



THE GRAPEVINE

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



March 2015

www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us
City Hall 651-6632 Lost Pets 651-6831 GRPD 651-6441
Non-emergency, after hours



Coming Events

- Mar 2nd Texas Independence Day
- Mar 4th City Council meets, 6pm
- Mar 8th Day Light Savings (spring forward)
- Mar 9th Quarry Commission meets, 7pm
- Mar 10th Planning and Zoning Commission meets, 6pm
- Mar 14th GRWC Garage Sale and Library Book Sale (see articles)
- Mar 17th St. Patrick's Day
- Mar 20th First day of Spring
- Mar 24th Water Commission meets, 6pm



Dumpster Weekends— March 7-8, 14-15, 21-22 and 28-29

NOTE: All meetings subject to change!

WELCOME TO GARDEN RIDGE

New Residents

SCOTT & KELLY CURTRIGHT BAILEY ARCHER
BRANDON & ABIGAIL HAYDEN

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.

Winter is almost over and spring is on the way! The spring looks to be a busy time again this year in Garden Ridge. While our CIP project is essentially complete, we will begin studying what is needed next in the City relative to streets and drainage. The Texas Legislature is in session and that always means more involvement by your local officials as we ascertain the impact of proposed legislation on the City. Comal ISD is proposing a bond issue for new schools and other expenses. The Texas Department of Transportation is in the process of developing plans for the expansion of IH 35 from Loop 410 to FM 1103. Our Deer Management Committee has completed an inventory of our deer herd and it is not a surprise that our herd exceeds sustainable limits – we will need more study into the situation and we will keep you informed on this issue. The City of San Antonio is beginning the process of updating its Master Plan. As they are our biggest neighbor, their planning efforts will be something we will need to watch. We will continue to need to manage and enhance our water supply and it is election time in Garden Ridge. We will keep our citizens informed on these issues via our website as events warrant – so sign up for our Notify Me program to keep up to date on all the issues.

Nadine
Mayor

MARK YOUR CALENDARS, SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH CLEAN UP DAY IN GARDEN RIDGE

8:00 AM-2:00 PM Household Hazardous Waste
10:00 AM-1:00 PM Shred Day (paper)
Check the city website for more information and acceptable items www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us



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

- March 6th** 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 for more information and qualifications to run for Mayor or City Council.



Title Wave!

Library Sale – 30 NEW NOVELS
Catch the Wave on Saturday, March 14th

NEWS FROM THE CHIEF

Today we are all facing a growing issue in our society concerning Identity Theft. There has been a lot of talk over the last few months related to security breaches at large corporations which resulted in the loss of personal information from customers. While this is a huge concern for many people we must not forget the true vulnerability we have every day. Technology has led us to begin thinking about security of our computers and accounts online however we tend to forget about the basic protocols that can just as easily allow someone to get our information. People are forgetting to secure their paper documents properly in order to prevent theft. We have focused on electrical data but have begun to neglect the fact we are still disposing of large amounts of information in the traditional way of actually throwing it out either in the trash or the recycle bin. The City of Garden Ridge has dedicated a day to having a company come on site to city hall in order to allow our residents the opportunity to bring their sensitive documents here and have them destroyed. This service is being provided for free to all residents who wish to participate. The city's shred day will be held on April 25th. Please refer to the city web site or the utility bill inserts for details regarding specific times.

March History

- March 2, 1836 Texas declares independence from Mexico
- March 6, 1836 Fall of Alamo
- March 29, 1973 Last U.S. troops leave Vietnam
- March 30, 1867 Alaska purchased from Russia

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. See: http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/pwdpubs/media/pwd_bk_w7000_1197.pdf, for more information.

Significant Actions - February City Council Meeting

- Appointed Nadine L. Knaus as Mayor, John McCaw as Mayor Pro Tem, and Shelby Trial as Councilmember Place 2.
- Approval of Resolution of Support for NEP Resolution 2015-R-01
- Approval of hiring of Karen Ford for Finance/HR
- Approval of Ordinance 179-2015 Calling May 9th General Election
- Approval of Mutual Aid Law Enforcement Agreement with surrounding cities.
- Proclaims February as Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- Updates regarding
Comal Independent School District, Deer Management Program, and CIP Project

Water Conservation Tips from the Water Commission

Plant drought-resistant lawns, shrubs and plants. If you are planting a new lawn, or overseeding an existing lawn, use drought-resistant grasses. Many beautiful shrubs and plants thrive with far less watering than other species. Replace herbaceous perennial borders with native plants. Native plants will use less water and be more resistant to local plant diseases. Consider applying the principles of xeriscape for a low-maintenance, drought resistant yard. Plant slopes with plants that will retain water and help reduce runoff. Group plants according to their watering needs.

Footnotes

By Lynne Dean

For those who enjoy biographies, we have a great selection from which to choose. "Dickens: A Life" by Claire Tomalin, recounts the fascinating life of the most celebrated British author of the nineteenth century by the renowned biographer of Jane Austen and Thomas Hardy.

For a dark and disturbing biography, "The Search for Anne Perry: The Hidden Life of a Bestselling Crime Writer" by Joanne Drayton, tells the story of two women; Anne Perry, whose books have sold over twenty five million copies in fifteen languages, and Juliet Hulme, the fifteen year old New Zealand girl, who along with her friend, murdered the friends' mother, and went to prison in 1954. When, in 1995, the movie "Heavenly Creatures" was released, it was uncovered that Anne Perry was Juliet Hulme. Does she seek her own absolution through her novels, or does she show no remorse at all? You be the judge.

All new books can be found on our website: www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us.

Quarry Commission Happenings

The Quarry Commission met on February 9, 2015. There were a total of 11 blasts in January. The highest ground vibration measured was .275 in/sec on January 21 and the highest air blast measured was 121 dB on January 16. All readings were within the criteria of City Ordinance 34. The dust and noise monitor indicated there were no violations of the dust and noise levels. Three citizen blasting reports were submitted highlighting the blasts on Jan 20, Jan 27, and Jan 29. The blast on Jan 29 was discussed in detail. The effort by the Quarry and blasters to reduce the effect of blasts in the SW Pit to homes on Wahl Lane was explained by Mr. Rigsby of Vibra-Tech, our monitoring firm. The Commissioners were pleased with the Quarry's efforts and optimistic we would see reduced blast effects on the homes near Wahl Lane in the future.

The Quarry will continue to give tours of the Quarry to any citizen who would like to learn more about the Quarry and its operations. If you are interested, please contact City Hall.

The next Quarry Commission meeting will be on March 9 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). Citizens who wish to make a comment about a blast or have an input for the Commission are encouraged to attend the March meeting.



Annual Garage Sale

Date: Saturday, March 14, 2015

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Location: GR Community Center



Members -- We welcome your gently used items for the women's club sale tables.

Member Fee: Inside Table: \$30; Outside Table: \$35;
Non-member fee: Inside Table: \$40. Outside Table: \$45.

To reserve your table(s) make check payable to **GRWC** and mail to:

Laurie Hageman

9430 Blazing Star Trail

Garden Ridge, TX 78266

Questions? 658-8731 or 651-3175

lauriekg@gmail.com

Board Positions

The GRWC currently has Board Positions to fill for our 2015 year. The positions are open to current GRWC members. Interested members must submit their names by March 7, 2015. All submissions will be reviewed by our nominating committee and selections will be interviewed by the current GRWC Board, with announcements made by March 12. Once selections are made, your term will start in June, 2015!

Commitment includes serving on Board for two years, with focus on promoting ideas, volunteering and steering the many projects and events to help raise money for our many charities. Strong leadership skills and ability to represent the GRWC organization and our community in a positive manner is required.

So ladies, if you are interested in being a part of the GRWC Board, please submit your interest to me no later than March 7. Send to vadiana44@yahoo.com or call 210-775-8211. Thank you, Diana Scott, President.

Picnic in the Park!

Members Only Event

Join members again this year for our Wonderful Picnic in the Park.

Tuesday, April 7, 2015, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm,

At GR City Park located near Grasscreek & Bluebell Drive.

Bring a sack lunch, enjoy the company of friends & neighbors & make new friends. Attendees are welcome to:

Display their business and/or organization materials

Share and demonstrate hobbies and crafts

Bring plants, seeds and cuttings to swap and share

Simply enjoy a lovely afternoon and have fun.

(Please bring your own table, if needed)

Tea, water & dessert provided, plus some really swell games & prizes! As this is a Members Only Event – anyone interested in joining the GRWC, please call Gail McLeod – 210-273-4787 -- Dues are \$20 per year. Questions? Call Kate Kohl – 210-912-9012 – kate.kohl@yahoo.com;

TRIUMPHANT LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.triumphantlutheran.org

Preschool Registration for the 2015-2016 school year will begin March 2, 9:00am – 12 noon in the church Fellowship Hall, and will continue thereafter in the Preschool Office 9:00am – 12 noon until classes are full. Triumphant Lutheran offers a licensed Christian Preschool for 3 to 5 year olds. Our goal is to provide a safe and exciting learning environment for your child while preparing them for Kindergarten. Enrollment paperwork is on our website.

Mother's Day Out Registration for the 2015 Summer Session will begin on Wednesday, April 1, in Heimer Hall, and continue through the month of May. Registration for the Mother's Day Out 2015-2016 school year will begin on Wednesday, April 1, and continue throughout the month of August. We accept ages 6 weeks to 4 years.