

# CITY FOCUS

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A City of Burleson Newsletter

August 2011

## HOTEL/CONFERENCE CENTER IS ON THE HORIZON

Burleson is getting closer to hosting a hotel/conference center. In June, city council members approved a minute order for the development of a hotel/conference center at Hidden Creek Golf Course. Fairway Suites and Reis Event Management were given the exclusive option to develop their part of the project.

Fairway Suites is located in Overland Park, Kan., and is a development partner for hotels on golf courses. Reis Event Management is a Burleson business and has a past history of operating conference centers. Development could begin as early as November 2011.

The concept plan is for a hotel and conference center to be built on City-owned property at the northwest corner of Hidden Creek Parkway and I-35W. The project would include a mix of uses – hotel, conference center, full-service restaurant/bar/grill, wedding garden/amphitheater and multi-tenant offices.

The hotel is expected to offer 100 rooms with an outdoor courtyard,

bistro, cook-to-order breakfast, convenience center, business center, touch-screen concierge service and a modern lounge. There will be a covered connection between the hotel and conference center. The center will be 35,000 square feet and include an 8,500-square-foot ballroom and 150-plus seat, full-service restaurant.



## MYC STARTS NEW TERM

New and returning Mayor's Youth Council members were given the nod of approval by city council in May and started their terms in June. Mayor's Youth Council members serve two-year terms, and then may be recommended for a reappointment. Student members are 13-19 years of age.

The appointees include returning members Allison Chappell, Brianna Young, Corbin Clark, Dalton Jones, Hannah Glona, Kinsley Munoz, Lauren Peters and Stephanie Killam; and new members Alyssa Williams, Garret Thiel, Sara Farris, Sasha Flowers and Trevor Lucas.

MYC members must live in the city or Burleson's extraterritorial jurisdiction. Students submit a written application then go through an interview. MYC members identify key issues facing Burleson teens; advise city council on teen-related matters; plan activities and projects for youth; and maintain youth council bylaws.

The MYC was created in May 2007 via a Burleson City Council resolution. The city council officially appointed the first youth council in January 2008. The MYC also includes two adult voting members and six nonvoting adult members.



## CITY EARNS STATE KUDOS FOR COMMUNICATING WITH THE CITIZENS

The City was honored not once, but three times at the 2011 Texas Association of Municipal Information Officers conference in Frisco in June.

Burleson won the TAMI award (first place) for Best Website for cities with less than 100,000 residents; the Silver Star (second) for Best Social Media (all populations); and third for Best E-Newsletter (all populations).

Top three finalists in the website category were Burleson (first), League City (second) and Baytown (third). For Best Social Media, winning cities were McAllen (first), Burleson (second) and Midland (third). And for Best E-Newsletter, the top three were Farmers Branch (first), McKinney (second) and Burleson (third).

The City launched the redesign of the website Sept. 10, 2010, thanks to website designer CivicPlus, City staff members who serve as website administrators, and City staff who serve as authors for department pages. The 2011 TAMI awards marked the first time for the Best Social Media category. The City's communications office launched the City of Burleson, Texas Facebook page in June 2009. The City's communications office launched the weekly E-Newsletter in May 2009.



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](http://www.burlesontx.com) • Facebook: [City of Burleson, Texas](#) • Twitter: [City of Burleson, Texas](#)

## BURLESON CELEBRATES FOUNDING WITH OCT. 8 FESTIVAL

For 19 years the City and the Burleson Heritage Foundation have joined forces to celebrate the founding of Burleson by hosting Founders Day. The 2011 event is slated for Saturday, Oct. 8, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., in Old Town. The fun will take place on Ellison Street and stretch between Johnson Avenue and the railroad tracks.

Burleson was founded Oct. 10, 1881, and incorporated in 1912. The first Founders Day festival was in 1993. Mock gunfights and great food, arts and crafts, carnival rides and entertainment are scheduled this year. For more about the festivities, call 817-426-9112 and ask for David McDowell. For a booth application, call Neal Jones at 817-447-3522 or 817-343-2589.

## DON'T MISS THE FOURTH ANNUAL BURLESON BOO BASH!

Start picking out Halloween costumes for your children because they won't want to miss the fourth annual Burleson Old Town Boo Bash. The City festival is slated for Saturday, Oct. 30. The fun is packed into two hours, 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Free games, candy, entertainment, and a costume parade are all part of the fun.

Children, birth to 12 years old, dress up and enjoy free trick-or-treating. Local businesses, churches and civic groups set up booths and decorate their vehicles for trunk-or-treat fun.

Sign up for booths by calling Neal Jones at 817-447-3522 or 817-343-2589. For more about Boo Bash, call David McDowell at 817-426-9112.



## WHERE WILL THE CITY BE FIVE YEARS DOWN THE ROAD?

*What is the vision for the City of Burleson for the next five years?* City management, directors and city council members met in workshop sessions for six days at the end of June to discuss each City department and that department's five year plan. The videos were streamed live and archived on the City's website. To see and hear the visions for yourself, go to the City website, [www.burlesontx.com](http://www.burlesontx.com), click on the green Meetings & Video icon near the bottom of the home page, then Streaming Video of City Meetings.

You can read the Five-Year Plan presentations by clicking on Budget & Annual Financial Reports in the middle of the home page then Budget Planning, Fiscal Year 2011-2012. The workshops took place June 22-23 and June 27-30.

## HAVE A CONCERN? REPORT IT VIA FACEBOOK APP

*Reporting a nonemergency concern to animal services, code compliance, and public works is as easy as logging in to your Facebook account.*

CivicPlus, the company that designed the City of Burleson website in 2010, now offers a Citizen Request Tracker Facebook application. Go to the City website, [www.burlesontx.com](http://www.burlesontx.com), Services, Citizen Request Tracker for Facebook App. You can add the application to your Facebook page, then report any concerns from anywhere that you have internet access and a computer. Citizen Request Tracker is only for nonemergencies.

Choose the category that best fits your issue, fill out the online form, then review and submit the request. The Citizen Request Tracker categories also include the engineering department, general comments or questions, and parks and recreation. If you have any questions, there is an email address on the Citizen Request Tracker for Facebook App page on the City website.

## CHECK IT OUT ...

For City meeting times and dates, check the Public Notices page on the City website, [www.burlesontx.com](http://www.burlesontx.com). Meeting times are subject to change.

## CITY FOCUS

**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](http://www.burlesontx.com), Services, then click on City Facilities. Hours are listed under each entry.

## LIBRARY PROGRAMS

**Family Story Time**  
Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10:45 a.m.

**Baby Story Time**  
Thursdays, 10 a.m.

**"Growing Up Wild"**  
Outdoor afterschool program for children ages 8-11.  
Registration begins Sept. 1. Tuesdays, Sept. 27-Dec. 13, 4:30 p.m.

**Saturday Matinee**  
Saturday, Sept. 10, 1 p.m.

**Movie Mocking Monday**  
Ages 12-18 only  
Monday, Sept. 12, 5 p.m.

**Teen Anime/Manga Club**  
Ages 12-18 only  
Thursday, Sept. 1, 5 p.m.  
Thursday, Sept. 15, 5 p.m.

**Book Discussion Groups**  
Friday, Sept. 9, 10:30 a.m.  
Monday, Sept. 19, 6:30 p.m.