

March 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. Visit cityofcarrollton.com/onthehorizon to view it online.

2014 Great Texas Warrant Round-Up

Cities across Texas will be joining together to actively serve outstanding arrest warrants in 2014. The roundup is designed to target thousands of defendants with traffic, parking, city ordinance, penal code, and higher charge warrants from participating jurisdictions. If you have outstanding warrants in the City of Carrollton, or anywhere in Texas, you should handle them as soon as possible. The Carrollton Municipal Court (2001 E. Jackson Road) is open Monday–Thursday, from 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. For more information, call 972-466-3348, or visit cityofcarrollton.com/courts.

Register by March 6 for *The Infinity Ring*

History is broken and it's up to you to fix it at the Josey Ranch Lake Library (1700 Keller Springs Road) on Thursday, March 13 at 2 p.m. Travel through time and complete challenges to fix history's Great Books. From the ancient Mayan Empire to the Great Wall of China, the deserts of Baghdad to the U.S. capitol, adventure awaits as we jump through time fixing the past to save the future. Ages 9-12 are invited to register for this event based on the popular book series at either Carrollton Library location or call 972-466-4800.

Free Carrollton Wind Symphony Spring Concert - March 7

Carrollton Wind Symphony (CWS) is kicking off the season with their spring concert on Friday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Andrew United Methodist Church (5801 W. Plano Parkway, Plano, 75093). The CWS is recognized as one of the finest wind symphony ensembles in the metroplex. Everyone is invited to this FREE concert! Visit carrolltonwindsymphony.org for more information.

Beat the Drought, Go the Texas SmartScape® Route!

Even at a time of severe water restrictions, you can still have a thriving lawn or garden during a hot Texas summer. By using native plants, water is conserved and the amount of herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers are reduced. This saves you money and helps keep chemicals out of our streams, rivers, and lakes. Considering that 40 to 60% of the typical household's water bill goes to irrigation, now is the time to consider native and adapted plants which, once established, require 80% less water than other plants. To help reduce the amount of water and money spent on your landscape, consider converting to a Texas SmartScape®. Texas SmartScape® is an award winning gardening program educating homeowners about the ecological and economic benefits of using landscaping plants, trees, shrubs, and grasses native to this region and our local climate.

Whether in the market for major landscape overhaul or just a few quick fixes to save water this summer, txsmartscape.com has the tools for success. The interactive database allows you to search SmartScape® approved plants that are the right fit for any yard, while the landscape design tool walks pros and first-timers alike through the entire landscaping process. There are plenty of tips and ideas to help maintain and care for a SmartScape® yard.

During the month of March visit either Josey Ranch Lake Library (1700 Keller Springs Road) or Hebron and Josey Library (4220 N. Josey Lane) to see our Texas SmartScape® displays or visit txsmartscape.com anytime to see how you can save water and money.

Family Fun Night - March 10

Visit Josey Ranch Lake Library (1700 Keller Springs Road) on Monday, March 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.

Register Beginning March 10 for the Carrollton Trails 5K and 1-Mile Fun Walk

Registration begins March 10 for the 3rd annual Carrollton Trails 5K and 1-Mile Fun Walk event on Saturday, May 3. Early registration guarantees a race bag, a T-shirt, and timing chip. Races include a timed 5K, a 5K Fun Run (untimed), and a 1K Fun Walk. Strollers and pets are allowed, but no bicycles or

March 2014

in-line skates are allowed. Race participants will park at Creekview High School (3201 Old Denton Road) and be bused to the starting line. Medals will be awarded to the top three finishers in each age category of the 5K competitive run. For more information, visit cityofcarrollton.com/signupnow.

Teens Tech Week - March 11

Celebrate DIY Teen Tech Week with iPads, games, and movies at the Josey Ranch Lake Library (1700 Keller Springs Road) on Tuesday, March 11 from 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. Use our technology to create movies, take pictures, or just play games. Then stay after hours for an evening of video games, friends, and pizza. If you would like to stay after hours, grab your permission slip at either Library.

Spring Break Movie Day at Josey Ranch - March 12

School's out for Spring Break, so everyone age 6 and up is invited to come watch *Escape from Planet Earth* at the Josey Ranch Lake Library (1700 Keller Springs Road) on Wednesday, March 12 at 1 p.m. Bring a snack and enjoy. For more information, visit cityofcarrollton.com/library or call 972-466-4800.

Fix a Leak Week March 17-23

Leaks can account for, on average, more than 11,000 gallons of water wasted in the home every year. But you can nip that drip in the bud. Classes for promoting water conservation will be offered at Home Depot in Carrollton (2011 Keller Spring Road) on Saturday, March 22 from 10 - 11:30 a.m., and on Sunday, March 23 from 1 - 2:30 p.m. Learn how at epa.gov/watersense/fixaleak.

Rosemeade Teen Council - March 18

Are you between 13 and 17 years of age and interested in making a difference in your community? Come out to monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of every month to discuss how you can put your stamp on the Rosemeade Recreation Center (1334 E. Rosemeade Parkway). Free pizza and drinks for all who participate. For more information, contact Grant Carver at 972-466-9812 or email grant.carver@cityofcarrollton.com.

\$5 Rabies Vaccine and Free Pet Registration - March 22

This event will include \$5 rabies vaccinations, free City registration with proof of rabies vaccination for Carrollton residents, hot dogs, pretzels, drinks, face painting, a bounce house, and wildlife information. While you're there, donate \$10 or more to Animal Services and receive a stainless steel travel tumbler for your favorite hot or cold beverage. Vaccinations will only be available from 10 a.m. until noon. If you are not in line by noon, you will not be able to receive the discounted veterinary services. For more information, call Animal Services at 972-466-3420 or visit cityofcarrollton.com/animalservices.

Homeschool Roundup at Hebron and Josey Library - March 26

Attention Homeschool Parents: Homeschool Roundup will be held at the Hebron and Josey Library (4220 N. Josey Lane) on Wednesday, March 26 from 1:30 -2:30 pm. Learn about all the great library resources to support homeschool education, including meeting space, databases, TexShare cards, and more! Visit cityofcarrollton.com/library for more information.

League of Extraordinary Teens - March 26

Teens, want to make a difference at your Library? Visit Josey Ranch Lake Library (1700 Keller Springs Road) on Wednesday, March 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.

Register by April 2 for the Museum's Teddy Bear Picnic on April 5

Join the A.W. Perry Homestead Museum (1509 Perry Road) in its celebration of the teddy bear from 1 - 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 5. Bring a teddy bear, a picnic lunch, and enjoy the festivities which include crafts for your bear, games, cookies, and lemonade. There will also be a contest for the best dressed teddy bear and a teddy bear first aid station, where a certified teddy bear nurse will repair your well-loved bear.

March 2014

Registration by April 2 is required. The fee is \$15 per Carrollton family (\$16.50 per non-resident family), up to 5 people. For more information, call the Museum staff at 972-466-6380.

Texas History Alive! - March 29

Sign up now to participate in Texas History Alive! at the A.W. Perry Museum on Saturday, March 29 from 1 - 3 p.m. Learn about Texas history in a fun environment with hands-on experiences, presentations by historical figures, and docent led tours of the farmhouse. Make-and-take crafts will be available for a small supply fee. All ages are invited. There is a \$10 fee per child; accompanying adults are free. For more information or to register, email Kathy.ogle@swbell.net or call 214-906-5792.

Free Tax Assistance in Carrollton

Volunteers with the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) provide free tax return assistance from 10 a.m. - 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. - 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

Due to extended drought conditions in the North Texas area, the City of Carrollton has extended 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. - 10 a.m.; no watering is allowed from 10 a.m. - 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.

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

March 2014

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 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.

Carrollton Increases Incentive in Sidewalk Matching Grant Program

The City of Carrollton has increased their incentive for residents to participate in the Matching Grant Sidewalk Replacement Program. The program provides an opportunity for citizens to expedite sidewalk repairs or replacement of eligible sidewalks by covering some of the financial burden. The City increased their contribution from a 50/50 split between the City and the owner, to a 60/40 split, where the City covers the larger share. Only sidewalks in single-family neighborhoods, located on a lot occupied by a single-family home, will be eligible for participation in the program. For more information or to participate in the program, visit the Sidewalk Repair Policy page at cityofcarrollton.com/publicworks.