

August 2016



HIGHLIGHTS



Youth Summit: Kidding around pays dividends

Tammie Cooper, Cedar Hill Police Officer, PACT

Our theme for the 2016 Youth Summit was "Lead By Example" and our amazing youths exceeded our expectations. We shared a fun environment which encouraged positive interactions among the youth and police.

This, our third year, was by far our best yet, with about 120 Cedar Hill youngsters attending each of the three days of activity.

Our vision for the summit is to positively impact the youth in Cedar Hill through education, awareness and prevention programs.

Our goal was for each young person to leave feeling empowered, important, understood and, most of all, heard.

The event was hosted by the Cedar Hill Police and Fire Departments, in partnership with the Alan E. Sims Cedar Hill Recreation Center, the Zula B. Public Wylie Library and several Cedar Hill businesses.

For the "Interacting With Police" session, one of our goals was to educate the youth on how to interact with police by explaining law enforcement procedures related to civil rights, arrests, search and seizure and perceived threats.

We also stressed the importance of respectful communication and dialogue. We did reverse role playing and allowed the youth to be the police. It was a very interesting experience for them and really changed their perspective on policing. They were



able to get a small taste of what it's like to be an officer responding to a difficult situation.

Cedar Hill Firefighters gave a "Jaws of Life" demo and then suited up youngsters in full fire bunker gear and gave them the opportunity to use real tools to cut open a car. This presentation helped them understand what it is like responding to an alcohol or distracted driving accident and trying to save the person's life.

The younger kids were engaged in presentations on 911 Emergencies, Fire Safety, Stranger Danger and Pool Safety.

911 Emergencies was presented by members of our Southwest Regional Communication Center who dispatch first responders. They taught the kids how and when to call 911 and what information to provide.

One of our Parks & Recreation Dept. lifeguards taught the kids how to stay safe while swimming and to never swim alone.

The Fire Department did a very entertaining fire safety presentation while dressed as clowns. The kids went wild and loved every minute of it.

Cedar Hill Police Officers covered "strang-



Continues on page 4

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/2145/DFW-Best-Neighborhoods-per-DMN

Neighborhood groups improve local lifestyle

Michelle Ebanks
Neighborhood Services Coordinator

2016 marks the 12th year the Neighborhood Advisory Board recognized neighborhood organizations in Cedar Hill for their work improving the quality of life in our communities. These awards recognize the neighborhood group for achievement in communication, organizational activities, community partnerships, leadership and beautification.

Neighborhood Engagement is a top priority for our Mayor and City Council. Applications are evaluated by the ability to demonstrate City Council's values within the neighborhood.

Bear Creek Ranch received the 2016 City of Cedar Hill Premier Neighborhood Award.

Nestled in the southeast corner of Cedar Hill, this quiet subdivision currently has 135 families with more expected to join in 2017. Residents distinguished themselves in every award

Continues on page 2

Don't drown your lawn

ER PRIVATE

Over half of all the water we use at home during the summer is used to water our lawns. Many use too much.

Experts tell us most lawns get twice as much water as they really need. And we're typically doing it with highly-treated drinking water. Americans waste millions of gallons of drinking water every year.

You probably don't even have to leave your neighborhood to see the signs of bad watering habits: water gushing down the curb, broken sprinkler geysers erupting from yards, or watering during a downpour.

The key to watering lawns effectively is to apply water infrequently, but thoroughly.

Keep these guidelines in mind as you maintain your turf and garden:

Water twice a week or less. Applying too much or too often causes the greatest waste of water. In addition to over-watering the plant, excessive watering can leach nutrients deep in the soil from plant roots increasing the chances of runoff pollution.

- Don't water between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Up to 1/3 of the water we spray away on lawns during the heat of the day is lost to evaporation.

- Applying too much water too rapidly causes runoff that can carry soil, fertilizers and pesticides to nearby streams. Irrigate in shorter bursts to give water a chance to soak in and allow 30 minutes between cycles.

- Have a certified irrigator perform

an annual check-up on your system. Fix leaks or damaged sprinkler heads and make sure they're aimed at the landscape, not the street or sidewalk.

- Give your sprinkler a rest on windy days.

- Rain and freeze sensors are water savers. They could reduce your outdoor use by 5-10 percent.

- Advanced irrigation controllers can consider factors such as humidity, temperature, precipitation and soil conditions before activating sprinklers.

- Use drip irrigation for trees, shrubs, and flower beds. Drip systems put water in the root zone. Adapters make it easy to convert from spray to drip.

- Replace that thirsty turf. Replace those little-used areas of your lawn with other types of landscaping or water-stingy plants.

Using these guidelines, you can develop and sustain a water-efficient, healthy and beautiful yard that benefits the environment, conserves water, saves you money and helps keep Cedar Hill at the forefront of sustainable practices.

Sources: Environmental Protection Agency, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Dallas Water Utilities

Replacing some turf with low-water-tolerant plants can reduce the amount you spend on maintaining a beautiful lawn.



Neighborhood

From page 1

category with regular neighborhood association and crime watch meetings, and participation in community events.

In addition, residents are engaged with the Parks Department to create their neighborhood park. These residents have set the bar high in community leadership, organization and involvement.

Bear Creek Ranch residents are frequent participants in citywide events and have many community volunteers within their neighborhood.

Under President Even Speers, the Board of Directors and others, a bright future lies ahead for the distinguished Bear Creek Ranch neighborhood.

[See photos on page 3]

Bradford Park was honored as the Premier Neighborhood runner up.

This outstanding planned community in the High Pointe neighborhood is home to 350 households that surround the Bradford Park pavilion and pond. Residents of Bradford Park initiated a block party schedule and successfully hosted their 2nd annual block party in June with over 150 neighbors in attendance.

Residents have activated a Bradford Park Crime Watch group to encourage neighbors to be vigilant for their homes and neighbors.

Under the enthusiastic leadership of block captain, Joyce Prettol and many others, Bradford Park residents are committed to loving their neighborhood and making a difference in Cedar Hill.

 **Nextdoor**
Your neighborhood online

Nextdoor is the private neighborhood social network for you and your neighbors. It helps you keep in touch. Check it out at Nextdoor.com.

If you're already on Nextdoor, you may have seen City departments sharing information there. Remember, City staff cannot see your neighborhood posts, so contact us via Nextdoor's private message if you wish to reply.

People make it a community



At the July 12 City Council Meeting, Waste Management's Steve Kellar presented \$1,500 scholarships to Micah Demby and Paige Lucas-Smith, students at Cedar Hill Collegiate High School. The annual scholarship program is administered by the Cedar Hill Library.



In June, the Neighborhood Services Dept. presented 2016 Premier Neighborhood Awards. Taking the top spot was Bear Creek, above, and winning the runner up award was the Bradford Park neighborhood, below.



PACT officers involved in the recent Youth Summit 3-day event were honored by Chief Rhodes, second from right. Lt. Chenault, Sgt. Vasquez and Cpl. Herrera represented all of the PACT team. They, along with firefighters, Parks & Rec staff, and local businesses, engaged 120 youngsters and helped them better understand our community.

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.



August

20 Small Town Saturday Night

Saturday, August 20, from 6 - 9 p.m.

Historic Downtown Cedar Hill

Live musical entertainment featuring Apt. 4B plus food, shopping, activities, all benefitting the Tri-City Animal Shelter.

September

17 E-Waste Recycling and Paper Shredding Event

Saturday, September 17 from 8 a.m. to Noon

Cedar Hill High School parking lot, 1 Longhorn Blvd

Recycle your old electronic gear for free and keep it out of the landfill. Just drive through this event and your stuff will be unloaded for you. Paper shredding is done on-site. This is for residential use only, proof of residency required.

20 Taste of Cedar Hill & Business Expo

Tuesday, September 20 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Alan E. Sims Cedar Hill Recreation Center

The 15th Annual "Taste" will have over 60 vendors in the 54,000 sq. ft. space. Get a great vision of Cedar Hill businesses and dining establishments in one location. For more information, please contact Alysa Hunter at the Cedar Hill Chamber of Commerce, 972.291.7817.

22 North Texas Giving Day

Thursday, September 22 from 6 a.m. to Midnight, CDST

Online at NorthTexasGivingDay.org

North Texas Giving Day is an online giving event for people across the nation (and the world!) to come together to raise as much money as possible for North Texas non-profits on one day. Search for Cedar Hill non-profit programs at the link above, and please, consider supporting those who support our community and those who most need assistance.

24 Household Hazardous Waste Event

Saturday, September 24 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Cedar Hill High School parking lot, 1 Longhorn Blvd

A great, safe way to dispose of old chemicals, fertilizer, auto fluids, paint, pesticides, pool chemicals and cleaning liquids. See the list of what to bring and what not to bring at cedarhilltx.com/hhw.

City Council Meetings

Tuesdays, August 23, September 13

Briefing session starts at 6 p.m. City Council meeting starts at 7 p.m.

Cedar Hill Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd.

Witness local government at work. Both the briefing session and the meeting are open to the public. There is a Public Forum during the meeting to allow residents to bring comments to the City Council. Your City Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of all months except November and December when they meet only on the second Tuesdays.

Get fresh updates on what's going on

City website: At cedarhilltx.com you can see 4 calendars on the home page, sorted by event types. Each calendar has more information about each event.

Facebook: Follow the City of Cedar Hill at facebook.com/CityofCedarHill, our Parks & Recreation at facebook.com/cedarhillpard, our Library at facebook.com/CHLibrary, our Fire Department at facebook.com/cedarhillfire and our Police Department at facebook.com/cedarhilltxpolice

cedarhilltx.com/calendar

REMARKET

DOWNTOWN CEDAR HILL

Open air market returns Sept. 24

This community market features local vendors, fresh produce, arts and crafts, food, live music, and more! It's held on the 4th Saturday of the month 10 a.m.-3 p.m., September-November, in Historic Downtown Cedar Hill. For more info visit cedarhilltx.com/remarket.



Join the fight

Your City's Public Works staff members are already working with Dallas County Health & Human Services to help protect residents from West Nile Virus-infected mosquitoes. Monitoring stations have been placed throughout the city. If an infected mosquito is detected, the County will spray the zone where the mosquito was trapped.

For a map showing the collection/spraying zones, and more information about spraying procedures and avoiding West Nile Virus, visit cedarhilltx.com/wnv.

There are things you can do to help fight the spread of West Nile and Zika viruses.

- **Apply repellent with DEET**
- **Wear long sleeves**
- **Avoid being outdoors around dawn and sundown, when mosquitoes are most active.**
- **Eliminate standing water or treat with dunks, free to residents at the 2nd floor counter in the Cedar Hill Government Center.**

Sign up now for **severe weather alerts** at CivicReady

We encourage residents to sign up all family phones to receive alerts when dangerous weather approaches. Our warning system will send your choice of an email, text message or phone call or all three. Take a few minutes now and register your family's phones at <https://tx-cedarhill.civicready.com>

Youth Summit

From page 1

er danger", "Say no to drugs", "Never touch guns" and bullying.

This year we rewarded the youth for all of their hard work and commitment with a basketball game: Youth vs. Cedar Hill All-stars. The All-star team was comprised of police officers, fire personnel and city officials, including our City Manager, Greg Porter. The youths would ask every day about the basketball game with such anticipation (The All-Stars won).

Lakeside Jump, out of Dallas, presented by the Zula B. Wylie Library, dazzled and amazed everyone with the acrobatic, double-dutch jump roping.

Presentations included: drug & alcohol awareness, distracted driving, fire safety training, Care Flight, positive decision making, juvenile justice system, stranger danger, fire safety and smoke house, and park safety.

Guest speakers included Dallas County Judge Dominique Collins, MADD, Children's Hospital Burn Unit-Injury Prevention and Cohen McCain from Church on The Hill.

Our sponsors for the Youth Summit made it great. We appreciate the support from Best Buy, Crescent Point Retirement, Impact Cedar Hill, All Pro Dads, In N Out Burger, and Maple Ave Boxing Gym.

Volunteer support was provided by members of C.O.P., CHAT and LEAD Youth Council.

Seniors gaining virtual entertainment options

The Cedar Hill Senior Center is expanding the range of games available to include card games like Spades, Bid Whist, or Bridge, plus board games like checkers, chess and others that seniors bring.

Also new are Wii Sports Resort interactive video games that includes virtual basketball, wave runner slalom and new games as they arrive.

This is a great opportunity to invite friends, and meet other people in an enjoyable environment.

Join in at 1740 Mansfield Rd. from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

Call for information at 972.291.5353.

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

Communications 469.272.2903

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

Published by the City of Cedar Hill

Corky Brown, CPC

Communications Manager
corky.brown@cedarhilltx.com