

## National Night Out

The Benbrook Police and Fire Departments, along with the Benbrook Community Center/YMCA, will give crime and drugs a going-away party on **October 6, 2009** at the **26<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out Against Crime and Drugs**. The event takes place at the Benbrook Community Center/YMCA, 1899 Winscott Road, from **5:00-8:00pm**. Citizens of Benbrook and surrounding areas are invited to join the party and enjoy food, fun, bounce houses, a magic show, and safety demonstrations.

This unique crime prevention event, sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, is designed to:

- (1) heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- (2) generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs;
- (3) strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- (4) send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.



This year, Citizens on Patrol will offer kids the opportunity to have their picture taken inside a police car. Also on site, the Fire Department's display of fire apparatus, including new ambulance/medic units. And, don't miss the dramatic, mock DWI accident scene, to include the exciting arrival and departure of a helicopter medical unit!

The Police Department will offer registration for **The Way Home Program**. This program is a registry for people who have Alzheimer's, Autism, or any medical condition that affects memory or the ability to communicate. Family members are encouraged to enter an individual's information into a database that will assist officers with lost or confused persons. If you know a Benbrook resident who has trouble communicating and is likely to wander away from home, they could greatly benefit from this program. To enroll a loved one in the program, please be prepared to provide the following information: name, address, phone number, date of birth, recent photo, description of illness and an emergency contact person. This information will be maintained in a confidential police database and used only to identify and assist lost or confused citizens.



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Please note: Certain material included in this newsletter is 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.

For more information, or to reserve a booth/ table for the event, contact Benbrook's Community Resource Officer, Doug Byrd, at **817-249-2752, ext. 6111**.

## 2009 Heritage Fest "Cowboy Roundup" Saturday, October 17



The City of Benbrook is preparing for the 3rd annual **Benbrook Heritage Fest "Cowboy Roundup"** event to take place **Saturday, October 17th** at Dutch Branch Park Athletic Complex.

Event staff are planning a free-admission, family-friendly, fun-filled day of western-themed games and activities, historic demonstrations, dance performances and an evening concert featuring western-swing band "Back At the Ranch."

Everyone is invited to enjoy a boot-scootin' good time! Admission and most games/activities are free. Activities currently planned include a Native American Village, a Kiddy Korral play area, bounce houses, a miniature horse performance, a petting zoo, an outlaw "jail", arts & crafts vendors, entertainment and great festival food!!



New to Heritage Fest this year —

### **A Taste of México**

a Mexican Village featuring authentic Mexican food, Latin

dancers, and live Mexican music.



"There's a lot of the old Texas left, and 'Back At the Ranch' helps bring it home." *The Austin Chronicle*

Event planners welcome arts & crafts vendors, sponsors, and volunteers. Local non-profit/civic/church organizations receive free booth space and are encouraged to create western-themed fundraising games/activities. For vendor applications, to become a sponsor or volunteer, or for more information, contact **Patty Bissey at 817-249-6087 or 817-249-3000.** [www.cityofbenbrook.com](http://www.cityofbenbrook.com).

**2009 Benbrook Heritage Fest "Cowboy Roundup"**

**Saturday, October 17, 2009 — 10:00am-7:00pm**

**Dutch Branch Park Athletic Complex (behind Benbrook Community Center/YMCA)  
1899 Winscott Road**

**FREE ADMISSION!!**

## Community News

The **Benbrook Area Chamber of Commerce (BACC)** announces **Benbrook Family Night** at LaGrave Field, 301 NE 6th Street, Fort Worth, on **Friday, August 14**. This event is sponsored by the BACC and the Fort Worth Cats baseball club to encourage Benbrook residents to enjoy an evening of Cats baseball, followed by a fireworks display. Mayor Dittrich will throw the first pitch at 7:05pm. Bring the kids and celebrate the City of Benbrook. Discounted tickets (\$9) are available at the BACC office at **817-249-4451**.



The **Benbrook Community Center/YMCA** announces that registration is currently underway for the following fall activities: youth soccer, youth volleyball, youth cheerleading, swim lessons, swim team, and youth flag football. Benbrook residents receive 10% off all fees. For more information, call **817-249-0500**.

The **City of Benbrook** announces that **Benbrook Trash Bash 2009** takes place on **Saturday, September 19th** at Dutch Branch Park, beginning at 8:30am. Trash Bash is part of a larger metroplex program in which volunteers come together to pick up litter and debris from areas around the Trinity River and its tributaries. Everyone is invited to participate in this community clean-up effort. Groups and individuals will clean Benbrook Lake and park areas. The City will provide trash bags, gloves, fun giveaway items, t-shirts, and a free hotdog lunch to all volunteers. For more information, call **817-249-6008**.

The **Benbrook Lions Club** will host the annual Bob Green Memorial Golf Tournament, benefitting the Lions Club and organizations they serve, on **Monday, September 21st** at Whitestone Golf Course. If you are interested in playing or becoming a sponsor, contact Joel Peal at **817-249-0500**.

## Benbrook Citizen Survey

**B**enbrook City Council recently accepted the results of the 2009 Citizen Survey\* conducted this year to gauge citizen satisfaction with the Benbrook community and City services. Results of the survey indicate that citizen satisfaction generally improved compared to 2007. Benbrook remains well above the national average in citizen perceptions of core service provision, reflecting City Council's continued emphasis on providing services that citizens value most. Some highlights of the survey include:

- 91% of Benbrook citizens believe Benbrook is a "Good" or "Excellent" place to live.
- The Benbrook Police Department received overall service ratings that ranked third nationally out of 334 jurisdictions.
- The Benbrook Fire Department received fire service ratings that ranked eighth nationally out of 271 jurisdictions.
- City employee responsiveness ranked fourth nationally out of 246 jurisdictions (98th percentile).
- The Benbrook Municipal Court received service ratings that ranked fifth nationally out of 119 jurisdictions.
- Benbrook ranked seventh nationally out of 244 jurisdictions for affordable housing.
- Benbrook storm drainage services ranked sixth nationally out of 265 jurisdictions.

In virtually all categories, citizen satisfaction in the community and City services increased from the 2007 survey. City Council wishes to thank all the citizens who participated in the 2009 Citizen Survey.

*\*The Citizen Survey is a statistically valid survey conducted by the National Research Center in Boulder, Colorado, as part of the National Citizen Survey. For more detailed survey results, go to [www.cityofbenbrook.com](http://www.cityofbenbrook.com).*



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August/September 2009

A publication of the  
City of Benbrook

**City Council:**

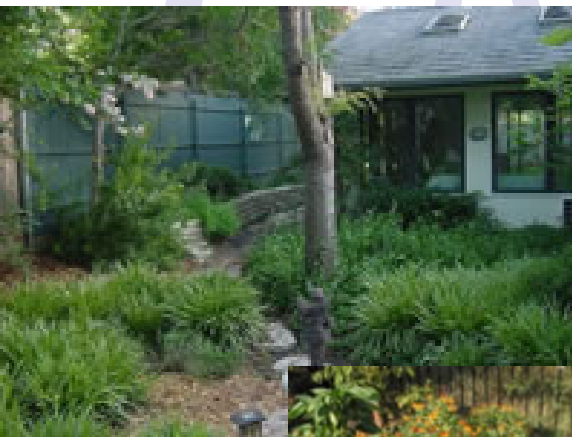
Jerry Dittrich, Mayor  
Charlie Anderson, Place 2  
Keith Bailey, Place 3  
Rickie Allison, Place 4  
Jim Wilson, Place 5  
Mark Washburn, Place 6  
Ron Sauma, Place 7

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

**Check us out on: facebook**

**What is a Texas SmartScape®?**



Texas SmartScape® encourages the use of native or adapted plants as a way of beautifying your home and local environment, conserving water, attracting native butterflies, hummingbirds and other wildlife, and preventing and reducing storm water pollution.

Native and adapted plants use 80% less water and can tolerate our summer heat! With a little planning, you can tailor your landscape to attract and sustain butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinators, and many varieties of birds. Gardening with natives also goes a long way toward alleviating the problems associated with the use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers. If you choose plants that are native to our region, you will find they are capable of maintaining a healthy, vigorous growth form without the use of polluting fertilizers.



To learn more about native plants, landscape design, water conservation, and the economical benefits of SmartScaping, go to:

**[www.txsmartscape.com](http://www.txsmartscape.com)**