

LAKE SIDE NEWSLETTER

Volume 3, Issue 1

January, 2011



Christmas Tree Disposal FYI

The Town's waste contractor, IESI, will pick up Christmas trees from your curbside. IESI prefers that live trees be placed at the curb for the Friday pickup. Call IESI at 817-222-2221 with questions.

TOWN HALL HOURS:

Monday-Friday

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Upcoming Holiday Closings:

New Year's Holiday Dec 31st

MLK Day Jan 17th

City Council

Mayor Patrick Jacob

Mayor Pro Tem Don Pitts

Councilmember Dale Martin

Councilmember Kim Ware

Councilmember Vonnice Massingill

Councilmember Gaspare LaDuca

PUBLIC HEARING ON JANUARY 13TH

Council will hold a public hearing at its January 13th Council meeting to consider public input regarding the proposal to submit an application to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for a matching grant. These grant monies, if received, will be used to upgrade the Town's park with new equipment and features which may include playground equipment, a covered pavilion/picnic area, a gazebo, a walking/bike trail, a fountain, and resurfacing of the tennis courts. Please be sure to complete the survey on the back of this newsletter and either mail it back with your water bill, drop it off at Town Hall or fax to 817-238-9187. Your input will help determine the priorities for improving the Park.

PREPARING FOR WINTER STORMS

Severe winter weather can threaten your safety and that of your property. Last year's winter storms were proof of that. The freezing rain, ice and freezing temperatures did millions of dollars of property damage as well as caused deaths by auto accidents, hypothermia, and carbon monoxide poisoning from defective heating units and/or poor ventilation. Even if you think you are safe and warm at home, a winter storm can become dangerous if the power goes off. With a little planning, you can protect yourself and your family and keep your property losses to a minimum. **1) Make a family disaster plan.** Determine where you will stay if you do not have power, how you will communicate with other family members, how will you care for your animals, and be sure to know how to shut off the water supply to your home. **2) Get prepared by taking an inventory of emergency items on hand and make sure you have everything needed to survive three to five days.** Some items needed are a flashlight with extra batteries; a telephone that does not require electricity (an old-fashioned phone); an extra set of car and house keys that you can access in the event of an emergency or if garage door openers will not work; a battery-powered weather radio and am/fm radio and extra batteries; a three-day supply of bottled water and food such as dried fruit, nuts, cereal, granola bars, and other foods that do not require cooking; cash on hand in the event power to ATM machines is lost; prescription medications; a first aid kit; baby supplies; heating fuel; and emergency heat sources such as fireplaces, wood stoves, and kerosene heaters. If you use a gas-powered portable generator, it must be set up in a dry place outdoors away from air intakes. Charcoal and portable gas-powered generators should never be used indoors due to carbon monoxide being released which is poisonous. Test fire extinguishers, smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms once a month to ensure they are operating properly. **3) Be prepared while traveling in a vehicle.** Check the latest weather reports before traveling to your destination. Fully check and winterize your vehicle before the winter season begins to include the battery, lights, flashers, heater, defroster, antifreeze. Keep your gas tank near full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines. Avoid traveling alone, and let a friend or family member know your travel route/itinerary. Carry a windshield scraper and a sack of sand or cat litter for traction. **4) Dress for the season.** Wear several layers of loose fitting, lightweight, warm clothing instead of one layer of heavy clothing. This allows for easy adjustments if you become too hot or cold. Make sure outer garments are water-repellent. Wear a hat, as half of your body heat can be lost from the head. Cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your lungs from extremely cold air. **5) Prepare animals/pets.** Take extra precautions to ensure the well-being of your animals by providing plenty of water and food, as well as appropriate shelter. **Other tips to help protect your home include:** Wrap exposed water pipes with insulation sleeves or wrapping to prevent freezing. Keep a slow drip of water running through faucets. Keep cabinet doors open where there are pipes in the kitchen and bathrooms. **It is always better to err on the side of caution (better safe than sorry)!**

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR PATRICK JACOB

As 2010 closes and we reflect on this past year, our Town has seen a lot of change. We now have an up to date Zoning Plan that will protect property values and provide guidance for future development of Lakeside. The water and sewer plants have been updated to operate more efficiently and are compliant with State codes. A capital improvement program has been put in place to begin water pipe replacements in the most needed areas. The website has been improved to accept online payments for water bills and traffic citations and also to include financial records for the Town, which earned Lakeside a "Gold Leadership Circle Member" award from the State Comptroller's Office. Through a grant and rebate program, solar energy panels have been added to Town Hall to help defray energy costs. Another grant provided additional hours of police coverage. Confederate Park Road has been resurfaced and re-stripped and a partial third lane for safer left turns is being added. There have been many other smaller changes that I hope you will find for the better. Wishing all of you a Happy New Year!!!

PAT



PLEASE COMPLETE & RETURN THE FOLLOWING PARK SURVEY



The Town Council is currently considering future programs to provide more recreational opportunities at the Town's Park. Please take time to complete this survey. This will be very helpful to your City Council to make decisions that will benefit residents the most. You can mail it in with your water bill, drop it by Town Hall or even fax it in to 817-238-9187. Thank you for participating!

1) How well does the current park equipment and facilities of the Town of Lakeside meet your needs? (please circle one) Very Well Well Not Well

2) Please rate four of the following park and recreational facilities in the order that you feel is the most important for the Town of Lakeside to provide for you and your family, with 1 being the most important. (Only rate four items).

- Walking and biking trails
 Youth soccer fields
 Playground equipment
 Softball fields
 Picnic areas & shelters
 Outdoor adult/senior physical fitness equipment
 Skateboarding Park
 Outdoor amphitheater/pavilion
 Outdoor tennis/basketball courts
 Youth football fields
 Outdoor amphitheater/pavilion

3) Please check the item that best describes your opinion of the most important benefit of the Town providing better park facilities for you and your family. (please check one)

- Improves physical health & fitness
 Makes the Town more desirable place to live
 Helps reduce crime
 Improves mental health and reduce stress
 Increases property values in surrounding area
 Opportunities for different cultures to interact
 Helps attract new residents and businesses

4) Have you ever used park facilities in other cities because Lakeside's park did not have playground equipment, covered picnic areas, walking/biking trails or some other needed facility/equipment? Yes or No (please circle one)

5) Are you interested in the Town hosting different seasonal events for you and your family to attend, such as a July 4th Community Picnic, a Summer Evening G-rated Outdoor Family Movie Night, Live Music in the Park, Low Cost Pet Vaccination Clinic, Fall Pumpkin Festival or _____?
 (please circle events that appeal to you and/or write in a suggestion).

6) Do you think City Council should take advantage of matching grants from the State and other government programs to fund projects that are for the benefit of the Town's residents? (Matching grants are monies that have to be applied for in a lengthy process for specific programs. In most cases, grants match dollar for dollar the funds the Town spends on a project. Grants do not have to be paid back as long as the guidelines and rules of the grant are followed by the Town receiving the money). YES or NO (please circle one)



The Town of Lakeside, 9830 Confederate Park Road, Lakeside, Texas 76108
 Phone: 817-237-1234, Fax: 817-238-9187, www.lakesidetexas.us
 Police Dispatch and After Hours Water Emergencies: 817-626-1921



JANUARY 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						New Year's Day 1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	City Council 13 6:30 p.m.	14	15
16	MLK DAY 17 Town Hall Closed	Municipal 18 Court	19	Lakeside 20 Garden Club	21	22
23	Planning & 24 Zoning 6:30 pm If needed	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					