



On The Lake News

Live, Work and Play in Hickory Creek



Seasonal visitor at Public Works

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Dates to Remember:

Thanksgiving-Town offices closed November 24-27, 2011

Tree Lighting & Chili Cook-Off December 2, 2011

Christmas-Town offices closed December 23-27, 2011

New Year's-Town offices closed January 2, 2011

In this Issue:

- From The Mayors Desk . . . P2
- HCPD Crime Tips P3
- Helping Hands P4
- Hickory Creek Park News P5
- P5
- Parks Fee Schedule. P6
- Tree Lighting P8
- Arbor Day. P7
- Annual Tree Lighting P8
- Chili Cook Off P9
- Arbor Day continued. . . P10
- HCPD Holiday News . . . P11

Holiday Tree Lighting & Chili Cook-Off



**Friday December 2nd
6 - 9 pm
Hickory Creek Town Hall**

From The Mayor's Desk

John M. Smith, Jr.

Dear Friends of Hickory Creek,

As the holidays are quickly approaching, we should all be reminded of the blessings we have living in America. So many other countries lack the freedoms and resources we as Americans sometimes take for granted.



Every day our military protects us and our freedoms. We should show our gratitude to those who have served or are currently serving in the armed forces. Our military men and women along with their families make so many sacrifices. We cannot forget that each minute of every day, Americans are protected by the US armed services. I encourage each of us to find a way to thank a veteran or active military individual.

As Americans, we also are able to enjoy the natural resources of our country. We have wonderful parks in Hickory Creek that not only provide a meeting place, but provide a means of preserving our heritage. The parks system helps enhance local history and provides places for friends and family to come together.

We should all be registered to vote. Voting ensures our voices are heard and our opinions are counted. So many other countries dream of having the right to vote. We can't take it for granted.

Finally, The First Amendment to the US Constitution protects freedom of speech, press, religion, and assembly to petition. You have the right to read any newspaper or magazine and the right to attend a religious service of your choice. Citizens in other countries do not have these precious rights.

We, as Americans should be thankful for the blessing of living in this great country. I hope you and your family enjoy the holiday season and remain safe in your travels.

Many blessings,

John M. Smith, Jr.

Mayor





Crime Prevention Tips from the Hickory Creek Police Department

Don't let some Grinch steal your Christmas...

The holiday season is a time of celebration with friends and family. It can also be a time when busy people become careless and vulnerable to crimes. The holiday shopping season is a peak time for crimes such as home burglaries, thefts and even muggings. Remember, criminals love the holidays as much as everyone else but primarily because it is an opportune time for crime. The criminals are counting on you to be busy, stressed out, careless and rushing around. The following tips can help prevent you from being the victim of a crime during the holidays.

- Carry your valuables wisely. Do not keep cash in your wallet. Instead, keep it in an inside pocket and carry only the credit cards you will need.
- Do not leave valuables in your vehicle. If you must leave packages in your car, put them in the trunk. Keep receipts with you.
- Carry a cell phone with you. If someone makes you suspicious or uncomfortable, notify security or call the police.
- Whenever possible, park and walk in well-lit areas. Be aware of your surroundings, especially the people around you.
- Carry your purse close to you, with the opening or flap towards your body. Never leave a purse unattended in a shopping cart.
- Do not keep a wallet, credit cards or cash in a backpack. If you are in a crowd, consider carrying the backpack in front of you. Pickpockets can quickly and easily remove items from a backpack without being noticed by the owner.
- Protect your credit card numbers and other personal information. Carefully dispose of receipts that have a credit card number on them. Never provide credit card information in response to unsolicited calls or emails.
- Don't announce your new high-dollar purchases after the holidays. Break down the boxes of TVs, stereos, computers, etc. and turn them inside out before putting them in the trash or conceal them in a dark colored trash bag.
- If you are traveling for the holidays, make your home look "lived in". Have a friend or neighbor collect your mail and newspapers or have your service suspended while you are away. Use timers to turn lights off and on.
- When leaving for a holiday or vacation, do not pack your car the night before. It only makes a more attractive target for a thief.

The Hickory Creek Police Department provides services such as close patrol/ vacation house watches. These forms are available online at www.hickorycreek-tx.gov. On behalf of the Hickory Creek Police Department, have a safe and joyous holiday season.



Hickory Creek

HELPING HANDS

Hickory Creek Helping Hands getting busy helping over the holidays!

Hickory Creek Helping Hands has a purpose and that purpose is to serve Hickory Creek residents in need - when the unexpected happens, like a death or sickness in the family, or a household emergency due to fire. This committee is 100% supported, driven, and operated by volunteers who unselfishly donate their time and assistance. We are asking for volunteers who will help to provide meals when needed.

Neighbors helping
Neighbors.



Hickory Creek Helping Hands is sponsoring an FTP Drive - Fill The Pantry. We are hoping to have enough canned food donated through your generosity to fill the pantries of those families in need this holiday season. Please bring your donations of canned food to town hall through the holiday season or to the Holiday Tree Lighting and Chili Cook-Off on December 2, 2011.

If you are interested in making Hickory Creek an even better place to live and raise your family and would like to be a part of Helping Hands, please contact Paul and Bry Kenney at helping.hands@hickorycreek-tx.gov or by phone 817.235.9944.



Hickory Creek

HELPING HANDS

Neighbors helping
Neighbors.



Donation Station

Hickory Creek Town Hall Lobby
through Friday December 2nd



Hickory Creek Parks News

The current drought conditions may be affecting lake levels, but the Hickory Creek Parks System still has plenty to offer.

The town currently operates 5 parks within its system: Arrowhead, Point Vista, Tanglewood, Harbor Lane, and

Sycamore Bend. Arrowhead, Point Vista and Sycamore Bend Parks all have boat launch ramps. Arrowhead, Tanglewood, and Harbor Lane provide playground equipment for the children. In 2011, the Sycamore Bend campgrounds were opened and, though very primitive, are gaining in popularity. Fees are required for using Arrowhead, Point Vista and Sycamore Bend Parks. Vehicles found without proper proof of payment will receive citations. The Hickory Creek Town Council recently revised the Parks Fees schedule. Daily park use fees remained \$2.00 per vehicle. Those Hickory Creek residents wishing to obtain a free annual pass should come by town hall with proof of residency and the license number of their vehicle during regular business hours. An annual day use pass, offered for \$20.00 to non-Hickory Creek residents, can be purchased at town hall, from the pay station at the park entrance, or through the Town of Hickory Creek website. Please remember that the vehicle license plate number is required for all annual passes.

Fees for both daily and annual boat ramp usage remained the same but the fee for a second annual vehicle pass increased to \$10.00. Additionally, the council approved an option for boat owners to purchase a two year launch pass for their convenience, and at an additional savings.

The 2012 passes will be on sale after Thanksgiving. The two year launch pass is available only at the Hickory Creek Town Hall. You must have the license plate number of the vehicle assigned to the pass at time of purchase.

For more information about Hickory Creek's parks, visit <http://hickorycreek-tx.gov>.

HICKORY CREEK PARKS SYSTEM

| Hickory Creek Park Fees | Daily Fee | Annual Pass | 2 Year |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|--------|
| Day Use (Non HC Resident) | \$2 (all users) | \$20 | |
| Boat Launch (HC Resident) | \$10 | \$35 | \$60 |
| Boat Launch (Non HC Resident) | \$10 | \$60 | \$110 |
| <hr/> | | | |
| Camping Fee (Sycamore Bend) | \$7 day | \$40 week | |

Keep Hickory Creek Beautiful is seeking the following volunteer positions..

- Photographer to capture activities and assist with Keep Texas Beautiful Award Competitions.
- Youth Program director
- Litter Prevention program director
- Fund raising director
- Event Coordinator
- Web site manager
- Membership and Marketing director



Call Linda Fulfer at 940-497-2528 to become an essential piece of our team!



Arbor Day in Hickory Creek October 15 - Sycamore Bend Park

The weather was perfect and Hickory Creek's fifth annual Arbor Day Celebration was a huge success.

Scott Geer, Certified Arborist and Scout Leader - Tree Shepherds, Denton County Master Gardeners, Mayor John Smith,

Town Council, Keep Hickory Creek Beautiful and Parks & Recreation members were on hand to help us celebrate Arbor Day.

Prior to the ceremony at Sycamore Bend Park, 15 boy scouts from Troop 1171 of Flower Mound, Texas met at Hickory Creek Town Hall with shovels in hand and planted a 30 gallon Arizona Cyprus tree under the direction of Scott Geer, principal consulting arborist for Tree Shepherds in Highland Village.

At 10:00 am, Master of Ceremony and Chairman of the Parks & Recreation Board, Tom Bont kicked off the ceremony with a welcome speech and prayer. The Boy Scouts of America Troop 1171 then followed with a flag raising ceremony.

This event honored the many tree related accomplishments in our town. Jeffrey McSpedden, Director of Public Works was recognized for his contributions to our Tree City USA Urban Forest Program.

Children successfully identified a Hickory, Willow, Mesquite, Elm and Post Oak during the tree identification game and received a hand-made Arbor Day tree cookie medallion on matching leather lace.

Fifth grade art students from Vista Academy and Lake Dallas Elementary displayed their winning Arbor Day Posters. 1st, 2nd & 3rd place medals were presented to students selected by teachers of the participating classes as listed below. The "Best in Show" award was determined by ballots submitted at the event.



Annual Tree Lighting & Chili Cook-Off

Hickory Creek Town Hall

1075 Ronald Reagan Ave

Friday December 2nd 6 p.m.



Hickory Creek will greet the Holiday season December 2nd with a gathering of friends, family and community at Town Hall. Choirs will be singing, Santa will be arriving by horse drawn carriage to listen to children's wishes, the Marines will be on hand to accept Toys for Tots donations and everyone can enjoy great homemade chili (\$1 a bowl or free with a donation to Toys for Tots). For more information and entry forms, visit www.hickorycreek-tx.gov.





Business Cards • Flyers • Brochures • Letterhead
Envelopes • Raffle Tickets • Copies • Signs • Banners
Complete Bulk Mail Services including Mailing Lists
Graphic Design • Fast Turnaround

**Full Service Printing
& Bulk Mailing Services
at the Best Prices!**

719 Wainwright St.
Denton, TX 76201
info@ProSmartMailing.com
(940) 383-3556



Discounts up to 40%
Open Saturdays



The Eric Grunor Agency
211 Main Street
Lake Dallas,
940.497.3811
www.LakeCitiesInsurance.com

GOT NEWS ???

Call 940-497-2528

or email

news@hickorycreek-tx.gov



The Town of Hickory Creek's 4th Annual Chili Cook-Off

Hickory Creek Town Hall
December 2, 2011
Entry Fee \$5.00

Chili Name: _____

Entrant/Team Name: _____

Contact Number/E-mail: _____

Approximate number of servings provided: _____

Entries must be submitted at Town Hall no later than 5:30 p.m. on December 2nd. Judging will take place at approximately 6:00. A prize will be awarded to the 1st place entry. Following judging, entries will be enjoyed by Tree Lighting attendees. All entries must be homemade and delivered to Town Hall ready to serve in a crock pot or disposable container. Sorry, there are no cooking facilities available at Town Hall. This will be an outdoor event but an electric connection will be provided on request.

Submit entry forms and entry fee to Hickory Creek Special Events at 1075 Ronald Reagan Ave no later than 5 p.m. November 30th. Please contact us at 940/497-2528 with any questions.

Good Luck and Happy Holidays!

Arbor Day, cont.

First Place - Jennifer Padilla - Fifth Grade Student

Mrs. Cruz's class – Lake Dallas Elementary School



Second Place - Tristyn Guevara - Fifth Grade Student

Mrs. Cruz's Class – Lake Dallas Elementary School

Third Place and Best in Show - Amanda Lawrence - Fifth Grade Student

Mrs. Duke's Class – Lake Dallas Elementary School

1st, 2nd, 3rd place and honorable mention ribbons were awarded to the winning coloring pages submitted by Children's Lighthouse and Primrose School of Hickory Creek.

Three gallon (2-3 foot tall) trees were given away to Hickory Creek residents.

Citizens, young and old, enjoyed the craft area after the ceremony where they decorated their very own safari hat and leather lace and tree cookie necklace with fall flowers and ladybug stickers. Each young artist also tried their hand at creating a pine cone critter. Finished items resembled unique renditions of roosters, mice, squirrels and other small animals. Hot dogs, chips and drinks were served after the ceremony.

Hope to see you next year on October 20, 2012 for another great day in the park.



Happy Holidays from the Hickory Creek Police Department !!

As we enter the 2011 holiday season, all of us here at the Town of Hickory Creek and the police department wish our citizens and guests a safe and happy time. It is important to note that as our economy continues to stagnate, property crimes continue to rise. In 2010, the police department received a total of 53 reports of theft and larceny resulting in a total loss value of approximately \$10,574.00. Compared to 2011 thus far, there have been a reported 90 cases of theft and larceny, with a loss of approximately \$43,437.00. Almost half of the total reported 90 cases in 2011 have been shoplifting from retail businesses. The majority of the remaining thefts occurs in parking lots of retail businesses, or from UNLOCKED vehicles parked on the street instead of secured in a garage. In times of economic hardship, it is not surprising to see a rising trend in property crimes and we at the police department are responding to this rise by increasing patrols in high property crime areas and spreading information on how to protect you from becoming a victim. Officers will be on the lookout for unsecured property, so if you accidentally leave your garage door opened after normal hours, do not be surprised if an officer knocks on the door to check on you and remind you to secure your home! This also means that during the upcoming holiday season, citizens need to be even more aware of safety and crime prevention than ever! Our officers are working hard to keep the town safe and enjoyable for all, and I am happy to report that crime across the board in all other areas is slightly lower in 2011 than last year. Our town has a reputation among offenders as a no-nonsense, unforgiving place to commit a crime. According to Denton County records, Hickory Creek brings more arrested persons to their jail than any other municipality contracted with them (including Corinth and Little Elm, our much larger neighboring cities). This is a reflection of our officer's dedication to proactively prevent crime rather than simply respond to it reactively, and is a badge of honor within the department that a smaller agency produces such large results! With your help in reporting suspicious activity and persons, being aware of your surroundings, and protecting your property and belongings, we hope to stop these property crimes before they happen and prosecute offenders to the fullest extent possible!

Place your ad here In the

Hickory Creek... On The Lake News

Call 940-497-2528 or email news@hickorycreek-tx.gov



**Town of Hickory Creek
.....On The Lake News**

1075 Ronald Reagan Blvd.
Hickory Creek, Texas 75065

**PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE PAID
LAKE DALLAS, TX
PERMIT NO. 75**

| | |
|---|--|
|  <p>PUBLICITY HOUNDS</p> <p>Advertising our local businesses in support of the new Hickory Creek Animal Shelter</p> |  <p>Corinth Veterinary Clinic</p> <p>(940) 497-5383</p> |
|---|--|

2011 Events

- Tree Lighting —December 2, 2011
- Chili Cook Off—December 2, 2011
- Town Offices Closed—December 23 & 26, 2011
- Town Offices Closed—January 2, 2012

Town Hall Meetings

Parks & Recreation Board
1st Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Board
1st Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Animal Welfare Board
1st Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Town Council
3rd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Board of Adjustments
3rd Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Economic Development
(4B) Corporation.
4th Thursday at 7:00 p.m.



HICKORY CREEK
ON THE LAKE



Please visit our websites
www.hickorycreek-tx.gov / www.hickorycreekEDC.com
Town Hall - 940-497-2528

Police Department

1075 Ronald Reagan Ave.
Hickory Creek, Texas 75065

Police Emergency 911

Police Department
(940) 497-3520

24/7 (940) 349-1600

Town of Hickory Creek...
On The Lake News
If you would like to be added to
our mailing list or have questions
or
comments to share,
please e-mail
news@hickorycreek-tx.gov
call (940) 497-2528