September 25, 2013 Volume 7, Issue 3

## City of Bevil Oaks



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We are now accepting credit cards, both online and in person at City Hall. We can also provide a link for you to view, print and pay your utility bill online! It is a safe, secure service. You can pay using a credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express) as well as debit cards displaying the Visa or MasterCard logo, or with an electronic check. There is a small service fee; this fee in most cases would be less than a late fee or other charges you could incur if your payment was delayed for any reason. The service fee is assessed at



NOW ACCEPTING CREDIT CARDS!

\$3.00 per \$100.00 utility bill. For example, if your bill is in any amount from \$1.00 - \$99.00, it will charge you \$3.00 to use the service. If it is \$100.00 - \$199.00, the charge would be \$6.00, and continues going up from there.

You will need our Municipal Code. It is: BeviloaksTX713

To register, go to:

www.billpay.ubmaxonline.com

#### **Upcoming:**

• Oct. 3-Pet Clinic

Volunteers Needed

- Oct. 10—Phone Seminar
- Oct. 12—City Wide Garage Sale
- Oct. 15-JCESD #1
- Oct. 16-Flu Shots
- Oct. 17—City Council Meeting
- Oct. 26—City Wide Clean-up

# 2013-2014 Budget Approved



At the September 19 Regular Council Meeting, Council approved the 2013-2014 budgets that total \$240,900.00 for the City operations and \$332,000.00 for Utility operations. The City budget is approximately \$25,000 less than the 2012-2013 budget of \$265,200. Funding for road repairs will come from the funds that were designated, by ordinance, for road repairs and cannot be used for any other purpose.

# 2013-2014 Tax Rate Approved

Council also approved the effective tax rate of 0.215774 per \$100 which is expected to produce approximately \$105,000.00 in income. Last year's rate was 0.216005 per \$100 and produced approximately \$106,000.00 in income. Adjusted taxable property values decreased during 2013 causing the effective tax rate to decrease accordingly. The effective tax rate is the rate calculated by the county tax office for the purpose of keeping the tax dollars collected from property owners as near to the same amount as possible each year regardless of the fluctuation of taxable property values. Copies of the budget and monthly financial reports are available upon request at City Hall.



# Code Enforcement Activity

Our part-time Code Enforcement Officer patrols our neighborhood on a regular basis inspecting properties for ordinance violations that could adversely affect the health and well being of the neighborhood as well as property values. This includes, but is not limited to, dead trees on the property that threaten to fall on neighboring properties; trash and debris accumulated on properties; junk motor vehicles, etc. Notices of violations are discretely mailed to property owners to allow them the opportunity to make necessary corrections without exploitation. However, if there is no response after receiving a second notice, the property owner is given a court date and must present their case to the judge for resolution.

The good news is that, of the 74 property owners notified of violations during the past year, 65 or 88% received only one notice and corrected the violation without further action; only 9 or 12% were issued a notice to appear before the judge.

Code Enforcement violations are community wide. Of the 74 violations noted, 26 or 35% were in Ward 1; 17 or 23% were in Ward 2; and, 31 or 42% were in Ward 3.

Keeping our City safe and clean is the responsibility of every property owner. Please do your part to keep these numbers low and without fines. If you do receive a letter from Bevil Oaks Municipal Court, time is of the essence, so please contact us immediately.

# GLO Round 2.2—Sanitary Sewer Improvements

The construction work along the Boulevard and the eastern section of the City is the pipe-bursting project that is being funded by a \$500,000 grant that the City received from the Hurricane Ike Round 2.2 Funding. Previously, inspections of the City's sewer lines had shown this area to have the heaviest infiltration of ground water going into the sewer system. Therefore, this area was chosen to receive the grant funded repairs.

The contractor has finished the pipe bursting of the sewer mains in the project and is currently working on installing the new manholes and working on final clean up.



## Report:

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Welfare Concern3
Trespassing2
Civil Dispute1
Criminal Mischief1
Debit Card Abuse1
Family Distur1
General1

# Neighborhood Watch Report

Many thanks go out to Jane Hebert for keeping up with the Neighborhood Watch Program, and making sure citizens are kept informed. For the month of August, the Jefferson County Police Report is listed to the left.

Also, a special thank you to all the volunteers who helped put up the new signs around the city!









Mr. & Mrs. McMullen 13555 Rolling Hills



Mr. & Mrs. Howard 13340 Inwood



Mr. & Mrs. Haydel 13550 Leaning Oaks



Mr. & Mrs. Milam 13560 Inwood

# Jane Hebert Yard of the Month Program

This program was initiated several years ago as the "Community Development Yard of the Month". However, its success is the direct result of resident, and former Council Woman, Jane Hebert's tireless efforts to keep it active. Earlier this year, Council renamed the program the "Jane Hebert Yard of the Month Program" in her honor. Recipients of this year's "Yard of the Month"

were:

May, 2013: Jackie Larson, 7425 Sweetgum

June, 2013: Wayne & Barbara McMullen, 13555 Rolling Hills

July, 2013: Rusty & Joan Howard, 13340 Inwood

August, 2013: Roland & Louise Haydel, 13550 Leaning Oaks

September, 2013: Ed & Janet Milam, 13560 Inwood

A special "thank you" to these residents for their efforts to beautify Bevil Oaks that go above and beyond just keeping the grass cut. Too much or too little rain sometimes make winning this recognition very difficult and, because of that, some years our winners are more outstanding than others. However, everyone's efforts are appreciated and we encourage you to begin now to plan to be a winner in 2014.

The Holiday Yard award will be presented the first week of December. So, start organizing your outdoor decorations and be ready to make Bevil Oaks bright and beautiful this holiday season. Your efforts will be enjoyed by our community and our guests and will, hopefully, lift all of us into a joyous holiday spirit! Citizens are encouraged to nominate yards for December. Please contact Jane Hebert, at 409-753-3898 to do so.

# ATTENTION: Free Specialized Phones!

If you have trouble SEEING, HEARING, SPEAKING, or GETTING TO THE PHONE, this program may be able to help you.

**Hamilton Assistance Ministries** will be presenting an informational seminar for those in our area who have any of the issues listed above. There is no obligation and if you qualify for assistance there is absolutely no charge to you. The program is state funded through the taxes which have been collected on phone bills. You will not have to supply your social security number! You will be required to show proof of residency, by either a current Texas state ID or current utility bill.

Where: First Baptist Church Bevil Oaks (In back at the Family Life Center)

7725 Sweetgum Bevil Oaks, TX 77713

When: October 10, 2013 6:30 PM

# Proposed New Flood Map Information

At the September 19. 2013 Council meeting, Councilman Merendino expressed concerns that the City should fund necessary research to protest the proposed changes to our Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). It was discussed that the cost of hydrologic studies are out of our reach but, it was agreed that the Mayor should proceed in determining if there was anything we could do that would be within the City's budget. City Attorney, Dru Montgomery, suggested to the Mayor that Doug Canant, Engineer for Drainage District 6, might be able to offer some assistance. Mr. Canant reviewed the Airborne Light Detection And Ranging (LIDAR) systems information that was used by FEMA for our proposed map changes. He advised the Mayor that he saw some places that he believed, with further study, could be proven to be in error. He recommended that the City contract with LJA Engineering, Inc. to make this study and determine if his assumptions are correct. And, if so, to help the City prepare a letter to FEMA protesting the changes to the map that they feel are incorrect. This study should be completed by the end of September 2013 in order to get our letter to FEMA before the November 12, 2013 deadline. In the event that LJA Engineering provides proof that there are errors, there is no guarantee that FEMA will change the map. But, we will have at least done everything possible to represent our community.

In the meantime, we are discovering more and more citizens living in Zone AE whose elevation certificates prove that their homes are built above Base Flood Elevation (BFE). This makes these residences eligible for a Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) that FEMA can issue changing their zone from AE to X which will give the homeowner the benefit of the lowest flood insurance rates and remove them from the 2 foot freeboard elevation requirement in Ordinance 207. If you live in Zone AE and have an elevation certificate for your property, please bring a copy to City hall and allow Kimberely Vandver, City secretary/CFM, to review it for eligibility. If the top of your slab is above BFE for your lot, we would like to apply for a LOMA for you. There is no charge for this service.

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Registration will begin at 6:00 PM and all vaccines will be given starting 6:30--8:30 P.M.

The vaccines will only be given that night. We will not take pre-payment for a person to come by the office the next day to get their animal vaccinated.

Vaccine prices are as follows:

Canine and Feline Rabies-- \$20.00
Canine Distemper/Parvo/Carona-- \$20.00
Feline Upper Respiratory-- \$20.00

We will accept cash and checks only. The will be a \$35.00 return check fee.

Dr. Schneiter WILL NOT

evaluate or diagnose <u>ANY</u> problems or conditions.

NO EXCEPTIONS.

## First Baptist Church

7725 Sweetgum Beaumont, TX

For more info, contact:
Joan Howard

This clinic is open to anyone, not just Bevil Oaks residents, so if you have family or friends that want to take advantage of this, please encourage them to come.





For more information or to sign up, contact:

Stacey Smith 409-782-6972

City Wide Garage Sale October 12

> City Wide Clean-up October 26



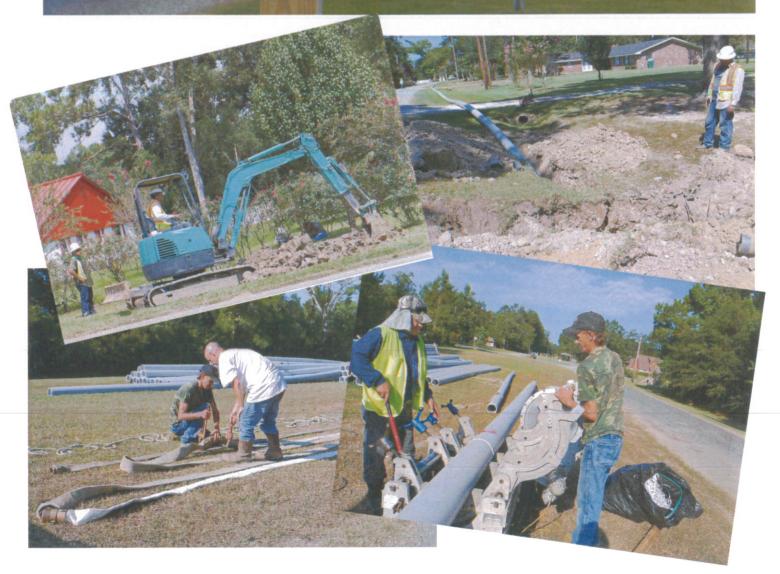
8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

\$15 each

**Location: Civic Center** 





## Volunteers Needed

From time to time the City has need for minor repairs that could be made by skilled citizen volunteers. This could result in saving our tax dollars for larger projects that must be contracted out.

If you are a skilled person (carpenter, electrician, heating and air, plumber, etc...) and have the time and desire to lend an occasional helping hand, please contact us immediately. You can do so by filling out the form below and dropping it by City Hall, or contact Kimberely Vandver, our City Secretary, and give her your information. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated and will be a significant contribution to our community.

	VOLUNTEER SIGNUP SHEET	
Name:	Home Phone:	
Address:	Cell Phone:	
City, State, Zip:	Email:	
Volunteer Only	Please add my name to a list for citizens to have as well	
Carpenter	Electrician Heating/Air Conditioning	
Plumber	Other:	
Note:		
Date Received:	OFFICE USE ONLY:  Received By:	
	erified: Entered into databases:	

## City of Bevil Oaks

7525 Sweetgum Beaumont, TX 77713 City Hall: 409-753-1475

Water Department: 409-753-2126

Email: beviloaks@att.net

## Bevil Oaks is Online at:

## www.cityofbeviloaks.com

#### City Clerks:

Kimberely Vandver & Lacey Wagner 753-1475

## **Emergency Management:**

Don Smith 658-8220

#### **Code Enforcement Officer:**

Delia Giglio 753-1475

#### Water/Sewer:

Office Hours: 753-2126 Emergency AFTER Hours: 755-7377

Becky Ford, Mayor	753-1263		
Jimmie Grimes, Mayor Pro-Tem	753-3377		
Community Development & SETRPC Liaison			

## **Council Members:**

Sherry Adams, Ward 3
Secretary & Buildings

Dave Tevis. Ward 1

753-2474

753-3216

**Dave Tevis, Ward 1** 753-3216 Street Lights & Signs

**Danny Fruge, Ward 3** 753-3446

Roads & Drainage, & Grounds

**Fay Roberts, Ward 2** 753-2163

Bud Merendino, Ward 1 466-3193

Next City Council
Meeting:

Thursday, October 17, 2013 @ 7:00 p.m. Civic Center **Next JCESD #1 Meeting:** 

Tuesday, October 15, 2013 @ 6:00 p.m. Firehouse



7525 Sweetgum

Beaumont, TX 77713

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# Resident Rural Route 1 Beaumont, TX 77713