



THE GRAPEVINE

NOW OVER 1,400 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

The Newsletter of the City of Garden Ridge

www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us

October 2011

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 1, 2011, 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 — Lion's Club Fish Fry, BBQ & Auction
- 5 Oct — City Council Meets, 7 pm
- 10 Oct — Columbus Day
- 10 Oct — Town Meeting and Republican Club meets 7 pm (article)
- 11 Oct — Planning and Zoning Workshop 6 pm
- 11 Oct — BVFD General Membership Meeting 6 pm 651-5762
- 15 Oct — GRWC Holiday Marketplace (See article)
- 17 Oct — Quarry Commission Meets 7 pm
- 17 Oct — National Boss' Day
- 20 Oct — Planning and Zoning meets 6 pm
- 25 & 26 Oct — Early Voting (See article)
- 25 Oct — Water Commission meets — 6 pm
- 29 Oct — Spooktacular Event 7-9 pm (See Article)
- 30 Oct — Northeast Bible Church Fall Festival (See Article)
- 31 Oct — Halloween — Have Fun! Be Careful!

FROM THE MAYOR

Hope all had a nice summer regardless of the record heat and drought. Let's hope the drought ends and we get back to a sense of normalcy. Enjoy the fall weather.

Jay F. Feibelman
Mayor

QUICK NOTES

- In September a call was put out for donations for Bastrop fire victims. The response was overwhelming. Thanks to all who participated..
- If you are a smoker, please do not toss cigarettes from your vehicle. One, it's littering, and two, many fires are started by this habit.
- Please be conscious when parking on a city street to ensure your vehicle does not inhibit traffic flow. This is very important as it can affect emergency services response. Thanks for your cooperation.



WELCOME TO GARDEN RIDGE

Those Listed and families:

Johnathan Burda
Guy & Lisa Chabot
Stephen & Beverly Gallets
Kristi Marfil
David Ringle
Desmond Smith
Charles & Stacy Stevens
Linda Trapp
Jan Wagner



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. Call 651-6831 for information.

Library Footnotes

By Karen Bishop

The Garden Ridge library has a number of new children's books. The titles have been recommended by the American Library Association and other notable sources. We also have the Bluebonnet and Lone Star books students will be reading this year.

For adults, we have five new titles for the #1 Ladies' Detective Agency by Alexander McCall Smith, which complete the series. Also, we have several new audiobooks on CD. We are still selling audiobooks on tape at 50 cents each.

One specific title of interest was recently mentioned in the San Antonio Express-News newspaper. Bobbie Ann Mason's novel, Girl in the Blue Beret, is the story of an American World War II pilot shot down in Occupied Europe.

We are continuing with plans for a Veterans' Day celebration. Please register with us if you are a veteran or know of one in our community so we will be able to honor our veterans specifically by name November 11.



SPOOKTACULAR Event!



The City of Garden Ridge along with several community organizations will host the 2011 Halloween Event. This event is free to all with fun, games, costume contest, tasty treats and the ever spooky haunted house. Everyone is invited October 29, 2011 from 7-9PM at the Garden Ridge Community Center. If you are interested in helping, there are jobs for everyone from acting to leading tours through the haunted house, please contact Officer Spiller at 210 651 6441 or e-mail cid@ci.garden-ridge.tx.us.

State-wide Constitutional Election

There will be a state-wide Constitutional Amendment Election on Tuesday, November 8. There are ten proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution on the ballot. There will be two days of early voting at Garden Ridge City Hall. They will be Tuesday, October 25, from 9:30 - 5:30 and Wednesday, October 26, from 10:00 - 7:00. For information on the amendments, you can go to the Texas Secretary of State website, which is www.votexas.org.

QUARRY HAPPENINGS

On September 12, 2011, the Quarry Commission met for its regularly scheduled monthly meeting. The Commission reviewed the July blasting data, which were not statistically remarkable. The Commission also discussed several other important topics, but a significant amount of time was spent discussing Ordinance 34 improvements. If you wish to complain about a blast or have comments for the Quarry Commission, contact City Hall at 651-6632 or visit the city's web site, where you will find the Citizens' Blast Report. Citizens are encouraged to attend the next regularly scheduled Quarry Commission meeting which will be held on October 17, 2011 at 7 pm.



Significant City Council Actions

Special Meeting Aug 22:

Public Hearings

- Proposed 2012 Fiscal Year Budgets for the City of Garden Ridge
- Proposed 2011 Property Tax Rate of \$0.268796 for the City of Garden Ridge

APPROVED

- Changes to the Proposed 2012 Fiscal Year Budgets for the City of Garden Ridge
- Employment of Shelley Goodwin as City Secretary for the City of Garden Ridge effective September 19, 2011
- Bid on the 2011 Park View Drive Improvements

Special Meeting Aug 29:

Public Hearings

- Proposed 2011 Property Tax Rate of \$0.268796 for the City of Garden Ridge

APPROVED

- Ordinance 61-082011 establishing the drought management plan for the City of Garden Ridge

Regular Meeting Sep 7

Special Presentation:

- Recognition of Yolanda Benitez for her service to the City of Garden Ridge as City Secretary

Update

- Public safety concerns in the Wild Wind Unit 3 Subdivision of Garden Ridge, Texas

APPROVED

- All items pertaining to the FY 2012 budget, tax rate, and employee health benefits.
- City Quarry Commission recommendation on the reappointment of Robert Gunnarson, Richard Holloway, Wayne Mudge and Larry Blades as Quarry Commissioners with terms expiring 9/30/2013
- City Water Commission recommendation on request from Lone Star Fiberglass Pools for a variance to the Demand Reduction Measure Stages of Ordinance 61-062011 for the construction of swimming pools at 9107 Cinnabar Court and at 19906 Lloyds Park with water for filling of pools being brought in from an outside source of water
- City Water Commission recommendation on the reappointment of David Heier, Richard Holloway, and James Bower as City Water Commissioners for a term of office expiring 9/30/2013
- Resolution 246-092011 approving adoption of GASB54 Standards and Applications relating to new standard for governmental fund balance reporting and governmental fund type definitions
- Contract between the City of Garden Ridge and McCreary, Veselka, Bragg and Allen, P.C. (MVBA) for Collection of Delinquent Municipal Court Fines and Fees with approval as to form by City Attorney
- Resolution 247-092011 to impose additional fee for collection costs on fines and fees for the collection of delinquent Municipal Court fines and fees
- Ordinance 164-092011 establishing a failure to appear offense in the City of Garden Ridge Municipal Court, setting out a defense to said offense, and authorizing the Judge of the Municipal Court to assess a Failure to Appear fee providing a penalty and for the imposition of a fine, providing for severability and setting an effective date
- Abel Mireles' separation from employment and honorable discharge from the position of Sergeant with the Garden Ridge Police Department effective September 30, 2011

Discussion

- Over pumping Edwards Aquifer during Stage 2 mandatory water reduction of 30% and possible fines/penalties associated with over pumping

Town Hall and Garden Ridge Area Republican Club Meeting
 State Senator Jeff Wentworth will meet and speak in Garden Ridge on Monday, October 10, 7 PM at a combined Town Hall meeting and Garden Ridge Area Republican Club meeting. Topics to be discussed include lack of regulations on the activities of hard rock quarries, recreational shooting ranges and lack of disclosure of these type businesses. Every one is cordially invited. The meeting will be held in the Community Center.

Fall Festival
 Sunday October 30th 1-4pm
Northeast Bible Church
 19185 FM 2252
 Garden Ridge, Texas
 Join us for a free event of trunk-or-treating, inflatables, games and special door prizes. All age children welcome to join the fun. Food will be available for purchase.

New Tax Office Service in Garden Ridge!

As your Comal County Tax Assessor-Collector, one of my goals has been to have a Tax Office presence in Garden Ridge. I have been working with Mayor Feibelman and City Administrator Nancy Cain, who have enthusiastically offered to share the City's drop box with the Tax Office, which is located in the parking lot of your Municipal Building.

Beginning October 1, you are welcome to drop off property tax payments, motor vehicle registration renewals, voter registration applications, and other Tax Office correspondence to be picked up by the Tax Office each week-day, except holidays.

We will gladly send you a receipt for your Property Tax payment, so please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope – or include your email address, for even faster service! Please note that all motor vehicle registration renewals will continue to require the \$1.00 additional fee to cover the mailing of your renewal, as mandated by the Texas Dept. of Motor Vehicles.

The drop box will be functional just in time for our busy tax season. Property tax statements for 2011 will be mailed mid-October and are due upon receipt, so please feel free to utilize the drop box right away!

I invite you to visit our website at www.comalcountytaxoffice.net, where you will find a link to follow us on Facebook for daily Tax Office updates. Thank you, and we look forward to serving our Garden Ridge area customers as efficiently as possible!

Cathy C. Talcott

Comal County Tax Assessor-Collector

GRWC Holiday Marketplace

Saturday, October 15, 2011

Don't miss this great opportunity for holiday shopping, as well as a wonderful opportunity to become involved in YOUR Garden Ridge Women's Club

- About fifty vendors
- Food
- Silent auction
- Quilt raffle

The Marketplace will be hosted this year by the Garden Ridge Women's Club. All proceeds go to local charities, including the GR Elementary School and Children's Advocacy Ctr of Comal Co.

For the Marketplace to be a success, we need volunteers!

Friday, October 14th: Help with set up for Marketplace.

Saturday, October 15th: Help needed with admissions table, vendor hospitality, and customer parking. Spouses are welcome and appreciated!

We also need silent auction items. The auction is a great source of revenue and it is exciting to see the wide variety of items! If you are able to donate an item or services for the silent auction, or if you would like to volunteer your time, please contact Theresa Birkle at: theresabirkle@gmail.com or 210-651-3915.

There are still a few vendor booths available. To reserve a booth, contact Tina Schuman: at grwcmarketplace@gmail.com or 210-651-4151. Your participation benefits the local community through charitable donations, and is a great way to meet many of the diverse and interesting members of the GRWC.

Bracken VFD General Membership Meeting

The Bracken Volunteer Fire Department will hold its yearly General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, October 11, at 7:00PM at the Fire Department, 23600 FM3009. Everyone is invited to attend. Three Board of Director positions are up for election. Call the Fire Department at 210-651-5762 with any questions.

OKTOBERFEST

Triumphant Lutheran Church

21315 Bat Cave Road
 (210)651-9090

All citizens are invited to attend our Oktoberfest Celebration:

Saturday, October 15 from 4pm-8pm

Live Music by Bohemian Dutchmen

Dancing BBQ Silent Auction Children's Activities

Doe Hunt	Golf Outings	Wild Game Dinner
Piano	Nook Reader	TBarM Day Camp
Artwork	Digital Camera	Concealed Handgun Classes
Recliners	Spurs Tickets	Ginobli Autographed Jersey
	Fishing Trip	MUCH, MUCH MORE !!

Thought for the Month!

"Remember that issues come and go, but damage statements remain"
 Quoted from : "Leadership" by Terry L. Sumerlin