



Nichols Hills E-News

August 2009

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Inside this issue:

Police Department	1
City Council	3
EHS	5
Public Works	6
City Hall	7
Animal Rescue Friends	8

Upcoming Meetings

- Planning Commission Meeting Sept. 1st
5:30 pm at City Hall
- City Council Meeting September 8th
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Regular Meeting of the Nichols Hills Municipal Authority Sept. 8th
5:45 pm at City Hall
- Environment, Health, & Sustainability Committee September 23rd
8:30 am at City Hall



The Nichols Hills Police Department, in cooperation with Nichols Hills Crime Prevention Inc., which is a 501c-3 organization, will soon begin a campaign to raise funds to purchase five Watchguard in-car video systems for the patrol vehicles. The Watchguard DV-1 digital video systems are currently being used by the United States Navy, Army and Air force as well as numerous federal state and local law enforcement agencies across the nation. Several law enforcement agencies in Oklahoma are currently using Watchguard systems.

In the past, Nichols Hills has used the VHS video systems which have proven to be unreliable and expensive to repair. The last of the VHS

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

systems quit working several months ago and we do not have the funds available to replace them. The new digital system has been proven to be much more reliable and critical for review and evidentiary purposes.

In-car police video systems are invaluable for providing citizen and officer safety and have proven to save the city substantial amounts of money. In 1999, The Nichols Hills Police Department was sued for \$6,000,000 and was completely exonerated in Federal Court after video/audio recordings from three different patrol cars were shown to the jury.

We continually strive to improve the professionalism of our employees and the quality of our equipment so that we can provide the highest level of service to the community. Each digital video unit will cost approximately \$5100 installed. We realize that we will probably not be able to raise enough to purchase all five units but any help would be appreciated.

If you would like to make a tax deductible donation, checks can be made to Nichols Hills Crime Prevention Inc. and mailed to The Nichols Hills Police Department at 6407 Avondale Drive, Nichols Hills, Ok. 73116 or you may drop them by the station.

Our sincere appreciation,

Chief Richard Mask



CITY COUNCIL



Peter Hoffman, Jr. is the Ward 2 councilman and current Mayor of Nichols Hills. Peter's family came to Nichols Hills in the mid-1950's. His late father, Peter Hoffman, Sr. was the third mayor of Nichols Hills, and his mother, Marion Devore, has always been very active in support of local arts and education. Peter's brother, Kent Hoffman, is a building contractor and also a resident of Nichols Hills.

Peter attended Casady School, has a bachelor's degree from Southern Methodist University, and an MBA from Thunderbird School of International Management. He is a private investor and works to build companies. Two of his most recent accomplishments include helping to build a security software company and the second largest U.S. oil & gas land drilling company. In 2003, Peter co-founded Vertec Polymers, Inc., an advanced polymer company located in Houston, Texas. He is also involved in the energy industry.

Peter and his wife, Susan, an active civic volunteer, have two sons, Alec and Drew. Alec graduated from Casady School and received a bachelor's degree in Environmental Sciences from the University of North Carolina. He lives in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, with his wife, Teresita, and their two young daughters, Isabella and Mariana. Drew, a graduate of Casady School and Penn State University, recently received a combined JD/MBA graduate degree from Georgetown University. He now resides in Dallas, Texas, practicing law and has a young daughter, Rose

Peter and Susan are members of All Souls Episcopal Church. He is an active director of the Payne Education Center, an Oklahoma City based non-profit organization focused on helping Oklahoma children learn to read and write. He is also an active member of the Associate Board of Directors of the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Peter enthusiastically supports the local arts and education and has a passion for physical fitness, especially cycling. He is also an avid fly fisherman.

CITY COUNCIL



Everything I Learned About Pedestrians I Learned In Kindergarten

Among the first things I remember learning at Nichols Hills Elementary were bicycle and pedestrian safety rules. We went out on the blacktop and practiced: bicycles travel with the traffic and pedestrians walk against traffic. As a grownup, while driving I often have trouble seeing pedestrians, particularly at dawn (which I rarely see anyway) and at dusk. I asked fellow NH citizen and ophthalmologist Russell Crain about the science of this phenomenon. He said that contrast is the key - at dusk pedestrians tend to blend into the houses and trees behind them. If they are wearing dark clothing the problem is exacerbated. Pedestrians eyes are adjusted to the broad, still somewhat light, sky, so they feel they are walking in daylight and assume they are visible to drivers. But drivers eyes are adjusted to the darkness of the ceiling of the car, and the dark houses and trees, so they can only see pedestrians who are dressed in very light clothing, in contrast to the trees and houses. And there's where the advice to walk against traffic comes in. If you are walking at dawn or dusk, you will be able to see cars well before they see you. Please walk facing traffic and wear bright clothing, and be aware that drivers may not see you until they are quite close. They're not being reckless (usually) - their eyeballs are just in a darker time zone!

Sody Clements

EHS

The City of Nichols Hills Environment, Health, and Sustainability Commission (EHSC) would like to involve the citizens of Nichols Hills in a series of dialogs scheduled every Thursday evening from 5:30-7:00 PM at your Town Hall. These meetings will address focus areas suggested to the Commission by citizens interested in the environment and in making their community a healthier and better place to live. The EHS Commission needs significant input from a broad resident base to accurately reflect citizen values.

Focus area meeting dates through December 2009

COMMUNITY AWARENESS & EDUCATION

First Thursday of the Month:

September 3, October 1, November 5, December 3.

HEALTH/LOCAL FOOD

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

RECREATIONAL HARDSCAPE/BIKING AND WALKING

Second Thursday of the Month:

September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10.

RECYCLING/SOLID WASTE

WATER

LANDSCAPING

Third Thursday of the month:

September 17, October 15, November 19, December 17.

ENERGY/POWER

SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION

AIR QUALITY & NOISE POLLUTION

Fourth Thursday of the month:

September 24, October 22.

PUBLIC WORKS

Sanitation



Please help our sanitation workers by keeping the lids on the trash cans. During heavy rains the cans will fill up, making it very difficult to pick-up. You can also put holes in the bottom of the cans, if you keep everything in bags.

Thanks for your help!



A reminder that the recycle center is open from 7a.m. to 7p.m. daily. Please do not leave items in front of the gates after hours. This kind of defeats the purpose of recycling when the items are blowing down the street.

Street Signs and Street Lights

If you have a faded or missing sign or a street light out, please notify the Nichols Hills Public Works Dept., at 843-5222.

Stratford Street and Drainage Project



Digging should start on August 21st, 2009. The project will start at Westminster and Stratford and move south to the other side of Drakestone. This will be completed and they will move on to Dorchester Dr. and Dorchester Place. The contractor will be removing two intersections at a time, so the project can be completed at a faster pace. If you have any questions please call the Nichols Hills Public Works Dept., at 843-5222.

CITY HALL

New Utility Billing Statements

Watch for newly designed “Letter Style” utility billing statements next month. The new letter style statements will replace the old postcard statements you currently receive. The new statements will be easier to read and will have an informational “message to residents” box that will contain up-to-date information on important news items, special events, or other customer related information. Statements will be enclosed in an envelope to provide better privacy and will include a return envelope for your convenience.



CITY OF NICHOLS HILLS
 6407 Avondale Drive
 Nichols Hills, OK 73116
 (405) 843-6637
 www.nicholshills.net

Customer Name
Customer Address
City, State, Zip

/// Postal Barcode Here ///

UTILITIES SERVICE BILL

Billing Date	
Service Address	
Past Due Balance	
Payments	
Credit Adjustments	
Current Charges	
Total Amount Due	

FINAL

BILL FROM	BILL TO	ACCOUNT NUMBER	DUE DATE

SERVICE	USAGE	PREVIOUS READING	CURRENT READING	CHARGE

A 5% Penalty If Not Paid By Due Date
 For Service, Bill Inquiries or Assistance, Call (405) 843-6637

(Custom Message Text Here)

Please Return This Section With Your Payment

ACCOUNT NUMBER	CUSTOMER	SERVICE ADDRESS

CITY OF NICHOLS HILLS
 6407 Avondale Drive
 Nichols Hills, OK 73116

/// Postal Barcode Here ///

Due Date	
Current Amount Due	
After Due Date	*[Draft-Do not Pay]*
Payments	
Amount Paid	

Customer Account Barcode Here

ANIMAL RESCUE FRIENDS

If anyone wants to assist ARF in it's mission of saving unclaimed, impounded pets in Nichols Hills, they can donate time, old collars, leashes, crates, dog beds, food, treats, toys and, of course, money by mailing checks to Animal Rescue Friends, Inc of Nichols Hills, C/O Public Works, 1009 N.W. 75th Street, Nichols Hills, OK 73116 or by calling 843-4222 about donating items. ARF will respond by sending a 501 c 3 tax deduction letter (and offering a cat or a dog!).

August's Featured Pets



Ike & Mike

Two 13 week old black lab male pups look much the same - all black with a bit of white on their chests.

Ike has a blue collar. We don't have a good photo of Mike but his collar is brown. They weigh about 28 pounds each .