

# LAKE SIDE NEWS



Fellow citizens,

I hope your summer is off to a great start, and you have enjoyed the cooler than normal temperatures! Our boat ramps are finally open, so I encourage you to get out and enjoy our beautiful parks along Lewisville Lake.

Our council is already gearing up for our 2019-2020 budget year, and I want to share some information with you about town revenues. A municipality has three main streams of income to fund the budget: Ad Valorem Tax (Property Tax), Sales Tax, and Miscellaneous fees. The majority of the town revenue comes from the first two streams.

Our commitment is to use your tax dollars wisely, and to keep our ad valorem tax as low as possible. For the last 2 years, we have adopted the Effective Tax rate, which raises the same amount of revenue (on existing homes) as the prior year. In other words, as our property tax values have risen, the council has voted to **lower** the ad valorem rate to the Effective Rate, to keep your Hickory Creek tax bill from rising. The only rate we control is the Hickory Creek portion of your tax bill.

The second income stream for municipalities is funded by sales tax. The total sales tax rate in Hickory Creek is 8.25%, and of that amount, Hickory Creek receives 2%. From June 2018 to December 2018, our sales tax revenue was basically flat, or slightly declined year over year. From January 2019 until June, the sales tax revenue has steadily increased. Some of this increase is due to the new RaceTrac, and the coming addition of Elm Fork and Angelina's restaurants will help continue to grow our sales tax revenue.

As our sales tax revenue increases, it helps bring balance to the amount of revenue needed from property tax. This is why it's so important to shop and dine in Hickory Creek as often as possible. Keeping our sales tax dollars in Hickory Creek helps keep our property tax rate low.

In other news, the update of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan is well underway, with direction provided by Dunaway Engineering firm. Our Steering Committee has had several meetings, and Dunaway also held two community meetings to receive input. Additionally, a survey was mailed to residents, and is available on the town website. Once all input is received, Dunaway will compile the information and report to the town & the Steering Committee. I look forward to seeing the new plan!

At our April council meeting, several members of our community received special honors. Please see page six (6) to read about each of these outstanding award recipients. Congratulations to each for these well-deserved honors!

Fifth Grader Evan Jones, a participant in Lake Dallas School District's "The Leader in Me" program, was selected as Hickory Creek's 2019 Mayor for a Day. Mayor Jones assisted me at our April Council meeting, toured Town Hall, and met with Sgt. Mike Miller of the Hickory Creek Police Department. Mayor Jones is an excellent leader, and he did an outstanding job at our council meeting.

We have finally seen good progress on the intersection of Turbeville and Point Vista roads. I know it has been a long and painful process, but again, thank you for enduring the hardship caused by the detours. By the time you receive this newsletter, the construction will be substantially complete. As soon as the construction crews finish the intersection, they will begin construction of sidewalks along Turbeville & Harbor Lane, from Town Hall to Park Ridge.

As I am writing this article, there is news that Grand Prairie Police officer AJ Casteneda was struck and killed on the Bush Turnpike while conducting traffic enforcement. This is such an awful and preventable tragedy! Our Hickory Creek officers routinely stop motorists traveling at extremely high speeds on I-35 and the service road. Please, for the safety of all, slow down and put away your devices when operating a vehicle. All of our lives depend on it!

Best regards,

Lynn Clark

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# COMING SOON

The ground is moving at the intersection of Turbeville and I35! We are excited to announce that the Elm Fork Tap house, owned by a Hickory Creek resident, is being built next to the AMC Theater. The Elm Fork Tap house will have an outdoor patio. The menu will be similar to the Prairie House in Crossroads but also include new items and have beer on tap. Elm Fork Tap House is expected to open early August.



Across the street from the Elm Fork Tap House will be the new 8500 square foot location of Angelina's featuring a rooftop patio. The Angelina's location will be part of the Adam's Cliff shopping center. The shopping center is expected to include The Learning Experience daycare and other available pad sites. Two new

subdivisions are expected to come to Hickory Creek, Hickory Creek Crossing, to be located behind the Adam's Cliff shopping center and Hickory Farms, to be located on the newly annexed land on Ronald Reagan Avenue, behind Walmart, next to Primrose Daycare and the Enclave subdivision. Hickory Creek Crossing will feature approximately ninety (90) new homes and Hickory Farms is expected to feature one hundred forty (140) new homes.



Wok to You recently closed down and the property was purchased by the owner of iNails and is being renovated to become Pho Luv. Pho Luv will be Thai noodles and bubble tea. Two other businesses under new management include City Hospital, previously, Texas Health Emergency Room and Clean & Green Car Wash,

previously Auto Love Car Wash. We are excited about the businesses and new developments moving to Hickory Creek and we encourage our residents to shop and eat local to help keep our taxes low.



*Let's support our local establishments and our local economy by keeping our tax dollars at home!*

# GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP



On May 4, the Parks and Recreation Board hosted a Great American Cleanup. Community volunteers, Boy Scout Troop 191 along with Council and Parks and Recreation Board members dispersed into town parks and collected 35 bags of trash including a bathtub and a rotting camping chair. Thank you to Adventure Car Wash for donating Whataburger breakfast burritos!



**NEVER** leave your pets alone in a parked car, it's the law! It is unlawful for any person to intentionally or knowingly confine or allow to be confined any animal under such conditions or for such a period of time as may endanger the health or well-being of the animal due to heat, lack of food or water or any other circumstance which causes suffering, disability or death of the animal.

# FROM THE HICKORY CREEK POLICE DEPARTMENT

## SLOW DOWN, MOVE OVER!

Texas Transportation Code Sec 545.157 Passing Certain Vehicles, commonly known as the Slow Down, Move Over Law, applies to not only Police and other emergency vehicle (Firetrucks, Ambulances, etc.) but it also applies to tow trucks!

The law simply states when approaching one of the qualified vehicles, drivers must vacate the lane closest to the vehicle if the road has two or more lanes travelling in the same direction OR must slow to 20 miles per hour less than the posted speed limit if the posted limit is over 25 miles per hour. If the speed limit is 25 miles per hour or lower, drivers must slow to 5 miles per hour under the speed limit.

Violation of this law is punishable by fines. If a driver causes property damage while violating this law, the fine is \$500. If the violation causes bodily injury, the crime is enhanced to a Class B misdemeanor which will result in an arrest.

So far in 2019, seven Police Officers around the country have been killed in the Line of Duty by being struck by a vehicle. These men and women were someone's family, and being Officers, they were Brothers and Sisters to all of us at HCPD.

### WE THANK EACH OF THESE OFFICERS FOR THEIR SERVICE.

Officer Dale James Wood Colerain Township Police Department, Ohio End of Watch: January 7, 2019	Officer Clayton Joel Townsend Salt River Police Department, Arizona End of Watch: January 8, 2019
Border Patrol Agent Donna Doss US Border Patrol, Texas End of Watch: February 2, 2019	Corporal Daniel H Groves Colorado State Patrol, Colorado End of Watch: March 13, 2019
Officer Paul Thomas Rutherford Phoenix Police Department, Arizona End of Watch: March 21, 2019	Trooper Brooke Jones-Story Illinois State Police, Illinois End of Watch: March 28, 2019
Sergeant Steven L. Licon California State Patrol, California End of Watch: April 6, 2019	Officer AJ Castaneda Grand Prairie Police, Texas End of Watch: June 7, 2019



# SOLICITORS

If someone comes to your door trying to sell you a product or service, verify they have been approved by the Town as a solicitor. **ALL** registered solicitors will have a name badge with their name, company name and an expiration date. Door to Door solicitors may only work between 9 am and 8 pm Monday through Saturday. Call the Building department or Town Hall if you suspect someone is soliciting without a permit. Remember, you have the right to tell a solicitor to leave your property. If they do not or if you are made uncomfortable by their presence, please call the Police Department 940.349.1600 ext. 9.



## PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Over the past six months, the Town of Hickory Creek hosted several Master Parks planning meetings and reached out to residents by mail and social media in an effort to collect data as we update the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. The Town has worked closely with Dunaway Associates, the engineering company hired to help with the Parks Master Plan. With the data Dunaway collected, they will create a future plan for our five parks— Arrowhead, Harbor Lane, Point Vista, Sycamore Bend and Tanglewood. Dunaway will create a presentation based off the data collected at an upcoming Town Council Meeting. We are excited about the future for our parks and the possibilities this will bring to our residents and visitors of our parks.

## Tax Free Weekend August 9-11, 2019

## NOISE ORDINANCE

Everyone wants to enjoy peace and quite in their homes but do you know what the town's Code of Ordinances says about noise nuisances?

Power equipment such as lawn mowers, chain saws and other gas powered equipment may not be used between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m.

Radios, televisions, musical instruments, speakers, etc. must be kept low enough so they do not disturb anyone else between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. At **NO** time may speakers or any other equipment be loud enough to be clearly heard 50 feet from the source.

Barking dogs are a frequent complaint. Before making a noise complaint, please try to determine if there is a specific reason the dog is barking and, if possible, speak to the dog's owner. Complaints for repeated problems should be forwarded to Animal Control 940.465.7444, To report a code violation go to [www.hickorycreek-tx.gov](http://www.hickorycreek-tx.gov) >Departments > Code Violation Form or Dispatch at 940.349.1600 ext. 9. Remember, animal noise complaints are usually not considered an emergency situation and an Animal Control Officer will not be dispatched after hours.



Construction activity is prohibited within 150 feet of a residence between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m., Monday thru Friday and may not begin Saturday, Sunday or holidays until 9 a.m. unless the project has been granted special permission by the town in advance.



# 2018 AWARDS



During the April 16, 2019 Town Council meeting, Mayor Lynn Clark presented the Town of Hickory Creek's 2018 Scholars of the Year, Sportsman of the Year, and Business of the Year. **AMC Classic Hickory Creek 16** (bottom right) was named 2018 Business of the Year. **Hayden Brockenbush** (bottom left) was named 2018 Sportsman of the Year, **Mercedes Zaragoza** (top middle) was named 2018 Sportswoman of the Year and **Amanda Lawrence** (top right) and **Gratzelly Marquez** (top left) were named as the 2018 Scholars of the Year. The Council also proclaimed May 2019 as **Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month**. **Congratulations** to all recipients.



# MAYOR FOR A DAY



Fifth grader Evan Jones was selected to serve as Mayor for a Day by the Leader in Me program through the Lake Dallas Independent School District. Evan toured Town Hall and the Police Department where Sergeant Miller showed him how everything in the patrol cars worked. Evan also called the April 16 Town Council meeting to order. Congratulations Evan Jones!



# COUNCIL RECOGNITIONS



Eagle Scout Candidate Andrew Bingham built benches for the fire pit located in Sycamore Bend Park. Andrew was recognized for his work at the April 16 Town Council Meeting.



Eagle Scout Candidate David Pellecchia installed a flag pole in the Sycamore Bend primitive camping area. David was recognized for his work at the April 16 Town Council Meeting.



Susan Irwin was recognized at the May 21, Town Council Meeting for her service on the Parks and Recreation Board. Susan has served on the board since 2015.

**TRACEE ELROD, PLACE 1**

Tracee Elrod was appointed to the Town Council in September 2015 and elected in May 2016. Tracee has been employed with CoServ for over 11 years. She works alongside cities, counties, and legislatures daily in her role as Manager of Community Support. She is the incoming Secretary of the Cross Timbers Rotary, Vice Chair of the Flower Mound Chamber of Commerce and serves on the Hickory Creek EDC. She received her Bachelor's in Marketing from Lubbock Christian University and her Master's in Business Administration from Texas Woman's University. Tracee moved to Hickory Creek in June of 2013. She enjoys running, cooking and volunteering for the DFW Pug Rescue. She and her husband of 14 years, Noah, their pugs Cocoa, Truffles and Nutmeg, are proud to be a part of the Hickory Creek community!

Chris is excited to have the opportunity to serve the citizens of Hickory Creek. He has served as a Town Council member since May of 2007. He was re-elected in May 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, and 2019. It has been his honor to work as a community liaison listening to citizens concerns and driving resolutions to many needs.

Chris and his family live in the Lakeview at Point Vista neighborhood. He currently serves on the Lake Cities Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. He and his wife, Jennifer, own Quickship Mail and Business Center, the Cowboy House Sports Memorabilia Store and the Cowboy Carwash in Lake Dallas. Chris and his family love vacations, boating, and sporting events. Chris spends his Friday nights playing softball and watching his daughter, Emma, play volleyball. He looks forward to meeting residents at town events and Council meetings.

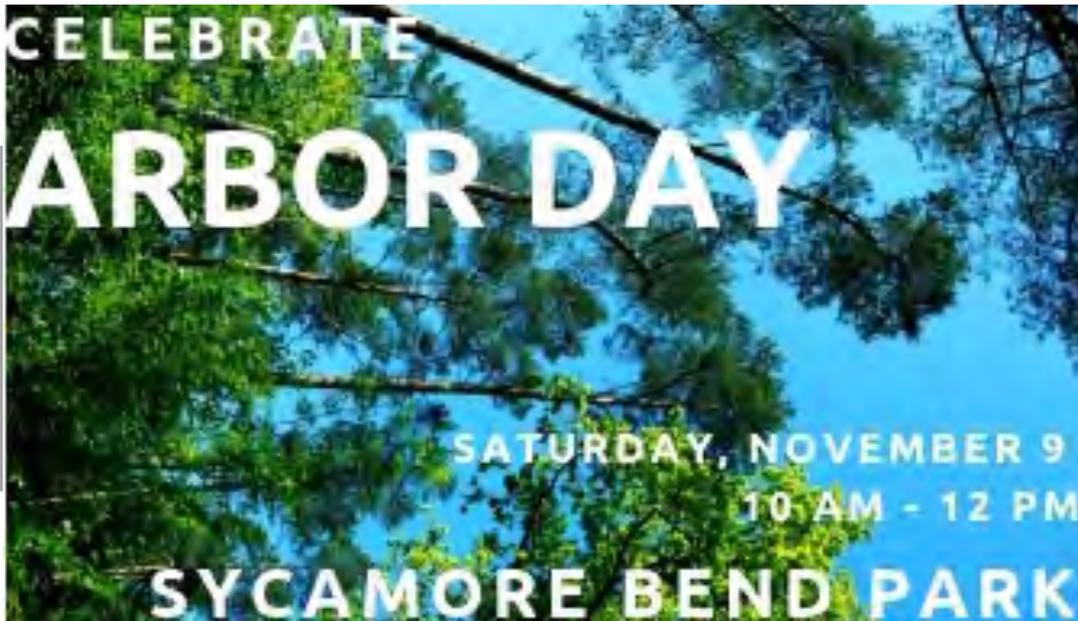
**CHRIS GORDON, PLACE 3****IAN THEODORE, PLACE 5**

Ian has lived in Hickory Creek for over 15 years and has watched the Council carefully guide the town and witnessed the progress that have occurred. It reminds him that it takes citizen volunteers to serve, so he jumped in. He is grateful to give back a little to the community his family calls home.

Ian is a 25 year plus construction executive in commercial and public construction projects and is excited to help guide Hickory Creek as we grow to the next stage. He is also grateful for the trust that the citizens of Hickory Creek have put in him and the council. His wife, Nicky, and son, Nathaniel, look forward to continue serving our town.

# Low Cost Vaccine Event

The Hickory Creek Animal Shelter hosted a Low Cost Vaccination Clinic on Saturday May 18 and many local residents showed up to get their dogs and cats vaccinated, micro chipped, registered, inquired about volunteer opportunities and toured the shelter. Thank you to the staff at Corinth Veterinary Clinic who helped to make this event possible.



# HARBOR GROVE FIRE HYDRANTS



Installation of the Phase I Harbor Grove Fire hydrants is complete! The Lake Cities Municipal Utility Authority (LCMUA) will now begin testing the water lines to ensure the hydrants work properly. The Town of Hickory Creek is looking to partner with the LCMUA on Phase II on the installation of more fire hydrants.



# A Citizen on Patrol

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I have been involved with the Citizens on Patrol (COPs) program since 2003— twice with teams in Lake Dallas and in Hickory Creek. I can recall when I first started, we were told you can't carry a weapon, you have no authority and your assignment is to be the eyes and ears for the community and police department. We were directed to patrol the local neighborhoods and phone or radio to report any suspicious activity or persons to the police department and await instructions. I, along with many of the participants in the first class thought, if you don't come across anything, this could end up becoming boring after a while. It is for that reason that many of the volunteers eventually dropped out of the program.

If you are willing to do this, with the proper training, knowledge, and experience you will find it just the opposite of boring. The Hickory Creek Police Department provides state of the art training, they reach out and encourage you as well as being available to assist upon request. A ride along with an officer is a great way to make those connections. Additional activities include a Wal-Mart walk through, traffic control when needed, town events, radar gun training and utilization and our parks.

A typical patrol can spend an entire shift chasing down issues in our parks. The parks in Hickory Creek can be a magnet for drug use, underage drinking, vandalism, and other unacceptable activities. The biggest issue is usually failure to purchase a park pass or over extending a camping permit.

Once you put on the uniform and hit the streets be reminded that you never know what you might run across. My previous partner and I came upon numerous situations during our years on patrol but our training and experience allowed us to work through it. I would encourage you to absorb as much as possible while performing your duties. I will be more than happy to share my experience with our current training class and any future class. I wish you well and applaud you for supporting our community and the Hickory Creek men and women in blue.

Sincerely,

*Richard Dupree*

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## SUMMER TREE WATERING TIPS



Proper watering is necessary to ensure your property's trees are there to provide shade and natural beauty for generations to come. While many people assume that the rain cycle is sufficient for tree health, this is not usually the case.

Trees lose water daily and in every season; for every 18 degree increase in temperature, the amount of water lost by a tree and the area around it almost doubles. So, particularly in the warmer months, trees can benefit from supplemental watering.

Follow the tree watering tips below to keep your trees in good shape during the summer.



1. Tree watering should occur at night or in the early morning hours. The optimal time is between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m.



2. For maximum efficiency in manual watering, use a soaker (drip irrigation) hose. While an ordinary garden hose can also be used, it will require monitoring and must be moved periodically during watering.



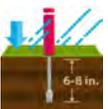
3. In moderate conditions, a healthy tree should receive one inch of water per week. (Five gallons per square yard = one inch of water.) During a drought, up to three inches of water weekly may be necessary.



4. Keep the water flow close to the ground surface; the majority of absorbent roots rests in the top 12 inches of soil.



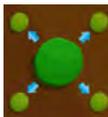
5. Begin watering your tree at its base. Move the hose at intervals until the entire area beneath the canopy has been soaked.



6. Use a screwdriver test to determine if the soil has reached optimal saturation: drive a screwdriver, trowel, or stake into the soil at various locations around your watering spot. When the object can easily be driven six to eight inches into the soil, there is sufficient water in that area and the hose can be moved to another location.



7. Be sure not to overwater the tree, as this can create or exacerbate pest problems or fungus growth.



8. Plants living within the shaded canopy area of the tree can draw more water away from the tree. Consider relocating shrubs and flowers to areas away from the tree's base.

# LIBRARY CARD REIMBURSEMENT



Looking for places to take the kids this summer? The Town of Hickory Creek offers our residents Denton and Lake Dallas Library card reimbursements! The Town will reimburse residents up to \$50 per household. To receive the refund, bring the receipt from the Denton or Lake Dallas Library and a copy of your drivers license with your Hickory Creek address (or a utility bill with your address) and we will send a check to you in the mail for reimbursement.

## UPCOMING BULK TRASH DAYS

**JULY 18**   **AUGUST 15**   **SEPTEMBER 19**   **OCTOBER 17**

## GOING ON VACATION THIS SUMMER?

Are you traveling or making plans to travel in the upcoming months? Go to our website at [www.hickorycreek-tx.gov](http://www.hickorycreek-tx.gov) Departments > Police > Quick Links > Vacation Watch/Security Watch. Complete the Vacation Watch and a police officer will drive by and check on your residence while you are away, giving you the peace of mind while you are on vacation!



## STAY UP TO DATE WITH PERTINENT INFORMATION

Residents, we want to keep you informed! Did you know the Town of Hickory Creek has Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor and if you aren't on social media we also send out emails and texts to remind you of any town closures, changes in trash pick up or bulk trash, special events, construction updates and even park or boat ramp closures. To get signed up for emails and text messages go to [www.hickorycreek-tx.gov](http://www.hickorycreek-tx.gov), click on the Notify Me Envelope icon, enter your email address and phone number and click the envelope icons if you would like to receive email notifications or the phone icon if you would like to receive text notifications on each item you would like updates on. You will receive a confirmation email or text message prior to receiving alerts. All of our general information would be classified under Hickory Creek News.

FRIDAY • 6 DECEMBER 2019 • 6PM TO 8PM

# ANNUAL • HICKORY CREEK • TREE LIGHTING

HICKORY CREEK TOWN HALL  
1075 RONALD REAGAN AVENUE



COOKIES & HOT  
CHOCOLATE

ACTIVITIES  
FOR KIDS

PRIZES &  
MORE

TOY AND DRY FOOD DONATIONS ACCEPTED

# COMMUNITY REMINDERS

## LAKE CITIES 4TH OF JULY

This is a spectacular, one-of-a-kind celebration uniting the communities of Lake Dallas, Corinth, Hickory Creek and Shady Shores in celebration of our Nation’s birth. The festivities begin with a patriotic parade followed by food, contests, vendors, and toe tappin’ music. The day is brought to a close with one of the largest, most dazzling fireworks displays in the area. For more information go to [www.lakedallas.com](http://www.lakedallas.com)



## REPUBLIC SERVICES SENIOR DISCOUNT

Hickory Creek provides a **30%** senior discount on trash and recycling services for residents over 65. To get signed up, bring your trash bill and drivers license to Town Hall and let us know you’re eligible for the discount. The Town will



# REPUBLIC SERVICES

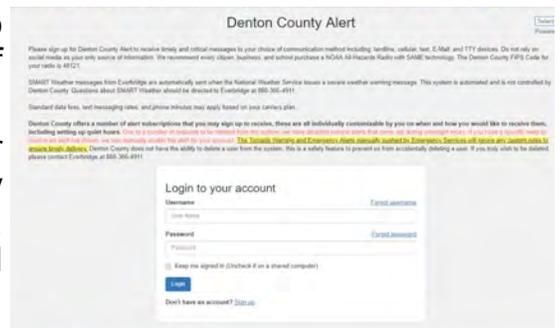
contact Republic Services for your discount on future bills. Once your information has been submitted, there is no need to reapply each year. Senior discounts previously applied for with Waste Management will carry over to Republic Services.

## DENTON COUNTY ALERT

Denton County switched providers for our mass notification system. If you previously signed up for alerts using CodeRED, Nixle, or our oldest system Reverse 911, it will be necessary for you to create a new account on the Everbridge system.

Any data provided to CodeRED, Nixle, or Reverse 911, has been deleted from their system. Your current up to date information will ensure we have a means of contacting you.

To get signed up go to [www.dentoncounty.com](http://www.dentoncounty.com). Under Departments Click on Emergency Services, Emergency Services/Fire Marshal and then Emergency notification. You will need to set up a new account even if you had been previously signed up with CodeRed.





### HICKORY CREEK TOWN HALL

1075 Ronald Reagan Avenue

940-497-2528

Monday - Thursday

7:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Friday

7:30 AM - 11:30 AM

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

1075 Ronald Reagan Avenue

940-497-3520

### Police/Fire Emergency 911

Non Emergency

940-349-1600

### HICKORY CREEK ANIMAL SHELTER

970 Main Street

940-349-1600

Monday - Friday

7:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Saturday - Sunday

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

### FOLLOW THE TOWN



@HICKORYCREEKTX



@HICKORYCREEK\_TX

Not on Facebook? Go to our website at

[www.hickorycreek-tx.gov](http://www.hickorycreek-tx.gov).

Click on Notify Me and receive updates by e-mail or text from the Town of Hickory Creek.

## VISIT YOUR TOWN HALL

Parks & Recreation Board—2nd Monday @ 6:30 PM

Planning & Zoning Commission—1st Wednesday @ 7 PM

Town Council—3rd Tuesday @ 6:30 PM

Economic Development Corporation—4th Thursday @ 5:30 PM

[www.hickorycreekEDC.com](http://www.hickorycreekEDC.com)

## UPCOMING TOWN CLOSURES

July 4

Independence Day

September 2

Labor Day

November 11

Veteran's Day

November 28

Thanksgiving Day

November 29

Day After Thanksgiving