

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

APRIL | MAY 2018

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER



The new splash pad at Fannie Robinson Park opened to the public with a ribbon-cutting event.

Taylor's first splash pad is open, and I was pleased to be among the first to get in the water at Fannie Robinson Park, 206 S. Dolan St. Mayor Brandt Rydell was emcee to a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday, April 6. Among the guests was former Mayor Don Hill, who led the city for more than 30 years. He spoke eloquently about the history of the park and how it was Dr. James Dickey who pushed to name the park after Mrs. Robinson, a lifelong Taylor resident. The 55-acre park was dedicated in her name in 1955. The property was first acquired in 1939. This past year it has undergone renovation, with a new fence at the ballfield, an overlook spot built and improvements made to the playing field. The splash pad is sure to become a favorite spot this summer for both children and adults.

Another project at the site is the Givens Community Center, which will be rehabilitated with funds from a Community Development Block Grant received from Williamson County. Repairs will include foundation leveling, improvements to the kitchen and restrooms, painting, lighting, air conditioning and wall finishes. Watch for more information on this project in the coming weeks.

Isaac Turner
Taylor City Manager

CITY ELECTION: EARLY VOTING IS APRIL 23 - MAY 1

Four candidates are running for two City Council seats

The City of Taylor City Council election is set for Saturday, May 5. Early Voting for City Council begins on Monday, April 23 and continues through Tuesday, May 1 at City Hall, 400 Porter St., Taylor, TX.

On election day, residents may vote at the locations in their districts or any voting center in Williamson County.

This year there are two Single Member District City Council seats up for a vote, from among the four districts and At-Large representation. District 2 and District 3 residents will choose from two candidates vying for a seat in each. Council terms are three years and staggered. In May 2019, the District 1 and District 4 seats will be up for election. The At-Large Council seat will be voted on in May 2020.

Special Meeting on May 15

A special meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 15, at City Council Chambers, 400 Porter St., at 6 p.m. for the canvassing and certification of the votes cast in the election. Council Members will swear in those elected and also choose a Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem from among themselves for one-year terms, per the process stated in the City of Taylor Charter.

FESTIVAL SEASON BEGINS: BUSY SUMMER AHEAD



SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2018

- FESTIVAL 10 AM - 4 PM**
- ENTERTAINMENT**
- FOOD VENDORS**
- KIDS FEST**
- ARTS & CRAFTS**

BLACKLAND PRAIRIE DAYS



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May 28: Memorial Day Ceremony will feature speakers, music and recognition of local veterans. At Murphy Park, 1600 Veterans Dr.

June 2 - July 28: Library Summer Reading Program

June 8: Movie in the Park, Taylor Regional Park, "Despicable Me 3"

July 4: Independence Day Festival at Murphy Park

July 13: Movie in the Park, Taylor Regional Park, "Pete's Dragon"

August 10: Movie in the Park, Taylor Regional Park, "Coco"



STRATEGIC FACILITIES MASTER PLAN PROGRESS

In 2017, City of Taylor staff and officials worked with Sledge Engineering to develop a long-range plan which would prioritize needs and rank city projects based on the condition of facilities, streets and infrastructure. With the plan's completion in 2018, now City Council has an in-depth analysis from which to develop the city's budget going forward for the next five to 10 years. The Strategic Facilities Master Plan will serve as a roadmap for determining the allocation of dollars the City has to work with from revenues. Council and staff can make informed decisions about what to fund and when because the SFMP provides the big picture in one document. Running a city government requires a thorough knowledge of city's needs, and the SFMP is a valuable tool. It's all about doing what's best for Taylor citizens.

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR EMERGENCY NOTICES?

The City of Taylor sends residents information about emergencies via the Capital Area Council of Governments Regional Notification System, called CodeRED. Citizens may sign up to receive alerts by email, phone or text. Register your individual or family contact information online at: warncentraltexas.org. If already registered, please double-check your information for accuracy or to make changes.



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APRIL UTILITY BILLS SHOWED NEW WINTER AVERAGING

Water usage during December through February is averaged to determine the Waste Water rates for residents for the rest of the year. The April bill has reflected any rate changes, based on the averaging. Billing is as follows:

- Zone 1: Billing of April 5, 2018
- Zone 2: Billing of April 12, 2018
- Zone 3: Billing of April 19, 2018
- Zone 4: Billing of April 26, 2018

Please call 512-352-2066 with any questions about utility bills.

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

April

21 CITYWIDE CLEANUP DAY

Residents can bring bulk items to 1200 Welch St. or 1424 N. Main St. between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m.

28 NATIONAL TAKE-BACK DRUG DAY

Bring outdated and unused prescription drugs to City Hall, 400 Porter St, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Remain anonymous and safe.

May

5 BLACKLAND PRAIRIE DAYS

Downtown festival from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Arts, crafts, live music, food vendors

5 JIMMY HEAP AT THE MOODY MUSEUM

From 10 a.m. to Noon. Comments and music presented by Paul Schlesinger and The Pioneer Boys. Come by 114 W. Ninth St. for fun and dancing!

17 THIRD THURSDAY SHOPPING NIGHT

Head Downtown for the evening where stores stay open late with special deals!

26 CITY POOLS OPEN FOR THE WEEKEND

28 MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Takes place at Liberty Gardens at Murphy Park, 1600 Veterans Dr. Details TBA.

HOLIDAY CLOSURE

City offices will be closed on the following day:

Monday, May 28 | Memorial Day
(Normal trash collection, no delays)

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Thursdays - April 12 & 26 | May 10 & 24
All meetings begin at 6 p.m. and are held at City Hall. Watch meetings live online or taped recordings at www.taylor.tx.gov.