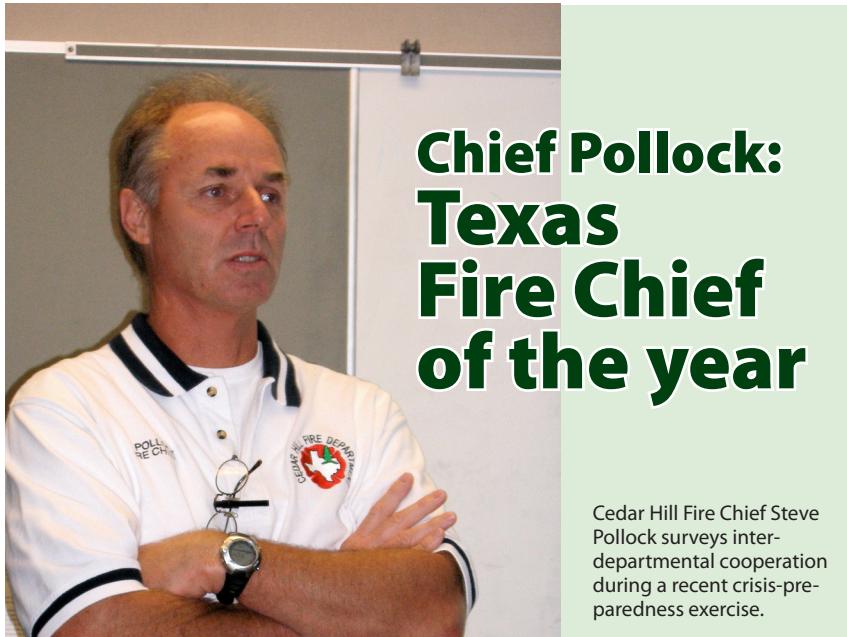




Highlights

The City of Cedar Hill, Texas

August 2007



Chief Pollock: Texas Fire Chief of the year

Cedar Hill Fire Chief Steve Pollock surveys inter-departmental cooperation during a recent crisis-preparedness exercise.

Our own Fire Chief Steve Pollock was recently named Fire Chief of the Year by the Texas Fire Chiefs Assn.

He was nominated in a letter signed by every firefighter in the depart-

ment. Chief Pollock was surprised and honored by the award.

City Manager Alan Sims said of the Chief, "He gets the fire fighters involved and they take ownership in providing

exceptional service delivery. He has done an incredible job."

Typical of Chief Pollock's leadership is the development of a five-year plan to identify areas to improve and plot a course to reach premier levels of service.

In addition to his service with the local department, Chief Pollock has been very active in statewide efforts to secure legislation supporting statewide mutual aid agreements allowing fire departments to work together.

To get a copy of the ordinance please call 972.291.5100 ext 1083 or download it from the City Planning page at www.cedarhilltx.com.

Tree ordinance takes root

Trees in our community can breathe a little easier now. The City Council, in July, approved a new tree preservation ordinance.

Spearheaded by Mayor Pro Tem Cory Spillman and implemented by the Planning & Zoning Department, headed by Rod Tyler, the ordinance restricts the removal of some trees during property development and requires new trees to be planted elsewhere or their loss mitigated by cash payments to the city.

Citizen and developers input was considered during the creation of this ordinance.

To get a copy of the ordinance please call 972.291.5100 ext 1083 or download it from the City Planning page at www.cedarhilltx.com.



Recycling and trash, providing better service

In just eight months the citizens of Cedar Hill have recycled over 1,600 tons of materials. Recycling does make a difference.

Last year, the City moved its recycling and garbage contract to Waste Management, Inc. to improve trash pickup and recycling services requested by citizens.

New recycle bins are available to every household, and it is now easier to remember to recycle because the designated pickup day is Wednesday for all citizens.

Cedar Hill residents can recycle **newspapers, mail, magazines, cereal boxes, catalogs, office paper, telephone books, chipboard, cardboard, aluminum and steel/tin cans, plastic containers (#1 and #2 HDPE and PET), and glass (clear and colored)**.

As more people recycle, the benefits become more obvious. Recycling saves energy as recycled metals cost less, and recycled plastics save petrochemicals. Recycling slows the fill rate at landfills and reduces litter.

Recycling 1 aluminum can saves enough energy to power a television for 3 hours or a 100-watt light bulb for 20 hours.

Pesticides or commercial chemical plastic containers can be disposed at semi-annual hazardous waste collections. Watch upcoming *Highlights* issues for more information.

Better trash service

Citizens are able to place up to 10 cubic yards of bulky brush at the curb every month on their designated pickup days, as well as one bulky item, such as furniture or an appliance, per pickup day.

The City also offers free entrance to the Skyline Landfill, via a coupon available at City Hall, to dispose of up to one truckload of garbage or brush.

Every month, citizens will be billed \$11.40 plus \$.94 cents for sales tax (Senior Citizens 65 and older pay \$8.38 plus \$.69 cents for sales tax) for these services on their City water bill.

For questions about your trash days or services, call Waste Management at 972.315.5400.



Dog days of summer can be deadly for pets

Even though it is hard to resist those pleading eyes and that wagging tail as you head out the door to run your weekend errands, it is in your pet's best interest to leave him at home. The inside of your car can reach a deadly temperature in a matter of minutes.

Pets left in hot cars, even briefly, can suffer from heat exhaustion, heat stroke, brain damage, and even death.

Symptoms of heat exhaustion or heat stress can include heavy/rapid panting, rapid pulse, unsteadiness, a wobbly gait, glassy eyes, a deep purple tongue and /or vomiting. If you suspect your pet is suffering from heat exhaustion, contact your veterinarian.



ian immediately. Your dog's condition can quickly become fatal.

If your pet stays outside, make sure he has plenty of fresh water and lots of natural shade. A doghouse is

a necessity when it rains or is cold outside (in fact it's the law), but without proper cross ventilation it may do little to keep your pooch cool on a 95° day. If your dog likes

water, investing in an inexpensive kiddie pool may be another way to keep him cool. Make sure the water is at a safe level and change it regularly to prevent mosquitoes.

For general questions or concerns about your dog or cat, or for a list of local veterinarians, please contact the Tri-City Animal Shelter and Adoption Center at 972.291.5335.



Country Day tradition grows; October 13 event marks 70 years

The 70th Annual Country Day on the Hill is fast approaching and the Friends of Country Day, Inc. along with the City of Cedar Hill invite everyone to make plans to join the festivities on Saturday, October 13, 2007 on the Historic Downtown Square in Cedar Hill.

This festival includes City, school, civic group, church, business and citizen volunteers.

Mark your calendars now, pull out your "period costumes" and enjoy the 70th Annual Country Day on the Hill come rain or shine.

This annual Fall festival celebrates the days when the original settlers of this small farming village looked forward to their weekly trip to town. Arriving in wagons and on horseback this was the gathering place to receive mail, visit with neighbors, catch up on the news of our great country, purchase and trade goods as well as receive medical treatment if necessary and attend church services.

Country Day on the Hill was started in 1937 by a small group of Cedar Hill citizens to renew old friendships. In the past few years crowds have been estimated between 8,000 and 10,000 visitors.

Parking is at the Cedar Hill High School with free Texas Trust shuttle service available to and from the festival throughout the day. Handicap parking is

located at Hughes Chapel on Church St.

Saturday starts early with the 7 a.m. Masonic breakfast. At 9 a.m. over 125 booths containing food and drink, artists and craftpersons

Country Day on the Hill
Downtown Cedar Hill
Saturday, October 13
Starts at 9 a.m.
Free admission
Free parking and shuttle service from the High School lot.
More information:
www.cedarhillcountryday.com

and a few surprises, will open, followed by the opening ceremony at 9:15 and the Lions Club parade at 10. The parade will be emceed by Fox 4's meteorologist Ron Jackson.

Applications and information for all of the above events may be obtained by calling Country Day at 972.293.4740 or on the web at www.cedarhillcountryday.com.



Library Award

Mayor Rob Franke presents Zula B. Wylie Library Director Pat Bonds with the "Achievement of Excellence in Libraries" Award from the Texas Municipal Library Directors Assn.. Only 20 libraries in the state, out of 565, earned this recognition for service to their communities.



Music in the Park

The three Quebe Sisters, bottom right, visit with fans during their appearance at the Cedar Hill Summer Music Series held in the Amphitheater at Valley Ridge Park. The free series is hosted in June by the Parks & Recreation Dept.

Artwork adds culture to the halls of City Hall

The walls of City Hall have become a gallery, hosting work by local artists and providing another free entertainment venue for the people of Cedar Hill.

In July, artwork on bovine skulls by Lupe Rodriguez startled City staffers.



Using a pen and ink process, he creates images with thousands of precisely placed dots.

Some of these images require over 130 hours of detailed work. His themes reflect Native American and Texana images.

The art at City Hall is selected and hung by members of the Visual Artists of Cedar Hill.

New art is hung in City Hall every month. City Hall is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Quick look around town



The Government Center on Uptown Blvd. takes shape on schedule. City and CHISD employees are scheduled to move in next summer.



Newly-promoted firefighter/engineer Chad Thomison gets pinned by his mother at a recent City Council meeting led by Mayor Pro Tem Cory Spillman.



During the Zula B. Wiley Library's Heavy Equipment Petting Zoo in July, several youngsters enjoy pain-free attention from Cedar Hill paramedics

Community Calendar

Cinema on the Square

Fourth Saturday of each month, 2 pm & 5 pm, City Hall, 502 Cedar Street. Bring the family to a double feature and enjoy FREE award-winning films. Call the library at 972.291.7323 for more information.

Art in the Park

Sept. 22, Oct. 27, Nov. 17, 12:30-5 pm, Pioneer Park, 600 Cedar at Houston St. Art show and sale. Watch artists create their work in historic downtown.

Cedar Hill Star Party

Third Saturday of each month, Sunset until 11 pm, J.W. Williams Park, 1065 High Pointe Ln. (Beside West Intermediate School) Telescopes provided by members of the Texas Astronomical Society of Dallas. For more information, please visit www.tasobserving.org. For status and cancellation information, call 214.800.6000.

October

Old Settlers' Reunion

Friday, October 12, 6-9 pm, Pioneer Park, 600 Cedar at Houston St. Gather together at Pioneer Park for dinner, bingo, prizes, live entertainment and the crowning of the King and Queen of the Hill.

70th Country Day on the Hill

Saturday, October 13, 9 am to 6 pm, historic downtown This Fall festival is filled with family-oriented activities: a parade, arts & crafts, food vendors, chili cook-off, belt sander races, 5K run, dog show, children's corner, live entertainment, and more.

Toyota U.S. Triathlon

Sunday, October 14, starts early at Lake Joe Pool. Athletes will swim near and transition to bikes at the Cedar Hill State Park boat ramp on the east side of the lake. The course will exit the park onto 1382 and follow 1382/Belt Line through Cedar Hill into Desoto. The triathlon will end in downtown Dallas. For more information visit www.usoptriathlon.com.

City Council meetings

are scheduled on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. Meetings are open to the public and citizens can address the City Council members during the Citizens Forum.

Comprehensive Plan Committee plots future

The people of our community have a say in how the City of Cedar Hill plans, develops and grows into the future.

The Comprehensive Plan Committee (CPC) is a group of 30 citizens, a cross-section of our community. This group has been meeting since April and continues to meet to learn more about community planning and growth and to provide diverse input to help direct the City Council and the City Planning Department as they develop the road map for our communi-

ty's growth for the next 5-10 years.

The group has been developing a vision statement, goals and objectives.

During meetings scheduled through the end of this year, topics will include Transportation Plan, Future Land Use, Neighborhood Livability, Community Facilities and Housing.

The CPC meets at the Cedar Hill Recreation Center. For information about meeting dates and times, please call the Planning Dept. at 972.291.5100 x1083

and ask to be placed on the list to receive email notices of upcoming meetings.

This volunteer committee will continue working well into 2008, including special workshops with the general public, the Planning & Zoning Commission and the City Council.

The objective is to present the P&Z and the City Council with direction from the people of Cedar Hill about growth, development and quality-of-life elements for our community in the future.

Contacts

After hours	972.293.4611
Alarm Permits	972.291.5181x1
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 <i>Non-emergency</i>	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 <i>Non-emergency</i>	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

Citizens participate in City government by serving on boards and commissions

The U.S. Constitution sets out principles for "government of the people by the people and for the people". Our founding fathers intended us to have a participatory government where individuals guided our governing bodies. That participation goes far beyond just voting for leaders.

Nowhere else is participatory government more evident than in the service given by citizens who serve on the boards and commissions of the City.

These people help provide direction for our elected City leaders and City staff. And they provide service to other citizens by helping interpret and apply ordinances and regulations established by the people of Cedar Hill.

Below are members of the 2007-2008 boards and commissions. They are all volunteers in government of, by, and for the people.

Parks & Recreation Board

Alicia Smith
Rick Cook
Kiphani Allen
Donna Deatrich
Shirley Goldsmith
W.L. Harris
Mark Cooks
Andre Carr
Dustin Ledbetter
Staff Representative
Steve Meadors

Tri-City Animal Shelter Advisory Committee

Melissa Bitting (DeSoto)
Pamela Shleif (Cedar Hill)
Donna McDonald (DeSoto)
Chris Rose, DVM (Cedar Hill)
Janie Blair (DeSoto)
Susan Hallock (Cedar Hill)
Brian Heard (Duncanville)
Dan Davis (Duncanville)
Tim Murphy (Duncanville)
Staff Representative
Alissa Robinette

Zula B. Wylie Library Board

Gene Neitzel
Betsy Simnacher
Charlotte Weatherford
Nella McCain
Jacquelyn Moore
Michael Holston
Lisa Thierry
Elaine Cook
Lee Ruth Bryant
Staff Representative
Pat Bonds

Neighborhood Advisory Board

Reginald Williams
Jan Lovell
Roy Salinas
Jerome Donaldson
Melissa Herndon
David Boatwright
Clara McGinnis
Richard Hicks
Staff Representative
Patty Bushart

Planning & Zoning

Timothy Hamilton
Bill Strother
Stephen Douglas-Mason
David Rush
Theresa Brooks
Gehrig Saldana
Todd Hinton
Staff Representative
Rod Tyler

Capital Impact Fee Advisory Committee

Scott Emmons
Greg Patton
Elton Long
Don McGee
Al Armistead
Michael Lemmon
Bernarders Woods

Industrial Development Corporation

Clifford Shaw
Makia Epie
Kim Lewis
Cory Spillman
Daniel C. Haydin, Jr.

Board Of Adjustment

John Austin
Jason Russell
Bud Brown
Mark Carroll
Patricia Nielsen
Wirt Jackson
Daniel Johnson
Staff Representative
Johnny Kendro

Building Appeals And Advisory Board

Jack Frost
Deborah Fulwiler
Mark Dale
Robert Kubica
Scott James
Joseph Pitt
Emmanuel Bacuyag
Tony Martin
Staff Representative
Johnny Kendro

Community Development Corporation

Donald E. Heitzman, Sr.
Don Ripple
Robbie Slotter
Cheryl Sundstrom
William Collins
Ruth Ann Bechdol
John Jackson
Ex Officio
James Charles
Staff Representative
Greg Porter

Economic Development Corporation

Gerald White
Dennis Brock
Johnny Wallace
William C. Strock
Mistic Underhill
Ex Officio
Angela Berry Roberson
Ed Purcell
Chamber of Commerce Representative
Francis Boyette
Staff Representative
Allison Thompson

Main Street Development And Preservation Board

Sheri Borth
Steve Phillips
Amanda Hall
Lois Cannady
Jerry Fulwiler
Randall Stewart
Russell Read
Norman Patten
LaQuenda Jackson
Staff Representative
Patty Bushart

Parks Foundation

Rob Franke
Robbie Slotter
Jerel Thomas

Home builders now required to register

In response to several homes abandoned by builders during construction in the Lake Ridge area, the City Council has established a builder registration ordinance.

Home builders failing to build within the city limits must secure a registration permit before beginning a new project.

According to Johnny Kendro, Building Official for the City of Cedar Hill, under the new ordinance a builder may be denied a permit if previous projects were not completed or did not meet City standards.

Projects not in compliance with the standards will be investigated by the City and, if upheld by the Building Appeals Advisory Board, a builder's permit can be revoked.

Kendro said the City will also report problem builders to the Texas Residential Construction Commission. Warranty requirements and stringent penalties are maintained by TRCC (www.trcc.state.tx.us).

"I wish more home buyers would do their due diligence and check out the information available from TRCC," said Kendro.



Published by the
City of Cedar Hill
Corky Brown,
Public Relations Manager
972.291.5100x1032
corky.brown@cedarhilltx.com