

CITY FOCUS

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A City of Burleson Newsletter

December 2011



Keep Burleson Beautiful Secretary Donna Confessore, Executive Director Bianca Chafin, and President Donna Hollowell

KEEP BURLESON BEAUTIFUL EARNS GOLD STAR

Keep Burleson Beautiful was tapped as a Gold Star by Keep Texas Beautiful. Bianca Chafin, the City's environmental programs specialist/KBB executive director, and Donna Hollowell, president of KBB, accepted the honor. Keep Texas Beautiful also recognized Chafin with second place in the Individual Leadership Award category. This is a once in a lifetime award that recognizes individuals who provide leadership in improving and enhancing Texas' environment. KTB is a statewide grassroots environmental and community improvement organization. Gold Star recognition is the highest status any KTB community affiliate can achieve. *To get involved in KBB, call Bianca Chafin at 817-426-9842 or go to the City website, www.burlesontx.com.*

TEEN PROGRAM GETS \$5,000 BOOST

Teens will have a lot more to intrigue them at the Burleson Public Library thanks to a grant from the Best Buy Foundation's @15 initiative. The library's teen program was awarded \$5,000. The grant will be used to develop the young adult book collection, purchase new electronic equipment, and secure new furniture for the library's Teen Room.

Current teen programs include The Pit, an after-school getaway for teens only (12-18 years old), open weekdays, 4 p.m.-6 p.m. The Pit includes computers, chalk and whiteboard graffiti walls, and Wii and PS2 gaming consoles. The Teen Anime/Manga Club meets on the first and third Thursdays at 5 p.m. Authors also visit the teens. The library has a Teen Advisory Board that meets at 5 p.m. on the first Tuesday.

The mission of @15 is to empower teens to thrive by helping them excel in school, engage in their communities, and develop life and leadership skills.



CITY CLOSES THREE DAYS FOR CHRISTMAS, NEW YEAR'S

Trash and curbside recycling collection will go uninterrupted over Christmas. Most City facilities will be closed Dec. 23, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2. Residential trash and curbside recycling will be collected on Jan. 2.

Hidden Creek Golf Course will close at 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve and remain closed on Christmas. The course will reopen for normal winter hours Dec. 26 and remain open through the holidays.

The BRiCk will be open 1 p.m.-6 p.m. on Dec. 23, closed Dec. 24-25, and open 1 p.m.-6 p.m. on Dec. 26. The BRiCk will be open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on New Year's Eve, closed Jan. 1, and open 1 p.m.-6 p.m. on Jan. 2.

The Burleson Public Library will be closed Dec. 23-Jan. 2. It will reopen at 10 a.m. on Jan. 3. No library materials will be due while the library is closed.

The Burleson Animal Shelter will be closed Dec. 23-26, then open Dec. 27-Dec. 30 as well as on New Year's Eve.

The Compost/Mulch/Recycling Center will be open Dec. 23 but will close on Dec. 24.



YOU STILL NEED A PERMIT, BUT NOT THE CITY SIGNS OR THE GARAGE SALE PERMIT FEE

If you want to host a garage sale in Burleson, you still need a permit, but you don't have to buy City-issued garage sale signs or pay a fee. City council amended the Secondhand Goods ordinance in October. Residents still need a

permit from city hall, but in the future, they will have the option of completing the paperwork through the City website. City staff will issue the remainder of the City garage sale signs until they run out. The new sale signs cannot be bigger

than 15 inches by 22 inches. The restriction on the number of garage sales and the duration of the sales is still in place. *Garage sale permits can be obtained at Burleson City Hall, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday.*

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](#)

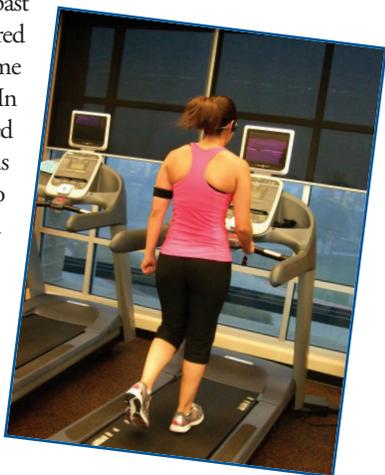


IT'S TIME TO DANCE FEB. 11

Fathers and daughters, mothers and sons, reserve Saturday, Feb. 11, for the City's annual Father/Daughter and Mother/Son Valentine Dance! The event takes place 6 p.m.-9 p.m. As of this deadline, the location had not been confirmed. Tickets will go on sale Jan. 10 at the BRiCk, 550 N.W. Summercrest Blvd. Pre-event tickets are \$15 per couple or \$25 at the door. The ticket price covers the dinner, dance, corsages and pictures. *For more information, call the BRiCk at 817-426-9106. To volunteer for the event, call Paula Benjamin at 817-295-6611 or email pbenjamin@burlesontx.com.*

BRICK IS SPORTING SOME NEW SHADES

Thanks to American Solar Screens, the Burleson Recreation Center is sporting some new shades for the second floor fitness area. Exercise enthusiasts were already working up a sweat on the treadmills, but during the triple digit weather this past summer, athletes also suffered from the heat that came through the windows. In October, the company installed 90 percent grade solar screens that darken the room up to 50 percent and cool the room by as much as 12 degrees. The screens can be lifted and lowered, just like window blinds, but patrons should ask a BRiCk staff member to make those adjustments.



SEWER RATES WENT UP IN OCTOBER

An increase in the sewer rates was approved by the Burleson City Council as part of the Fiscal Year 2012 budget. That change went into effect Oct. 1, 2011. The base charge for sewer increased from \$13.86 for residential and commercial to \$15.25. The rate per 1,000 gallons for residential and commercial sewer increased from \$4.04 to \$4.44. Water rates and solid waste (trash) rates remain unchanged.

Residential sewer charges are based on the gallons of water billed January-March, which is for the water used December-March, depending on your billing date. This average consumption is then charged to the customer April 2012-March 2013. So even though the sewer rates have gone up per thousand gallons, you can help control your bill by cutting back on your outside watering and not filling the swimming pool during the winter season period (December-March) to avoid that higher winter quarter average.

For more information, contact the City's utility customer service at 817-426-9601.

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

Library Closure

The library will be closed Friday, Dec. 23-Monday, Jan. 2. It will reopen at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 3.

No library materials will be due while the library is closed.

Family Story Time

Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10:45 a.m.

Baby & Me Story Time

Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Saturday Matinee at the Library

Saturday, Dec. 17, 11 a.m.

Extended Hours at The Pit!

Open 2 p.m.-6 p.m., Dec. 19-22

Going stir-crazy at home? Come hang out at the library in our teens-only game room.

Movie Mocking Monday

Ages 12-18 only

Monday, Jan. 9, 5 p.m.

Express yourself guilt-free, heckling some of the worst movies ever made.

Teen Anime/Manga Club

Ages 12-18 only

Thursday, Jan. 5, 5 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 19, 5 p.m.

Meet fellow Otaku as we watch the latest releases from Funimation.

Teen Gaming Society

Ages 12-18 only

Thursday, Jan. 19, 5 p.m.

Spend the afternoon trying new games with us!

Book Discussion Groups

Friday, Jan. 13, 10:30 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 16, 6:30 p.m.

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Animal Shelter

775 S.E. John Jones Dr.
817-426-9283

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.