

February 2014

“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>

City of Carrollton 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.

Take Advantage of the City’s Low-Cost Fitness Memberships

New Year, new equipment, new space, new goals! That’s what you’ll see in the expanded fitness area at Rosemeade Recreation Center. The latest in cardio, free weights, and new circuit training will help you keep that New Year’s resolution. Your individual wellness and health improvement plan can be put in motion at two convenient locations: Rosemeade Recreation Center and Crosby Recreation Center. With great values as low as \$7 a month* on memberships that are good at both locations, don’t put off achieving your fitness goal. Join now! Register online at cityofcarrollton.com. *Based on annual residential adult (ages 16-64) membership of \$85.

African American Read-In – Feb. 2

The Carrollton Public Library at Josey Ranch Lake will host their annual African American Read-In at 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 2 in honor of Black History Month. All are welcome to learn about African American authors, stories, poems, and songs. Special guests will read selections aloud for the audience. The afternoon is presented by Professional Achievers for Community Excellence and is planned to promote reading, communication, and cultural understanding. The special program is offered free to the public; all ages are invited. Light refreshments will be provided. For more information about the program, call 972-466-4800.

Register Now: Free Neighborhood and HOA Leadership Training Feb. 8

In a new collaboration with the Community Associations Institute (CAI), a national non-profit for HOAs, the City of Carrollton with the Neighborhood Advisory Commission (NAC), are pleased to host “Neighborhood Leadership Training – Empowering Neighborhoods Through Education” on Saturday, February 8 from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Family Life Center at Covenant Church (2660 E. Trinity Mills Road). Neighborhood Leadership Training: Empowering Neighborhoods Through Education is a free event with a required RSVP. The goal of this event is to serve as a training ground for current and future Neighborhood and HOA board leadership. CAI will bring in professionals to talk about legal, insurance, and board member issues specifically for mandatory HOAs, and City of Carrollton Staff and other volunteers will present on topics of interest for all neighborhoods such a crime prevention, code enforcement, event planning, and grants. A neighbor mixer and luncheon with a keynote given by Chief Rex Redden will encourage communication among neighborhoods, and will give residents an opportunity to meet with City Officials. This event is free and open to everyone, Carrollton citizens and non-Carrollton citizens. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Register online at cityofcarrollton.com/comdevelopment; registration is required by Thursday, February 5. Contact Tanya.ferencak@cityofcarrollton.com for more information.

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Adult Kickball Adult Softball – Registration Ends Feb. 7

Registration for the City of Carrollton Athletics' spring softball league will end on Friday, February 7. Spring Single Games and Double Headers start Sunday, February 16 with games played Sunday through Friday at McInnish Softball Complex. The cost is \$385 per team with the following divisions: Men's D & E, Co-ed, and Church. For more information on the Free Agent List or to register a team, please contact Athletics at 972-466-9833 or at cityofcarrollton.com/athletics.

Adult Flag Football – Registration Ends Feb. 7

Registration for the City of Carrollton Athletics' spring flag football league will end on Friday, February 7. The league starts Thursday, February 20 with games played on Thursday nights at McInnish Sports Complex (2335 Sandy Lake Road). The cost is \$370 per team with Men's and Co-ed divisions. For more information on the Free Agent List or to register a team, please contact Athletics at 972-466-9833 or at cityofcarrollton.com/athletics.

Adult Softball – Registration Ends Feb. 7

Registration for the City of Carrollton Athletics' spring softball league will end on Friday, February 7. Spring Single Games and Double Headers start Sunday, February 16 with games played Sunday through Friday at McInnish Softball Complex. The cost is \$385 per team with the following divisions: Men's D & E, Co-ed, Women's, Men's 40+, and Church. For more information on the Free Agent List or to register a team, please contact Athletics at 972-466-9833 or at cityofcarrollton.com/athletics.

Chinese New Year – Feb. 9

Visit Hebron & Josey Library on Sunday, February 9 from 2 to 4 p.m. to see Carrollton Sun Ray Chinese School Youth Organization and the Newman Smith High School Chinese Class lead a variety of free activities celebrating the Chinese culture. For more information, visit cityofcarrollton.com/library.

Family Fun Night – Feb. 10

Visit Josey Ranch Lake Library (1700 Keller Springs Road) on Monday, February 10 from 7-8:30 p.m. for a night of free, fun games, and crafts for families. For more information, visit cityofcarrollton.com/library or call 972-466-4800.

Daddy Daughter Dance – Feb. 22

The Carrollton Police Officers Association (CPOA) will host the annual Daddy Daughter Dance from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 22 at Bent Tree Bible Fellowship Church (4141 International Parkway). Fathers are invited to bring their angels out for an evening filled with dancing, games, cookies, punch, crafts, prizes, photo opportunities and memories to last a lifetime. All proceeds benefit the CPOA, which assists police officers and their families in times of need and also supports community programs. For more information or to register, visit cpoa-daddy-daughter-dance-2014.eventbrite.com or call 972-466-3031. No moms or sons allowed and dinner will not be served.

League of Extraordinary Teens – Feb. 26

Teens, want to make a difference at your Library? Visit Josey Ranch Lake Library (1700 Keller Springs Road) on Wednesday, February 26 at 6:30 p.m. and work with staff and other extraordinary teens to make the Library YOUR kind of place. Plan events, suggest materials, and hang out. For more information, call 972-466-4800 or visit cityofcarrollton.com/library.

Free Tax Assistance in Carrollton

Volunteers with the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) provide free tax return assistance from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Mondays at the Carrollton Public Library at Hebron and Josey (4220 N. Josey Lane) through April 14. For seniors ages 50 and over, AARP volunteers will be available on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Carrollton Senior Center (1720 Keller Springs Road) through April 10. Bring identification, a copy of last year's tax return, as well as all documents and information for 2013.

Water Restrictions Extended Indefinitely

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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 7 p.m. to 10 a.m.; no watering is allowed from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. 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.

Construction In Progress 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 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday by appointment.

Carrollton Families – Need Help? Want Help?

Metrocrest 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.

Donate to the Carrollton Animal Adoption Center

Support Carrollton's Animal Services! Donate \$10 or more to Carrollton's Animal Services & Adoption Center (2247 Sandy Lake Road) and receive a t-shirt. 100% of your tax deductible donation helps feed and care for animals. Stop by the facility for a tour, to register a pet or to adopt a new furry forever friend. For more information, visit cityofcarrollton.com/animalservices or call 972-466-3420.

The Carrollton Public Library Will Send You Reading Suggestions

Get great reading suggestions from your Carrollton Public Library! Kids, tweens, teens, and adults can enjoy the convenience of Carrollton's free NextReads service. Subscribe online, and receive reading lists right to your inbox. Every newsletter comes with suggestions of recently released titles as well as recommendations of older books grouped by theme or author and includes links directly to the Library's catalog, so you can be at home in your slippers or taking a lunch break at the office while placing holds on the books you want. The list will even tell you when the books are waiting at the Library for you to pick up. Signing up is easy; visit cityofcarrollton.com/library/nextreads to get started.

Sign Up For RecycleBank and Earn Rewards Points

Carrollton residents are encouraged to sign up for RecycleBank's recycling rewards program. RecycleBank rewards people for taking every day green actions, such as recycling, with discounts and deals from locally-based businesses and national brands. All residents, including those already participating in recycling rewards through Waste Management's Think Green Rewards, are eligible to participate in the RecycleBank program. Residents can sign up today for a free account at

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RecycleBank.com/WM, and automatically earn 300 RecycleBank Points. Over the course of a year, Carrollton households signed up for RecycleBank can earn an average of \$165 in rewards value. For more information on the City of Carrollton's recycling rewards program please visit the FAQ at cityofcarrollton.com/solidwaste.

Egret Prevention

Many of you may be aware of the challenges we faced in 2011 with migratory birds nesting in residential areas of our community. These challenges were avoided in 2012 and 2013 by developing a strong partnership between City staff and the residents in affected neighborhoods. Nesting season is just a few months away and we are encouraging you to join this effort by taking the following steps: trim tree canopy to allow light to shine between limbs and other trees and remove old nesting material. If you identified migratory bird activity in your trees last year, begin thinking now about hanging visual deterrents such as owls, scare-eye balloons, reflective tape, or other similar material in your tree. Report heron and egret activity to Animal Services immediately by calling 972-466-3420.