

September 2015



HIGHLIGHTS

City scores well on fiscal fitness

The City of Cedar Hill recently invited Moody's Investor Services and Standard and Poor's to evaluate our credit risk. Standard and Poor's Rating Services assigned its AA Rating and stable outlook on Cedar Hill's 2015 Bonds and all outstanding GO Debt. Moody's Investor Services: Assigned its Aa2 rating to the City of Cedar Hill 2015 Bonds and all outstanding GO Debt.

The City's credit risk ratings reflect its moderately-sized and growing tax base and local economy, stable financial position, strong and forward-looking management practices, and above-average debt burden.

Those evaluations can be found at cedarhilltx.com/2015bondratings.

What are Credit Ratings?

Just as you go through a credit (risk) assessment when you borrow money from a financial institution for a vehicle or new home, the City of Cedar Hill does the same when we access financial markets to finance the City's capital projects such as streets, facilities and utilities.

The credit rating (evaluation) outcome impacts the interest

costs of the bonds and ultimately how much our citizens pay in interest costs to repay the debt. Good ratings mean the City pays lower interest on municipal bonds.

Credit ratings are only assessments by credit rating agencies of the credit risk associated with a municipal bond. Each credit rating agency evaluates credit risk using its own standards, ratings and methodology. Other relevant factors are the economy, demographics, financial strength and management practices.

Welcome, now let's get busy



leah.walker@cedarhilltx.com

Residents roll up their sleeves and become good stewards of their neighborhoods. Cedar Hill is a community with open space and natural beauty that is second to none in North Texas.

Leah Walker
Neighborhood
Services
Coordinator

Our treasured topography attracts families from all over the metroplex. Families

Continues on page 2

Free wifi may be coming soon to parks

The City's IT Director, Earl Shipman, briefed the City Council on a proposed program that would provide free wifi service to public spaces in the city. Funded entirely by Time Warner Cable, one of the City's current vendors, the plan includes wifi accessibility in all City buildings

and in public spaces such as parks, trails and retail areas. Time Warner subscribers would have free wifi, non-subscribers would have an hour of free wifi per day. Several council members spoke positively about the idea and directed Shipman to continue researching this option.

Yes, the city website works great with mobile devices. You can get full functionality on a desktop, tablet or phone.
cedarhilltx.com



Help us notify you of important messages from the City. Register family mobile phones online at cedarhilltx.com/citymessage. You can choose to receive a phone call, an email or a text message.



The Dallas Morning News
has recognized Cedar Hill as one of the
top 20 neighborhoods in the Dallas/
Fort Worth metroplex.
Our natural beauty,
terrain, location,
festivals, concerts and
values set us apart.
See more at
cedarhilltx.com/bestdfw

Newsweek reports

CHCHS ranks in top 100

Cedar Hill Collegiate High School (CHCHS) is ranked among the top 100 high schools in the country by Newsweek Magazine, according to the news organization's annual 2015 rankings released in August.

Only two other high schools in Texas broke into the top 100 in 2015, according to the study, which ranked the top 500 high schools nationally. The ranking places Cedar Hill Collegiate High School at 76th in a small, elite group that tops the more than 24,000 high schools in the U.S., according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

Cedar Hill Collegiate High School also earned a Gold Star in News-



Hazardous Household Waste Saturday, Oct. 17, at High School parking lot from 9-11 a.m.

Don't put dangerous chemicals in the trash or down the drain. At this event you can safely dispose of acids, aerosol cans, antifreeze, batteries (including car batteries), brake fluid, craft chemicals, degreasers, drain cleaner, fertilizer, fluorescent light bulbs, herbicides, household chemicals, motor oil, paints and stains, paint thinners, pest strips, pesticides, photo chemicals, oil filters, solvents, transmission fluid, and varnish. Proof of residency required.



CHCHS has a 100% graduation rate and 100% of the students are college bound.

week's rankings for meeting an "Equity" standard in the study by helping low-income students score at or above average on state assessments.

Opened in 2008, Cedar Hill Collegiate High School has earned numerous awards and distinctions for outstanding academics in its partnership with Cedar Valley Community College, a member of the Dallas County Community College District.

"This is another proud day for our collegiate high school, the Cedar Hill Independent School District and our community," said Cedar Hill ISD Superintendent Orlando Riddick. "The high school has set the pace for our newly innovative collegiate pathway, which is a Pre-K through 14 model that extends into our new middle and elementary schools, Collegiate Academy and Collegiate Prep."

#@\$% typo!

It happens. Despite our best efforts, somehow typos creep into the Highlights newsletter. But now that can be good for you.

See a typo?

If you find a typo in this issue of Highlights, **email the location to corky.brown@cedarhilltx.com** and you'll be entered to win a gift card from Hillside Village in Cedar Hill. Please, only one entry per person.

Deadline is midnight, September 30. The winner will be notified via email.

Cindy Holveck won the July contest and the gift card to Hillside Village.

let's get busy *From page 1*

like Faye and Maurice Bruton who relocated to Cedar Hill from Plano last year. When the Bruton's moved here, they immediately fell in love with their home but felt the Hillcrest Neighborhood could have a more welcoming entry. While exploring, they saw that some neighborhoods had beautifully maintained entry features and signage.

Mrs. Bruton wanted to change this so she arranged a meeting with Neighborhood Services to inquire about making improvements.

Shortly after the meeting, the Brutons sprang into action; organizing volunteers to remove dead vegetation, prune trees, rake leaves, add new top soil, and plant flowers that the group secured through a donation from Big John's Nursery. With phase one of the project complete, residents are now collecting monetary donations to complete the second phase which includes adding the letters "HILLCREST" to the planter box.

Leaders from Cedar Crest neighborhood took notice of the Hillcrest project and decided to do some maintenance to their entry feature as well.

Improvements inspire others

Altha Moore and Bertha Middleton joined forces at a recent City Town Hall meeting and immediately began working together to beautify their Cedar Crest neighborhood.

First on the list of many neighborhood improvements spearheaded by the duo was work on the entry feature which included tree and hedge trimming. Other entry improvements include a new sign and lighting component.

Cedar Crest also had a neighborhood meeting in August where plans for a community clean-up were discussed.

To find out how to beautify your neighborhood, join or start a neighborhood organization, contact neighborhood services at 469-272-2801 or visit www.cedarhilltx.com/neighborhood.

People make it a community



ABOVE AND BELOW Country Day is just a few weeks away. What a great way to enjoy a Saturday, experiencing the values that make Cedar Hill a great community for your family or business. For 79 years residents have been celebrating Country Day in Cedar Hill, acknowledging the pioneers who started the community in the 1840s and enjoying a good time with neighbors and friends. It starts at 9 a.m., Saturday, October 10 in Historic Downtown. See CedarHillCountryDay.com.



NORTH TEXAS GIVING DAY

September 17, 2015



NorthTexasGivingDay.org

North Texas Giving Day is a one-day, online giving event for people in North Texas to raise as much money as possible for local nonprofits.

At northtexasgivingday.org you can enter "Cedar Hill" in the search box to find registered local nonprofits. Or you can search by the name of an organization.

C A L E N D A R

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.



cedarhilltx.com/calendar

September

19 Wine & Whiskers

6 p.m., Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center, 1206 W. FM 1382.

Friends of Tri-City Animal Shelter present their annual gala featuring live music, heavy hors d'oeuvres, live magic, live and silent auctions to raise money in support of the shelter and their programs. Tickets available at www.tricityfriends.org.

27 The Color Half & 5K Run

8 a.m. Half Marathon starts; 8:30 a.m. 5K starts, Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center, 1206 W. FM 1382. Get tons of color added to your life at this run benefitting Dogwood Canyon. Register and get more information at colorhalf.com.

October

3 Celebrating Life Foundation Sister to Sister Fitness Festival & 5K/Walk

8 a.m. Alan E. Sims Cedar Hill Recreation Center, 310 E. Parkerville

Walkers, volunteers, corporations and community supporters from throughout the Dallas/Cedar Hill community will unite to walk and address the risks of breast cancer among African American women and women of color.

6 National Night Out

5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. at neighborhoods around the city

Each National Night Out neighborhood event that registers with the city will receive a visit from our police officers, firefighters, City Council members and city staff. More information at cedarhilltx.com/1619/National-Night-Out.

10 Country Day

9 a.m. - 6 p.m. in Historic Downtown Cedar Hill

The day will feature a parade, the FUMC Mission 5K Fun Run, over 100 craft vendors, food, activities, contests and live entertainment on 3 stages through the entire day. More information at cedarhilltx.com/1026/Country-Day-on-the-Hill.

17 Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Cedar Hill High School Parking Lot

Bring your environmentally hazardous materials for safe disposal. Staff will be available to unload your vehicle. Proof of residency is required. More info at cedarhilltx.com/hhw



For the latest...

Let the latest goings-on in Cedar Hill come to you via social media.

Like us on Facebook, look for City of Cedar Hill, Texas-Government.

You can tweet with the City at twitter.com/CedarHillTX.

Pin with us on Pinterest.com/cedarhilltx.

Find our website at cedarhilltx.com.



CEDAR HILL

Fight crime in just a few seconds

Hide items Take your keys Lock your doors

At a shopping center, recently, several Cedar Hill police officers got some strange looks by passersby as they roamed the parking lot, checking to see if car doors were locked.

In about five minutes officers found three vehicles unlocked with

valuables lying in plain sight.

As officer Lawrence Byrd said in a PD Facebook post, "Take just a few seconds to hide your items, take your keys and lock your doors."

Following those simple instructions will help prevent the loss of your valuables and possibly your vehicle.

The same precautions apply when leaving your car for the night. Whether on the street, in a parking lot or in your driveway, make sure all windows are up, all doors are locked, items are hidden and do not leave your keys in the vehicle.

For more great crime prevention and safety tips follow the Cedar Hill Police Department at facebook.com/cedarhilltxpolice.

And remember, if you see something suspicious, call 911.

National Night Out is a community-wide celebration

National Night Out is a celebration in Cedar Hill. It is an organized opportunity to meet neighbors, help reduce crime and make our streets safer for all to enjoy.

This year it happens on Tuesday, October 6 all over the city.

Last year over 40 neighborhoods, about 4,000 residents, participated in the event. Our City leaders also joined in to visit as many neighborhood events as possible. This year your mayor and City Council members will be visiting, along with the City Manager and staff, the Police and Fire Chiefs and many of their officers and firefighters.

Several businesses sponsored neighborhood events and we appreciate their support.

Make sure your neighborhood is registered by contacting your neighborhood's crime watch or call Sgt. Victor Vasquez at 972.291.5181 x2051.



REMarket in Cedar Hill is a great place to be on the fourth Saturday of each month. Through September, vendors will set up downtown to offer fresh produce, local art, crafts, vintage items, eco-friendly goods and cool stuff.

Look for the fun just south of Belt Line on Broad St. Booths open at 9 a.m. and close at 2 p.m., rain or shine. This event is supported by the Zula B. Wylie Public Library and the Cedar Hill Arts Council.

For more information, please visit www.chartstx.org.

West Nile Virus season continues Fight the bite



Scan the code at right with your mobile device to register your mobile phone to ensure that you receive messages for your neighborhood about mosquito control spraying by Dallas County to reduce WNV exposure.



City Contacts

EMERGENCY 911

Administration 972.291.5100 x1009

After Hours (Answering service)
972.780.6643

Animal Control 972.223.6111

Animal Shelter 972.291.5335

Building Inspections 972.291.5100 x1090

City Secretary 972.291.5100 x1011

Code Enforcement 972.291.5100 x1111

Economic Development 972.291.5132

Fire Department, non-emergency
972.291.1011

Human Resources 972.291.5100 x1050

Library 972.291.7323

Municipal Court 972.291.5100 x1041

Neighborhood Services
972.291.5100 x1099

Parks & Recreation 972.291.5100 x1500

Parks Adult Rain-outs 214.855.9758

Parks Youth Rain-outs 972.480.5868

Police Department, non-emergency
972.291.5100 x2400

Public Relations 469.272.2903

Public Works 972.291.5126

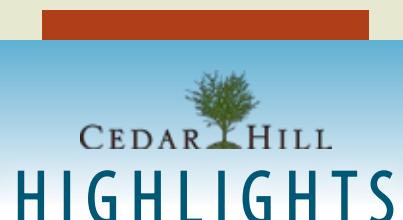
Recreation Center 972.293.5288

Senior Center 972.291.5353

Tourism 972.291.5100 x1084

Trash & Recycling (Waste Management)
800.772.8653

Utility Billing 972.291.5100 x1200



Published by the City of Cedar Hill

Corky Brown

Public Relations Manager

corky.brown@cedarhilltx.com