

October 2017

HIGHLIGHTS



Four items set for Nov. election

Early voting for the November Bond & CCPD election begins October 23 and runs until Nov. 3. The early voting site for Cedar Hill residents in Dallas County will be at the Cedar Hill Government Center, 285 Uptown. Election Day will be Nov. 7. Cedar Hill voters will consider four local ballot propositions.

The projects funded by the bond propositions would be completed without an increase in the property tax rate. Get full details on the election at cedarhilltx.com/bond.

Crime Control & Prevention District: the continuation of 1/8 of one percent of existing sales tax revenue to fund community safety and crime prevention initiatives for the next 15 years;

Proposition A: Streets & Drainage: \$10 million in general obligation (GO) bonds for roadway and drainage repairs, traffic signals, street lights, intersection improvements, and Hwy. 67 landscaping;

Proposition B: Library: \$20 million in GO bonds for a new public library to replace the current 10,000 sq. ft. facility with an approximately 46,000 sq. ft. library to meet current and future needs; and

Proposition C: Parks & Recreation: \$15 million in GO bonds for improvements to neighborhood and community parks and playgrounds, repairs and improvements to the Senior Center, replacement of Crawford Park Pool, completion of the first phase of a centrally-located signature community park, and construction of multi-use trails.

For voting times and locations, Dallas County residents visit: dallascountvotes.org and Ellis County residents visit: co.ellis.tx.us. Dallas County residents' early voting will take place at the Cedar Hill Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd.



City codes improve property values, liveability

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In 2005, in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, President George W. Bush established October as National Code Compliance Month in acknowledgement of the importance and impact that code enforcement has on its communities.

Why Code Enforcement Officers?

Code enforcement (CE) officers are often asked to embody many roles within the context of their duties. On any given day, they may function as problem solvers, communicators, mediators, researchers, and educators, as well as performing a variety of functions related to their role as public servants.

The mission of Code Enforcement is to protect and maintain public health and enhance property values by enforcing adopted codes. The most obvious function of code enforcement within communities is controlling the battle of blight.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q. A house in my neighborhood has several cars parked around it. Is this legal?

A. If any of the vehicles are inoperable, dismantled, or do not have current license plates or inspection stickers, they are considered junk vehicles and cannot be parked on the city streets or in

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City Council adopts 2017-18 Budget; Same tax rate as last year

On September 12, the City Council adopted a budget for fiscal year 2017-18, which begins October 1. For the fifth consecutive year, the property tax rate remains at \$0.69876 per \$100 assessed value.

The average homeowner pays \$94 per month, or \$3.10 per day for City services. The City provides 24-hour police response, fire protection, and emergency medical services; 3,729 acres of public park land; 53 library programs per month; 310 miles of paved streets; and much more for less than the average monthly cell phone bill.

This year's budget maintains these core services and invests in strategies that will pay dividends in public safety, neighborhood integrity, and community life. Learn more about the budget at cedarhilltx.com/budget.

AMBUS crew part of Cedar Hill response



Though the physical impacts of Hurricane Harvey were not felt in North Texas, the region and our City has been heavily involved in the state-wide rescue and response efforts.

The Cedar Hill AMBUS (ambulance bus), along with a 7-person medic crew, was deployed to South Texas for 10 days. The medic crew completed several missions, including the evacuation of nursing homes and hospitals in Corpus Christi and Victoria.

Other ways Cedar Hill helped

Cory Landers, a member of our Fire Department, was deployed with one of the state's rapid response teams, Texas Task Force 2, and led a swift water rescue team in the Houston area.

Deputy Fire Chief Rodney Smith and Regional Training Officer Rafael Reyes were deployed to several Gulf Coast cities over 11 days as part of the Texas Emergency Management Assistance Team

to lead incident management teams, perform damage assessments, and help communities acquire needed state resources for response and recovery.

The Tri-City Animal Shelter's emergency response trailer was deployed several times to South Texas to assist in the evacuation and transport of animals affected by the storm.

Support continues

Cedar Hill has also provided support to the City of Dallas mega shelter at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center in the form of law enforcement and emergency management personnel, the Best Southwest Regional C.E.R.T. team, and animal services resources.

North Texas continues to host evacuees; the best way to assist is through a financial donation to the charity of your choice. Find more information at dallashelpforharvey.net.

Giving Day brings in over \$100K



Cedar Hill nonprofit organizations raised over \$115,000 during North Texas Giving Day on September 14. In total, 566 donations were made to 15 different Cedar Hill organizations, all within 24 hours.

Please remember our community non-profits need support throughout the year to provide the services so many depend on to take care of their families.

In addition to donations, many local organizations are in need of volunteers who can give their time.

Codes improve city

From page 1

residential areas where they can be seen from the street.

Q. There is a vacant lot next door to me with overgrown grass and weeds. Is there any way to make the owner mow the lot?

A. City Ordinance makes it illegal to permit grass and weeds to grow in excess of 12 inches tall. Citizens should contact the Code Enforcement Department and provide information on the property. An officer will make an inspection and contact the owner.

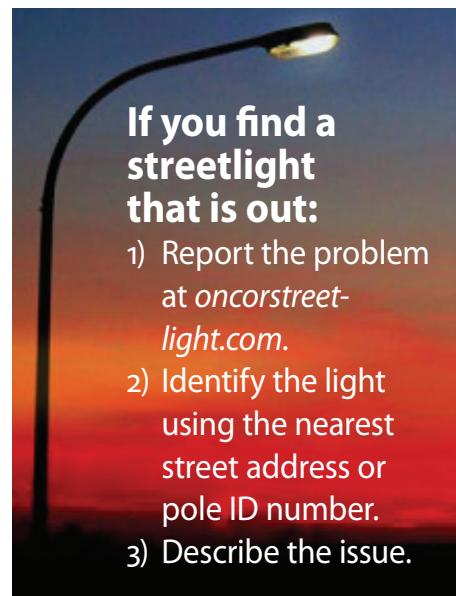
Q. I am having a garage sale this weekend. Is a permit required?

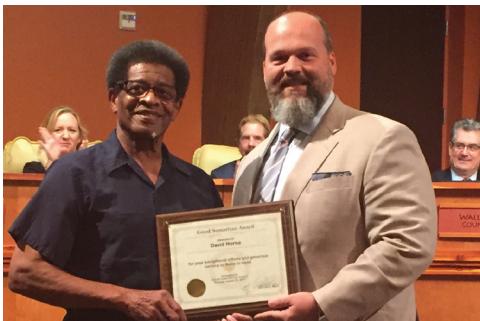
A. Garage sale registration is required and free, however, there are regulations regarding the number of sales per year, signs, and hours of operation. Registration can be completed at cedarhilltx.com/1426/garage-sales-list.

What can you do?

- Show pride in your neighborhood by maintaining your property
- Know the city codes
- Keep your property violation free
- Ask your neighbors to comply when you notice a violation
- Call 972-291-5100 Ext. 1111 to report a code violation or go to cedarhilltx.com and click on the "Submit A Request" button on the home page. See if your issue is one of the "Most requested," or search for a relevant topic.

Complete the requested information and it will be sent directly to Code Enforcement.





Resident David Horne was honored with the Good Samaritan Award for his exceptional efforts to keep his neighborhood clean and his generous service to the community.

Mayor Franke and the members of the City Council recognized Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson for her work with federal legislation that helped retire the City's debt for Joe Pool Lake.



Library Director Toni Simmons and staff members Aranda Bell and Dan Watkins celebrate September as Library Card Sign-Up Month. Register for a free library card at cedarhilllibrary.org



Clara McGinnis and Vicki Ennis share information about the Cedar Hill Action Team (CHAT) at the 16th Annual Taste of Cedar Hill and Business Expo, where over 70 vendors shared food, fun and information with guests.

CALENDAR

For the most up-to-the-minute information on events, check out the City's online calendars at cedarhilltx.com

October

10 & 24 City Council Meetings, Government Center, T.W. "Turk" Cannady Room, 6 p.m. Briefing Session, 7 p.m. City Council Meeting. Both meetings are open to the public. Agendas are available 72 hours before meetings at cedarhilltx.com/archive.aspx.

20 Chamber Night Out, featuring Rock the Library, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., Zula B. Wylie Public Library; Jam out with live performances by local bands. Music by Zach Balch and Nicholas Altobelli, Hors-d'oeuvres and wine will be served (Adults 21+ only).

21 Heritage Harvest Festival, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Cedar Hill State Park; Experience a taste of North Texas' farming and ranching heritage at the Penn Farm Agricultural History Center. Enjoy whole-family fun with vintage games, quilters, spinners, weavers, antique tractors, and so much more. Park admission is \$7 for adults, children are free.

28 Christmas in October Craft Fair, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Cedar Hill Senior Center, 1740 Mansfield Road; Enjoy fun times and good food while browsing the works of our creative classes and vendors.

31 Scare on the Square, 6 – 8 p.m., Historic Downtown; A FREE family event featuring a costume parade, trunk-or-treat, entertainment, giveaways and more Halloween fun! Learn more at cedarhilltx.com/scare.

November

2 Dia de Los Muertos Celebration, 6-7 p.m., Zula B. Wylie Public Library, 225 Cedar Street; Bring the whole family to experience the Day of the Dead holiday with altar offerings, live entertainment, food and more! Learn more at cedarhilllibrary.org.

3, 10, 17, 24 – Cinema on the Square, 7 p.m., Historic Downtown; Join us in Historic Downtown Friday nights to enjoy a film, food, and fun! Food trucks arrive at 6 pm. All films start at 7 pm behind the old Philip's property, located at 106 S Broad St. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets, and be sure to arrive on time for the best seating.

7 Election Day; For voting times and locations, visit dallascountvotes.org or co.ellis.tx.us.

10 Chance 2 Dance CHAT Fundraiser, 7-11 p.m., Alan E. Sims Recreation Center; The Cedar Hill Action Team hosts a 70's inspired fundraising event with dinner, dancing, and silent auction. Proceeds benefit CHISD schools, students, and teachers. Learn more at cedarhillactionteam.org.

14 City Council Meeting, Government Center, T.W. "Turk" Cannady Room, 6 p.m. Briefing Session, 7 p.m. City Council Meeting. Both meetings are open to the public. Agendas are available 72 hours before meetings at cedarhilltx.com/archive.aspx.

Hwy. 67 project starts; expansion to 6 lanes and more due by 2019

TxDOT has started construction on the widening of US 67, from Belt Line Road to IH 20, to provide congestion relief and operational improvements to the US 67 corridor.

The six-mile project includes widening of the existing 4-lane roadway to a 6-lane roadway, installation of Texas U-turns at FM 1382 and at Belt Line Road, reversal of entrance and exit ramps for better traffic flow, and dedicated right turn lanes at major frontage road intersections.

Traffic lanes on US 67 will remain open during the project, but drivers can expect closures of entrance and exit ramps as they are reconstructed. TxDOT expects the project to be completed in the fall of 2019.

These improvements will provide better access, reduced congestion, and quicker commutes for businesses,



residents, and visitors. Learn more about the project, upcoming ramp closures, and construction schedule at cedarhilltx.com/capitalprojects.

FM 1382 construction progress

Traffic lights have been installed at the entrance to Cedar Hill State Park and at the entrance to Newman Academy, formerly Northwood University.

Additional turn lanes are being added to improve safety and reduce congestion at these locations. A median opening at Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center will allow left turns from northbound FM 1382.

Historic Downtown prepares for invasion of ghosts and goblins

On Tuesday, Oct. 31, ghosts, goblins, and ghouls will invade Historic Downtown for Scare on the Square. Historic downtown once again plays host to a spooky good time with Zula B. Wylie Public Library and Cedar Hill Parks & Recreation.

From 6-8 p.m. there will be photo ops in Historic Downtown's Pioneer Park, a costume parade and plenty of trick-or-treating, music, giveaways, and more Halloween fun!

Admission to the festival is always free to children accompanied by a parent or guardian. For more information about the event, visit cedarhilltx.com/calendar.



Cinema on the Square lights up Friday nights

Join us in Historic Downtown Friday nights in November, and on Dec. 1, to enjoy a film, food, and fun!

Food trucks arrive at 6 p.m. and a film start at 7 p.m. behind the old Philip's property, located at 110 S Broad St.

The theme for this season's cinema fest is "Pirate Edition." Each of the films relates to the pirate theme.

Film titles include "The Princess & The Pirate," "Against All Flags," "Muppet Treasure Island," "Nate & Hayes," and "The Princess Bride."

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets, and be sure to arrive on time for the best seating. Learn more at cedarhilltx.com/calendar.

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 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 469-272-2931



CEDAR HILL HIGHLIGHTS

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