

March 2017

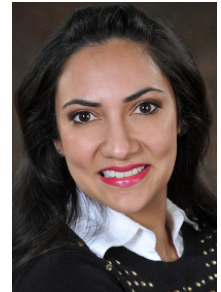
CEDAR HILL

HIGHLIGHTS



Neighborhood Block Parties build relationships

Michelle Ebanks,
Neighborhood
Services
Coordinator



Spring is almost here! Wouldn't it be nice to get together with neighbors and hold a block party? Have no fear – it's easy to hold a block party! Follow these 8 simple steps and you are on your way!

8 Simple Steps to Organize a Neighborhood Block Party!

1. Recruit a couple of your neighbors to help organize your party. It's not that much work, but it's always more fun when you have some friends helping with the project.
2. Poll your neighbors and decide on the date and time of your party. Choose a date that works well for most of your neighbors.
3. Decide whether you want to hold the party in a neighbor's yard or close down your street for the evening and spread out. You can also hold your party in a park. Call 972.291.5100 x 1500 to make a park reservation.
4. If you would like to close your street and/or have amplified music, contact the City of Cedar Hill Neighborhood Services Department for a Special Events Permit Application and guidelines at 972.291.5100 ext. 1099. Please note: Allow 30 days to process the application.
5. Make a list of food and items needed for your party. Perhaps you'd like to have an ice cream social, with each house bringing a different flavor. A piñata for the kids?

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Think Green, Think Clean

Cedar Hill's recycling and solid waste services will soon provide residents a cleaner, faster and more reliable service.

Residents who live in a single-family residence will receive a new 96 -gallon trash container in April. Instructions for use will be attached to the container and will also be available online at cedarhilltx.com.

Consistent Services

Containers will be required for trash just as they are now for recycling. Recycling and trash collection schedules will not change.

- The first trash container will be provided at no cost, as recycling containers are today.
- Customers who currently rent a single Waste Management trash container for \$3 per month will no longer be charged.
- Additional trash and recycling containers can be rented from Waste Management for \$3 per month. To order an additional container, call 972.291.5100 ext.1005
- The monthly rate for collection and processing services will increase approximately \$2 per residence beginning May 1.

• Only carts issued by Waste Management will be acceptable after May 1.

Cleaner Neighborhood

We can each do our part to provide a cleaner, safer environment by ensuring that all trash is placed in the trash container for collection.

- After May 1, no plastic bags or other items left outside the trash or recycle containers will be collected.
- Bulk items will be collected once per month along with the brush collection.
- Brush items and the bulk items should not mix.
- The volume of bulk items will increase to 4 cubic yards. Brush material will remain at 10 cubic yards.
- Effective May 1, residential customers with more than 4 cubic yards of bulk waste can schedule a second pickup of 4 cubic yards of bulk waste, at no extra charge, by calling Waste Management at 800.772.8653.

Additional information can be found at cedarhilltx.com.



Board & Commissions Summit Updates

Over the next several months, City leadership will engage the community on priorities for the future of Cedar Hill. One of the recent steps towards engagement was the inaugural Boards & Commissions Summit held January 31.

During the Summit, the Mayor and City Council met with members of its 14 Boards & Commissions. Mayor Rob Franke reflected on how Cedar Hill has evolved over the years, while maintaining its distinctive character that sets Cedar Hill apart from other communities.

Mayor Franke reflected on the Boards & Commissions master planning efforts over the past 10 years that have led to the development of the community's top priorities:

- City in a Park
- Community Life
- Growing Green
- City Center

Over the past several years, City leadership has engaged the community in the development of the vision of Cedar Hill including neighborhood town hall meetings, the 2016 community survey and feedback from Board & Commission members.

The consensus is that our community has experienced significant growth since our last citizen bond referendum in 2003. There are various indicators showing the community's growing needs for facilities and infrastructure. In response to citizen's input, our City's

leadership team is exploring a bond referendum in November 2017 to finance infrastructure and facilities needed to support our community and enhance quality of life.

Representatives from the City's Boards and Commissions and other leaders are reviewing the City's master plans to prioritize and recommend a slate of projects to the City Council for a November bond referendum. The focus is on the following areas:

- Parks and Park Upgrades
- Facilities
- Municipal Infrastructure

Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD) Appeal

In November 2017, citizens will be asked to consider renewing the Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD) for a 15-year period. Approved by voters in 2012, CCPD funds the Police and Community Team (PACT) Unit and community policing initiatives.

The focus of which is building relationships and partnerships, such as National Night Out, Citizens on Patrol, safety fairs, neighborhood crime watch groups, the High School LEAD Council, child safety seat program and a myriad of other community initiatives. It is important to note that the CCPD is not funded by a new tax. Rather, it is funded by existing sales tax revenue.

Build a Premier Block Party

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6. Go door-to-door and have all your participating neighbors volunteer to bring something to the party. Remind them to bring folding chairs and sports equipment if they want. Or, if you do not want to go door-to-door, you can prepare a flyer and distribute it to your neighbors letting them know about the planned block party. Neighborhood Services will print the flyers for FREE.

7. Don't forget to bring a sign-in sheet for your neighbors! Maybe you'll want to get a telephone tree or email list going.

8. Once the planning is done, sit back, relax, and enjoy your party! Don't forget to take pictures and submit to neighborhoods@cedarhilltx.com.

Questions, comments?

Get in touch by emailing michelle.ebanks@cedarhilltx.com or calling 972.291.5100 ext. 1099.



To see more of what's going on in our community check out City Hub Cedar Hill at cityhub.biz/cedarhill.

Senior community outreach pilot bus program

Are you a senior over the age of 60 and a resident of Cedar Hill? The Cedar Hill Senior Center is implementing a pilot bus program for senior citizens without reliable transportation. The routes will include transportation to local retailers and businesses. The program will begin March 3.

The bus trips will be held every month on the first Friday of the month from 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. and pickups begin at 8 a.m. The cost per bus trip is \$1 to be paid the day of the trip. If you are interested in participating, email the Cedar Hill Senior Center at valerie.rolark@cedarhilltx.com, or call 972.291.5353. You can also contact Jean Dyer at jean.dyer@cedarhilltx.com or 972.291.5100 ext. 1005.



Tax help for everyone

First come, first served. Tuesdays Feb. 7 thru April 11 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Zula B. Wylie Library, 225 Cedar St. Free assistance provided by volunteers from AARP.

People make it a community



ABOVE: EMS Chief Kevin Cunningham, second from left, accepts Texas Fire Chiefs Association 2016 President's Award with (from left to right) Greg Porter, City Manager, John Ballard, Fire Chief, and Ricky Pendley, Assistant Fire Chief.

Waste Management offers scholarships for Cedar Hill High School seniors

Waste Management is offering two \$1,500 scholarships to 2017 high school graduates who attend CHISD schools or live in Cedar Hill. Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.5 and a desire to attend a university, junior college or trade school. The scholarship is coordinated by the Zula B. Wylie Public Library. Applicants must complete a scholarship application and include the following:

- Official high school transcript.
- Two (2) letters of recommendation, at least one from the school principal, counselor or teacher.
- An essay, no longer than two pages, double spaced describing the role they can play in helping the sustainability of our community.

Applications are available at the Library, 225 Cedar St., and online at cedarhilllibrary.org. Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m., Saturday April 29, to the Library's Circulation Desk. Please contact Theresa Brooks 972.291.7323 ext. 1318 or via email at theresa.brooks@cedarhilltx.com for additional information.



If you're already on Nextdoor, you may have seen City departments sharing information there. Check it out at Nextdoor.com. Remember, City staff cannot see your neighborhood posts, so contact us via Nextdoor's private message to reply.

CALENDAR

For the most up-to-the-minute information on events, check out the City's online calendars at cedarhilltx.com

cedarhilltx.com/calendar

March 2017

11 Environmental Collection Day

Cedar Hill High School Parking Lot, 1 Longhorn Blvd.
9-11 am - Properly dispose of your household hazardous waste, electronic materials and important documents in need of paper shredding. Proof of residency is required. For more info visit cedarhilltx.com/hhw.

14 & 28 City Council Meetings

Cannady Room, Government Center, 285 Uptown
Public briefing session begins at 6 p.m., City Council Meeting begins at 7 p.m.

25 ReMarket

Houston St. @ Texas St. Downtown

10 am-3 pm - This outdoor community market features local vendors, fresh produce, arts and crafts, live music, food and more! Held every 4th Saturday of the month, March-May, in Historic Downtown.

April 2017

6 Mayor's Prayer Breakfast

Alan E. Sims Cedar Hill Recreation Center, 310 E. Parkerville Rd.
7:30 am - Join in this community event to pray for our city and all who live, work, visit, go to school or in any way are touched by Cedar Hill.

8 Miles for Milson Charity Run

Cedar Hill High School, 1 Longhorn Blvd.

7-10 am - Join us for the 7th annual Miles for Milson Charity Run to honor the memory of CH Men's Varsity Basketball Coach David Milson. All proceeds from the run will go to the Cedar Hill Lions Club to raise funds for charitable activities. For more information, visit davidmilsonlegacyrun.org.

11 & 25 City Council Meetings

Cannady Room, Government Center, 285 Uptown
Public briefing session begins at 6 p.m., City Council Meeting begins at 7 p.m.

15 Miracle Weekend Easter Egg Hunt

Virginia Weaver Park, 631 Somerset Dr.

10 am-1 pm - Enjoy an Easter egg hunt for children ages 10 and under and bring your family dog to join in the fun for an Easter egg hunt just for the dogs! There will be food and other family friendly entertainment. This is a joint effort between Church on the Hill and the Cedar Hill Parks & Recreation Dept. Visit cedarhilltx.com/pard for additional information.

Library Food for Fines Program Partners with Cedar Hill Food Pantry

During the month of January 2017 the Zula B. Wylie Public Library offered a fine forgiveness program. Individuals were asked to bring one non-perishable food item or canned good with late fees. The Food for Fines program cleared fines on participant's accounts while helping the Cedar Hill Food Pantry. Library staff delivered approximately 300 food items to the Cedar Hill Food Pantry this year.



ABOVE: Zula B. Wylie Public Library staff dropping off the items donated.

Nearly \$1,000 was waived to help individuals clear their accounts.

Migratory Birds take flight



ABOVE: Cattle Egrets

Are you a bird watcher? Get ready for the migrations of birds such as cattle egrets as they journey between the United States and Canada. This natural cycle is part of our beautiful ecosystem.

Not sure what to expect? If you saw a Yellow-Crowned Night Heron, Great Egret or one of the variety of birds found in Texas last season, get ready for rookeries (nesting colonies) as they typically return to previous nesting sites. Last year, a protected rookery was established in North Cedar Hill from March to October.

Under federal law, a rookery (nesting colony) is federally protected once a

single egg is found in a single nest. Challenges may arise when these rookeries settle near populated areas. These concerns relate to noise, odor, and other significant environmental factors.

Familiarize yourself with how a cattle egret looks. "Sentries" are the first to arrive, looking for good nesting places. Report sightings to Animal Control at 972-223-6111.

For more information including tips and guidelines visit cedarhilltx.com

City Contacts

EMERGENCY 911

Administration 972.291.5100 x1009

After Hours (Answering service)
972.780.6643

Animal Control 972.223.6111

Animal Shelter 972.291.5335

Building Inspections 972.291.5100 x1090

City Secretary 972.291.5100 x1011

Code Enforcement 972.291.5100 x1111

Economic Development 972.291.5132

Fire Department, non-emergency
972.291.1011

Human Resources 972.291.5100 x1050

Library 972.291.7323

Municipal Court 972.291.5100 x1041

Neighborhood Services
972.291.5100 x1099

Parks & Recreation 972.291.5100 x1500

Parks Adult Rain-outs 214.855.9758

Parks Youth Rain-outs 972.480.5868

Police Department, non-emergency
972.291.5100 x2400

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 469.272.2931

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publicrelations@cedarhilltx.com