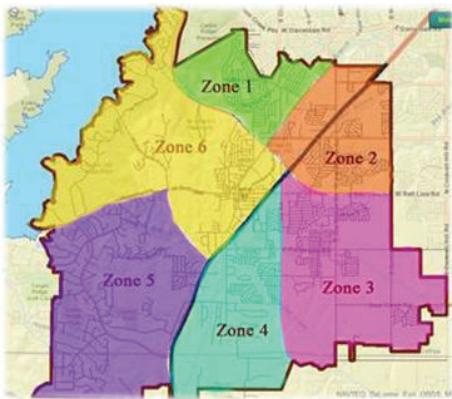


# February 2014



# HIGHLIGHTS



## City Council to meet SE neighbors

**Tues., Feb. 18 at 6:30 pm**  
**Cornerstone Church**  
**981 E. Parkerville Rd.**

Residents south of Belt Line Road and east of Clark Road are invited to the next neighborhood meeting with the City Council, set for Feb. 18.

Strong neighborhoods are the foundation of a strong city. Your Mayor and City Council members have scheduled six opportunities

*Continues on page 4*

## Election filing info

### Deadline to file applications for place on the ballot

Applications for a place on the City of Cedar Hill's Regular Election ballot must be filed by 5 p.m. February 28, 2014. The election will be held on Saturday, May 10. See additional information the front page of the City website at [cedarhilltx.com..](http://cedarhilltx.com..)

## Chamber honors Asst. City Manager Stephens Woman of the Year

A standing ovation confirmed the popularity of the Cedar Hill Chamber of Commerce's selection of our Melissa Stephens as 2013 Woman of the Year.

She received her award at the Chamber's annual meeting in January. She was introduced by Billie Ballengee, Woman of the Year for 2012.

Ballengee was flanked by previous award winners as she talked about what a great city Cedar Hill is for women who want to be involved. She spoke of Melissa's amazing track record of getting things done for the city:

Melissa joined the City of Cedar Hill staff in 2003 and serves as Assistant City Manager. In her role she oversees citywide sustainability initiatives, the City's budget development process and the departments of Utility Billing, Tri-City Animal Shelter, Cedar Hill Public Library and Building Maintenance.

Along with ACM responsibilities, Melissa currently leads the City of Cedar Hill's various Growing Green Sustainability efforts. Her work has won grants worth over \$2 million for City-wide Green projects.

She has coordinated the City's Sustainability Master Plan, a recycle-focused solid waste contract, the installation of a solar panel system on



**Melissa Stephens**

the roof of the Government Center to help reduce energy costs and a 4.5 kW wind turbine.

She drove the purchase of all-electric low-pollution Nissan Leaf vehicles and the acquisition of two grant-funded \$10,000 electric vehicle charging stations. She has overseen the acquisition of solar-powered trash and recycling compactors used in parks and other high traffic locations within the city.

Her current initiative is the city-wide water management and conservation AMI project which will make it possible for residents to monitor and control their own water usage.

Melissa is very passionate in seeing other women succeed and serve in leadership roles in and throughout the community. She leads various Women's History Month celebra-

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# Dog at large...



## Bad dog or a bad owner?

The Animal Control officers call them dogs at large. Most us call them "off the leash" or "loose dogs in the neighborhood". Whatever you call them, dogs roaming loose are a hazard to other pets and to residents in the neighborhood. But who let the dogs out?

City ordinances forbid allowing a dog or cat to be at large within the city. Just letting the cat out for a minute at night or letting the dog off the leash to run in the park or in the front yard can earn a citation of over \$160 including court costs.

The reason for this ordinance is simple. Your pet may be very affectionate to you but can turn aggressive to a person or another animal. Residents can expect to enjoy parks, trails, sidewalks and other public places without being threatened or attacked by a loose animal.

City ordinances also say "If a dog or cat is found upon the premises of another person, the person may confine the dog or cat in a humane manner until the local animal control authority impounds the dog or cat."

Once an animal is impounded, Animal Shelter staff will make efforts to contact the owner who will have to pay a fee of \$30 to \$100, plus a \$25 microchipping fee if one is not present. The owner will have to show proof of rabies vaccination within 3 business days and, if the animal is not sterilized, must show proof of such within 30 days.

### What can you do?

Residents who spot loose animals should call Animal Control at the non-emergency number: 972.223.6111. Calls are answered 24 hours a day.

For more information about the Tri-City Animal Shelter, please visit [cedarhilltx.com/animalshelter](http://cedarhilltx.com/animalshelter).

Don't put your neighbors, and their children at risk from an animal attack. Make sure your fence or enclosure is secure. Good neighbors control their animals. Do not let your dog off the leash to play in the park.

If you see a loose animal, take a minute and call it in. Do your part to keep your neighborhood safe.

If you've dropped your home phone you may no longer be receiving important messages from the City. Sign up at [cedarhilltx.com/citymessage](http://cedarhilltx.com/citymessage)

### Neighborhood know-it-all

Nextdoor is the private social network for your and your neighborhood. It helps neighbors keep in touch. Check it out at [Nextdoor.com](http://Nextdoor.com).

Have fun, make cash and give

## A yard sale with a heart

The "Neighbors to Friends Community Yard Sale (N2F Community Yard Sale is not your ordinary garage sale, according to Erica Molett, Cedar Hill's Economic Development Business Retention Manager and her husband Fred.

"We have fun, earn extra cash and provide a way for so many to give back to local charities" she said.

Their first event, held in November, proved that residents love the idea. Nearly 50 families and non-profits participated, donating \$120 and four truckloads of items to the Cedar Hill Food Pantry. Nearly 600 customers shopped.

On March 22nd, they plan to take the N2F Community Yard Sale - Spring Edition to the next level: more charity, more vendors, a section for kids, and food trucks.

Donations will benefit the Bridges Safehouse, which offers shelter, mentoring, and life skills classes to women seeking safety and a fresh start.

For only \$25, you will receive a space to sell items; a portion of that is donated to a local charity, along with unsold items.

Smile Workshop will offer free dental screenings to children and adults. For more information, contact Erica at [neighborstofriends@gmail.com](mailto:neighborstofriends@gmail.com) or call 214-779-4292.

Tinky Goehlke expressed, "I thought it was a wonderful idea to bring the city together to help the food pantry. Also we got to meet new faces and found new friends! Can't wait till the next one! Turnout was great!"

**Neighbors to Friends Community Yard Sale**

**March 22**

**Highlands Elementary**

**131 Sims Dr., Cedar Hill**

## People make it a community



**ABOVE** Abigail Camero, a senior at Cedar Hill Collegiate High School received the S.T.A.R. student award from City Council Member Daniel Haydin Jr. at the January 14 City Council Meeting.



**ABOVE** Longhorns and Tigers meet in a symbol of high school sportsmanship after Cedar Hill defeated the Katy Tigers for the 5A Div. II state championship at AT&T Stadium in Arlington.

**BELOW** Football Head Coach Joey McGuire (blue cap, lower left) holds the State Championship trophy much to the delight of Cedar Hill High School Athletic Director Gina Farmer (in red, center) CHHS Principal Tammy Mariani next to her and Senator Royce West. Interim Superintendent Dr. Ann Dixon is in Longhorn red at upper right.



### Free tax help from AARP

Every Tuesday from now until April 15, AARP volunteers will provide free help to residents with tax questions on Tuesdays from 10:30 to 2:30 pm in the Zula B. Wylie Public Library at 225 Cedar St. Bring your records. It's first come/first served.

# CALENDAR

For the most up-to-the-minute information on events, check out the City's online calendar by scanning this QR code with your smartphone. Free QR scanners are available in your phone's app store.



## February

### 18 Neighborhood Town Hall Meeting #3

6:30 p.m. Cornerstone Bible Church, 981 E. Parkerville Road

For residents south of Belt Line Road and east of Clark Road. Speak with your Mayor and City Council members; let them know your hopes and dreams for our community. Learn about the many services the City provides residents from representatives of many City departments.

## March

### 1 Citywide Block Party and Recreation Center 10th Anniversary

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Cedar Hill Recreation Center, 310 Parkerville Rd.

A fun-filled celebration for the whole family. Children's activities, entertainment, giveaways and more. Take advantage of learning about the many services and opportunities that Cedar Hill offers. Free souvenir Tshirts to the first 700.

### 16 Walk the Light Arts Festival

Noon to 10 p.m. in and around Historic Downtown

Enjoy a creative festival of display and performance art "Where Old Meets New"! And don't miss Beetlemania, the VW car show organized by derLuftkuhlers. Visit [cedarhilltx.com/walkthelightartsfestival](http://cedarhilltx.com/walkthelightartsfestival).

### 18 Neighborhood Town Hall Meeting #4

6:30 p.m. Cedar Hill Church of Christ, 535 S. Clark Rd.

For residents east of US67 and west of South Clark Road. Speak with your Mayor and City Council members; let them know your hopes and dreams for our community. Learn about the many services the City provides residents from representatives of many City departments.

### Local Election Filing Deadline

Persons wishing to run for office in Cedar Hill's Regular Election, scheduled for May 10, 2014, must pick up a filing packet in the City Secretary's office, 285 Uptown Blvd., Fourth floor and returned required information to the same office by Feb. 28, 2014.

Positions to be elected in the General Election are City Council Place 2 (must reside West of Hwy 67, a 3-year term) currently held by Daniel C. Haydin, Jr. and City Council Place 6 (must reside East of Hwy 67, a 3-year term) currently held by Clifford Shaw.

### City Council Meetings

Your City Council usually meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays monthly except for November and December. The most recent agenda is available at [cedarhilltx.com/agenda](http://cedarhilltx.com/agenda). Briefing sessions usually start at 6 pm and the City Council Meeting starts at 7 pm.



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[cedarhilltx.com/calendar/home](http://cedarhilltx.com/calendar/home)

# Council/Neighborhoods

From page 1

for residents to share concerns and dreams for their neighborhoods.

The two meetings so far have been well attended and residents have expressed their appreciation to City Council members and staff.

## City services

At these meetings, hosted by Mayor Rob Franke and the members of the City Council, residents get a brief summary of the neighborhood services provided by many of the City's departments. Then there is a short survey, with live responses, about perceptions of City services. Residents can choose one of several smaller breakout groups for one-on-one meetings with City Council members.

These meetings are set at locations in all parts of the city to make attendance more convenient for residents. Officials hope for a good turnout so they can collect first-hand information about what it will take to strengthen neighborhoods.

## Upcoming meetings

**February 18**, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Cornerstone Church, 931 E. Parkerville Rd. for residents in Zone 3, south of Belt Line Road and east of Clark Rd.

**March 18**, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Cedar Hill Church of Christ, 535 S. Clark Rd. for residents in Zone 4, east of US67 and west of South Clark Road.

**April 15**, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Ninth Grade Center, 1515 W. Belt Line Road, for residents in Zone 5, south of Mansfield Road and east of Lake Ridge Parkway and US 67.

**May 20**, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. location TBA, for residents south of FM 1382, east of US67 and north of Lake Ridge Parkway and Mansfield Road.

## What's it all about?

Meetings with neighbors help maintain Cedar Hill's small town feel, help the City focus services on needs expressed by residents and improve communication.

The goals are to learn the concerns residents have about their neighborhoods and find out what the City

## Woman of the Year *From page 1*

tions, and has most recently begun a community and City employee book read on Scheryl Sandberg's book *Lean In*.

Melissa was instrumental in coordinating the free Inspiring Women's Health event that was promoted by both Peggy Wilson and the MD Anderson Cancer Center.

## Keeping Cedar Hill Clean

If you care about keeping our city clean in cooperation with Keep Cedar Hill Beautiful or if you would like to provide valuable community service by helping with roadway trash collection, call Don Hughes at 972.765-4285. Teams work from 9-11 a.m. every Saturday.

## Alarm Monitoring

# 911SWRCC

For only \$25 a month, you can have your home or business alarm monitored by the same local professional staff that dispatches police and fire crews for the City of Cedar Hill.

Instead of your alarm notifying someone several states away, this system connects directly into our local 9-1-1 call center.

Saving seconds can save lives.

It's only \$25 a month and there is no long-term contract required. For more information contact SWRCC at 972.230.5248.

and neighbors can do together to bring about positive changes.

Each meeting gives residents an opportunity to speak with elected officials about their neighborhood priorities.

**Please check [cedarhilltx.com/neighborhood](http://cedarhilltx.com/neighborhood) for more information regarding dates and locations of these town hall meetings.**

Should you have any questions, please contact Stacey Graves, Neighborhood and Code Services Manager at 972.291.5100 ext. 1094 or [stacey.graves@cedarhilltx.com](mailto:stacey.graves@cedarhilltx.com).

## City Contacts

EMERGENCY 911

Administration 972.291.5100x1010

After Hours (Answering service)  
972.780.6643

Alarm Monitoring 972.230.5248

Animal Control 972.223.6111

Animal Shelter 972.291.5335

City Secretary 972.291.5100x1011

Code Enforcement 972.291.5100x1090

Economic Development 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  
972.291.5100x1094

Parks & Recreation 972.291.5100x1500

Parks Adult Rain-outs 214.855.9758

Parks Youth Rain-outs 972.480.5868

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

Tourism 972.291.5100 x1084

Trash & Recycling (Waste Management)  
800.772.8653

Utility Billing 972.291.5100x1200



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## HIGHLIGHTS

Published by the City of Cedar Hill

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