

Highlands South earns \$1,000 grant

Members of the Highlands South Neighborhood Crime Watch group received a \$1,000 grant from the City of Cedar Hill for their neighborhood activities.

The grant will help reimburse funds spent for their Community Garage Sale, National Night Out activities and their annual block party in 2010.

The City Council

approved the grant Dec. 14 after the Neighborhood Advisory Board considered and approved the application.

The Neighborhood Matching Grant Program began in 2005.

The City provides matching funds to neighborhood associations on a 50/50 match basis up to \$1,000.

The program requires that expenses

must be intended to strengthen and improve neighborhood organizations, improve the appearance of City neighborhoods or advance inter-neighborhood cooperation.

Neighborhood Services Manager Patty Bushart said...

Applications are available online at <http://www.cedar-hilltx.com/index.aspx?nid=187>.

City boosts identity theft safeguards

The City of Cedar Hill has strengthened safeguards protecting against identity theft. The City has formally adopted the Federal Trade Commission's Red Flags Rule.

Using the Red Flags Rule gives a specific set of responses when certain account activity is detected.

The program strengthens the diligence of City employees who have been trained to watch for red flag events on an account that may indicate an attempt at identity theft.

"The new Red Flag rules take the level of awareness and our response to a new level, said Melissa Stephens, Asst. City Manager for Cedar Hill.

"Our actions not



only meet the FTC's requirements, but include proven practices from other utilities and protective measures we've had all along," she said.

Some of the procedures in place in Utility Billing include shredding documents, destruction of all handwritten applications and forms, locked files, and password-protected computers that are turned off overnight.

We remember our troops overseas

This year the Mayor's Adopt-A-Soldier program sent almost 100 packages full of useful

Government Center and filled them with desirable items for men and women soldiers serving away from home during the holiday season.

For only \$12 the City covered the

cost of the boxes and shipped them overseas. Some boxes were filled by individuals, some by families, some by several

co-workers, some by classrooms of students. Many took the time to include a personal greeting, a thank you or wished soldiers a safe holiday and return home.

The Adopt-A-Soldier program is available year-round, so pick up a box at the Government Center, fill it and let the City send it to a soldier in 2011.



items, snacks and best wishes from Cedar Hill residents. Many residents picked up the boxes at the



The Parade of Joy at Uptown Village kicked off the holiday season. See page 2 for more about holiday programs.

On December 2, WFAA-TV8 brought their Santa's Helpers program to Uptown Village at Cedar Hill to collect toys for the Salvation Army. Weatherman Pete Delkus hosted with on-air personalities Gloria Campos and Cedar Hill resident Greg Fields helping with the toy Drive.

Almost 2,000 toys were collected that evening, over 30% more than last year. As Mayor Rob Franke said at the event, "This is a giving town."

Dorinda Rupert from the Cedar Hill Fire Department reports:

"We had a total of 231 children & seniors who signed up for the ELF program this year. It was a challenge providing for all of them, but some very generous people made it possible.

"For years the ELF program, sponsored by Emergency Services personnel, police officers and firefighters, has provided gifts for children and seniors in Cedar Hill.

"Almost all the tags on Christmas trees around the city were taken but not all returned with a gift so we were fortunate to be able to buy 76 gift cards for those who didn't get anything. Over 40 children asked for bicycles but only 6 were bought.

"The Cruiser's had a car show for us in DeSoto, they donated a lot of toys! Country Day on the Hill gave us \$300 from the Old Settlers Reunion dinner.

"The Old Town Tree Lighting train ride donated over \$400 and we collected \$123 in donations that night for the Santa photos.

"Holy Spirit church in Duncanville had Breakfast with Saint Nicholas; they collected toys and they will also send us a nice check!

"Becky Miller with First United Church brought their group of children to visit us again this year. They have a bake sale to raise money each year and then they take the tags that were not taken off the trees and the children shop for them!

"If it weren't for those two church groups we would have been in trouble!

Patty Bushart, Main Street Manager for the City of Cedar Hill, reports more generosity:

"Fun on the Go Train, owned and operated by Darrell and Shelley Young of Cedar Hill has been a part of special events for the City, including Country Day, for as long as I have been associated with the City.

"Each year we hire them to operate the train for Holiday on the Hill. They, in turn, collect donations from train riders which they give back to the City for the ELF and Friends program.

They discount their services and always return more money to ELF than we pay them so it is a good thing all around."

'This is a giving town'



1 Pete Delkus on-air with Santa, **2** Greg Fields during the telecast, **3** Volunteers pack up toys at Uptown Village.

4 Holiday performances were popular at Old Town Holiday on the Hill.

5 Fun On The Go train lit up the night at Holiday on the Hill and brightened Christmas for many by raising funds for presents.



See videos at www.youtube.com/user/cedarhilltxvideo; photo galleries are at www.cedarhilltx.com/gallery.aspx

STAR students



ABOVE: Gianni Williams is a December CHSD STAR Student. She is a third grader at High Pointe Elementary and the proud daughter of Jacqueline Williams. She plans to attend college and then medical school to pursue her goals of becoming a doctor. Her hobbies are singing, dancing, and shopping. When she is not learning at school, she participates in karate and serves as a member of "A League of Our Own" and Character Counts clubs at school.

BELOW: Phantasia Chavers is 11 years old. She moved with her family to Cedar Hill from Pleasant Grove, Texas in 2007. She is in her second year at West Intermediate. She wants to be a lawyer some day, so she plans to go to Harvard College of Law. In her spare time she plays the violin and volleyball. What she likes most about West Intermediate is the extracurricular activities. She is in Strings, a group that includes stringed instruments such as the violin, cello, bass, and viola.



City Photo Gallery shows our distinctive character

Have you noticed the "City Photo Gallery" link under "Popular Links" on the home page of www.cedarhilltx.com? This new feature has several galleries of photos taken at community events like Scare on the Square, Country

Day on the Hill, National Night Out and even a collection of photos from the great snow of early 2010.

Watch for new galleries to be added.

You can access the photo albums directly at www.tinyurl.com/cchphotos.

Community Calendar

January 2011

11 City Council meeting

6 p.m. Briefing Session, public meeting
7 p.m. City Council meeting
Government Center, Cedar Hill Room

11 Citizens Police Academy

6:30 p.m. Grady M. Lamb Bldg. 601 E. Belt Line
First of 12 weekly classes to increase citizen awareness of and understanding of law enforcement. More information and application at <http://tinyurl.com/CHPDclass>

12 Citizens Emergency Response Team Meeting

7 p.m. Fire Station at 1212 W. Belt Line
Monthly C.E.R.T. meeting. For more information on CERT please visit www.cedarhilltx.com/index.aspx?NID=1197

25 City Council meeting

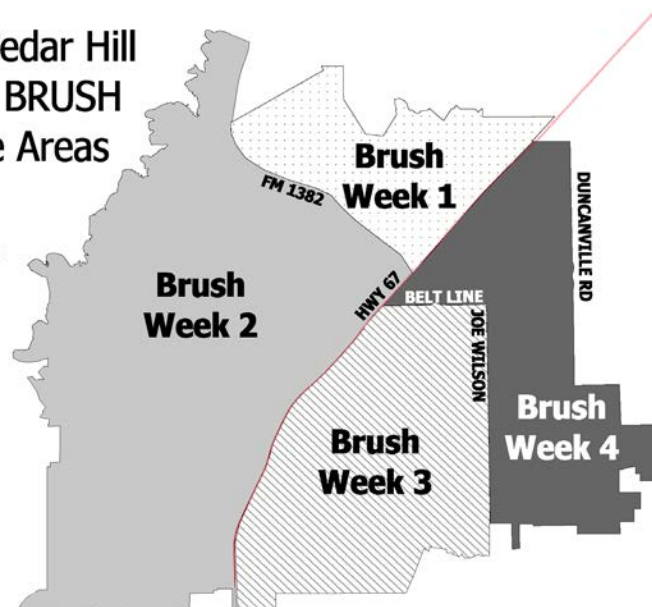
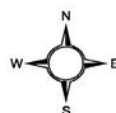
6 p.m. Briefing Session, public meeting
7 p.m. City Council meeting
Government Center, Cedar Hill Room

February 2011

8 City Council meeting

6 p.m. Briefing Session, public meeting
7 p.m. City Council meeting
Government Center, Cedar Hill Room

City of Cedar Hill Monthly BRUSH Service Areas



ABOVE is the brush pick up map. Each residence is picked up once a month. If, for example, your area is marked "Brush Week 2" your brush will be picked up at the street starting on the second Monday of the month. For more information on trash/recycling/landfill, please visit www.cedarhilltx.com/index.aspx?nid=882

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
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
972.291.5100x1200

Cedar Hill QB plays in Army's All-American Bowl

Cedar Hill High School Quarterback Driphus Jackson scored the top notch in his quest to land a spot on the U.S. Army All-American Bowl, played Jan. 8, 2011.



His win was captured in the final episode of the MTV2 show "The Ride" in December.

"The Ride" followed eight, under-the-radar, high school quarterbacks fighting for a spot on the bowl team and a chance at a Division 1 scholarship. Viewers got to see the grueling process the athletes went through as they were scrutinized by top coaches in the nation.

Jackson is a senior at Cedar Hill High School where he racked up 2900 yards passing, 500 yards rushing, 62% completion rate, 29

passing TD's and 2 rushing TD's during the Fall 2010. Jackson is a dual-threat spread offense quarterback who possesses quality arm strength and a whip-like release. He makes a lot of plays on the move. Jackson has offers from SMU, Baylor, Boise State, Minnesota, Rice, Colorado State, Navy, New Mexico, UTEP and Tulsa.



Tips from Ty

Ty Yount,
Sr. Animal Control Officer
Keep your pet safe and warm during the cold season

- Do not leave your dog outside unsupervised without a heated shelter. Just because your dog has fur, it does not mean he can withstand the cold. However, if your dog must live outdoors, provide a heated dog bed and adequate shelter.

- Small dogs or those with little to no hair should have sweaters or jackets for

protection against the cold. Keep food and water in a place where they will not freeze - preferably inside!

- Do not allow your dog to run across frozen bodies of water, he could fall into icy water if the ice is too thin!

- If your dog is in the cold and begins excessively shaking or shivering, get him back to warm shelter as soon as possible. If you suspect your dog is developing hypothermia, take him to a vet immediately.

- Avoid letting your dog eat snow or anything else on the ground. Dangerous objects or chemicals may be hidden in the snow. Also, eating snow can cause stomach upset and even hypothermia. Always keep fresh room temperature water available..

- Beware, antifreeze is highly toxic to your pet! Antifreeze tastes good to pets, but even a small amount can kill your dog.



Got a question or comment about your City services? Visit www.cedarhilltx.com and click on "What's on your mind"



The City of Cedar Hill sends warnings by phone for severe weather, hazardous road conditions and other situations that impact the safety of our citizens.

To make sure you get the message, even if you're not at home, the City asks that you visit the website below and add your cell phone and email address. If you have an unlisted home phone you will not receive City warnings by phone unless you register your number at the site below. Your information will not be available to telemarketers.

Messages are sent as recordings, emails and SMS text messages. Messages will always clearly indicate that they are from the City of Cedar Hill.

The City uses the regular white pages listing for home numbers, but we need residents to visit the website below and add cell phone numbers, unlisted numbers and email addresses.

<https://portal.blackboardconnectcity.com/1228101>



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[@cedarhilltx](https://twitter.com/cedarhilltx)



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