

Santa Pictures, Tree Lighting, and Fireworks Show!!



The Benbrook Firefighters Association proudly presents:

PICTURES WITH SANTA & MRS. CLAUS
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2008, 6:00PM-9:00PM
BENBROOK CENTRAL FIRE STATION, 528 MERCEDES STREET
Cost: Donation of four (4) non-perishable food items or \$4

The 17TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING AND FIREWORKS SHOW

DECEMBER 6, 2008, 7:00PM
BENBROOK COMMUNITY CENTER / YMCA, 1899 WINSKOTT ROAD
Food and monetary donations will be accepted at the entrance to the park before and after the show.

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD AND MONETARY DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE BENBROOK CENTRAL FIRE STATION LOCATED AT 528 MERCEDES UNTIL DECEMBER 21. ALL DONATIONS GO DIRECTLY TO SUPPORT THE FIREFIGHTERS FOOD DRIVE AND THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS.



Christmas Rainbow of Lights

Gerry and Jimmie Sue Stanford are busy preparing for the 3rd Annual "Christmas Rainbow of Lights" display. This special holiday display is enjoyed from the comfort of your vehicle. Special music is synchronized to the light show and visitors can visit every evening to enjoy a different song and display. Tune your radio to 95.5 FM "The Light" as you park on the opposite side of the street, turn headlights off, and avoid blocking the neighbors driveway access. This year, visitors will enjoy over 70,000 lights and 112 computerized channels of light display.



The Stanford's remind everyone that they are again collecting new, unwrapped toys (toys only, no cash please) at the "toy box" located in front of the light display until December 22. These toys are donated to the Benbrook Firefighters "Christmas for Kids" program.

- **Location: 1168 S. Timberline Drive**
- **Dates/Times: The Light show is slated to begin the day after Thanksgiving and continues until 10PM weeknights, 11PM Fridays and Saturdays until January 3rd. The lights will stay on until midnight on Christmas Eve, Christmas Night, and New Years Eve.**

Enjoy the Season!!!

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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.

Benbrook Lights Contest

The **Benbrook Area Chamber of Commerce (BACC)** is sponsoring the “Benbrook Lights Contest” to celebrate the holiday season. Residents, businesses, and churches are encouraged to participate in this free Christmas decorating contest by displaying holiday lights and decorations. “We are excited to see our community join in the celebration by decorating their homes and places of business,” says Debbie Watkins, Executive Director of the BACC. Judging takes place on the evenings of December 11th and 12th by the Benbrook Fire Department. First and Second place winners will be recognized in several categories and receive prizes donated by local merchants. One Best Overall winner will also be announced. Categories include: Best Business, Best Religious, Best Whimsical, Best Entryway, Best Static Light display, Best Motion Light display, Best Theme, Best No Light decoration, Best Inflatable decoration, and Best Two-Color Light display. For more information, contact the Chamber office at 817-249-4451.

4 PAWS Cookbook & Santa Photos



The **4 PAWS** cookbook, “Doggone and Purr-fest Recipes”, is now available to add to your Christmas list. It’s the purr-fect gift for your pet-lover friends, as well as for those friends who just love to eat! Compiled locally, the cookbook includes wholesome pet recipes, as well as over 400 delectable, human-friendly recipes. The book costs \$10, with all proceeds benefiting homeless animals in the Benbrook Animal Shelter.

To get your copy, visit First Bank Benbrook, Cityview Animal Hospital, Mercedes Place Animal Hospital, Posh Pets, or PetsMart/Cityview, or call 817-249-1352 or 817-249-0459.

4 PAWS is also celebrating it’s 10th year in partnership with PetsMart to offer pet photos with Santa. The digital photo costs \$9.95, or \$8.95 with your Pet Perk’s card. Five dollars of your purchase benefit’s 4 PAWS. Bring your pet to PetsMart/Cityview and PetsMart/Hulen on December 6-7, 13-14, and 20-21 from 11:00am until 4:00pm. For fun volunteer opportunities as a Santa or Helper, please call 817-249-4516.

Get Fit Benbrook!

The **City of Benbrook** and the **Benbrook Community Center/YMCA** will soon launch the **Get Fit Benbrook!** program. Many of us will be looking for ways to shed unwanted holiday pounds, improve our fitness level, or simply feel healthier. This program provides free tools and encourages residents to take steps that lead to a more active and healthy life.

Benbrook Mayor Jerry Dittrich encourages all Benbrook residents to take part in this community-wide program. “**Get Fit Benbrook!** can help us join together to become a more fit and healthy City.” says Mayor Dittrich. Beginning January 1, 2009, the **Get Fit Benbrook!** program will provide free tools and tips, motivation, and easy registration for Benbrook residents to take part in this community fitness program. For those interested, The Benbrook Community Center/YMCA will waive YMCA joining fees for those registering in the program. Look for more information on the City’s website: www.cityofbenbrook.com.

Compassion Based Code Compliance

The City of Benbrook is initiating a compassion-based code compliance program designed to assist Benbrook residents who may have physical or financial limitations.

Many common code violations such as high grass or weeds, trash and rubbish accumulation, or junked vehicles, are resolved through notice to residents by the City of a violation. Most residents correct violations in a timely manner. However, some residents may be unable to correct a violation because of a physical or financial hardship. Issuing letters or citations to these individuals may not result in code compliance.



Benbrook City Council supports this initiative to connect local volunteers with those residents in need of assistance in clean-up or maintenance of their property. Volunteers from sponsoring organizations work with residents to plan and implement a day of clean-up, yard maintenance, minor repair, and beautification of their property.

Church groups, civic and non-profit organizations, school groups, and businesses are encouraged to participate in this volunteer effort. If your group would like more information, or if you or someone you know can benefit from assistance, please contact Cathy Morris at 817-249-6008.

Holiday Refuse

Since Christmas and New Year's Day are celebrated on Thursdays this year, no interruption in the collection of refuse, recycling, or yellow bags will occur.

Christmas trees placed at curbside on Wednesdays before 7am will be collected by Allied Waste within 72 hours. Trees must be cut into segments that weigh less than 50 pounds and do not exceed six feet in length.

Benbrook residents may also take trees to a roll-off dumpster located at the City Maintenance facility at 467 Winscott Road from December 26-January 11. Please remove any nails, stands, plastic bags and decorations from all trees, whether placed in the dumpster or picked up at curbside.

Refuse/Recycling Rates

Beginning January 1, 2009, residential refuse/recycling rates will increase from \$11.48 to \$12.06 per month, per the City's contract with Allied Waste. For more information on residential refuse, recycling, bulk & brush collection, go to www.cityofbenbrook.com.



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

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December 08/January 09

A publication of the
City of Benbrook

City Council:

Jerry Dittrich, Mayor
Keith Bailey, Place 3
Rickie Allison, Place 4
Dan Tully, 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

Community News

Benbrook Community Center/YMCA is now registering for Winter Basketball Co-Ed Divisions, 3 year olds through 8th grade. Practices begin the week of December 8, 2008 and games begin on Saturday, January 10, 2009. Member cost is \$60 and Non-Member cost is \$85. Benbrook residents receive 10% off. For more information, contact Steven Walton at (817) 249-0500 or by e-mail at swalton@ymcafw.org. You may register online at www.benbrookcommunitycenterymcafw.org

The **Benbrook Economic Development Corporation (BEDC)** welcomes three new appointments and one re-appointed member to its Board of Directors. Those appointed by Benbrook City Council to serve on the Board include Ron Sauma, Place 2; Sandy Davis, Place 4; Janet Powers, Place 5 (1 year unexpired term); and Carrol Crombie, re-appointed to serve in Place 6. The new members join Will Higgins, Place 1; Dan Tully, Place 3; and Steve White, Place 7. The Board of Directors regularly meets on the third Monday of each month. The BEDC, in partnership with the Benbrook Area Chamber of Commerce, recently completed a signature drive (garnering almost 900 signatures) encouraging Wal-Mart to construct a SuperCenter in Benbrook. For more information on the BEDC, call 817-249-6990.

The **Benbrook Early Childhood PTA** is celebrating 35 years!! This organization brings families together for fellowship, support, informative speakers, social activities, and play groups for children ranging in age from infancy to kindergarten. Visit the website at www.becpta.org.

Upcoming events include:

December 13 @ 1:00pm—Holiday at the Hearth—Log Cabin Village, Fort Worth.

December 19 @ 10:00am—Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer—Casa Manana Theatre, Fort Worth.

TBA: A visit to the Christmas Tree Farm near Ennis, Texas and a “Spa Day” for the BECPTA Mommies.