



Nichols Hills E-News

MARCH 2008

PUBLIC WORKS

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Upcoming Meetings

- Environmental Committee Meeting April 1st
10 am at City Hall
- Annual Red Bud Classic
April 5th and 6th
- City Council Meeting
April 8th
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Municipal Authority Meeting
April 8th
5:45 pm at City Hall
April 8th
5:30 pm at City Hall
- Environmental Committee Meeting April 15th
10 am at City Hall

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The Public Works Dept. will be in the process for the next several months of smoke testing sanitary sewers. We have done several lines through out the city. The Citizens of Nichols Hills can help us in making sure that all clean outs in the yard are capped. These clean outs usually have a black cap on them. This allows the homeowner access to rod their lines. If this cap is missing it allows surface water to drain into the sanitary sewer, which overloads the sewer lines.

Electronic Water Meters

The City of Nichols Hills will start installing meters around April 1, 2008. These will be electronic meters which can be read in less than a day. The contractor is Kraff Reynolds and the process will take three months. Homeowners will be notified by 'City Watch' in advance and the contractor will post door hangers prior to working in the area.

Street Department

We are currently trying a different asphalt for our potholes. We hope this product will be longer lasting.

Grand Park

'Arborscapes' will start trimming and removing trees along Grand Blvd. The City of Nichols Hills will be doing the stump grinding.

Huntington water line
The water line project along Huntington, Lenox and Camden will be finalized in the next few days.

Dog Tags

It is time to check your dog or cat tags. The City of Nichols Hills has animal tags that should be on each animal. These tags are very important in finding the owner of the animal. Dogs and cats are impounded almost every day in Nichols Hills. It is against the city ordinance to have an animal without a tag. Tag sales average only several hundred per year, but there are probably fifteen hundred or more pets in Nichols Hills.

Please tag your animals

POLICE DEPARTMENT



There were two attempted burglaries this month. One of the attempted burglaries involved a residence; the other a business. The attempted residential burglary was witnessed by a neighbor. Officers were made aware of the attempted business burglary because of an alarm. Entry was not made by a suspect in either case, and there was no property missing. Detectives are now reviewing the evidence in both cases.

There were five larcenies reported this month. Several of these larcenies involve packages being removed from a resident's porch. We, as a city, had several of these type larcenies during the Christmas

season. Again, we urge all our citizens to be aware of these types of thefts. When ordering property through the mail or a delivery service (UPS, FedEx, or DHL) it is strongly suggested that you request a signature upon delivery, or make arrangements for the package to be left at a neighbor who is home at the time of delivery. City employees have been encouraged to report any suspicious activity to the police department, and we request citizens to do the same.

There were five arrests for DUI, one arrest for possession of a controlled dangerous substance, and two arrests for possession of marijuana. Officers served ten outstanding warrants this month. There was one lost property report filed, and the property was recovered and returned to the rightful owner. There were six traffic incidents reports this month, and four minor in possession of alcohol reports. There were two missing property reports, two agency assist reports, one suspicion report, one curfew violation

report, one civil matter report, and one drunkenness report.

Officers were dispatched to 72 residential alarm calls, and 5 business alarm calls. The department responded to 43 suspicious vehicle calls, 8 suspicious subject calls, and 18 suspicious activity calls. Officers responded to 4 citizen assist calls and 12 motorist assist calls. Officers performed 106 house checks this month. There were 320 traffic stops, and 235 citations written.

There have been changes to the traffic flow on Western regarding Larchmont and Huntington. The ordinance prohibiting the left turn from Western onto Huntington and Larchmont has been rescinded. However, it remains illegal to make a left turn from Huntington onto Western.

We welcome a new patrol officer to the Nichols Hills Police Department. Officer Julie Goertzen will be going to the State Police Academy on March 13th to complete her training. We also welcome two new communications officers, Kendra Clark and Jordan Willoughby.

FIRE DEPARTMENT



The Nichols Hills Fire Department responded to 51 calls for help in February. Our records indicate we responded to 18 Emergency Medical calls, 15 Service calls, 13 False Alarms, and 5 Mutual Aid calls.

The Mutual Aid calls were all in The Village. We have an Automatic Aid agreement with The Village so both the Nichols Hills Fire Department and The Village Fire Department are dispatched on all fire alarms in either city. This doubles the number of fire fighters we have on fire scenes and greatly enhances our ability to quickly mitigate these incidents.

I want to take this opportunity to remind everybody to please be fire safety conscious at home. Many common household items can cause fires if

not stored or used safely.

One is cleaning products. If stored and used properly they are usually safe but they are potentially dangerous products. For instance, we had a house fire a few years ago cause by cleaning products stored in a closet on loose shelf. The shelf broke allowing the cleaning chemicals to fall to the floor and several of them broke open. Once these solutions began to mix on the floor the resulting chemical reaction caused enough heat to ignite a fire. The result was the loss of a good portion of the house and a significant disruption in that family's life.

We have also had fires start from the improper use of extension cords. Extension cords should never be as a permanent power source for any lighting or appliance. Again, we have had fires start from people using an extension cord this way. We have also had fires start from using an extension cord to power some type of accessory lighting and left on for long periods of time or too close to combustible material.

If you are unsure whether

something is safe or not contact us at the fire department and we will be happy to discuss it with you.

You may remember last month I reported Fire Fighter Todd Mays and his wife Andrea had twins, Molly and Luke, about 10 weeks premature and weighing 2 to 2.5 pounds each. I am happy to now report both are doing well although it will be several more weeks before either of them can go home. Luke is up to three pounds and doing very well. Molly is lighter and still struggling in a couple of areas but is gradually improving. We all remain hopeful and optimistic that both babies will be home with their parents in the near future.