



City of Benbrook Community Newsletter

February / March 2006

Council Adopts Core Values

Benbrook City Council unanimously adopted a Statement of Core Values at the January 19 City Council meeting. The Core Value Statement is intended to express the overriding priorities of the City, state the character and nature of government in Benbrook, and serve as a guide for future City Councils.

The document includes written commitments to:

- Protect and enhance the quality of life.
- Govern with efficiency and high character.
- Be inclusive and communicative with Benbrook citizens.
- Emphasize excellence in core services like public safety.
- Ensure financial stability and utilize future revenue growth wisely.
- Employ only the most qualified City staff through market competitive compensation and benefits.

The Core Value Statement also establishes specific financial goals and includes written commitments to:

- Place a minimum of 70% of all future sales tax revenue increases in a separate fund for major, pay-as-you-go projects.
- Place 100% of all proceeds derived from gas and oil land lease including lease bonus and royalties in the separate fund for major, pay-as-you-go projects.
- Require a super majority vote by City Council for use of sales tax fund and gas and oil lease royalty fund revenues.
- Maintain a cash reserves policy of at least three months operating expenses.
- Keep total annual debt service payments below 20% of the City budget.

A complete copy of the statement is available at City Hall or on the City website, www.cityofbenbrook.com.



The City of Benbrook has contracted with Emergency Communications Network for its "CodeRED" emergency notification services. The CodeRED emergency notification system is a high speed emergency telephone communication service that delivers customized, emergency messages directly to Benbrook homes and businesses at a call rate of up to 1,000 calls per minute based on a 30-second message. CodeRED allows Benbrook officials to generate emergency information from any location via a secure CodeRED internet portal. Importantly, CodeRED can be used 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for notifications including evacuations, flooding information, power or utility

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CodeRed Emergency Notification

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interruptions, missing children, and hazardous material situations. CodeRED also provides innovative mapping technology that can specify areas for message delivery – from individual streets, to subdivisions, to the entire City.

Tommy Davis, Benbrook's Fire Chief, cautioned that such systems are only as good as the telephone database supporting them. CodeRED develops the initial Benbrook citizen database from publicly available information including credit bureaus. However, "If your phone number is not in the database, you will not be called. No one should automatically assume his or her phone number is included," Davis said. All businesses should register, as well as all individuals who have

unlisted phone numbers, who have changed their phone number or address within the last year, and who use a cellular phone as their primary home phone.

To ensure no one is omitted, Davis urges all individuals and businesses to log onto the City of Benbrook's website, www.cityofbenbrook.com, and follow the link to the "CodeRED Residential and Business Data Collection" page. Those without Internet access may call Benbrook's automated CodeRed Information Line (817-249-6085) to leave their information over the recorded phone line. Required information includes first and last name, street address (physical address, no P.O. Boxes), zip code, primary phone number, and additional phone numbers (optional).

According to Davis, "the CodeRED system is a geographical based notification system, which means street addresses are needed to select which phone numbers will receive emergency notification calls in any given situation. The system works for cell phones too, but we have to have a street address". People who have recently moved but kept the same listed or unlisted phone number also need to change their address in the database.

Davis stated, "CodeRED gives those who want to be included an easy and secure method for doing so. The information will only be used for emergency notification purposes". Questions should be directed to Chief Davis, Benbrook Fire Department, 817-249-6080.

Benbrook Community Center / YMCA

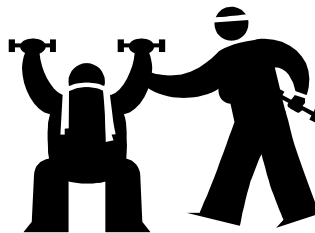
Benbrook Community Center / YMCA administration and staff thank all the residents of Benbrook for a successful 2005.

BCC / YMCA staff is accepting registrations for spring soccer and volleyball leagues. Games begin March 25th, so register today. Volunteer coaches are needed.

Membership includes use of a state-of-the-art facility, over 50 land / water aerobic classes per week, free personalized 12-week fitness program, and free personal training. The BCC / YMCA truly is a "one stop shop" for individual or family fitness and recreation. For more information

on a membership or programs, visit us online at www.benbrookcommunitycenterymcafw.org or call (817) 249-0500.

Don't forget that all Benbrook residents receive a 10% discount on memberships, services, and programs.



**Election Day
May 13, 2006**

- **Benbrook City Council**
- **Benbrook Water Authority Board of Directors**
- **Benbrook Library Board**

**Filing Period
February 11 thru March 13**

**Go to
www.cityofbenbrook.com
for more information**

Household Hazardous Waste & E-Waste Collection Event

The City of Benbrook will host a Household Hazardous Waste & E-Waste Collection Event for Benbrook residents on Saturday, April 1 from 9:00 to 11:00 AM at Benbrook Industrial Park, located off of Winscott Road, in the 7400 block of Benbrook Parkway (where Benbrook Parkway dead-ends).

Through an agreement with the Fort Worth Environmental Collection Center (ECC), the City of Fort Worth will provide a mobile collection unit and several personnel to collect the following materials: acids, aerosol cans, antifreeze, batteries, brake fluid, craft & hobby materials, degreasers, fertilizer, fluorescent lights, herbicides, household cleaners, motor oil, oil filters, paints/stains, paint thinners, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, photo chemicals, pool chemicals, solvents, transmission fluid, and varnishes.

Cyclone Aluminum & Steel will also be on site to collect electronic waste such as computer monitors, keyboards, CPUs, scanners, printers, printer cartridges, fax machines, phones, and cell phones.

The following materials cannot be accepted: ammunition, explosives, medical waste, radioactive material (smoke detectors), waste generated by businesses, TVs, tires, propane and butane cylinders. To dispose of TVs for a nominal fee, please contact Monitex in Grand Prairie at 817-701-1200. Tires are accepted locally by Marc's Muffler at 817-249-1400 or Westerly Tire & Auto at 817-244-5333; disposal fees may apply.

For safety and to make the collection of materials less costly and more efficient, please:

- Give usable products to someone who can use them.
- Keep chemicals in original containers; place broken / leaking containers in a second container of like material (i.e. glass for corrosives, metal for flammables).
- Label unmarked containers if contents are known.
- Use the trunk rather than the passenger compartment of a vehicle to transport chemicals.

IMPORTANT

- A recent **BENBROOK** water bill must be shown as proof of residency.
- Items will not be accepted until Fort Worth's collection unit is set up and authorized staff are available to load and transfer items from vehicles to the collection unit (at 9:00 AM).
- If the weight capacity of the collection unit is reached before 11:00 AM or the event is rained out, attendees will receive vouchers to take household hazardous waste materials to the Fort Worth ECC.

For more information, call Shawna Cortez at 817-249-3000.

Don't mess with Texas

TRASH-OFF

April 1, 2006

Sign up now to participate in the annual "Don't Mess With Texas Trash-Off" on **April 1 from 9:00 to 11:00 AM**. Participants will pickup litter along a designated street or park area and bring full garbage bags to the City Maintenance Facility at 467 Winscott Road. Neighborhood associations, Scouts, school groups, and civic organizations are especially encouraged to participate. A list of suggested cleanup areas and free garbage bags are available at City Hall. For more information, contact Shawna Cortez at 817-249-3000 or scortez@cityofbenbrook.com.

The Trash-Off is the largest one-day cleanup in Texas and is Texas' signature event of the Great American Cleanup™, the nation's largest annual community improvement program. This year, approximately 200,000 volunteers from Texas are expected to join forces with over two million volunteers nationwide participating in approximately 30,000 Great American Cleanup™ activities in more than 14,000 communities. Last year, Great American Cleanup™ volunteers picked up 208 million pounds of litter, planted 4.2 million flowers and bulbs, collected 2.1 million scrap tires for recycling, and cleaned over 10,250 miles of rivers, lakes and shorelines, saving thousands of taxpayer dollars on cleanups and community enhancement projects.



The Texas Department of Transportation is celebrating 20 years of reducing litter on Texas highways. Visit their 20th anniversary web site at www.DontMessWithTexas20.org and make the "I Wouldn't Do It" pledge for a chance to win two round-trip tickets anywhere Southwest Airlines flies within Texas.



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A bi-monthly publication of the
City of Benbrook

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 7:30 PM at City Hall, 911 Winscott Road. For more information, call 817-249-3000 or e-mail: info@cityofbenbrook.com.

Visit us on the Web:
www.cityofbenbrook.com

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TRASH TO TREASURE BENEFIT

Residents are encouraged to remember 4 PAWS (Pets Are Worth Saving) when doing their spring cleaning this year. Rather than placing used items in good condition at the curb, why not donate them to a local organization and benefit the stray animals in our City?

The 7th Annual 4 PAWS Treasure Sale & Raffle will be held at the Benbrook Antique Mall parking lot on April 15, from 8 AM to 2 PM.

Beginning April 1, you may contact 4 PAWS at 817-249-3770, 817-249-4516 or 817-249-0459 to schedule pick up of furniture items. Other items may be brought to the Benbrook Antique Mall parking lot between 10 AM and 5 PM. April 13 and 14, prior to the sale. Volunteers will be on hand to accept your tax-deductible donations. Clothing is not accepted, and remaining merchandise is donated to Boy Scout Troop 95 following the Treasure Sale.

All proceeds benefit animals housed at the Benbrook

Animal Shelter. 4 PAWS volunteers take unclaimed pets to Cityview Animal Hospital for examinations, testing, necessary medical treatment and routine vaccinations before transporting them to PetsMart each weekday afternoon for adoption. As of January, the organization had cared for more than 800 cats and dogs from our local shelter.

4 PAWS is a group of local volunteers whose mission is to provide care and loving homes for the homeless pet population in Benbrook. Anyone interested in joining, volunteering, or adopting a new pet can call any of the above telephone numbers, contact the organization via e-mail at admin@4pawsinc.org. or go to the web site, www.4pawsinc.org, to learn more.

4 PAWS would like to remind all pet owners in Benbrook to contact Animal Control, 817-249-3000, if a stray appears or they have a pet missing. 4 PAWS does not take in strays and works strictly with the City of Benbrook on pet adoptions.