



Nichols Hills E-News

July 2008

CITY HALL

Inside this issue:

City Hall	1
Fire Department	4
Public Works	5
Police Department	6
Animal Rescue Friends (ARF)	7

Upcoming Meetings

- Planning Commission Meeting Sept. 2nd
5:30 pm at City Hall
- City Council Meeting September 9th
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Municipal Authority September 9th
5:45 pm at City Hall

The Nichols Hills City Council established the Nichols Hills Environment, Health and Sustainability Commission at their regular council meeting on August 12th. The defining principle of the Commission is design that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs while ensuring continued economic success and informed consideration of social and environmental issues. The Commission, consisting of fifteen Nichols Hills residents, will make recommendations to the City Council with respect to the intelligent, responsive, and systematic integration of sustainable design into the existing governance and management of the City of Nichols Hills. The commission will also, when requested by the City Council, consider, investigate, report and recommend upon any special matter of question pertaining to environmental issues and shall also be responsible for the development of a Nichols Hills Municipal Sustainability Plan that will build on the existing municipal structure in partnership with the city officials.

The City Council appointed residents Carleen Burger, Mary Ellen Ternes, Marty Smith, Mary Frates, Patti Leeman, Nancy Herzel, Pat Schonwald, Bill Arnold, Kathryn Brewer, Peg Malloy, Mary Richard, and Rance Shields to serve on the commission. Three more members will be appointed at a future council meeting.

The Commission will meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at Town Hall. The public is invited to attend all meetings.

6407 Avondale Drive
Nichols Hills, OK 73116

Phone: 405-843-6637
Email: enews@nicholshills.net

CITY HALL

The Nichols Hills Planning Commission recently reviewed several sections of the Nichols Hills City Code related to regulation of secondary and accessory buildings in R-1-75 and R-1-60 Single Family Residential Districts. The Planning Commission recommended to the City Council (and the City Council approved this on August 12, 2008) that secondary buildings not be permitted in R-1-75 and R-1-60 districts. All buildings that are not a part of the main building will now be accessory buildings and are subject to more restrictive setback requirements. An accessory building can't have a second story that can be occupied and it must have a separation of at least fifteen (15) feet from the main building.

Residents are invited to bring a picnic dinner, quilts, blankets, chairs and their friends and families to listen to this season's final concert by the Band during their 25 years of playing on third Thursday evening during the summer months.

**Nichols Hills Band
Kite Park Gazebo
Thursday August 21st
7:00 PM .**



CITY HALL

The Oklahoma Municipal League Conference will be held in Oklahoma City on September 3rd and 4th. Representatives from Nichols Hills will be attending this important conference.

Phase I of the Stratford Project has just begun. Work is currently being conducted in The Village, but it will benefit Nichols Hills also. Phase II will start around January 2009 and will entail an underground drainage system in Nichols Hills. It will also involve repaving Stratford Drive. Upon completion, the flooding we occasionally see on Stratford will be a thing of the past.

Resident Coe London is a new Board of Parks Commissioner. She will be serving as an at-large appointee by the Mayor and her term will expire in May 2009.

The Nichols Hills Charter Task Force is currently meeting every Wednesday at 4:30 in Town Hall. Members of the committee are residents Ann Taylor, (Ward 1), Barbara Gilbert (Ward 2), and John Crain (Ward 3).

The annual Nichols Hills Kitchen Tour is approaching! The date of the tour is Saturday, October 25th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The proceeds from this year's event will benefit Infant Crisis Services, Health Alliance for the Uninsured, and Schools for Healthy Lifestyles. The homes included in this year's tour are as follows:

- **6807 Avondale Drive**
- **2305 NW Grand Blvd**
- **7440 N Country Club Dr**
- **1722 Coventry Lane**
- **6514 N Hillcrest Ave**

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Many people are starting to replace their old incandescent light bulbs with Compact Fluorescent Lights or CFL. CFL bulbs pose some interesting issues. Most if not all contain a small amount of mercury about 4-5mg. on average. That would be enough to cover a pin head. Not much but it is recommended by the EPA that you take special precautions if you break a CFL bulb. A few of the steps are listed as follows:

Air out the room with an open window for 15 minutes

Have people and pets leave the room without stepping in the breakage

Shut off central air

Clean up following special directions

This is not to say that CFLs have been determined to be a hazard to your health but for health reasons you should take extra precautions if you break a bulb.

More complete information may be acquired on the web at the following site;

<http://www.epa.gov/mercury/spills/index.htm#fluorescent>

Another issue that particularly interests the fire department is the safety message on many of the bulbs. Did you know that most CFL bulbs are not to be used with dimmers, where they are exposed to weather or in totally enclosed recessed lighting fixtures. We have a CFL at the fire department that was placed in a recessed light fixture that began to short due to excessive heat buildup. Please be sure and read the safety warning on all your electrical equipment. It may save you, your insurance company, and your fire department a lot of unnecessary expense and work. Have a safer day!



PUBLIC WORKS

Automatic Water Meter Read

The installation of the new automatic water meters has been completed.

Ground Water Storage Tank

The new tank installation has started north of the Public Works Department. There is not a lot to see at this time, they are only doing the dirt work.

Water Well #3

Water well #3 has been completed at this time. This water well is just north of the City of Nichols Hills.

Entry Markers

The entry markers have been installed on Centennial, Avalon, Briarwood and Randel Rd. (I). We will continue on to Huntington, Hillcrest and Waverly in the next several months.

Stormwater

The City of Nichols Hills is under a stormwater permit and we must abide by certain rules. All job sites, where dirt is disturbed must have erosion control fencing around the project. If you see any job sites without the proper fencing please contact Code Enforcement at 843-5222. We must also remember not to blow grass clippings in the street or back flush pools into the storm drains.

Animal Registration

All animals (dogs and cats) must be registered with the City of Nichols Hills. Residents may purchase an animal tag at 1009 N.W. 75th.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

A new state law that went into effect in November 2007 tightened procedures for renewing an Oklahoma driver's license. An Oklahoma driver's license may now be renewed up to six months prior to the expiration date without losing any time. But if your license has expired, you will now need to present a certified birth certificate or other authorized identification before your license can be renewed. More information about this law can be found at the DPS website (www.dps.state.ok.us) or by contacting DPS at (405) 425-2424.

The last defendant in the July 2006 home invasions has pled guilty and has been sentenced to 20 years in prison. He will be required to serve 80% of the sentence. He must first serve the remainder of a six year sentence for a prior conviction before he can begin serving the new twenty year sentence. All four of the defendants charged in the robberies have been convicted and sentenced.

On August 13th at approximately 3:45 a.m. a twenty-four year old male parked his vehicle in the driveway of a residence in the 1700 block of Wilshire in Nichols Hills. He entered the residence through an unlocked downstairs door. The residence had an alarm system however the alarm had not been set. He entered an upstairs bedroom where a female occupant was sleeping. He physically attacked her by grabbing her around the throat and attempting to strangle her. Her parents heard the struggle and interrupted the assailant and immediately dialed 911. Officers of the Nichols Hills Police Department were able to respond before the suspect had an opportunity to escape and he was arrested. Terry Joe Johnson Junior, an Indian male, 5'10" tall and weighing 240lbs, whose residence was given as Harrah, Oklahoma was arrested and charged with Assault with Intent to Kill and 1st Degree Burglary. He is currently being held without bond. Please remember to always keep your doors locked and set your alarm. Your life or the life of another may depend on something as simple as double checking to make sure that your doors and windows are locked and your alarm has been activated.

The family involved in the above mentioned incident sent us an email and asked that we share it with all Nichols Hills residents. The following is what they asked us to share:

The Family involved would like to express their enormous appreciation to the Nichols Hills Police Department. A tragedy and great heartache was averted because of the timely actions of the Police Dispatcher and Police Officers. Our family is fine and feel even safer today. The family would like to say, "Thank you from the bottom of our hearts."

POLICE DEPARTMENT

In October, 2007, Gov. Brad Henry signed an executive order creating the Oklahoma Information Fusion Center. The funding to be provided through the Oklahoma Department of Homeland Security, by way of a federal grant. A Fusion Center is a collaborative effort of various government agencies that provide resources, expertise, and information to the center with the goal of maximizing their ability to detect, prevent, investigate, and respond to criminal and terrorist activity. It is the mission of The Fusion Center to establish and provide timely information sharing and exchange of all crime related information among law enforcement agencies, public safety agencies, and private sector participants. Governor Henry caused a Governing Board to be created to manage and oversee the direction of the fusion center. Chief Richard Mask has been appointed to the OIFC Board as a representative of the Oklahoma Association of Chiefs of Police. During the first meeting held in July 2008, Chief Mask was elected as Vice Chairman.

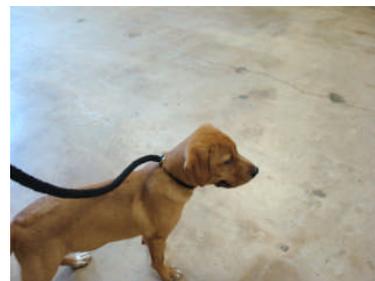
ANIMAL RESCUE FRIENDS

If anyone wants to assist ARF in it's mission of saving unclaimed, impounded pets in Nichols Hills, than can donate time, old collars, leashes, crates, dog beds, food, treats, toys and of course money by mailing checks to Animal Rescue Friends, Inc of Nichols Hills C/O Public Works 1009 N.W. 75th Street Nichols Hills, OK 73116 or by calling 843-4222 about donating items. ARF will respond by sending a 501 c 3 tax deduction letter (and offering a cat or a dog!).

Available For Adoption:



"Layla Ali" #12382 female 60 pound 14 month old red boxer/Rhodesian mix vetted in June - has been to K9U for assessment & obedience training



"Bella" #12512 a reddish 5 month old hound mix pup weighs 25 pounds and is very cute

843-4222