



THE GRAPEVINE

NOW OVER 1,450 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

The Newsletter of the City of Garden Ridge

www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us

October 2012

City Hall 651-6632 Lost Pet 651-6831 GRPD 651-6441

Non-emergency, after hours 651-6831



Happy Halloween!!



Garden Ridge Lions Club

Saturday, October 6, 2012, 3 PM

Garden Ridge Community Center

Annual Fish Fry, BBQ & Auction

Please support Raffle Sales and other activities! All proceeds to charity!

Coming Events:

- 1 Oct — Quarry Commission Meets 7 pm (Note Change)
- 3 Oct — City Council Meets, 6 pm
- 6 Oct — Lions Club Fish Fry, BBQ and Auction - Community Center, Starts 3 pm
- 8 Oct — Garden Ridge Area Republican Club Meets 7 pm Community Center
- 8 Oct — Columbus Day
- 9 Oct — Planning and Zoning Meets 6 pm
- 9 Oct — BVFD General Membership Meeting 7 pm 651-5762
- 16 Oct — National Boss' Day
- 20 Oct — GRWC Holiday Marketplace (See article)
- 20 Oct — Triumphant Lutheran Church Octoberfest (See Article)
- 20 Oct — Library Book Sale - 10 am to 4 pm
- 20 Oct — NE Bible Church Fall Festival Event (See Article)
- 22 Oct — Early Voting Starts (See Article)
- 23 Oct — Water Commission meets — 6 pm
- 31 Oct — Halloween — Have Fun! Be Careful!

WELCOME TO GARDEN RIDGE

Those Listed and families:

- Troy Breeden
- Danny & Michelle Elich
- Martin & Randi Fass
- Vernon Rowe
- Jerry & Robyn Welch



NOTE: Newcomers are derived from water service records and, thus, not all family members are included. Those not appearing are also welcomed.

New City Directory being published. See www.GardenRidgeDirectory.com.

Library Footnotes

By Karen Bishop



The Garden Ridge Library collection is heavily dependent on your generous contributions of gently used books, DVDs and audiobooks on CD. Currently we are in great need of new titles in good condition. For circulation purposes we prefer hardback books but we also welcome paperbacks to add to our sales room. Proceeds from sales are used to purchase requested titles and even best sellers.

If you are buying anything at all from Amazon please remember to purchase through the library's program so we can receive credit. Go to the city's website ci.garden-ridge.tx.us, click on "Departments" and scroll down to "Library". Go to "Support Your Library" and click on the Amazon logo and it will take you to Amazon so you can shop. The library will receive between 4% and 15% of your purchase price. This offer is good on the purchase of anything, not just books.

Have you borrowed an ebook yet? Again, go to the city's website, click on "Departments" and scroll down to "Library". Go to "ebooks on Lone Star overdrive" and follow the online instructions. If you prefer, come into the library and consult our notebook with all the steps, complete with illustrations.

In order to download an ebook from this library you will need your library patron number. The number is on the back of your library card. If you have not picked up your library card you will need to come in for it first.

So this is a column of reminders: your library card, ebooks, Amazon orders and above all else DONATIONS!! Enjoy reading!

FROM THE MAYOR

Hopefully the good soaking rain we had in September will reduce this year's water problems especially as we enter the traditional wet months. I expect relief from the current drought restrictions so that we all may return to a fairly normal schedule.

Hope all had a nice summer regardless of the heat and drought. Enjoy the fall weather.

Jay F. Feibelman
Mayor

WEST NILE VIRUS

West Nile Virus is a disease transmitted by mosquitoes that can infect humans, birds, horses and other mammals. In humans, West Nile Virus infection can cause a mild flu-like illness, or may cause no symptoms at all. Persons older than 50, particularly those over 65, and individuals with a compromised immune system have the highest risk of severe neurological disease, such as encephalitis (inflammation of the brain), meningitis (inflammation of the membrane around the brain and spinal cord), and acute flaccid paralysis (a polio-like syndrome in which muscles become very weak or paralyzed).

Symptoms, in the progression of the disease, may include: headache, high fever, stiff neck, confusion, coma, tremors, convulsions, and muscle weakness or paralysis. In the most serious cases, West Nile Virus can cause permanent neurological damage and death. If illness does occur, symptoms generally appear within 3 to 14 days of being bitten by an infected mosquito.

WHERE DO MOSQUITOES LIVE AND BREED?

Mosquitoes lay their eggs in moist areas, such as standing water. Weeds, tall grass and shrubbery provide an outdoor home for adult mosquitoes. Many mosquitoes will breed in containers that hold water, such as bird baths, flowerpots or discarded tires.

WHEN ARE MOSQUITOES MOST ACTIVE?

Most mosquitoes are active between dusk and dawn, when the air is calm. Mosquitoes prefer a warm, moist environment. In southern states that have a warm year-round climate, mosquitoes that transmit West Nile virus are active year round.

Although there are many ways to reduce the danger, the most common is to eliminate or treat standing water.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found those who are more susceptible to adverse effects from West Nile virus are less likely to use a mosquito repellent so educating this group about the importance of using a repellent is key to preventing serious illness or deaths from West Nile Virus.

QUARRY COMMISSION HAPPENINGS

The Quarry Commission's monthly meeting was held on September 10, 2012. The Quarry conducted 14 blasts during the month of August. Citizen Blasting Reports were received on 14, 15 and 21 August. A review of the 14 blasts revealed that the one on 21 August resulted in higher than usual Air Blast measurement, but all shots were below the vibration (PPV) and Air Blast limitations as required by City Ordinance 34. Citizen Blast Report forms can be found on the city's web site home page (www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us). Interested citizens are encouraged to attend the monthly Quarry Commission. The October Quarry Commission meeting will be held on Monday, the 1st, at 7:00 p.m. If you wish to comment about a blast, have input for the commission, or are interested in a Quarry tour, contact City Hall at 651-6632.



Significant City Council Actions

Regular Meeting Sep 5

Presentations & Recognition:

- Presentation recognizing Deputy Chief Gary Johnson upon his retirement from and service to the City of Garden Ridge
- Recognition of Cellular on Patrol (COP) members for their dedicated time in assisting the Garden Ridge Police Department
- National Payroll Week Proclamation

Public Hearing:

- Proposed 2012 Property Tax Rate of \$0.283246 for the City of Garden Ridge
- No comments for or against

Update:

- Public safety concerns in the Wild Wind Unit 3 Subdivision of Garden Ridge, Texas and to include City of Garden Ridge v. Vordenbaum, Inc. D/B/A Bracken Rifle and Pistol Range, (Cause No. C2011-1647A, in the 2nd Judicial District Court)

APPROVED:

- Reappointment of Planning and Zoning Commissioners Places 2, 3 and 7, Kay Bower, Sam Stocks and Kitty Owen respectively for a 2 year term of office expiring September 30, 2014
- Reappointment of Johnell Holly, James Morgan and Jerry Warden as City Quarry Commissioners for a 2 year term of office expiring September 30, 2014
- Promotion of Garden Ridge Police Officer Gabriel Galan to the position of Corporal within the Police Department effective September 5, 2012 at the pay rate established by the City Council for said position in the 2012 Budget

Discussion:

- Discussion and possible formation of a City Park Committee/Beautification to study parks/public areas within the City of Garden Ridge and develop a Garden Ridge Park/Public Area Master Plan. Consensus to move forward.

Update:

- Relocation of 12" water line beginning at the FM 3009/FM 2252 intersection and moving in a westerly direction along the north side of FM 3009 and in a southerly direction along the west side of FM 2252
- Update on 2010 Storm Water Master Plan for the City of Garden Ridge and as it relates to storm water drainage through the Hickory Bend drainage easement and the Arrowood Subdivision
- Report on treatment for mosquitoes in the City of Garden Ridge

September 13 Special Meeting:

- Changes to the Proposed 2013 Fiscal Year Budgets for the City of Garden Ridge
- Proposed City of Garden Ridge Capital Improvement Plan for Water, Drainage and Street Projects to include prioritization of projects and funding options for plan and/or projects
- Ratify the property tax increase of \$0.283246 as reflected in the 2013 General Fund and Interest and Sinking Fund Budgets for the City of Garden Ridge

APPROVED:

- Resolution 275-092012 approving fiscal year 2013 Budget for the City of Garden Ridge General Fund for the period of October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013
- Resolution 276-092012 approving fiscal year 2013 Budget for the City of Garden Ridge Water Fund for the period of October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013
- Resolution 277-092012 approving fiscal year 2013 Budget for the City of Garden Ridge Interest and Sinking Fund for the period of October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013
- Resolution 278-092012 approving fiscal year 2013 Budget for the City of Garden Ridge Capital Improvement Fund for the period of October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013
- Consideration and possible action concerning Ordinance 169-092012 authorizing the issuance of \$5,985,000 "City of Garden Ridge, Texas Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2012"; authorizing the sale thereof; and enacting provisions incident and related to the issuance of said certificates
- Consideration and possible action concerning Ordinance 170-092012 authorizing the issuance of City of Garden Ridge, Texas General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2012;
- Adoption of \$.182658 as the 2012 Maintenance and Operation Rate for the City of Garden Ridge
- Adoption of \$.100588 as the 2012 Debt Service Tax Rate for the City of Garden Ridge
- Award of the City of Garden Ridge employee health insurance benefit plan and authorize the City Administrator to execute health insurance contract with TML
- Award of the City of Garden Ridge employee dental insurance benefit plan and authorize the City Administrator to execute dental insurance contract with TML
- Authorizing Councilmember Dalton and Councilman Roberts to work with TxDot on the FM 2252/3009 intersection to include the traffic congestion and traffic light at Evans Road /FM 2252 and to work with Comal County representatives on issues relating to FM 2252 and Bat Cave Road

**Oktoberfest
Triumphant Lutheran Church
21315 Bat Cave Road
(210) 651-9090**

All citizens are cordially invited to attend our annual Oktoberfest Celebration:

Saturday, October 20 from 4pm-8pm
Live Music by Bohemian Dutchmen,

BBQ, Children's Activities, Silent Auction, Live Auction, Dancing.
There will be a short "casual dress" worship service beginning at 5:00pm.

COMAL COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR COLLECTOR

Comal County Tax Assessor-Collector Cathy C. Talcott would like to remind all Garden Ridge area residents that a convenient Tax Office drive-thru drop box is located in the City of Garden Ridge Municipal Building parking lot. The box is shared with the City. Any and all Tax Office correspondence is welcome, including property tax payments, motor vehicle registration renewals, and voter applications and should be deposited in the top half of the box. The bottom half is for City Water Department bills.

Property Tax Statements will be mailed mid-October, are due upon receipt, and must be received and/or postmarked by January 31. And don't forget - in order to be able to vote in the November 6 General Election, the last day to register and/or make any address/name changes is October 9 at 5:00 p.m. Questions?

Visit www.ComalCountyTaxOffice.net or call 830-221-1353.

GRWC Annual Holiday Marketplace

Mark your calendars for the annual Holiday Marketplace

Date: Saturday, October 20, from 10 am – 4 pm
Location: GR Community Center

Over 50 vendors offering unique, one of a kind items. In addition we will have a silent auction, a raffle of an original handmade quilt, and of course, lots of good food.

We are still looking for items for the silent auction...this is a really good way to introduce people to your business or perhaps you would like to re-purpose a gift you can't use.

Finally, we need volunteers—we can't do this without you! This is a great way to meet new friends and become more involved with GRWC. If you have a gift for the silent auction or you want to volunteer, contact Nancy Oro at grwcmarketplace@gmail.com.



Holiday Tour of Homes

Christmas is right around the corner! Mark your calendars for Thursday, December 13, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm! Join the GRWC for a tour of some of Garden Ridge's most beautifully decorated homes. Refreshments will be available. We are still looking for a few more homes to be displayed. If you are interested, please call Sharon Duemler at 651-0654 or email at sduemler@satx.rr.com.



Saturday, Oct 20th, 3-7pm

Families - come join us for carnival games, inflatables, mechanical bull, entertainment, door prizes, food and fun! Wristbands and food available for purchase.

Northeast Bible Church
19185 FM 2252
Garden Ridge, Texas
651-5462

Bracken VFD General Membership Meeting

The Annual General Membership Meeting of the Bracken VFD will be held on Tuesday, October 9, at 7:00PM at the Fire House at 23600 FM3009. Everyone is cordially invited to attend and become members of the Bracken VFD. Three Director positions will be up for election. If you wish to serve on the Board of Directors, please call the Fire Department at 210-651-5762. Also, the Department is always in need of Volunteer Firefighters. Training is provided. If you wish to be a Volunteer Firefighter, please call the Department.

Library First time!

All books in Sale Room 1/2 price!
October 20, 2012, 10 am to 4 pm

GENERAL ELECTION (Federal, State, County) EARLY VOTING DATES AND TIMES:

Location: Garden Ridge City Hall
October 22-26, 2012 – 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Mon-Fri)
October 27, 2012 – 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. (Saturday)
October 28, 2012 – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Sunday)
October 29 - November 1, 2012 – 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. (Mon-Thurs)
November 2, 2012 – 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. (Friday)

Garden Ridge Area Republican Club

The Garden Ridge Area Republican Club will meet on Monday, October 8, at 7:00PM in the Blue Bonnet Room of the Community Center. The upcoming General Election will be discussed. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Call Charlie Flink at 651-6631 with questions

URBAN STUDIO SALON

After 14 years of experience with a New Braunfels Salon, Beth Yuras has opened a salon in the Garden Ridge area. Located @ 19834 FM 2252, Suite #100. Specializing in highlights, cuts, perms, air-brush make-up, threading and more. Please call for an appointment (210) 651-4373.