



# THE GRAPEVINE

NOW OVER 1,500 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

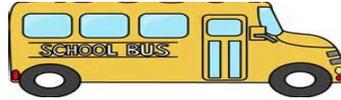
The Newsletter of the City of Garden Ridge

## August 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



# hello AUGUST

### Coming Events

- Aug 5th City Council meets, 6pm
- Aug 6th Preschool Story Hour, 10:30am @ Library
- Aug 10th Quarry Commission meets, 7pm
- Aug 11th Planning and Zoning Commission meets, 6pm
- Aug 13th Preschool Story Hour, 10:30am @ Library
- Aug 13th City Council Special Meeting, 6pm
- Aug 20th Deer Management Meeting, 6pm (see article)
- Aug 24th City Council Special Meeting, 6pm (public hearing on Annexiation, budget and tax rate see website for more information)
- Aug 25th Comal ISD 1st Day of School
- Aug 25th Water Commission meets, 6pm
- Aug 26th City Council Special Meeting, 6pm (public hearing on tax rate)

*NOTE: All meetings subject to change!*

### Mayor's Desk



Thanks to every civic organization, City employee and individual who made the City's 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and picnic such a great success! We tried to keep some of our traditions while adding some new events just to spice things up. Hope you had as much fun as I did.

Well, the heat is on – be sure to keep yourself and your pets hydrated. Also, as you drive through the City, watch out for walkers and joggers – everyone seems to be out and about enjoying the sun.

Please continue to keep up your involvement in the Parks and Deer Committees - we value your input.

Hope everyone continues to have a safe and happy summer whether you travel or stay at home!

Nadine

### WELCOME TO GARDEN RIDGE

#### New Residents

DARREN BATES	MATTHEW & SARA READ
LARRY & JACQUELINE BROWDER	SON TRAN
THERESA DAVIS	MONICA WEST
RON & SUE EBERHARDT	YVETTE VOSS
JOHN A & CONSUELO GARZA	JEFFREY & LEZLI THOMPSON
NAIDU REBOLLOSO	MARK & LAURIE SEKULA

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...

to all who participated in the Garden Ridge 1st Patriotic Kid Contest. And thank you for making it a successful event. The winners of the Patriotic Kid Contest were:

Juliette Ornes	(1st place)
Zoe Lum	(2nd place)
Summer Lum	(3rd place)

### Police Department NEW TRAFFIC SIGNAL

We are going to have a new traffic signal installed on FM 3009 and Municipal Parkway. This new signal will contain a flashing yellow left turn arrow. We are hoping this flashing arrow will help eliminate some congestion for those turning left. This yellow flashing turn arrow **does not** give any driver the right of way, but merely allows the driver to make a turn should the opposite lanes allow and there is no chance of collision.

I am asking everyone to please be patient when using this new signal. It will be installed before the new school year starts and we all know how much of a hurry everyone is in to drop their children at school on their way to work. I ask that you please do not take an unnecessary risk on that yellow turn signal so you may arrive safely to your destination.

I have been watching as similar lights were placed on FM 3009 in the Schertz area and can say with certainty and proof that the accident rate increased upon their initial implementation due to people not understanding the light. If you have any questions regarding this new traffic signal, please contact my office and we will do our best to answer all of your questions. Let's make this new signal an added benefit to the community and not an added risk.

### Library Footnotes

by Suzanne McCandless

*Our "Christmas in July" fundraising project was met with enthusiasm. You can participate any time for any reason.*

*We have a new book by Harper Lee, the sequel of TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD! How long librarians have wanted to make that statement! Yes, GO SET A WATCHMAN will be on our New Shelf this month, so you can compare the grown-up Scout with the child you knew, the older Atticus with the respected lawyer.*

*Recommended on the Bill Gates summer reading list is THE ROSIE PROJECT, by Graeme Simsion; this delightful book had me laughing out loud by page 10. Don Tillman, genetics prof, sets out to find a wife with the evidence-based Wife Project. The results give the world a character and a story memorable, humorous, and heart-warming with insights into true happiness.*

*IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT, by Judy Blume, is about tragic airplane crashes in the sixties which shape the lives of a town.*

*Our preschool story times continue through August 13 at 10:30 a.m. with Miss Candi. Come early to secure a place.*

*As the hot summer winds down, we wish you Happy Reading in cool air conditioning.*

### Significant Actions - July City Council Meeting

July 1, 2015 Regular Meeting

- Approved of the release Karen Ford, Finance/HR, from 90 day probationary period
- Approved Bexar Metro 9-1-1 Network District's proposed FY 2016 Budget
- Approved Comal Appraisal District FY 2016 Budget
- Approved a water bill adjustment due to water leak
- Discussion of FY 2015 Proposed Bond
- Discussion on Ordinance 54 Section 6.03 and 7.01
- Discussion on letters of support to area cities related to the asphalt plant
- Update from Garden Ridge Deer Management Committee, Garden Ridge Naturally (Parks Committee), FY 2016 Budget and 2015 Tax Rate Calendar, and CIP Projects for 2015

July 9, 2015 Special Meeting

- Approval of Ordinance 181-072015 issuing CO Bonds
- Approval of Ordinance 182-072015 setting dates and times for public hearing for proposed annexation of 13 acres
- Discussions on 2015 Property Tax Rate, and 2016 FY Budget

### Quarry Commission Happenings

The Quarry Commission met on July 13, 2015 and discussed the 14 blasts that occurred in June. The highest ground vibration measured was .290 in/sec on June 22 and the highest air blast measured was 119.4 dB on Jun 5. All readings were below the City's Blasting Ordinance limits. One citizen filed a blast report for a blast on May 27. That blast, which was discussed during the June Quarry Commission meeting, was below City's Blasting Ordinance limits, but was rated as a very strong blast. A Quarry Commission member will contact the citizen to discuss the blast.

The Quarry Commission is now conducting training sessions every month at the end of Quarry Commission meetings. The training is intended to educate citizens and Board members about blasting and its effects. At July's meeting, the training covered the planning, design, and execution of blasts. The training at the Aug meeting will focus on blast explosives. If you have a specific, blasting-related topic you would like to learn more about, please let the Commission or City Hall know.

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. You may file a report by calling City Hall (210) 651-6632, completing the relatively new online Citizen Blast Report Form, or printing the Citizen Blast Form and submitting the Form to City Hall via email, mail, fax, or in person. (The forms may be found on the City's Web Site, under the Quick Links section (<http://www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us/>))

The next Quarry Commission meeting will be on August 10 at 7:00 pm. Citizens who wish to make a comment about a blast, learn about blasting and its effects, or have an input for the Commission are encouraged to attend the Aug meeting.

Hanson Aggregates – Servtex Quarry would like to thank Garden Ridge residents and especially the students of Garden Ridge Elementary School for helping to make the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual **Hanson Aggregates – Servtex Quarry RACAP Food Drive** a success. The food drive collected **more than 8,100 pounds of food** for Randolph Area Christian Assistance Program (RACAP), a Schertz-based, non-profit food bank serving families in need in parts of Comal, Bexar and Guadalupe counties. The students of Garden Ridge Elementary school collected 3,100 pounds of the total amount of food donated to RACAP. Thank you to all who contributed to help RACAP serve families in need during the busy summer season, when many children don't have access to regular nutritious meals through school.

### Water Commission

*"Water is the driving force of all nature." Leonardo da Vinci*

- Make sure sprinklers are not watering the streets and driveways.
- If you must use a fertilizer, choose one that contains at least 30% slow-release nitrogen.
- Shorten your shower by a minute or two and you'll save up to 550 liters per month.
- Turn off the water while you shave your legs and shampoo and save up to 1700 liters a month



The Parks Committee thanks everyone who has filled out the Park Survey. A preliminary review of the responses indicates many residents agree on survey topics but we've also received some great insights on issues we had not considered. To make sure everyone has a chance to complete the survey we've extended the deadline to August 7<sup>th</sup>. Please continue to respond using either the City's website or by dropping off your survey at City Hall. Additional forms are available there. If you have children age 10 and above in your family we want their input too.

### DID YOU KNOW?

*You can always find the answer on our website at [www.garden-ridge.tx.us](http://www.garden-ridge.tx.us) or on our Facebook page.*

**GARDEN RIDGE WOMEN'S CLUB  
HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE**  
**Saturday, October 10 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**  
 GARDEN RIDGE COMMUNITY CENTER  
 Unique Vendors, Silent Auction, Knotty Knotters' Quilt,  
 Great Food  
 \$2.00 Admission Fee (children free).....Free Parking  
 Vendor Inquiries: Gail McLeod (210) 273-4787  
 Volunteer: Tanya Haddad (210) 651-9241

### Tips to Help You Beat the Summer Heat

- Drink plenty of fluids.
- Try to stay in relatively cool areas, even when outside.
- Avoid hot enclosed places, such as cars. Never leave children unattended in a car parked in the sun.
- Use a fan, if available.
- Eat well-balanced, light and regular meals.
- Wear loose-fitting, lightweight and light-colored clothing.
- Cover windows that receive a significant amount of sun with drapes or shades to help keep your house cool.
- Weather stripping and proper insulation will keep cool air inside your home.

### Public Hearings

<u>August 24th at 6pm</u>	<u>August 26th at 6pm</u>
Tax Rate	Tax Rate
FY 2016 Budget	
Annexation of portion of Woodlands at Garden Ridge	

### Deer Management

Mark your calendars for Thursday, August 20th at 6pm and plan to attend the Deer Management meeting. Come and in participate in the discussion regarding how to handle the deer population in Garden Ridge. See you at City Hall on August 20th.

**YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT**