



Nichols Hills E-News

OCTOBER 2010

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Upcoming Meetings

- Regular Planning Commission Meeting
November 3rd
5:30 pm at City Hall
- City Council Meeting
November 9th
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Regular Meeting of Municipal Authority
November 9th
5:45 pm at City Hall
- Environmental, Health, & Sustainability Meeting
November 17th
8:30 am at City Hall
- Regular Meeting Board of Parks Commissioners
November 24th
5:00 pm at City Hall

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Please do not dispose of any ammunition in your garbage bins. This poses a threat to our sanitation workers as the ammunition can explode under pressure.

The Police Department will dispose of unwanted ammunition. If you have ammunition you wish to dispose of properly, just bring it down to the police department. The dispatcher on duty will call an officer into the station, and the officer will take the ammunition from you. It will then be disposed of in a safe and proper manner.

Help keep your city employees safe by properly disposing of any items that can present a danger. If you have any questions regarding proper disposal of an item, call Public Works at 843-5222, or the Police Department at 843-5672.

CITY HALL



Stop by Town Hall to meet Sherry Dickson, our new utility billing clerk. She joined the City of Nichols Hills employee family in August 2010. Sherry and her husband Don live in the metro area. They have two children, Sarah and Tyler and his wife Cami.

Sherry brings with her an excellent history in customer service and detailed work in the billing industry, as well as an accounting background.

She awaits the opportunity to assist Nichols Hills residents with their questions regarding water and sanitation services.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

About two years ago I read an article in the Tulsa World Newspaper that quoted a City Councilman asking why the fire hydrants in Tulsa were not being flow tested annually. The issue arose when there was a problem with a faulty fire hydrant on a fire call. The fire department response to the Councilman was they try to test every hydrant once every three years but could not show documentation that they accomplished that goal. Unfortunately, this is not an isolated case. I have heard some fire departments say they do not flow test hydrants because they feel it's the Public Works responsibility and others say it's too time consuming.

Fortunately, many fire departments do flow test their fire hydrants annually and the Nichols Hills Fire Department is one of those. We have approximately 200 fire hydrants in Nichols Hills. Even in a landlocked city like Nichols Hills delivering water to residents and making it available for fires is a dynamic process that changes more often than most people would guess. As water lines are replaced some hydrants are removed while others are added. Any fire department that does not keep up with these changes and insure that all hydrants are working properly are putting property, their residents, and themselves at risk.

The fire hydrants in Nichols Hills are divided into three districts and each hydrant is assigned a number and an address. Each of our three shifts, Red, Blue, & Green is assigned a district and tests each hydrant at least once a year. The test is done by opening the hydrant until it's fully open then holding a pitot tube in the flowing stream of water to get a PSI reading. We use the PSI reading in a formula that gives us the gallons per minute (GPM) flowing from that hydrant. We then shut the hydrant down and insure that it drains properly once shut. This keeps the hydrant from freezing in the winter.

This test tells us several things. It tells us that the hydrant is working properly. It also tells us there are no valves closed somewhere in the line. It also tells us approximately how much water we can count on if we have a fire and use that hydrant for our water supply. Every year we find several hydrants that have one of a variety of problems. Sometimes a valve is closed so a water main break can be repaired. Occasionally re-opening the valve is overlooked so the GPM available in that hydrant is greatly reduced.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Sometimes a hydrant just will not open or it may open but won't close. When we find a hydrant with a problem we report it to the Nichols Hills Public Works Department and they always have the problem fixed in a short time.

Testing every hydrant every year does not guarantee will never have a problem. However; not testing your hydrants will certainly guarantee that you will encounter a problem at some point in time. Unfortunately that problem will probably be encountered when you need that hydrant the most, on a fire.

Terry Hamilton, Assistant Fire Chief



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Lieutenant Bruce Funderburk retired from the Nichols Hills Police Department after more than 26 years of service. On Friday, October 22nd, we gathered to honor Bruce at his retirement party. Below are some of the photos from the event.



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!).

October's Featured Pets



These are 2 Chiweenies (Chihuahua/Dachshund mixes). Oscar weighs 8 pounds and Mary weighs 7.8 pounds. They are apparently brother & sister, and about 8 or 9 months old. He has been neutered, she has been spayed, they are both heartworm negative & fully vaccinated. We would LOVE for them to be adopted together – they are SOOOO sweet.

This Halloween, Sunday afternoon, October 31st we will celebrate ARF's only annual fundraiser ~ the Pooch Parade! We have 2 terrific friends of ARF (Kent Potter & Janell Flanery) chairing it and some of the judges will be **Wayne Coyne of the Flaming Lips** and **Graham Colton!**

Registration starts at noon, and the parade will begin at 1 pm. After the initial parade, we will be having a parade featuring former ARF dogs who have found new homes. We hope to have MANY of the former ARFies who are now in wonderful homes to be present at this fabulous event.

HALLOWEEN

Halloween Trick-or-Treat hours are Saturday, October 30th from 6 pm until 8 pm. On behalf of the City of Nichols Hills, we wish you all a safe and happy Halloween!

