



On The Lake News

Live, Work and Shop in Hickory Creek

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Members of Boy Scout Troop 424 with Leader Chris Bloomfield, Senior Patrol Leader Jonathan Bont and their collected trash, including Chuck, the Wayward Walrus, at the 2012 Trinity River Trash Bash in Arrowhead Park.

From The Mayor's Desk

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am pleased to announce the Town of Hickory Creek has reached an agreement with the City of Corinth for fire and ambulance service. All payroll, benefits and retirement are handled by the City of Corinth, as well as future equipment purchases. The Hickory Creek Town Council and I, along with the town staff, felt the newly signed contract had to meet specific financial requirements to fit the town budget. Negotiations had to take place in order to maintain our financial strength as a town and keep our taxes from increasing. Through patience and perseverance, we were able to save our citizens over \$250,000 from the initial contract presented to us by Corinth.



This leads me to tell you even more good news.....once again, our tax rate will not increase! The town council, town staff, and I worked diligently to make sure our citizens benefit from one of lowest property tax rates in our area. This is especially important to us because our County Commissioners have announced a slight rate increase to cover their bond indebtedness. Our careful planning allows our town to meet all criteria needed to have a balanced budget. We continue to maintain a reserve of 6 months while most towns only keep 3 months of reserve. We believe in conservative budgeting in order to keep costs down. In our 2012-2013 budget, the town will be able to purchase 2 new police vehicles to lower our vehicle maintenance costs, and also give all employees a raise and increase their retirement package. The town will also set aside \$75,000 per year for a future fire station on the west side of town to cover our growth. In addition, we will refinance our CO's issued to build the town hall and Ronald Reagan Avenue.. By doing this, the town will continue to pay the same budget amount we currently pay, yet lower our interest rate, and make \$750,000 available to the town for road improvements and amenities. We will increase our term of repayment by 3.5 years. Our credit rating as a town remains strong and is higher than most municipalities.

Our financial future looks very strong. The town stands to gain a very nice increase in ad-valorem (property tax) over the next 2 years. We have 3 new subdivisions coming to town and a very high end apartment complex starting soon. My plan as well as the council is to use these additional monies to keep our tax rate the same for the next 3 to 4 years. This does not include any future commercial development that could occur at any time. I believe in low taxes and will continue to plan in the future to keep them low! Please remember to keep as much of your spending in Hickory Creek as possible. My new motto for the town is "Shop the Creek". Thank you for your support and helping me keep "Our Town" a beautiful town.

Regards,

John M Smith Jr.

Mayor



Presidential Election

November 6, 2012

<http://elections.dentoncounty.com>



Keep Hickory Creek Beautiful Launches New Web Site

Please visit www.KeepHickoryCreekBeautiful.com to send us your suggestions and get the latest information on KHCB programs and events in Hickory Creek.

Town hall offices will be closed on Monday, November 12, 2012 in observance of Veterans Day.



THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT !

iPhone users can now have The Town of Hickory Creek information on the go with “HC In Touch (H.I.T).” H.I.T. is the Town of Hickory Creek’s mobile application that allows users the ability to access town contact and utility information, view general town information and view maps of town facilities, schools and hospitals, view train schedules, fishing reports and lake levels, view local weather forecasts. Users will also be able to report service-related issues to the town, along with the option to attach photos for Code Violations.

The Town of Hickory Creek is one of the area’s first municipalities to work with Irving-based ResolveTech Solutions, Inc. (RTS) with their mycityintouch.com initiative. The Hickory Creek Economic Development Corporation provided funding for the H.I.T. project and also designed the theme and layout of the application.

The “HC In Touch” application is free to users and can be downloaded through the Apple iTunes store.



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Hickory Creek Parks News

The 1st Annual T.O.P.S. Fishing Competition was a huge success. Sycamore Bend hosted over 250 active duty transition personnel and their families, professional fishermen and their staff, oodles of Boy Scouts from Troops 191, 208, and 424, visitors, town personnel, and staff.

Texas won the competition with the largest bass caught.

At the request of the Town of Hickory Creek's Parks and Recreation Board, the town's Economic Development Corporation approved \$90,000 for various projects at all of the Town's parks. Be on the lookout for the following:

A new batch of maps showing our parks and how to get to them. You can get these maps at Town Hall.

New lights installed at Harbor Lane and Tanglewood.

Landscaping and cleanup at Point Vista South Leg and Arrowhead.

Twenty new picnic tables to be added to the various parks in different locations.

Twenty new grills to be added to the various parks in different locations.

A basketball court extension at Tanglewood.

Bathroom refurbishment at Sycamore Bend's primitive camping area.

New dock bumpers for Arrowhead and Sycamore Bend.

The Town of Hickory Creek knows that the town's parks are valuable asset. As such, the town's Council has tasked the Parks Board with ensuring all parks are safe and useable to all citizens.

If you wish to help with any parks committee, please contact Judith Bryan at Town Hall.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of local cats and dogs! By linking your Kroger *Plus* card to The Town of Hickory Creek Animal Shelter, you will be helping us raise funds to further care for the animals housed at the shelter. The Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program will allow us to fund the following:



- Medical Needs (heartworm treatments, pain medication, etc..)
- Local Adoption Events
- Fundraising Events
- Subsidize spaying/neutering & Adoption fees
- Flea Control
- Low Cost Micro-chipping
- Dog & Cat Toys, Bedding, & Collars/Leashes

The Town of Hickory Creek Animal Shelter will receive a percentage of the \$1 million equal to the percentage of the total earned contributions attributable to that organization.

An annual check will be mailed to the Animal Shelter in mid-May 2013, so get your Kroger Plus cards registered today.

Our local cats and dogs cannot find homes without the help of our local supporters. Thank you so much for contributing and helping in this fundraising effort. The Town of Hickory Creek Animal Shelter will benefit greatly from your participation!

Hickory Creek Animal Shelter

940 Main Street, Hickory Creek, Texas 75065

(940) 465-7444

Come see our available pets at: www.petfinder/shelters/TX398.html



Customer Letter

Step One:

Read through this letter to understand the advantage of being a part of the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program.

Step Two:

Take the letter with you to your neighborhood Kroger store the next time you go shopping.

Step Three:

Present the letter with your organization's barcode to your cashier upon checkout. After they have scanned your KrogerPlus Card you will be enrolled for the current year of the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program. Every time you shop at Kroger and use your enrolled KrogerPlus Card, Kroger will contribute a percentage of your eligible purchases to the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation fund. Once a card is scanned with the barcode, it will be active for the remainder of the program year. After 7 days, from initial scan, you will start to see your contributions to your organization on your receipt.

O & A

How many Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor accounts can an organization have?

One per organization (Example: ABC HIGH SCHOOL account could represent: PTA, cheerleaders, football, basketball, band, etc.) Unless each entity has their own 501(c) (3).

Can a household "link" their KrogerPlus Card to more than one organization at a time?

No, the system allows for one organization per household. To change organizations, you must present your KrogerPlus Card and the new organization's barcode to the cashier.

Do I have to enroll each program year?

Yes, all organization's and participants must re-enroll for each new enrollment period. The current Neighbor to Neighbor Program is accumulating period is effective **July 1, 2012** to **April 30, 2013**, Organization Enrollment period is **June 1, 2012** to **Dec. 31, 2012**.

How much can my organization earn?

The Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program will donate \$1 million annually. Each organization will earn a percentage of the \$1 million equal to the percentage of total earned contributions attributable to that organization.

How are the funds distributed?

Contributions will be paid via check and mailed to the organization's address and primary contact identified on the organization application form. For schools, it will be mailed to the principal and the funds distributed at their discretion.

TOWN OF HICKORY CREEK ANIMAL SHELTER



Kroger cashier: Please scan customer's KrogerPlus Card at the beginning of the order, and then scan the above barcode. The customer's KrogerPlus Card is now enrolled in the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program.

Please feel free to contact a Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program Representative with any additional questions at 866-995-7643 or email to neighbortoneighbor@kroger.com. Additional information is also available at www.krogerneighbortoneighbor.com

Residential Growth in Hickory Creek



Several years ago, we asked, “How do we plan to meet the future needs of our community and its citizens?” The Town Council consulted with Hickory Creek residents by forming a Vision Committee, and also included businesses and professionals in architectural design and economic development. The end result was a valuable and updated comprehensive plan.

One of the major areas of focus of the updated comprehensive plan was our residential growth. While Hickory Creek has experienced growth over the last couple decades, town leaders and citizens expect our community to always remain small.

As we know, living in Hickory Creek gives one a sense of country living, yet within easy driving distance of all the conveniences of a large Metroplex. Maintaining the balance of suburban living and growing Hickory Creek’s tax base to fund our municipal services and community amenities is the continuing challenge before us.

We cannot fund our future growth, services, and the community amenities we desire solely through residential property tax. Maintaining a small population requires a substantial commercial tax base relative to our population size. This is a lesson learned by other communities in the Metroplex with objectives similar to Hickory Creek’s. For example, Fairview has discovered that sustaining its small population and low residential tax rate required nearly 1,000 acres of commercial development. Likewise, Argyle has discovered that sustaining a total target population of 13,000 will require 1,331 acres of commercial development. Of course, Hickory Creek has nowhere near that much land available.

Achieving this desired commercial/retail tax base does require some residential growth. To put it simply: retail follows rooftops. Business owners, retailers, and commercial developers have told us for some time now that, while our Retail Trade Area demographics are strong, our residential population still needs to grow some in order to secure an anchor for our planned Mixed-Use Town Center and continued commercial growth.

In order to continue to attract commercial businesses that help our tax base, we are allowing three new well-planned, high-quality residential neighborhoods in specific areas of opportunity.

Steeplechase South (formerly the Goldfield property)

This single-family Planned Development has received final plat approval for Phase 1 by the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Town Council. On the south side of Turbeville between Harbor and Sycamore Bend roads, this project is approximately 111 acres with 131 lots.

Phase 1 will consist of 85 lots (the eastern half of the land). The existing ponds will be retained and improved. The developer is currently working on final permits with the Army Corps of Engineers, TCEQ and LCMUA.

Water View

This 40 home, single-family Planned Development has received preliminary plat approval by the Planning & Zoning Commission and Town Council.

This development is adjacent to the Lakeview subdivision. Most of the existing pond will be retained and improved.

The Enclave at Hickory Creek

This 74 home, single-family Planned Development has received preliminary plat approval by the Planning & Zoning Commission and Town Council.

This development is adjacent to Town Hall with entrances planned off Ronald Reagan Blvd. and Turbeville Rd. Gehan Homes will construct homes similar in design to The Dominion at Little Elm.

Lynn Clark
Town Council, Place 1
Hickory Creek Economic Development Corporation, President



Follow us on Twitter!

Want to know the latest news in Hickory Creek? Sign up for Twitter and follow us @HickoryCreekTX . It takes about five minutes to create an account, and then get news “tweets” in 141 characters or less. You can also access our Twitter feed from the website, www.hickorycreek-tx.gov, by clicking on the “t” in the teal colored box at the top of our home page. Have a smartphone? Download a Twitter app to receive tweets on the go. News items are also posted on our home page, so we invite you to *“Connect with Hickory Creek!”*

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2 and SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3
9AM TO 3PM**

The Hickory Creek Animal Welfare Board is holding a garage sale and raffle at the town's public works and animal shelter located at 940 Main Street, Hickory Creek, Texas.

**Dog and cat micro-chipping will also be available both days for \$20.00 each! CASH ONLY
(PLEASE HAVE ALL PETS ON A LEASH OR IN A CRATE)**

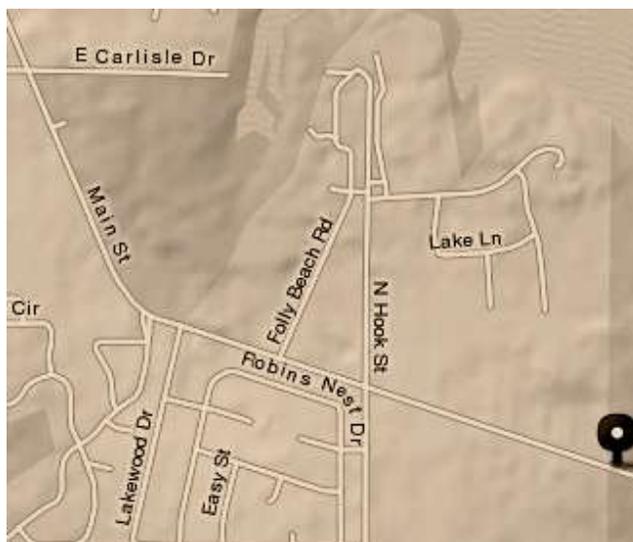
****All proceeds will go to the Hickory Creek Animal Shelter's 501c3 charity for treatment of our current and future sick and/or injured animals.****

If you don't want to have your own garage sale, wish to clean out your garage, or if you have after sale items, please consider donating them for this event. We are looking for clothing, household items, furniture, lawn and garden, toys and any miscellaneous items you may have.

- 📍 Drop off days/hours will be October 22 – 24, from 9:00am-12:00pm and 4:00pm-7:00pm at King Bros Boat Storage, 965 Main St, Lake Dallas, TX 75065
- 📍 If you have larger items that need to be picked up, you may contact KC Epperson at 940-465-7444 or, Richard Dupree at 940-321-2856 to make arrangements.
- 📍 Those who donate items will receive a tax deductible receipt upon request

Some exciting gifts from local merchants and individuals will be up for raffle! Please come and join us for this fundraiser and tour the animal shelter while you are there!

**Hickory Creek Animal Shelter
940 Main Street, Hickory Creek, Texas 75065:**



Come see our available pets at: www.petfinder/shelters/TX398.html



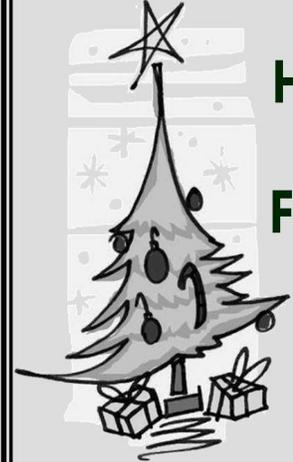
I-35 Expansion Update

Another major event that will be shaping Hickory Creek's future growth is the I-35E Ultimate Expansion. Several options were explored to fund the expansion, and the Design/Build method was ultimately selected and will be used to construct Phase One. Four contractors were selected from the many bidding firms and a final contractor will be chosen by December 2012. The Phase One expansion will add two public lanes and two managed (tolled) lanes, with an additional bridge over Lewisville Lake to be added to the west of the current bridge. Since most of the Right-Of-Way property has already been acquired by TxDOT, construction is expected to start sometime in the first half of 2013, and will take five years to complete, after which Phase Two will begin.

Hickory Creek's
Holiday Tree Lighting
2012



Hickory Creek Town Hall
1075 Ronald Reagan Ave
Friday December 7, 2012
6 - 9pm



More information coming soon to
www.hickorycreek-tx.gov.



Stay Alert while driving through school zones or when a school bus is dropping off or picking up kids.

They are our future !



**ANOTHER SUCCESS STORY
FROM YOUR HICKORY CREEK
ANIMAL SHELTER**

On May 14, 2012, my son Chris Gordon signed the adoption papers for our new 18 month old 58 pound family member. We were a little apprehensive at first since we previously had a long history with Chows. Max is red and a very loving, feisty American Staffordshire Terrier and Lab mix.

Since Max was such a big strong puppy in need of some training, he was quickly enrolled in a pet training class. Max is smart and a quick learner and soon learned the commands to make him more user friendly. He took top honors in his obedience classes.

If you want a lap dog, Max would be great except for his long legs and his stout body. He really wants to be near you whatever you are doing. When not chasing the neighborhood squirrels, he loves playing fetch or just running.

My husband, Ken and I, would recommend adopting from the Hickory Creek Animal Shelter if you want to bring some sunshine and excitement in your household.

Sincerely,

Rosa Gordon

Irving, Texas

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, or non-perishable food donations.

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.





Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5

The Animal Welfare Board of Hickory Creek Annual Raffle

**Drawing to be held
November 5th**

42" flat screen TV

Dallas Cowboy ring

Cowboys stadium seat

**Picture of Tom Landry In stadium seat
frame**



**All proceeds benefit
our current & future
animal needs**

You may purchase your raffle tickets at
Town Hall or from any member of the
Animal Welfare Board

2012 Trash Bash Saturday September 15

Keep Hickory Creek Beautiful joined Keep Lake Dallas Beautiful and the citizens of the Lake Cities on a beautiful Saturday in September to help clean up our lake. After breakfast generously provided by the Sonic of Lake Dallas, KLDB, led by Julie Chapman, cleaned Willow Grove Park while KHCB, led by Sharon Stewart and Park and Recreation Board members Tom Bont, Harry Hopkins, and Porter Walker converged on Arrowhead Park to hunt for trash on the shoreline. With the help of Cub Scout Pack 424 and the Girl Scouts from Service Unit 409, volunteers from Hickory Creek were able to pick up 30 bags worth of trash and debris. Thanks to everyone who participated! KHCB looks forward to even more participation at the Texas Trash-Off in April 2013.



Top: Girl Scout Service Unit 409 led by Beth Lofland



Chuck the Wayward Walrus and Matt Bloomfield



Bottom: Parks and Rec members and citizen volunteers relax after cleaning up at Arrowhead Park



DO YOU HAVE A BIG BEAUTIFUL TREE?

As part of Hickory Creek's Tree City USA Program, Keep Hickory Creek Beautiful is seeking nominations for this year's largest and most beautiful tree. Nominations will be accepted through October 6th and the winner will be announced at the Arbor Day Ceremony October 20, 2012 in Sycamore Bend Park.



Visit www.KeepHickoryCreekBeautiful.com for more information about how to nominate your tree, Arbor Day activities and ways to help Keep Hickory Creek Beautiful.



ANIMAL SERVICES REMINDER

Hickory Creek Animal Services is partnering with Woof City, 604 Main Street, Hickory Creek, to offer a complimentary grooming for all animals adopted from the Hickory Creek Adoption Center. Don't forget to use Hickory Creek Animal Services for your micro-chipping needs, where \$20.00 will supply you with not only the security of a micro-chip, but also lifetime monitoring for your pet. Remember to register your pet with HCAS as added insurance that your pet will be returned to you if lost. Registration is a state law and may be accomplished easily with only a copy of your pet's rabies vaccination certificate. There is no charge for Hickory Creek residents. Pets must be vaccinated yearly for rabies.

PARKS REMINDER

Everyone is encouraged to visit all of Hickory Creek's beautiful parks but please remember that Arrowhead, Point Vista and Sycamore Bend Parks all require a pass for their use. Annual passes are available at Town Hall or a voucher may be purchased at any of the Park Pay Stations. Same day passes for Boat Launch, Day Use and Sycamore Bend Camping are available at the Pay Stations located in the parks.

Annual passes and one day use receipts must be clearly displayed in the vehicle. Annual passes should be hung from the rear view mirror, facing forward. All other receipts must be placed on the dashboard, face up, in a location that is not obscured by any stickers, tinting, items on the dashboard, sun visors, etc.

Any vehicle found that is not properly displaying a park pass will be issued a citation.

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	



Traffic Safety Tip from your Municipal Court

"CHANGES" Have DEADLINES

Transportation code 521.054 states when moving to a new address or changing your name by marriage or otherwise, a person shall notify the Department of Public Safety not later than the 30th day after the date on which the change takes effect, and apply for a duplicate driver's license.

Transportation code 548.602 states after the fifth day after the date of an expired Inspection Certificate, a person may not operate a motor vehicle registered in this state unless a current and appropriate inspection certificate is displayed on the vehicle.

Transportation code 502.407 states after the fifth *working* day after the date of expired Registration, a person may not operate a motor vehicle that does not properly display a valid registration insignia issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Transportation code 502.404 states a vehicle must display two license plates, at the front and rear of the vehicle that matches the registration insignia issued.

New Residents to the State of Texas:

Transportation code 521.029 states a new resident of this state may operate a motor vehicle no more than 90 days, if in possession of an active Driver License issued by another state.

TX Administrative Code Title 43, Rule 217.22, states a vehicle brought to Texas from out-of-state must be Registered within 30 days of the date on which the owner establishes residence or secures gainful employment.



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

1075 Ronald Reagan Blvd.
Hickory Creek, Texas 75065



2012 Events

- Columbus Day-October 8, 2012
- Arbor Day Ceremony – October 20, 2012
- Halloween-October 31, 2012
- AWB Garage Sale-November 2&3, 2012
- Veterans Day-November 11, 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/Fire Emergency
911**

**Non-Emergency
(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