



A publication of the
City of Benbrook

www.cityofbenbrook.com

April/May 2007

Benbrook Meals On Wheels

**“Meals On
Wheels is
dedicated to
caring for
the
homebound
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needed
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—Nedra
Cutler,
Director of
Volunteers**

Benbrook residents have benefited from the services of Meals On Wheels since 1973. Volunteers from the community, including about 20 city staff who have participated since 1996, deliver meals to approximately 25 Benbrook clients each week. Tarrant County delivers meals to the First Baptist Church of Benbrook, where local volunteers pick up the meals and deliver to homebound citizens who are unable to provide for themselves, either because of illness or disability.

Meals On Wheels of Tarrant County is always eager to recruit additional volunteers to deliver meals or assist in other volunteer opportunities. Community volunteers assist in meal delivery one day per week, beginning from 10:30AM to 11:30AM, for about one hour. Volunteers provide their own transportation.

Also, Meals On Wheels will deliver meals to any qualified resident, as well as to other qualified individuals living in the home. “Meals On Wheels is dedicated to caring for the homebound and helping them find additional needed services. Volunteers make the day to day services possible. We deliver over 2,200 meals a day in Tarrant County and depend solely on volunteers to deliver the meals. There is always room for additional volunteers,” says Nedra Cutler, MOW Director of Volunteer Services.

In March, Mayors from every city in Tarrant County were invited to deliver meals within their city for the Mayors for Meals event. Benbrook’s Mayor Jerry Dittrich met the challenge by participating in this important commitment to serving our community.

Residents wishing to receive this service or those interested in becoming a Meals On Wheels volunteer may contact Meals On Wheels of Tarrant County, Inc. at 817-336-0912 or nedra@mealsonwheels.org or by visiting their website at www.mealsonwheels.org.

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Please note: Certain material included in this newsletter was provided by other entities. Any opinions expressed by those entities do not necessarily reflect the official views of the City. The City reserves the right to edit as necessary, however, the City does not guarantee the accuracy of the information provided and is not responsible for errors or omissions.

Benbrook Fire Department introduces "Rescue 53"



"Benbrook Fire Department is taking the lead in hazardous materials and rescue response in Tarrant County."

With the recent purchase of "Rescue 53", Benbrook Fire Department is taking the lead in hazardous materials and rescue response in Tarrant County. Utilizing State Homeland Security and Urban Security Initiative grants awarded to the City in 2005 and released in March 2006, coupled with the diligent planning of Fire Department staff, "Rescue 53" has become a reality.

This state-of-the-art Hazmat/Rescue unit is a specially designed multi-use vehicle. The new apparatus is suited with equipment for determination and initial cleanup of hazardous chemical spills, as well as equipment for rescue operations. Fire Department staff traveled to Appleton, Wisconsin in February 2007 to inspect and take delivery of the vehicle.

Rescue 53 provides twelve large compartments to store Hazmat equipment

used to detect specific chemicals, gas detectors, hydrocarbon spill containment and decontamination equipment, air packs, advanced rope rescue equipment, and water rescue equipment.

The vehicle is also equipped with a light tower for nighttime operations. The command cab has city maps, a satellite telephone, a computer database for tracking all types of hazardous materials and a radio system with the capability to communicate with local, state, and federal agencies. It also has tactical command capabilities for fires, mass casualty, and law enforcement situations.

Department staff has worked to finalize the process of outfitting Rescue 53 with all necessary equipment and supplies to meet the needs of area residents.

Relay for Life

Benbrook Relay for Life 2007 is a fun-filled overnight event designed to celebrate cancer survivorship and raise money for research and programs of the American Cancer Society. During the event, from 6:00PM on Friday, April 27 to 6:00AM on Saturday, April 28, teams will gather at Dutch Branch Park and take turns walking or running laps. Each team tries to keep at least one team member on the track for the entire 12 hours.

Relay for Life represents the hope that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten, that those who face cancer will be supported, and that one day, cancer will be eliminated.

Everyone is invited to come out, join the fun, and support the teams. A children's area, games of chance, raffles, and food will be available for donations to the American Cancer Society. For more information, visit www.cancer.org.

For those interested in forming a team, contact Glenn Herrington at: glennalanh@prodigy.net or 817-443-6004, or Linda Elliott at: 2manyk9s@sbcglobal.net.

For those wishing to join the City of Benbrook team, contact Leslie Harris at City Hall at:

lharris@cityofbenbrook.com or 817-249-6064.





Elections Cancelled

The City of Benbrook and the Benbrook Library Board are canceling the elections slated for May 12, 2007. There are no Benbrook Water Authority places up for election this year.

In accordance with Title 1, Chapter C, Subchapter C, Section 2.053 of the Texas Election Code, a governing body of a political subdivision may declare each unopposed candidate elected to office and cancel the election upon certification that:

1. The deadline for placement on the General Election ballot and declaration of write-in candidacy has passed;
2. Each candidate on the ballot is unopposed for election to office, and;
3. There are no propositions to appear on the ballot in that election.

At the April 5, 2007 City Council meeting, the

City Secretary will certify to the council that the following candidates are unopposed in the May 12, 2007 General Election:

- Mayor, Place 1 Jerry Dittrich
- Member of Council, Place 3 Keith Bailey
- Member of Council, Place 5 Daniel L. Tully
- Member of Council, Place 7 Ron Sauma

An ordinance has been prepared for council adoption to cancel the May 12, 2007 General Election of Officer.

At the April 9, 2007 Benbrook Library District Board meeting, the Executive Director will certify to the Trustees that the following candidates are unopposed in the May 12 General Election: Trustees Jean Sherwin, Julie Baake, and Roy Baird. An order has been prepared for Board adoption to cancel the May 12, 2007 election.

Don't mess with Texas Trash-Off

As part of the Great American Cleanup and the Keep Benbrook Beautiful programs, local groups are invited to participate in the annual "Don't mess with Texas Trash-Off" on Saturday, April 14 from 9:00 to 11:30AM.

The Trash-Off is the single largest one-day cleanup event in Texas. This year, more than 1,300 groups across Texas are expected to participate April 14th in litter prevention and cleanup activities. Last year, with over two million volunteers nationwide, Great American Cleanup volunteers picked up over 9 million pounds of litter, cleaned over 13,000 miles of roadways and more than 400 miles of lakes and river shorelines, saving thousands of tax dollars on cleanups and community enhancement projects.

Neighborhood groups, Scout troops, school groups, churches, civic and other interested organizations are encouraged to participate in the State's largest cleanup event. Hundreds of Benbrook citizens have participated in this event and the numbers keep growing as local residents pitch in to Keep Benbrook Beautiful.

To learn how you or your group or organization can be a part of this important environmental event, contact Cathy Morris at City Hall at: cmorris@cityofbenbrook.com or 817-249-6008.

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City Council:

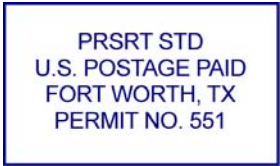
- Jerry Dittrich, Mayor
- James Schull, Place 2
- Keith Bailey, Place 3
- Rickie Allison, Place 4
- John Vander Pan, Place 5
- Larry Stowe, Place 6
- Ron Sauma, Place 7

Benbrook City Council normally meets on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30PM at City Hall 911 Winscott Road.

For more information: call 817-249-3000 e-mail: info@cityofbenbrook.com

Visit us on the Web: www.cityofbenbrook.com

City of Benbrook
PO Box 26569
911 Winscott Road
Benbrook, TX 76126-0569



Benbrook Community Center/YMCA

Upcoming Programs

Summer Aquatics

Swim lessons for individuals age 6 months to adult in the heated indoor pool.

Summer Day Camp

Swimming, weekly field trips, fishing, arts and crafts and more.

Summer Basketball

Ages 3 years to 8th grade. The season begins June 11, 2007.

Benbrook residents receive 10% discount on the above programs.

For more information:

817-249-0500 or

www.benbrookcommunitycenterymcafww.org

4 PAWS Sale at Benbrook Antique Mall

The 8th annual 4 PAWS Treasure Sale will be at the Benbrook Antique Mall parking lot, 9250 Benbrook Boulevard, Saturday, April 21 from 8:00AM-2:00PM. This annual event allows local residents the opportunity to contribute to the well-being of homeless pets in our area. 4 PAWS (Pets Are Worth Saving) is a group of local volunteers whose mission is to provide care and loving homes to the homeless pet population in the Benbrook Animal Shelter.

Please plan to donate your unwanted items to the sale. Beginning April 1, you may contact 4 PAWS at 817-249-3770, 817-249-4516 or 817-249-0459 to schedule a time for a volunteer to pick up your furniture items. Other items may be brought to the Benbrook Antique Mall parking lot from 10:00AM-5:00PM on April 19 and 20. Volunteers will be on hand to accept your tax deductible donation. Clothing is not accepted, and any unsold items will be donated to Boy Scout Troop 95.

All proceeds from this event benefit animals housed at the Benbrook Animal Shelter by allowing 4 PAWS volunteers the resources to take animals for examinations, testing, necessary medical treatment, routine vaccinations, and surgery to neuter/spay. These volunteers then transport the animals to the PetsMart/Hulen each weekday afternoon for adoption.

Since 2001, 4 PAWS volunteers have cared for and adopted more than 940 cats and dogs from the local shelter. ***YOUR DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE!***

Don't Miss this Unique Shopping Event!!