

December 2013

"On the Horizon" is the City of Carrollton's quarterly utility bill newsletter inserted into all paper copies of utility bills mailed out to households. <http://cityofcarrollton.com/onthehorizon>

Inclement Weather Practices

Severe weather (snow, ice, high winds, etc.) may necessitate the temporary closure of City of Carrollton leisure service facilities. During adverse weather conditions, the public is advised to limit driving to minimize accidents, falls and other weather-related incidents. To comply with public safety advisories, the following leisure services facilities may be closed:

Crosby Recreation Center	972-466-9810
Rosemeade Recreation Center	972-466-9800
Oak Creek Tennis Center	972-466-6389
Carrollton Senior Center	972-466-4850
Hebron & Josey Public Library	972-466-4800
Josey Ranch Lake Public Library	972-466-4800
Indian Creek Golf Club	972-466-9850
A.W. Perry Homestead Museum	972-466-6380

For customers' convenience, automated telephone messages regarding inclement weather operating schedules are recorded as conditions warrant. Online services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at cityofcarrollton.com.

Cease the Grease: Free Cooking Oil Disposal

Tired of calling the plumber? Fix the problem before it starts; choose to not pour grease down the drain and prevent pipe blockage. Stop by the City of Carrollton Central Service Center (2711 Nimitz Lane) from 8am to 6pm on Monday, December 2 or Tuesday, December 3 to properly dispose of grease and cooking oil for free. The event is sponsored by Liquid Environmental Solutions. Proper disposal of grease will keep it out of the sewer system and away from causing damage to sewage and drain pipes and the environment.

City of Carrollton Water Utilities asks that citizens **never** pour grease down sink drains or into toilets; always scrape grease and food scraps from plates, pots, pans, utensils and grills into a can or the trash for disposal; and do not put grease down the garbage disposal. Put baskets/strainers in the sink drains to catch solids and empty them into the trash. If everyone takes preventative measures there will be less plumbing issues in homes and no sewage overflows into parks, yards or streets. For more information, contact Water Utilities at 972-466-3425.

Preventing the Holiday Blues

Holidays can be both a joyful and stressful time as this time of giving can come with a high price tag. Protect yourself and family from the stress and depression that can easily overtake a person by following the helpful tips provided by the Police Department in their "Preventing the Holiday Blues" brochure. Brochures are available at the Police Department and online at cityofcarrollton.com/police in the news section. For more information, contact Police's Social Services at 972-466-3158.

Leisure Connections Magazine Available

Check out the January-April 2014 issue of *Leisure Connections* for all City events, activities and programs, available online at cityofcarrollton.com/leisuremag and hard copies are at recreation centers, libraries and City Hall. Registration begins December 2 for residents and December 16 for non-residents.

Old-Fashioned Christmas at Perry Museum

Enjoy an old-fashioned Christmas at the A.W. Perry Homestead Museum for free from 6 to 8:30pm on Friday, December 6. Families can take a guided tour of the historic home, make an old-fashioned tree ornament, play in the small farm animal petting zoo, and see Santa. Indulge in cookies and hot chocolate, while listening to Victorian carolers who will stroll the grounds spreading holiday cheer. For more information, visit cityofcarrollton.com/museum or call 972-466-6380.

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Carrollton Centennial Time Capsule Submissions Deadline Extended to Dec. 7

The members of the group Carrollton Volunteers, Inc. will celebrate the City of Carrollton's Centennial with a 25-year Time Capsule to be buried behind the Carrollton Senior Center at Josey Ranch Lake with a planned opening date of 2038. All are invited to attend the ceremony at 11am on Saturday, December 7. Submissions of photographs and letters for the Time Capsule will be accepted up until and at the December 7 event. For more information on how to submit your entry, visit carrolltoncentennial.com or call 972-242-0924.

Rosemeade Recreation Center Member Appreciation Day

Rosemeade Recreation Center (1330 E. Rosemeade Parkway) is hosting a Member Appreciation Day on Saturday, December 7 from 9am until 6pm. The event is exclusively for Rosemeade Recreation Center members to enjoy complimentary snacks, visit vendor booths, and enter for free prizes that will be given away all day. Call 972-466-9800 for more information.

Brookhaven Bell Choir

Take a break from holiday shopping and visit the Josey Ranch Lake Library on Sunday, December 8 at 2 pm to listen to the hand bells from Brookhaven College. For more information, visit cityofcarrollton.com/library or call 972-466-4800.

Gingerbread House Contest & Auction

Design and create a gingerbread house to enter in the A. W. Perry Homestead Museum's Gingerbread Contest. Complete contest rules and entry forms are available at either Carrollton Recreation Center or online at cityofcarrollton.com/museum. Register by December 9. Only pre-registered entries will be accepted and space is limited. Completed gingerbread creations will be on display to the public December 13 - 15 at the Josey Ranch Lake Library (1700 Keller Springs Road) during Library hours. First place prizes will be awarded in the following categories: Business/Professional \$100, Adult \$75, Teen \$50, and Youth \$25. Individuals, businesses, schools, church groups, scouts, and homeowners' associations are encouraged to enter! All professional category entries will be auctioned off by way of silent auction to the highest bidder; auction begins December 13 and ends at 3pm on December 15. Auction proceeds benefit the A. W. Perry Homestead Museum Society, a non-profit organization. Contact the Museum at 972-466-6380 or visit cityofcarrollton.com/museum for additional information and forms.

Carrollton to Host Fire Station 8 Dedication and Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting

A dedication and grand opening ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held at 10am on Saturday, December 14 for Carrollton's new Fire Station 8 (4041 Huffines Boulevard). The public is invited to attend the event and see the City's newest Fire facility that boasts high efficiency and low maintenance operational features. The Mayor and City Council will officiate the event with a ribbon cutting and ceremonial first berthing of Engine 118 into the new station.

The Carrollton Wind Symphony Holiday Benefit Concert

The Carrollton Wind Symphony will present their annual Holiday Concert on Friday, December 20, at 7:30 pm at St. Andrew Methodist Church in Plano. For more information, visit carrolltonwindsymphony.org.

Enroll Now and Redeem Recyclebank Recycling Rewards for the Holidays

Enroll in the Recyclebank Recycling Rewards program, and receive points for recycling that are redeemable for coupons and discounts at local and national retailers and restaurants. Residents can sign up today for a free account at recyclebank.com/WM.

Twelve Days of Winter Break Begins Dec. 23

Stop by either Carrollton Library location and pick up a schedule of events that highlight the holidays of Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa; different activities every day.

2014 Recycling Calendar Available Online

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Visit cityofcarrollton.com/solidwaste for a copy of Carrollton's 2014 residential trash and recycling calendar.

Donate to the Carrollton Animal Adoption Center

Support Carrollton's Animal Services this holiday season! Donate \$10 or more to Carrollton's Animal Services & Adoption Center (2247 Sandy Lake Road) and receive a t-shirt to wear or give away as a holiday gift. It's tax deductible and it helps the animals. Stop by the facility for a tour, to register a pet or to adopt a new furry forever friend for the holidays. For more information, visit cityofcarrollton.com/animalservices or call 972-466-3420.

Holiday Closures

Carrollton City Hall, both Library locations, Rosemeade and Crosby Recreation Centers, Oak Creek Tennis Center, and the Senior Center will be closed Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25 in observance of the Christmas holiday, close early at 6pm on Tuesday, December 31, and will be closed on Wednesday, January 1 for the New Year's holiday. Indian Creek Golf Club will be closed on Wednesday, December 25, but open on January 1; call 972-466-9850 to schedule a tee time. Access many City services and pay utility bills online 24 hours a day, seven days a week at cityofcarrollton.com.

Trash Schedule Unchanged for Holiday

Trash and recycling collections will **not** be affected by the Christmas or New Year's holidays. Collections normally scheduled throughout the week will be picked up as scheduled. For customer service, call Waste Management at 972-315-5400.

Water Restrictions Extended Indefinitely

Due to extended drought conditions in the North Texas area, the City of Carrollton will be extending current Stage 1 watering restrictions indefinitely. Although the City's normal practice is to not implement water rationing from October through April 30, businesses and residents are asked to continue smart water use practices. Residents may water **ONLY** from 7pm to 10am; no watering is allowed from 10am to 7pm. Citizens are encouraged to voluntarily irrigate no more than 2 days a week based on the last digit of the services address. Saturday and Wednesday are the allowed watering days for odd numbered houses (last digit of address is 1, 3, 5, 7, or 9). Sunday and Thursday are the allowed watering days for even numbered houses (0, 2, 4, 6, or 8). Remember: ODD = Saturday/Wednesday; EVEN = Sunday/Thursday. Call 972 466-3120 or visit cityofcarrollton.com/water for more information.

Carrollton Centennial – Share Your Story

Carrollton is celebrating 100 years and we want you to share your story. Let us know what makes you feel connected to Carrollton! Fond memories of your neighborhood? Family traditions? A favorite teacher? Best park? Send it in! Email story and any pictures to centennial@cityofcarrollton.com. For more information and to review some of the stories already submitted, visit carrolltoncentennial.com.

Construction Begins on 35Express Project

Construction has begun on the 35Express Project, a project that extends approximately 30 miles, through eight cities and two counties, from US 380 in Denton County to I-635 in Dallas County. The Design-Build project is expected to relieve traffic congestion in one of the most heavily traveled corridors in the North Texas region. Carrollton will be included in the southern segment that stretches from the President George Bush Turnpike (PGBT) to I-635. In this section, Dickerson Parkway will be extended from PGBT to I-35E and the Belt Line Road interchange will be reconstructed. Belt Line Road will be elevated to the current height of I-35E, and I-35E will be raised approximately 20 feet above its current elevation. Commuters will also see widened bridges at Whitlock Lane, Crosby Road, Valwood Parkway and Valley View Lane.

For information about Carrollton-area closures and construction or for more information about the project, visit 35express.org/, call the project hotline at 214-483-7777, or stop by the Public Information Office located at Lakepointe Crossing Center, 2420 South Stemmons Freeway, Lewisville, Texas 75067 (near Academy Sports & Outdoors). The Public Information Office is open Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm and Saturday by appointment.

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Recycling Christmas Lights

As the Christmas holiday draws near, it is important to remember that Christmas lights cannot be recycled through Waste Management, but should be recycled if possible. There are centers that do recycle the lights and provide alternatives to trashing non-working strands. HolidayLEDs.com is one vendor who will recycle strands of lights and send the recycler a coupon for 15% off future Christmas light purchases. Christmas Light Source in Ft. Worth will also be hosting their Recycling Program, in which proceeds from the recycled lights will benefit Toys for Tots and the recycler will receive a coupon for 10% off a Christmas lights purchase. For more information, visit Christmas-light-source.com. For more information on what can and cannot be recycled by Waste Management, please visit cityofcarrollton.com/solidwaste.

Carrollton Families – Need Help? Want Help?

Metrocrest Social Services provides emergency assistance with rent, utilities, food and other services to families in Carrollton, Farmers Branch, Coppell, Addison and zip code 75287 who are experiencing financial crisis. Join Metrocrest in aiding local families by donating nonperishable food, cash, or your time and skills as a volunteer. To request help or learn about donation opportunities, visit metrocrestsocialservices.org or call 972-466-2100.

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