

CityScape

Volume 1, Issue 3, Spring 2007

JUST A REMINDER...

The city's water supplier, North Texas Municipal Water District, asks that we remain under water restrictions due to last year's drought. Recent rains have not sufficiently restored lakes to pre-drought levels. Your continued support is appreciated.

SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT

Senior citizen residential utility customers (age 65 and above) who pay directly for water bills in their name, may apply for a monthly rate reduction of \$2.00 on their water bill. A valid form of identification must be presented to determine eligibility, such as a picture I.D., social security document or birth certificate. Applications are available at City Hall, 209 South Washington Street.



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FROSCH POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

The Kaufman Police Department (KPD) recognizes Officer Billy Frosch as the 2006 Officer of the Year. Officer Frosch was employed at KPD on July 7th, 1997. He has over 24 years of police experience to offer to the Kaufman community. Billy obtained his Master Certification in 1999. This is the highest certification to be obtained by a police officer in Texas. With over 2900 hours of training, Officer Frosch is a veteran in every sense of the word.

continued p.2

JULY 4TH PARADE

Entry forms for the Fifth Annual July 4th Parade hosted by the Keep Kaufman Beautiful Board are now available at City Hall. This year's theme is "Celebrating our American Liberties." On Wednesday, July 4th, at 10:00 a.m. the parade will begin at the Kaufman High School's parking lot, travel north on Houston Street (FM 1388), north on Washington Street to the Courthouse Square and end at Shannon Park on Grove Street beside American Legion Post #165. There are no entry fees, but we request that you submit an entry form for planning purposes.

All individuals, groups and organizations are invited to participate. Bring the family and commemorate the events in the history of this great nation that have provided us these liberties. We encourage everyone to wear red, white and blue to show support of our active troops. Bring a friend! Bring a flag! Join the fun! For more information contact City Hall at 972-932-2216.

FISHING AT KAUFMAN CITY LAKE PARK

Spring has sprung!!! We would like everyone to know that our City Lake Park, located at 1500 Terrell Hwy, has picnic tables, grills, playground equipment, fishing, and a boat ramp available to the public. The park is open daily from 6:00 A.M. until 10:00 P.M. City of Kaufman fishing permits are required and may be purchased at City Hall, 209 South Washington Street, on a daily or annual basis. There is a \$2.00 daily fishing fee for residents and a \$5.00 daily fishing fee for non-residents. Annual permits may be purchased at \$10.00 for residents and \$25.00 for non-residents.

continued p.2



The City of Kaufman recently contracted for the demolition of a substandard house located at 1205 East First North.

BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS UNDERWAY

The vacant lot beside City Hall will soon have a new look. The beautification project sponsored by the Keep Kaufman Beautiful Board (KKBB) will include a gazebo with seating, additional landscaping, and arbors. The gazebo will be available for small gatherings, picnics, musicians, or just for sitting. The goal is to establish a courtyard like atmosphere to enhance the lot. The Kaufman Chamber of Commerce recently donated \$1,000 toward this project, Paul Murrey Ford contributed \$100, Brookshire Grocery Company contributed \$200, and Lindsey Masonry Brick Contractor contributed \$100.

New "Welcome to Kaufman" banners to enhance the cityscape along South Washington Street are being purchased by the City of Kaufman and the Chamber of Commerce. Last quarter's *CityScape* newsletter discussed the upcoming landscaping project at the intersections of Highway 175 and Highway 34 jointly sponsored by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), City of Kaufman and Kaufman Chamber of Commerce. These two projects combined with the gazebo project will certainly improve the main thoroughfare into our city.

The KKBB is seeking additional donations to help fund their beautification plan. Contributions from businesses or individuals interested in putting Kaufman's best foot forward will certainly be appreciated. You may contact City Hall at 972-932-2216 for

continued p.2

CLICK NEW CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

The City of Kaufman would like to welcome Ronnie Click as our new Code Enforcement Officer. After retiring from the City of Garland with 22 years of service, Ronnie came to work for the City of Kaufman Street Department in October 2003. He was promoted to Code Enforcement Officer in February 2007.

Ronnie's duties include code enforcement inspections on public and private property; investigating citizen complaints regarding potential code violations; enforcing the City of Kaufman's Code of Ordinances, Zoning Ordinance, and Subdivision Regulations, and Nuisance Ordinances throughout the City.

Three items that we would like to make sure that you are aware of are:

- With spring upon us, now is the time to start watching for high grass and weeds. Grass and weeds shall not be any higher than 12 inches. Also, if you have an alley or ditch, it is your responsibility to maintain your side of the alley and any ditches on your property.
- Make sure your address is visible. The numbers should be 4" high for homes and 6" high for businesses and of a color which provides a contrast to the background.
- Junk vehicles are vehicles that do not run, have expired registration and/or inspection stickers, are wrecked, dismantled or partially dismantled, or has remained inoperable for more than 45 consecutive days need to be removed from the property.

Ronnie likes to have a proactive response to problems, but there will be times that he misses a problem, so feel free to contact him for any complaints. If a complaint has already been made and you do not see immediate results, please be patient because the legal process can be lengthy.

Frosh cont.

Officer Frosh's community devotion is well documented. For many years Billy has donated his time and service to the Santa Cop and Kids Fishing Tournament sponsored by the Kaufman Police Association (KPA). Billy recognizes the importance of mentoring today's youth.

The City of Kaufman would like to congratulate Officer Billy Frosh for being selected as the KPD 2006 Officer of the year. Your devotion and service to the community is appreciated.

Beautification cont.

more information or to make a contribution. Once again, thank you to the Chamber of Commerce, Paul Murrey Ford, Brookshire Grocery Company, and Lindsey Masonry Brick Contractor for their contributions and support of City projects.



Ronnie Click serves the City of Kaufman as the Code Enforcement Officer. Complaints about tall grass, junk vehicles, etc. may be reported to Ronnie by calling City Hall at 972-932-2216.

UNDERSTANDING SEVERE WEATHER WARNINGS

Each year, many people are killed or seriously injured by tornadoes despite advance warning. Being aware of the current weather conditions along with knowing the proper actions to take can prevent many deaths and injuries related to tornadoes.

The National Weather Service, along with local weather channels, monitors severe weather closely. Severe thunderstorm and tornado watches and warnings are issued through public broadcasting. It is recommended to have a battery operated weather radio in case of power outage.

Severe thunderstorm, tornado, and flood watches mean that weather conditions are favorable to produce the indicated event. When a watch is issued, you should monitor your local radar and be prepared. In the event that a warning is issued, you should take immediate actions.

If a tornado is indicated, the city activates the emergency sirens. These sirens are tested the first Monday of the month at 12:00 p.m. (noon) unless storms are predicted. Sirens are not tested during stormy weather. Any other time the sirens are heard during the month, you should take immediate shelter in a safe location. The City of Kaufman currently has sirens in four locations and a fifth siren will be added soon.

Fishing cont.

There is no charge for children 12 years of age or younger or individuals 65 years of age or older; however, a permit is still required. As a reminder, the lake is limited to boats with ten horsepower motors or less and don't forget your state of Texas fishing license which is required. The City of Kaufman hopes that residents will take advantage of the beautiful spring weather, come out to the City Lake Park and maybe even do a little fishing! For more information, please call City Hall at 972-932-2216.

Council meets third Monday
Planning Commission meets first Monday
Park Board meets third Thursday
KKB meets second Tuesday

DID YOU KNOW?

The City of Kaufman routinely opens fire hydrants to flush water mains. This helps keep a good circulation of treated water for customer use. Dead end lines and limited use lines are flushed at least once a month. Another reason to open fire hydrant valves is to release air from water lines following a line repair.

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