



The City of Cedar Hill, Texas

# McCain elected to City Council

Her community involvement was a factor in Jami McCain's win in the recent special election to fill the unexpired term of Cory Spillman.

That, plus her energetic campaigning, earned her 75% of the votes cast.

She believes that involvement is critical for many solutions. "I firmly believe that positive solutions lie, not in more government involvement, but in first looking for creative and effective solutions in individuals and organizations."

To her credit, she has been engaged in a number of local organizations including the Main Street Development and Preservation Board, Country Day on the Hill team, Cedar Hill Historic society, National Day of Prayer event, Walk the Light Festival and Keep Cedar Hill Beautiful.

Her involvement goes to a higher level too. She and her husband, Adam, pastor

Church on the Hill in Historic Downtown Cedar Hill.

Her family has lived in Cedar Hill for seven years.

Jami said she believes the duty of a City Council Member is to avoid personal agendas or extreme positions and "serve as a listener, observer and representative." She added, "My goal is to align the hopes of citizens with the plans of leadership, producing practical goals and achievements."

When asked about the future, Jami looked into the past, "The current leadership has done an amazing job setting Cedar Hill on a path to success. Years of careful planning have resulted in a community that has been able to weather recent economic storms."

Jami says she is not a career politician. "I have spent the past 20 years serving people and helping them discover the great plan of God in their lives and in their com-

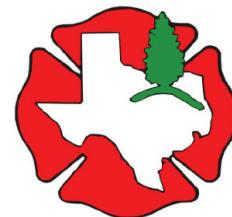


**Jami McCain**

munity. It is my goal to honor and continue to serve the citizens of Cedar Hill in that same capacity. It's not about position; it's about leadership."

Jami's term as Place 1 City Council Member ends in 2015.

When she's not involved in local events, Jami enjoys remodeling their downtown 1930's bungalow, or hanging out with her husband and children and their over-sized yellow lab, Lucy.



## Citizens Fire Academy opens registration

The Cedar Hill Fire Department is proud to announce its Annual Citizens Fire Academy. Classes are set to begin Thursday, April 4.

The Citizen's Fire Academy (CFA) is open to persons 18 or older who either live or work in the City of Cedar Hill. This 10-week program includes approximately 30 hours of instruction. Sessions are approximately 3 hours in length and held at the Central Fire Station, 1212 Belt Line Rd.

Class size will be limited to 12 students. Some classes will be held at the Desoto Fire Department's training facility depending on the specific topic of the class.

Citizens Fire Academy is designed to help the citizens of Cedar Hill to learn more about how the fire department is organized.

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## City Council Election set for May 11

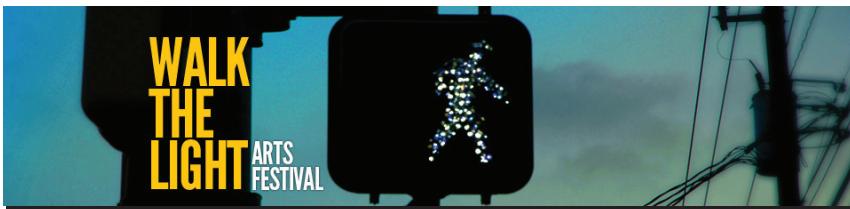


Three City Council members have indicated they will run in the May 11 election.

Mayor Rob Franke, Place 2 Council member Wallace Swayze and Place 4 Council Member Steve Mason have three-year terms that expire this year.

Persons interested in running for City Council need to contact City Secretary Lyn Hill on the 4th floor of the Government Center to pick up a packet of information including a petition to file by March 1.

Early voting will begin April 29. For updated information check [www.cedarhilltx.com](http://www.cedarhilltx.com).



## 'Walk The Light' arts festival adds 'Better Block' demo

Saturday, March 16, starting at 5 p.m., Historic Downtown Cedar Hill will host an inspiring invasion of artists and performers who will light up the evening and the faces of all who attend.

Walk The Light Festival returns for another stimulating evening. This year it gets even better.

"Better Block" is a program that helps neighborhoods see what could be. By staging desired streetscape, organizers help stakeholders, neighborhood/community leaders see how vibrant an underdeveloped area could be.

During Walk The Light stroll on down to the area near the intersection of Cedar and South Broad to see amazing changes. Temporary though they may be these scenes show the vitality that could live in downtown with the right combination of redevelopment and business stimulation. Learn more at [better-block.org](http://better-block.org).

**The success of Walk The Light over the last two years is expected to draw several thousand again this March.**

After experiencing last year's WTL event, City Council Member Wallace Swayze said

"Walk the Light was a wonderful way to bring the community together with the arts. I'm looking forward to the next time we do this."

Walk The Light founder and director Laura Allen spoke of last year's event in her blog:

"Shocking success" is the phrase I would use to describe Saturday's incredible experience. We had obviously planned for the arts festival to be amazing, but what actually happened so far exceeded my expectations, that I was speechless by the end of it. Not only did the event go smoothly, *Continues on back page*

## Citizens Police Academy classes start March 11

The 2013 Citizens Police Academy is a 12-week course, meeting on Thursday nights starting on March 11. Classes will meet from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Graduation will be Thursday June 6.

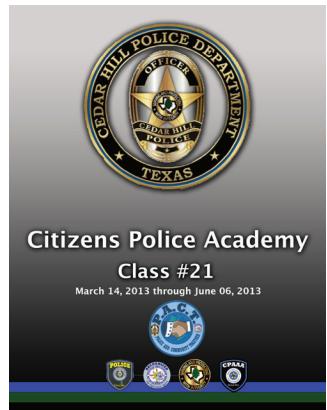
This class covers police training, communications, criminal investigations, crime-scene work, crime prevention, programs for children, gangs and more. There will be lectures, demonstrations, tours and hands-on training.

Each week different topics will be covered with guest instructors from the PD demonstrating their equipment and discussing their methods.

Learn the functions of community policing and some of the responsibilities police officers carry under law. See specialized tools and tactics, like the K-9 unit.

Graduates of a CPA class are eligible to participate in Citizens on Patrol groups and join the Citizen Police Academy Alumni Assn.

Space is limited, sign up today by emailing officer Roy Rodriguez at [roy.rodriguez@cedarhilltx.com](mailto:roy.rodriguez@cedarhilltx.com), or visit [cedarhilltx.com/cpa](http://cedarhilltx.com/cpa) for more information and a link to an online registration form.



## Citizen Fire Academy From front page

and operates. Participants in the Citizens Fire Academy will learn the purpose and inner workings of the Department, and discover the diverse services that are provided to our community.

Academy graduates are encouraged to return to their neighborhoods and relay

to their friends and neighbors the proper procedures to use to become a more safety-conscious citizen.

The CFA will provide an interactive forum for both the Fire Department and the citizens to share information.

CFA participants will:

- receive basic CPR instruction
- receive fundamental knowledge in first aid
- learn how to react in a positive manner in case of fire or medical emergencies
- gain awareness and knowledge to keep the home and workplace accident-free
- learn why and how the Fire Department conducts itself in an emergency
- interact with and address community concerns.

Applications are

available at the Central Station at 1212 Belt Line Rd. or can be submitted on the CHFD website at [cedarhilltx.com/CFAapp](http://cedarhilltx.com/CFAapp).

For more information please visit the Fire Department web-pages or contact Fire Marshal Randal Jordan at 972.291.1011.



**The Police Department will check your home while you are away on vacation. Download the request form on the City website at [bit.ly/chpdvac](http://bit.ly/chpdvac)**

## People make it a community

### City Council actions on Jan. 22

On January 22, during the Briefing Session, the City Council heard an update on the City's sign ordinance from Johnny Kendro, Building Official. City Manager Alan Sims reviewed the City calendar.

During the meeting the City Council received a presentation on the Better Block program from Rod Reed, Main Street Board Chairman and Patty Bushart, Main Street Manager. They discussed plans for a streetscape demonstration concurrent with the Walk The Light Festival downtown on March 16.

Council Members adopted a resolution naming the City Council as the Board of Directors for the Cedar Hill Crime Control and Prevention District. Funding for the CHCCP was approved by voters at the last election.

Two resolutions were approved to prepare for the May 11 City election and inter-local agreements for asphalt street overlay projects in the city.

The Council directed City staff to submit a grant application to the US Dept. of the Interior, updating the city's aging water monitoring and control system for water and wastewater systems. The grant application is for \$235,000 and requires a 50% match by the City.

During "Citizens Forum" two residents addressed the Council regarding concerns about too few streetlights in the older part of the Waterford Oaks neighborhood.



**Oncor maintains most of the streetlights in our city. To report a problem, visit their website at [oncor.com](http://oncor.com) and select "Report Streetlight Issue" or call 888.313.4747.**



# 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.



[www.cedarhilltx.com/calendar.aspx](http://www.cedarhilltx.com/calendar.aspx)

### February

#### 26 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 at the front door of the Government Center at least 72 hours before the meeting and online at [cedarhilltx.com/agenda](http://cedarhilltx.com/agenda).

### March

#### 2 Citywide Neighborhood Block Party & Rec Center Anniversary

310 E Parkerville Rd. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Enjoy games, prizes, health & fitness, demonstrations, recreation activities, fire safety, police K-9 unit, and more. Get more at [cedarhilltx.com/blockparty](http://cedarhilltx.com/blockparty)

#### 12 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.

#### 16 Walk the Light

5-11 p.m., Historic Downtown Cedar Hill

Walk the Light and the City of Cedar Hill will host their 3rd annual arts festival. View all the details at [www.walkthelight.org](http://www.walkthelight.org).

#### 23 Household Hazardous Waste Event

9-11 a.m. in CHHS parking lot.

For more information about what you can safely dispose of at this event please visit [cedarhilltx.com/hhw](http://cedarhilltx.com/hhw).

#### 29 City offices closed for Good Friday

### Saturday litter collection project

Meet at the Government Center every Saturday at 10 a.m. to help keep Cedar Hill clean by collecting litter in all parts of the city. This program is supported by Keep Cedar Hill Beautiful and coordinated by Don Hughes. To confirm, if weather is iffy, please call him at 972.765.4285.

### Turn to the Library for help

Tax help is available on Tuesdays beginning Feb. 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. first come-first served.

Homework help is available for students in grades 3-6 on Thursdays from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. Program is supervised by a certified teacher. Register at 972.291.7323 x1312.

Get help preparing for SAT/ACT tests beginning Feb. 23. Get more information at 972.291.7323 x1312.

### More social than ever

Keep up with the latest goings on in Cedar Hill via social media.

You can tweet with us at [twitter.com/CedarHillTX](http://twitter.com/CedarHillTX).

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

Pin with us on [Pinterest.com/cedarhilltx](http://Pinterest.com/cedarhilltx).



# 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  
972.291.5335

Tri-City Animal Shelter  
972.291.5335

Utility Billing  
972.291.5100x1200

# Eight great years of Block Party fun

Saturday, March 2nd the Cedar Hill Recreation Center and Neighborhood Services will celebrate eight, great years of partnership and one big block party.

The Recreation Center opened in the fall of 2004 and was soon recognized as the premier center for fun, fitness and friendship in the Best Southwest. It was around the same time that the City Council challenged residents to become more engaged in the community by taking part in Take Action Day, the event we now call the Citywide Neighborhood Block Party.

The annual event brings together residents with games, prizes, health and fitness demonstrations, recreation activities, fire safety and police K-9 presentations and much more. City em-



## Walk The Light From page 1

and the attendance count shoot through the roof (estimated 5,000 people!), but the effect of the event on the community and historic downtown was so much more than we had anticipated...we know that the repercussions will be felt for months to come."

We thank the merchants and vendors in the historic downtown area, for opening up their doors to host artists and festival activi-

ties. We heard reports that sales hit record numbers that night!

I was very inspired by the excellence I saw in the art, and by the fervor and compassion I saw in the artists, who took the time to come out of the woodwork to showcase their craft, and to celebrate the rich heritage in their community. I think the artists of Cedar Hill may be one of DFW's best kept secrets."



## Cards support Foundation grants

The Cedar Hill ISD Education Foundation is currently selling Major Saver Discount Cards to raise funds to benefit the teachers and students of the Cedar Hill ISD. Cards are good for a single use discount at fifteen different local businesses. The cards are available in the Education Foundation office in the Government Center or online at [www.majorsaver.com](http://www.majorsaver.com). Please contact Denise Root, Executive Director at 972.291.1581 x4047 or visit [educationfoundation@chisd.net](mailto:educationfoundation@chisd.net) for more information or to purchase your Major Saver cards to support the Cedar Hill ISD.

The Cedar Hill Education Foundation provides educational grants to the teachers of the Cedar Hill ISD. These grants are made possible by the financial support of involved citizens and the personal time provided by the The Friends of the Foundation.

## Free Audubon on Thursdays

Audubon's Dogwood Canyon Center in Cedar Hill is currently offering free admission on Thursdays. Get more information, download a trails map and learn more at [dogwoodcanyon.audubon.org](http://dogwoodcanyon.audubon.org).

**TEACHERS:** check out the academic programming for pre-K - 12th grade. Included are Expedition Science programs and Conservation Workshops led by Dogwood Canyon Audubon staff. Call Tania Homayoun at 469.526.1986 or email her at [thomayoun@audubon.org](mailto:thomayoun@audubon.org).



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