



OAK LEAF NEWS

Spring / Summer 2015

301 LOCUST DRIVE * 972-617-2660 * 972-617-7108 FAX * www.oakleaftexas.org



MAYOR'S MEMO

After a long wet winter, spring has arrived and brought with it a challenging season for those of us who suffer through allergies. Even so, I still enjoy the cool mornings and crisp blue skies that we get to experience this time of year. I especially like the clear starry nights. It is one of the best experiences I get living here in Oak Leaf.

As you may have heard, East Texas Medical Center (ETMC) terminated their ambulance service contract with Ellis County on March 1st. County officials worked diligently to find a provider to fill that gap, and we now have service provided by CareFlite. I met with their CEO to discuss what impacts we will see because of the changeover, and their benefits are expected to be far above what we received from the previous provider. The city is looking into participating in their group membership program. Information will be sent to each household, so please read through what you receive from them.

Over the next three weeks, you will be receiving flyers, phone calls and possibly even a knock on your front door about the upcoming Emergency Services District (ESD) #4 Tax Rate Election on May 9th. ESD #4 contracts with the cities of Red Oak and Ovilla to provide fire protection and first response for ambulance calls. Both cities have passed resolutions through their respective councils that will terminate the contracts if the tax rate election is not approved by the voters. If the election fails, Ovilla will terminate their contract on June 1st while Red Oak will honor their contract through September 30th. The Board of Directors of ESD #4 has scheduled two public meetings to present their case to the public and answer questions

about the election. The first public meeting will be at Oak Leaf City Hall on Thursday, April 23rd at 7:00 P.M. The second public meeting will be at Eastridge Baptist Church on Tuesday, April 28th at 7:00 P.M. Please plan to attend one of those meetings if you have any questions or just want information. Bring your homeowners insurance policy and appraised value statement with you, and they will be able to help calculate the costs for each outcome. Please help us spread the word do, so we can have a good turnout and a positive result.

Plans are being finalized for the replacement of Woodhaven Bridge. The contract will be let in June, and construction should start late summer. The county will replace the S. Hampton Road Bridge the following year. The Ovilla Road Widening Project is moving forward, and we expect construction to begin in the summer of 2016.

We are always searching for new ideas to provide additional benefits for the public, so please give us some feedback by email or stop by city hall and talk with Ronda and Patty. They both do a wonderful job keep things going in the right direction for Oak Leaf.

As always, I encourage you to get outside and meet you neighbors during this time of the year. The evenings are a nice time to walk around the neighborhood and enjoy what Oak Leaf has to offer. Good luck to those participating in spring activities with Red Oak ISD and those students that will be graduating soon. Best wishes to all of you through the coming months.

Take care,
Craig Wilson

FACTS ABOUT COYOTES:

A coyote travels over its range and can hunt both day and night, especially in the spring when feeding a litter of pups.

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HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

City hall will be closed:



Memorial Day
May 25th

Independence Day
July 3rd

Labor Day
September 7th

DOG REGISTRATION CHANGES

NOW, you have the option of registering your dog for one or three years depending on the length of the rabies shot.

One-year registrations are \$5 for altered dogs and \$10 for unaltered dogs.

Three-year registrations are \$15 for altered dogs and \$30 for unaltered dogs.

If you are registering your dog by mail, there is an additional \$1 charge per dog for registration.



FACT: The female coyote bears one litter of 3 to 12 pups a year, usually in April or May when food is abundant.

Spring Cleaning Tips

- Clean gunk off of kitchen cabinet doors with a solution of 1 part vegetable oil and 2 parts baking soda. Apply with damp rag, gently scrub and wipe clean. Use an old toothbrush for corners and crevices.
- Remove labels off of glass or ceramic ware by soaking item in warm water with a scoop of Oxiclean for 30 minutes.
- Clean bottom of baking pans with baking soda and peroxide. Sprinkle on baking soda, then peroxide and another layer of baking soda and let set for two hours. Then gently rub off.
- Clean a dirty oven with baking soda and vinegar. Remove racks and scrape as much gunk off as possible with plastic spatula. Sprinkle on baking soda and spray vinegar on floor of oven. For oven's sides make and apply paste to sides. Note for paste: Pour vinegar slowly since it will fizz. Leave for 10-20 minutes and wipe clean.
- Clean silver with ½ cup of Kosher salt, ½ cup baking soda and sink full of hot water. Let silver item set in mixture for five minutes. Then remove item, rinse and lightly buff with soft cloth. This mixture is not a silver polisher.
- Clothes Stain Remover - 2 parts peroxide, 1 part Dawn and 1 part baking soda. Apply remover and scrub it into the stain with a brush. Let it sit for 1 hour and wash as normal.

FACT: The coyote can run at almost 40 miles an hour and can get over an 8 foot fence.

KIDNET KORNER

Here are some fun educational games and activities for kids of all ages:

San Diego Zoo:

<http://kids.sandiegozoo.org/games>

Mazes:

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/games/more-games/african-animals-maze-game/>



November 11th

City Code Fee Schedule changed to include registering dog for three years.

December 9th

Oak Leaf Estates preliminary plat was approved.

January 13th

Rental fees set for meeting room at city hall.

February 10th

Changes to ambulance service announced.

March 10th

Oak Leaf Estates final plat was approved.

April 14th

Joint Election Agreement approved for ESD #4 to use city hall for May election.

SELF DEFENSE CLASS

Classes are the third Saturday of each month.

Check the city's website for a monthly class schedule.

You can register through Constant Contact or by contacting City Staff.



The Ellis County Sheriff's Office reminds the public that it is a felony offense to damage crops and farmland in a practice known as "mudding," where vehicles leave the roadway to drive around, leaving damage in their wake.

There is no tolerance for this and parents, grandparents and guardians are advised to take notice when their young drivers' vehicles show up muddy. "You need to ask them where they've been, so when you get that felony charge it won't be a surprise," says Sheriff Johnny Brown.

These vandalism incidents are being reported on farming properties at sites across the county. "The farmers are tired of it because it's costing them a lot of money," Sheriff Brown says. "We want to nip this in the bud. This is not about having fun; it is a felony."

Several cases have been filed to date and anyone committing the offense will be criminally charged. Additionally, civil action can include the seizure of the vehicles to pay for the damage.

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Be informed about events and happenings in Oak Leaf. Sign up for Blackboard Connect and Constant Contact through the city's website (www.oakleaftexas.org).





DCI SANITATION, LLC

972-646-5461



Holiday Schedule:

- Memorial Day, May 25th
- Independence Day, July 4th
- Labor Day, Sept. 7th

Pick-Up Scheduled for:

- Thursday, May 28th
- NO CHANGES
- Thursday, Sept. 10th

- No Recycling That Week
- There will be recycling
- No Recycling That Week

Basic Information: The standard amount of trash for a single household is 8 bags. D.C.I. Sanitation will pick-up two bundles of limbs/brush (*tied and weighting less than 50 lbs.*) each week. Also, they will pick up miscellaneous bulky items for a minimal fee. Call (972) 646-5461 for payment plans and discounts.

*****Remember to secure all trash and recyclables to prevent them from blowing into your neighbors' yards.*****

FACT: The scientific name for coyotes means "barking dog," *Canis latrans*. They use calls to defend this territory, as well as for strengthening social bonds and general communication.

CITY HALL ROOM RENTAL

The city hall meeting room is available to rent for public and private events. It has a 50-person capacity with a full kitchen and bathroom facilities. Tables and folding chairs are also provided. The rental fees are as follows:

- Resident Rate: \$100.00
- Non-resident Rate: \$150.00
- Refundable Damage Deposit: \$150.00

If you would like more information, please call or e-mail City Staff.



Emergency Information for Special Needs Citizens

If you know of someone that may need assistance during and/or after a natural or man-made disaster, please let City Staff know.

FREE Mulch
Come by city hall and take what you can use!

FACT: Urban coyotes take advantage of swimming pools, dog water dishes and ponds as a water source.

Going out of town?

Did you know the Ellis County Sheriff's Office offers a house check service, which can be utilized if you are on vacation or away on a trip? Just call 972-825-4901.



FACT: Coyotes will eat almost anything. They hunt rabbits, rodents, fish, frogs, and deer. They also happily dine on insects, snakes, fruit, grass, carrion and sometimes household pets.

Do you need a building permit? Often homeowners don't realize that work done without a permit may result in dire consequences, especially if the work causes damage to a structure. If an insurance claim is filed, it is at that moment the homeowner may be informed the loss will be not covered, because no inspections were done to discover construction defects or negligence.



Homeowners looking to save money by not applying for a building permit are being penny-wise and pound foolish. Having a professional inspect the property not only protects their safety but also protects against liability in the future when it comes time to sell the residence. Work performed without a permit must be disclosed at the time of sale. Failure to do so could result in legal complications for the seller down the road.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Oak Leaf City Council meets at 301 Locust Drive the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The agenda is posted inside and outside of city hall and also on the city’s website. It is posted on Friday before the meeting, or 72 hours before any special called meeting.



CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: Craig Wilson
 Council: Mayor Pro Tem James Pierce, Joyce Liptak, Mark Bounds, Bob Rader and Matthew Gardner

MUNICIPAL COURT

The City of Oak Leaf has court every third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the city hall meeting area.

CITY STAFF

City Secretary: Ronda Quintana
 Assistant City Secretary/Court Clerk: Patty Ellis



MAILBOX AT CITY HALL
Daily pick-up Monday-Saturday

CITY HALL 972-617-2660
972-617-7108 FAX

UTILITIES:		
DCI Sanitation		972-646-5461
OnCor Electric		800-242-9113
HILCO Electric		800-338-6425
Glenn Heights Water		972-223-1690 ext. 200
Rockett Water		972-617-3524
Sardis-Lone Elm Water		972-775-8566
Charter Communications		866-937-2427
AT&T		214-646-1587
TierOne		866-551-1367
Sky Beam		866-411-3278
OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER:		
Waxahachie Daily Light		972-937-3310
ANIMAL CONTROL:		
Call City Hall (Mon.-Fri. / 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.)		972-617-2660
Weekends & Nights	Emergencies ONLY	972-937-6060
EMERGENCY: 9-1-1		
POISON CONTROL:		214-589-0911
NON-EMERGENCY:		
SHERIFF		972-825-4901
CONSTABLE		972-825-5317
RED OAK FIRE DEPARTMENT		
Little Creek Estates	Summer Hill Estates	Oak Leaf Farms
Oak Leaf Meadows		
OVILLA FIRE DEPARTMENT		
Schafer Acres	Hampton Acres	Southaven Estates
Hollywood Estates	Willow Creek Farms	Chapman Ranch
Indian Hills	Chowning Addition	
MISCELLANEOUS:		
Red Oak I.S.D.		972-617-2941
U.S. Post Office		800-275-8777
Ellis County Department of Development		972-825-5200
PUBLIC ADVERTISING (FREE) {Mon.-Sat. 8-10 a.m.}		
KBEC 1390 Radio		972-938-1390

CITY OF OAK LEAF
301 LOCUST DRIVE
OAK LEAF, TEXAS

A community dedicated to family values and a country living lifestyle.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

