

CITY OF TOMBALL 401 MARKET STREET TOMBALL, TEXAS 77375 WWW.CI.TOMBALL.TX.US

Spring 2007

Volume 15, Issue 1

HOMETOWNLink

City Manager Says Goodbye



City Manager, Ben Griffin, resigned his position in March, 2007.
After 13 years of service to the City of Tomball, eight as Finance Director/Assistant City Manager and five as City Manager, Mr. Griffin elected to spend more time with his family. During this time Assistant City Manager Mary Coker will serve as Interim City Manager.



Election News 2007



In May, the City of Tomball will hold elections for the Mayor and Council Position #3. Along with the City, the Tomball Independent Scholl District and Harris County will be holding elections as well. Below you can find information on polling dates and locations for each election. If there are any questions, please call the City Secretary at 281-290-1002.

City Elections

• Early Voting starts April 30 and ends • May 8

- Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday Polls are open from 7:45 am to 5 pm

- Tuesday polls are open from 7:45 am to 7:45 pm

- Friday polls are open from 7:45 am to 4 pm

• Election Day is Saturday May 12

- Polls are open from 7 am to 7 pm

Election Locations

- The City of Tomball and TISD are having a joint election for both Early Voting days and Election Day at City Hall
- Harris County is also holding an election, Polling will be at the Public Works Building for Early Voting, and at City Hall on Election Day
- Jerry Matheson Swimming Pool Schedule

Swimming Lessons

- * For information on Swimming Lessons, please contact the YMCA at (281) 356-4077.
- Information on lessons and schedule can be found at the City of Tomball's website www.ci.tomball.tx.us.
- Weekends only beginning May 19th.
- * Daily beginning May 29th until August 12th.

2007 DATES OF OPERATION

* Weekends only from August 18th until September 16th.

Department Phone Numbers City Hall 281-351-5484 Community Center 281-255-6221 Fire Department 281-351-7101 Police Department 281-351-5451 Public Works 281-290-1400

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Depot Opens

On January 27, the Tomball Depot was reopened and Dedicated by the Tomball City Council. The Ceremony took place during the Centennial Commission's Train Days celebration. Guests included State and County Representatives, Tomball Mayor and Council, the Centennial Com-

mittee, railroad officials, and the Ghost Emeritus of Thomas Henry Ball.

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Since its dedication, the Tomball Depot Plaza has played host to many of the City's most popular events. In February, the Trail Riders reception was held

at the plaza, and most recently, the German Heritage Festival. Recently completed, the Depot also serves as the Centennial Commissions headquarters during the 2007 Centennial Celebration.

The new depot began its latest journey in 2005 when it was moved from Burroughs Park to its present location. Many groups were involved in the revitalization of this locally historic landmark, from the local citizens who fought to save it in the early 90's, to the contractors who most recently finished developing the plaza.

With the hard work and commitment from all those involved, the Depot Plaza is sure to be a Tomball landmark for years to come, hosting even more of the City's most celebrated events.

Major Capital Items and Projects

Project	Estimated Let Date	Estimated Completion
Phase II Utility Improvements FM2920 West		April 2007
Hufsmith Kohrville Road Utilities		April 2007
Little League Improvements (Stovall Sports Complex)		September 2007
Juergens Park Improvements	June 2007	July 2007
Liberty Lane and Hicks Street Drainage Improvements	August 2007	Fall 2007
Brown-Hufsmith Road Utilities	June 2007	Fall 2007
Old Town Revitalization (Tomball Depot)		May 2007
Quinn Road Improvements (Utilities and Sidewalks)	June 2007	November 2008
Michel Road Improvements	November 2007	Spring 2008
Pine Street Drainage	October 2007	December 2007



Road nstructi





Who Are Those Guys?

Who are those guys? We have been getting telephone calls inquiring about the two or three senior gentlemen wearing Tomball Fire Department apparel and asking business owners to be allowed to examine commercial establishments in the City of Tomball. These gentlemen are not members of the Apple Dumpling Gang or other marauding intruders "casing" businesses with evil on their agendas.

Let's first speak to "who those guys are not". These gentlemen are not inspecting for violations the City's Fire and Life Safety Code. They have no authority to issue citations or make recommendations concerning fire safety in the occupancy.

So, who are those guys? George Smith, Kline Irvine and Calvin Fast are participants in the local extension of a national program called Fire Corp. The program matches up the unmet needs of the local fire department with members of the community that have time, talent and a desire to assist their community's fire department. In this case, the project involved creating a fire "pre-plan" for each commercial establishment in Tomball. The pre-plan includes a site plan, floor plan, location of all utility cut off switches and valves, analysis of building construction, location of closest two fire hydrants, roof load, presence and location of hazardous materials and other information to assist firefighters. This information becomes invaluable to the Incident Commander when making decisions to commit personnel to safely fighting a fire in the building.

The Tomball Fire Department sincerely appreciates the cooperation of the community's business managers and owners in assisting us in the process of creating these pre-plans.

Should you have any questions regarding this program or any other Tomball Fire Department program, please do not hesitate to contact Fire Chief Randy Parr or Fire Marshal Joe Jasso at 281-351-7101.



Community Development

On February 19, 2007 the City of Tomball hired Hector "H.J." Landin as its Community Development Coordinator. The mission of Community Development is to assist new developers, builders, prospective businesses and homeowners with guidance on building requirements within the City of Tomball. We are the liaison to all the various departments within the City of Tomball that can assist the potential customers with their questions and guide them to get answers as expeditiously as possible.

Hector brings with him 20 years of private development experience. His knowledge and expertise will be a vital asset to the City of Tomball and its future growth.

Hector is located in the Public Works Building at 501 James Street, and can be reached by phone at 281-290-1491. You can also e-mail him at hlandin@ci.tomball.tx.us. More information on Community Development can be found at www.ci.tomball.tx.us/community_development.



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Tomball Police Department 2006 Wrap Up



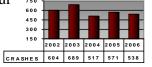
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Major crime in Tomball is at a remarkable five-year low. The 2006 year actually saw a 9.8% decrease in major crime over 2005 figures. Traffic crash data for 2006 is also down

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almost 6%. Even with our continued growth, this number

reflects our second lowest year for collisions within the past five years.



In 2006 the Tomball Police Department continued to take a proactive approach in traffic safety by conducting Selected Traffic Enforcement Programs that focused on the type of moving violations which actually contribute to motor vehicle crashes.

The total number of motor vehicle crashes during 2006 was 538, which is a decrease of 5.8% from 2005. For 2007, the Police Department will be monitoring areas which often have an affect on traffic mishaps, i.e. new construction of retail shopping centers and construction of the Tomball Expressway.

A highly labor-intensive accomplishment for the City of Tomball and the police department this year was to suc-

cessfully complete a near two-year project which led us to become a "Nationally Recognized Agency" by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. The Tomball Police Depart-



ment now joins a very short esteemed list of some 27 other agencies across the state to have achieved a CALEA award, and has established itself in attaining a model of best-practices in systems, processes, efficiency and organizational accountability.

The Tomball Police Department has a number of exciting goals for 2007, among these are:

- ✦ Neighborhood Town-Hall Meetings
- Supervisor Exchange Program
- ✦ Evaluation of Red Light Photo-Enforcement
- ✦ Rollout of Geo-Stat Incident Mapping Program
- + Development of a five-year Strategic Plan

Centennial Heartbeat Festival



The TOMBALL HEARTBEAT 1907 TOMBALL 2007 HOMITOWN WITH A HEALT - FESTIVAL is

scheduled for June 1, 2, and 3. Nashville stars Roger Creager, the Rand Rogers Band, Stoney Larue, and Tomball's own son. Mark Eli and The Eli Young Band, headline the festival's music stage over the 3-day period, along with Shake Russell, the ever-popular, award-winning Johnny

Dee and the Rocket 88's, plus many more.

The Children's Entertainment promises fun for the whole family. Radio Disney Live will bring its show to town. The national dance sensation group SAVVY will take stage also. The Great American Duck Races will Visit www.tomballheartbeat.com for be there and the IGX Adrenaline Jam additional info. will give video gaming junkies endless fun.

The state's second largest carnival attractions will bring chills and thrills. This event is brought to you by the Tomball Centennial Commission, and is sponsored by Lone Star Chevrolet, Coca-Cola, Budweiser, AT&T, and many, many more.

Service Flags to Support our Troops

City Council honors our Tomball area service men and women who are currently deployed. A blue star flag, designed to hang in a front window of the family home is presented to the family.

Service Men and Women honored at recent council meetings:

Specialist Michael Howard Black Baghdad, Iraq Specialist Christopher Lee Cooper, Jr. Iraq Lance Corporal Cale Fulton Iraq Lance Corporal Joshua Glameyer Iraq Sgt. Michael Meador Iraq

If you have an immediate family member serving in the armed forces who is a graduate from a Tomball school or is a Tomball resident and you wish to have them honored at an upcoming City Council meeting, please call 281-290-1002 to speak to Doris Speer for more information.



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Volume 15, Issue 1 Page 5 Recyclable Waste & E-Waste Collection Event

When: Saturday. May 19, 2007 Time: 9 a.m. till Noon Where: Tomball City Hall Who can Participate: Residents from Tomball, Harris County, and surrounding Areas For More Information please Call 281-351-5484



Acceptable Items Include:

BOPA Waste

Batteries Oil

Recyclables

- Print Cartridges
 - Cell Phones
- Paint
- Antifreeze

Electronic Waste

Televisions, Computer Monitors, Whole CPUs, Laptop Com-puters, Printers & Scanners Fax Machines, Telephones, Ste-reos, VCR's

What NOT TO BRING?

Business Waste, Radioactive Waste, Ammunition, Explosives, Compressed gas Cylinders, smoke detectors, Microwaves, washers, dryers, refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, tractor tires, trash

SAFETY TIPS!

Bring product in original containers (do not mix products)

- Make sure containers are properly sealed and labeled
- If you don't know what it is mark it "unknown"
- If possible, place materials in cardboard boxes
- Place materials in area away from drivers and passengers

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Project funded through a grant provided by Houston-Galveston Area Council and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.



CITY OF TOMBALL **401 MARKET STREET**

City of Tomball 401 Market Street Tomball, Texas 77375



Mayor & City Council

H.G. "Hap" Harrington Mayor **Gretchen Fagan** Mayor Pro-Tem, Position 3 David R. Quinn Councilmember, Position 1 **Roy Lazenby**

Councilmember, Position 2

Mary Harvey Councilmember, Position 4

Warren Driver Councilmember, Position 5











Mission To promote a healthy and safe environment of increasingly higher quality of life for all citizens, with sensitivity to the financial burden it may impose



