



Nichols Hills E-News

May 2009

CITY HALL

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Upcoming Meetings

- Planning Commission Meeting June 2nd
5:30 pm at City Hall
- City Council Meeting June 9th
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Regular Meeting of the Nichols Hills Municipal Authority June 9th
5:45 pm at City Hall
- Environment, Health, & Sustainability Committee June 24th
8:30 am at City Hall

Nichols Hills Commission Seeks Citizen Participation in Focus Area Meetings

The City of Nichols Hills Environment, Health, and Sustainability Commission 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 AND EDUCATION

First Thursday of the Month:

May 7, June 4, July 2, August 6, September 3, October 1, November 5, December 3.

HEALTH/LOCAL FOOD

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

RECREATIONAL HARDSCAPE: BIKING AND WALKING

Second Thursday of the Month:

May 14, June 11, July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10.

6407 Avondale Drive
Nichols Hills, OK 73116

Phone: 405-843-6637
Email: enews@nicholshills.net

CITY HALL

**RECYCLING: SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
WATER
LANDSCAPING**

Third Thursday of the month:

**May 21, June 18, July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15, November 19,
December 17.**

**ENERGY/POWER
SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION
AIR QUALITY AND NOISE POLLUTION**

Fourth Thursday of the month:

**May 28, June 25, July 23, August 27, September 24, October 22, and November
26**



CITY HALL

Nichols Hills Annual Garden Tour

Saturday, June 6th from 10am to 4pm

Rain Date: Sunday, June 7th 1pm to 4pm

Co-Chairmen: Sherry Bennett & Hedra Merson

Purchase advance tickets for \$10.00 at the following places:

- Covington Antique Market
 - Crescent Market
 - Horn's Seed Co.
 - New Leaf Florist
 - No Regrets
 - On a Whim
 - Red Fox Paperie
- 42nd Street Candy Company
 - The Make-up Bar
 - The Paper Lion
- TLC (Memorial & N.W. Expressway)
 - Trochta's Flowers
 - Wilshire Garden Market

Proceeds Benefit all the Parks in Nichols Hills

The tickets will be on sale soon for \$10 (cash or check) until June 5th.

After June 5th, tickets will be sold at the garden homes for \$15.

Please make checks payable to: Nichols Hills Parks, Inc.

Gardens:

1505 Buttram Road
1507 Buttram Road
1606 Dorchester Drive
1609 Guilford Lane
1622 Westminster Place

REMINDER: HOMES ARE NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

R-U-OK? (A program for the elderly and handicapped)

The “R-U-OK” program was developed out of concern for those residents of the community who are elderly or handicapped and living alone. The Police and Fire Departments became aware that an increasing number of our residents fall into this category. In many instances, these individuals do not have relatives living nearby to look after their welfare.

Our response was to attempt to identify those persons who should be included in a welfare surveillance program. Once identified, and with their voluntary approval, they are placed on a list maintained by the Police and Fire departments. A group of volunteers routinely call the residents on the list to check their welfare as frequently as the participant requests and determine if special assistance is needed.

The resident controls what information is kept on them and this is done as a service only. If the need arises, we will have contact information for their doctor and/or family. If you are a resident or a friend/ family of a resident and would like to be added or if you would like more information on this program, please contact Officer Goertzen at (405) 843-6170 or download an application form off the Nichols Hills web page at: www.nicholshills.net.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Nichols Hills Communications Wins Award!

Over the last twenty years, the 9-1-1 system has progressed to meet the needs of emergency responders throughout the country ensuring effective and efficient emergency response in times of crisis. No 911 system is complete without its dispatcher on one end of the call, and it takes a special person to do the job! On May 1, 2009, dispatchers from all over central Oklahoma gathered for an evening of celebration as the Association of Central Oklahoma governments hosted the 20th anniversary of the enhanced 9-1-1 service. At the event, the Nichols Hills dispatchers were awarded the "ACOG National Telecommunication Week Perpetual Traveling Award" for an outstanding display of dedication to their work environment.

At any given day in the Nichols Hills dispatch center, there is at least one dispatcher working the desk. This dispatcher will man the OLETS terminal, which provides information to the officers, and serves as a message link between agencies. The same dispatcher will answer the 911 lines, provide administrative support, and dispatch all calls to the appropriate agency whether it is calls for police, fire, or EMS. There is no margin of error in this business. High expectations from citizens of the community are placed on dispatch each and every day, and they are always striving to improve in their work as well as learn from each other. The Nichols Hills dispatchers are most deserving of this award because of their professionalism and dedication to the department that they serve with honor.

Ricky Dennis
NHPD Communications Officer



Photo courtesy of Ginger Baker
www.BakerEquinePromotions.com
Western Wedding Photography, Horse Photography,
Western Lifestyle for your Home.

PUBLIC WORKS

Nichols Hills Recycle Center

The new Nichols Hills Recycle Center (located at 1009 N.W. 75th) will have new extended hours. The Recycle Center will be open every day from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The entry during the weekdays will remain the same, through the west gate. Weekend access will be in the east parking lot and access will be through a four ft. gate. There will be several signs guiding citizens to the Recycle Center. The Weekend access will start on May 30th, 2009. Remember to separate your recyclables or the bin will be contaminated, which means it will go to the landfill. This is very important due to the fact that numerous citizens are trying to recycle and one person comes along and destroys the whole load. Please break down all cardboard boxes and flatten all plastic. This will assist us in reducing the amount of times that the bins will be emptied. Thanks for your help!!!



Sanitation

Spring is here and so are the high winds. Please bundle all limbs in four ft. lengths, and set them along the curb.

Code Division

Grass clippings should be bagged or mulched and no grass can be in the streets. All construction sites must maintain their erosion control fencing. This is very important, especially during the rainy season.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

May 23rd is the inaugural Nichols Hills Fire Department Retirees Burger Burn. One may ask, what is that and why is it in this newsletter? The culture we strive to foster and maintain at the City of Nichols Hills is one of service, integrity, and family. At the Nichols Hills Fire Department we work hard toward that goal and as a result we believe we have a very professional department that is responsive to the needs of our residents. An additional result is we also have a department that is close to each other. We have noticed though that after fire fighters retire they come back and visit occasionally but we see less and less of them over time until we lose touch.

One of our younger fire fighters, Todd Mays asked for permission to do something to change that and with the help of his shift they developed Todd's idea of inviting all retirees back for a cookout. The list of living retirees dates back to 1968 so it took many days to find and develop a list of contact information on all the retirees and two widows of retirees but they got it done and mailed invitations to each one. They invited the retiree and any guests they would like to bring. They received a 100% positive response and the number of retirees and guests that will be attending is 52. That is from a list of 15 retirees and two widows of retirees.

That answers the question of what is it. The answer to the question, why is it in this newsletter is, I'm not quite sure. I can say this event and all the work that has gone into it have evoked a couple of strong emotional responses in me. One is I am very proud of Todd and our fire fighters for caring so much about the "old guys", most of whom they have never met, that they would do this for them. The fire fighters local union is paying all the expenses including food and having t-shirts made for all the retirees. Two is I am proud that all the retirees feel strongly enough about our (and their) fire department that they want to come back and bring 35 guests, mostly family, with them. I think the outstanding response to this invitation gives us some validation that we are currently and have for many years been successful in our endeavor to create a culture of service, integrity, and family.

Terry Hamilton
Deputy Chief



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!).

May's Featured Pet



This is Bo Peep (a shepherd girl without any sheep) who is about 5 years old and about 60 pounds. Truly a lovely, sweet black, tan & white dog.

She seems fine with most other dogs and even with cats. She loves to snuggle and is very calm and easy going, and very housebroken.