



THE GRAPEVINE

NOW OVER 1,400 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

The Newsletter of the City of Garden Ridge

www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us

MAY 2010

City Hall 651-6632 Lost Pets 651-6831 & GRPD 651-6441
Non-emergency, after hours

May 9



Mother's Day



ARMED FORCES DAY
MAY 15

Remember with great
gratitude and honor all
members of our
Armed Forces
Especially those who
fought & died serving
America!



Memorial Day
May 31

Coming Events:

- 1 May — Bracken Volunteer Fire Department Firefighter's Festival (See article) 651-5762
- 5 May — City Council meets 7 PM
- 8 May — Vote 7 AM to 7 PM in the Court Room
- 8-16 May — Brush dumpsters at Community Center, Brush only PLEASE!
- 9 May — Mothers' Day
- 10 May — Quarry Commission Meets, 7 PM
- 15 May — Armed Forces Day
- 20 May — GRCPAAA Meets 7 PM
- 20 May — Planning and Zoning Meets, 7 PM
- 25 May — Water Commission Meets, 7 PM
- 31 May — Memorial Day observed; "Lest we forget"
City Offices and Library closed

Non-Emergency After Hours (Other Than Police)

If there is a non-emergency after business hours, the number to call is 658-6831. It will be answered by an answering service who will then notify animal control, the water department, etc. As always, emergency calls should go to 911 or Comal County Sheriff's Dispatchers at 830-609-3921 (metro).

WELCOME TO GARDEN RIDGE

New Residents:

Mark Chase
Gordon & Frances Jackson
Ron & Kathrina Murdoch
Joe & Sindi Rosales
Gilbert Sanchez



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.



Quarry Commission Happenings

Many of you noticed a blast on April 8th that was more noticeable than normal. The effects were due to a ground anomaly that resulted in a "blowout". Though more noticeable than normal, the effects were well within normal ranges. The quarry personnel will continue to work hard at identifying these anomalies to avoid excessive blast effects. Please provide your feedback on an impacts you feel from the blasts. The Citizen's Blast Report is located on the City's web site if you feel a blast was notable. All citizens are encouraged to attend the next Quarry Commission meeting on May 10, 2010 at 7 PM to ask your questions and learn more about quarry operations.



There is an upcoming vacancy on the Quarry Commission. Anyone interested in serving should submit a resume or short bio to the City Administrator.

FROM THE MAYOR

Many that know me are aware of my warm feelings regarding animals. In that regard, City Ordinance #18 outlines the requirements for registering pets with the city. This registration is not designed to bring in revenue as the \$5.00 yearly fee does not really play in the budget. It does, however, perform two important functions. It aids in reminding owners of vaccination requirements, and in my mind importantly, aids in returning pets to their owners in a timely manner. The system/ordinance compliance is performing marginally, at best. So far in 2010, 22 dogs have been impounded and returned to owners by the city. Only 4 of these were registered. Luckily, through other means — tags, micro chips, etc. — we were able to return these animals, although in most cases, it could have been done more quickly if the animals had been registered. Please — regarding your pets, in particular dogs — register at City Hall each January. All that is required is a few minutes of your time, \$5.00, and proof of rabies vaccination (required every three years). Your cooperation is most appreciated.

Jay F. Feibelman
Mayor

House Addresses

For many homes, it is extremely difficult to immediately determine the address in case of an emergency. If you have not, please display your address prominently on your home or in the yard. Precious time can be saved for EMS and/or Police response.

Library Footnotes

By Linda Crossland

Who do you think you are?

Do you have an interest in finding out who you are and who your ancestors were? The library is considering subscribing to Ancestry.com for a limited period, but only if there seems to be an interest in genealogy in the community. Perhaps a club should be started or just individuals who might help offset the cost. Is there someone in the community who knows how to use Ancestry.com and would be willing to help others learn? If you have an interest in genealogy and would like to use the library for Ancestry.com please contact Linda Crossland at the library, 651-6570 or Suzanne McCandless, 651-6875.



Our DVD section continues to grow slowly. You might want to check out **The Blind Side**, **The Number One Ladies Detective Agency**, or **Amelia**, plus several seasons series of **The Sopranos**, **Nip'n'Tuck** and **Six Feet Under**.

Is anyone a collector of Louis L'Amour's work? We were recently given a set of his work, all leatherette bound, embossed in gold with L'Amour's name. This would make a stunning library addition. We have 123 of the 127-book complete collection, which originally cost over \$1700. If you are interested in buying this beautiful set, make us a reasonable offer.



QUICK NOTES

- GRCPAAA membership meeting on Thursday, 20 May — 7 PM
- **BRUSH DISPOSAL** — Bexar Waste, our waste collector, will be providing roll-offs for brush disposal six times per year for the convenience of Garden Ridge residents only. The disposal site will be located off Municipal Parkway on the following scheduled dates: May 8-16
- The most critical period for Oak Wilt is Feb 1 to June 1. Paint all wounds ASAP!
- Election Day - May 8 - Municipal Court Room for Comal County Justice Center Bond issue and School Board. No city election.
- City Lost and Found: 651-6831



BRACKEN VFD FIREFIGHTER'S FESTIVAL

The Bracken Volunteer Fire Department is hosting their annual fundraiser **Saturday, May 1st, at the Central Station on FM 3009**. A fajita dinner will be served from **4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** with To-Go orders available also.



This year's festival will feature a **live auction**, a **silent auction**, a **raffle** of great items donated by area businesses and individuals, a **bake sale**, and **entertainment for the kids**. You do not need to be present to win the raffle items. As usual, friends of BVFD are asked to bring a favorite dessert to help with the bake sale. Although BVFD is partially supported by tax revenue, fund raising is still critical to provide the best fire rescue and medical first response service possible. Mark your calendar to come enjoy great food and company while supporting your local fire department!

P.S. Visit www.brackenvfd.org website and check out the new pictures. You just might see one of yourself!

GARDEN RIDGE WOMEN'S CLUB MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



The Garden Ridge Women's Club is starting our "GRWC 2010-2011 Membership Drive," and we are looking forward to welcoming new members, as well as keeping our current members. We plan to continue many of our traditional activities and special interest groups, but are always open to new ideas and fresh input.

If you are interested in joining our club or are already a member and have any questions, please contact our **Membership Chairman, Judi Hanna, 210-658-0819**. **Dues are only \$20 per year**, and the new year is June 1, 2010 – May 31, 2011. Membership renewal forms will be mailed during the month of May to current members. Please return them by July 1, 2010, along with your check for \$20 payable to GRWC to:

Judi Hanna
13622 Hercules Ln.
Universal City, TX 78148.

Thank You from Curves!

The ladies of Curves would like to thank the community of Garden Ridge for helping us exceed the goal of donating 1200 pounds of non-perishable food items to Daily Bread Ministries. With your help, we were able to donate 1386 pounds on behalf of the Garden Ridge community. We plan to continue offering an intense, 30 minute, full body workout for years to come! We thank you for your support and loyalty over the past four years!

Warmest regards,
Katy & the Curves Girls

Garden Ridge Lions Club



For membership and information contact
Dick Vogt at 651-5894

Significant City Council Actions in April: Special Presentation:

- Proclamation naming the month of April as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" in the City of Garden Ridge

Approved:

- City Water Commission recommendation on a request by L.W. Svendsen, 9015 Sumac Cove, for a variance to Ordinance 54-022010, Section 35.03, Hot Water on Demand System Rebates, to allow a rebate on a Hot Water on Demand System
- City Water Commission recommendation on a request by Dan Fordiani, 8824 Garden Ridge Dr., for a variance to Ordinance 54-022010, Section 35.03, Hot Water on Demand System Rebates, to allow a rebate on a Hot Water on Demand System
- City Water Commission recommendation on a request by Don Hewitt for the lease of 2 acre feet of Edwards water rights from the City of Garden Ridge to support commercial property at 18414 5th Street in Bracken, Texas.
- Certification of Unopposed Candidates in the City of Garden Ridge General Election of May 8, 2010
- Ordinance 158-042010 declaring unopposed candidates in the May 8, 2010 General Election, elected to office; canceling the election.
- Employment of William Spiller as Police Officer with the City of Garden Ridge Police Department effective April 8, 2010, at salary set for said position in the 2010 General Fund Budget
- Acceptance of resignation of Don Sweet as Contract Building Inspector for the City of Garden Ridge effective April 1, 2010

County and School Board Elections

On Saturday, May 8, there will be two local elections. One election is for Place 7 of the CISD School Board. Incumbent Bill Swint is running against Jeffery M. Victor. The second election is a Comal County Bond Election to build a new Justice Center in New Braunfels. Early Voting for both elections will take place at the Garden Ridge City Hall.

The dates and times are: Monday and Tuesday, April 26 & 27 from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM ; Wednesday, April 28 from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM ; Thursday and Friday, April 29 & 30 from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM ; Monday, May 3 from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM ; Tuesday, May 4 from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

Election Day Voting on Saturday, May 8 will be from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM, at City Hall.

Scam Alerts

There are a number of scams being worked in San Antonio and surrounding areas. Watch out for the following:

- Scammers approach homeowners (usually elderly homeowners) and offer them a "deal" on roofing or asphalt paving. They price the job at "several hundred dollars", but on completion they insist the homeowner pay them thousands of dollars. Homeowners are often so intimidated that they write checks on the spot for the inflated prices. One team offering asphalt in the Boerne area is described as two black males in a red dump truck. Another team active in San Antonio, Boerne, and Kerr County is described as two white males driving a grey SUV and a white GMC pickup. A roofing scam is being done by a white male with a company out of Dallas/Ft. Worth. PLEASE warn your neighbors and relatives: Do not agree to any home repair work from persons who approach you. Get references before agreeing to have any work done. Pay only the agreed-on (in writing) price. Call the police if you feel you are being intimidated or threatened.
- **CITIBANK ID VALIDATION SCAM ALERT** Citibank has issued an ALERT concerning fraudulent e-mails Citibank account holders may receive asking them to validate their account information, including entering their PIN number and other personal information into a web page. For more information on this SCAM, please go to the Citibank web page. <http://www.citi.com/domain/spoof/learn.htm>

The same type of scam has also been sent out using a variety of bank names, the names of various credit cards (Visa, etc.), as well as the names of other financial institutions. ALL have the same goal: to get you to tell them your PRIVATE account information, so they can use it for fraudulent purposes.