

City Page
February 25, 2010

City recognizes Employee of the Year

City Manager Paulette Hartman announced the 2009 City of Joshua Employee of the Year during the annual Joshua Area Chamber of Commerce Banquet held February 23, 2010.

This year's winner is Police Chief Annabeth Robertson. Chief Robertson has more than 27 years in law enforcement. She began her service in Joshua in 1995, and was the first female officer in the city. Appointed Police Chief in December 2008, Chief Robertson has a strong list of accomplishments since the appointment that include...

- Addition of 2 full time patrol officers
- Implemented the electronic ticket writers
- Upgrades in Patrol Technology
- Increased traffic enforcement which has lowered accident rate drastically
- Improved Police coverage
- Improved response times
- Improved Community Relationships
- Initiated first Citizen Police Academy

Chief Robertson's leadership has lead to an increase in Officer morale that remains at an all time high. She is the first female Chief of Police for the City as well in Johnson County.

City Park Plan Progressing to May Construction Date

Final Design Plans for the City Park are now complete, and have been submitted to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for approval. Plans have also been submitted to the Texas Accessibility Standards Commission and the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. Acreage for the park has now been acquired by the city, and bids on construction of each of the park elements will be opened later this month. A formal groundbreaking ceremony is in the planning stages for May 1, 2010. Construction is expected to be complete by December 2010.

Severe Weather Awareness Week

Each year, the Texas Division of Emergency Management, the National Weather Service, Emergency Management Coordinators and officials with local jurisdiction, join together to recognize Severe Weather Awareness Week.

Severe Weather Awareness Week in Texas and in the City of Joshua has been set for Feb. 21 – 27, 2010.

This is an opportunity to help prepare our residents to deal with the extreme weather events that come our way in Texas. This is an excellent time to build public awareness by reminding our residents to update their emergency plans, double check emergency supply kits and get prepared for tornadoes, floods, hail, straight-line windstorms and other hazardous events.

Severe Weather Awareness Week materials for 2010 are available on our Web site:

www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem

For local information on emergency preparedness, please visit the city website at www.cityofjoshuatx.us and click on Emergency Management.

City to provide Garbage Billing beginning Feb. 22, 2010

Joshua residents will begin to receive quarterly billing for trash and recycling from the City instead of from IESI starting February 22, 2010. These bills will be for garbage and recycling service from March 1, 2010 – May 31, 2010. Payment will be due March 15, 2010, and will be made directly to the City. The bills will look different than what residents are used to seeing from IESI, and will be mailed to the owner of the property. A sample bill is included in this publication for your information.

Service routes and collection days will remain the same. Garbage is collected every Tuesday and Friday. Recycling is collected every Wednesday. All waste collection containers as well as any brush and bulky items must be in place for collection no earlier than 7:00 pm on the evening prior to the collection day and no later than 7:00 am each morning of the collection day. Waste collection containers must be removed no later than 7:00 am the morning after the collection day.

Residents will continue to receive bills quarterly as you have in the past. As has always been the case, City residents are required to establish service for trash and recycling with the City's contract provider, IESI. The ordinance also requires residents to pay for that service or face late fees, citations, and collection proceedings.

For more information, please visit the city website at www.cityofjoshuatx.us

Municipal Court Amnesty Program and Warrant Round Up Starts March 1st

If you are one of the more than 1,000 people with outstanding tickets and warrants in Joshua, you could be arrested for failure to pay. The good news is Court officials are preparing for an Amnesty Program that will take place from March 1, 2010 through

March 12, 2010. Any person who pays the past due citation amount in full during this time avoids arrest and will have the Failure to Appear fine of \$327 dismissed.

Another option available to avoid arrest is to start a payment plan with the court and make regular payments until the amount is paid. However, a payment plan will not qualify for dismissal of the Failure to Appear Fine.

If you have one of the 1,847 outstanding warrants from the Joshua Municipal Court, you should know on March 13, 2010, the Joshua Police will conduct a warrant round-up. On this day officers will personally serve as many of the remaining warrants as possible. Any person served a warrant in person will be required to pay the amount owed in full, or you will be arrested and taken to jail.

Candidate Filing for City Council Elections Continues Through March 8th

City Council elections are scheduled for May 8, 2010. City Council places open for election this year are the Mayor, Place 1, Place 3 and Place 5. The Candidate filing deadline is March 8, 2010. Early voting will start April 26th and end May 4th, 2010. Election Day is Saturday, May 8, 2010.

For more information on filing please visit the city website at www.cityofjoshuatx.us or contact City Secretary Mary Beth Thomas at 817-558-7447.

City Wide Cleanup Scheduled for March 26-28, 2010

The city's Spring Cleanup has been scheduled for March 26-28, 2010. Gates will be open from 7am – 7 pm Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Residents will be required to show proof of residency. Residents are reminded that they may not drop off chemicals, paint, car parts and appliances with a compressor. Tires and batteries have a \$5.00 disposal charge. Persons should enter off of 6th street to drop off debris.

Upcoming Meetings and Events.

Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting March 1, 2010 at 6:30 pm
City Council Planning Work Session March 4, 2010 at 6:30 pm
Type A Economic Development Board Meeting March 8, 2010 at 6:30 pm
Type B Economic Development and Parks Board Meeting March 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.
City Council Meeting March 18, 2010 at 6:30 pm