



Citizens to assist with gas well ordinance

Mayor Rob Franke has appointed a Gas Well Steering Committee to help develop an up-to-date Gas Well Ordinance that strikes a balance between accessing minerals with the use and enjoyment of the land surface.

These citizens will hold public meetings and work closely with City staff and stakeholders on the in-depth review and analysis of the City's gas well drilling regulations, including an analysis of regulations in surrounding cities.

Committee members include Chairman Jeff Agee, City Councilman Wade Emmert, Todd Hinton, Roland Stewart, David Hurt, Laura Satterfield and Sondra Hester.

Mayor Franke said, "Generally, the charge is to review relevant ordinances adopted by other cities in the area and recommend key elements that our staff can incorporate into a draft ordinance. We believe that these regulations will help to protect and preserve our unique and natural environment while providing needed access to the natural gas that lies below."

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Infrastructure work set for '09 and beyond

Your City continues to make improvements related to roadways, water supply and sewage systems. This list includes major public works projects that are underway or starting soon. Partnerships with other governmental entities help make your tax dollars go further.

Clark Road improvements

Widening Clark Road from 2 lanes to 4 lanes from US67 Frontage Road to FM1382. Right-of-way has been acquired; estimated completion in November 2009.

Signal at Clark and FM1382

TxDOT has agreed to install the traffic signals. Plans are being reviewed by TxDOT. Estimated completion Winter 2009.

Right turn lane from FM1382 to US67

A dedicated turn lane will be built for traffic turning from eastbound FM1382 onto southbound US67 Frontage Road. Estimated completion in December 2009.

Straus Road & FM1382 intersection

Includes widening Straus from 2 lanes to 4 lanes at the intersection approaches and realignment of the FM1382 intersection. Utility relocations are ongoing. This project, in partnership with TxDOT, is expected to be completed by December 2010.

Lake Ridge Parkway Improvements

Includes the rehabilitation of the existing lanes and the construction of two additional lanes between just south of Mansfield Road and just west of US67. Design is ongoing, repairs will begin in March 2009 with completion estimated in October 2010.

Belt Line/Mansfield Road, phase III

Includes widening Belt Line/Mansfield Road from 2 lanes to 4 lanes divided, from the Belt Line/ Mansfield Road intersection to the western city limits. This project is in partnership with

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The new Tri-City Animal Shelter building is beginning to take shape on E. Pleasant Run, right next door to the existing shelter.

The larger facility is scheduled to open in July. It will offer 31 kennels and 24 cages for adoptable dogs, along with 21 impound kennels, 6 quarantine kennels and, for treatment, one kennel and 9 cages. There will be an outdoor courtyard with 5 dog runs.

Cat lovers will find 30 display cages, a cat play room, a "get to know" room, 9 cat intake/quarantine cages and 6 isolation cages. The facility will feature a drop-off lobby separate from the general lobby.

The shelter serves residents of Cedar Hill, DeSoto and Duncanville.

Out of the box and online

It's no surprise that in today's economy, library use has increased. As residents are cutting back on extras, the Zula B. Wylie library offers lots of no-cost options that go well outside the box.

With more than 60 years of service to the community, our very own library provides valuable research databases exclusively for Cedar Hill residents, as well as interactive test-preparation sources at the reach of your fingertips.

Enjoy high-speed internet access on the library's desktops or take advantage of the free Wi-Fi connection with a personal laptop or check one out from any of our friendly librarians.

Laptop rentals are free for persons 18 years or older in good standing with no lost materials or fines exceeding \$10. This service is provided as a courtesy and notebooks are not to leave the building.

Library computers are equipped with Microsoft Office and require a Zula B. Wylie library card number for logging in.

With more than 100 search engines to choose from, the possibilities are endless. Listed below are some most popular among library visitors.

TexShare Databases

Accessible from the library or at home, this virtual library compiles an array of reliable sources of business, literature, health, and science articles and journals.

Ancestry® Library Edition

Perhaps you're interested in discovering more about your genealogical roots or preparing a family tree. This service may do just the trick. Funded by the City, this database allows you to search through records on library computers only.

Country Watch

This search engine provides up-to-date information on all recognizable countries. Find facts regarding climate, currency, and overviews on the economy, politics and investments before you travel.

Dallas Morning News

Find full-text articles dating back to 1984 from millions of archival pieces. This database includes local, regional, national, and even international sections of newspapers from NewsBank, inc.

Learning Express Library

Great for all age groups interested in general learning or preparing for upcoming tests. Featured resources include: ACT, TAKS, GED and graduate school entrance practice tests. There are terrific math and vocabulary builders to incorporate into a child's or an adult's daily regimen.

Morning Star

This is a comprehensive financial database accessible from the library. It's used for finding current news and help for veteran and prospective investors. Develop a profile specific to your investment needs and watch your top 20 stocks, funds and ETFs' ratings.

Reference USA

Find information about local businesses regarding assets, employee totals and competition. There's also information about local doctors and dentists.

Social Studies from ABC-CLIO

A handy tool for students doing homework, or "self-proclaimed" political analysts, this system is considered a reliable source of world geography and American government information.

Before jumping on the internet to do some research, consider using a database from home or the library. Databases are trusted sources because the information comes from academic journals. Best of all, these online databases are available at no cost to library card holders.

Traphene Hickman celebrates with Library Director Pat Bonds at Pat's retirement in February. Pat retires with 28 years of service to the City of Cedar Hill. Traphene will serve as Interim Director.



The library doors are open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and closed on Sunday.

Online databases are available 24/7.

Police honor their finest at banquet



Sgt. Chuck Woods, left, and Chief Steve Rhodes, right, present the 2008 Officer of the Year Award to Adrian Saldana. The banquet had a '70s theme.



Lt. Colin Chenault is joined by Asst. Chief Rodney Thompson as his unit, including David Podany and Mike McCorkle, receives the Chief's Unit Award recognizing their outstanding representation of the department during their K-9 work and demonstrations.



Mike Arguiano, President of the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Assn., presents the Member of the Year Award to Doris Childres.

Free tax help at Library

Free tax help, provided by AARP tax volunteers, will be available at the Zula B. Wylie Library on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. until the close of the tax season in April. Call 972.291.7323 or check the City website for dates and times.

Most 2008 tax forms are available in the lobby of the Library at 225 Cedar St. Additional forms may be photocopied in the library from tax forms furnished by the IRS.

Library hours are Mon, Tues., & Thurs. 10 a.m. - 9 p.m., Wed. & Fri. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Community Calendar

More information is available on the Calendar at www.cedarhilltx.com

March

24 City Council Meeting

Council Meeting starts at 7 p.m. Briefing session begins at 6 p.m. Open to public. Turk Cannady/Cedar Hill Room, Government Center

April

4 Bloom and Groom

1 - 5 p.m. Bradford Park in High Pointe, 401 W. Wintergreen
Local landscape and home improvement businesses will display products and services. They will offer expertise to improve yards with flowers, shrubs, trees, landscape design, sprinkler systems, fences, patios, walkways, etc. Discount coupons and money-saving tips will be offered. Several items will be raffled.

8 Make It & Take It Rainwater Barrel Class

6-8 p.m. Cedar Hill Recreation Center, 310 E. Parkville
\$30 for materials to build your own rainwater barrel. Learn about conserving water, saving money and the benefits of rainwater for landscaping. For more information about the class call the Rec Center at 972.293.5288.

13 Neighborhood Advisory Board Meeting

6:15 p.m. Second Monday of the month. Conference Room D, First Floor, Cedar Hill Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd. For more information on the NAB, visit <http://www.cedarhilltx.com/index.asp?NID=723>.

14 City Council Meeting

Council Meeting starts at 7 p.m. Briefing session begins at 6 p.m. Open to public. Turk Cannady/Cedar Hill Room, Government Center.

18 Keep Cedar Hill Beautiful - Community Clean Up Day

9-11 a.m. at Virginia Weaver Park, 631 Somerset Dr.
A great way to benefit our community by helping clean up for a couple of hours. There will be a hot dog lunch following the event, and free T-shirts and door prizes. A dumpster will be available for residents to dispose of bulky items. No hazardous waste, please!

27 Main Street Development and Preservation Board Meeting

6 p.m. Fourth Monday of the month. Conference Room D, First Floor, Cedar Hill Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd.. For more information on the MSD&PB, visit <http://www.cedarhilltx.com/index.asp?NID=152>

28 City Council Meeting

Council Meeting starts at 7 p.m. Briefing session begins at 6 p.m. Open to public. Turk Cannady/Cedar Hill Room, Government Center

Monthly

Readers on the Hill

Literary group meets the first Monday of each month at the Zula B. Wylie Library, 225 Cedar St. Call the library at 972.291.7323 for more information.

Dallas Area Writers Group

Open to beginning and seasoned writers, this group meets from 7 to 8:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at Zula B. Wylie Library, 225 Cedar St. For more information visit www.dallaswriters.org.

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.

See more events on the City calendar at www.cedarhilltx.com

Contacts

- After hours
972.780.6643
- 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 Rain-outs
214.855.9758
- Parks Special Events
214.890.6977
- Police Department
Non-emergency
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

www.cedarhilltx.com

Infrastructure *Continued from front page*

Dallas County. The design team is exploring context-sensitive design options and right-of-way requirements. Estimated completion in 2012.

Pleasant Run Road, east

Project includes paving, sidewalks, drainage, water, sewer, street lighting and landscaping on Pleasant Run from US67 to Duncanville Road. Context sensitive design elements are being incorporated into the overall design. Estimated completion December 2010.

Sanitary sewer lift station upgrades

Includes upgrades at several sanitary sewer lift stations including level indicator modifications, repainting, fencing, SCADA improvements I/I mitigation improvements and safety upgrades. Completion estimated in December 2009.

Sub-basin I TV inspection

Includes the television inspection of sub-basin I, the general area bounded by Clark Road, Parker-ville Road, US67 and Capricorn Drive. Estimated completion June, 2009

Concrete street repair program

Includes repairs on the following streets: Sleepy Hollow Drive, Sherwood Court, Brookside Drive, Capricorn Drive, Parkerville (E. of Joe Wilson Road), Waterford Oaks Drive, Weaver Street, Valley View Drive, Kenya Street, Lakeview Drive, (W. of Lake Ridge), Highlands Drive and Mt. Lebanon Road. Estimated completion is July 2009.

Main Street water line replacement

Includes replacement of a 40-year-old 2-inch water main with an 8-inch water main along the 300 block of Main Street. This project, implemented in cooperation with Dallas County, should be completed by July 2009.

Gas well ordinance *From front page*

The western portion of Cedar Hill is located over the gas producing Barnett Shale and is being considered by gas producing companies for well sites. This portion of Cedar Hill is quite environmentally sensitive, commands a captivating view over Joe Pool Lake and is primarily zoned for residential use.

Current City regulations prohibit "gas extraction sites" within residential-zoned areas.

For more information about this process contact Rod Tyler, Director of Planning at 972.291.5100x1083 or his assistant Belinda Huff at the same number, x1081.

Information and agendas/minutes are available online at <http://www.cedarhilltx.com/index.asp?nid=1049>.

Council seeks help defining City's distinctive character

City Council members want everyone to participate in defining what makes up the distinctive character of Cedar Hill. The goal is to identify what makes our community so special and nurture those values, making them a viable part of Cedar Hill's future.

Please complete the survey on the City website at www.cedarhilltx.com. Under the City Hall menu, pull down City Council Priorities and click on Distinctive Character - 2028 Goals. There is a survey link on that page along with more information about the Distinctive Character initiative. There is a "Comments" link at the bottom of the page where you can email your thoughts and they will be presented to the City Council.



Lake Ridge POA President Phil MacDonald, center, and Vice President Chad McCurdy, right, present a check to Cedar Hill Fire Chief Steve Pollock at a recent City Council meeting. Funds, raised through proceeds from the First Annual Lake Ridge Golf Classic, will be used to acquire equipment for Fire Station #4 opening in April.

March is Red Cross Month, seeking help with blood drives

March 20 at Kohl's from 1-5 p.m. - Need 20 donors to sign up. Kohl's will deduct 15% off total purchase the day of the donation.

March 28 at Uptown Village Shopping Center from 1-5 p.m. - Need 20 donors to sign up. There will be various giveaways.

Make an appointment at www.givelife.org, or call 1.800.givelife.

American Red Cross Blood Services supplies blood to over 3,000 hospitals and relies upon volunteer blood donors to ensure that blood is available wherever it is needed across the country.



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