



THE GRAPEVINE

NOW OVER 1,600 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

The Newsletter of the City of Garden Ridge

NOVEMBER 2017

www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us

City Hall (210) 651-6632

Garden Ridge Police Department, general information (210) 651-6441

Police emergencies /assistance - 911 / (830) 609-3921

Water, Animal Control (including after hours/holidays) (210) 651-6831

Library (210) 651-6570



WELCOME TO GARDEN RIDGE

New Residents

BRYAN BAGLEY
 JEANNE DILLON
 STEPHANIE & MARIO GALDOS
 KERIM & GRENDALIS JACAMAN
 GINEEN & PHILIP PLATT
 JENNIFER WELTY

JENNIFER CYRUS
 PATRICIA DUNN
 ALBERT GARCIA
 ERIN GREGORY
 PERRY WALTERS
 BILLY WILLIAMS

NOTE: Newcomers are derived from water service records, and thus, not all family members are included. Those not appearing are also welcomed! Please remember that the City of Garden Ridge requires that all dogs and cats be registered. Call (210) 651-6831 for information.

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

With the internet and so many easy ways to obtain phone number lists, it seems that scams are more rampant than ever before. We continue to educate citizens on the types of scams happening across the country, but still have many who fall victim to these tactics. This article was not written to educate you on every scam that's out there; however, I want to bring attention to some of the more serious ones that thieves are being successful with.

Ransomware is a hot topic right now, with individuals as well as businesses. If you haven't had an experience with your computer being infected with ransomware, consider yourself one of the lucky ones. The way this scam works is you open an email or click on a link that downloads a computer virus onto your computer. Then, your files are locked until you pay the ransom that's being asked of the virus manager. There are ways to prevent this from happening. First, only open emails that are from a trusted source that you have initiated the line of communication with. Don't open suspicious emails with the intention of clicking the unsubscribe button; you will likely get infected that way. Just send it to junk without opening it. Make sure your computer is protected with malware and antivirus software.

The **Grandparent Scam** is an oldie, but it's a scam that is making a serious comeback. The way the scam works is someone gathers family information from the internet and then calls you on the phone. They give you a story like your grandson (using his real name) was arrested for DWI in some far-reaching country, or in Mexico, and they are your grandson's court appointed lawyer. They request that you wire them some money so they can bail him out of jail. Meanwhile, this person has no affiliation with a lawyer's office and your grandson is actually living a normal life without any of these legal troubles. The problem is that people get worked up and forget to do the one thing that will prevent them from becoming a victim. Simply call your grandson and check on him independently. This probably seems obvious to you as you read this, but trust me, people are losing thousands of dollars by falling victim to this scam every day.

The Garden Ridge Police Department has several forms of literature to teach you about these and many other scams, so feel free to drop by the PD during business hours to get your packet.

Dan Bellinger, Lieutenant

FROM THE MAYOR

Volunteer Garden Ridge! needs you! Over the past few months, we've been rolling out and fine-tuning our *Volunteer Garden Ridge!* initiative in multiple public meetings and events. It's encouraging to see the excitement from so many of you as we've discussed the program and I thank all who have already signed up and are making a difference. If you attended our National Night Out (NNO) event you saw this firsthand. What an event! The partnership between City Staff and our Volunteers was the model of how we can get exponentially more accomplished with neighbors coming together. Volunteers organized, set up, cooked and served up food, goodies and drinks, while others ran kids' games, the fun photo booth and our Child ID station. It was indeed fun for the whole family and undoubtedly the best NNO we've ever had. Clearly that wouldn't have happened without the enthusiastic efforts of many of our new volunteers.

NNO was just one annual event – just think of the collective force of each of us giving a few hours a month to an activity we enjoy! We have so many opportunities to connect to so much talent, expertise and experience. Whether they are routine positions on a schedule, projects that are more “on your schedule,” or even one-time efforts – there's something for everyone. In fact, we have a great opportunity coming up – our Paul Davis Park Trails Cleanup Project. On Saturday, November 11th, we will be gathering to cut, clear and clean the nature trail in the park. We need team leads, coordinators, cutting crews, chainsaw operators, safety observers, food and drink helpers, and more – we need you!

As you consider your place in *Volunteer Garden Ridge!*, I ask you to bear in mind the added benefit of the program as a great mentoring opportunity. It's a wonderful chance to show our younger folks that through community service, the world is bigger than them. We can help them experience the satisfaction of working together, helping others and making their community stronger. Let's show them the true value of living in our Garden Ridge.

We've had a great start, but now it's time to kick it into high gear. How? Join us! Contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Shelby Trial at stgov@satx.rr.com, or me at mayor@ci-garden-ridge.tx.us to get started. Send us a note and/or call us and tell us where you think you fit in! Not sure where you fit in? Again, send us a note and/or call us. That's a discussion we really want to have with you. The possibilities and matches of skills and experience to projects and needs throughout our *Volunteer Garden Ridge!* Program are endless. One thing is for certain – there IS a great place for you and together we WILL find it. So, let's all come together to help keep our Garden Ridge: *A way of life, not just a place to live!*

larry

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Reminder: City Hall will be closed in celebration of Thanksgiving on Thursday and Friday, November 23-24, 2017. The Library will be closed on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, November 23-25, 2017.



SAVE THE DATE!
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017
1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

The GRWC will be hosting an annual "Mix & Mingle" at Olympia Hills Golf & Event Center (12900 Mount Olympus, Universal City). Admission is one unwrapped toy. This event is open to all current GRWC members. Refreshments include light appetizers, dessert and ice tea. Cash Bar available. Please RSVP by November 17 to Tanya Haddad, 210-651-9241 or mimitn7@yahoo.com.

VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION
NOVEMBER 9, 10:30 AM
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER ROOM
HOSTED BY THE GARDEN RIDGE LIBRARY

On Veterans Day, America pauses to honor every service member who has ever worn one of our Nation's uniforms. Each time our country has come under attack, they have risen in her defense. Each time our freedoms have come under assault, they have responded with resolve. Through the generations, their courage and sacrifice have allowed our Republic to flourish. And today, a Nation acknowledges its profound debt of gratitude to the patriots who have kept it whole.

As we pay tribute to our veterans, we are mindful that no ceremony or parade can fully repay that debt. In our small way, we hope to honor them. We also honor the spouse or family of any veteran. Their support and encouragement made it possible for the veteran to do whatever had to be done to keep our world safe and to allow us to rest securely.

Under the most demanding of circumstances and in the most dangerous corners of the earth, America's veterans have served with distinction. With courage, self-sacrifice, and devotion to our Nation and to one another, they represent the American character at its best. On Veterans Day and every day, we celebrate their immeasurable contributions, draw inspiration from their example, and renew our commitment to showing them the fullest support of a grateful Nation.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Wildlife Management Advisory Commission welcomes you to attend its meetings. The meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:00PM. You are encouraged to watch the White-tail Deer Population Education Session posted on the City website. The information in the presentation may assist you in responding to the upcoming 2017 Survey (pending City Council's approval).

DUMPSTERS FOR THE DISPOSAL OF BRUSH,
METAL, WOOD, APPLIANCES, FURNITURE

Roll-off dumpsters for the disposal of brush, metal, wood, appliances and furniture for the convenience of Garden Ridge residents are available on Saturdays and Sundays from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM during November. No commercial or contractor disposal allowed. Proof of residency is required.



GARDEN RIDGE PARKS COMMITTEE
SUPER RANGERS

By now, Garden Ridge residents are familiar with the Parks Committee contributions to the annual 4th of July celebration and Christmas Tree Lighting, but the committee "super rangers" are involved in a lot more than festivities. Members write grants, maintain Park Lane Park, and work with City Council and other organizations to enhance community enjoyment of our parks. Though small in number, the committee members are an active bunch. This month, we are giving a high five to the committee members for their continued efforts. Members are Rose Andrews, Gerry Bower, Kay Bower, Sue Eberhardt, Sandra Edsall, Denise Fox, Missy Lantzy, Linda Potts, Deanna Repp, Diana Scott, Lisa Swint, and Kathy Trial.

The next event on tap is the first Paul Davis Park trail clean-up day. On Saturday, November 11, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon, community teams of five people each will start clearing trails. The work to be done is significant and the task will take many more clean-up days. If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact Shelby Trial (stgov@satx.rr.com) to be assigned to a team.

Finally, check this space in the December *Grapevine* for details on the third annual Christmas Tree Lighting on Tuesday, December 5.

WATER BILL

Self addressed return envelopes will no longer be included in your water bill. The City offers many options for paying your water/trash bill by the 15th of the month, including:

- Auto Draft (and avoid late fees). ACH form available on the website or at City Hall.
- Bill Pay on the City website www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us
- Pay in person or by mail
- Drop box in parking lot

WINTERIZING TIPS

- Ensure there are no gaps in insulation or crawl spaces that expose pipes to cold air, which could put the pipes at risk of freezing and bursting.
- Have your heating system checked by a licensed technician.
- Block drafts around doors, windows and baseboards with weather stripping, window film and caulk to control heat loss.
- Install storm doors and windows to improve energy-efficiency and get rid of drafts.
- Have chimneys cleaned by an experienced chimney sweep to prevent the risk of a fire from buildup or blockages.
- Spray door locks with powdered-graphite lubricant to prevent freezing and sticking.
- Set ceiling fans to rotate clockwise to force rising warm air back towards the floor.
- Drain or cover your backflow preventer.

COMMUNICATIONS

Person to Person: 9400 Municipal Parkway, Garden Ridge, TX

Website: www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us

Social Media: Facebook-City of Garden Ridge, Nextdoor.com, Twitter

Coffee with a Cop: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at First United Bank at 9:00 a.m.

Citizen Comment Period: Opportunity to speak at all City Council and Commission meetings

Citizen Concern/Citizen Input: Interactive communication form <http://ci.garden-ridge.tx.us/forms.aspx?fed+65>

Phone: (210)651-6632 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday)

Coffee With the Mayor: Mondays, 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Mayor's Office Hours: Mon/Tues/Fri, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

DUMPSTER WEEKENDS - Nov. 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26

November 2017

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
<p>All activities that are <u>underlined</u> will occur at the Library REGISTRATION REQUIRED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Craft Class w/Morena (\$10)</u> • <u>Reading with Shiraz</u> • <u>Lego Robotics</u> 			<p><u>1</u> <u>Craft w/Morena @ 1p.m.</u></p> <p>City Council @ 6p.m.</p> <p><i>Early Voting**:</i> <u>8:00AM-4:00PM</u></p>	<p><u>2</u> <u>Adult Coloring @ 1p.m.</u></p> <p><i>Early Voting**:</i> <u>7:00AM-7:00PM</u></p>	<p><u>3</u> <u>Preschool Storytime @ 10:30a.m.</u> <u>Turkey Time</u></p> <p><i>Early Voting**:</i> <u>7:00AM-7:00PM</u></p>	<p><u>4</u> FALL BACK — SET CLOCKS BACK!</p> <p>DUMPSTERS - 8AM-5PM</p>	<p>** COMAL COUNTY EARLY VOTING SITE GARDEN RIDGE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS **</p>	
<p><u>5</u></p> <p>DUMPSTERS - 8AM-5PM</p>	<p><u>6</u> <u>Reading Dog Shiraz 3p.m.-5p.m.</u> COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR (9:30-11:00)</p>	<p><u>7</u> ELECTION DAY <u>Lego Robotics 3p.m-4:30p.m.</u> <u>5:30p.m.-6:30p.m.</u></p>	<p><u>8</u></p> <p>COFFEE WITH A COP @ First United—9AM</p>	<p><u>9</u> <u>Veterans Celebration Program</u> <u>City Council Room @10:30a.m.</u></p>	<p><u>10</u> VETERANS DAY City Hall—Closed Library—Closed</p>	<p><u>11</u> <u>Pokemon Club 10a.m.-Noon/Ages 6+</u> DUMPSTERS - 8AM-5PM</p>		
<p><u>12</u></p> <p>DUMPSTERS - 8AM-5PM</p>	<p><u>13</u> <u>Reading Dog Shiraz 3p.m.-5p.m.</u> COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR (9:30-11:00) Quarry Commission @6p.m.</p>	<p><u>14</u> <u>Lego Robotics 3p.m-4:30p.m.</u> <u>5:30p.m.-6:30p.m.</u> P&Z Commission @6p.m.</p>	<p><u>15</u> <u>Lunch & Learn @ Noon</u> <u>Kanani Thompson: 5 Techniques for Better Sleep</u></p>	<p><u>16</u> <u>Adult Coloring @ 1p.m.</u></p>	<p><u>17</u> <u>Preschool Storytime at Paul Davis Park @ 10:30a.m.</u></p>	<p><u>18</u></p> <p>DUMPSTERS - 8AM-5PM</p>		
<p><u>19</u></p> <p>DUMPSTERS - 8AM-5PM</p>	<p><u>20</u> <u>Reading Dog Shiraz 3p.m.-5p.m.</u> Wildlife Mgmt. Advisory Commission @6p.m.</p>	<p><u>21</u> <u>Lego Robotics 3p.m-4:30p.m.</u> <u>5:30p.m.-6:30p.m.</u></p>	<p><u>22</u></p> <p>COFFEE WITH A COP @ First United—9AM</p>	<p><u>23</u> THANKSGIVING City Hall—Closed Library—Closed NO TRASH!</p>	<p><u>24</u> City Hall—Closed Library—Closed</p>	<p><u>25</u> Library Closed DUMPSTERS - 8AM-5PM</p>		
<p><u>26</u></p> <p>DUMPSTERS - 8AM-5PM</p>	<p><u>27</u> <u>Reading Dog Shiraz 3p.m.-5p.m.</u> <u>JOIN US! Library Book Club 10:30a.m.</u></p>	<p><u>28</u> <u>Lego Robotics 3p.m-4:30p.m.</u> <u>5:30p.m.-6:30p.m.</u> <u>Card Class w/Angie 1:30p.m.</u> Water Commission @6p.m.</p>	<p><u>29</u></p>	<p><u>30</u> <u>Hooks & Needles @10:30a.m.</u> <u>Adult Coloring @ 1p.m.</u></p>	<p>All meetings are subject to change. Please refer to calendar on City website.</p>			