

April 2012

Highlights

CEDAR HILL

The City of Cedar Hill, Texas



Going & Saving Green

In its efforts to grow green, the City of Cedar Hill is saving some green.

The City recently added two all-electric vehicles to its fleet, with expectations of saving thousands of dollars in fuel costs over the life of the cars.

“Not only are we being sensitive to the bottom line, but we are being sensitive to the environment,” said Assistant City Manager Melissa Stephens, who headed the study researching life-of-the-vehicle costs and

carbon emissions to compare the value of the fully-electric vehi-



cles to traditional gasoline-fueled cars.

Zero emissions

The City took delivery of two zero-emission Nissan Leafs in December, and the cars are used by the Utility Billing and

Parks and Recreation departments. Each cost approximately

\$30,000 after federal energy rebates. The city purchased four Blink charging stations for \$2,500 each.

Stephens said the City will consider purchasing more electric vehicles as older, standard models need to be replaced.

It takes about eight hours to fully charge the Nissan Leaf, and a charge lasts about 100 miles. The cost is about .02 cents per mile, Stephens said.

Residents are encouraged to use the free charging stations at the Cedar Hill Government Center on Uptown Boulevard.

Two of the stations are on the south side of

Charging stations for electric vehicles are available to the public at no charge in the parking lot south of the Government Center on Uptown Blvd. Access requires a free access card available at blinknetwork.com.

the building. City vehicles use two chargers behind the facility.

Leaf has more kick

Hybrids seem to be more popular among the public, Stephens said. However, after test driving both the hybrid Chevrolet Volt and the electric Nissan Leaf, she said she preferred the electric car.

“The Leaf drove far better and had a lot

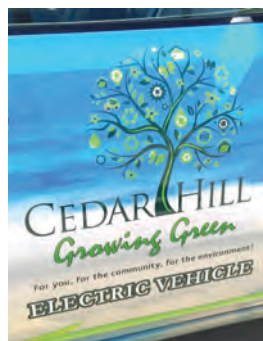
more kick than the Volt,” she said.

City communications director Corky Brown said the biggest difference he noticed between the electric and fuel-powered cars is the sound.

“It was very quiet,” Brown of the Leaf, adding that the car is equipped with a pedestrian warning to alert people who are

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This information is based on an article by writer Jana Pruett which appeared in the March 23 issue of Dallas Morning News' Neighborsgo. For subscription information call 214.745.8383.



City election cancelled

The City election scheduled for May 12 has been cancelled by the City Council.

At the March 27 meeting, City Council members Cory Spillman and Chris Parvin were certified as unop-

posed candidates and will each serve an additional term.

At the same meeting, the City Council cancelled the election since both currently serving members were unopposed.

Just say Go

Saturday, April 28, from 10 am-2 pm, in the Walgreen's parking lot on Belt Line Road, the Cedar Hill Police Department, in cooperation with the federal Drug Enforcement Administration, will provide an opportunity for the public to surrender expired, unwanted, or unused pharmaceutical controlled substances and other medications for destruction.

The goal is to remove

potentially dangerous substances from medicine cabinets.

No questions will be asked, nor will identification be required.

Liquid products, such as cough syrup, should remain in their tightly closed containers.

Intra-venous solutions and syringes will not be accepted due to



potential hazards.

Illicit substances such as marijuana or methamphetamine are not a part of this collection effort.

At the conclusion of the event, a police officer will seal the drug collection boxes for destruction by DEA.

Going Green

From front page

close by because they are so quiet.

Stephens said the City's electric cars are an addition to its overall Vision Plan to reduce fossil fuel emissions; reduce the total energy use as well as improve energy efficiency in government buildings.

The Government Center uses various forms of solar energy for power. This summer, a wind turbine will be constructed on the lawn that will assist in powering the building and serve as a demonstration for residents, Stephens said.

"There's a consistency the City's trying to get across," Brown said. "We're walking the walk — not just talking the talk. We're saying 'be green', and we're doing it."

Neighborsgo reporter Jana J. Pruet can be reached at 214-977-8349.



Tree City USA Hey, we're named after a tree, right?

Cedar Hill was recently named a "Tree City USA" community for the fourth year in a row by the national Arbor Day Foundation.

"We all benefit when communities like Cedar Hill place a high priority on planting and caring for trees, one of our nation's most beautiful resources, said John Rosenow, founder of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Trees provide many environmental, economic and social benefits. We applaud Cedar Hill's elected officials, volunteers and citizens for respecting the value of trees."

CHPD honors their best

At the recent annual Police Banquet the department honored and recognized sworn officers, civilians and volunteers.



Patricia Lyon
Civilian of the Year



Aaron Leutwyler
Supervisor of the Year



Chad Cooley
Officer of the Year



Nicholas Foley
Rookie of the Year

Take home a champion in May

May is "Take home a Champion" month at the Tri-City Animal Shelter & Adoption Center at 1150 E. Pleasant Run Road in Cedar Hill.

Saturdays in May will be special, with employees in sports-related gear.

Every family that adopts a pet in May will receive a \$10 gift card from Petco.

When May adopt-



ers show proof of rabies vaccination, the shelter will microchip and register a pet for the discounted price of only \$20.

May 5, bring the kids for free pony rides

from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

May 19 will be a huge grrrrage sale by the Friends of Tri-City, benefiting the shelter.

The shelter serves residents in and is funded by Cedar Hill, DeSoto and Duncanville.

Tri-City Animal Shelter & Adoption Center adopts out between 700-800 animals annually.



Community Garden beds down

Beds set up by the Public Works department await community gardeners. This project hosted by the Library has attracted a lot of attention and may be expanded next season. For more information call Kim Risner, Library Manager at 972.291.5100 x1310.

Community Calendar

www.cedarhilltx.com/calendar.aspx



Cedar Hill Municipal Court Judge Michael Petty, right, congratulates new Alternate Judge Cedric Mims, after his recent swearing in. Judge Mims is a graduate of Cedar Hill High School and earned his law degree at Pepperdine University.



Cedar Hill Police Chief Steve Rhodes holds a check from Citizen Police Academy Alumni Assn. members, presented by Bill Pierce, right, and members of CPAAA. The funds are being used to provide an ice machine for the Grady Lamb facility which hosts Police And Community Together officers and other community service offices.



At a recent City Council Meeting, City Secretary Lyn Hill, right, administers the oath to Capt. Cory Landers. Also recognized were Jason O'Neill, Driver/Engineer and Rudy Woolridge, Firefighter/Paramedic.



Isabell Gallegos, left, was recognized by the City Council, represented by Mayor Rob Franke, for her recent appearance on TV's American Idol. During her appearance she proudly identified her home town as "Cedar Hill, Texas".

April

24 City Council Meeting

6 p.m. Briefing Session, Regular City Council Meeting begins at 7 p.m. Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd., First Floor, Cannady Room. Agenda posted online and at the front door of the Government Center at least 72 hours before meeting at cedarhilltx.com/agenda.

May

3 National Day of Prayer Celebration

7 p.m. Performing Arts Center, Cedar Hill High School. Local observance of the National Day of Prayer event is coordinated by Transformation Vision, a local organization that also supports the quarterly Mayor's Prayer Breakfasts and Hope Mansion.

5 Senior Center Garage Sale

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Senior Center, 1740 Mansfield Rd. Lots of bargains! Crafts etc. For info call 972.291.5130.

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10 Cedar Hill Genealogical Society Workshop

1 - 2:30 p.m. Zula B. Wylie Public Library, 225 Cedar St.

11 Deadline for City Boards and Committees Applications

5 p.m. City Secretary's Office, 4th floor Government Center 285 Uptown Blvd. Volunteer residents help make this city work by participating in directing the services, administration and planning for the community. Application form is available at cedarhilltx.com/DocumentView.aspx?DID=4350.

12 Head for the Hills Bike Rally

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Starts at Uptown Village, Pleasant Run side. This popular regional bike event is sponsored by the Cedar Hill Rotary Club and brings hundreds of cyclists to Cedar Hill where they enjoy the area's unique scenery and terrain. For more info visit www.headforthehills.org.

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For the most up-to-the-minute calendar items, 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.

Speaking of the City's website, did you know that from the homepage, including the pull down menus, you can link to over 230 pages of news and information?

We're always looking for ways we can improve the site. If you have suggestions, please send them to corky.brown@cedarhilltx.com.

Contacts

- After Hours
972.780.6643
- Alarm Monitoring
972.230.5248
- 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
Non-emergency
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 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
- Tri-City Animal Shelter
972.291.5335
- Utility Billing
972.291.5100x1200



Historic Downtown Cedar Hill was full of many good things on March 24 as Walk The Light celebrated 'Where old meets new' on the streets, sidewalks and in the businesses downtown. Several thousand came to town to enjoy art, new and old friends and the great weather.

Don't grease your sewer

Over the past six months, Cedar Hill Public Works employees have responded to 146 sewer calls. The most common cause: cooking grease.

Even though it may be in a liquid form when poured down the drain, grease will re-solidify and stick

to other solids already found in sewer lines. This can eventually block the flow, causing residents' and City sewer lines to backup. Sewer line overflows are costly to clean and detrimental to nearby bodies of water.

Small amounts of cooking grease can be wiped off of pans and dishes with paper towels and tossed in the trash.

Another option is to pour the grease into a container with a tight-fitting lid for storage or disposal in the trash.

The City now has a grease recycling bin available for residents and local businesses to use. Contact Josh McLerran in the Public Works Department at 972.291.5126 x2818 to schedule an appointment to drop off your grease at 1554 S. Clark Rd. (Near Dot Thomas Park).



Who answers your alarm?

You can have your home or business alarm monitored by our local 911 Center. Get the fastest possible response. Find out about 3 months free at 972.230.5248.



A City ordinance requires yard sales and garage sales to be registered online at www.cedarhilltx.com or by calling 972.291.5100 x1090. Register online or call by Thursday to get on the list.

It's free and it will advertise your sale on the list published Fridays on the city website at www.cedarhilltx.com/garagesale.

Alarm permit = better service, no fines

Without an alarm permit it can cost you \$100 every time your alarm goes off.

For only \$50 you can get an alarm permit from the police department.

Details and the form to submit with payment are available at cedarhilltx.com/alarm.

The police station at 285 Uptown Blvd. is open 24 hours every day.

Firefighter's project shows this is a special community

Distinctive character shows up in many ways. In our community, often it is displayed in the way people step up to help others. Recently Cedar Hill firefighter/paramedic Chris Bullard saw a need and marshalled the resources to help Army veteran Mr. Wilcox.

They met while Bullard was responding to Wilcox's home. Bullard saw that a few interior changes would be a big benefit so he got permission from his superiors and help from his colleagues and local businesses to make those changes.

Now Mr. Wilcon enjoys greater freedom in his remodeled bathroom thanks to Chris, his friends in the CH Fire Fighter Assn., Cassity Jones and The Home Depot.

Free wi-fi
Free wireless internet connection is available at the Zula B. Wylie Public Library and at the Cedar Hill Recreation Center.

Published by the City of Cedar Hill
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