



ALAMO HEIGHTS City news

Your Official Source from City Hall

August 2011

Remember to Register your Pets



It is the goal of Animal Care Services to re-unite pets with their owners and avoid the expense of unnecessary impoundment. Not only is impoundment inconvenient to the pet owner, but in some cases is a traumatic experience for the pet.

Some of the tools we use to re-unite pets with their owners are rabies vaccination tags, micro-chip implants and City of Alamo Heights pet registration tags. Unfortunately, we are experiencing an increase in incidents of dogs running at large and finding that many of the dogs are not wearing collars or have collars without rabies tags or City of Alamo Heights pet registration tags. Unless the animal care service representative recognizes the dog from prior contacts it becomes necessary to impound the dog until an owner is located.

Chapter 4 of the Alamo Heights City Codes requires that all dogs, cats and ferrets are registered with the City. Chapter 4 also requires that all dogs wear a collar displaying a current rabies vaccination tag and a City of Alamo Heights registration tag. Following the applicable codes will help us reunite lost pets with their owners and can save pet owners from paying impound fees as well as possible fines for City Code violations.

For more information on pet registration, please call Alamo Heights Animal Care Services at (210) 832-2216 or the City Administrative Offices at (210) 822-3331.

BRIEFS

Budget Public Hearings

City Council and staff have been working hard on establishing the FY12 Annual Budget. The Proposed Budget was presented to City Council on Monday, August 8th and available on the website Tuesday, August 9th. Printed copies of the Proposed Budget are also available at City Hall for the cost of \$22.50. *Public Hearings will be held on September 12th and 26th during the regularly scheduled City Council meetings.* If you have any questions concerning the budget contact Cynthia Barr, Finance Director, at 882-1502 or at cbarr@alamo-heightstx.gov.

Community Input Open House

You are invited to attend the third and final Community Input Open House for City Hall construction. The architects will provide information concerning space requirements and

initial budget. Also, the Fire Department will cook hamburgers and we will offer tours of the facility.



Most importantly, we want to continue to hear residents' input concerning the design and use of the facilities.

Date: Thursday - August 11

Time: 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Place: City Council Chambers - 6120 Broadway

For more information about the Open House, contact City Hall at 822-3331.

Over 65 Tax Freeze Exemption

- Are you 65 or over, or will you be 65 years of age in the current tax year?
- Do you own and occupy a home?

If you answered "yes" to both of these questions, then you may qualify for an exemption that will freeze your city taxes. Tax increases and appraised value will not affect the amount you pay, providing no new improvements are made to your property.

While your appraised value will continue to increase, the amount you pay in City taxes is frozen and will remain the same. To apply for this exemption or if you have questions, contact Bexar Appraisal District, 411 N. Frio, San Antonio, TX 78207 or Customer Service: (210) 224-2432 for an application for Residential Homestead exemption.



Explorers learn Emergency Preparedness - Sandy Oaks VFD demonstrate HAZMAT Procedures

Explorer Academy - When Disaster Strikes

From June 27th to July 1st, the AH Police/EMS/Fire Explorer Post along with the Southside ISD Police Explorer Post again conducted a one of a kind Public Safety Explorer Academy at Southside High School.

Forty-five Law Enforcement and Fire Explorers, along with personnel from twenty-one public safety organizations, came together for a week long training academy that taught such skills as arson investigation, firearms training, HAZMAT, and Search and Rescue.

The Explorers were also involved in a mock disaster preparedness exercise as part of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program. The CERT program taught skills to be used in light rescue, first aid, and disaster response.

Water Conservation

With over 40 days of triple digit temperatures and lack of rain, the need to conserve water is more important than ever. As a City, we are required to decrease our water consumption by 30% - we need your help in this effort. Please visit the Edwards Aquifer website at www.edwardsaquifer.org to find out what "You Can Do" to help in Water Conservation.

Remember we are still currently in Stage 2 Restrictions and have designated water days and times. Visit our website www.alamoheightstx.gov to download a copy of AH Water Restriction Informational Flyer.

Bark Park of AH

The Friends of the Bark Park is a group of Alamo Heights residents that support the creation of a dog park in our community. The proposed dog park is an acre located on AH Blvd. by the ball fields. The park will retain the trees for shade, would include water for the dogs, and be safely fenced for all sizes. Any contribution will help make the dog park a reality.

Contributions can be sent to the City of Alamo Heights Attention Cynthia Barr, Director of Finance, at 6116 Broadway, Alamo Heights, TX 78209. Make checks out to: The City of Alamo Heights (Note: for the Bark Park of AH). Donations of benches, waste stations, etc are also being accepted. Visit their website at www.thebarkparkah.com for more information.

Family Fun with a Cause!!

This year's Movie Nights in the Heights events, sponsored by Grande Communications, have been a great success!

Our final event is on August 19th and the feature movie is "Despicable Me". As part of giving back to the community, the Alamo Heights Police Department in conjunction with Grande Communications, is sponsoring a food drive that night. *So please join us in a night of family fun and participate in a good cause by bringing a non-perishable food item to benefit the Alamo Heights Christian Church Food Pantry.*

For more information about the AH Christian Church Food Pantry, visit their website at www.alamoworship.org/home.htm. If you are not able to attend Movie Night but want to donate food items you can either contact Sarah Warren at 828-5728 or come by City Hall to drop-off the items.



CITY CALENDAR

AUGUST

Wednesday, August 10	Board of Adjustment Meeting	5:30 p.m.
Thursday, August 11	Community Input Open House - Facility	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 16	Architectural Review Board Meeting	5:30 p.m.
Monday, August 22	City Council Meeting	5:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

Monday, September 5	City Holiday	Closed*
Wed., September 7	Board of Adjustment Meeting	5:30 p.m.
Monday, September 12	City Council Meeting	5:30 p.m.

*REGULAR GARBAGE PICK-UP