

The Bedford Citizen

THE NEWS YOU NEED TO GUIDE YOUR CITY

Vol. 1 No. 9

June 25, 2007

FEATURES

[SPOTLIGHT ON THE BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION](#)

ABOUT THIS E-NEWS

The mission of this electronic newspaper (e-news) is to increase citizen awareness of current events and thereby increase their involvement in our government's decision-making process.

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TOMORROW'S CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS AT A GLANCE

Work Session 6 p.m.

Reconstruction of Central Pool

Town hall meeting regarding drilling in the Barnett Shale gas field

Criteria for development of gas drilling ordinance

Mosquitoes and bag worms (treatment)

Police Dept's recent capital murder investigation

Regular Session 7 p.m.

Beautification Commission Awards

Texas Municipal Library Directors Assn. Achievement of Excellence Award, 2006

Bedford Employee Commitment Awards (BECA)

Rezoning request

Military Leave policy

Library outsourcing RFP

City of Bedford Schedule of Fees

Atmos Energy Corp., Mid-Tex Division

Replacement of the Stormie Jones Park Walking Path

2007 Street Crack Sealing Program

Zoning Ordinance Amendment Case A-013

Open Forum

If you find this e-news helpful and informative, please help us grow by passing it along to others.

FEATURES

SPOTLIGHT ON THE BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

By Deborah Chaney

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Among the groups of volunteers which contribute to the quality of life in Bedford is The Beautification Commission (BBC). The group has been supporting the aesthetics of life in Bedford for years through projects such as their monthly work day when they assist City staff with such projects as landscaping, maintenance, and litter cleanup.

According to the City's website, this group strives to make the city a clean and attractive place to live, to maintain a healthy environment, to educate citizens about ongoing efforts to keep the city beautiful and to generally beautify the city.

The BBC also makes recommendations to the City Council regarding: landscaping of city right-of-ways and city property; programs to recognize businesses and residential areas that beautify their surroundings through landscaping, maintenance, litter cleanup, etc.; state or nation-wide groups focused on beautification; involving schools, businesses and homeowners in a beautification program and voluntary recycling.

This year the BBC designated April 28, 2007, as a city-wide clean-up day – the first of its kind in Bedford. They hope that Bedford Home Owners Associations and

other groups in the city will partner with them to make Clean Up Bedford Day an annual event with the eventual goal of all parts of the city being cleaned on a designated day.

Another service the BBC helps to coordinate is the semi-annual visit of "The Crud Cruiser," a mobile collection unit for leftover household chemicals.

On two scheduled Saturday mornings between March and November, Bedford residents may drop off such things as paint, fluorescent light bulbs, propane tanks, herbicides and pesticides, motor oil, all kinds of batteries, antifreeze, and pool chemicals at the pre-announced Bedford location. At 11 a.m. or when the Crud Cruiser is full, whichever happens first, the Crud Cruiser carries the chemicals to the Environmental Collection Center on Bridge St. in Fort Worth for appropriate recycling.

Anyone bringing leftover household chemicals to the Crud Cruiser while it is in Bedford must bring a recent water bill or a driver's license as proof of residency. Since the City pays \$40 for each voucher issued to a household, it is wise to bring as much as possible, which means being familiar with allowable items. Those are listed at <http://www.fortworthgov.org/dem/info/default.aspx?id=8212> .

Check <http://www.ci.bedford.tx.us/> regularly for announcements regarding the next Crud Cruiser visit.

In 2005 the BBC began recommending awards for businesses which beautify their surroundings through landscaping, maintenance, litter cleanup, etc. The businesses listed below have been

recognized since then. A representative of the BBC will present the latest business recommendations to the Council during tomorrow night's meeting.

Best Improved

- ◆ Taco Bell at Hwy 121
- ◆ Texas Harley Davidson
- ◆ Superior Landscaping
- ◆ The Arbors of Central Park
- ◆ Mercedes-Benz of Bedford
- ◆ Taco Bell at Hwy 121
- ◆ Texas Harley Davidson
- ◆ Village at Central Park (two years in a row)

Best in Overall Appearance

- ◆ The Arbors of Central Park
- ◆ Lan's Salon & Nail Spa
- ◆ Mercedes-Benz of Bedford
- ◆ McDonald's on Harwood Road
- ◆ Sonic Restaurant
- ◆ Speedway Express Carwash
- ◆ Texas Harley Davidson
- ◆ Taco Bell at Hwy 121
- ◆ Village at Central Park (two years in a row)

Nominations for the awards may be made by submitting a completed application form to the BBC. A sample of that form is included in this issue of *The Bedford Citizen*. The form is available, also, at http://www.ci.bedford.tx.us/images/Code_enforcement/bbcnomi.pdf.

Individuals in any of the following groups may complete applications:

- ◆ BBC members
- ◆ Elected City officials
- ◆ City employees
- ◆ Code enforcement members
- ◆ Residents of Bedford
- ◆ Employees of any Bedford business

For more information about awards procedures and requirements, go to http://www.ci.bedford.tx.us/council/boards/board_agendas/awardprocedures.pdf.

Interested in becoming a member of this Commission? Applications are available on the city's web site or at City Hall's general information desk. New members will begin a two-year term in January of 2008. Attend a meeting on the third Monday of any month, or contact any Beautification Commission member for additional information. For their names, go to http://www.ci.bedford.tx.us/council/boards/board_agendas/boards_Commish.pdf and look under Beautification Commission.

Deborah Chaney is the chair of the Beautification Commission.

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Summer Movie Madness @ Bedford Public Library!

This week's movie is about what happens when an evil stepmother conjures up a spell that reverses everything the fairy godmother did. Tuesday, Jun 26 at 2:00 p.m.

ABOUT THIS E-NEWS

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The mission of this electronic newspaper (e-news) is to increase citizen awareness of current events and thereby increase their involvement in our government's decision-making process. As a result, *The Bedford Citizen* will focus on providing Bedford's residents with the information they need in order to cast an informed vote. We also will include occasionally some helpful and entertaining information.

The Bedford Citizen is currently a volunteer effort which we expect to be circulated from friend to friend via email in its PDF format. If you find it helpful and informative, please feel free to pass it along to others.

During this introductory period, the subscriptions are free. This will allow us to gauge the demand and work out the bugs. Eventually, we plan to charge a fee for subscriptions. This will allow us to avoid the conflicts of interest that can arise from accepting paid advertising.

Initially, we plan to publish an issue every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, subject to volunteer availability and the amount of news to report.

To subscribe, please send us an email at Be.A.Citizen@earthlink.net Please include your name, address and email address.

The Bedford Citizen welcomes free of charge:

- ◆ News articles from any volunteer writers, provided we judge the articles are relevant to our readers and the facts can be substantiated

- ◆ Position papers from political incumbents and candidates provided these position papers clearly state that person's position and they do not attack any other party

Our policies are as follows:

- ◆ *The Bedford Citizen* does not share nor sell its mailing list information.
- ◆ Paid advertising is not accepted.
- ◆ Except when identified as editorials, letters to the editor or opinion pieces, stories will contain only facts that can be verified. Writers should expect to be asked to provide documentation before articles are published.
- ◆ All submitted articles must deal with issues relevant to Bedford's residents and not exceed two pages, as published in this format.
- ◆ Only one letter to the editor or opinion piece will be accepted from a single household during any 30-day period.
- ◆ Public service announcements will be included as space allows.
- ◆ The staff of the Bedford Citizen will be the final judge.
- ◆ Submissions must be received at least 72 hours prior to publication.
- ◆ Submissions should be sent to Be.A.Citizen@earthlink.net and must include the author's name, address, email address and phone number.



Bedford Beautification Commission Business Recognition Nomination Form

Name of Business Nominee

Date

Address

Contact Person/Business Owner

e-mail address

Telephone

Nominated by

Category

Overall Appearance Best Improved Superior Landscaping

I feel that the above nominated business is deserving of recognition for efforts to beautify their business because:

Please return the completed forms to the Parks, Recreation & Special Events Department at 2000 Forest Ridge, Building "B" Bedford, Texas 76021. You may also fax them to Attn: Beautification Commission at 817-952-2392

For Committee Use:	Notifications:	Mayor <input type="checkbox"/>
Reviewed by: _____		Dir Parks <input type="checkbox"/>
Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied <input type="checkbox"/>		Council <input type="checkbox"/>
		Press <input type="checkbox"/>