

Community Connection

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Four Vie for At-Large Position

Election Day is May 14 and is an important date for the City of Taylor. The At-Large City Council position, now vacant, will be filled by one of four announced candidates and all eligible voters in the City can cast a vote for this spot.

Four candidates have filed to run for the At-Large City Council position: Jesse Ancira, Jr., Christopher Rogers, Brandt Rydell, and Lonnie D. Zycha. Information about each of the candidates and their positions may be found in the *Taylor Daily Press* and on the City's website, www.taylor.tx.gov.

Early voting will be at City Hall from May 2-10. On Election Day, voters will go to polls in their individual districts. This year marks the first time all voting will be electronic.

Save the date! May 7

Historic Downtown Taylor



City Manager's Message

Total population results from the 2010 Census count are in and significantly lower than the estimated population counts that we have been using from the State Demographer at the Texas State Data Center.

The main reason for this is that the two organizations use a different methodology.

The Census Bureau shows Williamson County with a population of 422,679 (an increase of 69.09% over 10 years) and Taylor with 15,191 (a growth of 11.90%).

The City's ethnic breakdown is 42.7% (Hispanic or Latino), 45.4% (White), 9.4% (African American), and less than 1% (each of the other categories).

JIM D. DUNAWAY

Recycling Update

A new Recycling Center is opening and will be available 24/7 for residents to drive through and drop off recyclables for single stream collection. This convenient location is between North Main Street and Old Granger Road beside the Ford Water Tank. There is no charge for this service.



The Center is the result of a \$20,568 grant received from the Capital Area Council of Governments and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. It is an initiative of Keep Taylor Beautiful in partnership with the City of Taylor.

Curbside Recycling

As more residents become active recyclers, curbside recycling may become available. A subscription service provided by IESI is being considered if a minimum of 600 residents sign up for it. The cost is \$7 plus tax per month for one year for curbside pickup every other week.

The program does not require sorting for recyclable paper, plastics, aluminum cans and glass in one cart. Interested residents may sign up by completing the yellow form that is included in this mailing.

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Second Street Update

Construction signs are up. The south lane is closed. Signs of utility and drainage work are evident and surveyors are checking their positions.

Second Street construction is underway from Loop 397 to Main Street. During the next few months, construction will begin in earnest.

The south side of Sloan Street will be closed to through traffic from Second to Welch Streets. North Sloan will not be affected by construction until summer.



Patience is the watch word when traveling Second Street.

A pre-construction public meeting was held in February for property and business owners and anyone interested in the project.

An open forum is held each week at 1:30 p.m. on Thursdays at City Hall to provide information, answer questions or address issues.

This opportunity will be available for the duration of the project or feel free to contact Dennis Kleppe at 512-563-6552 anytime.

HOME Grant Will Help Five Families

Five families have been selected to receive a new home under the HOME grant program.

This program provides funds through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) to assist low- to very-low income families.

These houses will replace homes that were substandard and did not meet minimum housing codes. This program is a forgivable loan that reverts to a grant after five years of living in the home.

These families were chosen through an application process.

The City of Taylor has helped to provide 11 homes under this grant program since 2004.



One of five new homes being built with HOME grant.

Library Story Time

Taylor Public Library Story time is held on Wednesdays from 10:30 - 11:30 in the library meeting room, 801 Vance Street and is free for all.

Join us for preschool story time, with stories, songs, fingerplay and a simple craft. For more information, call 512-352-3434.

Zest Fest Set for May 7

Don't miss the annual festival hosted by Taylor Main Street in Historic Downtown Taylor on May 7 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This year promises to be bigger and better than ever with entertainment, unique shopping, good food and Kid Fest.

Debuting this year is Artisans Row featuring the works of local and regional artists along with demonstrations of art in progress.



Daffodils All Around

Kudos to the Taylor Garden Club and many volunteers who planted over 1,000 daffodil bulbs that have bloomed this spring.

Yellow blooms have appeared all over the downtown area, entrances to the city and Bull Branch Park.

Council Changes Meeting Dates

The City Council has changed its meeting schedule to the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

Meetings are held at 6 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers and are open to the public. Agendas are available on the City's website.