

Waxahachie

H A P P E N I N G S
CITY OF WAXAHACHIE NEWSLETTER

FALL 2010

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Mayor's Message

The past few years have been very challenging, and City Council along with City Staff have both worked very hard to ensure that due diligence had been done regarding decisions made for the upcoming 2010-2011 fiscal year.

Over the last few years, significant cuts have been made in all city departments. In many cases, these cuts have been 20-25 percent, and even greater in some instances. City staff has worked, and will continue to work to provide a high level of service to all of our citizens. Each department and staff member are continually looking at ways to do more with less and to continue to provide the services to citizens that make Waxahachie a safe, healthy and prosperous community to live in.

While our local economy seems to be showing signs of a slight rebound, City officials remain cautious, but optimistic a better economic climate is around the corner.

Positive indicators such as more building activity in both commercial and residential construction can be seen all over town. We are starting to see residential building permits at a healthy level again. There are also several new businesses that have opened over the last few months and even more under construction.

To keep this healthy economic cycle going, it is important that we support our local businesses. Doing so helps create jobs for our citizens, attracts more new businesses, adds to our property and sales tax revenues, and helps to poise Waxahachie for a great future.

Buck Jordan
Mayor



City Council

N.B. "Buck" Jordan
Mayor

John Wray
Mayor Pro Tem

Chuck Beatty
Council Member

Kevin Strength
Council Member

Mark Singleton
Council Member

City Management

Paul Stevens
City Manager

Michael Scott
Assistant City Manager

972-937-7330
Metro: 972-938-2101
www.waxahachie.com

For comments or questions regarding the City's newsletter or other communications, please contact Amy Hollywood, Community Relations Manager, at ahollywood@waxahachie.com, or call 972-937-7330, Ext. 284.

Workforce Offers Many Services for Job Seekers

Job seekers in the Waxahachie area can find assistance at the local Waxahachie Workforce Center.

The Waxahachie Workforce Center is located at 1712 W. Hwy 287 Business, Waxahachie, TX 75165. Hours of operation are 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. On Thursdays, the center offers extended hours until 7 p.m.

Assistance with all job search related activities is offered through the center. From resume writing to interviewing skills, Workforce staff members are a valuable resource to aid in a successful job search. The center also provides access to phone, fax, copiers and computers with Internet connection are all available. Those in the job market may also



seek assistance in accessing and utilizing the www.workintexas.com website.

These benefits are more are all offered for no fee at the Workforce Center.

“We understand how difficult it is for job seekers in this economy. At the Waxahachie Workforce Center, you will find a group of individuals that are extremely

committed to serving the job seekers in our community. I also hope that the employers in our region will take full advantage of the valuable services that the workforce system provides in our community,” said Debra Wakeland, Waxahachie Chamber CEO and Workforce Board Chair.

For additional information, you can contact the Waxahachie Workforce Center at 972- 937-8114.

Fire Prevention Tips from Waxahachie Fire-Rescue

Fire claims the lives of approximately 3,500 Americans and injures 20,000 more each year. The leading cause of structure fires is from cooking, and leaving food unattended while it is cooking is the main reason.

Always have two ways out, whether it be at home, school or at work. If you encounter smoke, get down low on your hands and knees and crawl to stay under the smoke. If your door is closed such as a bedroom door and the smoke detector sounds during the night don't rush out the door, check the door for heat with the back of the hand. If it is hot don't open the door. Proceed to your second exit or alternate way out. Once out of the house don't go back in for any reason. Have a meeting place for all members of the household, so everyone can be accounted for. Call 9-1-1 from a neighbors phone or from a cell phone to alert fire department personnel of the fire.

Most fatal fires start while people are asleep so check your smoke detector to keep you and your family safe. By adhering to the following steps, you can help to keep your family safe from fire:

Smoke Detectors

1. Check smoke detectors monthly, change battery when time changes in spring and fall.
2. At a minimum install one smoke detector on every level of house. One in each bedroom and one outside in hallway is preferred.

Gas heaters/space heaters

1. Keep combustibles at least 3 feet from any heater.
2. Tip over switch, if tipped over the heater automatically shuts off.

Electrical

1. Use extension cords only as a temporary power source and do not overload.
2. Use the appropriate size extension cord for the appliance
3. Do not run wires under rugs or furniture.
4. Replace any appliance that sparks, smells odd, or overheats when used.

Grant Approved For Broadhead Pedestrian Bridge

A pedestrian walkway will soon be added to the Broadhead Road overpass, allowing for pedestrians and bicyclists to safely travel over Highway 287. The project was selected by the Texas Department of Transportation to receive grant funding to help complete the improvement.

“Along with the school district, we have discussed the need to provide a way for pedestrians and students to cross the overpass safely,” said Paul Stevens, City Manager. “We are very pleased that these funds will help accomplish just that,” said Stevens.

The grant was one of 54 transportation improvement projects selected for funding across the state, totaling about \$76 million. Waxahachie’s grant will cover 80 percent of the estimated \$600,000 project. The remaining 20 percent will be split evenly between the city and the school district.

“It makes sense for the city and school district to partner on this project. The new pedestrian lane will not only allow for students to safely walk to and from the Howard Eighth Grade Center, but for other pedestrian and bike traffic to travel to places such as the sports complex and the movie theater,” said Amy Hollywood, Community Relations Manager.

For more information on this transportation improvement project, please contact the City of Waxahachie at 972-937-7330, ext. 284.

You can always go..... **DOWNTOWN!**

Take advantage of the many fun activities planned in our one-of-a-kind historic downtown area!

Waxahachie Downtown Farmer’s Market, every Saturday from now through Oct. 30th, 8 am to 1 pm; on the courthouse square

Kid’s Day at the Farmer’s Market, Saturday, September 25th, 9 am to noon; fun activities for the kids and great shopping and entertainment for adults

15th Annual Texas Country Reporter Festival, Saturday, October 23rd. Join Bob Phillips and the gang for a great day in downtown Waxahachie. Enjoy vendors, music, and entertainment as well as Bob himself. This year’s headline act, The Grass Roots, takes the stage at 6pm.

Trick or Treat on the Square, Friday, October 29th, 3 to 5 pm; the Downtown Merchants Association and many other downtown businesses will be decorated and handing out candy to all the little ghosts and goblins.

Waxahachie Veteran’s Weekend, November 12th & 13th; downtown will be invaded by Axis and Allied troops who will perform a battle recreation down by the historic bridge and depots. College Street Pub hosts the troops for Oktoberfest on Friday night and the Texas Theater will have a real USO show on Saturday night. Come downtown for a fun filled weekend honoring our servicemen and women.

Community Tree Lighting, Friday, November 26th, 6 pm to 9 pm; Festivities begin at 6 pm with train rides, bounce houses, petting zoo, and pony rides which will continue until 9 pm. The community Christmas tree will be lit at 7 pm by the mayor and two helpers from WISD. Santa will ride in on the fire truck to help with the lighting of the tree. Pictures with Santa will be offered for a small fee by the Downtown Merchants Association in Toy Land Park (across from the Courthouse) from 7:30 to 9 pm.

Santa Pictures, Saturday, November 27th from noon to 5 pm in Toy Land Park. This is a fund raiser for the Downtown Merchants Association. Pictures are \$5 each.



Celebrate Waxahachie

On Thursday, August 5, the Celebrate Waxahachie event was held at the Waxahachie Civic Center. This fun-filled event was held to celebrate 160 since Waxahachie was founded, 125 years of WISD, and 10 years of the Waxahachie Civic Center.

The event also showcased local businesses and the benefits of shopping locally. Over 400 people were in attendance and enjoyed birthday cake, door prizes, a fashion show, fitness demonstrations and karate demonstrations.

City departments were also on hand including the Environmental Health Department and Fire and Police Departments. The Waxahachie Chamber of Commerce, WISD, and the Lady Indian Basketball Team also joined in on the festivities. In addition to these organizations, over 40 community members volunteered to help make the event a success.

One lucky resident one the \$500 cash grand prize, courtesy of Carlisle Chevrolet. Both Carlisle Chevrolet and CNB of Texas sponsored the event.



7th Annual Bridal Extravaganza

Sunday, October 31, 2010, noon-5pm

Waxahachie Civic Center

\$3 Admission

Register for \$500 gift certificate from Waxahachie Civic Center!

972-938-3434

www.waxahachieciviccenter.org

2nd Annual Tree Dedication Ceremony

Tuesday, October 26, 2010, 3pm

Getzendaner Park

Large Pavillion

For more information

972-937-7330, ext. 284

Grease In The Drain Can Cause Big Problems

With the holidays just around the corner, many of our residents will be planning and cooking delicious meals for our family and friends.

While preparing these meals, it is important that we all take precautions to make sure that unwanted grease doesn't cause a sewer line backup.

Grease buildup is one of the primary causes of a blocked residential sewer line. Many times the grease come from foods such as bacon and hamburger grease, but can also come from things like mayonnaise and butter. While hot water and detergent seem to wash the grease away, in reality all it does is wash it down into our sewer system. This grease can build up over time and cause very large obstructions in our sewer system.

Although there will always be traces of grease on dishes and cooking utensils, there are steps that can be taken to help make sure it doesn't contribute to a clogged sewer line.

1. Rather than pouring grease down the drain, scrape off any leftover oils into a disposable container. Any remaining grease should be wiped with a paper towel, discarding the paper towel in the trash.
2. Place place as many food scraps as possible in the trash or a compost pile if possible. Disposals may chop the food into bits, but it doesn't do anything to eliminate the grease. Coffee grounds also contain oils and should be treated the same as grease.
3. Use a strainer in your sink's drain to catch solids, and dispose of them in the trash.

These simple tips can help to keep grease from clogging pipes, and preventing a costly sewer line backup in your home or in the city's sewer system.



FREE MULCH!

Residents may pick up free mulch at the Citizens Convenience Station, 499 Lions Park Road, while supplies last. This year, the City does have an abundance of mulch from the many tree limbs lost in the February snow storm. The Convenience Station is open Tuesday-Saturday from 8am-4pm. Make sure to bring proof of residency (water bill). For more information, please call 972-937-3367.

royer's round top cafe finley pottery **FRIENDS**
OF SKIDBOOT jimie's fishing jewelry gray
 beard cycles sellers bat co. **BRIAN HOUSER**
 s&s pool cues **15th ANNUAL** wildwood dean
 oldtime **TEXAS COUNTRY** string
JANIE'S g.r. **REPORTER** gun engraving
CAKES sports **FESTIVAL** portrait painter
 cowboy pencil **with PRAIRIE DOGS**
 dollhouse furniture **BOB PHILLIPS** art hand made
 texas battlefield **maps arbor**
 castle birdhouses jackie's folk art **BLUES BOY**
WILLIE dallas model A ford club twin granny
 poetry antique **MERRY & THE MOODSWINGS**
 auto supply bill 'b.b.' barrick art frederick's
 blacksmith lerry baird's **WILD WEST TOYS**
 jbluebe mill farms michael's metal art jo
 anne b jewelry **NY HOT DOGS** wilks
 bronze sculpture last year on the
 fa art **BLIND QUILTER** art by
 ense plate **OCTOBER 23**
 house **WAXAHACHIE**
 and artists **TEXAS**
 live music on stage
FREE ADMISSION
 s 7PM CONCERT:
 ment **The**
 food **Grass**
 crafts **Roots**
 big parade pets

Hosted by Waxahachie Chamber of Commerce & Convention and Visitors Bureau

11 HD **21 HD** **WDMA** **ONCOR**
98.7K-LUV **GLASSIO FITS** **Neighborhood** **WAXAHACHIE**
CLASSIC MUSIC **CREAT SPACE** **WAXAHACHIE**



Kids Day Planned at Farmer's Market

Join us at the Waxahachie Downtown Farmer's Market on Saturday, September 25th for "Kids Day at the Market"! There will be all kinds of activities for kids including a bounce house, water slide, petting zoo, face painting, and much more! Go by and see the vendors for special treats for the kiddos; it will be great fun for the whole family! Market hours are every Saturday 8am to 1pm. The festivities for the kids will take place from 9am to noon on East Franklin. Bring the whole family downtown for a morning of fun, then make your way to Getzendaner Park for the annual Chautauqua Assembly!



On behalf of the children of Waxahachie ISD

Thank You

for your support of Operation First Day of School 2010.

Because of your generosity, 595 families and 1,240 children walked away with school supplies, backpacks, clothing, immunizations, haircuts and dental screenings.

Special Thanks to our Donors:

The Brian Waters 54 Foundation, First Baptist Church Fellowship Class, Men's Downtown Bible Class, Citizens National Bank of Texas, Waxahachie Rotary Club, Waxahachie Lions Club, Max Simpson, Ellis County Realtors, State Representative Jim Pitts, Dr. Yolanda Brady, United Way of West Ellis County, Wal-Mart, First Baptist Church, Dr. Galen Kemp and Dr. Bill Majors, T.K. Wheeler, Becky Kaufman (*Living Spaces*), D.L. Reid, Graham Street Church of Christ, Jane Vineyard, First United Methodist Church Builders Class, Cathy Burks, Cookie Parker and Carol Bigler. And to the more than 300+ volunteers that helped to make this project happen!



2010 Honorary Co-Chairs:
Mike and Bonney Ramsey and Justin Fox.

September 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Downtown Farmer's Market 8am-1pm
5	6 City Council 7pm	7	8	9	10	11 Downtown Farmer's Market 8am-1pm
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Downtown Farmer's Market 8am-1pm
19	20 City Council 7pm	21	22	23 Mark Gorman at Texas Theater	24	25 Downtown Farmer's Market 8am-1pm Kids Day at Farmer's Market Chautauqua Assembly B.I.G. 2010 Event
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Soul Sacrifice (Santana Tribute) at Texas Theater	2 Downtown Farmer's Market 8am-1pm
3	4 City Council 7pm	5	6	7	8 Voodoo Blue at Texas Theater	9 Downtown Farmer's Market 8am-1pm
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Downtown Farmer's Market 8am-1pm WaxaJam at Texas Theater
17	18 City Council 7pm	19	20	21	22 Terri Hendricks and Lloyd Maines at Texas Theater	23 Downtown Farmer's Market 8am-1pm Texas Country Reporter Festival
24	25	26	27	28	29 Trick or Treat on the Square 3-5pm	30
31						

November 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 City Council 7pm	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Veterans' Weekend Downtown	13 Veterans' Weekend Downtown
14	15 City Council 7pm	16	17	18	19 Patsy Cline Tribute at Texas Theater	20
21	22	23	24	25 City Offices Closed	26 City Offices Closed Community Tree Lighting Downtown 6-9pm	27 Santa Photos in Toy Land Park Downtown noon - 5pm
28	29	30				