



# THE GRAPEVINE

NOW OVER 1,500 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED  
The Newsletter of the City of Garden Ridge



October 2015

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



### Coming Events

- Oct 6th National Night Out (see article)
- Oct 7th City Council meets, 6pm
- Oct 12th Columbus Day
- Oct 12th Quarry Commission meets, 7pm
- Oct 13th Planning and Zoning Commission meets, 6pm
- Oct 14th Lunch-n-Learn: "Seniors and Depression" Library @ noon
- Oct 19th Early Voting begins (see article)
- Oct 27th Water Commission meets, 6pm
- Oct 29th "Halloween Story Hour" Library @ 10:30
- Oct 31st Halloween



*NOTE: All meetings subject to change!*

### WELCOME TO GARDEN RIDGE New Residents

CARL CLAUS	RALPH CROSS IV
HOWARD & MARIOLINA DADY	BRIAN HEAD
GEORGE HUMPHREY	KEN & CINDY ITZO
ROBERT & ELENA MORENO	JEFFREY SCHRANTZ
MARTIN & TAMMY VAN STIPPEN	VINCE SHERER

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.

### Significant Actions - September 2nd City Council Meeting

- Approved
  - Amendment to Ordinance 54
  - Ordinance 183- \$0.3002 tax rate
  - Ordinance 184- Hand-held mobile communication devices prohibited while driving a vehicle in Garden Ridge
  - Completion of probation Police Officer Steve Dennis
  - Reappointments for:
    - Planning & Zoning Commission
    - Quarry Commission
  - Resignation of Police Officer Vicente Mongrell
  - Signs for Bracken United Church
  - Partial Exemption Permits to conduct blasting at Hanson Quarry:
    - Orica, Inc.
    - Buckley Powder Company
- Presentation-Certificates of Appreciation:
  - Larry Blades, Quarry Commission
  - Harvey Bell, Planning & Zoning Commission
- Received the following updates:
  - CIP Project 2015                      Deer Management Committee
  - Garden Ridge Parks Committee

### BVFD Meeting Notice

The annual Membership Meeting of the Bracken Volunteer Fire Department will be held on Tuesday, October 13 at 7:00PM at the Fire Hall. All residents of Garden Ridge are cordially invited to attend. We will be electing members to serve on the Board of Directors. If you would like to serve on the Board of Directors, please contact the Fire Department.

*Please submit your Deer Management Survey  
By October 19, 2015*

### National Night Out

The Garden Ridge Police Department will be joining agencies across the State of Texas in celebrating National Night Out on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The event will be held at the Garden Ridge Community Center. National Night Out is a historic event designed to bring neighbors and community organizations together to keep the community united.

The 2015 National Night Out event will consist of civic organizations that focus on making the community a better place to live. Many of these organizations will have a table at this event and representatives to answer questions about what services they have to offer and how they could help in a time of need. Bring the kids with you for face painting and free food. This is a great way to teach them how the community comes together to help those in a time of need and what resources are available.

### Upcoming Election

A General and Special Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3rd. The ballot will consist of Statewide Constitutional Amendments and a County-wide bond election for a new Jail.

Early voting begins on October 19th.

Early Voting Schedule for Garden Ridge **City Hall** voting site:

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| <b>Oct. 19, 20, 21, and 23, 2015 -</b> | 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. |
| <b>Oct. 22, 2015 -</b>                 | 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. |
| <b>Oct. 24, 2015 -</b>                 | 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. |
| <b>Oct. 25, 2015 -</b>                 | 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. |
| <b>Oct. 26, 28, 29, and 30, 2015 -</b> | 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. |
| <b>Oct. 27, 2015 -</b>                 | 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. |

Please visit the Comal County Election Administrator's website <http://www.co.comal.tx.us/Elections.htm> for additional polling places and to learn more about the new eSlate Voting Machine.

### Police Department

In today's world there are plenty of distractions that contribute to the causes of vehicle crashes every day. Technology has become so advanced that many just can't seem to get away from the rings, buzzes and vibrations of their cell phones. Law enforcement continues to gather data on cell phone use and has established it as a contributing factor to crashes, being recognized as a problem in desperate need of a solution. The City of Garden Ridge, like many other cities in this growing metropolitan area, has adopted an ordinance to help curb this issue. This ordinance establishes that **hand-held** mobile communication devices are no longer allowed to be used while driving in Garden Ridge. City Ordinance 184 is currently in effect and signage will soon be posted throughout the City. The ordinance allows for a 30-day grace period where only warnings will be issued. We encourage you to read the entire ordinance on the city's website.

### Deer Management

According to TPW wildlife biologists, feeding deer increases the transmission of diseases among the deer. This is due to them eating the feed off of ground that is contaminated with deer feces.

Feeding deer also attracts unwanted animals. Garden Ridge recently had issues with feral hogs in one of our neighborhoods. The hogs were attracted to, and caught in, an area where people were feeding the deer. Feral hogs are potentially dangerous, harbor diseases and can cause severe damage to property. We don't want them in the city. Refraining from feeding will lower the possibility of any further issues with feral hogs.



Please come out and join us for some great fun, food & friendship at the **43rd Annual Fish Fry, BBQ, and Auction** on Saturday, October 3, 2015 at the Garden Ridge Community Center on F.M. 3009. This event is the primary fundraiser for the **Garden Ridge Lions Club Charities, Inc.** Proceeds support: sight services including eye glasses & exams for needy children; youth services including the Texas Lions Camp for Special Needs Children; community services including Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets and Christmas toys for needy families; and scholarships.

**Activities:**

- Dinner served 3:00-6:30 p.m.
- Fish Fry & Bar-B-Q: Adults \$10.00/ Children \$5.00
- Live Entertainment: 4:00- 5:30 p.m.
- Silent Auction: 3:00-6:00 p.m.
- Live Auction@6:45 p.m. - Raffle drawing at 6:30 p.m. Super Raffle following Live Auction

Your valued support is very much appreciated.

**Library Footnotes**

The Library is home to a Lions' Club donation box for used eyeglasses. Bring in your discarded glasses so others may use them.

Veterans, if you have not signed up so we can honor you on Veterans' Day, please do so. If you signed up in previous years we still have your information and you do not need to sign up again.

New books in our collection are Sue Grafton's latest, titled *X* (she's getting close to the end of the alphabet); *Badlands* by C.J. Box; and three titles by Linwood Barclay who is a new author in this collection as well as other titles. New titles have also been added to our Young Adult and Juvenile Fiction areas.

The library will be open Columbus Day as usual. Come in for books, DVDs, audiobooks, or just to visit. We'd love to see you.

**Halloween Safety Tips**

With Halloween fast approaching, we would like to focus on tips that are critical to keeping the young ones safe while trick-or-treating. It is the one night of the year when pedestrians and vehicles all converge in the same areas.

First, be sure your child will be visible to motorists. To help with this, use reflective materials on their clothing as well as glow sticks attached to the front and rear of their costumes.

Use a flash light; they not only help make you visible, but will light up that trip hazard just waiting to ruin your evening.

Make sure that your child's mask does not keep them from being able to see where they are walking. Loosely fitting and overly sized masks can sometimes be problematic.

It's never a good idea to let young children trick-or-treat without proper supervision. Be sure that your child is being escorted by someone who is mature enough to handle the job.

For all the motorist, I cannot stress enough that you have an equal part to play in the safety of children during Halloween. Please slow down and make sure your full attention is on the road before moving your vehicle.

**Santa's Nice List!**

With less than 3 months until Christmas, the Parks Committee has received special permission from Santa Claus to add names to his official 'Nice List'. That's right; in exchange for your donation toward the purchase of a Christmas tree of lights for the grounds of City Hall complex, you will be presented with an official 'Nice List' certificate. Representatives from the Parks Committee will be soliciting donations or you can drop off your donation at City Hall. The Parks Committee promises this Christmas will be quite "illuminating"! Please send any inquiries you may have to [councilpl2@ci.garden-ridge.tx.us](mailto:councilpl2@ci.garden-ridge.tx.us).



**OKTOBERFEST**

The community is invited to attend our annual **OKTOBERFEST Celebration. Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 4-8 pm.** Live music by the Bohemian Dutchman. **BBQ Dinner served 4:30-7:00pm**, takeout available. Also: Children's Activities Silent Auction Handmade Crafts. Bucket Drawings.

For those who wish to attend, there will be a short "casual dress" worship service beginning at 5:00 pm. As always, the community is welcome to join us anytime for any of our services (Saturdays 5pm, Sundays 8:30am and 11:00am). The festivities will begin with Polka Services the preceding Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, at our 8:30 and 11:00am services.

**TRIUMPHANT LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**21315 Bat Cave Road, Garden Ridge**  
**(210) 651-9090 [www.triumphantlutheran.org](http://www.triumphantlutheran.org)**

**Quarry Commission Happenings**

Significant Action from Quarry Commission September 14, 2015 meeting:

- 11 blasts that occurred in August were below the City's Blasting Ordinance limits
  - Aug. 5th highest ground vibration measured was .225 in/sec
  - Aug. 12th highest air blast measured was 116.4 dB
- 1 citizen filed a blast report for the blast on August 5.
- Elected:
  - Michael Shands as Chairman and Wayne Mudge as Vice Chairman
- Recommendation to City Council for approval:
  - Appointment of Albert Haddad as a Commissioner
  - Request to meet bimonthly, on even months; unless there is an issue that requires immediate attention

Next meeting will be on **October 12 at 7:00 pm** and the training session will be on Automated Monitoring of Blast.

If a citizen would like to have a seismograph placed on their property to monitor blasts, please contact City Hall or a Quarry Commission member.

We encourage citizens to file a blast report if they have a question about a blast or wish to document the effect of the blast. Three ways for reporting:

- Call City Hall (210) 651-6632 and file a verbal report
- Complete online by using the quick link button on the homepage (<http://www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us>) and clicking on Citizen Blast Report
- Printing the Citizen Blast Form and submitting to City Hall via email, mail, fax, or in person.

Then attend the Commission meeting to learn more about the blast you reported.



**HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE**

**Saturday, October 10, 2015, from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.**

More than 50 vendors offering unique, one-of-a-kind items, silent auction, a raffle for an original handmade quilt, and of course, lots of food. **We will have dogs for adoption!**

**Vendors, still a few outside spaces left.** Contact Gail McLeod at [grwcmarketplace@gmail.com](mailto:grwcmarketplace@gmail.com) or (210) 273-4787.

**Donate items for the silent auction.** Contact Jeanie Springer at [jbbk01@yahoo.com](mailto:jbbk01@yahoo.com), or (210)-651-3175, if you have items to donate.

**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 can volunteer to help, please contact Tanya Haddad at (210) 651-9241 or [mimitn7@yahoo.com](mailto:mimitn7@yahoo.com). All profits from this event will be donated to local charities.

**Congressman Lamar Smith to Speak Here**

The Republican Club of Comal County will host an event at the Garden Ridge Community Center on October 15<sup>th</sup>. U.S. Congressman Lamar Smith will be the featured speaker. There will be a pot luck dinner starting at 6:30 PM, and Congressman Smith is scheduled to speak about 7:30 PM. Those wanting to participate in the pot luck should send an email to [jandrews@satx.rr.com](mailto:jandrews@satx.rr.com). Anyone wanting just to hear Congressman Smith is more than welcome to attend.