

Highlights

The City of Cedar Hill, Texas

CEDAR HILL

August 2011

Smart 911

"It can help our emergency workers save lives."

Alan Sims
Cedar Hill
City Manager

Cedar Hill, DeSoto and Duncanville residents can help first responders by providing them useful medical and personal information via Smart911.

Information from residents will help emergency services staff members by providing information even before they arrive.

Smart911, allows operators to instantly see a host of critical and detailed life-saving information about the caller such as allergies, prescribed medications, language preferences, even photos of pets and more.

Residents can subscribe to the service by visiting Smart911.com. They fill out a profile with the detailed information they want made available to 911 operators and first responders. The system also allows them to post pictures of family

members. The system is designed to be secure and makes information available only to emergency service providers.

Alan Sims, Cedar Hill's City Manager, said Smart911 is a great resource for the elderly and people with illnesses, disabilities, and allergies.

"It helps us respond quicker to provide life-saving services," Sims said.

Dona Fernandes, Managing Director

Continues on page 2

ACCESS
Cedar Hill



2

great ways to find answers and request services from the City.

Click on the Access Cedar Hill button on the City website at www.cedarhilltx.com and then click to download either the iPhone or Android version so you can take Access Cedar Hill with you.



What's new at garage & yard sales?

A new City ordinance requires yard sales and garage sales to be registered. It can be done online at www.cedarhilltx.com or by calling 972.291.5100 x1090.

Registration is free and it will get your sale on the list that is published weekly on the city website at www.cedarhilltx.com/garage_sales.

The garage sales

online list has been growing larger each week.

The new ordinance has several stipulations:

Only three garage sales are allowed per calendar year at a residence. Sales can last only 3 days, beginning no earlier than 7 am and lasting no later than 7 pm.

Signage for sales is also regulated.

Each sale is allowed only 3 signs from noon Thursday

until Monday at 8 a.m.

They must not be in medians nor on utility poles. Signs cannot

be within 40 feet of an intersection. They must be at least 3 feet from the curb or pavement or behind the sidewalk if there is one.

Signs are not allowed in any state right of way.

Register your sale on the City website at www.cedarhilltx.com.



FIRE LANE

Please don't block the path for emergency vehicles.

Parking in a marked Fire Lane for 'just a minute' could cost you a \$162 citation.



Jimmie Ruth White
Distinctive Character
Lifetime Achievement Award

Smart 911 From front page

for the Southwest Regional Communications Center, which handles 7,000 to 8,000 emergency calls a month explained that this secure information system costs about \$22,000 a year.

That cost is covered by existing 911 fees on landline and cell-phone bills, so there is no additional cost to residents. "It's an enhancement to the 911 service that the cities provide to citizens."

The three Dallas County cities are the only places in Texas where residents can get the special benefits of Smart911. In addition to Texas, Smart911 is available in about 40 municipalities across nine states.

The system de-

pends on residents signing up and adding their information to the database. Cedar Hill Fire Chief John Ballard said "Without their participation, it won't work."

To subscribe, visit www.smart911.com.



Stay up to the minute; follow Cedar Hill on Twitter

twitter.com/cedarhilltx



Community honors 'Miss Jimmie'

Jimmie Ruth White, long-time resident, business owner, Queen of Country Day and dance teacher to generations, was honored at the July 12 City Council meeting with the presentation of the city's Distinctive Character Lifetime Achievement Award.

A packed house attended the "hats on" event which featured the award from



Mayor Rob Franke and members of the City Council. Special presentations included "Queen of Country Day" yard art from the "Parks Boys" rep-

resented by Shawn Ray and Clifton Felts.

She was honored by the local Chamber of Commerce, the Museum of History, members of the Country Day team, family and friends.

A quartet of young dancers performed a special tribute and a video of her contributions to Cedar Hill was shown before the start of a community reception.



No watering between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. seven days a week from May 1 to Sept. 30

From May 1 to September 30, outdoor watering is prohibited between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Fines for violators start at \$200 for the first offense.

The City requests no outside watering at all on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays to allow the system to re-

plenish supplies in the water storage tanks.

There is a lot more information about Drought Response Stages on the City website at tinyurl.com/CHwater.

Refer to the home page of the City website www.cedarhilltx.com for drought response updates.

The Crawford Park pool closes for the season on Sunday, August 14. School starts August 22.



Above Cedar Hill Police Officer Chad Cooley, far right, was recognized at a recent City Council meeting when he received the 2010 Enforcement Hero Award from the Mothers Against Drunk Driving. His supervisor, Lt. Colin Chenault, was there along with MADD reps Beverly Booker and Cathy Quaid.



Above: Uptown Village at Cedar Hill sponsored a benefit concert in July, part of their Jam to Give summer series of concerts, featuring the Beatles tribute band A Hard Nights Day. Members of Friends of the Tri-City Animal Shelter brought a few pets looking for new homes and assisted with the collection of newspapers and dog food brought by concert attendees.

Below: In addition, the center contributed \$500 to the Animal Shelter. A large crowd enjoyed the animals and free live music. Visit www.uptownvillageatcedarhill.com for more about events at the center.



Community Calendar

August 2011

12 Flick-n-Float

8-10 pm Crawford Park pool. \$2 admission. Relax on your float in the pool and enjoy a family-friendly movie. The concession stand will be open. Call 972.291.5130 for details.

27 Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser for Omega Psi Phi

8 a.m.-noon Recreation Center, 310 Parkerville. \$5 admission for students and senior 62 and over; \$10 adults. Event encourages families to actively participate in health and fitness-related activities. Vendors, demonstrations, health screenings and door prizes.

September 2011

10 & 11 Audubon Center at Cedar Hill Grand Opening

9 am to 4 pm Saturday, Noon to 5 pm Sunday, approximately Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center at Cedar Hill, just past Northwood University on FM 1382. Free admission all weekend at the Center during their first days of operation. Program activities are scheduled for both days including guided hikes, building tours, animal encounters, lectures, children's activities and more. Off-site parking and shuttle service will be provided.

October 2011

04 National Night Out

This annual event celebrates cooperation between residents and the Cedar Hill Police Department. Many neighborhoods have get-togethers to meet neighbors.

07 Old Settlers Reunion

4:30 -8 pm
An afternoon of fun, friends and family under the big tent.

08 Country Day on the Hill

10,000 visitors jam historic downtown Cedar Hill for a good old-fashioned fall festival with great things to eat that are not on your diet.

Submit your community organization's activity to be considered for this calendar by emailing complete info to corky.brown@cedarhilltx.com.

www.cedarhilltx.com/calendar.aspx



Who answers your alarm?

For only \$25 a month you can have your home or business alarm monitored by our local 911 Center. Call 972.230.5248 for intro specials.

The Cedar Hill Police Department will check your home while you are away on vacation.



You can get more information and download the form on the City website at <http://bit.ly/chpdvac>

Contacts

- After Hours
972.780.6643
- Alarm Monitoring
972.230.5248
- Animal Control
972.223.6111
- City Administration
972.291.5100x1010
- City Secretary
972.291.5100x1011
- Code Enforcement
972.291.5100x1090
- Economic Develop. Corp.
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
972.291.5100x1084
- Parks & Recreation
972.291.5100x1500
- Parks Rain-outs
214.855.9758
- Parks Special Events
214.890.6977
- 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
- Tri-City Animal Shelter
972.291.5335
- Utility Billing
972.291.5100x1200

Keep your cool when the mercury rises

This summer is the hottest since the record-setting summer of 1980. It's also one of the driest on record.

Keeping cooling costs in line is a challenge when the highs are near 100 degrees and it barely gets below 85 degrees at night.

Reduce your energy bills by avoiding the use of heat-producing appliances as dishwashers, ovens and dryers during peak temperatures.

Raising your thermostat is a simple way to see substantial savings. Each degree below 78 can increase your cooling costs by 5-7%.

Reducing consumption will help avoid brownouts or rolling blackouts as the state's electric grid reaches capacity. Be especially aware of energy usage between 4 and 7 p.m.

Turn off unnecessary lights and small appliances.

If you leave home for 4 hours or longer, raise your thermostat 3-4 degrees. Keep shades and curtains drawn, especially on the sunny side of your home.

High summer temperatures and extreme usage take a toll on power distri-

bution. If your home loses power, call your electric provider at the number on your bill. Do not call the City.

Call elderly friends, relatives and neighbors to check on them. If their power goes out, make arrangements to move them to a cooler location.

The City of Cedar Hill welcomes residents to cool off at the Recreation Center (310 E. Parkerville, 972.293.5288) at the Library (225 Cedar



St. 972.291.7323) and at the Senior Center (1740 Mansfield Rd. 972.291.5353).

Many churches in the area keep at least part of their buildings cool during the day.

The usual rules apply during this heat streak. Don't leave children or pets in a vehicle.

Limit outdoor exercise during peak temperatures and drink plenty of fluids.

u n c o r k e d



Your city needs you

We all know that our community is filled with people of many talents, skills and amazing abilities.

There are so many rewarding ways to get engaged in the community.

We have a pressing need for a few website monitors who could help do a thorough review of the content on our City website to help us make sure that the information there is accurate and

join your neighborhood watch group. Don't have one? Start one! Contact Sgt. Jerry Busby at 972.291.5181 x2145.

Some other opportunities to consider are: coaching a youth sports team or serving as an umpire/referee (Didn't say they'd all be easy).

Or maybe you are the champion needed for an idea like a community garden.

Couldn't you give a few minutes a week to Big Brothers & Sisters?

Are you active in a faith-based organization?

Wouldn't the Historical Society love to know what you have in your attic?

The strength of a community is measured by the engagement of its stakeholders. Your community needs your participation.

Send Corky Brown an email at the address below if you'd like to help.

Each person who responds will be assigned a small piece of the site to review so it won't be too overwhelming.

Your help is valuable. As you may have heard, we are doing more and better with less these days.

Let me throw out just a few more ways you can participate:



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