



THE GRAPEVINE

NOW OVER 1,600 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

The Newsletter of the City of Garden Ridge

JANUARY 2020

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 Services (including after hours/holidays) (210) 651-6831

Library (210) 651-6570



WELCOME TO GARDEN RIDGE

New Residents

Eduardo Castillo	Jeremy & Marie Galbert
Lori Beth Raymond	Jennifer & Nancy Sides
Marilee Silvester	Vernon Smith
John Weisbeck	

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

NEW WATER RATES IN JANUARY 2020

The City of Garden Ridge Water Company increased water rates by 14 percent. On November 6, 2019, the City Council unanimously voted to approve the rate structure recommended by the Water Commission. The rates are reflected on this month's bill. The Water Commission reviewed the rate structure and considered the following: the Water Company be fully funded and separate from the General Fund, maintain existing quality, redundancy, and reliability, and maintain adequate financial reserves.

The analysis and the Water Commission presentation can be found at: <https://www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us/298/Water-Rates>.

Both the Water Commission Meeting and City Council Meeting videos where the water rate increase was discussed can be found at: <https://www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us/agendacenter>.

Please contact your City Council with any questions. You can find contact information for each City Councilmember at: <https://www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us/364/Meet-the-Council>.

GARDEN RIDGE MARKET DAYS

Mark your calendars for Saturday, January 11, from 9am-2pm in the Garden Ridge Community and Event Center for another great opportunity to meet your local business owners as well as your neighbors! We had over a 1,000 people attend last month and the market continues to grow.

Follow our Instagram account @gardenridgemarketchats or our Facebook page for additional and updated information. Please contact Kim Wood at kim@gardenridgemarket.com with any questions or if you're interested in participating.

SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC BILLS

The City of Garden Ridge is working towards "E-Government" by providing more information, forms, and applications through our website. We are also trying to go paperless! Are you interested in receiving your water bill through email? Well, we have exciting news for you then! Go paperless and sign up for e-billing services. It's a wonderful step in saving the planet and even saving your own time! You can sign up through this link, <https://www.ci.garden-ridge.tx.us/FormCenter/EBill-Sign-Up-13/EBill-Sign-Up-55> or fill out the form at City Hall. Please call City Hall or email the Utility Clerk at water@ci.garden-ridge.tx.us if you have any questions.

FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Garden Ridge Police Department and Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association are partnering to offer **Refuse To Be A Victim®**; a four-hour, nationally-certified crime prevention seminar. Attendees will be provided practical information to help develop their own Personal Safety Strategies through awareness and avoidance of criminal attacks. The seminar will help participants to better understand criminal thinking, as well as provide tips and strategies to maximize home, automobile, out-of-town travel, telephone, cyber, and personal security. Self-defense training and the use of non-lethal personal-protection devices will also be discussed and attendees will have the opportunity to handle some of these devices. All participants are provided an 82-page companion handbook filled with tips, techniques, pictures, and diagrams. They will also be awarded a **Refuse To Be A Victim®** completion certificate.

Since this program's inception in 1993, there have been public and private sessions of **Refuse To Be A Victim®** delivered to hundreds of neighborhood associations, professional societies, school and church groups, and law enforcement seminars all across the country. At last count, nearly one hundred thousand people have attended this award-winning program in all fifty states as well as many other countries.

Refuse To Be A Victim® will be held in the Garden Ridge City Council Chambers on Saturday, February 15th from 10am to 2:30pm with lunch (provided) from 12:00pm-12:30pm. This seminar, typically \$50 per person, will be **FREE** to Garden Ridge residents and their families. Space is limited, so please call the GRPD at 210-651-6441 to reserve your slot in this important seminar. You can **Refuse To Be A Victim®!**

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

The League of Women Voters of the Comal Area, a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation in government, invites the public to a Redistricting Forum. The topic of discussion will be why fair voting district maps are important and benefit everyone. The nonpartisan forum will be held at the Tye Preston Memorial Library (16311 South Access Road, Canyon Lake, Tx 78133) on Monday, January 20th, 2020 at 6pm.

Please visit www.lwvcomal.org for more information.

WATCH ALL CITY MEETINGS ON OUR WEBSITE

Many of you have witnessed the audio/visual system that we designed for our council chambers, either in person or through watching meetings on the City's YouTube channel. We are excited to announce the software portal, made possible by CivicClerk, designed for agenda and meeting management is LIVE and available on the City's website. This software allows for streaming meetings live, archiving videos for on-demand viewing, and indexing videos to the agenda items - seeing what was discussed involving your topic of interest without watching the entire meeting! We believe you will be impressed with all the features and ease of access this portal offers all in one place: the City's website! **The City of Garden Ridge will no longer be streaming meetings to YouTube.**

CivicClerk's online portal integrates with the Agenda Center on the City's website; therefore, all agendas, packets, videos, and minutes can still be found in the same place!



Thanks A Million Thanks A Million Thanks A Million

The fifth annual Garden Ridge Tree Lighting Ceremony is history and the Parks Committee would like to thank the Citizens of Garden Ridge for their support. Many thanks to the fine work of our Police Department for keeping the community safe during the event.

Special thanks goes out to our sponsors for 2019: Audi North Park, Nothing Bundt Cakes, and Danny Correa Realty. Thanks to our food truck vendors Grouchy Mamas, Just Dogs 34, and Drakes' Specialty Treats for adding their flavor to things. The entertainment by Garden Ridge Elementary Choir led by Ms. Jennifer Jeske, The Danville Darlings, and the Voeller Family "Chords of Grace" brought the holiday spirit to the event and was indispensable. And lastly, to the community volunteers, City Staff, as well as the Bracken Volunteer Fire Department who put in numerous hours which made our tree lighting event a success, the Parks Committee thanks you so much.

The Parks Committee is eternally grateful and looks forward to doing it again next year. We are still seeking volunteers to help plan and execute other Parks Committee and City sponsored events throughout the upcoming year. We especially need younger volunteers as most of our members connection to the real beneficiaries (the kids) is from a grandparents' perspective, meaning fresh ideas are required to continue the connection within the community. As a community, Garden Ridge is blessed with three closely located/affiliated schools that will ensure an exemplary education for our children from kindergarten to completion of their secondary education. The Parks Committee is committed to helping build memories that give our children and grandchildren a strong sense of civic and community pride.

More importantly, as our name implies, we want to help our City design, manage, improve, and grow a park network that all residents can enjoy. There is a good start with the improvements to Paul Davis Park and the establishment of multiple neighborhood "pocket parks" that also establish child safe zones throughout the City.

Visit the City's website and give volunteering a consideration under "How do I".



Grace Preparatory Academy Leo Club filled 850 Christmas bags with toys, hygiene items, and school supplies on December 11th to be distributed in Mexico as a Global Project. One act of service, one encouraging word, one gift of generosity is often all it takes to bring hope where it's needed most. Grace Preparatory

Academy Leo Club leader Lion Tara Brown and Lion Amanda Hagy worked with the Leo group, who spent over 100 hours to complete this global project.

The Garden Ridge Lions delivered Christmas meals, children's gifts, and hygiene kits to 40 less fortunate families in the Garden Ridge and surrounding areas on December 14th. The Garden Ridge Lions focused on families with children as they should never go without during a holiday period. Christmas meals, gifts for the children, and hygiene kits were provided making the Christmas season a little brighter for those in need.

The Garden Ridge Lions Club meets on January 8th & 22nd at 7PM in the Garden Ridge Community and Event Center, 9500 Municipal Parkway. For additional information, call President Bill Swint 210-867-0580 or email: swint01@hotmail.com.

LIBRARY FOOTNOTES

Looking at the New Year's calendar, we'll all have 2020 vision.

People have tried to imagine life during the year 2020. Some predictions have been amazingly accurate, while others are simply ridiculous. Being chauffeured by apes, flying houses, having telepathy and teleportation make us all laugh. My favorite prediction is according to a 1966 Time magazine article, the 21st century would be a pretty awesome time for just about everybody. In an essay called "The Futurists," they predicted (with a straight face) that "machines will be producing so much that everyone in the U.S. will, in effect, be independently wealthy." Without even lifting a finger, the average non-working family could expect to earn an average salary of between \$30,000 and \$40,000, according to Time. That's in 1966 dollars, mind you, which would be about \$300,000 today. For doing nothing! I suppose that sounds appealing to many people. At least it will give you a lot of time to read.

As you make your New Year's resolutions, remember to improve your mind along with your body. Reading is the answer! (and we don't mean putting subtitles on your TV sets). In addition to wonderful books, the library has great 2020 vision. We offer a variety of classes. For Children: Read to a Therapy Dog, Lego Robotics, Lego Club, Prenda Coding Club, The Magic of Me, and Preschool Storytime. For Adults: Northside Knitters, Adult Coloring, and Card-Making. We also have lined up Lunch-n-Learns for First Aid, Gardening, Using Smart Phones, and Instant Pot Classes. We would like to start Adult "Crafternoon" if there is interest. Do you have any subjects you'd like us to cover? Please tell us, and we'll try to make it happen.

2020 is surely going to be filled with puns about perfect vision. We can't wait to see them all.

OPEN POSITION FOR COMMUNITY AND EVENT CENTER MANAGER

The City of Garden Ridge is seeking a Manager for the Community and Event Center. The Manager will be responsible for marketing, scheduling and booking public and private events, as well as managing day to day operations of the Community and Event Center. The Community and Event Center Manager is an individual with professionalism, effective and efficient communication skills, and a self-starter who promotes a vibrant event experience to include high standards of employee and customer safety, satisfaction, and service. For more information, contact City Hall at (210)-651-6632 or email Nancy Cain at administrator@ci.garden-ridge.tx.us.

Significant Actions-December City Council Meeting

Approved

- Destruction of City Records in accordance with Ordinance 67-122013
- Certification of Tax Levy for the Tax Year 2019
- Appointments to the Capital Improvements Advisory Committee
- Ordinance No. 54-122019
- TCEQ Agreement to install highway markers stating "Superior Public Water System"
- Leak Adjustment for 19907 Wild Crest and 21319 Forest Waters Circle
- Increase trash service fee by \$1.44 per agreement with Republic Services

Discussion and Updates

- CIP Projects
- City Board and Commissions
- City Council Projects
- Parks Committee
- City Administrator Projects
- City Facilities
- Mayor Projects
- *Volunteer Garden Ridge!*

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, 9:30a.m. to 11:00a.m.



January 2020

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City Hall (210) 651-6632

Library (210) 651-6570

Police Department General Information (210) 651-6441

Police Emergencies/Assistance - 911 or (830) 609-3921

Water, Animal Services (including after hours/holidays)

(210) 651-6831

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>*City meetings are in bold and subject to change, please refer to the City website. These meetings are held @ City Hall. *Activities that are <u>underlined</u> will occur at the Library. *City news/deadlines are in <i>italics</i>.</p>			<p>NEW YEARS DAY CITY HALL AND LIBRARY CLOSED</p>	<p>2 <u>Adult Coloring, 1pm</u> CITY COUNCIL @ 6PM</p>	<p>3 <u>Storytime with Stay & Play, 10:30am</u></p>	<p>4 <i>Dumpsters, 8am-5pm</i></p>
<p>5 <i>Dumpsters, 8am-5pm</i></p>	<p>6 <i>Coffee with the Mayor, 9:30 - 11am @ City Hall</i></p>	<p>7 <u>Northside Knitters, 10am</u></p>	<p>8 <i>Coffee with a Cop, 9am @ First United Bank Lunch-n-Learn, "RainWater Harvesting," 12pm</i></p>	<p>9 <u>Adult Coloring, 1pm</u></p>	<p>10 <u>Storytime with Stay & Play, 10:30am</u></p>	<p>11 <i>Dumpsters, 8am-5pm</i> <i>Garden Ridge Market Days, 9am - 2pm</i></p>
<p>12 <i>Dumpsters, 8am-5pm</i></p>	<p>13 <i>Coffee with the Mayor, 9:30 - 11am @ City Hall</i> <u>The Magic of Me, 3:30pm</u> QUARRY @ 6PM</p>	<p>14 <u>Lego Robotics, 3:30-4:30pm</u> P&Z @ 6PM</p>	<p>15 <i>VA Rep, 9am-3pm</i> <u>Lego Club, 3:30-4:30pm</u></p>	<p>16 <u>Adult Coloring, 1pm</u> <u>Prenda Club, 5:30pm</u></p>	<p>17 <u>Storytime with Stay & Play, 10:30am</u></p>	<p>18 <i>Dumpsters, 8am-5pm</i></p>
<p>19 <i>Dumpsters, 8am-5pm</i></p>	<p>MLK DAY CITY HALL AND LIBRARY CLOSED</p>	<p>21 <u>Card-Making, 1pm</u> <u>Lego Robotics, 3:30-4:30pm</u></p>	<p>22 <i>Coffee with a Cop, 9am @ First United Bank Lunch-n-Learn, CPR, 12pm</i> <u>Lego Club, 3:30-4:30pm</u></p>	<p>23 <u>Adult Coloring, 1pm</u> <u>Prenda Club, 5:30pm</u></p>	<p>24 <u>Storytime with Stay & Play, 10:30am</u></p>	<p>25 <i>Dumpsters, 8am-5pm</i></p>
<p>26 <i>Dumpsters, 8am-5pm</i></p>	<p>27 <i>Coffee with the Mayor, 9:30 - 11am @ City Hall</i> <u>The Magic of Me, 3:30pm</u> WILDLIFE MGT. ADVISORY @ 6PM</p>	<p>28 <u>Lego Robotics, 3:30-4:30pm</u> WATER COMM. @ 6PM</p>	<p>29 <u>Lego Club, 3:30-4:30pm</u></p>	<p>30 <u>Adult Coloring, 1pm</u> <u>Prenda Club, 5:30pm</u></p>	<p>31 <u>Storytime with Stay & Play, 10:30am</u></p>	