

A Quarterly Publication
by the City of Sachse
for Its Citizens

Winter 2007
February - March

The Sachse Scene

SACHSE CITY COUNCIL ELECTION MAY 12th

The city election on May 12th will have three positions on the ballot for voters to decide. Terms for Mayor Felix and Council members Pat McMillan (Place 5) and Mark Timm (Place 6) are expiring this year. Anyone interested in running for office must file in the City Secretary's office between February 12th and March 12th. Candidates must: 1) be at least 21 years of age; 2) be a qualified voter; 3) have resided in Sachse's city limits for six months prior to the filing deadline; 4) be current in payment of taxes due the city; and 5) apply for only one place on the ballot.

Citizens wanting to vote in the May 12th election must be registered 30 days prior to the election. Voter registration cards are available at City Hall. If you have any questions about the election or filing for office, please contact the City Secretary at 972.495.1212, ext. 23.

IS YOUR PET VACCINATED AGAINST RABIES?

Sachse Animal Control would like for citizens to be aware that, in recent months, two skunks have been captured during daylight hours; one near the Bryan Street / Williford Road intersection and one near the Highway 78 / Third Street intersection. Both animals were sent to the Department of State Health Services in Austin and both tested positive for the rabies virus. Anyone who sees nocturnal wildlife (skunks, raccoons, foxes, coyotes) during the daylight hours in Sachse, DO NOT attempt to catch the animal. Report the sighting immediately to Sachse Animal Control at 972-495-2271, ext. 157.

Sachse Animal Control would like to remind citizens that they are required by law to vaccinate their pets against rabies and keep their shots current. They are also required by city ordinance to register their pets with the city. These rules are in place to protect the residents as well as their pets. For current city requirements for vaccinations and registration, please visit the website.

Any questions regarding the rabies virus or pet vaccinations may be directed to our local veterinarian at 972-442-4441 or to Sachse Animal Control at the above number.

SACHSE PUBLIC LIBRARY OFFERS WIRELESS INTERNET SERVICE

The Sachse Public Library is happy to announce that it now provides wireless Internet service for its patrons. Individuals with laptop computers equipped with wireless capabilities can log on to the Internet free of charge at the library. All it takes to use the service is a library card and an Internet User Registration Agreement, which may be obtained on the library page of the city's website or from the check out desk at the library. As a registered user of the library, staff can provide you with an access key which will permit you to connect to and use the Internet service.

Don't forget the upcoming events at the library. The second Tuesday of the month is the 'Paws and Read' program, where children can read to a very special dog from the Delta Society. Starting at 6:30 p.m., this program helps those children who are reluctant to read and makes them more comfortable reading aloud. Every second and fourth Thursday at 10:15 a.m. is set aside for 'Baby Time'. 'Children's Story Time' is every Thursday at 11 a.m. On February 20th, library staff will host a Mardi Gras Party beginning at 4 p.m. Friends of the Library meet Tuesday, February 20th beginning at 7 p.m. And we'll celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday, Tuesday, March 6th at 4 p.m. with cake, ice cream and old-fashioned party games.

Library hours are noon to 8 p.m. Monday thru Thursday; noon to 6 p.m. Friday; and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. If you have any questions please contact the library at 972-530-8966 or check out the city's website.

FREE INCOME TAX SERVICE AVAILABLE

The AARP will provide free income tax preparation to all citizens on a first-come, first-served basis, every Tuesday, February 6th to April 10th, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Laurie Schwenk Senior Activity Center, 3815-B Sachse Road (next to the Library). Bring all 2006 tax documents along with a copy of your 2005 tax return. Your return will be filed electronically and, if you like, your refund can be deposited directly into your account. For more information, please contact the Center at 972.495.6282.

FIRE DEPARTMENT ROOKIES GET HANDS-ON TRAINING AT FIRE ACADEMY

City Council approved five additional positions in the Fire Department during budget year 2006-2007. These individuals were hired in January and began their rookie training at the Collin County Community College Fire Academy Training Complex. A five-week course offers classroom instruction as well as training exercises that simulate actual high-angle rescue, entrapment rescue, fire fighting techniques in both single-family dwellings, commercial buildings, vehicle fires and extrication, and propane tank fires. In this series of photos, Landon Whatley is shown using the rope rescue method to reach a victim stranded from a high-rise structure and lower the victim to safety.

In other Fire Department news, the annual banquet was held in December and honored those voted by the Association as "best" for 2006. Chris Mougia, Officer of the Year, Clint Willoughby, Firefighter of the Year, Kenneth Carpenter, EMS Personnel of the Year, and Jared Tadlock, Rookie of the Year, received plaques from Fire Chief Doug Kendrick.

SACHSE SPORTS ASSOCIATION 2007 SEASON BEGINS IN MARCH

Sachse Sports Association will kick off the 2007 baseball/softball season with Opening Day Parade and ceremonies on Saturday, March 31st. The parade starts at 11 a.m. at Hudson Middle School and ends at Heritage Park where ceremonies and games will begin. If you are interested in volunteering to help or if your child missed the sign up dates or you need more information, please call Jim Anderton at 972.495.9996, Cyndi Mitchell at 972.414.9710, or visit the website at www.sachsebaseball.org. Boys and girls ages 3 thru 14 as of April 1, 2007 are eligible to play. Also, anyone interested in umpiring during the season needs to contact Mr. Anderton.

CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY CLASS STARTS SOON

The Sachse Police Department is accepting applications for its next Citizen's Police Academy class, which will start on Thursday, March 22nd. The class meets every Thursday evening for 10 weeks, usually in the Police Department's training room, 3815 Sachse Road. Applicants must be a Sachse resident or Sachse business owner and be at least 21 years of age with no criminal record. Applications may be picked up at the Police Department or downloaded from the website at www.scpaaa.org. For more information, please contact Lieutenant Dean Winters at 972-495-2271, ext. 203, or send an email to dwinters@cityofsachse.com

If you have an alarm system installed in your home or business, you are required by city ordinance to register your alarm system with the Police Department. A registration fee of \$10 shall be assessed for a new permit or the renewal of a permit. A permit is valid for a period of two years from the date of issuance. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to renew the permit prior to expiration. You may print a permit application from the city's website, enclose a check and mail it to the address at the top of the permit. If you have any questions, please call 972.495.2271, ext. 260.

SACHSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

The Sachse Historical Society's annual meeting on March 18th will be held at the Charles Smith & Sons Funeral Home in the Chapel, 2925 5th Street, beginning at 2 p.m. The meeting will feature a guest speaker, refreshments and entertainment. If you would like to join the Historical Society, annual dues for individuals or families are \$10 and corporate membership dues are \$50. The Historical Society will also be



selling the new afghans featuring historical buildings and sites located within Sachse for \$49.95.

New hours for touring the Museum are the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 p.m. and every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tours may also be scheduled anytime by appointment. The Historical Society conducts monthly meetings the third Saturday of the month at the Museum, 3033 6th Street, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

For more information please call Karen Reed at 972.463.5259, Jeff Haupt at 972.530.3049 or Joe Stone at 972.495.1231 or visit their website at www.sachsehistoricalsociety.org.

2006 CHRISTMAS LIGHT CONTEST WINNERS

The judges had a difficult time deciding the winners of the Annual Christmas Lighting Contest. Mayor Felix and the Council would like to thank everyone who took time to decorate their homes and congratulate those chosen as the winning entries.

Regular Sized Lot	Large Sized Lot (1/2 acre +)
1st Place - The McEuens	1st Place - The Lopezes
2nd Place - The Zieglers	2nd Place - The Grahams
3rd Place - The Scotts	3rd Place - The Kaplans

Best Street	Businesses
1st Place - Heritage Circle	1st Place - Bearfoot Lodge
2nd Place - Southgate	2nd Place - Kwik Kar Lube
3rd Place - Blossom Drive	3rd Place - Stepping Stones Learning Center

Judges' Special Award

The Brundidges

A complete list of winners is available on the city's website on the City News page under the General Info tab.

MUDDY CREEK PRESERVE TRAIL OPENS

Did you know Sachse has a nature preserve? The Muddy Creek Preserve is a 206-acre preserve located in both Sachse and Wylie. The County acquired the Muddy Creek Preserve in the late 1990s and in 1998 donated 147.36 acres to Sachse for the nature preserve. Dallas County received grant money from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to build a trail system through the preserve and on November 9th dignitaries held the ribbon-cutting ceremony opening the trail to the public. The one-mile long, 10-foot wide concrete path begins at 5400 Pleasant Valley Road.

As part of the Dallas County Trail System, Muddy Creek Trail gives people a chance to appreciate an area still inhabited by a number of wildlife species. *We do offer a word of caution: The area is inhabited by some rather large snakes and other wildlife so please watch children and small pets and do not allow them to wander too far from the concrete path.*

PARKS DEPARTMENT OFFERS NEW CLASSES AND EVENTS THIS SPRING

The Parks Department spring/summer classes will start February 26th. Residents should receive their brochures in the mail the first week in February. New classes this year include Cooking Camp, Performing Arts Camp, Keyboard Camp, Summer Fun Camp, and a jewelry-making class for adults, where attendees will create a bracelet and matching earrings of fresh-water pearls, Swarovski crystals and sterling silver beads. Spring events include the drive-in movie at Salmon Park on March 30th featuring the movie "Happy Feet". A dance contest will begin at 7:30 p.m. followed by the movie at 8:00 p.m. Cost is \$2 per person. New this year, a Mother / Son Round-Up on April 20th from 7 to 9 p.m. at Salmon Park. Open to all ages, join us for dancing, hayrides, star-gazing and refreshments. Each couple will receive a picture and party favor. Cost is \$10/couple. Two Easter Egg hunts will be held March 31st at Heritage Park. The Easter Egg Scramble will begin at 10 a.m. for children ages 2 to 10. Co-sponsored by the City of Sachse and First Bank, the Easter Bunny will hide candy and prize eggs for children in age groups 2 to 4 years; 5 to 7 years; and 8 to 10 years. The Easter Bunny will be back at 8 p.m. for the Flashlight Egg Hunt. This event, for kids ages 5 to 13, is more challenging in the dark. Make sure your flashlight has fresh batteries and join us for the fun. There is no charge for the Easter Egg Scramble or the Flashlight Egg Hunt.

If you do not receive your class brochure through the mail, check the city's website at www.cityofsachse.com/Parks Department, or call 469.429.0275. You may stop by City Hall, 5560 Highway 78, or the Parks Department, 3707 Sachse Road, to sign up for classes.

Chamber of Commerce Banquet Goes "On Safari"

The 23rd annual awards banquet Saturday, February 24, 2007, honors local businesses and individuals that have contributed time and support to the City of Sachse. Held at the Renaissance Hotel, cocktail hour will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:15 p.m. Live entertainment, raffles, a live auction, awards featuring Teacher of the Year and Ambassador of the Year and introductions of Board of Directors and dignitaries highlight the evening. The black tie affair is open to the public. Tickets are \$45 per person. Sponsorships are also available.

The Chamber accepts donations for raffle items. Raffle items and Teacher of the Year Goodie Bag items should be valued at \$25 or more. Live auction items should be valued at \$500 or more. Cash donations are always appreciated and will be applied toward the Bag Raffle items or the Teacher of the Year Goodie bags. For more info, contact the Chamber at 972.496.1212 or visit their website at www.sachsechamber.com.

Stage 3 of Drought Plan Still in Effect

Even though we have received recent rainfall, North Texas Municipal Water District has not lifted the restrictions on water usage. Fire Chief Doug Kendrick notes that citizens are still requested to follow the watering restrictions for Stage 3. "Citizens are still running their sprinklers and in some areas enough to have major runoff in the streets." Chief Kendrick and Joe Crase, Director of Public Works, are in contact with NTMWD each week on water consumption rates. "We must allow the lakes to fill up before we continue with normal watering schedules. If we don't let the storage levels replenish, we will be in the same situation when this summer comes around." Lake Lavon's normal lake level is 492 feet. At this writing, the lake level was 484 feet, still 8 feet below normal.

The Code Enforcement Officers follow steps set by Council in the event of plan violations. If you need to review the plan, go to the Fire/Code Enforcement page of the city's website. If you have questions, contact the Fire Chief's office at 972-495-0975.



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A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR FELIX

Hope you and your family experienced a wonderful and safe holiday season. The new year brings resolutions for those things we find lacking in our business and personal lives. Good luck in successfully attaining those resolutions.

Council's search for a City Manager continues. The Waters Consulting Group, Inc. is working with the city to expedite the process. The first review of resumes will begin February 9th. Resumes will be screened in relation to criteria outlined in the job requirements. Waters will conduct preliminary interviews and refer qualified candidates to the city for further consideration. It is anticipated that the final interview process will be held in Sachse in early March. The Council is eager to fill the position and get on with tasks at hand, including the voter-approved bond program.

The process for the bond program continues with the anticipated first sale of bonds in April which will fund the planning phase of the municipal civic center and the engineering design of the proposed street projects. Council anticipates a workshop session with department directors to assess the needs of the departments affected by the new campus-style buildings. We must first select an architectural firm to complete the design of the buildings and an engineering firm to begin the design work on the approved roadway projects.

The first sign of construction will be in calendar year 2008. We anticipate the first street project will be Murphy Road. Council will also authorize an intersection improvement at 5th Street and S.H. 78. This intersection will compliment the intersection improvements recently completed at Murphy Road and S.H. 78 as well as Murphy Road and Blackburn Road.

City streets have been impacted drastically with the drought conditions over the last year resulting in major maintenance issues. Public Works will be out in the community performing routine street maintenance. Please be alert and adhere to construction signs for the safety of our workers. And thank you for your patience as we improve our infrastructure.

Police/Fire/Medical	911
Police Non-Emergency	972.495.2271
Fire Non-Emergency (Code Enforcement)	972.495.0975
City Hall (City Manager, City Secretary, Finance Director, Utility Billing, Municipal Court, and Human Resources)	972.495.1212
Library	972.530.8966
Community Development (Permits, Building Inspections, Zoning)	972.675.1633
Public Works	972.495.7600
Parks and Recreation	469.429.0275
Animal Control	972.495.2271
Sachse Senior Center	972.495.6282
Economic Development	972.675.0562
Chamber of Commerce	972.496.1212
<i>City Council</i>	
Mike Felix, Mayor	972.495.9159
Charles Smith, Mayor Pro Tem	972.414.5050
Jim Burnett	972.475.0737
Paul Head	214.796.3333
Chris Lam	214.766.1011
Pat McMillan	972.495.0648
Mark Timm	972.495.8939
<i>Contact any Council member from the City's website at www.cityofsachse.com/City_Council</i>	