

December 2014

CEDAR HILL

HIGHLIGHTS

The annual State of the City event, hosted by the Chamber of Commerce is traditionally an review of the City's progress with charts and statistics. This year it was all about

RELATIONSHIPS.

Over 100 Chamber members, City staffers and guests heard Mayor Rob Franke pay tribute to his friend, mentor and counselor, Alan Sims, who is retiring after 15 years at the helm of the City.

After a heartfelt introduction from Mayor Franke, Sims spoke of his first positive encounter with Cedar Hill and how when he applied for the CM position he felt that God was calling him to Cedar Hill.

After 14 years in Overland Park, KS he felt he was ready for a new challenge. One of his earliest projects was working with the City Council to develop a vision statement that still guides the City today:

We envision Cedar Hill as a premier city that retains its distinctive character, where families and businesses flourish in a safe and clean environment.

Sims listed the retail and commercial developments in the city from 2000 up until today and spoke of things to come.



Greg Porter assumes City Manager position Jan. 1.

Greenspace, he said has a strong positive economic impact on our community. He described how Cedar Hill's goal to preserve 20% of the land area as greenspace, parks and preserves. That makes us comparable to cities like Paris (France). Geo-tourism, he said, is already contributing to our economy.

He encouraged neighborhoods, churches, businesses and schools to join in the effort to help keep all parts of our city clean and attractive.

City Manager Alan Sims and Mayor Rob Franke

He feels very positive about recent developments in CHISD and the impact of education on our community.

Before reading the heart-felt resignation letter he sent to Mayor Franke, Sims said he told the mayor he didn't want a big production made of his retirement. The mayor's response "Suck it up!"

The appreciation shown to Alan Sims by the Chamber is just one of several special events set before he leaves at the end of December.

On December 18 everyone is invited to a special day of recognition featuring presentations by local, county and state officials and many other tributes. The event will be held in the Government Center from 2 - 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18.



Are we solar-ready?

The Planning and Zoning Commission has decided to consider the possible need for local regulation of solar panels and they are seeking public comment on this topic.

Are there other concerns regarding solar photovoltaic systems that the Commission should be reviewing?

For the past several meetings, the Commission has studied how solar photovoltaic energy systems work, and their impact on the community.

Currently, the Commission is in the problem identification process considering solar panel related issues including aesthetics, hazardous materials, decommissioning, ambient temperature, property values, public safety, noise, glare and environment.

The P&Z Commission is also reviewing action taken by communities around the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

The Planning and Zoning Commission usually meets the first and third Tuesday of every month. Check the Meetings calendar at cedarhilltx.com.

Contact, Don Gore at don.gore@cedarhilltx.com for any questions or comments regarding Solar Cedar Hill.

Cedar Hill makes history in Dallas

Thanks to efforts by the Cedar Hill Historical Society, Cedar Hill history is on display in the Old Red Courthouse in downtown Dallas.

From its origins in the 1840s when settlers with Peter's Colony arrived by wagon, through a Depression-era bank robbery attributed to Bonnie and Clyde's gang, the exhibit explores the social, commercial, and natural history of the city known as the Hill Country of North Texas.

Developed and installed by the Cedar Hill Historical Society, It will run from Oct. 26, 2014 through Jan. 25, 2015. Open daily from 9 AM to 5 PM except for Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas and New Years.

Admission \$8 adults, \$6 seniors 65+, children 3-16 are \$5. Sunday before noon \$5.



Day One Trail Run, Jan. 1 at CHSP

On Jan. 1, 2015 exercise your 'New Years Resolution' to be a healthier, more active individual. Join in the "Day One Trail Run" at Cedar Hill State Park. It is actually a pair of competitive 5K or 20K races through the park. Preregistration is encouraged, though not required. Email (at right) for the link to online registration.

Cost: \$35 for 5k, \$50 for 20k. Participant fees include entry into Cedar Hill State Park, a finisher's award, and refreshments during and after the race. Participants who register be-

When: Jan 1, 2015, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Where: Cedar Hill State Park
Contact: Lauren Pyeatt
Email: lauren.pyeatt@tpwd.texas.gov
Phone 972.291.3000 x232

fore December 10th will receive an event shirt. Regular park admission fees apply for spectators who wish to cheer on their friends and family.

Awards will be given to the top finishers in multiple categories.

Time: Official start time for the 20k is 10 a.m. Packet pickup will begin at 8 a.m. The 5K will begin 15 minutes after the 20K begins.

Location: This race is intended to take place on the D.O.R.B.A trails on the south end of Cedar Hill State Park. However, due to the soil content at the park, extensive rain prior to the race may cause a change in the course. It will still take place inside Cedar Hill State Park rain or shine, but the course could include portions of the park roads.

Check with gate attendant for parking and start location.

Alarm Monitoring



For only \$25 a month, you can have your home or business alarm monitored by the same local professional staff that dispatches police and fire crews for the City of Cedar Hill.

Instead of your alarm notifying someone several states away, this system connects directly into our local 9-1-1 call center. Saving seconds can save lives. It's only \$25 a month and there is no long-term contract required. For more information contact SWRCC at 972.230.5248.

People make it a community



At the November City Council meeting, Mayor Rob Franke presented a proclamation to members of the Cedar Hill Historical Society, chaired by Norman Patten, far left, and recognized Phyllis Stewart, far right, for her efforts coordinating the Cedar Hill exhibit on display at the Old Red Courthouse in downtown Dallas through Jan. 25.



Noting National GIS Week, Mayor Franke presents a proclamation to Public Works director Elias Sassoon and Evan Peters, GIS Technician. GIS mapping and documentation support almost every facet of municipal services.



Bobby Hunter, S.T.A.R. student for November, lower center, is all smiles as he receives his plaque from City Council member Wallace Swayze, higher center at a recent City Council meeting. City Council member Stephen Mason and Mayor Rob Franke also enjoyed the moment.



More social than ever

Keep up with the latest goings on in Cedar Hill via social media. You can tweet with the city at twitter.com/CedarHillTX. Like us on Facebook, look for City of Cedar Hill, Texas-Government. Pin with us on [Pinterest.com/cedarhilltx](https://www.pinterest.com/cedarhilltx).

1 8 2 9 3 4 5 6 CALENDAR

For the most up-to-the-minute information on events, check out the City's online calendar by scanning this QR code with your smartphone. Free QR scanners are available in your phone's app store.



December

1 Cedar Hill "The Last Small Town in Dallas County" Exhibit

This exhibit, developed by the Cedar Hill Historical Society, continues at the Old Red Court House in downtown Dallas until Jan. 25, 2015. Visit www.oldred.org/exhibits/current-special-exhibit/

18 Retirement reception for City Manager Alan Sims

2-4 p.m. Government Center, Lobby and Cannady Room.

Recognition of his 15 years of service to the City. Presentations and proclamations from state and county officials, Best Southwest mayors and community leaders. Open to the public.

24-25 City facilities closed for Christmas holiday

Check the City website cedarhilltx.com for details.

29 Kwanzaa Celebration

6:30- 8:30 p.m. at Uptown Village at Cedar Hill. Bring the whole family to celebrate and learn about Kwanzaa with food, dance and more. For information email aranda.bell@cedarhilltx.com.

January 2015

1 Day One Trail Runs at Cedar Hill State Park

10 a.m. start

Cedar Hill State Park will be hosting a 'Day One Trail Run', a competitive 5K or 20K race through the park. Preregistration is encouraged, though not required. Cost is \$35 for 5k, \$50 for 20k. Participant fees include entry into Cedar Hill State Park, a finisher's award, and refreshments during and after the race. Participants who register before December 10th will receive an event shirt. Regular park admission fees apply for spectators who wish to cheer on their friends and family. See more information on page 2 of this newsletter.

13 & 27 City Council Meetings

6 p.m. Briefing Session, 7 p.m. Regular City Council Meeting. Both are open to the public. Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd., First Floor, Cannady Room.

Agendas and minutes for City Council meetings and other City boards and commissions are available at cedarhilltx.com. Click on the Agenda Center icon. Agendas are posted 72 hours before meeting times.

cedarhilltx.com/calendar/home



Don't send that tree to the landfill

The City makes it easy for you to recycle your live tree after Christmas.

Place your live/dead tree, free of decoration, tinsel or spray snow, at the curb by 7 a.m. on Wed., January 7 or on Wed., January 14 for recycling. This will not count as a bulky item or brush.

If you prefer, you may drop off your tree at large recycling bins located at either the Recreation Center parking lot or at 310 E. Parkerville or Uptown Village shopping center. The



bins will be in place from Mon., January 5 and Tues., January 13. Please do not contaminate the tree collection with any other materials.

You may also place your tree by your trash/recycling on your regular collection day, but it will not be recycled.

Remember, most wrapping and packaging material, except for styrofoam, is recyclable. But put it in your recyclebin, not with the tree.



Sprinklers can cause dangerous roads

Residents and businesses should be aware that when temperatures drop below freezing automatic sprinkler systems can create dangerous patches of ice on streets and driveways that may cause auto accidents and pedestrian falls.

Please check your sprinkler system

to make sure neither the spray nor the runoff reaches streets, driveways or sidewalks. Otherwise dry roadways can turn extremely dangerous when drivers encounter an icy patch created by a sprinkler system. Ice can form from wind-blown overspray, poorly aimed sprinkler heads, leaks and runoff.

Don't feed the clog



If you generate a lot of cooking oil or grease, don't pour it down the drain, it can cause clogs, expensive for you and for the City.

Recycle your cooking grease by bringing it, in a closed container, to the City Service Center at 1554 S. Clark Rd. between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. weekdays. Check in at the office and they will assist you.

For smaller amounts, pour grease into a closeable container or wipe the warm, not hot, pan with paper towels and place them in the trash.

Putting food scraps into the trash instead of down the garbage disposal can also help prevent a holiday plumbing disaster.

City Contacts

EMERGENCY 911

Administration 972.291.5100x1009

After Hours (Answering service) 972.780.6643

Alarm Monitoring 972.230.5248

Animal Control 972.223.6111

Animal Shelter 972.291.5335

City Secretary 972.291.5100x1011

Code Enforcement 972.291.5100x1090

Economic Development 972.291.5132

Fire Department, non-emergency 972.291.1011

Human Resources 972.291.5100x1050

Library 972.291.7323

Municipal Court 972.291.5100x1041

Neighborhood Services 972.291.5100x1094

Parks & Recreation 972.291.5100x1500

Parks Adult Rain-outs 214.855.9758

Parks Youth Rain-outs 972.480.5868

Police Department, non-emergency 972.291.5100x2400

Public Relations 469.272.2903

Public Works 972.291.5126

Recreation Center 972.293.5288

Senior Center 972.291.5353

Tourism 972.291.5100 x1084

Trash & Recycling (Waste Management) 800.772.8653

Utility Billing 972.291.5100x1200

Published by the City of Cedar Hill

Corky Brown

Public Relations Manager

corky.brown@cedarhilltx.com