

LAKE SIDE NEWS

2024 Third Quarter

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A LETTER FROM YOUR MAYOR

Fellow citizens,

Our Council had a busy spring, and we're already gearing up for our 2024-2025 budget year. Summer is always busy since it's when we begin to plan for our next fiscal year. As always, we want to use our tax dollars wisely and as efficiently as possible.

At our May Council meeting, we honored our 2023 Hickory Creek Business of the Year (Don Camillo Tuscan Grill), Citizen of the Year (Dinah Stults), 2023 Scholar of the Year (Alexis Mabbun), Female Athlete of the Year (Abby Kell) and Male Athlete of the Year (Humphry Kakuba).



In May, Councilmen Paul Kenney, Nick Wohr, and I were sworn in for new two-year terms. We welcomed Nick Wohr as a new council member, and you can read more about him elsewhere in this newsletter. The council once again appointed Paul Kenney as Mayor Pro Tem. We also bid farewell to longtime Councilman Richard Dupree, who completed his term. In honor of his years of dedicated service, we celebrated with a special video presentation.

Recent storms and issues with the LCMUA water line on the west side of Hickory Creek highlighted the importance of emergency communication. After consulting with the Denton County Office of Emergency Management, we determined the town can utilize its Everbridge System to make "Reverse 911" calls to notify citizens during emergencies. This system was successfully used to inform residents in the affected area of Hickory Creek that the recent "boil water" notice from LCMUA was lifted. Since this is the most effective way for the town to reach you, we encourage you to sign up at the website below. If you are not registered, we will be unable to contact you during an emergency: <https://member.everbridge.net/892807736725777/new>

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Dallas District recently approved Green Ribbon Funding for the Town of Hickory Creek's proposed landscape improvements on I-35E from Turbeville Road to S. Stemmons Freeway. The funds will be available in the 2027 fiscal year (starting September 2026) in the amount of \$816,028.50. Special thanks to our Town Administrator, John Smith, for taking the initiative on the grant application!

Jillian Mitchell from Cook Children's Community Health recently donated 30 life vests to the town, which will be used for Eagle Scout Life Jacket Stations at Arrowhead and Sycamore Bend Parks. The jackets are available for "loan" from the stations and should be returned before leaving the parks. We extend our gratitude to Jillian and Cook Children's for contributing to water safety on the lake!

In May, Hickory Creek Police Chief Carey Dunn, along with police chiefs from Corinth & Lake Dallas, and Lake Cities Fire Chief Chad Thiessen, spoke at the Lake Cities Chamber of Commerce Luncheon. Each of the Chiefs offered updates from the cities, along with how they work collectively to provide public safety to our community.

In restaurant news, the foundation and parking lot for Chick-fil-A have been poured, and the walls are going up! Due to the extreme heat, crews were permitted to pour concrete at 3 a.m. We appreciate your patience during this process. Additionally, Roma's Italian Restaurant recently opened near the entrance to Hickory Hills, offering wonderful food samples at their Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting event. I love the dining options available in Hickory Creek, and I encourage you to join me in supporting our local restaurants and other businesses!

Summer is off to a hot start, but this is Texas—nothing we can't handle with a cool drink and a good meal right here in Hickory Creek! I look forward to seeing you around town!

Best regards,
Lynn Clark

SANTA

Is scheduled to come back to
Town Hall!

ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING EVENT

BURGERS . ENTERTAINMENT . HOT COCOA . SANTA

December 6th, 6PM - 8PM

HICKORY CREEK TOWN HALL
1075 RONALD REAGAN AVE. HICKORY CREEK, TX 75065

PLACE 2 COUNCIL CHANGES : FROM DUPREE TO WOHR

BY DIANE CIARLONI

Change almost always brings a few bumps. It's just something to expect during any transition and, certainly, Richard Dupree leaving behind his microphone on the Hickory Creek Town Council after 14 years of service is a sizeable bump.

Dupree engaged in a lot of in-depth soul-searching during recent months. Would he go for another term? At 81, he was often referred to as the Council's "elder statesman." He presided over some of the town's greatest growth curves, utilizing his broad-based experience in service to people, organizations, and communities.

"I've spent a lot of years appointed by governors to serve within organizations," Dupree explained. "I've always worked in situations designed to assist people in need. I learned to weed out things such as politics and other biases from my decision-making and, as a result, I honestly believe I made a difference along the way in the lives of people. That was the kind of experience I tried to apply during my 14 years on the Hickory Creek Council."

Dupree moved to the tree-shaded streets of Hickory Creek in 2001, becoming one of its approximately 2000 residents.

"The spirit of the country at that time was growth and we were caught up in it. There were tremendous challenges. How did we grow while still maintaining our town's unique nature? How did we expand but keep our small-town atmosphere intact?

"Growth is something that must happen. If it doesn't, a town will be swallowed up and lose its relevancy. But that growth must be guided and remain manageable. If it doesn't, there's a new set of problems.

"If you're not careful, everything can become overly political and that doesn't work for the good of the town and its people.

"Our Council has enjoyed a core group of people over the years. We learned how to blend, how to work together. Once we did that, we became a force with the dedicated focus of always striving to make the best decisions possible. We have been a close-knit Council for many years, but that doesn't mean we always agreed. We didn't. But we knew how to discuss the issues, and to remember we were there to serve the town and not ourselves.

"So, yes, being a small part of all that was wonderful, and I walk away feeling good about it. I've done what I've done, and I'm pleased with it. I didn't go along to get along, and that makes me feel especially good. I'll miss it but, again, I'm 81 and I won't miss the meetings that sometimes go as late as midnight!"

Dupree says he's "walking away," but that isn't an accurate statement. He's remaining on the Animal Welfare Board, and he intends to fully support Nick Woehr who now fills Place 2. In other words, he's not likely to forget how to get to Town Hall any time soon.

Nick Wohr, except for the first four years of his life, is a Lake Cities native. Those initial 48 months of his young existence were in Long Island, where he was born.

You've seen the bumper stickers proclaiming, "I wasn't born in Texas but I got here as fast as I could." That's what Wohr did. He graduated from Lake Dallas High School in 2005, and then began law school. He practices criminal law almost exclusively; while his wife, Megan, works at the Denton County District Attorney's Office.

Nick, Megan, and their two daughters reside on the west side of town. In his spare time he enjoys coaching their nine-year-old's soccer team. He is also an avid runner, so it's highly likely you will see him running along the streets in Hickory Creek.

A large share of Wohr's encouragement to become part of the Lake Cities' government functions came from his neighbors.

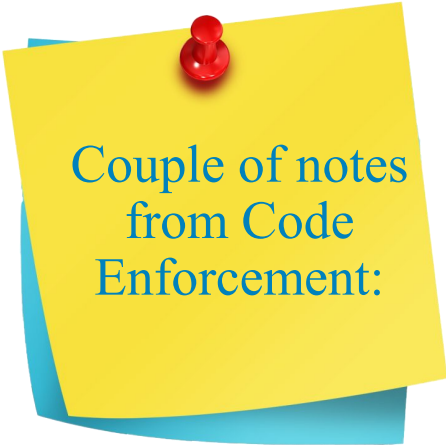
"My neighbor introduced me to John Smith, who encouraged me to join Parks and Rec. Richard and I had some conversations, and he let me know he was seriously thinking about not running for Council again."

"Richard gave me his support and encouragement, but the crazy part is what happened when my dad found out I was running for Hickory Creek. *He decided to run for Lake Dallas City Council again after 30 years, and he won!*"

Wohr is excited about his new role. He admits Dupree leaves a very large pair of shoes to fill, but what he's looking forward to the most is learning – from the other Council members and from Richard.

"I want to be a part of maintaining the values and core principals that already guide the Council," he said. "I'm especially anticipating road improvement projects and making our parks and recreation areas even better than they are now. I'm grateful I've been appointed as the liaison for Parks and Rec."





Couple of notes from Code Enforcement:

One lot - two livable structures - violation of Chapter 14

Did you know that the Town's Ordinance Chapter 14, Section 1, prohibits more than one residential structure per lot? This includes tiny homes, motor coaches, campers, storage shed conversions, or any modular home being utilized as a residential structure.

Chapter 14, Section 3 (4): Except as herein provided, every building hereafter erected or structurally altered shall be located on a lot as herein defined and in no case shall there be more than one main building and its accessory buildings on the lot.

Short Term Rental Permits Required

Per Chapter 15, any short term rentals require a permit. They must be registered with the Town and inspected annually. This allows the town to safeguard the life, health, safety, welfare, and property of the occupants of residential dwelling units, the neighbors, and the public through regulation. It also helps preserve the neighborhood character and minimizes adverse impacts.

Chapter 15, Section 3: An owner who desires to use its premises as a short-term rental must have a valid, active short-term rental permit from the town prior to using, allowing the use of, or advertising the use of said premises as a short-term rental.

As always feel free to report any issued via our anonymous online portal:

<https://www.hickorycreek-tx.gov/code-compliance/webform/code-violation-form>

Taking Home The Gold

At the Annual Lake Cities 4th of July Parade the Town's Float won first place! Shout out to Lee Kessee and his Groove Collective Band for bringing the entertainment. Thank you to all that endured the heat to celebrate the 4th with us.



COME CELEBRATE

Arbor Day

HICKORY CREEK



**SAVE OUR EARTH, SAVE OUR FUTURE,
AND SAVE THE DATE!**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

**Come on out and join the Parks Board
in celebrating Arbor Day. Details to
follow soon!**



**Join us the 1st
Saturday in
November for
the annual
Arbor Day
Celebration!**

**More details to
follow on our
social media
outlets and
webpage.**



Council Recognitions



**Congratulations to
Trevor Zackowski,
Josiah McKinley,
and Avery Pruitt for
completing their
Eagle Scout
Projects!**



**Alexis Mabbun
Scholar of the Year.**



**Humphrey Kakuba
Male Athlete of the Year.**



**Abby Kell
Female Athlete of the Year.**

Council Recognitions



**During the May 13, 2024
Town Council meeting,
Mayor Clark,
Mayor Pro Tem Kenney,
and Councilman Woehr
took their Oaths of
Office for their new
two-year terms.**



**Dinah Stults
Citizen of the Year**

**Don Camillo Tuscan Grill
Business of the Year**



Hot Weather Tips for Your Four-Legged Family Members

- In extremely hot weather, don't leave your dog standing on the street and keep walks to a minimum. They are much closer to the hot asphalt, their bodies heat up quickly, and paws can burn without protection.
- Never take an animal to the beach unless you can provide a shaded spot and plenty of fresh water to drink.
- Always provide plenty of shade for an animal staying outside. Bring your dog or cat inside during the heat of the day and let her rest in a cool part of your house. Always provide them with cool and clean water.
- Please be sensitive to old and overweight animals in hot weather. Brach cephalic (snub-nosed) dogs and those with heart or lung diseases should be kept indoors in air-conditioning as much as possible.
- Keep a current license and identification tag on your dog or cat and consider tattooing or microchipping as a means of permanent identification.
- Avoid walking your dog in areas that you suspect have been sprayed with insecticides or other chemicals, as poisonings increase during the summer when gardens, lawns and trees are sprayed. These chemicals can sicken or kill an animal.
- Be alert for coolant leaking from your vehicle. Animals are attracted to the sweet taste of coolant and ingesting just a small amount can cause an animal's death.
- A clean coat can help to prevent summer skin problems, so keep your dog or cat well groomed. If he has a heavy coat, shaving your dog's hair to a 1-inch length will help prevent overheating. Don't shave a dog's hair down to the skin; this robs him of protection from the sun.
- Take your companion animal to the veterinarian for a spring or early summer checkup, including a test for heartworm if your dog isn't on year-round preventative medication. Have the doctor recommend a safe, effective flea and tick control program.

[Article courtesy: American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals](#)

SHOW FEATURES

16th ANNUAL Faith Presbyterian Hospice Event

CAR CLASSES

JUDGE BY PARTICIPANTS:
 Pre-50's, 50's, 60's, 70's,
 80 & 90's, 2000's, 2010 & Newer
 Mopar 99 & Older
 Mopar 2000 & Older
 Muscle Car
 Imports
 Camaro 92 & Older
 Camaro 93 & Newer
 Tri-Five 55, 56, & 57 Chevy
 T-Bucket / Roadster / Street Rod
 Corvette 82 & Older
 Corvette 84 & Newer
 Convertibles
 Original
 Custom
 Mustang 93 & Older
 Mustang 94 & Newer
 Under Construction (must be driven)
 Jeep / 4x4
 Motorcycle / Slingshot

TRUCK CLASSES

JUDGE BY PARTICIPANTS:
 Pre-60's, 60's, 70's,
 80 & 90's, 2000's & Newer

BEST OF SHOW

Engine, Paint & Interior
 Cars (79 & Older)
 Trucks (79 & Older)
 Cars (80 & Newer)
 Trucks (80 & Newer)

SPECIAL AWARDS

Peoples Choice
 Manager Pick
 Hospice Pick

2024 CAR SHOW

100 YEAR HUFFINES ANNIVERSARY
 KIA | SUBARU

SEPTEMBER 7th
 6940 S. I-35E (Exit 460)
 in Corinth

Events Schedule
 9:00 am - 1:30 pm

Registration
 8:00 - 10:30 am
 \$20 entry fee

LAKE CITIES Misfits

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN HOSPICE
 FOREFRONT LIVING

COMMUNITY REMINDERS

ANNUAL ANIMAL REGISTRATION

Residents are required to register all cats and dogs annually with Animal Services. There is no charge to register, but you must have a valid copy of their rabies vaccination certificate. Residents may register animals at the animal shelter, Town Hall or online.

ALARM PERMITS

All commercial and residential alarm systems are required to register every January. Renewals are free. Applications can be submitted online or at Town Hall.

BOAT RAMP & DAY USE PASSES

Boat ramp and day use passes for 2024 are now available at Town Hall. Hickory Creek residents receive a FREE day use and boat ramp pass. Residents must come by Town Hall to pick up the passes. Passes are good in all Hickory Creek town parks - Arrowhead (Leg 1 and Leg 2), Point Vista, and Sycamore Bend. Please place all passes in the front windshield so they may be seen easily by an officer. Failure to properly display current year passes may result in a citation. Nonresidents may purchase boat ramp and day use passes at Town Hall, online or at pay stations located in Arrowhead, Point Vista, and Sycamore Bend. Pass holders require a code to access the parks. Codes will be given when passes are picked up.

HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL PICKUP

Republic Services will collect electronic waste and hazardous chemicals from your home on an on-call basis. Call 469.451.3713 or email HickoryCreekHHW@republicservices.com to schedule a curbside pick-up.

REPUBLIC SERVICES SENIOR DISCOUNT

Hickory Creek provides a 30% senior discount on trash and recycling services for our residents over 65. To receive the discount, bring your trash bill and driver's license to Town Hall and let us know you're eligible for the discount. The Town will contact Republic Services for your discount on future bills. Once your information has been submitted, there is no need to reapply each year.

LIBRARY CARD REIMBURSEMENT

The Town of Hickory Creek offers our residents reimbursements for library cards purchased from Denton or Lake Dallas! The Town will reimburse residents up to \$50 per household. To receive the refund, bring the receipt from the Denton or Lake Dallas libraries and a copy of your driver's 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.

**HICKORY CREEK
TOWN HALL**

1075 Ronald Reagan
Avenue

940-497-2528

Monday - Thursday

7:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Friday

7 AM - 11 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 AM - 6 PM

Friday

Saturday - Sunday

7 AM - 11 AM

VISIT YOUR TOWN HALL

Parks & Recreation Board—Third Monday

Planning & Zoning Commission—Third Tuesday

Economic Development Corporation—Third Thursday

Town Council—Fourth Monday

ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 6 PM



UPCOMING TOWN CLOSURES

Monday, September 2

Labor Day

Monday, October 14

Columbus Day

Monday, November 11

Veterans Day