



Nichols Hills E-News

FEBRUARY 2011

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Upcoming Meetings

- Regular Planning Commission Meeting
March 1st
5:30 pm at City Hall
- City Council Meeting
March 8th
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Regular Meeting of Municipal Authority
March 8th
5:45 pm at City Hall
- Board of Adjustment
March 16th
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Environmental, Health & Sustainability Committee
March 23rd
8:30 am at City Hall

January and February were challenging months for the police department weather-wise. It was reminiscent of the winter of 08. Once again some of our police officers and communications officers volunteered to sleep over to insure that someone would be able to keep the police department open the next day. As I am sure you are aware, our emergency dispatchers, even though they work at the police department, actually dispatch for all other city departments and are the first line of contact when a resident needs the police, fire or public works for assistance. We are fortunate to have such dedicated employees and I sincerely appreciate their efforts and professionalism. Some of our police officers patrolled in their personal vehicles because our patrol cars could not navigate the snowbound streets. We have a four-wheeled Tahoe on order this year to help us in the future.

2011 will be a busy year for the police department. We are currently trying to fill a vacancy and promote a sergeant to replace the loss of Lieutenant Bruce Funderburk who left us to accept an administrative security position with Integris South. We also have the upcoming trial of Dr. Steven Wolf who is charged with murder. In addition we have a pending lawsuit pending in regards to a convicted burglar being shot and killed by a Nichols Hills Police Officer.

In other news, the 29th Redbud Classic will take place on April 9th and 10th. The race continues to grow and attracts hundreds of spectators. We will be providing additional information concerning the race at a later date.

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

We would also like to introduce the two newest members of the Nichols Hills team, Sanessa Jackson and Alexandra Qualls. Both are assigned to the Communications Division and dispatch for the police, fire and public works.



Alexandra Qualls



Sanessa Jackson

PUBLIC WORKS

Animal Control

The Nichols Hills dog and cat tags just arrived. Please register all pets with the City of Nichols Hills. When pets are wearing their tags, it is easier to return them to their rightful owner.

Spring will be here shortly and the parks will be in demand once again. Please keep all pets on their leash. There are pet clean up bags placed throughout the parks. Please clean up after your pet.

Streets

The street department will be repairing potholes that surfaced after the snow storms. They will then start crack sealing the streets. This process will aid in reducing deterioration of the streets.

The snow route in the Nichols Hills area is Western and N.W. 63rd. These are usually some of the first streets cleared by Oklahoma County. The City of Nichols Hills sands certain intersections throughout the city. The City of Nichols Hills does not have a snow plow due to the residential areas and the numerous driveways that would be blocked by snow mounds. Snow plows are also very rough on the street surfaces.



REPORT A POTHOLE AT 843-5222

Sanitation

The City of Nichols Hills will dispose of limbs if they are bundled and under four ft. in length. Do you need to dispose of hazardous waste? Citizens of Nichols Hills can dispose of these wastes at the Midwest City Public Works Department located at 8730 S.E. 15th in Midwest City. Please call before making the trip out there to make sure someone is on site to take the waste (739-1397).

Please do not throw hazardous waste in with household trash. For Prescription drug disposal please contact your local pharmacy.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Many people are starting to replace their old incandescent light bulbs with Compact Fluorescent Lights or CFL. CFL bulbs pose some interesting issues. Most CFL bulbs contain a small amount of mercury; about 4-5mg. on average or about enough to cover a pin head. Not much but it is recommended by the EPA that you take special precautions if you break a CFL bulb. A few of the steps are listed as follows;

- Air out the room with an open window for 15 minutes

- Have people and pets leave the room without stepping in the breakage

- Shut off central air

- Clean up following special directions

This is not to say that CFLs have been determined to be a hazard to your health but for health reasons you should take extra precautions if you break a bulb.

More complete information may be acquired on the web at the following site:

<http://www.epa.gov/mercury/spills/index.htm#fluorescent>

Another issue of particular interest to the fire department is the safety message on many of the bulbs. Did you know that most CFL bulbs are not to be used with dimmers, where they are exposed to weather, or in totally enclosed lighting fixtures. One Nichols Hills resident has had a CFL bulb short out and destroy a recessed light fixture due to excessive heat buildup. It was in a completely enclosed light fixture and CFL bulbs are not recommended for that type of fixture. Fortunately the damage was relatively minor but please be sure and read the safety warning on all your electrical equipment. It may save you, your insurance company, and your fire department a lot of unnecessary risk and expense. Have a safe day.



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!).

FEBRUARY'S FEATURED PET



FRENCHY

About 5/6 months old, 10.6 pounds, Boston Terrier/Pug/Chihuahua(?) mix, quick to be trained, and very sweet!