



# THE GRAPEVINE

NOW OVER 1,450 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED  
The Newsletter of the City of Garden Ridge



## January 2015

[www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us](http://www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us)  
City Hall 651-6632 Lost Pets 651-6831 GRPD 651-6441  
Non-emergency, after hours



### Coming Events

- 1 Jan Happy New Year
- 1 & 2 Jan City Offices will be closed
- 7 Jan City Council meets, 6pm
- 12 Jan Quarry Commission meets, 7pm
- 13 Jan Planning and Zoning Commission meets, 6pm
- 19 Jan City Offices will be closed for Martin Luther King Day
- 27 Jan Water Commission meets, 6pm

Christmas Tree Disposal—Jan 3-4, 9-10, 16-17 and 23-24 to run in conjunction with Dumpster Weekends

*NOTE: All meetings subject to change!*

Happy New Year!

Last year was an extremely challenging and busy year for the City. As we reflect on all that we as a City have accomplished, we are reminded of all that still needs to be done. So I don't expect the pace of opportunities and challenges to slacken.

We will be finishing up the CIP project in the next few months and looking ahead to the next phase. We will continue to develop the Trinity #2 well and to evaluate all our water supply options. The Texas Legislature is in session and we anticipate a few bills will be filed that will impact small cities such as Garden Ridge. Our deer management study will be in full swing with the new year and we will continue to work on ways to improve communication with our citizens. Land use and the ongoing drought will also be high on our agenda.

Thanks for your support last year. As Council members, we look forward to working with you next year to fulfill the City's motto – Not just a Place to Live, but a Way of Life.

Nadine  
Mayor Pro Tem

### WELCOME TO GARDEN RIDGE New Residents

ERIKA BANKS JUSTIN BISH  
WILLIAM ISOM MARCY LINDSEY  
STEVE & NANCY OBER PAUL STROM  
MICHAEL & C. JEAN MARTIN ROY WALDHelm

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.

### Congratulations

 We are proud to announce that Mia McMIndes was the December Grapevine Christmas Contest. There were 70 correct items in the December Grapevine counting contest. Thanks to everyone who entered.

### YOU ASKED, WE DELIEVED

Have you visited the City of Garden Ridge website lately?  
[www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us/](http://www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us/)

- You asked to be notified of Public and Legal Notices- Notify Me allows for you to sign up to be notified of items you are interested in All Public and Legal Notices can be viewed on the Public and Legal Notice page
- You asked for a list of items that need permits- This list can be viewed on the Building Permits/Inspections page.

If you have suggestions for better communication please email [citysecretary@ci.garden-ridge.tx.us](mailto:citysecretary@ci.garden-ridge.tx.us)

### Christmas Tree Disposal

You can dispose of your Christmas trees on January 3-4, 9-10, 16-17, and 23-24 .

### 2015 Garden Ridge Citizens Police Academy Class

We are planning the 2015 Citizens Police Academy (CPA) class and are actively seeking students to attend. This class is by no means a resource to teach you how to be a police officer; it is a way for the Garden Ridge Police Department to form a relationship with the residents of Garden Ridge and to offer insight into what happens behind the scenes of your local police department. Garden Ridge is your community and this class is the perfect way to get more involved with helping us keep your neighborhoods safe. The 2015 CPA class is scheduled to begin January 27th, 2015. Please complete the membership request form at [grcpaaa.com](http://grcpaaa.com) or call the police department at 210-651-6441 to participate.

### START THE YEAR WITH A CLEAN SWEEP!

Quit avoiding the library because you owe fines! The Garden Ridge Library is offering a one-time deal by waiving late fees for two weeks, January 5-17.

- Bring in your overdue items and we will not charge you for them. We must have the items.
- Patrons must visit the circulation desk in person and request to have fines for overdue materials waived.
- Please note that the waiving of fees will not apply to reserve items or lost/damaged materials.
- We cannot refund fines paid before January 5.

Now go dig out those books from behind your bed or under that pile of clothes and bring them in.

### Significant Actions - December City Council Meeting

- Administer Oath of Office to Ron Eberhardt as Chief of Police for the City of Garden Ridge
- Hiring of Vicente Mongrell as Police Officer
- Approval of the Final Plat for Nacogdoches Loop Subdivision (Winco)
- Approval of the Grapevine and Utility Bill Inserts/Flyers Policy
- Designation of Councilman Arvidson as City Liaison to the Comal Independent School District

### 2015 City of Garden Ridge Election

There are 3 positions up this year:

Mayor, City Council, Place 2, and City Council, Place 3

Election Dates to Remember

**January 28th** First day for candidate to file for place on ballot

**February 27th** Last day for filing application for place on ballot

**March 6<sup>th</sup>** Drawing for place on the ballot  
(9:00am in Council Chambers)

**April 9th** Last day to register to vote

**April 27th- May 5th** Early voting

**May 9th** Election Day (7am to 7pm)

see [www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us](http://www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us) for more information and qualifications to run for Mayor or City Council.

### Meeting Alert

Garden Ridge Area Democrats and Independents will have their second meeting on Thursday, January 22, 2015, 6:30pm, at the Garden Ridge Community Center, Bluebonnet Room. Come one...! Come all...! Points of contact:

Carolyn Cohen ([carlycoh@aim.com](mailto:carlycoh@aim.com)); Ron or Marcia Schmidt

([noscamsinnb@yahoo.com](mailto:noscamsinnb@yahoo.com)); Rose Mary Valdez

([rm\\_valdez@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rm_valdez@sbcglobal.net))

### DEER MANAGEMENT

Please don't feed the deer. It's bad for the deer, especially if you feed them corn, and results in overpopulation of the herd. The City of Garden Ridge has too many deer, and is in the process of developing a deer management plan. Currently we "manage" our deer herd by hitting them with cars, with an average of over 300 car/deer accidents reported each year. This combined with the non-reported deer strikes results in an estimated 400-500 deer killed each year by cars. See:

[http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/pwdpubs/media/pwd\\_bk\\_w7000\\_1197.pdf](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/pwdpubs/media/pwd_bk_w7000_1197.pdf), for more information.

### Quarry Commission Happenings

The Quarry Commission's monthly meeting was held on December 8, 2014. A review of November blasts was conducted. A total of 8 blasts occurred in the month of November. The highest ground vibration measured was .260 in/sec on November 18 and the highest air blast measured was 121.2 dB on November 19. All readings were within the criteria of City Ordinance 34. There were no citizen blasting reports submitted for the month of November.

In addition to monitoring ground vibration and air blast effects from quarry operations the Quarry Commission currently has a monitoring station set up to monitor dust generation and ambient noise. To date no violations of dust and noise levels have been detected. Citizens are encouraged to attend the monthly quarry commission meetings. Next meeting is January 12 at 7:00 pm. A revised and a more user friendly Citizen Blast report Form can be found on the city's web site home page ([www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us](http://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 January meeting.



**JANUARY 8:** 10 AM - GRWC Member BUSINESS MEETING to be held at the Garden Ridge Community Center. This will be an invitation for open discussions, questions and ideas to improve our club. Please RSVP to Diana Scott at (210) 651-3320.

**JANUARY 15 - RESERVE NOW!:** Dinner & Show at "HARLEQUIN DINNER THEATER" Ft. Sam Houston, for "The Murder Room" by Jack Sharkey, (A comedy). Includes Dinner - \$35.00 per person. Dinner 6:30 pm, Curtain 8pm. Call Diana Scott for reservations (210) 651-3320.

### "Save the Date" Annual Garage Sale MARCH 14, 2015!

Member reservations begin January 5, 2015

Non-member reservations begin February 2, 2015

Booths:  
Members \$30.00 inside \$35.00 outside

Non-Members 40.00 inside 45.00 outside

Chair: Laurie Hageman Co-Chair: Jeanie Springer

210-658-8731

210-651-3175

### Triumphant Lutheran Church

21315 Bat Cave Road

Garden Ridge, Texas

[www.triumphantlutheran.org](http://www.triumphantlutheran.org)

Asante Children's Choir

Asante Children's Choir, from East Africa, will perform at Triumphant Lutheran Church, on Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

The choir is dedicated to spreading love, hope, and joy while raising awareness of the desperate plight of orphans and other vulnerable children in Africa. The public is invited to attend. While admission is free a "love offering" will be accepted.

### Keeping Garden Ridge Beautiful

The City of Garden Ridge has created a Stormwater Plan to help prevent pollution of local creeks and streams. Help us be a good neighbor by learning different ways to prevent pollution by visiting the Public Works page on the City website.

I want to thank Garden Ridge residents who generously gave to our drive "Cover the Homeless" by giving new and gently used blankets and coats.

For our first year we personally gave to 65 grateful men and women. We observed the need and will continue receiving these items throughout the year, delivering them when it turns cold.

Any questions? 210-396-1208

Mary Rethman

9450 Cinchona Trail

### Footnotes, by Linda Crosland

This past year has been a good one for the Garden Ridge Library. Our collection has continued to grow thanks to many good, new donations and to a grant received from the Tocker Foundation. If you haven't come in for several years, do yourself a favor and check us out. That can be your New Year's resolution!

We are trying to do more book reviews and to give more information online. You can find us at: [ci.garden-ridge.tx.us](http://ci.garden-ridge.tx.us) > Departments > Library. From there you can see activities where the reviews are. Don't forget to look into eBooks, Support Your Library and other categories as well.

**We wish everyone a Happy and Prosperous 2015!**