

## COMMUNITY CONNECTION



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### City of Taylor City Council

Bernabe Gonzales  
Mayor  
District 2

Donald R. Hill  
Mayor Pro Tem  
District 1

John McDonald  
District 3

Ella Jez  
District 4

Rod Hortenstine  
At Large

### WHO TO CALL AT CITY HALL?

General Information  
352-3675

Municipal Court  
352-5977

Street Department  
352-5818

Water Bills  
352-2066

Library  
352-3434

## Hike & Bike Bridge

Murphy Park Lake sports a new walking bridge that spans the north and south shores of Murphy Lake as the Hike & Bike trail extends under the Lake Drive bridge. The 67-foot steel and wood bridge connects the Bull Branch Hike & Bike trail to the Murphy Park trail that is currently under construction. The bridge will connect nearly three miles of trail that runs from North Drive to Robinson Park when the Murphy Park improvements are completed.



*Hike & Bike bridge completed at Murphy Park*

## Pedestrian Crossings

With the completion of the various sections of the Hike & Bike trail, the number of walkers and joggers who are using the trail has increased. Users of the trail are reminded to be cautious in crossing streets at the “pedestrian crossings” where there is no stop sign or traffic control.

All drivers are reminded to be aware of these “pedestrian crossings” and to yield to anyone crossing the street at these specifically marked areas. Pedestrians have the right of way.

Pedestrian crossings are clearly marked with crossing caution signage.

Look for pedestrian crossings for trail users at:



Mallard Lane @ Bull Branch  
Davis Street @ Bull Branch  
Lake Drive @ Howard Street

## Taylor Garden Club Gazebo Site Approved

The City Council has approved a site overlooking Murphy Park Lake for the “Lou Bell Harris Memorial Gazebo” being planned by the Taylor Garden Club and donated as a gift to the City.

The structure being designed by Joan Cabaniss, Historic Preservation Architect, will be nestled in a group of trees on the shore of the lake, making it a beautiful asset to the park and the community.

The Council approved water and electrical lines to the site and voted to accept the donation of the gazebo following approval of the architectural plans.

## Garbage Rate Increase

Due to escalating fuel costs, residential garbage rates will increase from \$10 to \$10.55. Cart rates will go from \$2.75 each to \$2.90. Business rates will increase 5.6%. The increase is effective April 1 and will be reflected in the May utility billing. For more information, call 352-2066.

## 2008 Citywide Trash-Off & Cleanup

Keep Taylor Beautiful and the City of Taylor encourage all Taylor residents and businesses to participate in the 2008 Citywide Trash-Off and Cleanup on Saturday, April 26 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. For a nominal fee, residents can have their trash and debris unloaded at dumpsters located at the City maintenance yard at 1424 North Main with entry on Old Thorndale Road and in the 1400 block of Welch Street at the former Hidalgo Park location. The fee will range between \$5 and \$15, depending on the size of load. Some form of identification with customer's name and address will be required, such as a driver's license or a City of Taylor utility bill. No batteries, waste oil and oil filters, appliances with refrigerants, chemicals or other hazardous materials will be accepted at either of the dumpster locations. Passenger tires may be left at the 1424 North Main location for a fee of \$3.

Oil, oil filters, cardboard and scrap metal, as well as old computers and printers, may be disposed of at the Williamson County Recycling Center located at the entrance to the Williamson County Landfill on FM 1660 north of Hutto. For additional information, visit <http://williamsoncountylandfill.wm.com/facility/recyclingcenter.asp>. Aluminum cans, batteries, copper and brass materials may be disposed of at Texas Metals located in the 900 block of North Main Street from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, the 26<sup>th</sup>.

Keep Taylor Beautiful volunteers, including local civic groups, will be picking up trash throughout the city, especially along main thoroughfares, starting at 8 a.m. Anyone who would like to join the effort and pick up trash in their neighborhood is invited to do so. Bags will be available at the Taylor Chamber of Commerce location at 1519 N. Main St.

For more information, contact Linda Kaderka at 352-5240, Anne Mehevec, 365-7031 or Fred Switzer at City Hall, 352-3463.

## Dilapidated Structures

A concerted effort is being made by the City of Taylor to revitalize neighborhoods by cleaning up substandard or abandoned structures.

Using the Local Government Code, Chapter 214 regulating housing and other structures, the Code Enforcement staff has identified approximately 40 substandard or dilapidated buildings that need to be demolished. During the past year, nine properties were scheduled for demolition. These properties will be

foreclosed on later this year. Once the properties are foreclosed, they will be available for reuse for affordable housing development or private development and once again be an asset to the neighborhood.

These are buildings that have been identified as unfit for human habitation and a hazard to public health, safety and welfare. The City has identified 14 additional properties for processing during this year.



*Example of dilapidated structure*

To report code enforcement violations or for questions, contact Jonny Ubehlor at 352-3675, ext. 18.

## City Calendar of Events for April

April 1	Zoning Board of Adjustments @ 6 pm
April 8	Planning & Zoning Commission @ 6 pm
April 10	City Council @ 6 pm
April 15	Parks & Recreation Board @ 6 pm
April 15	Library Board @ 6 pm
April 16	Main Street Advisory Board @ 11:30 am
April 22	City Council @ 6 pm
April 24	Airport Advisory Board @ 6:30 pm

Agendas are posted at City Hall and at [www.ci.taylor.tx.us](http://www.ci.taylor.tx.us).

## Community Connection

Published monthly by the City of Taylor and delivered with the utility bill each month. For more information about any story in this issue contact Jean Johnson, Main Street/Communications Manager, at 352-5448 or Susan Brock, City Clerk, at 352-3676.

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