

CITY FOCUS

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A City of Burleson Newsletter

July 2011

FIGHT CRIME THROUGH NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

One of the best crime-fighting tools is to know your neighbors and your surroundings.

The Burleson Police Department will participate in the 28th annual National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 2, 6 p.m.-10 p.m. Participating is as simple as turning your porch light on, hosting a block party or neighborhood cookout, and inviting local police officers and firefighters to stop by for a brief visit with the children.

National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support and participation in anticrime programs; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and to let criminals know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

In 2010, approximately 2,000 residents in four apartment/townhome complexes and in single family homes in more than 10 neighborhoods participated in National Night Out in Burleson. **To get involved, email mowen@burlesontx.com or call 817-426-9959 or 817-739-5183.**

CITY SHOWCASES FULLY ACCESSIBLE PLAYGROUND

A new fully accessible park in Burleson will allow physically challenged children and able-bodied children to play together. Burleson Meadows Park is located at the intersection of McAlister Road and Scarlett Sage Parkway and is slated to be complete this fall.

The City's parks and recreation department staff brainstormed the park in 2005. Staff then approached the Parks Board in 2006,

and City staff and board members toured fully accessible playgrounds in nearby cities. Parks and recreation department staff designed the conceptual plan.

The surface of the playground equipment is a mixture of a rubberized material and engineered wood fiber to aid in mobility. There will be a shade structure shielding the playground. Ramps are

ADA compliant. In addition to the playground equipment, the park includes an 18-space parking lot, concrete walk, concrete pad for a future pavilion, landscaping, minimal irrigation, drinking fountain, trash cans and benches. **The park already includes a restroom. The landscaping near the future pavilion will be provided by the Burleson Garden Club and will include Heritage roses.**



Community Resource Officer Mike Owen, Police Chief Tom Cowan and Police Chaplain Mike Chappell talk to residents during National Night Out 2010.

TIS THE SEASON FOR DOOR-TO-DOOR SOLICITORS

What rules govern door-to-door solicitors?

Solicitors must register with the Burleson Police Department and wear City of Burleson solicitor ID badges. They can't go door to door between 9 p.m. and 9 a.m.; solicit on public property without authorization from city council; or solicit at a residence or business that has a sign posted saying "No Solicitors."

Alarm security companies and locksmiths are exempt because they hold state licenses from the Texas Commission. It is not soliciting if handbills are placed on the door but no contact is made. Minors who are soliciting as part of fundraising are exempt from City solicitation regulations.

Call the police, 817-426-9903, to report suspicious activity. **For more, go to the City website, www.burlesontx.com, Departments, Police Department, Forms.**

The City Focus newsletter is created monthly by the City of Burleson's Office of Communications. The newsletter is mailed to all City residents who have an account with the City's utility customer service department. This is an official publication of the City of Burleson.

Website: www.burlesontx.com • Facebook: **City of Burleson, Texas** • Twitter: **City of Burleson, Texas**

MICROCHIPPING ANIMALS CAN REUNITE OWNERS AND PETS

How do you bring Lassie home? Make sure she is microchipped.

In May, the Burselson Animal Shelter started offering microchipping to pets of City residents. The cost is \$15. The owner must provide proof of rabies vaccination.

Pets adopted from the shelter are microchipped. Microchips are the size of a grain of rice and are implanted between the shoulder blades, just beneath the skin. Each chip has a unique number that links a pet to the owner.

A veterinarian, shelter or humane society uses a scanner to read the pet's chip. 24PetWatch gives staff the owner's information, then the staff contacts the owner.

The microchip is a permanent way of identifying a pet, and it lasts the pet's lifetime. **Call the Burselson Animal Shelter, 817-426-9280 or 817-426-9283, or visit 775 S.E. John Jones Dr.**



Shelter employees microchip a pet.

POLICE EXPLORERS GET A HEAD START

Almost two dozen teens are learning what it takes to be a police officer and also serving their community. Since Burselson Police Explorer Post #4911 reorganized last fall, the students have worked Boo Bash, Relay For Life and Cinco de Mayo and participated in the National Police Week Open House.

The students, who range in age from 15 to 18 years, have a serious interest in law enforcement. Explorers must maintain passing grades in all classes and cannot be under the supervision of any criminal court (probation, parole, etc.).

Training, competition, service and practical experiences are rolled into the curriculum. The post is open to young men and women. Explorers will be involved in crime prevention, tours of police facilities, bicycle inspections, child fingerprinting, a booth at community events, assistance with searches for lost/missing persons, telecommunications/dispatch center assistance, and traffic/crowd control at community events. **Go to the City website, www.burlesontx.com, Departments, Communications, News Releases for more.**



Police Explorers and advisors

CITY WORKS TO IMPROVE WATER SUPPLY/PRESSURE

Residents citywide should see improvements in their water supply/pressure soon.

In May, city council members awarded the construction bid for the upper pressure plane to lower pressure plane transfer valve. The project will be constructed at Hwy. 174 at Hulen Street and on City-owned property at the Turkey Peak elevated storage tank site. This will serve the lower pressure plane. The city is divided into three pressure planes: lower, upper and the Mountain Valley pressure plane. The lower pressure plane covers the majority of the city.

Burselson gets its water from the City of Fort Worth. Burselson currently uses all available water from the City of Fort Worth at the Alsbury site. Staff elected to construct additional pumping capacity at the existing Hulen site. This option costs less and adds flexibility to Burselson's water operations.

CHECK IT OUT ...

For City meeting times and dates, check the Public Notices page on the City website, www.burlesontx.com. Meeting times are subject to change.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Family Storytime

Wednesdays and Thursdays,
10:45 a.m.

Baby & Me Storytime

Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Movie Mocking Monday

Ages 12-18 only
Monday, Aug. 8, 5 p.m.

Book Discussion Group

Monday, Aug. 15, 6:30 p.m.
Another Part of the House
by Winston M. Estes

Teen Anime/Manga Club

Ages 12-18 only
Thursday, Aug. 4, 5 p.m. and
Thursday, Aug. 18, 5 p.m.

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Animal Shelter

775 S.E. John Jones Dr.
817-426-9280

City Hall

141 W. Renfro St.
817-426-9600

Burleson Recreation Center

550 N.W. Summercrest Blvd.
817-426-9104

Compost/Mulch/Recycling Center

620 Memorial Plaza
817-426-9830

Fire Department

Main: 828 S.W. Alsbury Blvd.
#2: 650 Memorial Plaza
#3: 245 Lakewood Dr.
817-426-9170

Burleson Visitors Center

124 W. Ellison St.
817-447-1575

Hidden Creek Golf Course

555 E. Hidden Creek Pkwy.
817-447-4444

Library

248 S.W. Johnson Ave.
817-426-9210

Municipal Court

247 Elk Dr.
817-426-9220

Municipal Service Center

725 S.E. John Jones Dr.
817-426-9830

Police Department

225 W. Renfro St.
817-426-9910

Senior Activity Center

216 S.W. Johnson Ave.
817-295-6611

For hours at each facility, go to the City website, www.burlesontx.com, Services, then click on City Facilities. Hours are listed under each entry.