



Haltom City...a place to call home

Vol. 25, No. 1

February/March

2010

CROSSROADS - - - - -



Haltom City has launched a new community information service called Nixle. It delivers important neighborhood-level public safety and community event notifications instantly by cell phone text message, email and/or web. There is no spam or advertising.

Nixle is available at no cost (standard text message rates apply for cell phone subscribers without text plans with their providers).

To register and learn more, visit the city's website or go to www.nixle.com.

Those who register decide what information to receive and whether it should be sent to cell phone, email, or over the web.

General city election set for May

The City of Haltom City will hold a General Election this spring. Election day is set for Saturday, May 8. Council Places 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be up for election.

Election Day voting will be held at the Civic Center located at 3201 Friendly Lane. Early Voting begins Monday, April 26, and continues through Tuesday, May 4. Early voting will be held at the Haltom City Civic Center, 3201 Friendly Lane.

Prospective candidates can come

by the city secretary's office at city hall to pick up a packet. The first day to file for office is Monday, Feb. 8, and the final day is Monday, March 8. The write-in deadline is set for Monday, March 15th.

For more information, please visit the Haltom City website at www.haltomcitytx.com.



Graduates invited to join association

Graduates of past Haltom City Citizens Police Academy classes will be using what they learned to work with the police department.

Upon completion of the academy, several graduates met with representatives from Keller's alumni and began forming the Haltom City Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (HCCPAAA).

There has not been an active group of alumni for several years, but this group of graduates is determined to establish a partnership with the police department that will lead to reducing crime and providing a safer environment for

residents.

All past graduates of the CPA are encouraged to join. Monthly meetings are held at 7 p.m., the third Wednesday of each month at the Haltom City Law Enforcement Center, 5110 Broadway Ave.

The next CPA will begin Tuesday, March 16. Classes are held 10 consecutive Tuesday evenings from 7 to 10 p.m. in the police department's conference room.

Those interested in enrolling in the academy, should contact Sgt. Jean Rowell at (817) 222-7036 or email jrowell@haltomcitytx.com.

Closed

City offices will be closed Monday, Feb. 15, in observance of President's Day. Trash and recycling service will not be affected.

Thanks, neighbor... Ronald Ellerbee and Stan Walczak, owners and founders of EWI, accept the Business of the Quarter Award from Mayor Pro Tem Dale Clark. EWI was selected for the business recognition based on the appearance of the company's building and the surrounding property. EWI began business in Haltom City several years ago, moved away and returned in 2004 to construct the building at 4501 Broadway Ave. The business is an engineering firm that works on geotechnical projects and tests construction materials. The award is sponsored by Keep Haltom City Beautiful and the Haltom City Economic Development Department.



City, school district, PTA, local churches cooperate on back-to-school event

The City of Haltom City, the Birdville Independent School District (BISD), the Birdville Council of PTA's and community and church partners will host a back-to-school carnival for all Haltom City elementary and middle school students attending BISD.

The carnival will be held at Haltom High School, Friday and Saturday, July 30 and 31, 2010.

Cash sponsors are needed to provide every child a backpack and back-to-school supplies.

Fifty dollars will sponsor one child. Additional sponsorships are available.

In addition, assistance from ser-

vice providers is needed for:

- Vision screening
- Hair-cuts
- Dental screening
- Immunizations
- Physical exams
- Family Photos

Volunteers are needed to staff the event.

For sponsorship information, to offer a service or volunteer, please contact the Haltom City Parks and Recreation Department at 817-831-6464.



Haltom City Civic Center is available for rent

Anyone needing a little extra space for a party, event or meeting may want to consider renting the Haltom City Civic Center. Located at 3201 Friendly Lane, the civic center has rooms of various sizes and prices.

Per hour prices are - Administration room or Auditorium - \$25 resident/\$40 non-resident; Open Library room - \$50 resident/\$75 non-resident. A \$100 deposit is

required, and there is a staffing fee of \$25 per hour. Minimum rental is two hours. There is a maximum of four hours. Rooms are available 8 a.m.- noon, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m., 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. Monday thru Saturday; and 1-5 p.m., Sunday. Hosts of events with more than 100 attendees may have to hire security at \$35/hour (minimum two hours).

All fees are due at the time the reservation is made. For information, contact the Parks and Recreation office at 817-831-6464.

Firefighters to host golf tournament

Haltom City Fire/Rescue has partnered with the Angel Tree Program and Tarrant Area Food



Bank in an effort to provide assistance to families in need. As a means of raising funds, HCFD will host a charity golf fundraiser Monday, March 29, at the Iron Horse Golf Course in North Richland Hills.

The tournament will start at 8 a.m. Golfers are needed in four-player teams for a scramble which will have a shotgun start. The cost is \$60 per player, and awards will be presented for closest to the pin, longest drive, hole-in-one and first, second and third place.

The Angel Tree Program works by connecting parents in prison with their children through delivery of Christmas gifts. Tarrant Area Food Bank works to eliminate hunger in Fort Worth and 13 surrounding communities.

For information about the program and tournament, contact Firefighter Keith Newton at 940-390-6827.

Child abduction response team achieves state's first certification

The Northeast Tarrant and Denton County Child Abduction Response Team (CART) was nothing more than an idea brought to area law enforcement agencies in the fall of 2006. The primary focus was implementing a highly-trained and organized response team to aggressively locate children in the event they became abducted or missing.

In early 2007, the team was formally organized through a Memorandum of Understanding agreement among 12 local agencies.

Patterned after stringent guidelines established by the National Child Abduction and Response Team, the team continued to evolve over a two-year period by selecting members, undergoing hundreds of hours of specialized training (to include a desk-top exercise) and responding to several actual missing children activations.

Once the Team felt they were fully prepared they began seeking

national certification, and on Sept. 30 of last year, underwent a two-day review by the U.S. Department of Justice (USDOJ), Office of Juvenile Service, administered in cooperation with Fox Valley Technical College. During this review, the team's policies, procedures and personnel were evaluated. In addition, the team underwent a full-scale mock child abduction exercise to determine if national standards were met as established in the certification guidelines.

On Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2009, the team was presented with USDOJ national certification. The team received notice that they had met the requirements in October while attending the National AMBER ALERT Symposium, in Tampa Florida.

The Northeast Tarrant and Denton County Child Abduction Response Team is now one of only six teams in the nation to receive this

certification, and the FIRST team in Texas.

The team was founded and formulated with the help of Chief Tommy Ingram of the Colleyville Police Department, and Chief Keith Lane of the Haltom City Police Department (formerly of the Keller Police Department). Chief Lane was the team's first operational commander before moving to Haltom City. Lt. Kirk Roberts of the Bedford Police Department now serves as the team's operational commander.

The team is currently made up of members from police departments in Bedford, Colleyville, Euless, Grapevine, Haltom City, Hurst, Keller, North Richland Hills, Richland Hills, Roanoke, Watauga and Southlake DPS with additional support from the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office, the FBI, the U.S. Marshals Service, Alliance for Children, Child Protective Services, and the Tarrant County District Attorney's Office.

Police department offers advice on avoiding mail, identity theft

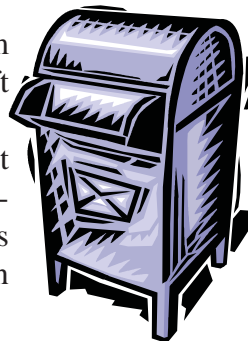
Mail theft from post offices has been one of the most common ways for stealing checking information. Suspects are using a fishing technique to steal mail from postal drop boxes located in front of post offices.

Avoid becoming a victim. **DO NOT DROP MAIL AFTER HOURS.** This type of drop box theft occurs between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. (before the post office opens). Checks are often washed (the information noted) and cashed the very next day.

The best way in general to not

become a victim of identity theft is:

- be vigilant of your surroundings when out in public.
- constantly check your bank accounts or enroll in an identity safe program with your banking institution.
- keep tabs on your credit by contacting the three credit reporting agencies.



Computer classes set to start at the Haltom City Public Library



*Learning Basic Computer Skills
Tuesday, February 23,
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

*Introduction to the Internet
Wednesday, February
24, 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

*Introduction to E-mails
Thursday, February 25,
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Charge: \$5.00 per class,
refundable upon completion of
class

Neighbors decorate in outstanding way



Despite a challenging economy, Haltom City neighbors showed their decorating skills in making the city beautiful for the holidays. To recognize these efforts, Keep Haltom City Beautiful presented honors to:

Best Use of Lights – Toni Van-
noy, 5204 Lower Birdville Road;
Alan Holt, 5609 Briarcliff; The Bry-
ant Family, 5200 Ira St.; Ryan Da-
vis, 5036 Roundtree Ct.; Sharon &
Steve Laffoon, 5400 Parkview Dr.;
Glenna Carlen, 5801 Cedarcrest Dr.

Most Lights – Diana & Johnny
Nickell, 2214 Thomas Road; Mi-
chelle Clark and Mary & Jim Wed-

dle, 3400 Eastridge; Joyce Childers,
3700 Layton Ave.; Francis Jaeger,
5912 Echo Bluff; Mr. & Mrs. Dela
Rosa, 5648 Whitley Road; Karen
Nichols Pike, 3921 Emerald Oaks

Most Creative – Nancy Cooper,
1524 Oak Knoll; Jesus Garza,
3033 Field St.; Willis Nelson, 4905
Tracy; Charlotte Robertson, 5777
Rockport; Pricilla Bell, 5705 Sad-
dleback Circle; Michael Bassham,
5832 Starlight Dr.

Begun in 1986, the Neighborhood
Decorating Contest gets neighbors
together helping to serve as a means
of crime prevention.

Curbside recycling numbers drop

According to IESI, the city's trash and recycling contractor, the amount of materials collected at the curb from Haltom City households for recycling has dropped compared to the amount collected last year. Here are the number of tons collected for 2009:

January	111.31
February	92.21
March	105.53
April	103.80
May	94.94
June	103.99
July	113.04
August	105.98
September	106.97
October	108.49
November	104.69
December	121.43
Total	1272.38

The amount of materials re-
cycled during 2008 totaled
1,311.61 tons, a difference of
39.23 tons more than in 2009.

Residents interested in recy-
cling information should contact
the community projects coordina-
tor at 817-222-7767.

Haltom City Arbor Day Celebration

10:30 a.m., Saturday, March 13

- * Learn about trees
- * Help plant a tree at the library
- * Get a free tree to plant at home
- * Join in the kickoff of the annual

Great American Cleanup
Haltom City Library, 4809 Haltom Road
Free and open to all



Spring Dumpster Day is scheduled for



9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Saturday, April 24
IESI Convenience Center
2120 Minnis Dr.,
Haltom City

Pet owners get new registration guidelines

Haltom City Animal Services has adopted a new ordinance. The ordinance went into effect in January 2010.

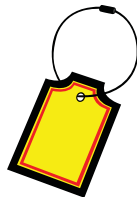
The new animal ordinance implements a city registration program for pet cats and dogs intended to facilitate the reunification of owners with their pets should they become lost.

Citizens may voluntarily register their pets with Haltom City Animal Services by mail, online or in person at the shelter located at 5312 Midway Road. Voluntary registration is free and includes an ID tag.

For animals that are in violation of city ordinances, HCAS will require registration. Mandatory licensing can only be completed at the shelter, and requires a one-time fee of \$10. Replacement tags will be available at the shelter for a \$5 fee.

The new ordinance will help animal services reunite pets with their owners, while stressing the importance of keeping pets confined to the owner's property or on a leash.

Please call HCAS with any questions at 817-759-2124.



Event raises funds, results in vaccinations

Thank you to all the citizens who made Operation Vaccination a HUGE success. Haltom City Animal Services raised more than \$600 for the Anti-Cruelty Fund by offering low-cost grooming services and vaccinating more than 150 pets. This will help keep the community safe and its animals disease-free.

Cruelty fund donations go directly toward saving lives of neglected and abused animals.

As an example, on Dec. 12 a concerned citizen called to report a severely injured German Shepherd (now named Bruno) on his porch. The dog was desperately pawing at the door for help.

When Animal Services Officer Josh Howard arrived on scene, he observed a life-threatening laceration across the dog's throat and took him immediately to Broadway Animal Clinic. After emergency surgery, and rest and care at the shelter, Bruno is healed and very ready for his new home.

Those interested in adopting Bruno, or any of the other special pets, should call 817-759-2124.

HCPD welcomes six new recruits

Haltom City Police Department has hired six new recruits since the beginning of the fiscal year in October. This large number of recruits, starting at the same time, puts the department closer than it's been to fully staffed in sworn personnel in more than 10 years.

Three recruits hired in October are currently enrolled in the Academy at the North Central Texas Council of Governments and will graduate in March.

Two more were hired in December and another in January. These three are currently attending the academy and are scheduled to graduate in early July. All candidates complete a five-month field training course after graduation before being assigned to a district.

There is much diversity among the candidates. Anthony Webb, Brandon Junker and Cesar Guerrero were hired in October. Webb, a graduate of the US Military Academy, is a retiree from Texas Instruments with seven years service in

the U.S. Army. Junker is a former commercial pilot, served seven years in the U.S. Navy and currently serves as a reservist. He graduated from the University of North Dakota. Guerrero is a bilingual graduate of Blum High School. He was a security officer with Centricom.

The department's newest additions are Matthew Spillane, Robert Parsons and Stephen Gilley. Spillane is a graduate of RL Turner High School who spent five years in the U.S. Army National Guard, then served as a loss prevention officer for Sears.

Parsons has an associate's degree from Tarrant County College and spent four years as a Parker County Sheriff's Deputy. He currently serves as a U.S. Army reservist following six years of active duty.

Stephen Gilley graduated from Keller High School and is the former owner of Gilley's Landscape in Keller.



Be on the lookout for the annual Friends of the Haltom City

Public Library Book Sale
Friday & Saturday, April 23 & 24
at the new library.

Senior center honor... Bobbi Arthur, senior center director, presents Mayor Pro Tem Dale Clark with an award for outstanding volunteer service to the seniors in Haltom City. Throughout the last year Clark has attended all the special events and fundraisers at the center. Clark, along with his wife Peggy Sue, attended the Senior Citizens Services annual meeting at the Colonial Country Club, served lunch at the Senior Expo and presided over the installation of the senior center council.

“His dedicated and compassionate service to the seniors is admired and appreciated by all,” Arthur said.



Haltom Senior Center calendar

February

- 12th- Valentine’s Day Party, 11 a.m.
- 17th- Registered Dietician presentation and appointments, 9 a.m.
- 20th- Northwood Friends Luncheon, noon
- 26th- Mardi Gras Party, 11 a.m.

March

- 3rd- Haltom Sweethearts Red Hatter outing, 11 a.m.
- 17th- St. Patrick’s Day party, 11 a.m.
- 18th- Tarrant Area Food Bank Cooking Class, 1 p.m.
- 20th- Northwood Friends Luncheon , noon
- 27th- Chili Cook Off, 1 p.m.

Tax help will only be available at the library

For the past several years, volunteers from the American Association of Retired Persons



(AARP) have been providing assistance with tax preparation free of charge to Haltom City residents. This service has been available at two locations, the Haltom Senior Center and the Haltom City Library.

The good news is that this service will continue, however, it will only be available this year at the library.

Those seeking help with their taxes should call the library at 817-222-7786 and make an appointment, which is required.

Tax help will be available from noon until 3:30 p.m., Thursdays, beginning the first week of February and ending April 8.

A little holiday magic... Staff members at the Haltom City Animal Services Division send a sincere thank you to the talented students from the Haltom High Art Club. The students, under the direction of Mrs. Autry, decorated the animal shelter with festive holiday images. The young artists brought attention to the shelter with holiday animals and snowflakes.

Students also helped make the library a little more festive by decorating Christmas trees for the lobby.



The ornaments, made from already-used materials, were created by students from John D. Spicer and W.T. Francisco Elementary Schools as well as from the Academy at West Birdville.

Writing contest open to all ages



Writers of all ages are invited to enter the Tenth Annual Texas Writers Contest sponsored by the Haltom City Library.

The theme, which is suggested and not mandatory, is "High Noon, High Tea."

All individuals are eligible, from first grade students to adults. Writers do not have to be Haltom City residents, and there is no limit to the number of submissions.

Categories include: short story & poetry, and the divisions are 1st & 2nd grades; 3rd & 4th grades; 5th & 6th grades; 7th – 9th grades;

10th – 12th grades and adult.

Works will be accepted in print, on disk, flash drive, CD or by e-mail. Entries should be typed and double-spaced and no longer than 2,500 words. Name, address, e-mail (if applicable), telephone number, category and age/grade should be included on a separate document and not within the entry itself. Clip this separate document to the entry.

The deadline is Saturday, May 29. Winners receive a gift certificate from Barnes & Noble and publication on the library's website. All entries will receive a certificate of participation.



Spreading holiday cheer...

Santa and Mrs. Claus take requests from young patrons during one of the many holiday programs hosted by the Haltom City Library. During holiday bedtime storytime, kids and their parents were treated to snacks, stories and crafts.



Library welcomes local authors

Read out loud...Haltom City Public Library is sponsoring monthly readings by local published and unpublished authors. Writers of poetry, short stories, mysteries and non-fiction are welcome to present their works. For more information contact the Library at 817-222-7787 or look for the "Are You an Author" form on the city's website: www.haltomcitytx.com under programs/events on the library page.

Monthly author readings...An Evening of Romance is set for 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 24. Bring a loved one for a set of romantic readings by local authors that everyone will love.

Moore mystery...Mystery Writer Laurie Moore will read from one of her many novels beginning at 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 24.

See her works <http://www.lauriemooremysteries.com/index.html>.

Library to host holiday fun for the young at heart

Valentine's Day Party

- Thursday, February 11, 6:30 p.m. Puppet show, craft, and refreshments. Come for a little love.

Leprechaun Hunt

- Saturday, March 13, 2 p.m. Sto-

ries, craft and a hunt through the library for an elusive leprechaun.

A Visit from the Easter Bunny

- Friday, March 26, 11 a.m. The Easter Bunny will pay a visit at Story Time.

Images of Haltom City Photo Contest - Deadline: March 31, 2010

\$200 for the Best of Show Photo

1. **Haltom City Scenes \$50** - nature, landscapes, architecture, etc.
2. **Haltom City People & Their Activities \$50** - sporting events, city functions, people at work, etc.
3. **Haltom City Animals \$50**
4. **Spirit of the City \$50** - photos that best represent the spirit of the Haltom City community
5. **On the Road** - photos of subjects and scenes outside Haltom City in the following subcategories:
 - a) - Landscapes/nature/architecture
 - b) - Documentary
 - c) - Still-life
6. **Abstract \$50** - indicates a departure from reality in depiction of an image.

This departure from accurate representation may be slight, partial or complete. Photos taken of subjects outside of Haltom City will not be considered for cash awards. For an entry form call 817-222-7767 or visit www.haltomcitytx.com.



Haltom City

SpringFest

Saturday,

March 27

11 a.m.

to 2 p.m.

Broadway

Park



Egg hunt for ages 2 -10
starts at 1:30 p.m. sharp

Don't forget your basket

- Live entertainment
- Bounce houses
- Petting zoo
- Crafts
- City departments
- Local vendors
- Food

Sponsors are needed!

For more information,
please call 817-831-6464.

City of Haltom City
P.O. Box 14246
Haltom City, TX 76117
817-222-7700

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Haltom City *Crossroads* is a publication of the City of Haltom City and the Economic Development Corporation. It is published six times a year.

City Officials

Mayor - Bill Lanford

Mayor Pro Tem - Dale Clark

City Council

Blakely Cabano, Carl Grassl,

Darlene Hooks,

Richard Hutchison, Gary Nunn,

Anthony Reed

City Manager - Tom Muir

Assistant C.M. - Chuck Barnett

Send correspondence to:

P.O. Box 14246

Haltom City, TX 76117

Web address:

www.haltomcitytx.com

24th Annual

HALTOM STAMPEDE

Saturday, Feb. 13

Haltom Recreation Center,
4839 Broadway Ave.

9 a.m. - 1M Fun Run/Walk,

9:30 a.m. - 5K Run/Walk



Entry fee: 1M - \$12 with T-shirt

5K - \$17 without T-shirt, \$23 with T-shirt

Race day registration opens at 7:30 a.m.

- Buffalo trophies awarded to winning male & female runners in 15 age categories
 - School challenge: cash awards based on number of participants
 - Proceeds from the race benefit SafeHaven of Tarrant County
- For information, call Charles Russell at 817-831-6464 or email crussell@haltomcitytx.com