on the 2011-12 Capital and Operating Funds budgets, adopted the budgets and set a rollback tax rate of \$0.6862 (per \$100 of value).

The regular agenda included adoption of the 2009 International Fire Code.

City Council members approved a contract for ADA modifications at the Senior Center and at the Zula B. Wylie Public Library.

Also, they approved an ordinance requiring food-serving establishment managers to have a Food Manager Certification and other workers to have a Food Handler's card.

## Citizens Forum

During the Citizens Forum, one resident spoke on dangerous dogs and another on a perceived crime increase on a street in High Pointe.

Among several plats and plan approvals was

the site plan for an Aldi's food store on the northeast corner of Belt Line and Joe Wilson Road.

There were seven public hearings on the agenda. Two of them were on budgets and 5-year plans for the High Pointe and Waterford Oaks Public Improvement Districts. The PID budgets drew a couple of citizens with questions about the annual assessments. Mayor Pro Tem Daniel Haydin explained that the assessments were the same as in past years, but the letter that is required by the State implies that it is a rate increase. It is not.

## Hope Mansion

One hearing was on a request by a representative of Hope Mansion requesting a conditional Use Permit to operate a maternity home within a local retail district on Mt. Lebanon Road. The request was approved.

A representative of property owners desir-

ing to add a studio retreat to a home in an area zoned SF-E (single family-estate) requested a conditional use permit. After the public hearing, City Council members asked City staff to draft possible revisions to the zoning code.

The last public hearing involved a request by Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar requesting a one-hour extension on the sale of alcoholic beverages on Sunday nights. Council Members expressed concerns about the number of police calls to the bar, however, the request was approved.

Official minutes of City Council meetings are available as soon as they are approved, typically at the next meeting, at [www.cedarhilltx.com/agenda](http://www.cedarhilltx.com/agenda).

See the Calendar on the City website for the dates of upcoming meetings.

## Growing Green

It's good for you, the community and the environment

- Starting January 8, 2012, every residence will receive a free 96-gal. recycle cart
- Trash and recycling will be picked up on the same day, once a week
- Brush and "green waste" will continue to be picked up once a month

### Benefits:

Less trash going to landfill, less air pollution, fewer trucks on our streets and alleys. Visit [www.greecedarhilltx.com](http://www.greecedarhilltx.com) for info.



Stay up to the minute; follow Cedar Hill on Twitter



[twitter.com/cedarhilltx](http://twitter.com/cedarhilltx)

## Images...



## from the 9/11 ceremony at Uptown Village

First responders participated from 10 area cities including Cedar Hill, DeSoto, Duncanville, Lancaster, Midlothian, Red Oak, Glenn Heights, Waxahachie and Ferris.



**ACCESS Cedar Hill**  
Click on this button on the City website at [www.cedarhilltx.com](http://www.cedarhilltx.com) to find answers and request services from the City.



September 11, 2001



Rhodes, McSwain, Banta, Pritchett, Hammell, Thompson, Ballard

## Lifesavers honored

Police Chief Steve Rhodes was joined by Fire Chief John Ballard and Assistant Police Chief Rodney Thompson to present Life Saving Awards to four officers at a recent City Council meeting.

On July 4 the four officers saved the life of resident Jarvis Pierce who was found at the bottom of the pool at Crawford Park.

According to reports, Officer David Banta was patrolling late and drove into Crawford Park. He saw several people inside the fence at the swimming pool, which was closed.

He was told that Pierce could not swim and was at the bottom of the pool. Banta radioed for assistance.

As Banta prepared to enter the pool, Pierce was pulled out of the water by his friends.

Officer Ann McSwain arrived and help open Pierce's airway as Banta began CPR.

Sgt. Norman Hammell arrived on the scene to assist, and Officer Thomas Pritchett relieved Banta until paramedics took over the care of Pierce.

He was transported to an area hospital, where he ultimately recovered.

At the award ceremony family members were invited to pin the Life Saving Award bars on the officers.

Everyone at the meeting gave the officers a standing ovation.

## Recent City Council meeting

August 30, 2011



Cedar Hill's Zula B. Wylie Public Library was awarded the Texas Municipal Library Directors Association 2010 Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award for the fifth consecutive year. On hand for the presentation were: Elaine Cook, Library Board & Library Friends Board; Lee Ruth Bryant, Library Board & Library Friends Board; Kathleen Cervenka, Library Manager; Mary Sadowsky, Library Board; and Jana L. Prock, President-Elect of TMLDA.

# Community Calendar

[www.cedarhilltx.com/calendars.aspx](http://www.cedarhilltx.com/calendars.aspx)

## October 2011

### 07 Old Settlers Reunion

4:30 -8 p.m., Historic Downtown Cedar Hill

An evening of fun, friends and family under the big tent. Join the fun and witness the beauty of long-term friendships and the joy of making new friends.

### 08 Country Day on the Hill

10,000 visitors jam historic downtown Cedar Hill for a good old-fashioned fall festival with great things to eat that are not on your diet. Visit [cedarhillcountryday.com](http://cedarhillcountryday.com)

### 10 Some City offices close at noon for Cedar Hill Day at the State Fair

City offices in the Government Center, the Public Works Service Center and the Senior Center will close at noon. The library, recreation center and animal shelter will be open regular hours.

### 11 Rec Center Member Appreciation Day

6:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center, 310 E. Parkerville Rd. Employees at the Center will give gifts to members to show their appreciation.

### 11 City Council Meeting

6 p.m. Briefing Meeting, Regular City Council Meeting begins at 7 p.m. Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd., First Floor, Cannady Room Watch your City Council members in action. Tell them what you think during the Citizens Forum. The agenda is posted 72 hours prior at the front door of the Government Center and online at [www.cedarhilltx.com/agenda](http://www.cedarhilltx.com/agenda).

### 22 Hazardous Household Waste Disposal

9 a.m. -11 a.m. at the high school parking lot

It's easy! Just drive through, we unload your car and you get rid of environmentally harmful materials safely. Visit [www.cedarhilltx.com/hhw](http://www.cedarhilltx.com/hhw).

### 25 City Council Meeting

6 p.m. Briefing Meeting, Regular City Council Meeting begins at 7 p.m. Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd., First Floor, Cannady Room

### 29 Scare on the Square

3 p.m. in Historic Downtown

Old-fashioned Halloween fun during daylight hours for kids and parents. Enjoy the costumes, spooky stories and treats without the tricks. Instead of house-to-house, kids can go business-to-business in the downtown area.

### 29 Fall Family Festival

6 p.m. - 9 p.m., Recreation Center 310 E. Parkerville Rd.

Free family-friendly Halloween alternative includes food, games, prizes, bounce houses, music, freebies and more. This event is co-sponsored by the Recreation Center and Building the Kingdom Community Church. For more info, call 972.291.4837.

## November 2011

### 8 City Council Meeting

6 p.m. Briefing Meeting, Regular City Council Meeting begins at 7 p.m. Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd., First Floor, Cannady Room

**For the latest updates, visit the City Calendar on [www.cedarhilltx.com](http://www.cedarhilltx.com) . Click on "View All"**

# Contacts

After Hours  
972.780.6643

Alarm Monitoring  
972.230.5248

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  
469.272.2903

Public Works  
972.291.5126

Recreation Center  
972.293.5288

Senior Center  
972.291.5353

Tri-City Animal Shelter  
972.291.5335

Utility Billing  
972.291.5100x1200

# Early voting

## for CHISD bond and TRE elections begins week of October 24

The Cedar Hill Independent School District Board of Trustees voted on August 31 to call a bond election and a Tax Ratification Election (TRE) on November 8, 2011. The \$53.5 million bond election is for facility improvements. The 13-cent Tax Ratification Election (TRE) is to make up for lost revenue from state budget cuts.

For details, please visit CHISD.com and select "TRE/Bond Elections" from the menu.

Dallas County will

have voting machines in the Government Center at 285 Uptown Blvd. beginning Monday, Oct. 24 for early voting.

### October hours:

**24 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**25 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**26 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**27 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**28 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**29 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**30 from 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.**

### November hours

**3 from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.**

**4 from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.**

The Constitutional Amendment/Joint Election will be held on **Tuesday, Nov. 8 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

## It's official: Cedar Hill named 'Scenic City'

Cedar Hill is one of just sixteen Texas municipalities that were awarded Scenic City Certification for 2011 by the Scenic City Certification Program of Scenic Texas.

The Scenic City Certification Program promotes the direct correlation between the success of a city's economic development efforts and the visual appearance of its public spaces.

Anne Culver, Executive Director of the Scenic City Certification Program, said, "Cedar Hill exemplifies the idea that by implementing strong scenic standards citizens can enjoy a higher quality of life and

businesses find it easier to attract customers and employees. This is a win-win situation for these cities, their residents and for the promise of future quality of life, and economic development."

Cedar Hill has been a Tree City USA for several years and received Gold Certification for its strong on-premise sign regulations.

The Texas cities certified as Scenic in 2011:

Benbrook, Buda, Cedar Hill, Fairview, Frisco, Grapevine, Heath, Horseshoe Bay, Hutto, Mansfield, McAllen, North Richland Hills, Pearland, Roanoke, Sealy and Trophy Club.



## Audubon opens from page 1

beautiful education and visitor center. They are expecting to reach 40,000 visitors a year, especially children, reinforcing the message of appreciation and protection of wildlife.

### Unique habitat

The distinctive terrain in Dogwood Canyon includes miles of trails showcasing a habitat that sustains the Metroplex's greatest variety of rare and endangered species of plants, animals and birds. The canyon is the only place in North America where one can find the Black-chinned Hummingbird of West Texas nesting in the Flowering Dogwood of East Texas.

### Green means action

Going green has been happening in Cedar Hill for a long time. Our residents enjoy nearly 1,000 acres of neighborhood parks and greenbelts, community parks and swaths of nature preserves.

Almost next door to DCAC, visitors can enjoy the adventures of Cedar Hill State Park and Joe Pool Lake, the second-most-visited park in the state.

Cedar Hill has been

recognized as a Tree City USA for years. Recently the city was named one of the most scenic cities in the state.

Protecting the natural beauty has shaped neighborhoods and retail development in Cedar Hill.

Maintaining natural beauty is important to Cedar Hill residents. One of the City's premier statements, used by the City Council to keep them on course, reads "Cedar Hill has vibrant parks and natural beauty."

### It takes vision

And the over-arching vision statement says "We envision Cedar Hill as a premier city that retains its distinctive character, where families and businesses flourish in a safe and clean environment."



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