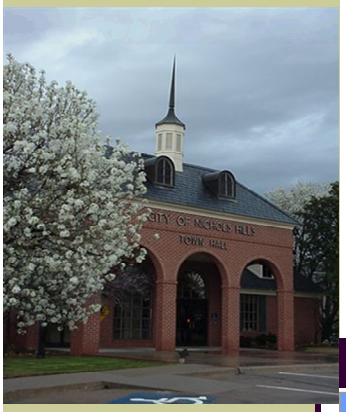


Nichols Hills E-News

September 2013

CITY NEWS

Inside this issue:

City News	1
ARF	7

Trick-or-Treat!

Trick-or Treat in Nichols Hills will be on Thursday, October 31st from 6pm to 8pm.

Have fun and be safe!

Upcoming Meetings

- City Council Meeting
  October 8th
  5:30 pm at City Hall
- Regular Meeting of Municipal Authority
  October 8th
  5:30 pm at City Hall
- Board of Adjustment
  October 16th
  5:30 pm at City Hall
- Environmental, Health & Sustainability Committee
  October 30th
  8:30 am at City Hall

6407 Avondale Drive
Nichols Hills, OK 73116

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

CITY NEWS

Nichols Hills Parks, Inc.

Attention Residents:

Time is running out for you to make your 2013 donation to support the Nichols Hills Parks. In December, the 2014 directories will ONLY be mailed to advertisers and donors to the Parks.

Hurry and send in your tax deductible donation, prior to October 31, 2013 to help and maintain our beautiful parks and receive your free directory:

□ $1,000 □ $500 □ $250 □ $100 □ $50 □ $25

Nichols Hills Parks, Inc.
6407 Avondale Drive
Nichols Hills, OK 73116

Thank you,
The Board of Nichols Hills Parks, Inc.

CITY NEWS

The City of Nichols Hills CodeRED Emergency Notification system

For a number of years the City of Nichols Hills has provided emergency notification services and we are taking steps to update and improve these services. The City has recently contracted with Emergency Communications Network to license its CodeRED high-speed notification solution. The CodeRED system provides the Police, Fire, Public Works and City Administrative departments the ability to quickly deliver messages to all the residents and businesses in town or to geographically targeted areas within the City.

Please be aware that notification systems are only as good as the telephone number databases supporting them. The CodeRed system uses public databases, like regional phonebooks along with local 9-1-1 system data to build its telephone number databases. One of the reasons the CodeRED system was selected is it also gives Nichols Hills residents and businesses the ability to add their own phone numbers directly into the system's database, which is an extremely important feature.

No one should automatically assume his or her phone number is included in public and regional phonebooks; therefore, we are urging all individuals and businesses to log onto the City's website at **www.nicholshills.net** and follow the link to the "CodeRED Community Notification Enrollment" page and provide your emergency contact information. You will also be provided the opportunity to add alternative methods of notifications like cell phones and text messaging.

CodeRED allows geographically based delivery, which means street addresses are required to ensure emergency notification calls are received by the proper individuals in a given situation. The system works for cell phones too, but we need to have an associated street address to provide relevant messages.

A system test call will be generated in the next few weeks which will contact

CITY NEWS

every residence and business in Nichols Hills for the purpose of testing the local telephone company's capacity for bulk notification messages and to validate system databases. When you receive this message you may be asked to acknowledge the receipt of the test call by pressing a key on your telephone. If you are not available when the test call is sent, it should record on any answering system you have.

A list frequently asked questions follows and will hopefully answer any questions you may have on the CodeRED system.

Frequently Asked Questions about the CodeRED System

What is CodeRED and why is it important to me?

CodeRED is an emergency notification service that will allow Nichols Hills officials to notify residents and businesses by telephone, cell phone, text message, email and social media regarding time-sensitive general and emergency notifications. Only authorized City officials have access to the CodeRED system.

When will CodeRED be used?

Any message regarding the safety and welfare of the community will be disseminated using the CodeRED system. These may include CRIME alerts, notifications of road closings, construction projects, water advisories or changes in City services. We will not provide emergency weather notification information because this service is provided by several of the local media outlets within the Oklahoma City area.

Does the CodeRED system replace other systems that have been used to provide time-sensitive information to residents?

This system will replace and the old "City Watch" notification system used in the past.

CITY NEWS

Does the CodeRED system already have my telephone number, or do I need to sign up to receive CodeRED notifications?

The CodeRED database contains information received from public databases, including regional phonebooks along with data received from our local **9-1-1 system**. *However, no resident should assume that their information is in the system*. The home page of the City's website, ***www.nicholshills.net*** , has a link to the "CodeRED Community Notification Enrollment" page where you can register online.

I have a business located in Nichols Hills. Can I arrange to have CodeRED contact my business?

Yes. Fill out the CodeRED on-line registration form but be sure to select the "This address is business" option. Please note that emergency calls can only be delivered to a direct dial number. Automated attendants will disrupt the process and the calls will not be delivered. Businesses should register their main number and establish a procedure for distributing the CodeRED message to their workforce.

What if I want to register additional numbers for my address?

After you submit the initial registration form, you may start the registration process again and submit more numbers for the same address.

Is my personal information protected?

CodeRED is a service of Emergency Communications Network which takes security and privacy concerns very seriously. They will not sell, trade, lease or loan any data citizen supplied data to third parties.

CITY NEWS

How will I recognize a CodeRED message?

A CodeRED *Emergency* message will have a caller ID of 866-419-5000. A CodeRED *General* message will have a caller ID 855-969-4636. We suggest you program both numbers in your cell phone as a "new contact" and use "CodeRED Emergency" and "CodeRED General" as the contact name. If you need to replay the emergency notification message again, simply dial the number and you will be able to hear the message again.

What should I do if I receive a CodeRED message?

Listen carefully to the entire message. You will have the option to repeat the message by pressing any key. Do not call 911 for further information unless directed to do so or if you need immediate aid from the Police or Fire departments.

I have a cordless phone, and it does not work when the power goes out. How will the system be able to contact me?

Make sure you have at least one working telephone – and be sure to turn the ringer on. The CodeRED sign-up form allows you to indicate both a primary and alternate phone number. Cell phone and/or work phone numbers can be entered as alternate phone numbers. Both primary and alternate phone numbers will be contacted when a notification is sent.

Will the CodeRED system leave a message on an answering machine?

Yes, the CodeRED system will leave a message on a machine or on voicemail. The CodeRED system will leave the entire message in one pass.

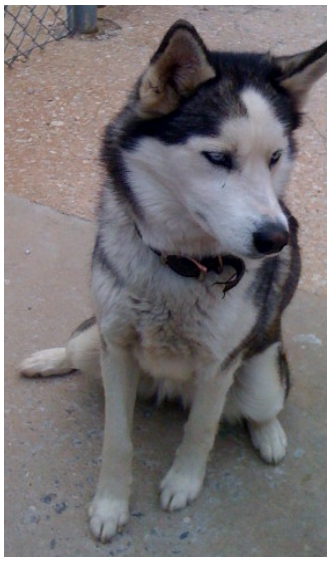
What happens if the line is busy?

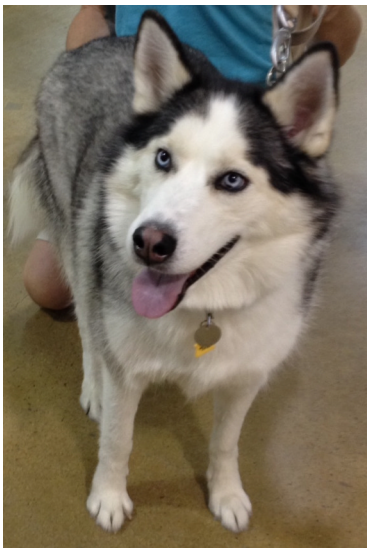
If the line is busy, CodeRED will try two more times to connect.

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.

SEPTEMBER'S FEATURED PET





**"Precious" is a super sweet, stunning, blue eyed Alaskan Malamute.
Approximately 6 years old & weighs about 45 pounds.
She does have epilepsy but is on an inexpensive medication for that – she would probably be best with someone who is home most of the time & with her gorgeous thick fur coat she needs to be indoors in hot weather.**

**OCTOBER 6TH
POOCH PARADE
SAVE THE DATE!**