LAKESIDE NEWS

Second Quarter 2025



A LETTER FROM YOUR MAYOR

Dear fellow citizens,

Spring is here, and there's a lot happening across our city. From new projects to key improvements, it's an exciting time. I'm proud of the progress we're making and grateful for your continued support. Let's keep moving forward—together.

Current TRIP 2022 Road Bond Projects in progress:

- Harbor Lane from Turbeville Road to Harbor Lane Park (95% complete)
- Garth Lane (50% complete)
- South Hook from Main Street to Garth Lane (Plans complete, bid accepted, construction to begin in May)
- Point Vista Road from Stamford to Point Vista Park (Engineering 65% complete, will be bid this summer)
- Carlisle Road (Engineering 65% complete, will be bid this summer).

In addition to these projects, the new Amphitheater at Town Hall is scheduled for completion in May. Further sidewalk improvements are planned for inclusion in the 2026 Budget. Walmart is in the midst of a major remodel, and a new Mr. Gatti's Pizza is already serving customers inside.

In early April, Councilmember Chris Gordon and I participated in Denton County Days at the State Capitol in Austin. We had the opportunity to meet with our State Representative Richard Hayes and Senator Tan Parker to discuss key legislation moving through this session.

The event brought together more than 230 attendees from across Denton County, including our County Judge and Commissioners, fellow elected officials, representatives from Chambers of Commerce, school district leaders, mental health officials, and members of the local business community.

Councilmember Gordon and I were proud to represent Hickory Creek and advocate on behalf of our residents, ensuring that the voices of our community are heard as decisions are made at the state level. The relationships we build and maintain across Denton County are vital to us, as they strengthen our ability to collaborate.

It is such a privilege to serve as your Mayor. This community means so much to me, and I look forward to seeing you around town!

Mayor Lynn Clark



Joint, General and Special Election



Early Voting (Corinth or Lake Dallas City Hall)

April 22nd - April 26th 8AM - 5PM

April 27th 11AM - 5PM

April 28th - April 29th 7AM - 7PM

Election Day (Hickory Creek Town Hall)

May 3 7AM - 7PM





CIERA BANK'S FIRST RESPONDER OF THE MONTH



Officer Truman Franklin has been a Hickory Creek Police Officer for one year this month and has already made his mark on the Lake Cities area. A former college athlete and an avid hunter, Officer Franklin found his calling the citizens serving Creek. Officer Hickory Franklin enjoys making those personal connections while enforcing traffic violations and working as a member of the Hickory Creek Boat Patrol Unit. Officer Franklin has exhibited leadership and commitment to the law enforcement community and is the recipient of the Ciera Bank First Responder of the Month.

PADDLE EZ: WELCOME TO SYCAMORE BEND PARK!

Paddle EZ, offers a unique self-kiosk paddle board and kayak rental experience that lets you enjoy the water on your own terms. They are open every day of the year, from dawn to just before dusk.

To get started, simply visit PaddleEZ.com. You'll provide your basic information, payment details, and choose a 4-digit code. Then, head to Sycamore Bend Park, input your code at your selected time, release your boat and paddles, and pick up your life vest from the deck boxes. With the help of GPS and cameras, everything is set up and ready for you to go!

When your adventure is over, return the equipment and book your next outing. You can reserve your rentals up to 7 days in advance.

If you run into any issues, just text the company at 512-772-5686. Always wear a life jacket when in open water and know your limits! We look forward to seeing you out on the water!



HICKORY CREEK BOAT PATROL

If you are out on the lake this summer chances are you will spot the Hickory Creek Lake Patrol Boat. Hickory Creek Police Department plans to be on the water this summer conducting boat safety checks and to ensure everyone is adhering to the laws. The boat is manned with a minimum of 3 first responders; which could be a combination of Hickory Creek Police and Lake Cities Fire Department Personnel. Onboard they will be assigned a role either the pilot, navigator, or spotter. This allows them to navigate crowded areas such as party cove with ease.

As lake season is upon us please remember to be responsible and safe in and around the water. If you find yourself in an emergency situation while you are out on the lake please call 9-1-1. For non-emergencies you can reach Denton County Dispatch at 940-349-1600 option # 9.



ARROWHEAD PARK CLEANUP

Let's celebrate Earth Day! Join the parks board for a cleanup event to help protect our environment and appreciate the planet's beauty.

EVENT DETAILS

26APRIL
9am - 11am

Arrowhead Park Pavilion 1 Kelton Avenue Hickory Creek, TX 75065



The Drones are Friendly!

BY DIANE CIARLONI

Don't panic if you look upward into the bright, blue sky of a sunny Hickory Creek Day and see – drones? They're sleek white and yellow. Depending on whether they're coming or going, they may or may not have a small blue box snugged securely to their underbelly.

They're not up there to spy on anyone. They aren't equipped with any type of live feed cameras and have no intention of photographing you or your children.

So why are they up there? Who owns them and what's their purpose?

Their main purpose is to help you, the residents of Hickory Creek and near-by surrounding areas, out of jams; jams such as delivering a three-ounce jar of oregano to your home because you have none and the big pot of spaghetti simmering on the stove cries for oregano.

The drones are owned by Wing, an aviation company that wholeheartedly believes the little aircraft are a faster, safer, and cleaner way to deliver everyday items to your home. It's certainly an easier, faster, and safer way than turning off the spaghetti, backing your car out of the garage, speeding to Walmart, rushing to the spice aisle, and grabbing the oregano. You know all the stuff that comes next – pay for it, hot-foot-it back to your car, drive home, park, bring the spaghetti back to a simmer, and accept that you enlarged your carbon footprint during the roundtrip.

Wing and Walmart (as well as DoorDash) have a symbiotic relationship that works according to a business-to-business model, with Wing growing its presence by accessing Walmart's customers.

"Walmart and DoorDash are our customers," explained Jacob Demmitt, Wing's U.S. Marketing and Communications Manager. "Walmart and DoorDash then use our services for their customers."

According to Demmitt, Wing's introduction to the U.S. began in a rural area in Virginia. The service marked its first foray into a major metropolitan area in 2021, when it "flew" into the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and later landed at the Hickory Creek Walmart in December 2024.

Also, you need to cook that pot of spaghetti before nightfall, since the drones fly between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

The drones are quite intriguing in design as well as function. They weigh 11.4 pounds with a 3.3 feet wingspan set on a 4.3 feet long body. They scoot through the sky at 65 miles per hour and can carry up to 2.6 pounds.

"Currently, our focus is on small packages," interjected Demmitt. "We may expand that in the future, since our goal is to go nationwide."

The fleet of drones stationed at Walmart are at the far end of the building in a black, metal enclosure. It has an employee's only admittance policy.

When not in use, the drones rest on their individual, electric charging pads. They are always fully charged and ready to lift off.

The drones have a delivery distance of six miles, and zip from "Point A" to "Point B" at a cruising altitude between 150 and 200 feet. "We're always below 400 feet," Demmitt said. "We're regulated by the FAA just like large, commercial airlines."

How do the drones navigate from Walmart to your home? Basically, they self-navigate. They fly according to a geographical survey done by Wing prior to launching the service.

The drones don't land on the ground when they reach their destination. Instead, they hover a few feet in the air and drop the package gently to the ground by the same cord holding it during the entire flight. The drone remains for only one minute. If the customer does not come out, the cord disengages from the package, retracts to the drone, and it returns to Walmart.

Two of the key attributes of the drone system are speed and convenience.

"Everything is done through a phone app (Wing – Drone Delivery)," Demmitt said. "You place your order, and pay for it, on the app. There is no charge for the delivery service.

"The customer can follow the app during the trip, tracking the drone and know when to go outside for delivery. As a rule, deliveries require 30 minutes or less. The fastest time on record, so far, is 2:47 seconds." That's fast!

Nothing happens with Wing without exhaustive research and testing. For instance, what makes them so adamant about the drone system's safety factor? Answer: They've conducted more than 450,000 flights without a hitch. Wing is an FAA-certified Air Carrier, and the drones are held to similar standards as piloted aircraft.

Take a drive to Walmart/Hickory Creek. Park and watch Walmart employees exit the door outside the drone enclosure in a nearly steady stream. Then watch more Walmart workers, wearing hard hats, take the bright blue packages and attach them to the ultra-lightweight foam drones. It's kind of cool to watch the yellow and white mini aircraft execute a perfectly smooth lift-off.

Depending on your age, it may remind you of the times you and your parents drove to the nearest airport, where you parked outside the fence and watched the giant jets climb into the sky.

Go ahead and download the Wing app to your mobile phone. Go to Wing.com/dfw to find out if your address is eligible for delivery. You can also watch a YouTube presentation at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d51c9SNqw (Wing and Walmart Drone Delivery







Council Recognitions: Kaiden Diglia
Eagle Scout Project
Flag Retirement Box at Town Hall

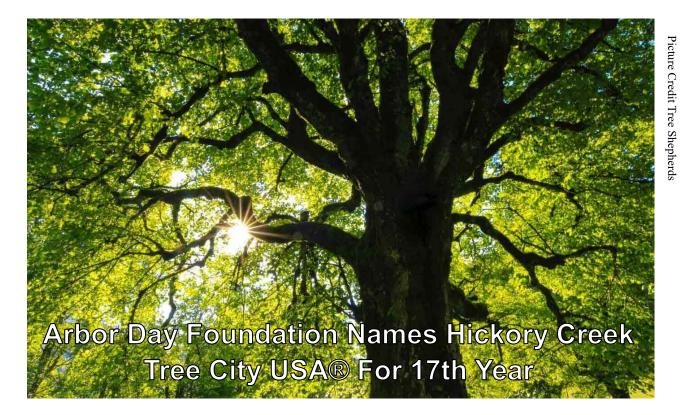
8 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO KEEP STORMWATER

- AND LOCAL WATER BODIES CLEAN.
 - Dispose of used motor oil responsibly recycle it. To find an oil recycle center near you visit www.earth911.org
 - Take your household waste to a home collection center or use non-toxic alternatives. To schedule a hazardous chemical pickup contact hickorycreekhhw@republicservices.com or by calling 469-451-3713.
 - Use pesticides and slow release fertilizers properly or use non-tox alternatives.
 - 4. Wash your car at a car wash
 - 5. Keep storm draings free of grass and yard waste.
 - 6. Pick up after your pets.
 - 7. Place your trash where it belongs in a trash can.
 - Report stormwater polluters and water quality problems to Jeffrey McSpedden 469-576-5094.





REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE



Hickory Creek Texas was named a 17th year Tree City USA ® by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

Hickory Creek achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

"Everyone benefits when elected officials, volunteers and committed citizens in communities like Hickory Creek make smart investments in urban forests," said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Trees bring shade to our homes and beauty to our neighborhood, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants and provide wildlife habitat, amount many other benefits."

About the Arbor Day Foundation: The Arbor Day Foundation is a million-member nonprofit conservation and education organization with the mission to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. More information on the program is available at **arborday.org/TreeCityUSA**.



COMMUNITYREMINDERS

ANIMAL REGISTRATION

Residents are required to register all cats and dogs 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 may be found 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 CHEMICALS

Curbside Household Hazardous Waste 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 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 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 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 - 5:00 PM

POLICE DEPARTMENT
1075 Ronald Reagan
Avenue
940-497-3520
Police/Fire Emergency 911
Non Emergency
940-349-1600

ANIMAL SHELTER 970 Main Street 940-349-1600

Monday - Thursday 7 AM - 5 PM

Saturday - Sunday 7 AM - 11 AM

VISIT YOUR TOWN HALL

Parks & Recreation Board - Third Monday

Planning & Zoning Commission - Third Tuesday

Town Council - Fourth Monday

Economic Development Corporation - Third Thursday

ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 6 PM



UPCOMING TOWN CLOSURES

Monday, May 26

Memorial Day

Thursday, June 19

Juneteenth

Thursday, July 3

Independence Day