



THE GRAPEVINE

NOW OVER 1,500 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

The Newsletter of the City of Garden Ridge

June 2014

www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us

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

Non-emergency, after hours



Coming Events:

- 4 June - City Council, 6pm
- 6 June - D-Day "Lest We Forget"
- 9 June - Quarry Commission, 7pm
- 10 June - Planning and Zoning Commission, 6pm
- 14 June - Flag Day
- 15 June - Father's Day
- 17 June - Possible Planning & Zoning Special Meeting and public hearings on proposed asphalt plants. 6pm (watch website for more information)
- 21 June - First Day of Summer
- 24 June - Water Commission, 6pm



Congratulations to Bobby Roberts, Todd Ardivison and John McCaw for their elections to City Council. Unfortunately, voter turn-out was very low with only 296 of 3,156 registered voters voting in the election.

With summer vacations fast approaching, keeping our homes and property safe rises to the forefront of people's minds. The Police Department has prepared a few safety tips for this month's Grapevine. We will include more tips during the coming months.

Keeping up with what is going on in Garden Ridge has also become easier. You no longer have to look in the newspaper to find out about public hearings - we have added a new tab to our website for Public Notices. In addition, this month's Grapevine contains an article on how to use our "Notify Me" service to receive emails or texts when items, such as Council and Commission agendas or community events, are posted to the City website.

Our City's strength is its base of involved citizens and citizen volunteers. Please continue to learn about the issues and voice your opinion. Offer to give of your time and talents by volunteering to serve on one of our Commissions. Just send a letter to the City Administrator indicating your interest in serving and include a brief resume and you will be put on the list for consideration as openings arise or as other opportunities present themselves.

The Library recently hosted a seminar on the use of native plants in our landscapes as a way to conserve water. Watch the Grapevine for more tips on water conservation as the drought in the hill country continues.

It is going to be a busy summer in Garden Ridge. Hope you have a great one.

Nadine
Mayor Pro Tem

WELCOME TO GARDEN RIDGE

New Residents

ISABELL LEWIS	STEVEN R SLOTNICK DDS
GUY PALUMBO	BRAD & CAROLE MESSER
MALCOLM FRENCH	PAUL & DALE SULLIVAN
GEORGE TURNAGE	DR CHRIS & JULIE REGER
WALTER OWENS	HIBET MELGOZA
ANGELA DIEBAL	GLEN & CATHERINE TAYLOR

NOTE: Newcomers are derived from water service records, and thus, not all family members are included. Those not appearing are also welcomed! The City of Garden Ridge requires that all dogs and cats be registered, and each January thereafter. Call 651-6831 for information.

TIPS FROM GARDEN RIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

- If you have a security system, use it!** Plenty of people have a security system installed in their home, but they don't turn it on.
- Lock up the house!** Burglars are always looking for the easiest way inside and will look for unlocked doors and windows. Don't forget to lock fence gates, storage buildings and garage doors as well.
- Put your lights on timers!** Security experts encourage homeowners to put interior lights on timers so the home looks lived in. But how often do you see dark houses with outdoor lights on in the middle of the afternoon? Exterior lights draw attention to your home - that's the point - and a burglar will notice tell-tale signs of an empty home.
- Going out of town?** Having neighbors keep an eye on your home can help protect your home when you're not there. Garden Ridge PD will extra patrol while you are away if you complete a notification. This form is available on the City website <http://www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us/index.aspx?NID=162> or in person at City Hall.
- Camouflage your trash!** Nothing says "rob me!" like boxes from new television sets, computers, gaming systems, and other expensive items put out on trash day. Don't advertise newly purchased items.
- How you can help if you are a victim!** No one wants to think about the possibility of being a victim. By facing the problem head-on and putting safeguards in place, you can make your home less of a target and help the police investigate, if you are a victim. Maintaining a list of serial numbers can assist investigators in locating your property. If property does not have a serial number, engrave your driver's license number so that we can trace it back to the owner.

Corporal Joe Thoenke

Trash and Recycling Rate Increase

Trash and recycling rates for Garden Ridge residents will be increasing effective with the June 2014 billing for these services. The current rate of \$22.36 will increase to \$24.56. The increase is based on a request by the city's contracted provider, Bexar Waste for a CPI adjustment of 3.2% and a service rate adjustment of 6.6%. The City Council approved the rate increase on April 2, 2014.

There will be no changes in the trash and recycling services provided by Bexar Waste. Dumpsters will continue to be provided for the disposal of brush/tree trimmings, wood and metal the first four weekends during the months of January, March, May, July, September and November.

City of Garden Ridge Election



Thank you Peggy Campbell, Marilyn Winters, Diana Scott, Jerry Barucky, Lily Barucky, Linda Morgan, Mickey Sanders, Mary Lou Flink, Marsha Kern, and Patricia Cook for working the City of Garden Ridge Elections.

To see results go to City website: <http://www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us/>

Significant Actions - May City Council Meeting

May 7, 2014

- Approved the hiring of Shannon DeToro as Municipal Clerk and Deidre Gentry as Administrative Assistant
- Resignation of Garden Ridge Police Department Corporal Lupe Navarro
- Received a presentation regarding the Bracken Bat Cave and approved a Resolution of support
- Approved Budget Amendments to General Fund, Water, Interest and Sinking Fund, and Capital Project Fund
- Approved promotion of Sergeant Daniel Bellinger to Lieutenant and Patrol Officer Joseph Thoenke to Corporal
- Suspended Centerpoint Energy's 2014 Annual GRIP Adjustment for 45 days.
- Approved Resolution to Opt In to Membership in the Greater Bexar County Council of Cities.

WATER CONSERVATION IN THE YARD AND GARDEN...



Position your sprinklers so water lands on the lawn or garden, not on paved areas. Also, avoid watering on windy days.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR FRIDAY, 4TH OF JULY PARADE AND PICNIC AT THE PARK

Please come join us continue this unique event by decorating your wheels and wearing your best patriotic attire to celebrate our Country's Birthday.

Gathering	9:30AM
Flag Raising	10:00 AM
Parade:	10:20 AM
Food & Activities:	10:45 AM- 2:00 PM

Watch the City website for more details: <http://www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us/>

See You At The Park

A silent auction is part of the fun at the City of Garden Ridge 4th of July Celebration/Picnic. The Garden Ridge Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association is the sponsor. There are gift cards, gift certificates, gift baskets and lots of other great items. Invite your family members, neighbor and friends to this community event. See you there on the 4th of July at Paul Davis Park.

The Police want YOU!

The Garden Ridge Police Department is planning a 2014 Citizens Police Academy (CPA) and is actively seeking students to attend. The class will NOT teach you how to become a police officer. The class does offer an insight into what happens behind the scenes of the PD and provides a means for you to be more involved in helping keep Garden Ridge safe! To get your name on the list to attend, please complete the membership request at the website link <http://www.grcpaaa.com/membership.html> or call the police department at 210-651-6441. To talk to a graduate of a previous CPA class, contact Peggy Campbell at 210-651-6065.

Quarry Commission Happenings

The Quarry Commission's monthly meeting was held on May 12, 2014. A review of April blasts was conducted. A total of 9 blasts occurred in the month of April. The highest ground vibration measured was .210 in/sec on April 1 and the highest air blast measured was 116.9 dB on April 29. All readings were within the criteria of City Ordinance 34. A citizen blasting report submitted for the month of April for a blast occurring on April 9 was discussed.

Tours of the quarry are available to citizens of Garden Ridge. The tours are conducted during quarry operation and generally will include a chance to witness an actual quarry blast. Citizens are encouraged to call city hall and express an interest in such a tour. Date(s) will then be selected to maximize citizen participation.

Citizens are encouraged to attend the monthly quarry commission meetings. Next meeting is June 9 at 7:00 pm. Citizen Blast report Forms can be found on the city's web site home page (www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us). Citizens that wish to make a comment about a blast or have input for the Commission are encouraged to attend the June meeting.



July 4 HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Join us again this year for our wonderful 4th of July activities. Come help decorate pavilion at GR Paul Davis City Park, located near Grasscreek & Bluebell Drive. Details to follow. Questions or to volunteer? Call or email Chairperson June Fordiani, at 210-651-9111 or dfordiani@satx.rr.com.

GARDEN RIDGE WOMEN'S CLUB MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Garden Ridge Women's Club has started our "GRWC 2014-2015 Membership Drive," and we are looking forward to welcoming new members, as well as keeping our current members. We plan to continue many of our traditional activities and special interest groups, but are always open to new ideas and fresh input.

If you are interested in joining our club or are already a member and have any questions, please contact our **Membership Chairman, Gail McLeod**; phone: 210-273-4787. gailmcleod@satx.rr.com. Dues are only \$20 per year, and the new year is June 1, 2014 – May 31, 2015. Membership renewal forms have been mailed to current members. Please return them by July 1, 2014, along with your check for \$20 payable to **GRWC to: Gail McLeod, 10445 Montanio Dr., New Braunfels, TX 78132**

Become educated with the City of Garden Ridge website....

Did you know you can receive an email and/or a text regarding the information that you are interested in from the City of Garden Ridge? It's called "Notify Me".

Setting up notifications can be done by using these few easy steps:

1. Go to City of Garden Ridge website <http://www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us/>
2. On the home page of the website on the left side of the page you will find Quick Links; choose "Notify Me"
3. Now you are on the Notify Me page follow the instructions on this page.
4. Type in your email address in the box and select Sign In.
5. If you want to receive text messages enter your phone number and select Save.
6. Choose the items which you want to be notified of.
7. You will also see a confirmation email (if you do not receive it in your inbox, check your spams).
8. Once you confirm your request, you are now on your way to receiving the items you have selected.

Footnotes

by Karen Bishop

Summer library activities are scheduled to begin this month. Storytime will be on Thursdays at 10:30 beginning June 5. Primarily aimed at young story lovers, all who like to listen are welcome to attend.

The Ringling Brothers clown will be here Monday, June 9, at 1:00 to kick off our summer reading program. Just by reading (or listening, for those who do not read yet) kids can receive free tickets to the Ringling Brothers circus which will be in San Antonio July 2-6 at the AT&T Center.

Several library patrons have requested the addition of The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt and it is now available for check out. In addition, 7 more titles in the Guidepost series Miracles of Marble Cove have been added. Tom Clancey's Command Authority, Elizabeth George's Believing the Lie and Fred Thompson's memoir Teaching the Pig to Dance, as well as The Bully Pulpit by Doris Kearns Goodwin are all new to our collection. In the non-fiction area there are two titles of special interest to the inveterate reader: Ten Years in the Tub: a Decade of Soaking in Great Books by Nick Hornby in which he lists Books Bought and Books Read as he reminds us of why we read. The other book is The Novel Cure by Ella Berthold listing 751 books to cure what ails you.

Good reading awaits you, also good listening and good viewing, at the library!