

LAKE SIDE NEWS

2025 Third Quarter

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS

PAGE 4-5

COUNCIL RECOGNITIONS

PAGE 8-9

SANTA IS COMING

PAGE 3

OUTLAW FIT CAMP

PAGE 10-11

A LETTER FROM YOUR MAYOR

Fellow citizens,

Our Council had a productive spring and is already preparing for the 2025–2026 budget year. Summer tends to be a busy season as we lay the groundwork for the upcoming fiscal year. As always, we remain committed to using tax dollars responsibly and as efficiently as possible.

At our April Council meeting, we honored the 2025 Hickory Creek Business of the Year, Roma Italian Restaurant, along with our Citizens of the Year, Joe and Sandra Flowers.

At our May meeting, we recognized the 2025 Scholars of the Year, Amelia Banyaga from Lake Dallas ISD and Sophia Valderrey from Founders Classical Academy. We also celebrated our Female Athlete of the Year, Kasey Mack, and Male Athlete of the Year, Jadon Jones.

Recently, Hickory Creek Police Chief Carey Dunn, along with the police chiefs from Corinth and Lake Dallas, and Lake Cities Fire Chief Chad Thiessen, spoke at the Lake Cities Chamber of Commerce Luncheon. Chief Dunn shared that the Hickory Creek Police Department is comprised of seventeen officers and one civilian, with five officers hired within the past two years. Among the department's team, seven officers hold bachelor's degrees and three have earned master's degrees. In terms of experience, nine officers have over ten years of service, seven have over fifteen years, and five have more than 20 years of experience. I was honored to issue a "Proclamation observing May 11-17, 2025, as National Police Week in Hickory Creek, and publicly saluting the service of law enforcement in our community and in communities across the nation." If you see our officers out & about, be sure to join me in thanking them for their outstanding service!

Construction is nearly complete on an amphitheater by the pond at Town Hall, a new space we're excited to share with the community soon! Watch for future events to be posted at <https://www.facebook.com/HickoryCreekTX>.

In May, Councilmembers Randy Gibbons, Chris Gordon, and Ian Theodore were sworn in for new two-year terms, and the Council reappointed Paul Kenney to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem. We're all honored to serve the residents of Hickory Creek and excited to continue working alongside our partners throughout Denton County.

Summer is off to a hot start, but that's Texas for you! Wishing you a fun, safe, and memorable season. I look forward to seeing you around town!

Best regards,

Your Town Council Pictured Left to Right

Councilman Gibbons

Councilman Wehr

Councilman Gordon

Mayor Clark

Mayor Pro-Tem Kenney

Councilman Theodore





Tree Lighting Event

Friday, December 5th

6 pm - 8 pm

Join The Town of Hickory Creek
for a night of fun. We will have
pictures with Santa, activities for
the kids, music, and food.

Eagle Scout Projects

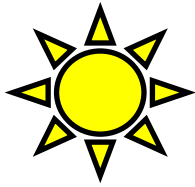


Kaiden Diglia
Flag Retirement Box Project

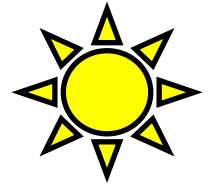
Eagle Scout Projects



Jack Mears
Cedar Trail Erosion Control



Water Conservation Tips



Wait to Water Lawns - Don't turn on sprinklers too early in the season. Leaving lawns dormant longer will save water, and will not compromise the longevity of your lawn. April is too early to go automatic, plan on programming your sprinkler system to start in May or June. Hand-water trees and plants as needed - trees offer many benefits such as shade and habitat, and are often greatly impacted by drought, so keep an eye on the health of your trees and water them when needed.

Water in the Evening, Night or Early Morning - Watering landscapes in the early morning or at night will help reduce water loss. During the daytime heat, less water will be available to plants due to loss from evaporation and wind. Please check your local water provider for current water restrictions, including watering hours.

Water Less Frequently - Check with your water supplier for water use rules. Watering twice a week will make grass roots grow deeper and allow the grass to last longer without water. Cycling sprinkler system run times can prevent excess water runoff; visual inspections after an initial watering cycle will make this apparent. An example of a better watering schedule is setting each zone to water for five minutes then wait an hour, water for five minutes again, wait one more hour, then water for a final five minutes. This breaks up the 15 minutes of watering into three cycles, allowing the water to have time to absorb into dense and compact soils.



When it Rains, Water Accordingly - Watch the weather and adjust watering days and times accordingly. Use soil moisture sensors or rain sensors to automatically adjust watering schedules when it rains. Consider installing a WaterSense Smart Irrigation Controller. Check with your water supplier for potential rebates on irrigation equipment and other opportunities.

Let Grass Grow Longer Before Cutting It - Raise lawn mower blades and protect lawns from heat by letting grass grow longer (3 - 3.5 inches). A taller lawn provides shade to the roots and helps retain soil moisture, so your lawn requires less water.

Water Lawns, Plants and Trees - Not Roads and Sidewalks - Check to see if your irrigation heads are broken, tilted or not set-up properly by

scheduling an irrigation assessment. Sweep driveways and sidewalks with a broom instead of spraying with a hose - but please not down the storm drain or into the street gutter. Use hand-watering, deep root water, or drip irrigation for trees, shrubs, bushes, perennial beds, annual flowers and vegetable gardens. Always use a shut-o° nozzle on your hose when watering plants.

Fix Leaks - Check your sprinkler system monthly for broken sprinkler heads and damaged irrigation lines. Hire a professional to conduct a sprinkler assessment - check with your water supplier, many have low cost or no cost sprinkler assessment programs for their community. A well maintained system will save both money and water.

Plan Ahead and Plan Efficiently - If possible, delay new lawn installations for a non-drought year and avoid planting during the mid-summer heat. If you've already purchased a water-wise garden this year, plant early in the morning or evening in May. Incorporate water wise plants and turf when planning landscape renovations or installations.





Maylor Clark presenting Chief Dunn with a Proclamation observing May 11th - May 17th as National Police Week in the Town of Hickory Creek, and publicly saluting the service of law enforcement officers in our community and in communities across the nation.



SHOW FEATURES

17th ANNUAL Faith Presbyterian Hospice Event

CLASSES

JUDGED BY JUDGES:

- 2010 & Newer Car
- 2000 thru 2009 Car
- 80's & 90's Car
- 70's Car
- 60's Car
- 50's Car
- Pre 50's Car
- Muscle Car
- Corvette 82 & Older
- Corvette 84 & Newer
- Mustang 79 & Older
- Mustang 80 & Newer
- Original
- Camaro 81 & Older
- Camaro 82 & Newer
- Mopar
- Street Rod / Rat Rod
- Open Car
- Convertible
- Import
- Jeep / 4x4
- Pre-80's Truck
- 80's & Newer Truck
- Open Truck
- Under Construction

PREMIUM AWARDS

- Best Engine, Paint & Interior
- Best of Show Car 79 & Older
- Best of Show Car 80 & Newer
- Best of Show Truck 79 & Older
- Best of Show Truck 80 & Newer
- Huffines Subaru's Pick
- People's Choice
- Hospice Pick
- Special Interest

2025 CAR SHOW

SEPTEMBER 6th
6940 S. I-35E (Exit 460)
in Corinth

Events Schedule
9:00 am - 1:30 pm

Registration
8:00 - 10:30 am
\$25 entry fee

Council Recognitions



Sophia Valderrey
Founders Scholar of the Year



Amelia Banyaga
L.D.H.S Scholar of the Year



Jadon Jones
Male Athlete of the Year



Kasey Mack
Female Athlete of the Year

Council Recognitions



Roma Ristorante Italiano
Business of the Year



Joe & Sandra Flowers
Citizens of the Year



During the May 12, 2025 Town Council meeting, Councilman Gibbons, Councilman Gordon, and Councilman Theodore took their Oaths of Office for their new two-year terms.

Exercise! Get a Dog, They Said!

BY DIANE CIARLONI

“Lose weight,” ordered my pudgy doctor.

“Get a dog,” suggested my office colleague. “It’ll be fun,” he added.

Dogs and exercise. It’s sorta like ham and eggs or peas and carrots. It’s a comfortable, acceptable, and easily implemented combination. As a matter of fact, it’s such a natural and beneficial marriage that Outlaw FitCamp franchise at 1039 Hickory Creek Blvd. in Hickory Creek joyfully jumped on the dogs and exercise bandwagon.

The husband/wife team of Jody and Jessica Roach purchased the franchise location from previous owners Jesse James and Tiffany Leyva in April 2020, just in time to deal with the challenges of COVID. It was tough but the positive, talented couple hunkered down and put their creative minds into high gear. They also benefitted from their constant access to Leyva, the original founder of the chain of Outlaw FitCamps.

Jody and Jessica are longtime residents of Flower Mound but they have a ground level desire for themselves and for Outlaw FitCamp to contribute to their business home of Hickory Creek. The idea to bring dogs into their equation happened during a visit to PetSmart one weekend, in the middle of one of the store’s pet adoption events. The light bulb switched on. Why not have Outlaw work with the Hickory Creek Animal Shelter on dog adoptions? They conferred with Jesse and wife Tiffany, with everyone agreeing the idea was a winner.

So here’s the deal: Go to the Hickory Creek shelter and adopt a dog. Take the paperwork to Outlaw and receive a free one-month membership in the gym where everyone knows your name.

“Having a pet is like working out,” Jody said. “Both activities can decrease stress, improve heart health and cholesterol levels, and develop cardiovascular strength. The end result is both you and the dog transition into greatly improved lifestyles.

“The 10-year anniversary of Outlaw’s Hickory Creek location is coming up this summer. We want to have a big celebration to mark the event and, hopefully, include a pet adoption on the premises.”

Broadening their format to help homeless dogs in the Lake Cities area doesn’t come as a surprise to anyone who knows Jody and Jessica. They look at the move as simply another result of the couple’s already mentioned fertile imagination.

“We knew what we wanted to accomplish from the time we signed the franchise ownership paperwork,” Jody said, “and it was when Jessica became a certified, personal trainer as well as our manager that we seriously began moving toward those goals.

“We wanted to accept all fitness and age levels, meeting each of our members exactly where they are the moment they walk through our doors. Our intention was (is) to transform bodies and, in the process, change corresponding lifestyles. We also knew improved mental fitness just naturally follows physical fitness.”

And that means exactly what? For the folks at all the Outlaw locations, it means exercise stands at the center of a group of core benefits. Exercise is not *just* exercise. It does *not* exist as a solitary, isolated element. Instead, exercise sets into motion a list of mental, emotional, and physical benefits. The interesting part is it’s impossible to stop the development and flow of these benefits. They are *going* to happen as a natural progression of the exercise.

What kind of benefits are we referencing here?

“Self-discipline is greatly improved,” Jody began. “It sets a positive tone for the rest of each day and helps you to be extremely productive. You become aware of the food you consume, and time management skills become sharper. Self-confidence grows, while anxiety and stress lessen. Brain power and mental clarity become better defined, risk of physical illness lessens as does bouts of mental depression. Finally, you begin realizing that good health is the most fantastic gift we can have.”

Both Jody and Jessica are people-oriented. Stretching out their hands to others just comes naturally.

“The benefits of physical fitness and balanced health are so far-reaching,” Jessica enthused. “We first became involved with Outlaw when Jody signed up for the program at the Flower Mound location. Without asking, he also signed me up. I was *not* pleased but he was aware I faced some physical and emotional challenges at the time. Now, I don’t mind admitting he was 100 percent correct. The positive changes in me were (are) totally remarkable.

“We want everyone at Outlaw to have a fun experience. We don’t have competitions here, and we look for progress as opposed to perfection. Your only competition is against yourself, to be better on the second day than you were on the first, and better on the third day than you were on the second. We keep our classes small and we focus on inclusiveness, respect, and hard work. You’re allowed to choose your work format – one-on-one, small group, or couples. One of the major goals is to have you look at life differently.

“Our large, general exercise room originally had floor length mirrors at each station. I took them down. I didn’t want people looking in their neighbor’s mirror and making comparisons. Instead, we want neighbors to support and encourage one another – not compete and compare.”

Jody grew up in the insurance business, following his father and grandfather.

“I spent 20 years in a business that was extremely personal for me. I established relationships and friendships with my clients. I honestly loved my people and wanted to help take care of their needs.

“All the personalization fell by the wayside, though, when the industry changed. It came down to policies and premiums, and I missed what I used to have. I joined Outlaw in Flower Mound and I was hooked quickly. It’s truly been an amazing journey for us, especially in the ways it helps self-esteem, along with mental health and happiness.

“I once had a mentor who frequently used the term ‘go-giver’ instead of ‘go-getter.’ It was through exercise and giving to the people at Outlaw that brought Jessica out of her health scare. She was being a ‘go giver’ and it fed her soul.”

Outlaw, which is Jody and Jessica’s only work focus, has four certified, personal trainers. They all work according to Outlaw’s philosophy of caring for others. One of the overall focuses is for all members to set goals. The leading reasons for goal-setting include clarified vision, strong motivation to take action, a way to measure progress, and enhancement of decision-making abilities and personal growth.

It’s not enough, though, to simply set goals. There must also be a method for goal accountability. To do this, the goals must be shared with others in conjunction with consistent progress reviews. It’s also advised to develop a rewards program when certain milestones are reached, and always be realistic and flexible if and when goals must be adjusted.

Outlaw FitCamp holds a number of “Best” awards but, for Jody and Jessica, there is no award, or reward, better than seeing their members undergo a total physical, emotional, and spiritual transformation right before their eyes.

Go get yourself a dog at the shelter and stop at Outlaw on your way home. Get that free one month membership. Chances are darn good a month won’t be enough.

Outlaw Fit Camp
1039 Hickory Creek Blvd.
940.497.6002

**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

**HICKORY CREEK
ANIMAL SHELTER**

970 Main Street
940-349-1600
Monday - Friday
7 AM - 5 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

Thursday, July 3	Independence Day
Monday, September 1	Labor Day
Monday, October 13	Columbus Day
Tuesday, November 11	Veterans Day