

**City Page**  
**January 28, 2010**

**Council Candidate Filing to Begin February 6<sup>th</sup>**

The first filing day for persons interested in running for a city elected office is February 6, 2010. City Council places open for election this year are Mayor, Place 1, Place 3 and Place 5. Filing deadline to be placed on the ballot is March 8, 2010.

Early voting is expected to start in April 26<sup>th</sup> – May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Election Day is Saturday, May 8, 2010. Specific information regarding polling times and locations will be provided once the City Council has called the election.

For more information on filing please visit the city website at [www.cityofjoshuatx.us](http://www.cityofjoshuatx.us)

**City Council Proposes Changes to School Zone Times**

The Joshua City Council voted to make changes in the ordinance that sets speed limits and times in the school zones within the city limits. The proposed ordinance changes will be considered during the February 18<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting. The following school zones will be affected.

**All Day School Zones        7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Stadium Drive Blocks 500 to 799.  
Henderson St. Blocks 700 to 899  
Plum St. from Hwy. 174 to Henderson

**All Day School Zones 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

College St. from 18<sup>th</sup> Street to 20<sup>th</sup> Street  
Henderson St. Blocks 500 to 599

**Split School Zone Times 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Cooper Lane from Hwy. 174 to Henderson St.  
Henderson St. Blocks 600 to 699  
Stadium Dr. Blocks 800 to 899

**Split School Zone Times 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Bentley Dr. from FM 917 to McMillan  
McMillan, east from SH 174 to Henderson  
18<sup>th</sup> Street, from College to SH 174  
All of Angus St.  
All of Sally St.

### **Planning and Zoning Commission to Hear Zoning Change Request.**

The Planning and Zoning Commission will hear a request for a zoning change that would allow duplexes in the area of Honeybee and Joshua Blvd. The meeting is scheduled for Monday February 1, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. There will be a public hearing on this item. Anyone interested is invited to come and provide their input related to this zoning change request.

### **Municipal Court Amnesty Program and Warrant Round Up Coming**

Joshua Municipal Court records show there are 1,847 outstanding warrants for unpaid City citations. If you are one of the more than 1,000 people with 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.

### **What to do when you receive a citation?**

#### **Municipal Court Appearances**

The law requires that you appear in court to enter a plea on your citation. If you are issued a citation, you must appear by the 10<sup>th</sup> day after receipt of the citation. Your initial appearance may be in person, by mail or by your attorney appearing in person at the court. The purpose of your initial appearance is to enter a plea (guilty, not guilty, or nolo contendere) and to advise the court as to the type of trial (jury or non jury) that you want if you are pleading not guilty. There are separate rules for offenders sixteen years of age or less.

If you waive a jury trial and plead guilty or nolo contendere (no contest), you may you're your fine, set up a payment plant, take defensive driving if you are eligible, or ask for deferred adjudication if you are eligible. You may also talk to the Judge about extenuating circumstances that you feel should be considered when setting your fine, but the Judge is not required to reduce your fine.

When you make your appearance by mail, your envelope must be postmarked on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> day after you received your citation. If you plead guilty or no contest, you

must include a waiver of jury trial. If you plead not guilty, the court will send you a notice setting the date of your pretrial hearing.

If you fail to appear in-person or by mail by the 10<sup>th</sup> day after the date you received your citation or summons, or if you subsequently fail to appear for a pre-trial or trial setting, you can be charged with an additional offense of "Violation of Promise to Appear" or "Failure to Appear". The offenses of "Violation of Promise to Appear" and "Failure to Appear" carry with them additional court costs, fees, and fines. In addition, a warrant will be issued for your arrest. Continued failure to resolve your offenses will result in reports being made to a collection agency and to the Department of Public Safety which could result in denial of your ability to renew your driver's license.

Contact the Joshua Municipal Court at 817-558-7447 or visit the City of Joshua web site at [www.cityofjoshuatx.us](http://www.cityofjoshuatx.us) for more information.

### **City Officials to Attend Regional Transportation Council Re: Southwest Parkway**

Joshua City Officials will be attending the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Meeting on Friday January 29, 2010. During the meeting, RTC Commissioners will discuss the Southwest Parkway Project (State Highway 121) including the portion of the project planned within Johnson County. County officials along with officials of area cities are also expected to attend the meeting which will held at the North Central Texas Council of Governments offices in Arlington. County Judge Roger Harmon is the Johnson County representative on the Regional Transportation Council.

### **All Ordinances are Now Available on the City's Web Site**

Did you know that you can look up any City of Joshua Ordinance at [www.cityofjoshuatx.us](http://www.cityofjoshuatx.us)? Well you can! The entire Code of Ordinances is available and searchable if you click on the "Code of Ordinances" link on the right side of the City's home page. The site also contains a link to ordinances that have been adopted, but not added to the Code of Ordinances yet. Ordinances can also be printed from this link. This is a great resources for looking up City requirements. Other services available on the City's web site include information about registered sex offenders in the City, the ability report street light outages, all City forms and applications, City employment Opportunities, and all Council and City board meeting agendas and packets.

### **Upcoming Meetings and Events.**

Joshua Planning and Zoning Meeting February 1, 2010 @ 6:30 p.m.  
Joshua Type A EDC Board Meeting February 8, 2010 @6:30 p.m.  
Joshua Type B EDC Board Meeting February 9, 2010 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Joshua City Council Regular Meeting February 18, 2010 @7:00 p.m.