



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

Fall 2008

Volume 16, Issue 4

HOMETOWN *Link*

A Message from The Mayor



We certainly have a lot to be thankful for in Tomball. I would like to thank ALL the people in the Tomball area. After Hurricane Ike roared through town, hundreds of you pitched in to ease the burden for those less fortunate.

We have so many heroes in this town. I would start with our guys in Public Works. They were driving Tomball during the height of the storm and found a gas meter torn out of the ground; they were able (in 80+ mile an hour winds) to turn off the service and prevent a potentially serious situation. These guys worked around the clock the first few days and then cut back to 12 hour days! They cut trees to clear roads for us to get home and then began the huge task of cleaning up our neighborhoods.

Northwest EMS, Tomball fire and police departments and our Public Works crews sheltered and then evacuated the residents of Lawrence Street Nursing Home during the storm. They coordinated this effort with numerous other agencies from around the State. They also safely evacuated the occupants of the Super 8 Motel when the roof came off during the storm.

The congregation at ChristBridge Fellowship opened their doors as a Red Cross Shelter. TISD opened Willow Wood Junior High so the evacuees could have their first shower in five days. The TISD employees not only opened the school, but supervised the kids and took care of babies while the moms got showers. I was not surprised to find that all these TISD employees were without power, yet they were quick to volunteer to help others.

At the FEMA Point of Distribution (POD) site we were able to give food, water and ice to thousands of people in need. Special thanks to the businesses at Four Corners. They understood the emergency and many of them came out to help load the waiting cars, provided ice for insulin, made their bathrooms available and even put up a tent for some of the sunburned volunteers.

Many of our citizens had roof damage, lost trees and we all lost power, but we were blessed in so many ways. We send a big "thank you" to the many volunteers who participated in our United for Tomball Community Cleanup Days. More than 40 properties of senior, disabled and disadvantaged citizens were cleaned up when our city turned out to help those in need.

Even though it sometimes takes a disaster to bring us all together, how we respond says a lot about our community. I am so proud to live in a community where we all come together to make the community better and I'm proud to be your mayor.

Sincerely,



The City of Tomball Wants You... to serve on its Boards and Commissions. We value input from residents who care about Tomball and want to be a part of the decision making process. If you would like to be considered for a board or commission, please go to www.ci.tomball.tx.us/boards_commissions and fill out an application.

Applications should be returned to Doris Speer at City Hall, 401 Market Street.

Did You Know?

Smoke Detectors Save Lives!

The smoke detector installation program is an ongoing partnership between the City of Tomball Fire Department and Wayne Wright Lawyers of San Antonio. The Wayne Wright Law Firm created the partnership with local jurisdictions in response to a tragic Thanksgiving, 2006 San Antonio house fire in which State Senator Frank Madla and his mother-in-law were killed. The home was not equipped with any working smoke detectors. The law firm was so touched by the tragedy that they developed a program to make smoke detectors available to any fire department that was willing to spend the time to install them in any home without working detectors.



TFD is very proud to be a partner in that effort. We ask that any resident who does not have a working smoke detector in their home to contact Lisa Griffin at the Tomball Fire Department at 281-351-7101 to arrange for the installation of an appropriate number of detectors.

Who You Gonna Call?



If you are experiencing problems with water, sewer or natural gas at or near your property please call The City of Tomball Public Works Department before calling a plumber. By doing this, you can avoid unnecessary expenses if the repairs are the City's responsibility. The Utility Department has personnel on call 24 hours a day. If you need to contact the Utility Department please call 281-290-1400. After normal business hours please call the Tomball Police Department at 281-351-5451 for the call duty operator.

Keep It Clean

If you are a property owner in Tomball, please make sure to keep your property mowed. Tomball's Code Enforcement Office is working to keep the City looking as clean as possible. Overgrown lots are an eyesore and can be dangerous. Remember, if you aren't checking on your property, we are, and we will be in touch!



Early voting for the November Election will be held at the Public Works building, 501 James Street, from October 20 to October 31. Please visit www.harrisvotes.org for details.

Service Flags to Support our Troops

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.



What's New

Tomball Today Weekly E-Newsletter

Have you received "Tomball Today," the City's weekly e-newsletter? If not please go to our website www.ci.tomball.tx.us or email Shawn Cox at scox@ci.tomball.tx.us to sign up.

"Tomball Today" serves as an outlet for the City to keep the public up-to-date on what's happening in Tomball. With all of the new and exciting events taking place, like 2nd Saturday at the Depot, we want to make sure we get the word out.



- In This Issue
- Budget Public Hearing
- Blood Drive
- 2nd Saturday at the Depot
- CERT Training
- Tennis Courts Closing
- Quick Links
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Tomball Today Weekly E-Newsletter

This newsletter lets you know what is happening in Tomball every week! Please feel free to forward this to as many people as you would like. If you or someone you know would like to join our e-newsletter list, you can sign up at the City's website, www.ci.tomball.tx.us.



Public Hearing on 2008-2009 Budget: September 8 at 6PM

The City's annual budget for fiscal year 2008-2009 will be presented on Monday, September 8 at 6:00 PM at City Hall, 401 Market Street. The public is invited to attend. The budget is available for review through the City's web site and copies may be obtained from the City Secretary's office at City Hall.

September Meetings



- September 8: City Hall - 6 PM Budget Public Hearing - 6:30 PM Planning & Zoning Commission
- September 15: City Hall - 7 PM City Council
- Information Line

Four City Council budget work sessions were held during the months of July and August and were open to the public; the resulting budget will be presented Monday night. For a preview of major changes to the budget, click the link below to a recent column in "The Palpatour."

[Mayor's Petpourri Column](#)

2nd Annual Mayor's Challenge Blood Drive: September 11

Did you know that by donating blood, you can help save three lives? On September 11, the City of Tomball will host the 2nd Annual "Mayor's Challenge" Community Blood Drive. This is your chance to become a hero for our local heroes. The drive will be located at the Tomball Community Center, 221 Market Street, and run from 12:30 PM to 6:30 PM. To register, call Shawn Cox at 281-290-1001 or visit www.comonfire.org. Come out and show your support for these police officers, fire fighters, paramedics, and public works crews who serve our city and our country.

Red-Light Cameras



The City of Tomball, in conjunction with RedFlex Traffic Solutions, has introduced an automated red light photo enforcement initiative. This traffic safety program is designed to save lives and significantly reduce injury accidents and the devastating costs associated with red light running. The cameras are located at the intersections of Hwy 249 and FM 2920 and Hwy 249 and Zion Road.

If you receive a citation in the mail from our photo enforcement division, please read the directions carefully, as there are a number of options available to you to resolve the incident.

We've Moved

The City of Tomball's Fire Marshal's Office has moved to the Public Works building at 501 James Street. The phone numbers for the Fire Marshal's office have also changed. Steve Chapman, Fire Marshal, can be reached at 281-290-1440 and Doug Sanguedolce, Fire Inspector, can be reached at 281-290-1441.



New Faces



The Tomball Fire Department is pleased to announce the addition of its first two full-time firefighters, Chad Howe and Eric Potts. Along with Howe and Potts, the Fire Department has hired Hubert Sykora, Tyler Graf, Scott Blake, John Williams, and James Jones as Part-time Firefighters.



Howe

New to the Engineering and Planning Department are Rodney Schmidt and Lori Lakatos. Rodney will serve as the City's Assistant City Planner and Lori is the Assistant City Engineer.

Joining the Public Works Department as a Utilities Serviceperson is Matthew Inman.

October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Chamber 1st Friday Luncheon	4
5	6 City Council	7	8	9	10	11 2nd Saturday at the Depot
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 City Council	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 City Council	28	29	30	31	

November 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2  Day Light Saving Ends	3 City Council	4 Election Day	5	6 Mayor's Coffee	7 Chamber 1st Friday Luncheon	8 2nd Saturday at the Depot
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 City Council	18	19	20	21	22 Tomball Holiday Parade
23 30	24	25	26	27  City offices closed for Thanksgiving	28	29

December 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 City Council	2	3	4	5 Chamber 1st Friday Luncheon	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 German Christmas Market 2nd Saturday at the Depot
14	15 City Council	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 City offices closed for Holidays	25 	26	27
28	29	30	31			

THE CITY OF TOMBALL PRESENTS
2ND SATURDAY AT THE DEPOT
 LOCATED AT THE HISTORIC TOMBALL DEPOT PLAZA—201 SOUTH ELM

October 11 ~ November 8 ~ December 13



FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER THE ENTERTAINMENT STARTS AT 5 PM
 FOR DECEMBER THE ENTERTAINMENT STARTS AT 10 AM
 MOVIES BEGIN AT DARK

Kid's Fun ~ Movies ~ Music ~ Arts ~ Concessions

October	November	December
Music: The Justin Tinnel Band	Music: TBA	Music: TBA
Movie: October Sky	Movie: Antz	Movie: It's A Wonderful Life

On December 13, come celebrate the holidays at the City's German Christmas Market. Opening at 10 AM, the market will kick off our seasonal 2nd Saturday at the Depot events.



**WHAT TO BRING:
 THE WHOLE FAMILY
 LAWN CHAIRS
 PICNIC BASKET**

***NO GLASS CONTAINERS
 *NO RAIN DATE**



For Information on future 2nd Saturday events,
 please visit www.ci.tomball.tx.us or call 281-290-1001



City of Tomball



Department Phone Numbers
 City Hall
 281-351-5484
 Community Center
 281-355-6221
 Fire Department
 281-351-7101
 Police Department
 281-351-5451
 Public Works/
 Engineering & Planning/Building Official
 281-290-1400

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 401 MARKET STREET

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Mayor & City Council

Gretchen Fagan

Mayor

Mary Harvey

Mayor Pro-Tem, Position 4

David R. Quinn

Councilmember, Position 1

Roy Lazenby

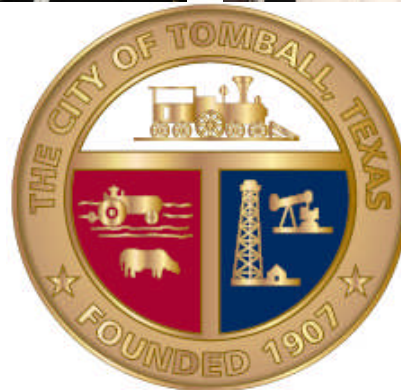
Councilmember, Position 2

Bill Webb

Councilmember, Position 3

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