



City of Benbrook Community Newsletter

June / July 2006

City Council Brief

At the May 18 City Council meeting, James Schull, Councilmember, Place 2; Rickie Allison, Councilmember Place 4; and Larry Stowe, Councilmember Place 6 recited the Oath of Office and took their places as duly elected officials for the 2006-2008 term of office. In additional actions, Rickie Allison was named Mayor Pro-Tem and Ron Sauma was chosen as Benbrook's Representative for the North Texas Council of Governments.

Other business actions by the Council in recent months include adoption of the City Annual Financial Report; ratification of amendments to the Benbrook Economic Development By-Laws; approval of proceeding with the Plantation East Creek drainage / flood control project; adoption of changes to the Benbrook Municipal Code regarding the parking of trucks, buses, trailers and semi-trailers on public streets; approval of a resolution suspending interim gas rate adjustments; adoption of an ordinance ordering ATMOS energy to reduce gas rates; adoption of an administrative regulation on maintaining a clean (low emission) vehicle fleet; adoption of a resolution

allowing qualified residents to participate in the Tarrant County Housing Finance Corporation mortgage program; adoption of resolutions providing TML liability insurance to 4Paws and Benbrook Sister Cities with specific requirements; adoption of a resolution authorizing the Cities Aggregation Power Project to negotiate a supply agreement for electric power; authorization of the purchase of a Hazardous Materials / Rescue Truck with grant funds; adoption of an ordinance amending the Fire Code; and approval of the replacement of light poles on baseball field number one in Dutch Branch Park.

Benbrook City Council meets on the first and third Thursday of each month, with a pre-council meeting beginning at 7:00 PM and the general council meeting beginning at 7:30 PM. These meetings are open to the public and are held at City Hall, 911 Winscott Road.

Agendas, minutes, and streaming video of council meetings can be found on the City website - www.cityofbenbrook.com.

Texas U-Turn Construction Update

The Texas U-Turn and access road improvements under construction at Winscott Road and Interstate 20 (Loop 820) is scheduled to be completed in July.

The ramp relocations and addition of the Texas U-turn is expected to improve traffic flow, reduce vehicle stoppage time, and increase capacity. All these benefits translate to environmental improvements compared to the existing infrastructure.

The same improvements will also provide economic benefits for the City. A mixed use concept is designated as the required development for the southeast side of the intersection. The convenient access created by the improvements will open more land to development.

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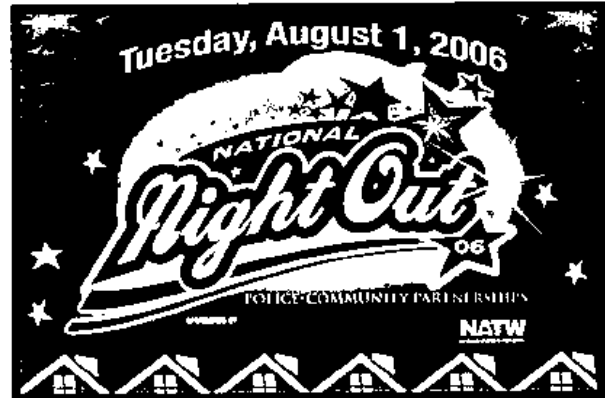
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Benbrook
Spotlight

National Night Out - August 1, 2006

Join us for the fight against crime Tuesday, August 1, 2006 at the Benbrook Community Center / YMCA from 6 to 9 PM. Neighborhoods throughout Benbrook will join forces with thousands of communities nationwide for the 22nd Annual National Night Out crime and drug prevention event. Come meet your local police officers, fire fighters, military personnel, and city representatives. See Fort Worth's police helicopter, Air One and meet the Careflight crew. The kids can enjoy a magic show and visit many interesting displays. Join us in the fight against crime in 2006.

Learn more about National Night Out 2006 at www.natw.org/nno or contact Officer Gabbert at 817-249-2752, ext 6111.



Benbrook Citizens Protect the Environment

On Saturday, April 1, approximately 145 Benbrook citizens participated in the Household Hazardous Waste & E-Waste Collection Event held in the Benbrook Industrial Park. In a little over two hours, approximately 21,500 pounds of materials were collected.

If you missed this event but would like to participate in the future, please check upcoming newsletters or the City website for a similar event to be held in October, subject to the

availability of Fort Worth's Crud Cruiser (mobile collection unit). If you can't wait until the next event, please contact Donna Savage at 817-249-3000 to obtain a voucher to take household hazardous waste items only (no e-waste) to the Fort Worth Environmental Collection Center.

Thank you for helping protect our environment by keeping dangerous items out of the landfill!

Volunteers Keep Benbrook Beautiful

Sincere appreciation to the following groups for their outstanding work at the Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off on April 1:

- 4 PAWS
- Timbercreek Neighborhood Association
- Benbrook City staff

Volunteers collected over 700 pounds of litter. Thanks again to all those whose hard work helped make the Trash-Off a success again this year!

Benbrook Sister Cities, Inc.

Mayor's Reception All citizens are cordially invited to the Benbrook Mayor's Reception honoring visitors from Northern Ireland and area art contest winners, Thursday, June 29, at the Community Life Center of Benbrook United Methodist Church, 1122 Bryant. The event is hosted by Mayor Jerry Dittrich and sponsored by the Benbrook Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Center and Benbrook Sister Cities. Mix and mingle at 6:00; program at 7:00; dance at 8:00. Light refreshments courtesy of Benbrook Area Chamber members. Meet the mayor and our guests. Ballymoney students will present a brief program about their country. An international learning experience for the whole family!

Calling all Teens - Dance with new Irish Friends! Immediately following the Mayor's reception on June 29, 8:00 to 10:00. Learn basic country dance steps with our Ballymoney guests, then open up to your kind of dance music with one of your favorite DJ's. **Free!**

Randy Souders Print Raffle Renowned artist Randy Souders has generously donated a framed, personally autographed print, "Sleigh Ride," for a raffle to raise money for Benbrook Sister Cities. View this wonderful piece at the Benbrook Public Library during June and July and purchase your raffle tickets at the Mayor's Reception on June 29, or anytime at the Benbrook Area Chamber of Commerce office. \$3.00 for one ticket or \$14.00 for five. Drawing will be August 1.

Congratulations to the Local Winners of the 2006 Sister Cities International Young Artists Contest
Overall winner: David Hawkins, Western Hills High School; first place: Regina Hillard, Leonard Middle School; second place: Sheila Snyder, Leonard Middle School; and third place: Charles Perkins, Western Hills High School. David's piece has been entered in the national contest in Washington, D.C. Good luck, David! Participants' work will be on display at the Benbrook Public Library during June.

Youth Ambassadors Travel to Bled, Slovenia The following students leave on June 27 for two weeks in beautiful Bled, Slovenia: Delia Owens, Haley Hankins, Tyler Bornman, Ashley McDonald, Aaron Rasco, Ashley Winters, Eric Brooks, and sponsor Lucynda Nicholson. The students have collectively received donations exceeding \$6,200 from various sponsors towards the cost of the trip. Their proposed itinerary includes sleeping on the beach in Venice and they should have some wonderful experiences to share on their return on July 12!

Host Families Welcome Ambassadors from Ballymoney Local students who have already volunteered to host our visitors from Ballymoney include Matt and Pat Teagarden, Bianca Bissey, and Sarah Stewart. Adult sponsors will be hosted by Jeremy and Caroline Martin and Charlie and Pamela Brandenburg. Please greet these hosts and their guests as you see them out and around town. The visit is from June 28 through July 10.

Benbrook Sister Cities, Inc.
P.O. Box 26992, Benbrook, TX 76126

Program Contacts:

General information:
Danny Perkins
817-249-5253
info@benbrooksistercities.org

Youth Exchange Programs:
Pamela Brandenburg
817-249-2324
bledprogram@benbrooksistercities.org



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June / July 2006
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

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

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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 Spotlight

If you'd like to learn more about what's happening in our community watch Benbrook Spotlight the 30-minute monthly magazine program that provides information about City Departments, features people in the community, highlights community events, and includes a community calendar with the latest happenings in the city.

In June, the show will feature the Inspections and Permits department team, who will discuss procedures that pertain to this department. You'll also hear from Joel Peal, Executive Director of the Benbrook Community Center / YMCA, he'll provide some interesting information

about combating obesity. We'll also tell you about a Book Club headed by Mrs. Libby and Ms. Murray of Benbrook Elementary. Tune in to watch Benbrook Spotlight daily at 9:30 AM, 1:30 PM and 7:30 PM on Cable 7 or catch the Spotlight on the web - just log on to: www.cityofbenbrook.com and click on Benbrook TV.

Benbrook Spotlight is produced by the Benbrook Economic Development Corp. Send us an e-mail at Spotlight@benbrook.org. For more information or program ideas contact Patty C. Bissey, Director of Marketing and Research at 817-249-6091.