



Nichols Hills E-News

September 2012

CITY NEWS

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Upcoming Meetings

- City Council Meeting
October 9th
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Regular Meeting of Municipal Authority
October 9th
5:45 pm at City Hall
- Board of Adjustment
October 17th
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Environmental, Health & Sustainability Committee
October 24th
8:30 am at City Hall

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Nichols Hills Market Takes Shape

We are all curious about the future Nichols Hills Market. After hearing lots of rumors I decided to go to the source and was able to sit down with Tom Sladek, Assistant Store Director, to get the inside scoop. He moved to Nichols Hills from Kalispell, Montana to help bring Nichols Hills Market to life.

His excitement about the store is infectious. His office is papered with labels from all kinds of foods and display options. I could immediately see what the main challenge of the store will be. "With 12,000 square feet, we will have to pick our items very carefully," Sladek says. "We will try to offer the things everybody wants, but may not be able to stock every size in every item." For now, they anticipate offering at least 50% traditional grocery store items and the rest new and specialty items. Tom is very health-conscious and is excited about many of the lines they will offer that will make meal planning nutritious and delicious. He invited me to sample a Kize nutrition bar. They are made in Oklahoma, really yummy, and healthy unless you eat a whole bag of them!

I asked what will set Nichols Hills Market apart from other area stores. "Service!," Sladek answered quickly. They intend to be very responsive to customers' special requests. They hope to offer delivery service and charge accounts.

Customers will be able to watch the on-site chef prepare foods,

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and recipes and ingredients will be available for those who would like to try cooking for themselves. And there will be prepared meals for those who need something quick to go - HMR, Home Meal Replacement, is a popular category.

The highly anticipated counter service will be part of the market, and features increased seating and expanded service. The counter will be open for breakfast and lunch, and will include the traditional hamburgers, malts and other favorites.

Tom's business partner is from Seattle. They each have over 32 years of grocery experience. They understand the tradition we have in Nichols Hills and are eager to preserve the traditions and introduce some new features. They are currently planning a May 5th, 2013 opening. I predict Nichols Hills citizens will be very impressed with Nichols Hills Market and will grow to love it.

Sody McCampbell Clements
City Councilman



The new Nichols Hills Market under construction

POLICE DEPARTMENT



We would like to introduce you to our newest officer, Ryan Wells. Officer Wells graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma in 2011. He majored in Criminal Justice / Police. Ryan started his career with the Nichols Hills Police Department as a Telecommunicator, and obtained his Oklahoma Law Enforcement Telecommunications System certification. He then attended the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training Police Academy. He attended with approximately 70 other cadets, and earned top academic honors.

Officer Wells said he is looking forward to serving the citizens of Nichols Hills with distinction and honor.

POLICE DEPARTMENT



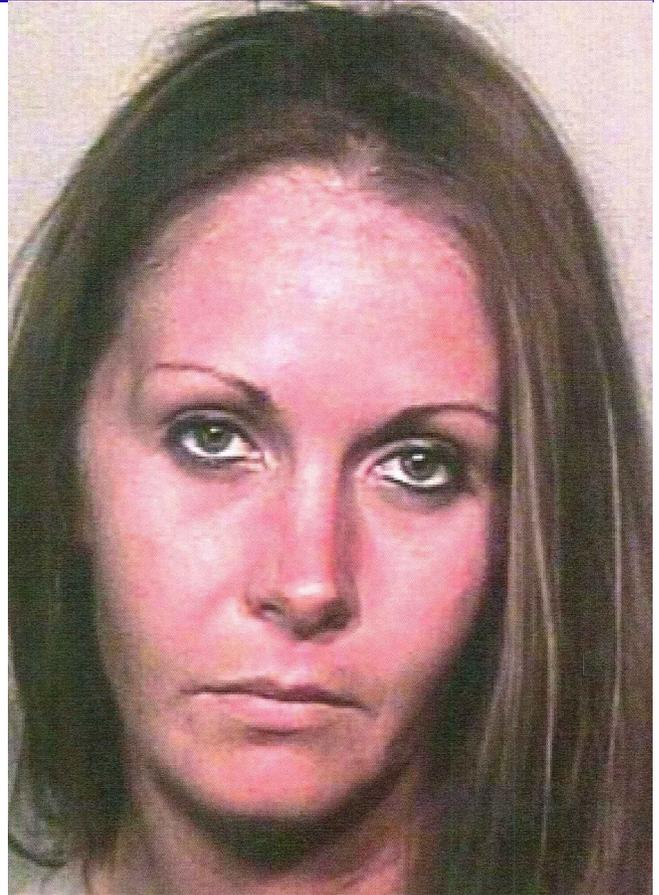
On September 17th, officers executed a search warrant at 1120 Hemstead in Nichols Hills. Arrested were William Smith of 1120 Hemstead, Pamela Morgaridge of 1120 Hemstead, and David Surber of 317 NW 27th.

Smith was charged with Possession of CDS (Controlled Dangerous Substance), Possession of Paraphernalia, and Using a Firearm while Committing a Felony.

Morgaridge was charged with Driving a Motor Vehicle when the Privilege to do so in Cancelled, Denied, Suspended, or Revoked, and Operating a Vehicle without Carrying Security Verification Form. Morgaridge also had outstanding warrants from the Oklahoma City Police Department.

Surber was charged with Possession of CDS, and Possession of Paraphernalia. Surber also had outstanding warrants from the Oklahoma City Police Department.

POLICE DEPARTMENT



On September 18th, officers arrested Kenneth Allen Campbell of 1841 Westminster Place and Savannah Guthery Cogswell of 1841 Westminster Place.

Campbell was charged with being a Convicted Felon Carrying or Possessing any Firearm and Possession of Marijuana. Campbell also had an outstanding NCIC (National Crime Information Center database maintained by the FBI) warrant for Grand Larceny.

Cogswell was charged with being a Convicted Felon Carrying or Possessing any Firearm and Possession of Marijuana.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Rapid Intervention Team (RIT)

In previous articles I have mentioned Federal or State government mandates that affect local governments and departments within the local government such as the fire department. These are commonly referred to as “unfunded mandates” and they can significantly impact budgets that are normally already lean. One of those mandates is the requirement to have a RIT team in place before any interior fire fighting activity can take place. This requirement was originally written into the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards and subsequently included in the Federal OSHA Standards and Oklahoma’s PEOSH Standards. Some of the Standards refer to it as the “Two-In-Two-Out” rule.

There are slight variations between the different Standards but the requirement says that before a fire department can send any fire fighters inside a burning structure to fight a fire they MUST have a fully equipped team of fire fighters (at least two) just outside the point of entry ready to go in and rescue any fire fighters that need help. It makes sense and the intent is good but the problem for most departments is they don’t have two extra fire fighters to commit to this requirement. For example; in Nichols Hills we have four fire fighters on each shift. When a structure fire occurs the highest ranking officer assumes the role of Incident Commander, one fire fighter operates the pump on the fire engine that supplies water to the fire fighters, and the two remaining fire fighters take the hoseline and make an interior attack on the fire. Even if all four are on duty we don’t have enough personnel to meet the requirement and if one of our fire fighters is on vacation or sick leave it doesn’t take a mathematician to see the bind we are in. This left us with only a few alternatives; one was to ignore the Standard and fight fires the way we always have, two was hire three more fire fighters per shift for a total of 12 new personnel which would almost double the size of our department, or three was to develop some other solution. There is one exception to the RIT Standard; if there is a “known” rescue on the fire departments arrival i.e. an occupant is trapped in the burning building, the RIT requirement can be ignored and an immediate entry/rescue attempt can be made.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The “other” solution we developed was to write and sign an Automatic Aid Agreement with our neighbor The Village. We already had a Mutual Aid Agreement with The Village which states if either city calls the other and requests help it will be sent and there will be no charge for any of the services rendered. It is a mutually beneficial agreement but it does NOT solve the manpower problems according to the Standards. An Automatic Aid Agreement means each city’s fire department is automatically dispatched on every potential fire call in either city and this DOES satisfy the manpower requirements of the Standards. By dispatching both the Nichols Hills and Village Fire Departments on every fire call it essentially doubles the number of fire fighters we have on the fire scene. This enables us to make an immediate interior attack and adhere to the RIT requirement.

This is a brief and simplified version of the unfunded RIT mandate and the process we went through to meet the requirement. It took many weeks and multiple meetings with many city officials and attorneys to make this happen but it was the only practical solution and it has been a mutually beneficial solution to each city and their residents. I use the word “took” because this happened in the mid 1990’s, long before the current economic troubles that all cities and most businesses are facing. City of Nichols Hills department heads have for many years used strategic planning and cooperative efforts to do more with less but still provide premier services to our residents. Under the leadership of our current City Manager I am confident this is a practice that will continue into the foreseeable future.

Terry Hamilton
Fire Chief

PUBLIC WORKS

The City has received bids on the next street project. The project will start at Western Ave. and Wilshire Blvd. and move west to Dorsett Dr. The project should start mid to late October and should be completed by the end of July 2013. City staff, the City Engineer and A-Tech paving (the contractor) will have meetings with the residents on Wilshire to keep everyone informed on the progress.

Just a reminder, EPA's stormwater rules requires pet and lawn wastes to be picked up and disposed of properly.

If Public Works can assist please contact us at 843-5222.

Randy Smith

Asst. Public Works Director

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!). Any animal adopted through ARF comes with a 30 day money back guarantee.

AUGUST'S FEATURED PET



"Hogan" is about 2 ½ years old and is a bit thin at 89 pounds. He appears to be a Pyrenees mix and will make some one a super companion.



SAVE THE DATE!

The Pooch Parade will be held October 21st in Grand Park

Winners of last year's Pooch Parade Best Costume Event - Mackenzie Cohn and her dog Joffis